



**CHINA AGRI-SCIENCE
NEWS DIGEST**
中国农业科技新闻摘要
October 2016 (Issue No 2)

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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

MoU between Max Rubner-Institute and CAAS signed

[DCZ, 31.10.2016] -- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed in September 2016 between the Max Rubner-Institute (MRI), the German Federal Research Institute of Nutrition and Food under the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) (www.mri.bund.de) and the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS) (www.caas.cn/en/), in which both CAAS and MRI aim at establishing cooperation to promote and strengthen bilateral ties in food and nutritional sciences.

Both sides intend to encourage scientific and technical cooperation between their scientific organizations within the following fields of expertise: Food security, food safety, food quality, food metabolomics, nanotechnology in the food sector, nutrient data bases, etc. CAAS and MRI strive to cooperate in the following operational forms: Joint participation in research projects, Arranging bilateral symposia, workshops, seminars, meetings and conferences on topics of mutual interest, Exchange of scientists and experts, Exchange of scientific-technical information and literature, Common publications in peer-reviewed journals, and other forms of cooperation. Both sides shall endeavour to seek support for their common activities from the German-Sino Agricultural Center in Beijing (DCZ).

As first joint event between CAAS, MRI and DCZ, a German-Chinese Workshop on “Traceability and Food Metabolomics” will be held in Beijing Nov. 29-30, 2016, during the “2nd German-Chinese Agricultural Week”.

This is the third MoU signed between CAAS and a German Federal Research Institute within the portfolio of the BMEL, following the MoUs signed with the Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR) in 2012 and with the German Federal Research Centre for Cultivated Plants (JKI) in 2013.

7th International Crop Science Congress held in Beijing

[MOA, 17.08.2016] -- The 7th International Crop Science Congress (7th ICSC), jointly organized by the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS) and the Crop Science Society of China, opened at Beijing International Convention Center in Beijing on August 15, 2016. The 7th ICSC brought together more than 2000 researchers in crop sciences from over 70 countries.

[MOA news release](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 44, August 2016)

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Agriculture ministry rejects non-GMO reserve proposal

[Global Times, 10.08.2016] -- China's Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) announced Tuesday that it has rejected the national legislature's proposal to set aside special zones for the cultivation of non-GMO (genetically modified organism) soybeans, saying such a step would mislead the public about GMO products. However, an earlier statement released on the MOA's website in June said the government would provide 5.6 million yuan (\$840,659) in subsidies for the development of non-GMO soybeans in order to improve food quality and decrease costs.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 44, August 2016)

China to increase public's scientific literacy

[Xinhua, 13.08.2016] -- China has plans to increase scientific literacy among the public, intending to raise the proportion of scientifically-literate citizens to 10 percent by 2020. On August 8, 2016, the State Council published a science and technology progress plan, listing measures to improve legislation on scientific research and technological development, streamline fund raising systems and raise the efficiency of governance.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 44, August 2016)

Scientists' discover genetic basis for rice hybrid performance

[China Daily, 10.09.2016; Nature, 29.09.2016] -- In a discovery made after eight years of study and published on the website of the scientific journal *Nature* on September 8, 2016, Chinese scientists of the Institute of Plant Physiology and Ecology, a branch of the Shanghai Institutes for Biological Sciences of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) have found the genetic basis of what makes rice hybrids perform better than their inbred parents.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 45, September 2016)

[Nature article](#)

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Sea-rice developed by Zhanjiang scientist to be planted across China

[China Daily, 21.10.2016] -- Over the last thirty years, Chen Risheng, a graduate of Zhanjiang Agricultural Academy, Guangdong Province, has developed a new strain of rice called sea-rice, based on a wild rice with a particularly high saline-alkali tolerance and is highly resistant to pests and diseases. In October a new R&D center was set up in Qingdao, Shandong Province to explore how sea-rice can be applied nationwide.

