



An aerial drone photo taken on February 2, 2024 shows a container vessel berthing at the smart zero-carbon terminal of Tianjin Port in north China's Tianjin. (*Xinhua/Zhao Zishuo*)

ANNUAL SPECIAL EDITION

Diplomacy

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In 2024, facing a fluid and turbulent world, we followed the strong leadership of the CPC Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at its core and the scientific guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy, and upheld fundamental principles while breaking new ground in diplomacy with composure and confidence. Our diplomatic efforts have helped foster a favorable external environment for China's high-quality development and provided much-needed stability to a turbulent world.

A remarkable new chapter has been written in head-of-state diplomacy, steering the trend of the times toward peace, development and win-win cooperation. President Xi Jinping attended three home-ground diplomatic events—the Conference Marking the 70th Anniversary of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, the China-Arab States Cooperation Forum, and the Beijing Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), made four important overseas visits—to Europe, to Central Asia, for the BRICS Summit, and to Latin America, and attended several multilateral summits. With the global vision, broad-mindedness and sense of common good for humanity befitting the leader of a major party and a major country, President Xi had in-depth strategic communications with global leaders and dignitaries to broaden converging interests for all and promote greater unity and cooperation of the international community. Keeping in mind the imperative of peace and development, President Xi upheld multilateralism, fairness, justice, openness and cooperation, and worked for a global response to global challenges. In his interactions with foreign leaders, friendship and trust were the subjects they talked about most and mutually beneficial cooperation a prevailing consensus.

President Xi reached out to people of other countries in a spirit of friendship, thus winning greater popular support for the healthy growth of state-to-state relations. We in China cherish old friends who have contributed to the friendship between their countries and China, and value the commitment and input of people from various sectors to developing friendly ties with China. We will work with our friends from around the world to build bridges of amity and bonds of affinity, to promote friendship among the people and turn it into a powerful force for world peace and development.

New breakthroughs have been made in building a community with a shared future for humanity, composing a grand symphony of a shared future and greater solidarity in our global village. Building a community with a shared future for humanity provides an incisive answer to the important question of “what kind of world to build and how to build it.” It envisions a historic progress in state-to-state relations from the pursuit of peaceful coexistence to that of a future shared by all, and has become a great enterprise joined by various parties. China and Brazil have announced joint efforts to build a China-Brazil community with a shared future for a more just world and a more sustainable planet, demonstrating their sense of responsibility as two emerging countries. China and Serbia have launched efforts to build a China-Serbia community with a shared future in the new era, the first of its kind in China's relations with European countries. China and African countries with which it has diplomatic ties have agreed to build an all-weather China-Africa community with a shared future for the new era, giving expression to the shared desire of the 2.8 billion Chinese and Africans to pursue common development in greater solidarity. China has also made efforts to build communities with a shared future with particular regions, including with Central Asia, ASEAN, countries in the Lancang-Mekong river basin, Arab states, and countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. These efforts are opening up new vistas of harmonious coexistence between different civilizations.

Building a community with a shared future for humanity reflects the relentless pursuit of a fair world. At the G20 Summit in Rio de Janeiro, President Xi comprehensively and systematically elaborated on China's vision on global governance. He put forward ideas and propositions for improving global governance in the economic, financial, trade, digital and eco-environmental dimensions, injecting strong impetus into the building of a community with a shared future for humanity. China has firmly upheld the authority and stature of the UN, supported the UN in holding the Summit for the Future and adopting the Pact for the Future, and endeavored to promote an equal and orderly multipolar world, and a universally beneficial and inclusive economic globalization. We have accelerated the implementation of the three major Global Initiatives. To date, 82 countries have joined the Group of Friends of the Global Development Initiative, 119 countries and international organizations have given support to the Global Security Initiative, and the 78th UN General Assembly unanimously adopted a resolution proposed by

China to establish an International Day of Dialogue and Civilization.

Building a community with a shared future for humanity reflects the active efforts to safeguard world peace and tranquility. On the Ukraine crisis, the Chinese side has always maintained an objective and impartial position, and actively pushed for peace talks. In 2024, China's special envoy conducted three rounds of shuttle diplomacy. China and Brazil jointly issued the six-point consensus on political settlement of the Ukraine crisis. China also brought other Global South countries together to launch the group of "friends for peace" to gather consensus for finding a path to peace. On the Gaza conflict, the Chinese side has pushed for the adoption of the first resolution by the Security Council on a ceasefire in Gaza, facilitated the reconciliation dialogue and the signing of the Beijing Declaration by various Palestinian factions, and delivered multiple batches of humanitarian assistance to Gaza, making unremitting efforts toward a comprehensive, just and lasting solution to the Palestinian question. In addition, the Chinese side has mediated peace in northern Myanmar, supported Afghanistan in building an inclusive political framework and realizing peace and reconstruction, and made consistent efforts to promote the political resolution of the Korean Peninsula issue.

New progress in Chinese modernization has provided new opportunities for the world, promoting the development of modernization in countries around the world. We have linked our own development with that of other countries, and worked with the international community to pursue peaceful development, mutually beneficial cooperation and shared prosperity. On what kind of modernization should be pursued, a question of historic significance, President Xi solemnly proposed at the FOCAC Beijing Summit that countries should jointly advance modernization that is just and equitable, open and win-win, that puts the people first, that features diversity and inclusiveness, and that is eco-friendly and underpinned by peace and security. This has helped point the way forward for the modernization in countries around the world. In response to the pressing need for a faster development in many countries, China has announced eight actions to support global development, which include solid steps to deepen high-quality Belt and Road cooperation. With 155 countries joining the big family of Belt and Road cooperation, and trade between China and these countries increasing by 6.4 percent in 2024 against headwinds, this road to happiness is growing ever broader. In the face of rising protectionism, China has been promoting its high-quality development through high-standard opening up. We have fully opened up the manufacturing sector and further shortened negative list for foreign investment, given all LDCs having diplomatic relations with China zero-tariff treatment for 100 percent tariff lines, hosted the China International Import Expo for seven consecutive years, and continued to refine policies for foreigners travelling to China. These efforts have offered vast opportunities for the modernization of countries around the world. China has voluntarily subscribed to high-standard international economic and trade rules, delivered a high-quality implementation of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), generated renewed momentum for the Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific (FTAAP) process, and firmly advanced trade and investment liberalization and facilitation, creating new momentum for global growth.

Cooperation and solidarity between China and other developing countries have set a fine example, rallying powerful force of the Global South in seeking strength through unity. We will always be an important member of the Global South, and always be committed to seeking strength through unity and pursuing development and invigoration of the Global South. President Xi called for more open and inclusive Global South cooperation, and announced eight measures in support of Global South cooperation. He articulated the vision for countries in the Global South to work together as the staunch force for peace, the core driving force for open development, the construction team of global governance, and the advocates for exchange among civilizations, so as to make Global South's contribution to the progress of humanity. With the joint efforts of China and other BRICS countries, the greater BRICS cooperation has taken solid steps. BRICS is bringing more partners into its big family to make the platform a primary channel for strengthening solidarity and cooperation among the Global South. In light of reasonable concerns of developing countries, China promoted the adoption of a UN General Assembly resolution on enhancing international cooperation on artificial intelligence (AI) capacity-building, proposed the AI Capacity-Building Action Plan for Good and for All, and worked with fellow Global South countries to jointly launch an Initiative on International Cooperation in Open Science, so as to keep bridging the digital and AI divide. China adopted the Beijing Declaration on Jointly Building an All-Weather China-Africa Community with a Shared Future for the New Era and the Beijing Action Plan (2025–2027) of FOCAC with African countries, established "five cooperation frameworks" with Arab states, further aligned development strategies with Latin American and Caribbean countries, and continued to expand its cooperation with Pacific island countries. These efforts have empowered the development of the Global South across all dimensions.

China has made new progress in pursuing all-round diplomacy, which has built up the momentum toward a new type of international relations. China has stood for dialogue and partnership rather than confrontation and alliance, fostered major-country dynamics featuring overall stability and balanced development, and worked with its neighbors for a peaceful, safe and secure, prosperous, beautiful, amicable and harmonious home in Asia, thus developing a new approach to state-to-state relations featuring mutual respect, fairness and justice, and win-win cooperation.

President Xi met with US President Joe Biden and sent a congratulatory message to President-Elect

Donald Trump, providing strategic guidance for the growth of China-US relations at critical junctures. President Xi summed up seven pieces of experience and inspiration based on a thorough account of bilateral exchanges in recent years, and drew four clear red lines that must not be challenged, namely, the Taiwan question, democracy and human rights, China's path and system, and China's development right. He stressed that China's goal of a steady, sound and sustainable development of China-US relationship remains unchanged; its commitment to mutual respect, peaceful coexistence, and win-win cooperation as principles for handling its relations with the U.S. remains unchanged; its position of resolutely safeguarding China's sovereignty, security and development interests remains unchanged; and its desire to carry forward the traditional friendship between the Chinese and American people remains unchanged. China-US relations have maintained overall stability. Two rounds of strategic communication and five meetings of the Financial Working Group and the Economic Working Group have been held respectively. The two sides advanced practical cooperation in such areas as counternarcotics, law enforcement and climate change, extended the science and technology agreement, and co-signed each other's resolution on AI at the UN General Assembly. Over 16,000 young Americans have visited China through the initiative of "50,000 in five years." Such progress has been widely welcomed by Chinese and Americans across the sectors as well as the international community. This fully shows that as long as China and the United States cooperate with each other, they can accomplish many great things together. In the meantime, China firmly opposed the illegal and unreasonable suppression by the U.S. side. In particular, with regard to the U.S.' gross interference in China's internal affairs such as Taiwan, China made a firm and robust response to resolutely defend its legitimate rights and interests and the basic norms governing international relations.

The three meetings between President Xi and Russian President Vladimir Putin in 2024 further deepened the China-Russia comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination. The two countries maintained close communication and coordination on multilateral platforms, such as the UN, BRICS and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), and in regional affairs, fulfilling their responsibilities as major countries. China-Russia relations are based on non-alliance, non-confrontation and not targeting any third party, and are not subject to interference or coercion from any external factor. This relationship has grown more mature and stable, demonstrated in a clearer way its independence and resilience, and set an example of friendly exchanges between major countries and neighbors.

