



Towards a New Model of Development for Chinese Think Tanks

CASS-RDI Annual Report

(2015)

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Preface

With the advent of 21st century, world multi-polarization, economic globalization, regional integration, cultural diversity and technological transformation have formed unstoppable trends across the whole world, with countries increasingly interdependent and interconnected with each other. Facing the profound challenges around the world, President Xi Jinping proposed the “One Belt and One Road” (OBOR) Initiative, emphasizing the strategic importance and the cooperation prospect along the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road. The Initiative received a high degree of attention and positive responses globally.

Historically, the ancient Silk Road has made great contributions to promoting the exchanges and cooperation between different countries and cultures. Thanks to the mutual exchange of goods and learning of advanced culture along the ancient Silk Road, civilization has greatly moved forward, composing an everlasting chapter of friendship that shines through the ages. 2000-year cultural exchange has proven that, by adhering to unity and mutual trust, equality and mutual benefit, tolerance and mutual learning, and win-win cooperation, countries with different racial, religious, and cultural backgrounds can share peace and common development. Think tanks have played an increasingly prominent role in planning for development blueprints, and promoting win-win cooperation and friendly exchanges between countries. As a vital medium of foreign relations, the cooperation between think tanks has become an important element influencing the world’s political, economic, cultural and social progress. To better advance the Initiative comprehensively, new models of think tanks remain to be explored, in order to find new ways for comprehensive and pragmatic cooperation, to constantly improve the mechanism of mutual cooperation, and further promote extensive exchanges and cooperation between think tanks, thus providing intellectual support for the development of friendly relationship between the countries.

In April 2013, President Xi Jinping, made important instructions on the development of new think tanks, which has enhanced the development of think tanks to the national strategic level and defined think tanks as an important part of soft power of China. In January 2015, the General Office of the CPC Central

Committee and the General Office of the State Council issued the *Opinions on Strengthening the Construction of New Types of Think Tanks*, which represents the top-level design for the development of new types of think tanks. Research and Development International, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS-RDI) emerged against this background.

As a new international think tank platform, CASS-RDI, with the principle of joint discussion, common development and mutual sharing, has integrated various resources from domestic and foreign political parties, governments, parliaments, think tanks, businesses, financial institutions, social organizations, trade associations, international organizations, etc., to promote research and development of major international projects, advance the realization of theoretical and methodological innovation, organize interdisciplinary and multi-perspective researches, and strive to put forward ideas of practical significance and political insights. Since its establishment in April 2015, CASS-RDI has made remarkable achievements regarding the OBOR Initiative, the development of diplomatic relationships, the enhancement of soft power of China, and the facilitation of enterprises' global outreach, thus setting up an example for exploring the development of new think tanks.

Currently, the OBOR Initiative is at the critical stage of comprehensive development. RDI will continue to seize the opportunity to ensure the active promotion of the OBOR Initiative. I sincerely hope that, RDI, together with think tanks from other countries, may conduct joint research on issues including the OBOR Initiative, to jointly promote cooperation by mutual learning and constant innovation, so as to contribute our strength and wisdom to the prosperity and development of the world's economy and civilization. The realization of RDI dream will significantly contribute to realizing the dream of China and the world, which remains the mission and pursuit of RDI. I firmly believe that we will create a better future for mankind with our joint efforts.

Weiguang Wang
President,
China Academy of Social Sciences
February 19, 2016

Foreword: the Dream of RDI

The world is witnessing constant changes in economic globalization, cultural diversification, and technological transformation. This is a world where science and technology lead to breakthroughs, where the dream of peace and prosperity and the Chinese dream of national rejuvenation reverberate and inspires ideas that transcend time and space. As a new international think tank platform, RDI works to inspire dreams and sheds light on reality following the principle of joint discussion, common development and mutual sharing.

The world has entered an age of major adjustments, and established government structures and approaches await profound changes. Facing the global challenges, a new global governance structure including order reconstruction, conflict-settlement, and global reform is keenly needed. Innovation in technological development and upgrading of economic transformation require a new model of economic growth. As China and other emerging economies provide increasing momentum for global development, the OBOR Initiative, which helps China to actively participate in international economic cooperation, will contribute significantly to global governance. The Initiative is an ambitious and complex project, as there are great discrepancies between countries along the OBOR in culture, interest, political situation and the phase of development. New ideas and perspectives in addition to comprehensive cooperation mechanisms are keenly needed.