[Full article](#)

An ancient grain gets a boost from archaeology

[China Daily, 12.10.2016] -- Cultivation of millet in the Inner Mongolia autonomous region has been on the rise. Zhao Zhijun of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences' Institute of Archaeology suggested that millet had become a staple food in Aohan Banner, Chifeng City, about 8,000 years ago, later moving westward as far as Europe. In 2012, the Aohan dryland farming system was listed among Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

[Full article](#)

Growing in the field, cultivating the market

[China Daily, 14.10.2016] -- Northeast China's Jilin province, one of the major grain-producing regions in the country, has taken steps to promote its rice brands over recent years. The province is located at 40-46 degrees north latitude, widely recognized as the premium region for grain plantation. The fertile black soil and irrigation of the rivers of Songhua and Liaohe also contribute to the rice's high quality. However, Jilin lagged behind neighboring provinces in building its own brands and merging its rice processing enterprises.

[Full article](#)

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Police unveil progress of unlicensed GM corn seeds

[China Daily, 09.10.2016] -- In August 2016, over 3638 *mu* (598 acres) of unlicensed genetically modified (GM) maize fields in Shaanxi province were weeded out compulsively, triggering hot public attention. A Shaanxi province's agriculture department official told Chinanews.com there were two reasons the maize fields were eradicated. Firstly, the seeds were planted without the approval of the local administrative department in charge of agriculture, a violation to China's Seed Law. Secondly, the Regulations on Genetically Modification were not adhered to, as GM plants are strictly controlled by the state. According to provisions, China allows qualified GM imports, but they can only be used in production and processing.

[Full article](#)

Closing yield gaps in China by empowering smallholder farmers

[Nature, 29.09.2016] -- Sustainably feeding the world's growing population is a challenge, and closing yield gaps (that is, differences between farmers' yields and what are attainable for a given region) is a vital strategy to address this challenge. In particular in developing countries where smallholder farming dominates the agricultural landscape, the magnitude of yield gaps is large. Weifeng Zhang and Fusuo Zhang and their colleagues of China Agricultural University presented an innovative approach for enabling smallholders to achieve yield and economic gains sustainably via the Science and Technology Backyard (STB) platform.

[Nature article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 45, September 2016)

National gene bank to improve health, preserve biodiversity

[CCTV.com, 22.09.2016] -- China's first national gene bank has opened today in the southern city of Shenzhen, five years after the project's approval. The world's largest gene pool is expected to help protect and advance research in genetic resources, as well as boot China's genetics industry. The gene bank currently has a collection of 10 million samples of biological resources, and can support a total of 60 petabytes of gene data access.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 45, September 2016)

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13 Nobel winners to gather in Beijing for life science conference

[China Daily, 27.10.2016] -- More than 400 top professors in life science from around the world, including 13 Nobel Prize winners, will gather in Beijing for the 2016 World Life Science Conference, which will start November 1st, 2016. According to the organizers of the Chinese Association of Science and Technology, it is the first time that China is holding hold such a top level academic conference in the area of life science. The theme of the conference is "Health, Agriculture and Environment". Among the list of participants are Mrs. Tu Youyou, the Chinese pharmaceutical chemist and Nobel Prize winner of 2015, and Mrs. Marcia McNutt, the President of the American Academy of Sciences.

[Full article](#)

China ranks No 3 in top paper citations

[China Daily, 13.10.2016] -- According to a report from the Statistical Data of Chinese S&T Papers released on October 12, 2016, China has risen to third globally in the number of highly cited academic papers. 16,900 papers - 12.8 percent of the top group of those most often cited during the past decade - were published by Chinese researchers, pushing China ahead of Germany. In a subset of eight research fields, i.e. agriculture, chemistry, computer science, engineering, materials science, mathematics, physics and pharmaceuticals, China ranked second in the world.

[Full article](#)

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Guidelines aim to strengthen environmental management

[MEP, 26.09.2016] -- A guideline, released by the general offices of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and the State Council on September 22, 2016 aims to put more focus on environmental protection and make the current management of environmental protection agencies more efficient. A pilot program will be conducted to adjust the management of local environmental agencies and evaluate officials based on their performance in environmental protection.

[MEP news release](#) (from GIZ Newsletter China Environment, Climate and Energy, Oct. 2016)

Census of pollution sources readied

[China Daily, 27.10.2016] -- In a statement on October 26, 2016, the State Council said that China is planning its second national census of pollution sources, starting on Dec 31, 2017, and to last for the whole of 2018. The census is meant to provide solid information to help governments design better-targeted protection projects and policies for the environment, and make their decisions more scientific.