President Xi paid a historic visit to Europe. The visit ushered the China-France diplomatic relationship, which has spanned 60 years, into a new 60-year cycle of further development, enhanced the ironclad friendship between China and Serbia, and elevated the China-Hungary relationship to an all-weather comprehensive strategic partnership for the new era. President Xi also engaged in in-depth strategic communication with leaders of European countries such as Germany, the United Kingdom, Spain and Italy on bilateral and multilateral occasions, and encouraged the European side to take a long-term and strategic perspective, see China as a partner and strengthen dialogue and cooperation to benefit both sides and the world at large.

Friendship and mutual trust between China and its neighboring countries have been deepened and more interests are converging. Party and state leaders of Vietnam paid visits to China, ensuring that the building of a China-Vietnam community with a shared future gets off to a good start. The new Indonesian President made China the first stop of his two outbound visits following the election victory and then the inauguration, upgrading the "four wheels" of China-Indonesia cooperation to "five pillars." China and Malaysia celebrated the 50th anniversary of diplomatic relations, and the building of "Two Countries, Twin Parks" has been vigorously advanced. The China-Singapore all-round high-quality future-oriented partnership is full of vitality. Traditional friendship with Laos and Cambodia has become ever stronger with new chapters written. Comprehensive strategic partnerships with the five Central Asian countries have been upgraded. Leaders of China and India agreed to strive to bring the bilateral relationship back to the track of stable development. China and Japan reaffirmed the commitment to promoting the bilateral strategic relationship of mutual benefit in an all-round way.

Regional cooperation, which China has been participating in and advancing, is brimming with strong vitality. The "Lancang-Mekong Visas" were launched. The China-ASEAN FTA 3.0 Upgrade Negotiations have been substantially concluded. The secretariat for the China-Central Asia mechanism started operation. The SCO admitted Belarus as a new member, and a new platform of "SCO plus" has been established. Important progress has been made in key projects such as the China-Europe Trans-Caspian Express, the China-Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan railway project, the China-Vietnam cross-border railway, the China-Mongolia cross-border railway, the China-Singapore Land-Sea New Corridor and Malaysia's East Coast Rail Link. Regional connectivity is gathering momentum.

New and tangible results have been made in our wholehearted efforts to serve the people through diplomacy, demonstrating our renewed commitment to living up to the times and people's expectations. We wholeheartedly act on the abiding commitment of serving our people. In 2024, we have safely evacuated over 10,000 Chinese compatriots from overseas high-risk regions. A safe passage back home from Lebanon was secured in just 48 hours. More than 50,000 consular help-seeking cases have been handled, and over 3,000 suspects for telecommunications fraud and online gambling repatriated. Our action is a clear proof to all compatriots that, wherever they are, the motherland will always be there for

them.

We firmly safeguard the interests and dignity of the nation. We have resolutely countered the attempt to use Taiwan to contain China and the fallacy of seeking US support for “Taiwan independence,” firmly safeguarded China’s sovereignty and territorial integrity, and effectively strengthened the international community’s commitment to the one-China principle. We have taken justified and firm measures to safeguard China’s rights against certain countries’ provocations in the South China Sea, and worked with ASEAN countries for peace and stability in the South China Sea. We have refuted false narratives hyping up the so-called “human rights issues,” set the record straight, and gained overwhelming support from over 100 countries for China’s just position. More countries have come to realize that playing double standards will only disgrace oneself and interfering in others’ internal affairs is ultimately unpopular.

Report on the Work of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress

Source: The National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China
March 8, 2025

Zhao Leji

Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress

Fellow Deputies,

On behalf of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC), I now present this report on our work for your deliberation.

The Year in Review

The year 2024 marked the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) with Comrade Xi Jinping at its core brought together the Chinese people of all ethnic groups and led them in overcoming numerous challenges and forging ahead with courage and determination. The economy maintained overall stability while achieving steady growth, solid progress was made in high-quality development, and reform and opening up were further advanced. Robust support was provided in improving public well-being, social stability was maintained, and fresh, substantial strides were made in advancing Chinese modernization.

Through its 75 years of relentless effort, China has undergone tremendous and transformative changes, setting the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation on an irreversible historical course and fully demonstrating the exceptional strengths of the leadership of the Communist Party of China and our country's socialist system.

Last year was also the 70th anniversary of the establishment of the National People's Congress. In his speech at a commemorative meeting, General Secretary Xi Jinping spoke in depth on the glorious journey of the people's congress system as well as its notable strengths, valuable experience, and practical requirements. His insight provides us with fundamental guidance for upholding, improving, and implementing the system.

Seven decades of experience have proven that the people's congress system is a sound system that is suited to China's national conditions and realities, embodies its socialist nature, and ensures that the people run the country. It is a system that is able to concentrate the collective efforts of the Chinese people into a single endeavor to drive China's modernization forward. This gives it tremendous vitality and significant strength. Our practices over the past 70 years have inspired in us greater confidence in the path, theory, system, and culture of socialism with Chinese characteristics, allowing us to remain firmly committed to the path of socialist political advancement with Chinese characteristics and leverage the political strengths of the people's congress system to an even greater extent. In doing so, we can provide a solid institutional guarantee for achieving the goals of the Party and the people on the journey ahead in this new era.

This past year, under the strong leadership of the CPC Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at its core, we, the NPC Standing Committee, upheld Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era as our guide and applied the guiding principles from the 20th National Party Congress and the second and third plenary sessions of the 20th Central Committee in each aspect of our work. We studied and applied Xi Jinping Thought on the Rule of Law and his key ideas on upholding and improving the people's congress system. We stayed true to the unity between leadership by the Party, the running of the country by the people, and law-based governance, practiced whole-process people's democracy, and performed our functions as mandated by law. As a result, new progress and results were achieved in all areas of our work.

Strengthening the Implementation of the Constitution and Enhancing Compliance Oversight to Uphold Its Authority and Sanctity

Upholding the Constitution as the nation's legal foundation, we fully implemented its provisions, principles, and spirit and made constitutional implementation, compliance oversight, and public awareness initiatives integral parts of our endeavors. This allowed us to fully leverage the NPC's vital role in

ensuring comprehensive and effective implementation of the Constitution and laws.

We Refined and Implemented the Legal Framework Related to the Constitution

We made major revisions to the Law on the Oversight by the Standing Committees of People's Congresses at All Levels on the basis of reviewing our oversight experience since the law's implementation in 2007, especially since the 18th National Party Congress in 2012. Through these revisions, we improved the guidelines, principles, and systems for oversight, better ensuring the law-based exercise of oversight powers by the standing committees of people's congresses at all levels.

We revised the Supervision Law, improving provisions on areas such as the dispatch of supervisory teams and personnel, supervisory powers and procedures, international cooperation against corruption, and oversight over supervisory bodies and personnel. Having consolidated and built upon our previous achievements in reforming the national supervisory system, these revisions made supervisory work more procedure-based, legally grounded, and standardized.

To better support and standardize the lawful performance of deputies' duties and roles, we conducted two rounds of deliberation on the draft revisions to the Law on Deputies to the National People's Congress and Local People's Congresses at All Levels, and we decided to submit the draft revisions to this session for deliberation.

As part of our efforts to implement the CPC Central Committee's decisions and plans, we made the decision to award national medals and titles of honor on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China in accordance with the relevant provision of the Constitution.

We Moved Forward with Our Work on Constitutional Review and the Recording and Review of Normative Documents

Guided by the principle of legislating in accordance with the Constitution and the law, we conducted constitutional reviews of all legislative items submitted for deliberation. In response to public concerns, we actively worked to ensure that the Constitution was observed throughout the entire legislative process.

In fully implementing the decision on improving and strengthening the recording and review system, we enhanced the alignment of the recording and review system with the constitutional review process. We reviewed all 2,146 normative documents submitted for recording, including administrative regulations, local regulations, autonomous regulations, separate regulations, judicial interpretations, and local laws of the special administrative regions. We also examined 5,682 suggestions for review made by citizens and organizations and provided feedback for each suggestion as stipulated by law.

To execute the CPC Central Committee's decisions and plans and ensure the effective implementation of key laws, we pushed for an overhaul of relevant regulations, rules, and other normative documents. In doing so, 1,040 normative documents of various types were processed by the relevant formulating bodies at our request. We shared typical cases to guide the recording and review process and supported the establishment and functioning of 31 provincial-level normative document databases across the country.

We Enhanced Theoretical Research, Public Outreach, and Education Regarding the Constitution

In studying and implementing General Secretary Xi Jinping's important statements on the Constitution, we disseminated information about its history, nature, characteristics, strengths, and functions supported by detailed explanations and analyses. This has strengthened public confidence in the Constitution and enhanced awareness of compliance.

In commemoration of the 11th National Constitution Day, we held a conference with the theme of "Promoting the Spirit of the Constitution and Upholding Its Authority," encouraging the whole of society to respect, study, observe, uphold, and apply the Constitution. We enhanced public outreach and education regarding the Constitution in the special administrative regions. We also convened a conference to mark the 40th anniversary of the promulgation and implementation of the Law on Regional Ethnic Autonomy.

We organized five ceremonies for officials to pledge allegiance to the Constitution as they took office, heightening their sense of responsibility and mission in fulfilling their duties as stipulated by the Constitution and laws.

We Exercised the Appointment and Removal Powers as Mandated by the Constitution and Laws

We carried out, in accordance with the law, 20 appointments and removals of officials, including vice chairpersons and a member of NPC special committees, a deputy secretary-general of the Standing Committee, vice chairpersons of working commissions, and members of the Sixth Committee on the Basic Law of the Macao Special Administrative Region. We lawfully conducted or made decisions on 276 appointments and removals of officials of the State Council, the Supreme People's Court, and the Supreme People's Procuratorate. We also approved 6 appointments and removals of chief procurators of provincial-level procuratorates.

Fulfilling Our Legislative Functions to Enhance the Chinese Socialist Legal System

In exercising the legislative power of the state, we bolstered legislation in key areas, emerging areas, and areas involving foreign affairs. We advanced legislation in a scientific and democratic manner in accordance with the law and, through such high-quality legislation, supported and served reform and development efforts. Over the past year, we deliberated on 39 legislative items, 24 of which were adopted, including 6 new laws, 14 revised laws, and 4 decisions on legal matters and other significant issues. We also made decisions on the ratification of 12 treaties and important agreements.

We Improved Legislation Governing the Economy

We enacted the Law on Rural Collective Economic Organizations, marking a significant step toward promoting high-quality development of new types of rural collective economies, protecting and advancing the interests of rural residents, and driving all-around rural revitalization. Acting on the principle of legality of taxation, we enacted the Value Added Tax Law and the Tariff Law to create taxation systems more conducive to high-quality development, social fairness, and the establishment of a unified market.

