

# Taking Coordinated and Joint Action to Promote the Green Development of the Economy and the Society

Jin Xiaoxiao  
Northeastern University

The green development is the latest economic and social development philosophy that is proposed to cope with the gradual deterioration of current ecological environment, and it aims to achieve the comprehensive greenization of the economy and the society. To promote the green development of the economy and the society, we must look far and aim high, and we must take a holistic approach, coordinate the strategic measures in the fields of the economy, the politics, the culture, the society, the natural environment, and international cooperation, as well as emphasize the logic, the connection, and the hierarchy of different systems, then establish a synergetic mechanism of the green development so that various measures will be coordinated and brought forward to maximize the effect in the joint effort of promoting the green transformation of the economy and the society.

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The green development is the latest economic and social development philosophy that is proposed to cope with the gradual deterioration of current ecological environment, and it aims to realize the comprehensive greenization of the economy and the society. Promoting the green development is not merely environmental greenization and beautification. It's a complex and systematic project that involved the economy, the politics, the society, the culture, and the natural ecology. Its complexity and systematicness determines that the relationship between various major factors must be well-coordinated and a virtuous synergetic development system must be set up in the effort to bring forward the green development. Meanwhile, the green development refers not just to environmental optimization and low-carbon development. Its ultimate goal is to eliminate the limitations of the deeply-rooted conventional development philosophy and try to transform the existing foundation into persistent competitiveness. Such goal and requirement demand the coordinated action and synergetic development. In addition, since the most formidable challenge to the green development is the combined effect of the limitations in the economy, such as the politics, the culture and the society, to break the shackles of these restraints relies on the synergetic function of various factors. Therefore, systematic, scientific, and coordinated strategic measures must be taken simultaneously in the fields of the economy, the politics, the culture, the society, the natural ecology, and the international cooperation.

## 1. Taking the Economic Measures to Promote the Green Development

The economic measures for carrying forward the green development refer to all the economic activities and measures that contribute to green transformation, such as green production, green consumption,

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Jin Xiaoxiao, Ph.D., Dr., School of Marxism, Northeastern University, China; main research field: Marxist Ecological Theory and Ecological Philosophy.

establishment of a green industrial system, and green technology innovation, which constitute the central part for promoting the green development. The green development requires that the relationship among the economic system, ecological system, and social system should be well-coordinated in the process of economic development in order to guarantee the recyclability of the whole process of economic operation, involving production, consumption, and exchanges, and ensure that the sustainable development of economy and society is forcibly fueled with green technology innovation and industry restructuring.

First, a green production system should be established in order to achieve the greenization of the production mode. To establish a circular and low-carbon production mode which is based on the principles of waste minimization, recycling, and resourceization, the producers should make strenuous efforts to reduce the consumption of raw materials and energy and manufacture in an intensive manner that is characterized by less input, low consumption, low pollution, and high yield in order to realize green production of high efficiency but with no waste, no harm, and no pollution.

Second, the industrial system should be optimized while the green industries should be vigorously developed. A balance should be stricken in the relationship between industrial development and environmental protection, as well as a green industrial system should be set up through green mining, clean production, discharge according to standards, and actively building a circular, and low-carbon economic industrial chain. Vigorous efforts should be made to promote economical utilization of agricultural production resources, cleanness of production process, resourceization and harmless treatment of waste, and the circulation of industrial chain, in order to enhance the overall efficiency of agriculture and establish a green agricultural system. The industrial layout should be optimized, and great efforts should be made to develop low-consumption and low-pollution service industry, speed up the elimination of products, enterprises, and industries that are featured by high energy consumption, high pollution, and backward techniques, and foster the emerging strategic industries related to new energy, renewable resources, energy-saving, and environmental protection.