[Full article](#)

China releases national plan for implementation of UN sustainable development agenda

[Xinhua, 20.09.2016] -- Chairing a roundtable on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on September 19, 2016, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang released China's national plan for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. Consisting of five parts, the Plan includes China's achievements and experience in implementing the Millennium Development Goals, and the challenges and opportunities, guiding principles, roadmap and detailed plans of implementing the SDGs.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 45, September 2016)

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Urban Chinese willing to pay extra for green electricity

[chinadialogue, 19.09.2016] -- A recent survey in 10 Chinese cities commissioned by the China Renewable Energy Industries Association (CREIA) has found that the vast majority of China's urban consumers are willing to pay higher bills to buy "green electricity" from renewable sources like wind, solar or biomass. Of the respondents, 97.6% favoured using green electricity to tackle air pollution, and 44% of those surveyed were willing to accept a 10 yuan (US\$1.50) increase in their monthly bills for a greater share of green energy.

[Full article](#) (From GIZ Newsletter China Environment, Climate and Energy, October 2016)

China is increasing its efforts to fight water pollution

[China Economic Net, 09.08.2016; MEP, 11.08.2016] -- The Ministry of Environmental Protection (MEP) announced on August 8, 2016 that China will spend 430 billion yuan (64.6 billion U.S. dollars) on about 4,800 projects to improve the quality of its scarce water resources. According to the Ministry, the funds will go on protecting the environment of rivers and lakes with good water quality, protection of drinking water sources, pollution prevention and control in major basins, and groundwater protection.

[Full article](#) (From GIZ Newsletter China Environment, Climate and Energy, September 2016)

[MEP news release](#)

Additional Information by DCZ:

In January 2017 the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture (GFFA) will take place in Berlin under the motto "Agriculture and Water – Key to Feeding the World". The German Asia-Pacific Business Association (OAV), together with DCZ are organizing an Sino-German experts panel during this high ranking event, bringing together leading experts from both countries. Further information on GFFA can be found here: www.gffa-berlin.de/en/

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Organic agriculture becomes increasingly popular in China

[ChinaFile, 23.09.2016] -- Food safety is an increasingly pressing issue for many Chinese. According to recent research by the consultancy McKinsey, 72% of Chinese consumers worry about food safety. This awareness is causing potential for organic products. Especially in cities, organic foods have grown 30-fold in the past decade with a still ongoing upward trend. However, there is no clear labelling, and an imperfect certification procedure and regulatory framework in place. Furthermore, organic products remain unaffordable for the vast majority of Chinese.

[Full article](#) (From GIZ Newsletter China Environment, Climate and Energy, October 2016)

Additional Information by DCZ:

DCZ is continuously observing topics related to organic agriculture in both countries. Forthcoming is the Chinese translation of an assessment of the current situation of organic agriculture in Germany, to be uploaded onto our website.

China corn crop to fall 2.3 percent in 2016

[Reuters, 08.09.2016] -- According to the China National Grain and Oils Information Centre, an official think-tank, China's 2016 corn harvest will drop 2.3 percent from the year before to 201.5 million tonnes. Following a change in government support, planted acreage in the world's No.2 corn producer will fall by almost 5 percent to 36.3 million hectares, but grain yields are expected to increase to 6 tonnes per hectare, up by 162 kg from last year. Years of government stockpiling of corn have led production to hit levels far beyond market demand.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 45, September 2016)

China's agricultural fair draws record number of foreign traders

[China Daily, 26.10.2016] -- The 14th China Agricultural Trade Fair (CATF) was held Nov. 5 to 8, 2016 in Kunming, the capital city of Yunnan Province. A record number of foreign traders participated. This year's Trade Fair is themed "supply-side reform, industrial integration, green and sharing, innovative development". Agricultural ministers and deputy ministers from more than 30 countries attended the first forum at the 14th CATF.