We revised the Statistics Law and the Accounting Law to address prominent problems, such as statistical and financial fraud, and uphold order within the market economy. We revised the Anti-Money Laundering Law and advanced deliberations on a draft law concerning financial stability, further ensuring financial order, public interests, and national security. We conducted two rounds of deliberation on a draft law regarding the promotion of the private sector. We held initial deliberations on draft revisions to the Unfair Competition Law, the Civil Aviation Law, the Fisheries Law, the Arbitration Law, and the Maritime Law.

We Strengthened Legislation to Improve Public Well-Being

We enacted the Preschool Education Law in response to public expectation for the safe, high-quality development of universal, public-interest preschool education. Drawing on more than four decades of experience since the implementation of the Regulations on Academic Degrees, we enacted the Academic Degrees Law to advance the reform and development of higher education in the new era.

To carry forward China's fine traditional culture, we revised the Cultural Heritage Protection Law in line with the demands of prioritizing protection of cultural heritage, strengthening its management, tapping into and effectively utilizing its value, and injecting into it new life.

In response to the need to promote scientific literacy in the new era, we revised the Science and Technology Popularization Law to cultivate a social environment that values science and encourages innovation.

We revised the Frontier Health and Quarantine Law and coordinated efforts to revise the Law on the Prevention and Control of Infectious Diseases and formulate a law on public health emergency response. These moves have provided stronger legal safeguards for public health.

We advanced deliberations on draft revisions to the Public Security Administrative Penalties Law. We also conducted initial deliberations on a draft law aimed at promoting public awareness and education regarding the rule of law.

We Advanced Legislation Concerning Resources, Energy, and the Environment

We enacted the Energy Law, a foundational piece of legislation in the energy sector that will play a critical role in ensuring China's energy security, advancing high-quality development of the energy sector, and promoting a green, low-carbon transition. We revised the Mineral Resources Law to ensure the security of China's mineral resources in accordance with the law, promote their rational development and utilization, and enhance their protection. We conducted two rounds of deliberation on a draft law concerning national parks and held initial deliberations on a draft law regarding atomic energy. We took concrete steps to advance the codification of environmental legislation.

We Modernized the Legal Framework to Strengthen National Security

We revised the National Defense Education Law, laying a solid legal foundation for promoting and enhancing national defense education, fostering patriotism, and supporting the development of national defense. We revised the Emergency Response Law to refine systems and mechanisms for preventing and defusing major security risks and responding to emergencies, thus better safeguarding the lives and property of the people. We conducted initial deliberations on a draft law on hazardous chemical safety.

We Provided Support and Safeguards for Further Deepening Reform in All Areas

We developed specific initiatives to implement the reform tasks set during the third plenary session of the 20th CPC Central Committee. By enacting and revising laws and making decisions on various legal matters, we have strived to establish a solid legal foundation for all major reforms and codify the achievements of our reforms into law in a timely manner.

To implement the decisions and plans of the Central Committee, we made the decision to gradually raise the statutory retirement age, which will help China better adapt to recent changes in demographics and unleash the full potential of its human resources. We made decisions authorizing the State Council to temporarily adjust the application of relevant provisions of the Food Safety Law in the Hainan Free Trade Port and extend the period for temporarily adjusting the application of certain provisions of the Metrology Law in cities piloting business environment innovations. These decisions will support the law-based and orderly advancement of reform initiatives. Revisions were made to relevant provisions of the Agricultural Technology Popularization Law, the Law on the Protection of Minors, and the Biosecurity Law in line with the demands of institutional reforms.

We Harnessed the Leading Role of the NPC in Driving Legislative Initiatives

We diligently fulfilled our responsibilities throughout the entire legislative process, including the determination of legislative items, the guiding of the drafting process, organization and coordination, and quality control through thorough deliberation. The collaboration with all sides concerned under the leadership of the CPC Central Committee resulted in a strong synergistic effect on our legislative initiatives. With a focus on improving legislative quality, we adhered to the objective principles and

the inherent laws governing legislative work, striving to make our legislation more systematic, holistic, coordinated, and responsive.

We revised, published, and applied the Technical Standards in the Legislative Process. In light of actual conditions, we lawfully terminated deliberations on a draft law regarding compulsory civil enforcement and a draft decision authorizing pilot reforms for rural residential land use.

Guided by the principle of democratic legislation open to public input, we solicited 28 rounds of public feedback on draft laws and received more than 70,000 comments and suggestions from all sectors of society. We organized legislative research projects, meetings, debates, and assessments. We also took active steps to develop local legislative outreach offices and leverage their role as channels for directly gathering public input, earnestly considered comments and suggestions from all sides and accepted those applicable, and fostered broad consensus in our legislation.

We redoubled our efforts to provide the public with information and explanations regarding the entire legislation process. To this end we held five press conferences, where our spokespersons provided 39 updates on bills to be deliberated and details on 22 rounds of public opinions and comments solicited for draft laws. By responding to hotspot legislative issues and providing interpretations of newly enacted or revised laws, we turned the legislative process into opportunities to disseminate legal knowledge, enhance public awareness of the rule of law, and practice whole-process people's democracy.

Lawfully Exercising Oversight Functions to Fulfill the NPC's Role in the Party and State Oversight Systems

Focusing on the central task of economic development, overall national interests, and key areas of work, we employed a combination of statutory oversight methods to conduct appropriate and effective oversight in accordance with the law. In doing so, we supported the implementation of the CPC Central Committee's decisions and plans and ensured the lawful exercise of powers by state institutions, the protection of the people's legal rights, and the advancement of their interests.

Over the past year, we heard and deliberated 21 reports from the State Council, the National Commission of Supervision, the Supreme People's Court, and the Supreme People's Procuratorate, conducted inspections to ensure the proper implementation of 5 laws, held 2 special inquiries, undertook 9 research projects, and adopted 2 resolutions. We also processed 194,000 letters and visits from the public in compliance with laws and regulations, with the Council of Chairpersons regularly hearing reports on this work.

We Supported High-Quality Development

We heard and deliberated a financial work report from the State Council, and, based on this report, we proposed recommendations to strengthen comprehensive financial regulation and improve the financial sector's capacity to serve the real economy. We conducted inspections into the implementation of the Law on State-Owned Assets of Enterprises, helping deepen the reform of state capital and state-owned enterprises and promote high-quality development of the state-owned sector. We heard and deliberated a State Council report on stimulating the growth of the private sector, seeking to foster a complementary effect among economic entities under diverse forms of ownership and promote their shared development.

In order to better implement a package of new policies designed by the CPC Central Committee, we adopted a resolution approving the State Council's motion on increasing the debt ceiling for local governments to facilitate the swapping of existing hidden debts, a move that supported our country's economic recovery and helped to mitigate risks.

To improve the disciplinary structure and enhance China's capacity to cultivate top-notch innovators, we heard and deliberated a State Council report on efforts to develop world-class universities with Chinese features and cultivate strong disciplines. We also held a special inquiry into this initiative. We carried out research projects aimed at investigating how best to enhance stability, security, and development in border areas in the new era, as well as leverage the strengths of overseas Chinese nationals to support China's modernization efforts.

We Strengthened Examination and Oversight of the Implementation of the 2024 Plan for National Economic and Social Development, Government Budgets, and Final Accounts

We heard and deliberated State Council reports on the implementation of the 2024 plan for national economic and social development, the execution of government budgets, central government final accounts, and the allocation and utilization of government funding for disaster prevention and mitigation and emergency management. We also examined and approved the 2023 central government final accounts. Based on these deliberations, we proposed recommendations to improve budget execution and performance-based management, effectively implement a proactive fiscal policy, ramp up efforts to stimulate domestic demand, and further build on the momentum of economic recovery and growth.

We heard and deliberated a State Council audit report on central budget execution and other fiscal revenues and expenditures for 2023 as well as its report on the rectification of issues discovered during the audit. During this process, we helped refine the long-term rectification mechanism and tighten up financial and economic discipline.

We conducted research projects on the implementation of the Budget Law and the management and reform of government procurement. We formulated measures for recording and reviewing fiscal and budgetary matters, leveraged the role of local liaison offices under our Budgetary Affairs Commission, and improved the online budget oversight system.

We Enhanced Oversight of State-Owned Asset Management and Government Debt Management

We deliberated a comprehensive State Council report on the management of state-owned assets for 2023 and heard and deliberated its special report on the management of state assets held by administrative and public institutions for the same year. Following these deliberations, we developed a set of recommendations aimed at refining the state asset management system, enhancing the performance of state assets held by administrative and public institutions and their accessibility to the public.

We heard and deliberated a State Council report on its response to our recommendations, which were based on deliberations of its earlier report on the management of state assets held by financial enterprises. The later report included the measures taken to address issues identified during our deliberations and to hold those responsible accountable. Through these continuous efforts, we have strived to ensure relevant parties fulfill their responsibilities in correcting misconduct.

With the establishment of the system requiring the State Council to report on government debt management to the Standing Committee, we heard and deliberated the first such report and proposed recommendations to defuse government debt risks while ensuring stable development and establish government debt management mechanisms to the standard required of high-quality development.

We Contributed to Ensuring and Enhancing Public Well-Being

We heard and deliberated a State Council report on progress in improving elderly care services, especially for those with functional disabilities, as well as its report on improving childcare services. Our efforts helped alleviate public concerns regarding care for children and the elderly.

We carried out inspections on the implementation of the Social Insurance Law and proposed recommendations to improve the social insurance management and services, steadily expand coverage, and increase benefits.

We inspected the implementation of the Intangible Cultural Heritage Law to promote more effective protection, utilization, preservation, and development of intangible cultural heritage. We also carried out a research project on progress in building safer cities.

We Promoted Environmental Conservation and All-Around Rural Revitalization

To support steady advances in the critical battle against pollution and promote green, low-carbon development, we heard and deliberated a State Council report on the state of the environment and progress in meeting environmental protection targets for 2023. We heard and deliberated another State Council report on desertification control, promoting a systematic, scientific, and law-based approach to fighting desertification and building upon the promising momentum of “advancing green, retreating sands.”

We carried out inspections and a special inquiry into the implementation of the Yellow River Protection Law, as part of the efforts to promote ecological conservation and high-quality development in the Yellow River basin.

We conducted inspections on the implementation of the Agriculture Law and heard and deliberated a State Council report on cultivated land protection. We carried out research projects on the development of commercial agricultural services and advances in agricultural modernization, the support of financial services for all-around rural revitalization, and progress in fostering smart agriculture. These efforts helped promote sustained growth in rural incomes and reinforce the foundation for the stable production and adequate supply of grain and other major agricultural products.

