



# Mobilizing the multiple benefits of renewable energies in China

Building new alliances - seizing opportunities - raising climate ambitions

### **GIZ-IASS Expert Roundtable**

The expert roundtable brings together eminent thinkers from the public sector, research, international cooperation and the private sector.

Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> of March 2017, 1pm – 6pm Kempinski Hotel Beijing Lufthansa Center Kaifeng Room

with subsequent evening reception

Format: moderated roundtable discussion with invited impulse talks. Moderation: GIZ / IASS.

Conference language will be English

### **Agenda**

13:00	<ul> <li>Opening</li> <li>Welcome by Sandra Retzer (GIZ)</li> <li>Introduction to rationale and format of the roundtable by Sebastian Helgenberger (IASS) and Jonas Russbild (GIZ), facilitators</li> </ul>
13:30	Setting the scene: Social and economic benefits of renewables as drivers of energy transitions
	<ul> <li>Opening Talks:</li> <li>Co-benefits of renewable energies in China (Ying Yuan, Greenpeace)</li> <li>Comprehensive Benefit Analysis of Renewable Energy for China (Zhang Xiliang, Tsinghua University)</li> </ul>
	Discussants:  ■ Pan Jiahua (Chinese Academy of Social Sciences)  ■ Wolfgang Eichhammer (Fraunhofer Institute for Systems and Innovation Research ISI)
14:45	Numbers count: Specific needs for co-benefits assessments in view of an accelerated energy transition in China
	Impulse Talks:

- China Renewable Energy Outlook: addressing social, economic and environmental benefits (Wang Zhongying, China National Renewable Energy Centre)
- Overview on existing socio-economic assessment methods (Sylvia Borbonus, IASS Potsdam)

#### **Discussants:**

- Xue Bing (Chinese Academy of Sciences)
- Lu Hong (Energy Foundation)

15:30 - 16:00 BREAK

16:00	Creating the enabling environment for seizing the social and economic opportunities
	Impulse Talks:  13th FYP as window of opportunity: Creating the enabling environment for seizing the social and economic opportunities of renewables (Gao Hu, Energy Research Institute of NDRC)
	<ul> <li>Discussant:</li> <li>Song Sha (World Economic Forum)</li> <li>Peng Peng (Chinese Renewable Energy Industries Association)</li> </ul>
16:45	China as climate policy leader: raising ambitions, seizing opportunities
	<ul> <li>Impulse Talks:</li> <li>Opportunity for Offshore Wind to Reduce Future Demand for Coal-Fired Power Plants in China (Lu Xi, Tsinghua University)</li> <li>Connecting China's INDC with the co-benefits of climate change mitigation (Zou Ji, Renmin University of China)</li> </ul>
	Discussants:  • Ying Yuan (Greenpeace)
17:30	Conclusion
	<ul> <li>Concluding remarks and way forward: Jonas Russbild (GIZ), Sebastian Helgenberger (IASS Potsdam)</li> <li>Closing and opening of dinner reception (Sandra Retzer)</li> </ul>
18:00	RECEPTION

## **Guiding questions**

- I. Identifying key benefits of renewable energies in China: what do we know, what do we need to know?
- II. How to continue building the enabling environment to seize the opportunities of the new energy world in China?
- III. How can public sector, research, international cooperation and the private sector collaborate to mobilize the multiple benefits of renewable energies in China?
- IV. How can the multiple benefits of renewable energies be used more effectively to convince decision-makers to take action for energy sector decarbonization?

### Mobilizing the multiple benefits of renewable energies in China

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#### **Rationale & Objectives**

China's economy is in the midst of an energy revolution and rapidly increasing the share of renewable sources. Its 13<sup>th</sup> Five-Year Plan prepares the political ground to seize the social and economic opportunities presented by renewable energy and to mitigate the harmful impacts of the fossil energy world.

China suffers from particularly strong air pollution, a great deal of which can be attributed to the use of fossil fuels in thermal power plants, industry and transport. Besides 1.6 million premature deaths annually and economic damage that amounts to roughly 10% of China's GDP, air pollution increasingly jeopardizes Chinese efforts to attract international and national talent. As main contributor to global climate change, fossil energy generation also induces unprecedented economic and social risks for generations to come.

On a positive note, renewable energies enjoy a strong and increasing popularity in China and in global markets for their multiple social and economic benefits, such as additional employment creation and industry development, the reduction of fossil fuel imports, local value creation, and rural development through distributed and affordable power generation. Although China has seen substantial investments in renewables, their effective deployment and the transition from the old to the new energy world are still facing severe constraints. Evidence suggests that for China there are even greater economic, social and environmental benefits linked to renewable energies which remain to be realized.

The expert roundtable brings together eminent thinkers to address options to spark political momentum for seizing the opportunities linked to renewable energies in China. It explores how China's transition to the new energy world unravels longtime trade-offs between economic, social and environmental interests and how China's increasingly leading role in international climate diplomacy translates back to immediate opportunities for domestic development and welfare.

#### **Preliminary list of roundtable Experts**

Name Affiliation

Sylvia BORBONUS Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS) Potsdam

Peter EDWARDS China Carbon Forum

Wolfgang EICHHAMMER Fraunhofer Institute for Systems and Innovation Research ISI

Peter FLOHR GIZ/CNREC

GAO Hu 高虎 Energy Research Institute (ERI) of NDRC

Anders HOVE Paulson Institute

HUANG Beijia 黄蓓佳 Shanghai University of Science and Technology

JIANG Lu 姜璐 CAS-IAE Research Centre of Industrial Ecology and Sustainability

LU Hong 芦红 Energy Foundation

LU Xi 鲁玺 Tsinghua University

PAN Jiahua 潘家华 Chinese Academy of Social Sciences

PAN Xiaochuan 潘小川 Peking University School of Public Health

PENG Peng 彭彭 Chinese Renewable Energy Industries Association (CREIA)

Christoph POHLMANN Friedrich Ebert Foundation

Christina SADELER Heinrich Boell Foundation

SONG Sha 宋莎 World Economic Forum - Global Agenda Council on China

WANG Zhongying 王仲颖 China National Renewable Energy Centre (CNREC)

Rick WESTON Regulatory Assistance Project

YING Yuan 瑛袁 Greenpeace

YUAN Jiahai 袁家海 North China Electric Power University

XUE Bing 薛冰 CAS-IAE Research Centre of Industrial Ecology and Sustainability

ZHANG Xiliang 张希良 Tsinghua University

ZOU Ji 邹骥 Renmin University of China

#### **Organizers and Facilitators**

Name Affiliation

Sebastian HELGENBERGER IASS Potsdam

Sandra RETZER GIZ

Jonas RUSSBILD GIZ

#### Venue

#### Kempinski Hotel Beijing Lufthansa Center

Kaifeng Room

Liangmaqiao Road 50

100125 Beijing

#### 北京燕莎中心有限公司凯宾斯基饭店

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#### **Organizers and Facilitators**



The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) provides services worldwide in the field of international cooperation for sustainable development. GIZ has over 50 years of experience in a wide variety of areas, including economic development, energy and the environment. GIZ has been supporting China's reform and development process on behalf of the German Government for more than 30 years, reflecting China's changing needs and role in the world (www.giz.de).

The Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS) Potsdam was founded in 2009 as independent research institute for the purpose of gathering together all relevant forms of knowledge from science, society and politics in order to initiate and support a transformation towards sustainable development that is grounded in scientific research. Currently around 100 researchers from over 30 different countries are working at the institute on projects that span the humanities and the natural and social sciences (www.iass-potsdam.de, www.cobenefits.info).



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