



The “Africa Solar Belt” Program of South-South Cooperation on Climate Change

November 2021

The 8th Ministerial Conference of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) adopted the Declaration on China-Africa Cooperation on Combating Climate Change, proposing to further strengthen South-South Cooperation between China and Africa in addressing climate change, support Africa in implementing green and environmentally friendly projects and climate change adaptation, and expand practical cooperation in areas such as clean energy, low-carbon infrastructure construction, and climate change adaptation to jointly address climate change.



September 2023

Huang Runqiu, Minister of the Ministry of Ecology and Environment of the People's Republic of China, announced at the opening ceremony of the first Africa Climate Summit that China will develop and implement the “Africa Solar Belt” Program of South-South Cooperation on Climate Change.



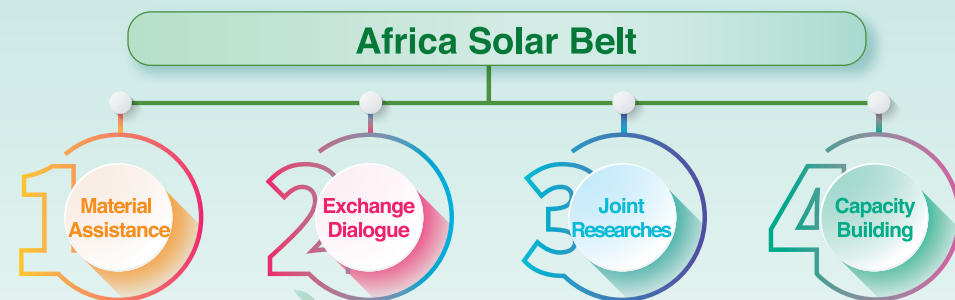
October 2023

The Third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation was successfully held in Beijing, and the “Africa Solar Belt” Program of South-South Cooperation on Climate Change was included in the list of practical cooperation programs of the summit.



Concepts

Through the “Africa Solar Belt” Program of South-South Cooperation on Climate Change, China will focus on the cooperation needs of African photovoltaic resources and clean energy development, leveraging the advantages of China's photovoltaic industry development. Adopting a “Material Assistance + Exchange Dialogue + Joint Researches + Capacity Building” approach, China will create a demonstration belt for China-Africa cooperation on the utilization of photovoltaic resources, in order to help African countries to solve their electricity difficulties and achieve green and low-carbon development.



Program Objectives

Over the next 3 years, China will provide at least RMB 100 million in public funds to help 50,000 off-grid poor African families with electricity for lighting and improve the well-being and livelihoods of people in Africa.

China will also establish a platform for China-Africa photovoltaic development exchange and cooperation, promote the exchange and sharing of innovative photovoltaic technologies, and encourage collaboration between the industry and African countries on photovoltaic projects.

China will enhance the climate change capacity building of African countries by sharing practical experiences in addressing climate change and photovoltaic development, and help these countries cultivate talents in climate change and for the photovoltaic industry.

Main Activities

Implementing climate-friendly photovoltaic demonstration projects

- China will jointly implement a series of “small-scale” photovoltaic demonstration projects “benefiting the livelihood of people” with African countries through material assistance.
- China will identify and evaluate a group of high-quality commercial and charity photovoltaic projects for Africa, and incorporate them into the incubation and achievement repository of the “Africa Solar Belt” Program.

Facilitating dialogue and capacity building

- China will hold a high-level seminar on the “Africa Solar Belt” Program to establish communication and cooperation mechanisms, and enhance dialogue with African countries, international organizations, high-end think tanks, financial institutions, and business associations.
- China will provide training courses on capacity building for the “Africa Solar Belt” Program, aiming to enhance the ability of personnel from African countries to address climate change through cultural experiences, classroom discussions, field research, and other forms of activities.

Conducting joint research on addressing climate change and developing renewable energy

- China will focus on the cooperation needs of African countries, and jointly conduct planning and policy research on climate change, low-carbon development, and the photovoltaic industry in African cities and industrial parks.
- China will review the “Africa Solar Belt” photovoltaic demonstration programs, extract the highlights, experiences, and achievements of such demonstration programs to form a collection of cases, and share them with the international community.

Establishing a practical cooperation platform for the “Africa Solar Belt” Program

- China will promote the establishment of the “Industrial Technology Alliance for the ‘Africa Solar Belt’”, and regularly organize activities such as exchanges, technical discussions, and brand promotion, in order to facilitate the participation of Chinese enterprises in the development and construction of relevant projects in a commercial manner.
- China will promote the construction of China-Africa climate-friendly cities, select Chinese and African cities with a willingness to cooperate to promote the establishment of climate-friendly city relationships, and engage in specific cooperation in aid project implementation, joint research, and dialogue.
- China will promote the establishment of the “Africa Solar Belt” training base and leverage relevant vocational schools and photovoltaic enterprises to provide vocational education in the field of photovoltaics, in order to cultivate high-quality skilled personnel urgently needed in the photovoltaic industry for African countries.

Partners

The “Africa Solar Belt” Program is guided by the Department of Climate Change of the Ministry of Ecology and Environment of the People's Republic of China, and is implemented by the Foreign Environmental Cooperation Center.

We cordially invite relevant government departments, international organizations, research think tanks, financial institutions, industry associations, and related enterprises to participate in the “Africa Solar Belt” Program. Together, we will plan and implement demonstration projects, facilitate dialogue, conduct joint research, and enhance capacity building activities, in order to create a flagship project for the “Africa Solar Belt” Program of South-South Cooperation on Climate Change.



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