We Enhanced Oversight of Supervisory and Judicial Work

We heard and deliberated a report from the National Commission of Supervision on addressing misconduct and corruption directly affecting the public. Based on deliberation of this report, we developed recommendations to improve the mechanism for investigating and penalizing both misconduct and corruption, intensify targeted measures to root out these problems in key areas, and make consistent, long-term efforts to deliver better results.

We heard and deliberated a report from the Supreme People’s Court on the adjudication of administrative cases by the people’s courts and a report from the Supreme People’s Procuratorate on the oversight of administrative litigation by the people’s procuratorates. Our work contributed to the impartial administration of justice, law-based administration, substantive resolution of administrative disputes, and the development of a government based on the rule of law. We also conducted a research project on the implementation of the resolution regarding the eighth five-year initiative to enhance public legal literacy.

Strengthening Deputy-Related Work to Support Deputies in the Lawful Performance of Duties

We maintained a strong sense of responsibility in serving deputies and continued to strengthen our capacity for deputy-related work, striving to make it more institutionalized and procedure-based. We provided deputies with the necessary support and safeguards to facilitate their lawful participation in the exercise of state power, enabling them to faithfully represent the interests and will of the people and serve as a bridge connecting the people with the Party and the state.

Coming from the people and rooted in the people, our deputies leveraged their unique strengths to perform their duties in accordance with the law, proving themselves worthy of the great trust placed in them. They took the lead in maintaining close ties with the people and supported and participated in the

initiatives of the Standing Committee and special committees, making positive contributions to the high-quality progress in the NPC's work.

We Handled Deputy Proposals and Suggestions More Effectively

We refined the working mechanisms for the entire process of handling proposals and suggestions, including submission, forwarding, processing, supervision, and feedback. By enhancing comprehensive and targeted analysis, along with the application of analytical results, we helped improve the quality of deputy proposals and suggestions and ensured their more effective handling.

NPC special committees, our working commissions and committees, and relevant departments of the State Council, the National Commission of Supervision, the Supreme People's Court, and the Supreme People's Procuratorate all maintained close communication with deputies. They held meetings to consult with deputies, advance the processing of their proposals and suggestions, and keep them informed of the handling process. They also invited deputies to participate in research projects and debates. Such measures ensured that deputy proposals and suggestions not only formed the foundation for higher-quality legislation and oversight but also served as an important basis for enhancing all aspects of work.

All of the 298 deputy proposals put forward during the second session of the 14th NPC have been reviewed by relevant special committees, with feedback given to deputies. Among the legislative items addressed in these proposals, 19 were adopted following review or have been submitted for review, and 58 have been included in our regular work enacting legislation or as part of the Five-year Plan.

The 9,235 deputy suggestions submitted during the previous session were forwarded to 213 organizations for processing, and the 105 suggestions raised when the NPC was not in session were handed over to 73 organizations. All of these suggestions have been handled and feedback provided. Up to 76 percent of the issues raised in these suggestions were either solved or addressed with plans to resolve them over time. The Council of Chairpersons identified 20 priority suggestions, which were forwarded to 19 organizations to lead the handling process under the supervision of 7 special committees. As a result, a number of practical problems have been solved.

We Maintained Close Ties with Deputies

Through the mechanism enabling Standing Committee members to stay connected with deputies, we maintained regular contact and communication via meetings, research projects, visits, phone calls, letters, and WeChat. We also refined the mechanisms for special committees and working commissions and committees to engage with deputies from relevant fields or with particular expertise, which allowed us to fully connect with all NPC deputies from the community level nationwide.

We utilized the professional expertise of our deputies and increased their involvement in the Standing Committee's work. During the previous session, deputies submitted over 1,200 opinions and suggestions for improving the work of people's congresses, each of which was thoroughly studied, with those applicable being accepted.

We invited 275 deputies to attend Standing Committee meetings in a non-voting capacity and held 5 follow-up meetings to solicit their input. We also invited deputies to take part in legislative research projects, inspections of law implementation, oversight of financial and economic work, and foreign exchanges, with the total participation exceeding 1,100.

We gathered comments and suggestions from deputies during 28 rounds of deliberation on draft laws by the Standing Committee, with a total participation of approximately 2,700. We arranged for deputies to take part in activities organized by the State Council, the National Commission of Supervision, the Supreme People's Court, and the Supreme People's Procuratorate, with the total participation exceeding 1,600. We also supported the standing committees of provincial-level people's congresses in increasing communication with the deputies they elected to the NPC.

We Helped Our Deputies Maintain Close Ties with the People

Focusing on our statutory functions, we organized a number of activities in a law-based, systematic manner to meet deputies' needs in the performance of their duties. Among these activities were 209 research projects with the total participation surpassing 1,800. We also arranged for deputies from Hong Kong, Macao, and Taiwan to carry out inspections and research projects in Henan, Shanxi, Guangdong, Gansu, and Hainan.

We supported deputies in hearing and conveying public opinions and suggestions on a routine basis through various channels, including deputy group activities, outreach and liaison offices, research projects, visits, and meetings. We guided deputies to analyze problems and propose solutions from institutional and legal perspectives, enabling them to incorporate public input into their proposals and suggestions as well as remarks during deliberations.

We Enhanced Our Services and Support for Deputies

In providing deputies with systematic, standardized, and specialized training, we prioritized theoretical and political guidance, emphasized the basic knowledge required for deputies to perform their duties effectively, and expanded the scope and depth of training.

We held five themed study sessions for deputies and organized lectures for those from Hong Kong and Macao. We developed a curriculum outline for deputy training and advanced the creation of a pool of teachers. We updated the mechanisms serving and supporting deputies and optimized the functions of the online NPC deputy work platform. Meanwhile, we enhanced oversight and management of deputies'

work performance and regulated their behavior online.

We Conducted Rigorous Examinations of Deputies' Qualifications

We deliberated and passed six reports from the Credentials Committee on the qualifications of certain deputies. We confirmed the by-election results for 3 deputies to the NPC and terminated the credentials of 30 deputies in accordance with the law. Currently, the NPC consists of 2,929 deputies.

Engaging in Foreign Exchanges to Advance Our Nation's Diplomatic Agenda

In implementing the major diplomatic policies, decisions, and plans of the CPC Central Committee, we prioritized the execution of diplomatic outcomes achieved between heads of state. In accordance with the NPC's functions and responsibilities, we strengthened foreign exchange at multiple levels, through different channels, and in various fields. Over the past year, we sent 71 delegations to 68 countries for official visits or international conferences. We hosted delegations from 86 countries visiting China on diplomatic business or to attend seminars. We signed six cooperation agreements with other legislative bodies.

We Deepened and Expanded Bilateral Exchange

Members of the Council of Chairpersons led delegations to 32 countries while also attending 249 domestic diplomatic events. We organized activities for NPC special committees, friendship groups, working bodies, and deputies to engage in exchanges with their counterparts.

The China-Russia Parliamentary Cooperation Committee convened its ninth meeting, along with meetings of its joint working group. We maintained contact and dialogue with the Congress of the United States, strengthened communication with parliaments of European countries and the European Parliament, and consolidated friendship and cooperation with the parliaments of neighboring countries and developing nations. Through these efforts, we enhanced political trust and mutual understanding, provided legal support for bilateral practical cooperation, and advanced relations with other countries at the parliamentary level.

We Substantively Participated in Multilateral Cooperation

We successfully held a commemorative event marking the 40th anniversary of the NPC's membership of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the sixth seminar for members of parliaments of developing countries. The IPU President and Secretary-General as well as 145 representatives from 32 developing countries participated in these activities, sharing experience, enhancing friendship, deepening cooperation, and voicing the aspirations for peace and development shared by all developing nations.

We sent delegations to the BRICS Parliamentary Forum, the IPU assemblies, the G20 Parliamentary Speakers Summit, the Asian Parliamentary Assembly, preparatory meetings of the Sixth World Conference of Speakers of Parliament, and other multilateral events. We also attended meetings of the Latin American Parliament, the Central American Parliament, and the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly as an observer. On these occasions, we fostered consensus among legislative bodies of participating countries to advance BRICS Plus cooperation and build solidarity and self-reliance within the Global South.

We Actively Enhanced Foreign Communication and Outreach

We took active steps to practice and explain Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy. We promoted China's ideas and proposals on the international stage, including the vision of building a community with a shared future for humanity, the Global Development Initiative, the Global Security Initiative, the Global Civilization Initiative, Belt and Road cooperation, Chinese modernization, and the policy of "one country, two systems," along with our successful practices in these areas. We also presented China's achievements in pursuing development since the founding of the People's Republic of China 75 years ago, as well as the strengths of its whole-process people's democracy and people's congress system.

We organized six seminars for countries in Asia, Africa, and Latin America as well as the Pacific island nations, receiving a total of 283 members and officials of the parliaments of 60 countries visiting China and participating in exchanges. We arranged for visiting delegations and foreign diplomatic envoys to China to visit the Museum of the Communist Party of China, deputy outreach and liaison offices, community-level outreach offices, and local communities. During their visits, they experienced firsthand a beautiful, respectable, and charming China as it truly is.

In response to the wrongful remarks and actions concerning China's core interests by certain countries' parliaments, we issued stern statements to refute their fallacies and safeguard our nation's sovereignty, security, and development interests.

Enhancing Self-Improvement to Strengthen Our Competence in the Law-Based Performance of Functions

To meet the requirements necessary to fulfill the four-fold role,^[1] we strengthened ourselves politically, theoretically, and organizationally, as well as in terms of work conduct and discipline in order to cultivate

[1] The four-fold role refers to the fundamental identity of the people's congresses and their standing committees as political institutions that consciously uphold the leadership of the Communist Party of China, institutions of state power that ensure the running of the country by the people, working institutions that fully assume functions conferred by the Constitution and laws, and representative institutions that always maintain close ties with the people.

and sustain a healthy political environment that encourages integrity, dedication, and hard work.

We Strengthened Ourselves Theoretically and Politically

We continued to study and implement Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, ensuring that each of our initiatives was designed to synchronize with the overall work of the Party and the nation. We carried out an educational campaign to promote study, thorough understanding, and observance of Party discipline.

We hosted six lectures and organized for our leading Party members group six study sessions in an effort to gain a deeper understanding of the Party's latest theories and increase the knowledge necessary for the performance of duties.