With strong support from the Chinese government and the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS), RDI intends to create a platform and network integrating resources, thus facilitating the government's decision-making, supporting Chinese enterprises, and promoting the implementation of the OBOR Initiative. As an international think tank, RDI is a platform not only capable of promoting the policy research that serves top-level design, but also strong in resources coordination and allocation. By conducting in-depth research of the overall situations of the countries engaged in industrial capacity cooperation by experts at home and abroad, RDI works actively to promote policy exchanges, carry out systematic services, guide the allocation of resources, speed up the

implementation of projects, and provide service for international productivity cooperation and industrial upgrading.

RDI is a platform providing help for decision-making. With the support of CASS, RDI has given full play to the intelligence of foreign and domestic experts. It has become a bridge between academia and the business world, between research and decision-making, and set up strategic, global, forward-looking and operational policy-making consulting programs. In 2015, RDI submitted to the country's decision-makers 12 important research reports, and they drew great attention from people in charge. With demand-driven, problem-targeted, and result-oriented research principles, those reports strive to transfer specific policy recommendations into concrete policies and measures for relevant ministries and local governments.

RDI is an innovative platform for resource integration. It has integrated various resources from domestic and foreign political parties, governments, parliaments, think tanks, businesses, financial institutions, social organizations, trade associations, international organizations, etc., in order to promote research, develop major international projects, advance theoretical and methodological innovation, organize cross-disciplinary research, and to put forward suggestions with practical significance and political insights. By effective connecting international and domestic resources, and through the society-government-market interaction, RDI plans to develop multilateral and bilateral mechanisms, gather superior resources, satisfy demand for development, assess integrated environment, and identify risk factors, in order to propose coping strategies and provide systematic services.

RDI is a platform for joint development of the OBOR Initiative. Through efficient integration of resources, RDI is anticipated to promote the global outreach of Chinese enterprises, and offer substantive services to help enterprises with project cooperation in countries along the OBOR. In 2015, RDI made significant progress in promoting cooperation between China and Pakistan, Iran and Kazakhstan.

RDI is a platform for talent convergence. It is dedicated to developing partnerships with globally and domestically renowned think tanks, enterprises

and social organizations. The pool of elites, experts and young talents that RDI has gathered constitutes a unique platform for government-market-society cooperation, and enables those talents to stand out from all walks of life, and contribute to the execution, management and governance of projects and programs. Through exchanges, discussions and training, RDI will continue to promote human resource development and facilitate the strategy of reinvigorating China by mobilizing human resources, to expand China's global outreach.

RDI is a platform for the globalization of businesses. Chinese enterprises face great opportunities along with challenges in the outgoing process, which requires support in legal policy, industry standards, information technology, investment and financial security, and capability building. These requirements call for an integrated solution. Enterprises need comprehensive information in these areas to enhance their competence and cooperation opportunities in overseas investment. In response to this, RDI, since its establishment, has actively integrated government, business and industry resources by developing a service mechanism that incorporates legal service, policy research, technical standards, information service, financial support, culture and brand design, capacity building and other services. RDI also organizes business delegations for visits overseas, which provide services and support to help companies actively participate in the OBOR Initiative.

Since its establishment in April 2015, RDI has kept the implementation of the OBOR Initiative as its focus, and has made remarkable achievements in policy recommendations, international cooperation, enterprise services, project cooperation, etc., which would be impossible without the extensive use of RDI service mechanism, close cooperation with and joint efforts of industry elites on the platforms. We believe RDI will see a brighter future with its rapid development in the coming years.

This report is a summary of RDI's achievements in 2015. We are grateful to all members of the RDI for their hard work. They have actively engaged in the exploration of new think tank, and perfectly demonstrate the persistence and perseverance dedicated to promoting the development of China. The report is divided into three chapters. The first chapter explores system and mechanism of

think tank development; the second discusses how RDI innovatively integrates resources and puts forward suggestions; and the third chapter gives a detailed account of RDI's efforts in international cooperation for joint implementation of OBOR Initiative. We hope that, with the release of this report, the public can get a clear picture of RDI's scope of work, path of development and innovative approach. The publication of the English version will surely bridge over language and cultural gaps and further promote international cooperation.

RDI, dedicated to closer global cooperation, invites you to work together for a brighter future.

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Chapter 1 Exploring Mechanisms for a New Think Tank

System and mechanism development serves as the foundation and guarantee for the successful operation and rapid development of RDI. As a new international think tank with Chinese characteristics, RDI has gathered a wide range of resources at home and abroad, and focused on the advancement of research and development of major international projects, with the OBOR Initiative as its current focus.