Third, green consumption should be actively advocated in order to lead green living style. Green consumption is an important reflection and symbol of the greenization of living style. It is an ecological consumption mode that advocates consumers to choose healthy and pollution-free product and service when shopping, and to preserve the ecological environment and save resources when using and recycling consumer goods. It is economic, ecological and equitable, and adheres to sustainable development principle, and emphasizes to reuse and recycle products, reduce unnecessary spending. Therefore, the government and public institutions should implement green purchasing to lead by example. Meanwhile, the enterprises should actively produce and market green products in order to provide more choices for citizens.

Fourth, develop green technology. Green technology innovation is an important force for the greenization of economic development pattern. We should continuously improve the emphasis of the government, complete the market system, increase the social participation, strengthen the legal protection, encourage the introduction and use of green technology all over the world and set up a system of technology level, to promote the green technology innovation, and then to provide a strong support for the green development.

Finally, make full use of “green finance.” Green finance is the new growth point for economic development, and also an important power to realize the green development. We should encourage the green investment, green credit and green bond, achieve the innovation of the means of green finance. We should also actively use the internet to improve the efficiency of social financing, so as to divert the capital flow to

ecological protection industries, guide enterprises to focus on environmental protection, lead consumers to choose green consumption.

## **2. Improving the Political Guarantee for Advancing the Green Development**

The political aspect refers to all the political activities and measures undertaken the guidance of the philosophy of the green development, including green administration and green system, which constitutes the political guarantee for implementing the green development. As the organizer of the green development campaign, the major tasks of the government are to establish a system of policies, laws, and regulations that may contribute to building the ecological civilization, standardize, and restrain the economic conduct of the major market players so as to provide powerful guarantee for the green development. The government should further perfect related laws and regulations, improve legislation, administration of justice, and law enforcement, as well as further perfect the economic policies for the sake of the green development. Furthermore, it should take measures to improve the compensation mechanism for the ecological protection, and also ensure that the red line for protecting the resources, the environment and the ecology is not crossed. The standard system for the green development should be perfected, and the upgrade of the standard system should be accelerated. The government also needs to strengthen the ecological regulation and supervision, while establishing a social participation mechanism for the green development in order to guide the general public to participate in the policy-making and supervision of the green development. Take China for example, the 3rd Plenary Session of 18th CPC Central Committee first proposed the task of deepening the reform of the ecological civilization system, and pointed out that a systematic and completely ecological civilization system must be set up in order to achieve the protection of the ecological environment through the systems. This represents a scientific arrangement for promoting China's green development and building the ecological civilization in a new period. In terms of the green development, to comprehensively deepen the reform means reforming the defective systems and mechanisms that hinder China's green transformation and safeguard the ecological civilization development by establishing systems and mechanisms that conform to the requirements for the green development. Therefore, comprehensively deepening the reform will create ideal institutional environment and political atmosphere for bringing forward the green development. By far, although China has made great effort in protecting the ecological environment, the situation is still serious. The key to solving the problems lies in deepening the reform. Meanwhile, to advance the green development, the government must realize green transformation and green administration firstly. The ecological functions of the government should be further clarified so that it can shoulder the unprecedented and onerous task of the green development.

## **3. Creating Cultural Environment for the Green Development**

The cultural measures refer to cultural activities that center on the philosophy of the green development. The creation of the cultural environment is a key link in bringing forward the green development. To create such an environment, the greenization of the values should be put on the first priority, which refers to the incorporation of the philosophy in emphasizing green and protection of nature in world view, outlook on life, values, as well as viewpoints on production, political achievements, living and consumption. The greenization of the values advocates the philosophy of respect of nature, accommodation to nature, and protection of nature, and emphasizes that such philosophy should be incorporated in people's production and daily living. It advocates harmonious co-existence of human beings and nature, and requires that people follow and properly

utilize the natural laws in order to transform the nature reasonably and effectively. People are not allowed to exploit and develop the resources without restraint. Under the guidance of green values, a beautiful home with blue sky, green land, and clean water is to be built.