We held two symposiums aiming to aid study and implementation of important ideas and concepts: one on General Secretary Xi Jinping's thinking regarding upholding and improving the people's congress system and the other concerning the key concept of whole-process people's democracy. We earnestly studied General Secretary Xi's *On Upholding and Improving the People's Congress System*. These activities led to solid progress in studying, researching, disseminating, and applying these ideas and concepts.

We Continued to Improve Work Conduct

We strictly complied with the central Party leadership's eight-point decision on improving work conduct. We continued to intensify our efforts to eliminate pointless formalities in order to reduce the burdens on those working at the community level, streamline meetings and documents, improve our meeting culture and writing style, and strictly adhere to meeting rules.

With a firm commitment to seeking truth from facts, we took a realistic and pragmatic approach, strengthened coordination and cooperation, and steadily enhanced the quality and efficiency of our work. In fulfilling our functions, we conducted research projects in local communities to deliver real results. We also enhanced the utilization of our research outcomes, fully drawing on public input in our work.

We Effectively Carried Out Our Work in Press, Public Communication, and Theoretical Research

To celebrate the 70th anniversary of the NPC, we edited and published important works, produced promotional videos, held dedicated exhibitions, and launched serial media reports, better presenting the people's congress system as a historical inevitability and explaining its unique characteristics and strengths.

We provided extensive, in-depth media coverage of the NPC sessions and the progress made in all aspects of our work, greater publicity for deputies, especially those from the community level, and exclusive interviews of visiting parliamentary leaders of other countries, presenting the NPC to a broader audience. We released English translations of 24 laws on the official website of the NPC and opened a column specifically for English translations of laws related to the people's congress system, introducing China's achievements in the rule of law to international audiences.

We improved the working mechanisms for assessing, analyzing, and addressing public opinion, thus effectively responding to public concerns. We strengthened our position in media and public communication, further integrated our outreach efforts through publications, the internet, microblogs, WeChat, and mobile applications, and encouraged our staff to better understand the people's congress system and introduce it to the public. A new council was elected for the China Institute of Theory on the People's Congress System.

We Promoted the Development of Special Committees, Working Commissions and Committees, and NPC Bodies

Special committees and working commissions and committees focused their work on the central tasks of the Standing Committee while staying grounded in their own functions and actual work. Through their concrete, efficient efforts, they greatly contributed to the drafting and deliberation of bills, organization and implementation of oversight programs, supervision over the processing of deputy suggestions, and foreign exchanges.

NPC bodies continued to improve the competence of their staff, strengthened the political and organizational functions of their primary-level Party organizations, and enhanced their ability to provide advice, assistance, service, and support for the work of the NPC.

We Strengthened Our Ties and Coordination with Local People's Congresses

We held five study sessions for leading members of the standing committees of local people's congresses. We organized three training sessions: two on local legislation and one on government debt oversight for officials from local people's congresses. We called a meeting for a number of provinces, autonomous regions, and municipalities directly under the central government to share their experience in local legislative work. We convened a conference on strengthening deputies' ties with the public under the new circumstances. Special committees also enhanced contact and exchanges with local people's congresses through various avenues. In the meantime, we briefed the standing committees of provincial-level people's congresses on relevant work in a timely manner and earnestly heard their views and suggestions on our work.

We have made these achievements under the strong leadership of the CPC Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at its core. They are the result of the diligent, hard work of the NPC deputies,

members of the NPC Standing Committee and special committees, and the employees of NPC bodies. They are the result of close collaboration and cooperation from the State Council, the National Commission of Supervision, the Supreme People's Court, the Supreme People's Procuratorate, and local people's congresses at all levels and their standing committees. And they are the result of the full trust and robust support of the Chinese people of all ethnic groups. On behalf of the NPC Standing Committee, I would like to express our sincere gratitude.

We are also keenly aware that there are a number of gaps and shortcomings in our work. We must work to further improve the quality of our legislation, strengthen legislation in emerging areas, and address the inadequacies and weaknesses in legislation involving foreign affairs. Our oversight must become more effective and its outcomes more binding; intensified efforts in this respect are required to promote the full and effective implementation of our laws. We must further improve our ability to provide services for deputies. Our staff must further enhance their political stance, theoretical understanding, and professional skills.

We will readily place ourselves under the oversight of the people and listen to advice and suggestions from deputies and all sectors of society with an open mind in a continuous effort to strengthen and improve our work.

The Year Ahead

The year 2025 marks the conclusion of the 14th Five-year Plan for National Economic and Social Development. Under the strong leadership of the CPC Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at its core, the Standing Committee will continue to follow the guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era and fully implement the guiding principles from the 20th National Party Congress and the second and third plenary sessions of the 20th Central Committee.

We must acquire a deeper understanding of the decisive significance of establishing Comrade Xi Jinping's core position on the Party Central Committee and in the Party as a whole and establishing the guiding role of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era. We must be more conscious of the need to maintain political integrity, think in big-picture terms, follow the leadership core, and keep in alignment with the central Party leadership. We must stay confident in the path, theory, system, and culture of socialism with Chinese characteristics. We must uphold Comrade Xi Jinping's core position on the Party Central Committee and in the Party as a whole and uphold the Central Committee's authority and its centralized, unified leadership.

We will thoroughly study and implement Xi Jinping Thought on the Rule of Law and his key ideas on upholding and improving the people's congress system. We will uphold the unity between the leadership by the Party, the running of the country by the people, and law-based governance and advance whole-process people's democracy. We will faithfully exercise the legislative, oversight, decision-making, and appointment and removal powers conferred upon us by the Constitution and laws. We will make steady progress in pursuing high-quality development in the work of people's congresses and contribute further to building a great nation and advancing national rejuvenation through Chinese modernization.

Ensuring Constitutional Implementation and Strengthening Compliance Oversight

We will improve the systems ensuring comprehensive implementation of the Constitution and establish a system for reporting on its implementation. To uphold the unity, sanctity, and authority of China's legal system, we will enhance our capacity to conduct constitutional review and normative document recording and review and improve the quality of our work. We will improve mechanisms for alignment and coordination among recording and reviewing bodies. We will make progress with targeted review and overhaul of normative documents. We will strengthen public outreach, education, and theoretical research on the Constitution and uphold order in the special administrative regions as established by the Constitution of China and the Basic Laws of those regions.

Advancing High-Quality Legislative Work

As is necessary in deepening reform in legislation, we will pursue reform under the rule of law, advance legislation with a scientific, democratic, and law-based approach, and ensure that citizens' rights are effectively safeguarded. To this end, we plan to deliberate on 34 bills this year.

To enhance the systems for whole-process people's democracy, we will revise the Organic Law of Villagers' Committees and the Organic Law of Urban Residents' Committees.

We will formulate a law on promoting ethnic unity and progress to forge a strong sense of national identity, reinforcing the Chinese people as one cohesive community.

In order to strengthen the legal framework for the development of the socialist market economy, we will formulate a law on promoting the private sector, a law on national development planning, a financial law, a financial stability law, and a law on cultivated land protection and quality improvement. We will also revise the Unfair Competition Law, the Enterprise Bankruptcy Law, the Agriculture Law, the Fisheries Law, the Civil Aviation Law, and the Banking Regulation Law.

In the social and cultural sectors, we will formulate a law promoting public awareness and education regarding the rule of law, a social assistance law, a childcare services law, and a law on public-interest litigation initiated by procuratorates. We will also revise the Law on the Prevention and Control of

Infectious Diseases and the Law on the Standard Spoken and Written Chinese Language.

With a focus on refining the systems concerning ecological conservation, we will continue with the compilation of an environmental code and formulate a national parks law.

To modernize the national security system and public security governance mechanisms, we will formulate an atomic energy law, a law on public health emergency response, and a hazardous chemicals safety law. We will also revise the Road Traffic Safety Law, the Food Safety Law, the Cybersecurity Law, the Public Security Administrative Penalties Law, the Prison Law, and the State Compensation Law.

In regard to legislation in areas involving foreign affairs, we will revise the Maritime Law, the Foreign Trade Law, and the Arbitration Law.

We will intensify research on legislation in emerging sectors such as artificial intelligence, the digital economy, big data, autonomous driving, the low-altitude economy, and aerospace, initiate the review and overhaul of laws in specific areas, and provide guidance to joint efforts in enacting interregional legislation.

Conducting Effective Oversight to Serve the Overall National Interest

In implementing the newly revised Law on the Oversight by the Standing Committees of People's Congresses at All Levels, we will focus our oversight on carrying out major decisions and plans made by the CPC Central Committee, addressing the people's concerns, and meeting their expectations. During the course of this process, we will maintain a problem- and result-oriented approach and structure our oversight to be more targeted and effective. We have prepared 37 oversight programs for this year.

We will conduct inspections into the implementation of five laws: the Trade Union Law, the Energy Conservation Law, the Forest Law, the Food Safety Law, and the Law on Promoting the Circular Economy.

To enhance our oversight of financial and economic affairs, we will hear and deliberate reports on the implementation of the 2025 plan for national economic and social development, the execution of budgets, central government final accounts, auditing work, the rectification of issues found during the audit, financial work, state-owned asset management, government debt management, allocation and utilization of government funding for higher education, and other matters.

We will hear and deliberate special reports on a variety of issues, such as fostering new quality productive forces, promoting integrated development of the cultural and tourism sectors, encouraging the application of advances in science and technology, creating sound institutions and mechanisms for integrated urban-rural development, protecting the rights and interests of workers in flexible and new forms of employment, environmental protection, climate change action including peak carbon emissions and carbon neutrality, enforcement of penal decisions and oversight work therein, and adjudication of maritime cases.

We will carry out special inquiries on the basis of hearing and deliberating a special report on the management of state-owned assets held by enterprises for 2024 and a report on inspections into the implementation of the Energy Conservation Law.

We will conduct research projects on 11 topics, including major issues related to the compilation of the 15th Five-year Plan for National Economic and Social Development, the development of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, and legislation regarding the affairs of Chinese nationals overseas.

Fully Leveraging the Roles of NPC Deputies

We will implement the revised Law on Deputies to the National People's Congress and Local People's Congresses at All Levels and refine and put into effect our working mechanisms for collecting public input. We will advance and expand our deputy-related work through enhanced ties both between the Standing Committee and deputies and between deputies and the public, better serving and supporting deputies in the lawful performance of their duties.

