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Focus: 2019 Technology Training Programs for Developing Countries

In 1989, the Ministry of Science and Technology of China launched technology training programs for other developing countries, aiming to help them train technicians, develop advanced, applicable technologies and boost local economic and social development. 30 years on, the programs involve a wide range of fields including S&T policies and management, agricultural technology, information and manufacturing, health, resources and environment.

Meeting to mark 30th Anniversary of Technology Training Programs for Developing Countries held in Hefei, Anhui Province

To celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Technology Training Programs for Developing Countries, a meeting was held in Hefei city, Anhui Province on May 30 to look back on the achievements and lay out arrangements for 2019. The development of the training programs was reviewed and experience was summed up. It was noted that under the “Belt and Road” Science, Technology and Innovation Action Plan, efforts should be made to design the programs in response to the technological needs of countries that receive training, and complement each other’s strengths in resources, and promote synergy of training programs and other forms of S&T cooperation. It was emphasized that relevant institutions should enhance international collaboration and illustrate China’s vision and communicate China’s voice through training programs. Proposals were also made on how to make the training programs more widely known and improve their quality and follow-up work.

A photo exhibition to mark the 30th anniversary of the Training Programs was also held on the sidelines of the meeting.

“Belt and Road” Training Program on Green and Efficient Rice-Fish Culture

On September 9-11, “Belt and Road” Training Program on Green and Efficient Rice-Fish Culture, organized by the Institute of Rice of Jiangxi Academy of Agricultural Sciences, was successfully held in Nanchang city. The program ran 20 days, involving 16 participants from the Philippines, Thailand, Myanmar, Vietnam, Pakistan and Nigeria.

Eight top rice experts from Nanchang University, Jiangxi Agricultural University, etc. gave lectures on green top-quality rice cultivation, organic rice cultivation, and symbiotic agriculture such as rice-fish culture, and engaged discussions with the participants.

In the form of lectures, case studies, discussions and visits, the program gave the participants a general idea about symbiotic agriculture and particularly the advantages of combining rice cultivation and aquaculture.

The program expanded the channels for collaboration with “Belt and Road” countries, helped more rice growing developing countries to develop their rice industry by adopting green symbiotic agriculture, and therefore enhanced the scientific and technological cooperation and people-to-people exchanges between China and other developing countries as a whole.

Training Program on Industrial Flue Gas Multi-pollutant Control

On August 24-September 7, the fourth Training Program on Industrial Flue Gas Multi-pollutant Control, organized by State Power Investment Corporation Yuanda Environmental Protection Co., Ltd, was held successfully in New Delhi, India. The program attracted a total of 22 participants from India, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Iran and Tanzania.

During the 2-week program, top experts
analyzed the current status and trends of environmental protection industry, and presented China’s environment policies and regulations, desulphurization and denitration technology and cases, desulphurization project management, catalyst manufacturing, solid/hazardous waste technology and eco-friendly nuclear technology. Participants from India’s NTPC, Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand (EGAT), India’s Adani Power, NLC India Limited, and Sri Lanka’s Ceylon Electricity Board (CEB) engaged in discussions by sharing their respective experience in industrial flue gas control.

Training Program on Eco-friendly Leather Manufacturing Technology

On July 29-August 17, the Training Program on Eco-friendly Leather Manufacturing Technology, organized by China Leather & Footwear Research Institute was held in Beijing. A total of 19 participants from Mongolia, Bangladesh, Iran and Kenya attended the program.

During the 20-day training, experts from China Leather & Footwear Research Institute gave lectures on China’s overall circumstances, the current state and trends of leather industry in China and beyond, leather production technology, eco-friendly leather production, leather-waste-to-energy technology. Experts from Beijing International Chinese College taught the participants some elementary Chinese, and gave a lecture on paper-cutting, giving them a flavor of Chinese culture.

China is a big leather producer, consumer and exporter. This training program could offer references in terms of policy and development models for sustainable development of leather industry in other developing countries, and inform their leather industry plans and management. The discussions during the program enables China to have a better understanding of the development of leather industry in other countries and lays a solid foundation for collaboration in the field.

Training Program on S&T Policies and Management

On July 7-21, the Training Program on S&T Policies and Management, organized by Weihai International Science and Technology Exchange Center, was held in Beijing and Weihai, Shandong Province. The program attracted a total of 20 people from government and research institutes of 12 countries, namely Algeria, Pakistan, North Korea, the Philippines, Cambodia, Mongolia, South Africa, Nigeria, Thailand, Uzbekistan, Iran and Indonesia.

The program took place in various forms such as policy presentations, case studies, visits and discussions. With a focus on S&T policies, the program is part of the efforts to deliver on “Belt and Road” initiative.
Training Program on Rail Construction Technology

On June 14, the Training Program on Rail Construction Technology organized by China Railway No. 2 Engineering Group Co., Ltd opened in Chengdu, Sichuan Province. The program attracted 22 participants from Bangladesh, Egypt, Ethiopia, Indonesia and Mongolia. The 20-day program took various forms, including topical lectures, case studies, discussions and interactions, and visits. The topics covered railway bridge and culvert engineering, railway subgrade engineering, railway tunnel engineering, railway project financing, China railway rolling stock, railway station and complex, China rail transit development and construction management, and China railway operation management system. Visits to engineering projects in Ziyang and Chongqing were organized.

Mr. Zelalem Tadesse Afrasa from Addis Ababa Djibouti Railway Company spoke at the opening ceremony of the program. He said that the S&T training sponsored by the Ministry of Science and Technology of China is very important for enhancing S&T cooperation and people-to-people exchanges, and will help recipient countries build up their capacities in science and technology and promote economic and social development.