Firstly, we should vigorously strengthen the publicity and education of the green development concept. We should regulate and innovate the dissemination methods of the relevant information, as well as enrich the dissemination channels to spread green concept. We should construct the practice bases for the green education activities positively, cultivate the environmental protection organizations, guide the public to participate in the practical activities actively to promote the green development. All these above are the effective ways to improve the public's green awareness and quality.

Secondly, we should promote the prosperity of green cultural industry greatly. With building the modern cultural industry system, promoting the technical innovation in the fields of low-carbon economy, opening up the domestic and foreign markets of cultural industries, researching, and manufacturing the green culture products, and also establishing the green cultural brand, we could enhance the attraction and influence of green culture constantly.

Finally, strenuous efforts should be made to promote the prosperity of theoretic research and discipline development in the field of the green development. Let the green culture play its full role in understanding the world, inheriting civilization, innovating theories, benefiting the government, cultivating talents, and serving society. According to the requirements of the state on the economic and social development as well as the requirements of the green development, key research projects on the green development should be timely launched and high-quality talent teams should be built in an all-round way.

#### **4. Making Full Efforts to Gain Social Support for Promoting the Green Development**

The social measures refer to all activities that contribute to the green development and involve social forces, social participation, and social governance. In order to make full efforts to gain social support to the green development, it's essential to foster the green development through society building, which represents a special requirement by China's current social development stage.

First, the optimization of the social forces should be fostered in order to form a resultant force for the green development. The green development involves many aspects and requires the optimization and joint effort of different social forces in order to achieve the synergetic development. The roles of the two "hands"—the market and the government should be fully exploited and the enthusiasm of both the central government and the local government must be aroused. The people's power is pooled together through organized and rational public participation; the social responsibilities of the enterprises should be well-defined; and the power of the enterprises should be fully mobilized.

Second, the green development can be promoted through the innovation of social governance. Social governance represents an important means to promote the green development. The green development should be incorporated in the whole process of social governance, and social governance should be fully utilized to optimize the national territory development pattern, as well as eliminate the irrational aspects in national territory development that have been brought about by urbanization; green and beautify the cities and rural areas by social governance so as to build a good ecological environment.

Third, in the process of the green development, social equity should be given enough attention to ensure that the development achievements are enjoyed by all the social members. When natural resources and the

environment show certain value to human's production and life as the indispensable factors, how to distribute and utilize them correspondingly gains fair value connotations. Therefore, it's an imperative requirement of the green development to coordinate and deal with the interest relationships among various stakeholders on the issue of ecology so that they are reasonable and standardized and ecological justice is realized. Social security and social welfare should be strengthened so that the economically-disadvantaged social groups can enjoy the fruits of development and thus give full support to the green development. The responsibilities of different groups should be analyzed, in order to achieve equity in the sharing of the responsibilities of the green development. Through reasonable empowerment and institutional arrangements, efforts should be made to avoid exposing the disadvantaged groups to dual unfair treatment in environment.

## **5. Bringing forward Greenization of the Ecological Environment**

Natural and ecological measures refer to the governance, protection, and development of the natural ecological system that conform to the requirements of the green development. Ecological environment is closely related to the life quality of the people and the harmony and stability of society. The important goals of the green development are to realize greenization of ecological environment and let the people live in an ecological home with green mountains, beautiful waters, blue sky, green land, as well as serene, harmonious and picturesque nature. Advancing greenization of ecological environment should begin with the natural ecological environment and human living ecological environment.

Firstly, in terms of natural ecological environment, an ecological security strategic pattern should be set up and the people should be actively guided to participate in land greenization in order to expand forestation rate. The key ecological restoration projects should be launched to carry out comprehensive treatment of desertification, stony desertification, and soil erosion so as to expand the green area. Reform should be further deepened to enhance the utilization efficiency of land and resources, protect forest resources, and improve forest quality and ability of sustainable development. Finally, measures should be taken to curb environmental pollution, protect, and improve ecological environment, control development intensity, adjust spatial structure in order to promote the intensity and high efficiency of production space. It makes the living space livable and congenial, and also creates an ecological space with green mountains and beautiful waters.