We will continue to operate the mechanism for members of the Standing Committee, special committees, and working commissions to maintain close contact with deputies, via which we will carefully examine deputies' feedback and suggestions and apply their ideas. We will encourage deputies to engage the people on a broader range of issues and in more diverse forms. Meanwhile, we will continue to improve working mechanisms for handling and giving feedback on public opinions brought forward by deputies.

We will process deputy proposals and suggestions more effectively. We will provide well-designed deputy study sessions and training programs with more extensive and diverse content and organize inspection tours and research projects for deputies. We will improve services and support for them in the performance of their duties while strengthening oversight and management of their activities. We will carry out a research project on the election of deputies to county- and township-level people's congresses.

Strengthening Foreign Exchanges

In carrying out the nation's overall diplomatic agenda and the functions of the NPC, we will leverage our unique characteristics and strengths when conducting foreign exchanges and strive to make these exchanges more proactive, better targeted, and more fruitful.

We will coordinate and promote further foreign exchanges across all levels, engage in communications and cooperation in all areas with parliaments of other countries and multilateral parliamentary organizations, and continue to hold seminars for parliamentarians from developing nations.

We will deepen exchanges on national governance experience with other countries and actively promote China's path, theory, system, and culture to enhance the influence and appeal of these contributions. On matters involving core national interests, we must assert our position firmly and resolutely and demonstrate both the courage and capability to defend our nation as necessary.

Fulfilling the Four-Fold Role

We must uphold the centralized, unified leadership of the CPC Central Committee and ensure that the Party's theories, lines, principles, and policies, as well as the decisions and plans of the Central Committee, are fully implemented across all aspects of the work of people's congresses.

We will continue to apply Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era in enhancing cohesion and developing inner strength. By further refining our theoretical thinking, we will improve our political competence and strengthen our ability to fulfill our functions. In performing our statutory functions, we will act strictly in accordance with the law, be pragmatic and realistic, and constantly improve the quality of our work.

We will maintain close ties with the people, carry out in-depth investigations and research, and bolster public support for the work of people's congresses. We will perform our duty in enhancing public outreach and responding to public opinion. We will also advance IT application in our work.

We will ensure the fulfillment of the principal responsibilities for full and rigorous Party self-governance. We will improve our conduct, tighten discipline, and motivate our staff to exert themselves to the best of their ability. Our goal is to build an NPC team that is politically steadfast, dedicated to serving the people, respectful of the rule of law, committed to promoting democracy, and diligent in fulfilling their responsibilities.

We will strengthen our ties with local people's congresses and work together with them to deliver better results in our work in the new era.

Fellow Deputies,

As we advance on the new journey in this new era, let us unite even more closely around the CPC Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at its core.

Let us remain true to our original aspirations, keep our missions firmly in mind, and forge ahead with unwavering confidence and determination.

Let us faithfully fulfill our constitutional and legal functions and successfully uphold, improve, and implement the people's congress system.

Together, we will strive to build a great country and achieve national rejuvenation through Chinese modernization.

Natural Resources

Source: Ministry of Natural Resources of the People's Republic of China

Overview of Natural Resources

Land Resources

According to the results of the 2023 Survey of National Land-Use Changes, there are 128.61 million hectares of arable land, 19.61 million hectares of garden land, 283.7 million hectares of forest land, 263.22 million hectares of grassland, 23.52 million hectares of wetland, 36.1 million hectares of urban, village, industrial and mining land, 10.43 million hectares of land for transportation, and 36.26 million hectares of water area and land for water conservancy facilities.

Mineral Resources

As of the end of 2023, 173 kinds of mineral resources had been discovered in China, including 13 kinds of energy minerals, 59 kinds of metal minerals, 95 kinds of non-metallic minerals, and six kinds of water gas minerals.

Major Mineral Reserves in China as of the End of 2023

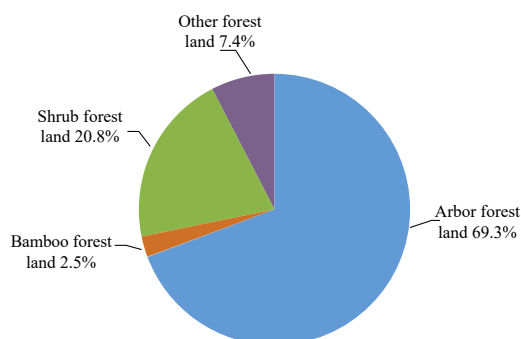
Mineral	Unit	Reserve	Mineral	Unit	Reserve
Coal	100 million tonnes	2,185.7	Gold	Gold tonnes	3,203.77
Oil	100 million tonnes	38.51	Silver	Silver 10 thousand tonnes	6.69
Natural Gas	Trillion cubic meters	6.74	Magnesite Ore	Ore 100 million tonnes	6.95
Iron Ore	Ore 100 million tonnes	169.17	Fluorite	CaF ₂ 100 million tonnes	1.07
Manganese Ore	Ore 100 million tonnes	2.61	Iron Pyrite	Ore 100 million tonnes	10.47
Vanadium Ore	V ₂ O ₅ 10 thousand tonnes	1,029.82	Phosphorite Ore	Ore 100 million tonnes	34.41
Copper Mine	Copper 10 thousand tonnes	4,064.79	Sylvite	KCl 100 million tonnes	3.32
Lead Ore	Lead 10 thousand tonnes	2,487.45	Salt Mine	NaCl 100 million tonnes	155.35
Zinc Ore	Zinc 10 thousand tonnes	5,992.71	Mirabilite	Na ₂ SO ₄ 100 million tonnes	9.21
Bauxite	Ore 100 million tonnes	7.08	Barite	Ore 100 million tonnes	1.21
Tungsten Ore	WO ₃ 10 thousand tonnes	285.11	Kaolin	Ore 100 million tonnes	7.21
Tin Ore	Tin 10 thousand tonnes	117.44	Crystalline Graphite	Crystalline graphite 100 million tonnes	1
Molybdenum Ore	Molybdenum 10 thousand tonnes	780.56	Talcum	Ore 10 thousand tonnes	4,843.89
Antimony Ore	Antimony 10 thousand tonnes	82.74			

Note: The standard of mineral reserves is based on the Classifications for Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves (GB/T 17766-2020) and the Classifications for Petroleum Resources and Reserves (GB/T 19492-2020); the reserves of oil and natural gas are remaining proven and technically recoverable reserves.

Forest Resources

According to the results of the 2023 Survey of National Land-Use Changes, there were 283.7 million hectares of forest land in the country, including 196.6 million hectares of arbor forest land, 6.98 million

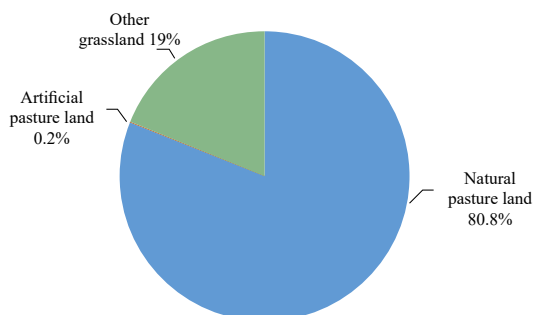
hectares of bamboo forest land, 59 million hectares of shrub forest land, and 21.12 million hectares of other forest land. The forest area nationwide reached 247 million hectares and the area of conserved artificial forest registered 92.41 million hectares, ranking first in the world. The forest coverage rate was over 25 percent and the forest reserve was 20.68 billion cubic meters.



National Forest Land Structure by the End of 2023

Grassland Resources

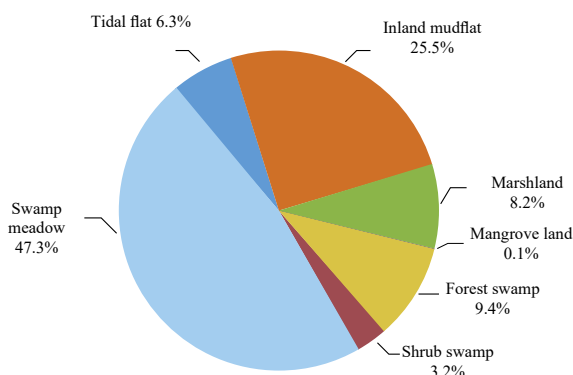
According to the results of the 2023 Survey of National Land-Use Changes, there were 263.22 million hectares of grassland in China, including 212.55 million hectares of natural pasture land, 588,200 hectares of artificial pasture land, and 50.08 million hectares of other grassland. The comprehensive vegetation coverage rate of grassland nationwide remained stably above 50 percent.



Grassland Structure by the End of 2023

Wetland Resources

According to the results of the 2023 Survey of National Land-Use Changes, there were 23.52 million hectares of wetland in the country^[1], including 30,300 hectares of mangrove land, 2.21 million hectares of forest swamps, 750,000 hectares of shrub swamps, 11.11 million hectares of swamp meadow, 1.49 million hectares of tidal flat, six million hectares of inland mudflat, and 1.93 million hectares of marshland.



Wetland Structure by the End of 2023

[1] In the classification of the third national land survey, "wetland" includes seven secondary land categories: "mangrove land," "forest swamp," "shrub swamp," "swamp meadow," "tidal flat," "inland mudflat," and "marshland." It does not include river water surface, lake water surface, reservoir water surface, pit pond water surface (excluding aquaculture ponds), ditches and shallow sea water included in the Wetland Conservation Law.

Water Resources

In 2023, groundwater storage was 52.1 trillion cubic meters.

Marine Resources

According to relevant stipulations of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and China's claims, China has approximately three million sq km of marine territory in its jurisdiction. There are over 11,000 sea islands and a coastline of about 32,000 km, including about 18,000 km of land coastline and about 14,000 km of island coastline. The number of marine species totals over 20,000, including over 3,000 marine fish species.

Wildlife Resources

Among the naturally distributed wild animal species in the country, over 8,600 are vertebrates, nearly 120,000 are named insects, and more than 400 rare and endangered species of wild animals are unique to China, including the giant panda and crested ibis. In China, there are over 39,000 higher plant species, around half of which are unique to China. China has 980 species and eight categories of nationally protected wild animals, including 234 species and one category under Class I protection. There are also 455 species and 40 categories of nationally protected wild plants, including 54 species and four categories under Class I protection.

According to the results of the second National Survey of Ancient and Famous Tree Resources, there are a total of 5.08 million ancient and famous trees in China, including 1.22 million sparsely distributed trees and 3.86 million in clusters; among these, 246,600 are in cities, while 4.84 million are in rural areas.

