



**Renmin University of China (RUC) – The Worldwide Universities Network (WUN)
Think Tank Summit
“The Belt and Road” Green Development
(Draft Working Document 6 Nov 2017)**

Significance

Renmin University of China (RUC) formally signed the agreement to join the Worldwide Universities Network (WUN) on November 7th, 2016. In the framework of the WUN, RUC is committed to playing a role in liaison communication, collaborative research, etc. and actively building a cooperative platform with universities from other countries. RUC and WUN have great potential for cooperation in collaborative research, joint meetings, results release and personnel training. Renmin University is not only famous for its 9 social science disciplines but also for its policy leading role in China.

The Worldwide Universities Network (WUN) is a leading global higher education and research network made up of 23 universities, spanning 13 countries on five continents. Together we work to drive international research collaboration and address issues of global significance. WUN is an important platform for world-renowned universities, international research institutions and organizations to cooperate. It deepens the communication and exchange between world-renowned universities and provides a bridge for international cooperation and joint research cooperation.

The holding of the Renmin University – WUN Think Tank Summit, on the one hand, is conducive to help the members of the WUN communicate and cooperate, making solid progress in the scientific research foundation, promoting mutual understanding and enhancing international policy influence. On the other hand, the summit is conducive to developing an international think tanks/research institutes' cooperation network, building a strategic alliance of think tanks and research institutes under the WUN partnership.

Program

I. Date: Saturday 24 March 2018 (With Welcome Dinner on Friday 23 March)

II. Theme: “The Belt and Road” Green Development

The objective is to develop an international exchange platform by leveraging the WUN's multi-national and cross-cultural advantages. Under this platform, cross-cultural dialogues will be encouraged to understand specific supplies and demands from different countries involved in the green Belt and Road. Taken from an international perspective, the idea of the green Belt and Road will be elaborated in a more in-depth, systematic and comprehensive way, and a better integration of UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) system, global climate governance regime and the world green development transition will be explored.

III. Forum Topics

a. Composition of the topics

- a) Research themes and areas of policy think tanks/research institutes focused by WUN;
- b) Dominant research fields of The National Academy of Development and Strategy (NADS), RUC.

b. Topics

a) Challenges and Prospects of the World Economy – Belt and Road, Trade and Development

The development of economies will provide the fundamental resources for our livelihood. In the current world, the world economy has experienced both ups and downs. How to overcome trade barriers, improve the financial opening, and to deepen the investment relations will be urgent issues to be addressed.

b) Responding to Climate Change and Ensuring Energy Security (Invite Climate/Energy leaders)

Climate change leads to environmental changes, food and water shortages, and population displacement and migration. Energy security is an increasingly important consideration, which is closely related to climate change issues. Almost every country is much concerned about its future energy security because this is one of the main prerequisites for future growth. There is the strong relationship between environment, climate change and energy and of great greening potentials especially for the Belt and Road along countries.

c) Global Higher Education and Research (Invite OECD, British Council Beijing etc)

For higher education to deliver future generations with the right set of skills and knowledge, imperative questions have to be asked regarding how higher education institutes would be affected in the information era and how the delivery of education will be transformed. There are different opportunities available for higher education to promote global development. What sort of subjects in higher education can be worked on in the way of collaboration under the framework of WUN during the Belt and Road Green Development? This will be a right and necessary discussion point in assessing priorities.

d) Understanding Cultures – a worldwide accepted knowledge of The Belt and Road Green Development

Under globalization, where advances in transport and communication have created what many refer as the “global village”, understanding and appreciating cultural differences in business have become of vital importance to all organizations. An appreciation of different cultures is also of great importance in maintaining a harmonious environment for global cooperation especially in the Belt and Road Initiative.

e) Public Health

Public health plays an important role in disease prevention efforts in both the developing world and in developed countries, through local health systems and non-governmental organizations. It is important to prevent and manage diseases, injuries and other health conditions through surveillance of cases and the promotion of healthy behaviors, communities and environments. How to identify cases of disease and disability, as well as implement interventions should be discussed to prevent disease and injury in the future. In the Belt and Road along region, different issues relevant to the public health need to be

studied such as aging health, respiratory diseases with the slow progress towards green energy consuming.

f) Promoting Public Diplomacy

The new era has brought global real-time television and the inter-net to the public, which links government and society. We need to discuss how we can take the advantage of the advanced technology to help our B&R green development, help the public more understand the goal and measures of the policy, and help countries involved to understand each other.

g) Law and Green Finance

We will discuss the capital and the law needs for the Belt and Road green projects, how those can be met in the years ahead. This notes the potential roles of the AIIB, Silk Road Fund, South-South Cooperation Assistance Fund, China-ASEAN Investment Cooperation Fund, China-Central and Eastern Europe Investment Cooperation Fund, China-ASEAN Maritime Cooperation Fund, Special Fund for Asian Regional Cooperation and LMC Special Fund and other sources and the mode of funding such as the Public and Private Partnership (PPP). Besides, law plays an essential role in the success of the investment of billions of dollars in infrastructure development.