Secondly, in terms of human living environment, efforts should be made to build green cities and green countryside. On one hand, measures should be taken to increase urban green area which achieve the convenient accessibility to various green areas by the urban residents, optimize the spatial design, develop green residential areas, and strengthen the development of urban infrastructure. Green transport and low-carbon transportation are encouraged to reduce urban greenhouse gas emissions while a green and low-carbon development path will be taken for the cities. Meanwhile, special importance should be attached to the negative impact of urbanization on ecological environment, urban plan, and administration should be optimized in order to enhance urban carrying capacity and prevent "urban diseases." On the other hand, the environmental problems in the rural areas should be actively coped with, and measures should be taken to develop green agriculture, strictly deal with the polluting industries, foster and support green industries, as well as strengthen the development of the infrastructure in order to comprehensively improve the living environment of the farmers.

## **6. Carrying out the International Exchanges and Cooperation**

International cooperation measures refer to all the international exchanges and cooperation that may

contribute to the green development. Promoting the green development of the economy and society while coping with ecological and environmental crisis actively is a global issue that requires joint efforts of all the countries in the world. In the face of such a complex international problem as global ecological deterioration, a good mechanism for international exchanges and cooperation must be established so that all countries in the world can have an active part in contributing to the green development of global economy and international community as well as the protection of ecological environment.

Proactive efforts should be made to build an exchange and cooperation platform for global resources, environment governance, and the green development of economy and society. The dialogues on the strategies and the security of resources should be strengthened. On the basis of adhering to the principle of “common but differentiated responsibilities,” international conventions should be jointly concluded. In the process, China should play an active and leading role in complying with international conventions, and also take measurable, reportable, and verifiable emission-reduction actions. It should enhance information transparency and actively participate in global mechanisms and projects of environmental protection. Meanwhile, China should support and help other developing countries to govern and protect ecological environment, provide funds for Global Environment Facility (GEF), offer official assistance to the vulnerable and under-developed countries. Finally, China should actively draw on and introduce the experience and advanced technology of the developed countries in order to provide reference for its own green development of economy and society.

## **7. Taking the Coordinated and Jointaction to Promote the Green Development of the Economy and the Society**

Achieving the green development requires simultaneous effort in the fields of the economy, the politics, the culture, the society, the natural ecology, and the international cooperation, which have different position and play different roles in the process of realizing the green development. In the process, the economic measures are the focus and key point in promoting the green development; the politics is the guarantee; the culture is the soul; the society is a significant support; the natural ecology constitutes the foundation and premise; and the international cooperation is the propeller.

Meanwhile, in the process of coordinating the six aspects, some certain principles should be followed and the process should be guided by the scientific and logic way. Firstly, we need to take a holistic view of the systems and take all the aspects into account. We should not develop one aspect in a one-sided way in order to achieve quick results and weaken the other aspects. Secondly, we should emphasize the connection between different systems, properly coordinate their relationship, and take coordinated action in the fields of the economy, the politics, the culture, the society, the natural ecology, and the international cooperation. Thirdly, we should pay attention to the dynamism and openness of the systems in order to continuously enhance the vigor and vitality of the green development and gradually realize the green development.

Finally, the process of advancing the green development of the economy and the society is very complicated, involving different aspects and touching the interest of different parties. Therefore, various types of relationship must be timely coordinated in order to guarantee the normal development of the systems. In addition to coordinating the relationship of various factors, they play their respective roles in promoting virtuous operation of the systems of the green development, the interpersonal relationship in the process of fostering the green development of the economy and the society should also be properly dealt with. We must adhere to the principle of equity, and timely adjust the respective between the different social groups so as to

guarantee social harmony and provide powerful support for advancing the green development of the economy and the society.

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