National Parks

China has established five national parks, namely, the Three-River-Source National Park, the Giant Panda National Park, the Northeast China Tiger and Leopard National Park, the Hainan Tropical Rainforest National Park, and the Wuyishan National Park, protecting a total area of over 23 million hectares and covering nearly 30 percent of the terrestrial wild animal and plant species under national key protection. The State Council approved the National Park Spatial Layout Plan, which identifies candidate sites for national parks—including the five already established—covering a total area of about 110 million hectares. Of this, 99 million hectares are land areas, accounting for 10.3 percent of China's territory.

Public-Owned Natural Resource Assets

By the end of 2023, the total area of public-owned land in the country was 523.71 million hectares, basically the same as the end of 2022. Among them, 19.76 million hectares were arable land, 2.35 million hectares were garden land, 113.42 million hectares were forest land, 196.37 million hectares were grassland, 21.71 million hectares were wetland, 18.39 million hectares were construction land, and 151.71 million hectares were other land. Mineral, water, marine and other natural resource assets are all publicly owned.

Registration of Natural Resource Rights

Registration of Natural Resource Rights

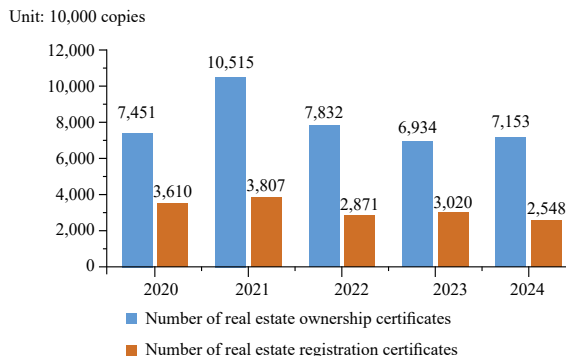
Registration of natural resource rights has been completed for the Northeast China Tiger and Leopard National Park for which the central government exercises the ownership rights to public-owned natural resource assets, as well as for the five national key forest areas including Genhe. Databases have been established for the results of the cadastral survey of the Taihu and Hailin national key forest areas. Natural resource rights registration has been launched in relevant regions for national parks and other key areas, and, by the end of December, registration was completed for 616 key areas in 24 provincial-level administrative regions across the country, covering nature reserves, forests, wetlands, rivers, lakes, proven mineral resources, and uninhabited sea islands. Guidance was provided for Hebei, Shanxi, Hubei, Guangxi and other regions to carry out water right registration, issuing a total of 100 real estate ownership certificates for water rights.

Unified Real Estate Registration

In 2024, 71.53 million real estate ownership certificates were issued nationwide, up 3.2 percent year on year. Among them, there were 43.28 million certificates of ownership of state-owned construction land/home (structure), 20.32 million certificates of homestead use rights/house (structure) ownership, 4.64 million certificates of homestead use rights, 2.59 million certificates of collectively-owned land ownership, and 699,400 certificates of other rights. Throughout the year, 25.48 million real estate registration certificates were issued, down 15.6 percent year on year. Among them, there were 18.94 million mortgage registration certificates, 6.54 million advance notice registration certificates, and 3,786 objection registration certificates.

Efforts were made to properly carry out real estate registration in rural areas. The registration of homesteads was effectively advanced with the unified registration of structure and land basically completed in 121 homestead system reform pilot areas and in 350 pilot areas trialing market entry for rural collective land designated for business-related construction. The real estate registration for land contract operation rights and land operation rights was advanced in an orderly manner. By

the end of December, 1,191 counties (cities/districts) had issued real estate ownership certificates for the right to the contracted management of land, and 103 had issued certificates for the land management rights. Pilot programs were arranged for the improvement of forest right registration and by the end of December, forest right registration data handover was completed nationwide and 1,479 counties (cities/districts) had completed the integration of existing forest right registration data.



Number of Real Estate Ownership and Real Estate Registration Certificates Issued Nationwide 2020–2024

Territorial Space Planning and Use

Territorial Space Planning

In 2024, achievements were made in the planning and approval of territorial space at all levels and of various types. The natural resource department made further efforts to implement the National Territorial Space Plan and all provincial-level territorial space plans were approved by the State Council and implemented. Vigorous efforts were made to prepare the master plan for territorial space plans for cities, which require approval from the State Council, with plans approved for 24 cities including Nanjing and Guangzhou. Meanwhile, advance was made in the territorial space planning work at the city and county levels for approval by the corresponding provincial-level authorities. By the end of 2024, approvals were given for nearly 90 percent of city- and county-level territorial space plans.

Breakthroughs were made in the making and approval of territorial space plans at the regional/river basin level. The Territorial Space Plan of the Yangtze River Economic Belt-Yangtze River Basin (2021–2035) was approved by the State Council in February 2024 as the first regional/river basin territorial spatial plan. The National Coastal Zone Special Plan was approved by the State Council in September 2024. The Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei Territorial Space Plan (2021–2035) and the Yellow River Basin Territorial Space Plan (2021–2035) were completed and submitted to the State Council for approval. Sichuan and Chongqing jointly completed the Chengdu-Chongqing Economic Circle Territorial Space Plan (2021–2035). The Yangtze River Delta Territorial Space Plan (Draft for Opinions) was formed.

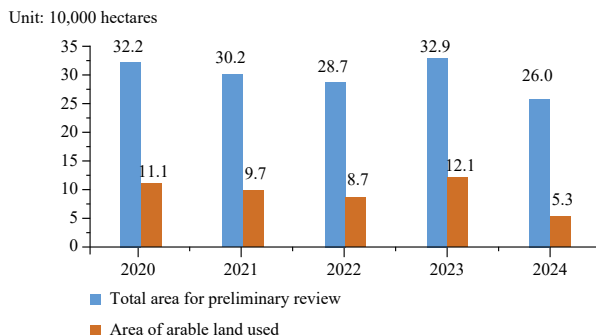
Improvements were made to the territorial space planning technical standards and the relevant law and regulation system. In cooperation with the Standardization Administration of China, the Three-Year Action Plan for Developing the System of Territorial Space Planning Standards (2025–2027) was issued, proposing 33 standard-making plans, involving 10 national standards and 23 industrial standards. The Management Measures for the Qualification of Urban and Rural Plan-Making Institutions was issued to ensure law-based qualification management. In cooperation with the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security, the Regulations on the Professional Qualification of Certified Urban-Rural Planner and the Implementation Measures of the Examination for the Professional Qualification of Certified Urban-Rural Planner were issued to provide institutional support for professional planner team building.

Nature Reserve System

The legislation system for nature reserves was basically established. The draft national park law was officially submitted to the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress for consideration. Active efforts were made to support the Ministry of Justice in advancing the revision of the Regulations on Nature Reserves, and a revised draft of the Regulations on Scenic and Historic Areas has been completed. The National-Level Nature Park Administration Measures (Tentative) and the Global Geopark Administration Measures were issued. Continuous efforts were made to advance the nature reserve integration and improvement work nationwide. In October 2024, adjustments to the National Nature Reserve Integration and Improvement Plan were announced.

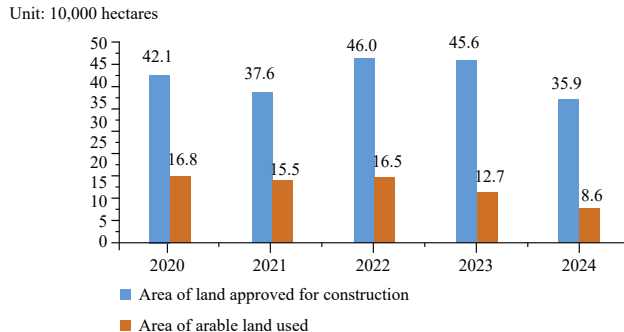
Use of Territorial Space

In 2024, a total of 17,220 preliminary review projects of land use for construction were approved nationwide, up 0.3 percent year on year, involving a total land area of 260,300 hectares, down 20.9 percent year on year. Among them, 53,200 hectares of arable land were occupied, accounting for 20.4 percent of the total. In terms of type, transportation, water conservancy facilities, energy, and other projects took up 40 percent, 5.8 percent, 18.7 percent, and 35.5 percent of the total land area, respectively.



Statistics of Preliminary Review of Land Use for Construction Across China 2020-2024

In 2024, the land approved for construction nationwide was 359,400 hectares, down 21.1 percent year on year. Among them, 85,700 hectares of arable land were used, down 32.3 percent year on year, accounting for 23.8 percent of the total area. In terms of type, the land approved for separate construction was 205,300 hectares, down 19.9 percent year on year, accounting for 57.1 percent of the total area approved; 154,100 hectares of urban and rural construction land were approved, down 22.7 percent year on year, accounting for 42.9 percent of the total area approved.



Area of Land Approved for Construction Nationwide 2020-2024

Guidance was provided to help various local authorities complete forest land and grassland use procedures for 837 major transportation, energy, and water conservancy projects. A total of 799 major nature reserve projects were completed.

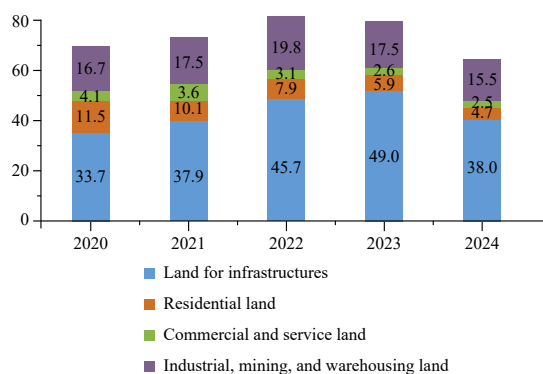
Natural Resource Development and Utilization

State-Owned Construction Land Supply

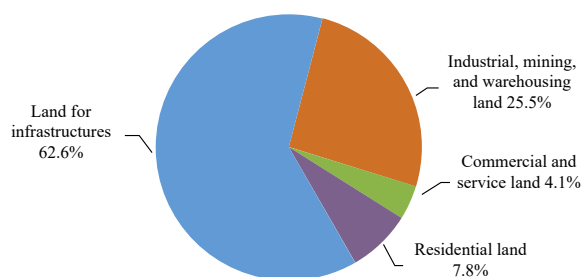
In 2024, the supply of state-owned construction land totaled 606,100 hectares, down 19.1 percent year on year. Among them, the supply area of industrial, mining, and warehousing land, commercial and service land, residential land, and land for infrastructures totaled 154,500 hectares, 24,900 hectares, 47,200 hectares, and 379,500 hectares, respectively, down 11.5 percent, 4.1 percent, 19.4 percent, and 22.5 percent respectively year on year, accounting for 25.5 percent, 4.1 percent, 7.8 percent and 62.6 percent of the total land supply respectively.