[Full article](#)

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Additional Information by DCZ:

There was a strong German presence during the CATF in Kunming: Headed by the Parliamentary State Secretary Peter Bleser a German delegation visited the fair, held the 11th Meeting of the Bilateral Working Group on Agriculture and presented the German bilateral projects in the German pavilion on the fair. More to read on DCZ website.

1st China-ASEAN Agricultural Cooperation Forum held in Nanning

[MOA, 18.09.2016] -- The 1st China-ASEAN Agricultural Cooperation Forum, jointly organized by the Chinese Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) and the Guangxi government, was held in Nanning, the capital city of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, on Sept. 12th, 2016. More than 200 participants attended the Forum, representing government departments from China and 10 ASEAN countries, institutes and agribusinesses, international organizations, etc. A keynote speech was delivered by Vice Minister Qu Dongyu.

[MOA news release](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 45, September 2016)

China lifts ban on U.S. beef imports

[Xinhua, 22.09.2016] -- China lifted a decade-plus ban on some beef products from the United States. A statement released September 22, 2016 by the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) and the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ) said that the ban on bone-in and boneless beef from cattle under 30 months old from the United States was removed effective immediately. Authorities would formulate rules on traceability and quarantine for the beef products. China had halted beef imports from the United States in 2003 to prevent the spread of mad cow disease.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 45, September 2016)

Breeding warm bloods will boost industry

[China Daily, 05.10.2016] -- Bohai horses are a breed of Chinese horses developed over 30 years by integrating Mongolian horses and horses introduced from the Soviet Union. Han Guocai, deputy director of the Horse Research Center at China Agricultural University, suggested breeding Bohai warm bloods by crossbreeding Bohais with overseas quality horses, such as European warm bloods. That would raise the quality of domestic horses and be economically attractive compared to imports. [Full article](#)

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Additional Information by DCZ:

Since the signature of a veterinary certificate for horse imports from Germany the Chinese market is open for high quality horses from Germany. Equestrian Globe is the official representative of the German Equestrian Federation (FN) for Greater China.

Sinochem, ChemChina to be merged, sources disclose

[China Daily, 17.10.2016] -- According to a Bloomberg news agency report quoting sources on October 14, 2016, Sinochem Group and China National Chemical Corporation (ChemChina) are going to be merged. Sinochem is China's biggest agricultural company by revenue with operations in fertilizers, seeds and agrochemicals, its business also encompassing oil, real estate and non-banking financial services. ChemChina is China's biggest chemical company with chemicals, oil processing, tire and rubber products and chemical equipment as its main businesses. In February 2016 Sinochem proposed a \$43 billion purchase of Swiss pesticide and seed group Syngenta AG.

[Full article](#)

\$2.1 billion in soybean deals signed

[China Daily, 17.10.2016] -- On Oct 14, 2016, sixteen soybean purchase agreements valued at 2.1 billion US \$ were signed between more than a dozen Chinese and American companies and producers in Des Moines, Iowa, USA, with officials from both China and the US attending. China buys 83 million tons or about 60 percent of all imported soybeans in the world per year. Thirty million tons are imported from the US, corresponding to 15 billion US \$ a year for US farmers in recent years.

[Full article](#)

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Climate change hitting grain output in China

[China Daily, 18.10.2016] According to figures released October 16, 2016 at a promotion in Nanjing for the 36th World Food Day, meteorological disasters were to blame for the destruction of at least 50 billion kilograms of grain in China annually. Climate change was having an increasing impact on food and agriculture, with each rising degree Celsius causing an estimated 10 percent loss in grain output. China is one of the countries most affected by meteorological disasters, with droughts causing about 60 percent of all grain losses in the country.

[Full article](#)

China tops the world for having 70 mln ha of planted forest

[Ecnscn, 29.08.2016] -- At a national conference on accelerating afforestation held August 27-28, 2016 in Hohhot, Zhang Jianlong, Head of the State Forestry Administration said that China was home to 69.3 million hectares of artificial (planted) forest, the most in the world, following more than six decades of afforestation work. Zhang said that total forest acreage has grown to 3.12 billion *mu* (208 million ha) from 1.24 billion *mu* in early 1950s, covering 21.66 percent of the land area, compared with 8.6 percent more than 60 years ago.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 44, August 2016)

Additional Information by DCZ:

A new Sino-German project aims at strengthening the Dialogue on Forestry Policy. The German Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) is funding a pilot project to establish a platform for exchange and cooperation in the forestry sector with the Chinese State Forestry Administration (SFA). GIZ was recently entrusted with the implementation of the project.