With systematic organizational framework and management system, and the mission to promote decision-making and development, RDI is dedicated to the OBOR Initiative, the development of diplomatic relationships, the enhancement of soft power of China, and the globalization of enterprises. It connects international and domestic resources, promotes open and win-win cooperation and operates with a demand-driven, project-based, result-oriented approach.

Section 1 Leadership Committee

RDI is established by the Chinese Academy Social Sciences (CASS). Weiguang Wang, President of CASS, serves as the Chair of RDI's leadership committee.

Baige Zhao, Member of NPC Standing Committee and Vice-Chair of NPC Foreign Affairs Committee, serves as the Vice-Chair of the leadership committee. Fang Cai, Member of NPC Standing Committee, Member of Agriculture and Rural Committee, Member of the Party Group and Vice President of CASS, serves as the Vice-Chair of the committee

Lei Wang and Lingui Wang serve as the Director and Co-director of the RDI Office.

Section 2 Advisory Committee

RDI has established the Advisory Committee, which consists of well-known experts, scholars and business elites from various fields, including foreign affairs and international politics, legal policies, sustainable development, macroeconomy, finance, corporate governance, society and livelihood, history and culture, etc., that have been

jointly participating in the decision-making and development of RDI.

The Advisory Committee of RDI currently comprising 30 members (in alphabetic order by last name):

Fang Cai, Jianhua Cai, Xiuze Chang, Feng Chen, Xinfu Chen, Fulin Chi, Qiuchen Fang, Weiping Hu, Ping Huang, Shaoxian Li, Xiguang Li, Xiangyang Li, Yongquan Li, Shijin Liu, Shan Lu, Hongbing Lv, Jiahua Pan, Zukang Sha, Zhuangzhi Sun, Lei Wang, Li Wang, Lingui Wang, Gang Wu, Jun Xing, Guang Yang, Jianmin Yuan, Lina Zhang, Xingkai Zhang, Baige Zhao, and Gongcheng Zheng.

Dr. Baige Zhao is Chair of Advisory Committee of CASS-RDI.



Weiguang Wang (Chair of the Leadership Committee)

Member of the 18th Central Committee of CPC

President and Secretary of Party Committee of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences

Chairman of Presidium of Academic Divisions of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences

Professor and Doctoral Supervisor

Weiguang Wang graduated from Peking University in 1982. Later, he was admitted to the Department of Theory of Party School of the CPC and got his master and doctoral degrees of philosophy. He served as Member of the 10th National People's Congress and Member of Law Committee of National People's Congress. Currently he serves as President and Secretary of Party Committee of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, President of Presidium of Academic Divisions, Professor and Doctoral Supervisor, Member of the 18th Central Committee of CPC, President of Chinese Association of Dialectic Materialism Study, Member and Chief Expert of Advisory Committee of Marxist Theoretical Study and Building Engineering. He once served as Vice President of Party School of the CPC Central Committee and Member of the 16th and 17th National Party Congress of CPC. In 1987, he got the honorary title "National Doctorate Recipients with Outstanding Contributions" issued by the State Council. He enjoys special government allowances of the State Council.

He mainly studies Marxist philosophy and Marxism basic theory, Marxist Chinesization and theoretical innovation of the Party, and major theory and practice of socialism. He published more than 30 academic monographs, mainly including: *Theory of Social Contradiction*, *Theory of Interest*, *Basic Issues of Scientific Development Concept*, *Basic Issues of Theory of Socialist Harmonious Society* and *Chinese Road and Marxist Chinesization*. Main works published under his general editorship include *Basic Issues of Marxism*, *Introduction to Important Thought of "Three-representative"*, *Study of Important Thought of "Three-representative"*, *Introduction to Scientific Development Concept*, *Theory and Practice of Building New Socialist Countryside*, and *History of Socialism* (Eight Volumes). He has published more than 400 papers in national-level newspapers and magazines.



Baige Zhao (Vice Chair of the Leadership Committee and Chair of the Advisory Committee)

Member of National People's Congress (NPC) Standing Committee, the Vice Chair of Foreign Affairs Committee of National People's Congress

Vice Leader of CASS-RDI Leading Group and Chair of the Advisory Committee

Baige Zhao currently serves as the Member of National People's Congress (NPC) Standing Committee, the Vice Chair of Foreign Affairs Committee of National People's Congress, the Vice Leader of CASS-RDI Leading Group and Chair of the Advisory Committee, the Vice President of International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the Member of National Committee of Experts on Climate Change.

Dr. Baige Zhao obtained her Ph. D. from University of Cambridge. From 1989 to 1994, Dr. Zhao served as the President of Shanghai Institute of Planned Parenthood Research, Director General of Cooperation Centre of WHO and member of Committee of Experts in Asia Pacific region of WHO. During this period, she completed a series of research and development work on new medicines.

