## **Recycling Economy in China**

Prof.Dr.Haifeng Huang Director

China's Research Center for Economic Transition
Beijing University of Technology (www.CRCET.com)

China is regarded as the most rapidly developing major area! It has become a world wonder in terms of her high-speed economic development, and a truly responsible international members through paying close attention to her resource management and investment into repair of the environment.

But the economy continues to develop fast and living standards are rising dramatically without effective control of both resource consumption and environmental pollution, then, resource, energy and environmental problems will become the major constraints on China's economy and social development. With this in mind, a development strategy of recycling, and changing the form of economic growth, as well as founding a resource-conserving and environment-friendly society, have become the strongest voices and keywords of the transitional economy and society today.

# Why do we have make the Recycling Economy Strategy in China, there are three major initiatives

- The first is **economic development**. The economic development of China is immediately improving people's living standards. Faster growth of resource consumption, lower rates of resource utilization and lower rates of resource recovery are three factors combining to limit the resources needed to meet the demands of the high-speed development of the economy. In order to alleviate energy, resource and environmental pressures, and support the healthy development of the economy, China will adopt a development strategy for a recycling economy.
- ☐ The second one is **quality of life**. The traditional extensive type of economic development characteristic of "high consumption and high pollution" causes imbalance in the ecology, and endangers the national quality of life. China will focus on education leading to the adoption of consumption conscious living practices.
- □ The last one is the **international factor**. Global resources are limited and unevenly distributed, and standards of environmental protection have become a key issue in international trade. Scientific development, sustainable development and a recycling economy are inevitable for China to embark on its own modern industrialization and Ecological Society.

#### Practice and Development of Recycling Economy in China

China by the standards of developing industrial countries is situated in the middle stage of industrialization and demand for resources (energy, mineral, water, land etc.) is growing rapidly, and adding to the environmental pressures. Optimal utilization of resources and recycling are the core values of China's Recycling Economy, following the basic 3R principles (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle), with "moderate consumption, low emission, high efficiency" as fundamental characteristics. China's national conditions, such as economy, society and science and technology development stages are different from industrialized countries. China has to develop its own practice patterns for developing a recycling economy. Pilot projects should have started in a

number of cities and regions.

## **Practice and Development of Recycling Economy**

In a word, the recycling economy of western developed countries starts with solving waste recycling and disposal, and then extends into the manufacturing fields. The recycling economy of Germany originated in "rubbish economy", "the recycling society" of Japan also originated in recycling waste. Their patterns can be summed up to the pattern of end of pipe and manufacturing course control. However, the pattern like China for developing recycling economy mainly lies in changing the traditional economic growth pattern characterized by high consumption, high pollution and low benefit, and going along a new industrialization road, as well as solving the environmental pollution problem.

## The Major Measures for Developing Recycling Economy in China

The main thrusts of the developing sustainable Consumption and Production are as
follows:
Promoting Ecological Concepts;
Establishing a System of Laws and Regulations for Developing Recycling Economy;
Using Science and Technology to its Full Capabilities;
Strengthening the Training of Domestic Talent and International Cooperation.

In short, developing recycling economy is a systematic project. It doesn't only concern economic fields but also relate to other fields such as society, science and technology. It is not only a challenge to China, but also the whole world.

A recycling economy requires China to change the manner of economic growth, and also demands international society to give full cooperation.

In order to solve the environmental crisis that concern the international society, human society must carry out a profound conceptual transformation, and establish shared environmental ethics to protect the earth and human sustainable development. China should strengthen further scientific and technological cooperation with experts and scholars worldwide in aspects of recycling economy. No doubt, through the mutual cooperation of international society and initiation of independent innovation of science and technology, it must perfect the pattern of recycling economy that is relevant to national conditions

The Baseline Assets of the planet are Soil, Water, Vegetation, and the Atmosphere. Pollution is seen as degrading these assets. Recycling reduces the waste for land fill and reduces polluting gases that create part of the visible and lung damaging haze across China!

Recycling reduces energy consumption and therefore reduces World's and particularly China atmospheric pollution, hence, a Clean China!

In conclusion I would like to propose to this eminent body we will continue develop an international Standard for recycled products and processes. In fact, right now many companies will set up Union of Environmental Protecting in Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou, let's go to Action.

Contact Address:
Prof.Dr.Haifeng Huang
Director of China's Research Center for Economic Transition
Beijing University of Technology

crcet.office@bjut.edu.cn

See: <a href="http://www.crcet.com">http://www.crcet.com</a>

Prof.Dr.Haifeng Huang, China's Research Center for Economic Transition, Beijing University of Technology, 2007



http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nd/2.0/fr/deed.fr