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China lays out plan for agricultural modernization by 2020

[China Daily, 21.10.2016] -- According to a five-year plan released by the State Council on October 20, 2016, China aims to achieve "marked progress" in agricultural modernization by 2020. It will strive to ensure food security, improve the quality and efficiency of farm produce supply, and enhance the sector's international competitiveness by 2020. The plan also targets all-round moderate prosperity for rural residents, and a beautiful countryside.

[Full article](#)

Additional Information by DCZ: The document is currently being translated by DCZ.

China promotes transfer of farmland use right

[China Daily, 31.10.2016] -- A policy of promoting and standardizing the transfer of the right to use farmland from rural residents to commercial entities was announced on October 30, 2016. It is expected to raise the efficiency of agricultural production in China. Rural residents will enjoy greater freedom of transferring the land they have contracted, while their right to collectively own the land remains unchanged. Most of China's farmland is owned collectively by the people who work on it. As the rural workforce migrated to better paid jobs in the big cities, China began, in 2008, to allow farmers to rent out, transfer and merge the land they have contracted, amid a reform to bolster modern farming and reuse unattended land.

[Full article](#)

Agricultural capacity increase to assist in climate change fight

[China Daily, 17.10.2016] -- According to the China Meteorological Administration, climate-related disasters account for the loss of 50 billion kg of grain in China every year. In an event to mark World Food Day on October 16, 2016, Sun Zhonghua, chief agronomist at the Ministry of Agriculture, said that China would further enhance the capacity of its agricultural sector to cope with climate change by improving the quality of farmland and reducing food loss and waste. To cope with the impact of climate change, measures such as conservation tillage, increasing organic matter content in soil and better integrating water management would be implemented.

[Full article](#)

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UN urges food wastage crackdown in China

[China Daily, 16.10.2016] -- At an event to mark World Food Day in Nanjing on October 16, 2016, Vincent Martin, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations representative in China, said China should put in place concrete policies to encourage the public to stop wasting food, as its agricultural sector faces mounting challenges amid climate change. Authorities estimate that between 40 and 50 billion kilograms of food are wasted in the consumption process in China each year. Martin noted that more than one-third of food produced worldwide was lost or wasted, and that global food wastage emissions were almost equal to global road transport emission.

[Full article](#)

China announces one trillion yuan PPP demonstration projects

[Xinhua, 14.10.2016] On October 13, 2016, China's Ministry of Finance published a new group of public-private partnership (PPP) demonstration projects with a total investment value of 1.17 trillion yuan (\$174.6 billion). This is the third batch of such demonstration projects following two groups of projects worth 658.9 billion yuan in 2015 and 180 billion yuan in 2014n as the country tries to stimulate social capital to battle the economic downturn. The ministry said the 516 newly-announced projects covered energy, transport, water conservation, agriculture and education.

[Full article](#)

China to invest \$450 billion modernizing agriculture by 2020

[Reuters, 18.09.2016] -- The Agricultural Development Bank of China [AGDBC.UL], one of the country's main policy lenders, agreed to loan at least 3 trillion yuan (\$450 billion) for the modernization of China's agriculture industry by 2020, according to the official Xinhua news agency on September 18, 2016. The Ministry of Agriculture and the bank, which lends in line with government policy, signed an agreement to protect national food security, support the sector doing business overseas and develop China's seed industry. The move also aims to increase the agriculture industry's efficiency and foster rural income growth.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 45, September 2016)

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China to invigorate agriculture with information technology

[Xinhua, 01.09.2016] -- China will further integrate information technology into agriculture in the next five years to increase productivity and efficiency, according to the Chinese Ministry of Agriculture. According to a five-year blueprint released September 01, 2016, the government aims to further improve intelligent management in planting, cultivation and machinery and the use of Internet of Things (IOT) is to cover 17 percent of the agriculture sector. Meanwhile, China will continue to support e-commerce growth in agriculture and rural areas, and aims to lift the share of online-retail produce volume in total agricultural output to eight percent by 2020.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 45, September 2016)