From 1994 to 1998, Dr. Zhao served as the Director General at the Life Science and Technology Development Center (USA), affiliated to State Scientific and Technological Commission. She accomplished the establishment of the Overseas Experts Committee, the work of international promotion, financing and registration of national core projects on modernization of traditional Chinese medicine. She also succeeded in the internationalization of a group of traditional Chinese medicines such as the Danshen Dripping Pills, and helped enter the international market and become listed a number of Chinese pharmaceutical enterprises such as Tasly Holding Group and LuyePharma.

From 1998 to 2011, Dr. Zhao served as the Vice Minister of National Population and Family Planning Commission (NPFPC). During her post in NPFPC, she enhanced the formulation of national population development strategy, the execution of the reform in the population area, the perfection of the service of high quality and the adjustment of family planning policy. She advocated the incorporation of scientific research, technology and Industry, the intensification of South-South cooperation and South-North dialogue and achieved the support from international community to the Chinese population development programs. During her participation at the UN Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen, she proposed the integration of demographic issue into the comprehensive plan of settlement of climate change issues. She served also as Chair of the International Population Program Management Committee and Vice President of Asia Pacific region of the World Family Alliance.

From 2011 to 2014, Dr. Zhao served as the Executive Vice president of Red Cross Society of China and was elected as the Vice President of International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. She was in charge of the affairs in the Asia Pacific Region including the Middle East and Pacific islands region, etc. with the active promoted of the settlement of international humanitarian crisis, the effective management of conflicts and disasters and the successful organization of the humanitarian relief operations in response to the Philippines Yolanda typhoon, Northern Myanmar refugees and Sichuan Ya'an earthquake, etc.

Since 2013, Dr. Zhao has been Vice Chair of Foreign Affairs Committee of National People's Congress(NPC), member of Standing Committee of NPC, the Chair of Sino-British Parliamentary Exchange Mechanism, the Executive President of Sino-South African Parliamentary Exchange Mechanism, Bilateral Friendly Group Chairs of National People's Congress with 8 European countries such as UK, and with 13 African countries. She dedicates the efforts in the exchanges of NPC with foreign parliaments and MPs concerned, and intensifies its influence at Asian Parliamentary Assembly and on other multilateral platforms.

In 2015, she was nominated as Vice Leader of CASS-RDI Leading Group and Chair of the Advisory Committee. She organized research of the major projects of CASS-RDI in 2015, launched the implementation phase of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor and China-Iran Economic Corridor of the "OBOR", organized the service team to develop the Going Global Strategy of Chinese enterprises and contributed to the construction of the "OBOR Initiative".



Fang Cai (Vice Chair of the Leadership Committee)

Member of Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and Member of Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee

Vice-President of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and Member of the Party Group

Member of Academic Divisions and Member of Presidium of Academic Divisions of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and Research Fellow

Fang Cai serves as the Member of Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, Member of Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee of the National People's Congress, Vice-president of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and Member of the Party Group.

He graduated from the Department of Agricultural Economics of Renmin University of China in 1982 and got his bachelor's degree in economics. He graduated from the Graduate School of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences in 1985 and got his master's degree in economics and got his doctoral degree in economics in 1989. Since 1985, he served as Research Assistant and Associate Research Fellow of the Rural Development Institute of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and the Director of the Research Office. He became a Research Fellow in 1993 and then served as Deputy Director of the Population Research Institute of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and the Director of the Demography Department of Graduate School of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. He served as Director of the Population and Labor Economics Institute of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Doctoral Supervisor and the Editor-in-Chief of the magazine *Population Science of China* since 1998.

Since March 2008, he has served as the Member of Standing Committee of National People's Congress, Member of Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee, Vice Chairman of the China Population Association and Chinese Association of Agricultural Economics, Member of the Soft Science Committee of the Ministry of Agriculture and Member of the Expert Committee of Ministry of Labor and Social Security. He has served as Vice-President of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and the Member of the Party Group since August 2014.

His works include *China's Dual Economic and Labor Transfer—Theoretical Analysis and Policy Recommendations*, *Choices at the Crossroads—Thinking of Deepening Reform of Agricultural Economic System*, *The Economics of Being Poor and Development and Transformation of Chinese Labor Market*. His co-authored works include *Chinese Miracle: Development Strategy and Economic Reform* and *China's Economy*. The works under his general editorship include the *Report of China's Population and Labor Issues* series and *China's Economic Transformation in 30 Years*.