

## Belt and Road Guiding Documents

Document	Key Points
<p><a href="#">Vision and Actions on Jointly Building the Silk Road Economic Belt and 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road (2015)</a></p> <p><i>National Development and Reform Commission, Ministry of Foreign Affairs &amp; Ministry of Commerce</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “The Belt and Road Initiative is in line with the purposes and principles of the UN Charter. It upholds the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence: mutual respect for each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual non-aggression, mutual non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence.” (II. Principles)</li> <li>• “The Belt and Road Initiative is a way for win-win cooperation that promotes common development and prosperity and a road towards peace and friendship by enhancing mutual understanding and trust, and strengthening all-round exchanges.” (III. Framework)</li> <li>• “We should promote ecological progress in conducting investment and trade, increase cooperation in conserving eco-environment, protecting biodiversity, and tackling climate change, and join hands to make the Silk Road an environment-friendly one.” (IV. Cooperation Priorities)</li> </ul>
<p><a href="#">Guidance on Promoting the Green Belt and Road (2017)</a></p> <p><i>Ministry of Environmental Protection,<sup>1</sup> Ministry of Foreign Affairs, National Development and Reform Commission &amp; Ministry of Commerce</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides guidance on embedding “green” concepts into all aspects of the Belt and Road Initiative.</li> <li>• “We will urge the businesses to observe international regulations on economy and trade and the laws, regulations, policies and standards of the host countries on eco-environment protection, attach great importance to the appeals of the local residents on environment protection, and build up corporate credit system to circumvent eco risk and ensure safety.” (II. Overall Requirements)</li> <li>• “We will fortify environment management of overseas investment and develop green financial system. We will quicken the pace to formulate and execute policies and measures to prevent eco risks of investment and financing projects, tighten environment management for overseas investment, drive enterprises to voluntarily bear environmental and social responsibilities, and strictly protect bio-diversity and ecological environment.” (III. Main Tasks)</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Now renamed the Ministry of Ecology and Environment.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “We will formulate environmental protection standards and codes for infrastructure construction, increase environment protection service and support for major infrastructure construction projects along the route, popularize energy conservation and environmental protection standards and practice in such sectors as green transport, green building and clean energy, advance environmental protection in areas like water, atmosphere, soil and bio-diversity, promote environmental infrastructure construction and improve green and low-carbon construction and operation.” (III. Main Tasks)</li> </ul>
<p><a href="#">The Belt and Road Ecological and Environmental Cooperation Plan (2017)</a></p> <p><i>Ministry of Environmental Protection<sup>2</sup></i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building on the above <i>Guidance on Promoting the Green Belt and Road</i>, this plan adds more detail on how China will integrate concepts of “ecological civilization” and “green development” into the BRI by 2025.</li> <li>• “A new pattern of higher-level cooperation on eco-environmental protection among diverse stakeholders will be created in the Belt and Road, thus contributing to the realization of Sustainable Development Goals. (II. Overarching Requirements)</li> <li>• “Enterprises will be required to consciously abide by local environmental regulations and standards and fulfill respective environmental responsibility. Industry associations and chambers of commerce will be recommended to introduce code of conduct on eco-environmental behaviors for overseas investment.” (IV. Respect Laws and Regulations)</li> </ul>
<p><a href="#">Guiding Principles on Financing the Development of the Belt and Road (2017)</a></p> <p><i>Finance Ministers of China and 26 other nations<sup>3</sup></i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “We underscore the need to strengthen social and environmental impact assessment and risk management of projects, improve cooperation on energy conservation and environmental protection, fulfil social responsibilities, promote local employment and ensure sustainable economic and social development. We also need to take into account debt sustainability in mobilizing finance.” (Paragraph 14)</li> </ul>
<p><a href="#">Vision and Action on Jointly Promoting Agricultural</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Agriculture cooperation along the Belt and Road echoes goals on food and agriculture of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and advocates the principle of mutual consultation, joint efforts and shared interests for a green Silk Road. Concerted efforts are</li> </ul>

<sup>2</sup> Now renamed the Ministry of Ecology and Environment.

<sup>3</sup> Argentina, Belarus, Cambodia, Chile, China, Czech Republic, Ethiopia, Fiji, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Iran, Kenya, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Qatar, Russia, Serbia, Sudan, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

<p><a href="#">Cooperation on the Belt and Road (2017)</a></p> <p><i>National Development Reform Commission &amp; Ministry of Agriculture</i></p>	<p>solicited to realize agricultural modernization with high efficiency, product safety, resource conservation and environmental consciousness.” (II. Principles)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “China welcomes agricultural investment from enterprises of Belt and Road countries and encourages Chinese enterprises to take up social responsibilities and contribute to agricultural development along the Belt and Road by assisting the host country to advance agriculture, create employment opportunities, and improve livelihood.” (IV. Framework)</li> <li>• “China is willing to make greater contribution to food and nutrition security and agricultural sustainability in the world.” (VI. Action &amp; Future)</li> </ul>
<p><a href="#">Vision and Actions on Energy Cooperation in Jointly Building Silk Road Economic Belt and 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road (2017)</a></p> <p><i>National Development and Reform Commission &amp; National Energy Administration</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “The cooperation will be green and efficient. We will attach great importance to the issue of environmental protection in the process of energy development, and strive to encourage the efficient development and utilization of clean energy. We will strictly control the emission of pollutants and green-house gases, raise energy efficiency and contribute to green and efficient development in all countries.” (II. Cooperation Principles.)</li> <li>• “The cooperation will be harmonious. We will focus on the balanced development of energy sector and social responsibilities, ensure a satisfactory technological transition, and provide training for local people. We respect the religious beliefs and diverse cultures of different countries, strongly support public welfare causes and help economic development so that all peoples can coexist in peace and prosperity.” (II. Cooperation Principles)</li> </ul>
<p><a href="#">Opinions on Jointly Developing the Green Belt and Road (2022)</a></p> <p><i>National Development and Reform Commission, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Ecology and Environment &amp; Ministry of Commerce</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “China has become an important participant, contributor, and leading power in the development of a global ecological civilization. At the same time, the risks and challenges faced by the green development of BRI remain prominent, international cooperation on ecological and environmental protection needs enhancing, and we are seeing tightening regulation over climate change.” (Introduction)</li> <li>• “We will reinforce enterprises' responsibility over their overseas environmental behavior, guide businesses to strictly comply with the laws, regulations, standards, and norms of the host countries on environmental protection, and encourage them to carry out environmental protection efforts with reference to the generally accepted international rules and standards or higher Chinese standards.” (III. (XIII) Regulating the overseas environmental behavior of enterprises)</li> </ul>

- “China will stop building new coal-fired power projects abroad and prudently proceed with existing ones that are under construction. We will push forward the green and low-carbon development of overseas coal-fired power plants that have already been built. Relevant enterprises are encouraged to strengthen clean and efficient coal utilization, adopt advanced technologies such as efficient desulphurization, denitrification, dust removal, as well as carbon capture, utilization and storage, and upgrade energy-saving and environmental protection facilities. We will study and promote international cooperation on green and low-carbon development in steel and other industries.” (III. (XIV) [Promoting the green and low-carbon development of coal power and other projects](#))
- “We will guide enterprises to raise the awareness of environmental risks, to strengthen environmental management of overseas projects, to fully implement environmental impact assessments before the investment and construction of overseas projects, to identify and prevent environmental risks in a timely manner, and to take effective measures for ecological and environmental protection.” (IV. (XVIII) [Improving support and safeguards for environmental risk prevention and control in overseas projects](#))