Beijing moves to close the urban-rural gap

[Xinhua, 20.09.2016] -- On September 19, 2016, Beijing has announced more changes to its local "hukou" (permanent residence permit) system: the rural Beijing hukou will cease to exist, ending the divide between rural and urban residents. According to the guideline, the Beijing municipal government will no longer distinguish between urban and rural residents, but establish a unified permit system. Education, health, employment, social welfare, and housing will be equal for all Beijing residents.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 45, September 2016)

China pledges to cut size of its massive fishing fleet

[SCMP, 15.08.2016] -- China's Agriculture minister Han Changfu told China National Radio that it was time to trim China's fishing fleet, the world's largest, to protect fish stocks. Overfishing in Chinese rivers and seas has seriously depleted stocks and the government is to cut the size of the nation's fishing fleet, the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) said. The ministry said there were practically "no fish" in the coastal East China Sea and fishermen also had a hard time finding a catch in many other coastal waters.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 44, August 2016)

Preparatory Meeting of International Agri-Husbandry International Higher Vocational Education Alliance held in Jiangsu Voc. College

[Window of China's Higher Education Institutions, 中国高校之窗. Translated and edited by DCZ]

On October 2nd, 2016, the Preparatory Meeting of International Agri-Husbandry Higher Vocational Education Alliance was held at the Jiangsu Agri-Animal Husbandry Vocational College. Over 40 participants from 18 universities and colleges [...] from eight countries gathered together in this college to discuss the details of meeting preparation.

Ji Wenlin, the party secretary of Jiangsu Agri-Animal Husbandry Vocational College, extended his warm welcome to the distinguished guests and gave a brief introduction to the history of the college. He pointed out that the International Agri-Husbandry Higher Vocational Education Alliance will serve as a platform for experience exchange, international cooperation and the exploration of different education models for agri-husbandry vocational education. Through this alliance, we can take initiatives to follow the "Belt & Road" strategy and can have an opportunity to share the information and the latest achievements in this field, thus driving forward the coordinated development of agri-husbandry vocational education globally. That is why we initiated to organize the alliance.

Two representatives from The Netherlands and Indonesia delivered a speech, respectively. They noted that the Alliance will be conducive to resource sharing, mutual complement and mutual benefit and with it long-term cooperation may be realized among members. So they embraced the idea of setting up the Alliance. Shi Yunyu, the deputy director of the Division of International Communication and Cooperation of Jiangsu Education Department, and Tian Yubin, the director of FAO of Jiangsu Agricultural Committee pointed out that the Alliance will help push forward the educational internationalization and agri-husbandry development in Jiangsu Province and cultivate professional farmers of agri-husbandry with local identity and global horizon, making a contribution to the development of agriculture and animal husbandry.

A signing ceremony of International Agri-Husbandry International Higher Vocational Education Alliance was held. All representatives signed their names on the signature wall, indicating that they agreed to set up the Alliance next year. Then after taking group photos, the participants introduced the universities and colleges they come from and their intent for cooperation.

[Full text in Chinese](#)

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About 300 ecological circular agriculture projects are intended to be established in the coming three years

[MOA, 28.09.2016, Translated and edited by DCZ]

On September 28th, 2016, the Chinese Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) issued the Guidelines for the Regional Ecological Circular Agriculture Projects of the Comprehensive Development of Agriculture (2017-2020), putting forward that about 300 ecological circular agriculture projects will be established in the next three years to promote the development of the resource-saving, environment-friendly and ecological conservation-oriented agriculture and to enhance the quality and safety of agri-products through standardized production, making agriculture more sustainable.

In order to implement the new development concept put forward by the central government characterized by efficient utilization of resources, input reduction in agriculture, utilization of residues and cleaner production which aim to enhance quality and efficiency and promote the sustainable development of agriculture, MOA and the Office of National Agricultural Comprehensive Development are determined to begin to put focus on promoting the construction of regional ecological circular agriculture projects in the comprehensive development project areas at the beginning of 2017 on the basis of the prior pilot work. They came up with the following proposals in accordance with the requirements of the central government and the policies for the national agricultural comprehensive development.