IV. Guest Invitations

- a. Relevant leaders from the government, business and banking (MOST, MOE, CASS)
- b. University experts and members and their research institutions under WUN
- c. World-renowned think tanks:
Brookings Institution, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Rand Corporation, American Foreign Relations Council, American Center for Strategic and International Studies, Peterson Institute for International Economics, Royal Institute of International Affairs, UK International Strategy Research Institute, European Commission on Foreign Relations, Australian Institute of East Asian Economic Research, etc.
- d. Well-known domestic think tanks

V. Outputs of the Conference:

- a. Outputs during the Conference
 - a) Forum viewpoints – Establishment of the International Policy Research Network, the steering group, focus and priority areas, key research questions, work-plan for 2017-18.
 - b) Forum expert dialogue – List of experts and participating institutions, from RUC, WUN and WUN-Plus collaborating experts.
- b. Outputs after the Conference
 - a) Media coverage – a Summit statement is released for media and wide circulation
 - b) Policy recommendations from sub-forums – also released to a priority national and international media and communications list. Also to key research stakeholders.
 - c) Overall policy recommendations report – Released to National and international media, with articles for Boao Review, Chronicle of Higher Education (USA), Times Higher Education (UK), UN and EU media outlets.

VI. Responsibility Divisions

- a. Host: National Academy of Development and Strategy (NADS) of RUC
- b. Co-organizer: Research and International Office, RUC; Chongyang Institute for Financial Studies (RDCY), RUC; The Belt and Road Economic Research Institute
- c. Supporter: WUN

VII. Media (Draft)

- a. The central level media: the Xinhua News Agency; People's Daily, Guangming Daily, Social Sciences in China Press, China Education Newspaper, China Daily, CCTV, etc.;
- b. Local media: China Times, Social Science Weekly, Beijing Daily, etc.;
- c. Network media: China Network, People's Network, Phoenix, Sina, Tencent, etc.
- d. Chronicle (USA), THE (UK), UN and EU outlets – along with articles. UP and agencies.

VIII. Agenda (Draft)

Day 1 – Friday 23 March 2018

09:00-22:00 Conference Registration

18:00-20:00 Welcome Dinner (Dinner Introduction Speech (short) – VP RUC

Day 2 – Saturday 24 March 2018

08:00-09:00 Breakfast Buffet

09:00-09:45 Opening Ceremony – Speeches 8 minutes each

Host: Vice president of RUC (TBC)

Speech: XXX, the Ministry of Education

XXX, Beijing Municipal Commission of Education

XXX, RUC

Professor John Hearn, WUN Executive Director

09:45-10:15 Coffee Break

10:15-10:45 Keynote Speech I –

Topic: World Economy

Introduction: Chair -2-3 mins

Speaker: 15 mins, Discussion 15 mins

10:45-11:15 Keynote Speech II

Topic: Climate, Environment, Food and Energy

Introduction: Chair – 2-3 Mins

Speaker: 15 Mins, Discussion 15 Mins

11:15-11:45 Keynote Speech III

Topic: Higher Education and Research

Introduction: Chair (2-3 min)

Speaker: 15 min, Discussion 15 min)

11:45-12:15 Keynote Speech IV

Topic: Understanding Cultures

Introduction: Chair – 2-3 mins

Speaker: 15 min, Discussion 15 min

12:15-13:30 Buffet Lunch

13:30-16:00 Sub-form Discussion I:
Topic: Law and Green Finance
Introduction: Chair – 10 min
Host:
Discussion guests:

13:30-16:00 Sub-form Discussion II:
Topic: Public Health
Introduction:
Host:
Discussion guests:

13:30-16:00 Sub-form Discussion III:
Topic: Understanding Cultures
Introduction:
Host:
Discussion guests:

13:30-16:00 Sub-form Discussion V:
Topic: Public Diplomacy
Introduction:
Host:
Discussion guests:

(16:00 Coffee Break)

16:00-17:00. (i) 16:00-16:30, Reporting session 7 min each from the 4 Sub Form Discussions
(ii) 16:30-17:00 General discussion, conclusions and action agenda.