Basic principles:

- (1) Overall design. The construction of the ecological circular agriculture projects should be designed and planned in a holistic way with priorities given to the key issues in a given area to ensure the smooth cycle of the industrial chain and utilization of resources.
- (2) Menu-style options. Choose what to construct according to the planned layout, cycle models and basic conditions to ensure smooth implementation of the model.
- (3) Carry out regionally. The project will be firstly carried out in selected areas within a county to establish a group of eco-agriculture towns and then introduced to other peripheral areas.
- (4) Marketized operation. With the policy and financial support, the leading enterprises of agricultural industrialization, farmers' cooperatives and other new-type management bodies which meet the requirements are encouraged to participate in the construction and operations of the projects.

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Overall objective:

About 300 ecological circular agriculture projects will be established in the next three years (2017-2020) to promote the development of the resource-saving, environment-friendly and ecological conservation-oriented agriculture and to enhance the quality, safety and standardized production of agri-products, making agriculture more sustainable.

Major contents for construction:

The projects should be designed according to the complete chain of ecological agriculture and to the actual situation of the selected place with focus on the key areas, measures and technologies. In principle, the construction of the projects must cover the utilization of waste from animal husbandry, development of the agricultural byproducts and standardized cleaner production while in the meantime taking into consideration the multiple channels of resource utilization and waste treatment.

Details are laid down regarding:

1. Utilization of waste from animal husbandry, including: The model of the integrated crop and animal farming, The model of “substitution, separation and utilization”, The model of advanced treatment of sewage, The centralized treatment model in the areas with high density of animal husbandry.
2. The comprehensive development of the agricultural byproducts, including: Use agricultural byproducts to produce feed, Use agricultural byproducts to produce fertilizers, Use agricultural byproducts to produce base materials, Use agricultural byproducts to produce fuels
3. Standardized cleaner production, including: Facilities for standardized production, Facilities for farmland protection, Facilities for ecological farming with aquafarming in the rice field, Facilities for controlling the source of pesticides and fertilizers which contains nitrogen or phosphorus.

Target areas and groups and application requirements:

The projects mainly target at the following two groups: Leading enterprises and farmers' cooperative organizations, and Governments at county and town level.

[Full text in Chinese](#)

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

News about DCZ

We want to highlight the up-coming **Sino-German Agricultural Week from November 28th to December 2nd, 2016**. It assembles workshops and events on major topics of the DCZ during 2016 and is thus the main meeting place for policy makers, researchers, business community and practitioners interested in the Sino-German cooperation in the agricultural sector :

- Main findings and policy recommendations of the Agricultural Policy Dialogue on sustainable agriculture
- A cooperation project on Agricultural vocational education
- Workshop on Traceability and Food Metabolomics, as an innovative tool for authenticity and food safety
- New developments in animal breeding
- Open day, where associated demonstration projects and research institutions report on their findings

For more news on activities carried out and forthcoming events at the German-Chinese Agricultural Center (DCZ), please directly consult our website, which is updated frequently:

www.dcz-china.org

Recent articles are covering:

First Sino-EU Bio-Natural Gas Summit

German-Sino Agribusiness Forum on EuroTier focuses on organic residue management

Conference of Deutschland Alumni in Qingdao, November 26, 2016

“Sustainable Production – Sustainable Consumption”

Saturday, November 26th, 2016

Holiday Inn Qingdao City Centre

1 Xuzhou Road, Qingdao 266071

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Vacancies for internships at DCZ

- For Chinese native speakers, with very good knowledge of English. Tasks include working on documents, translations, as well as support in office management.
- Für internationale Studierende der Agrarwissenschaften, mit sehr guten Englischkenntnissen, und bevorzugt mit chinesischen Sprachkenntnissen. Die Aufgabenfelder orientieren sich an den Schwerpunktthemen des DCZ und werden von Fall zu Fall vereinbart.

Interested candidates please contact the DCZ under yingjuan.li@giz.de

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We also thank the colleagues from the Sino-German Climate Partnership for their permission to use several news items from their monthly GIZ Newsletter China Environment, Climate and Energy.