A total of 223,800 hectares of state-owned construction land were transferred, down 12.2 percent year on year, with a transaction price of 4.09 trillion yuan, down 19.1 percent year on year.

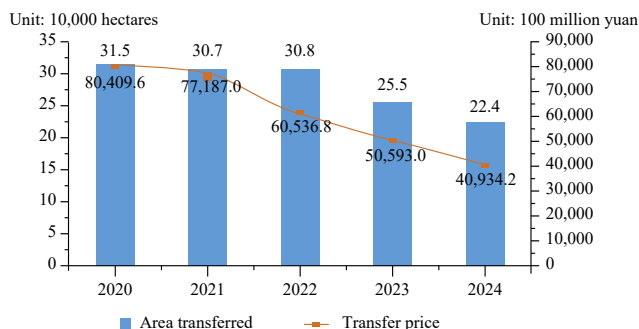
Unit: 10,000 hectares



Supply of State-Owned Construction Land 2020–2024



Supply Structure of State-Owned Construction Land in 2024



Transfer of State-Owned Construction Land 2020–2024

Land Price Monitoring in Major Cities



Quarter-on-Quarter Land Price Change Rates in Major Monitored Cities in 2024

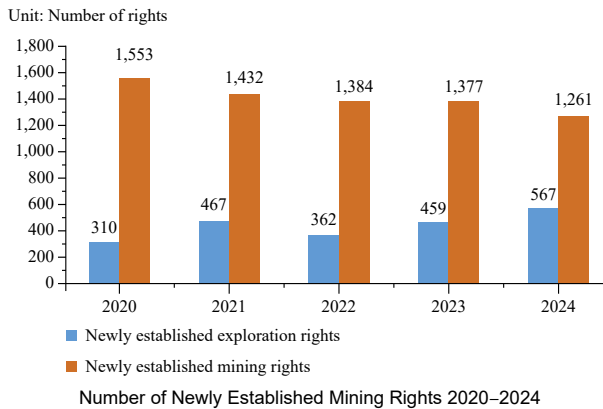
In 2024, in the 105 major monitored cities nationwide, the variation rates of commercial and service land price, residential land price, and industrial land price were respectively -2.6 percent, -2.8 percent, and 1 percent year on

year. At the end of the fourth quarter, the variation rates of commercial and service land price, residential land price, and industrial land price were respectively -0.5 percent, -0.8 percent, and -0.7 percent quarter on quarter; the decrease rate of property land price reduced significantly compared to the previous quarter.

Registration of Mining Rights

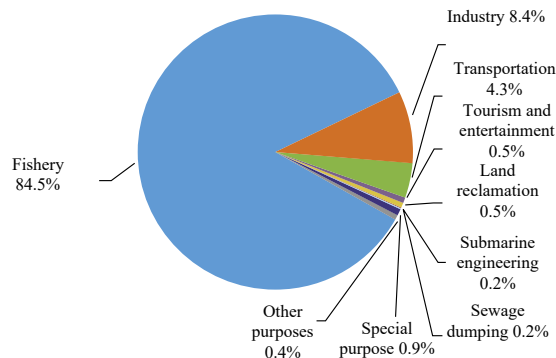
As of the end of 2024, there were 12,646 exploration rights in the country, with a registered area of 2.66 million sq km, up 3.9 percent and 1.1 percent year on year respectively. During the year, 567 new exploration rights were established, up 23.5 percent year on year, of which 525 exploration rights were obtained by “tendering, auction, and listing,” up 43.1 percent year on year, accounting for 92.6 percent of the new exploration rights.

As of the end of 2024, there were 30,391 mining rights in the country, with a registered area of 351,800 sq km, a decrease of 0.4 percent and an increase of 6 percent year on year, respectively. During the year, 1,261 mining rights were newly established, a decrease of 8.4 percent year on year, of which all the 930 mining rights—except those 331 converted from exploration rights—were transferred by way of “tendering, auction, and listing.”



Utilization of Marine Resources

In 2024, there were 4,495 new sea utilization projects nationwide, involving a total sea utilization area of 263,300 hectares. Among these, 3,536 projects, involving 122,500 hectares, were based on review and approval, while 959 projects, involving 140,800 hectares, were based on market transfers. A total of 184 land reclamation projects were approved, covering an area of 5,976.61 hectares, including 860.08 hectares of newly reclaimed land.



Percentage of Approved Sea Area for Utilization Purposes in 2024

In terms of the purposes of the approved sea area for utilization, 222,500 hectares were for fisheries, 22,200 hectares for industry, 11,400 hectares for transportation, 1,400 hectares for tourism and entertainment, 600 hectares for submarine engineering, 400 hectares for sewage dumping, 1,300 hectares for land reclamation, 2,500 hectares for special purpose, and 1,000 hectares for other purposes.

Development of Marine Economy

According to the results of preliminary accounting, in 2024, China's gross ocean product was 10.54 trillion yuan, up 5.9 percent year on year, accounting for 7.8 percent of GDP. Among these, the added value of the marine primary industry was 488.5 billion yuan, that of the marine secondary industry was 3,770.4 billion yuan, and that of the marine tertiary industry was 6,284.9 billion yuan, accounting for

respectively 4.6 percent, 35.8 percent, and 59.6 percent of the gross ocean product.

Development of Forestry and Grassland Economy

In 2024, China's gross forestry product was 10.17 trillion yuan, up 9.6 percent year on year. The tea oil output was one million tonnes and the output of forest food was over 200 million tonnes. Forest food thus became the third major agricultural product following grains and vegetables. The wood output nationwide was 137 million cubic meters, up 8 percent year on year and the added value of the wood processing industry exceeded 3 trillion yuan. There were over 10,000 kinds of wood and bamboo products and the total output of the tailor-made furniture industry was over 300 billion yuan. In 2024, the output of all kinds of grass seeds in China was more than 70,000 tonnes, including over 50,000 tonnes of forage grass seeds, such as forage oats, and the self-sufficiency rate of forage grass seeds was nearly 70 percent. The output of grass seeds suitable for ecological restoration was close to 20,000 tonnes.

Eco-tourism became a new growth driver. The National Forestry and Grassland Administration and the Ministry of Culture and Tourism jointly recommended 14 featured eco-tourism routes covering the Bashang forest and grassland in Hebei, the coastal wetlands in Jiangsu, the giant panda discovery in Sichuan, National Highway G318 in Xizang, and the thousand-mile gallery in Altay, Xinjiang. These routes encompass over 130 eco-tourism destinations including world heritage sites, nature reserves of all types, and state-owned forest farms. In 2024, eco-tourism welcomed 2.76 billion visits, up 9.1 percent year on year, giving rise to new business models such as featured agricultural products and handicrafts.

Economical and Intensive Utilization of Natural Resources

Positive results were achieved in implementing the comprehensive conservation strategy and the strictest possible system for economical and intensive land use. Further efforts were made to implement the mechanism that links new construction land supply with the amount of approved but unused construction land, put idle land into use, advance pilot projects for the redevelopment of inefficiently used land, and promote the transformation of the urban-rural development model from reliance on new land supply to more efficient use of existing land supply. In 2024, the area of construction land used per unit of GDP nationwide dropped steadily, and the land use level and efficiency improved steadily in national-level development zones. The land development rate, land supply rate and construction completion rate for approved construction land all exceeded 90 percent. More was done to guide the economical and intensive use of land. By the end of 2024, a total of 258 demonstration counties/cities had been established for the economical and intensive use of natural resources, including 183 dedicated to land resources, 57 for mineral resources, and 18 for marine resources.

The Measures for the Survey and Evaluation of Mineral Resource Development and Utilization (Tentative) was issued and implemented, setting the standards for the "three rates" of 125 mineral resources to improve the index system for mineral resource development evaluation. The Circular on Further Strengthening Green Mine Construction was jointly issued and the General Principles for the Assessment of Green Mine was issued and implemented as a national standard. Dynamic management of the green mine list was strengthened. By the end of 2024, there were a total of 1,063 national-level green mines and more than 3,753 provincial-level green mines.

The management of the use of sea, islands, and coastlines was strengthened. For uninhabited islands, priority was given to protection and new land reclamation was strictly prohibited unless for national major projects. Vigorous efforts were made to handle leftover reclamation projects. In 2024, a total of 5,116.53 hectares of previously reclaimed land were put into effective use. The Circular of the Ministry of Natural Resources on Exploring and Promoting the Multi-Rights System for Sea Areas was issued to guide coastal regions to actively explore and advance the implementation of the multi-rights system for sea areas and promote refined sea area utilization.

Ecological Conservation and Restoration

Shan-Shui Initiative

Guidance was provided to local authorities for the implementation of 27 projects for the integrated conservation and restoration of mountain, water, forest, farmland, grassland, and desert ecosystems of the 14th Five-year Plan period (2021–2025). The central budget arranged 53 billion yuan in subsidies, of which 50.65 billion yuan had been delivered. Since the beginning of the 14th Five-year Plan period, ecological conservation and restoration have been completed on over five million hectares of land under the Shan-Shui Initiative. The Specification of Effectiveness Evaluation of Ecological Conservation and Restoration Project of Territorial Space was issued to standardize project management throughout the whole life cycle. A model of China's Shan-Shui Initiative was summarized and promoted, and guidance was given to Jiangsu and Zhejiang provinces to carry out provincial-level Shan-Shui initiatives based on their own conditions. Local authorities were organized to submit outstanding cases to the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration and among the 11 good practices announced by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), four were from China, including the Tongluoshan Mining Area Ecosystem Restoration in Yubei District, Chongqing, and the rice-fish co-culture system in Qingtian County, Lishui, Zhejiang Province.

Ecological Restoration of Mines

Efforts were made to include a dedicated chapter on ecological restoration in mining areas in the new Mineral Resources Law and establish a complete and all-round system for mining area ecological restoration. The Circular on Strictly Observing the Bottom Line for Earth and Rock Utilization and Further Improving Incentives for Ecological Restoration in Mining Areas was issued. Four national standards were also published for ecological restoration in mining areas in operation, including the Technical Specification for Land Reclamation and Ecological Restoration of Coal Mines.

Since the 13th Five-year Plan period (2016–2020), ecological restoration projects of existing abandoned mines have covered a total of 333,300 hectares of land across the country. In 2024, the Ministry of Natural Resources supported the implementation of 20 demonstration projects for the ecological restoration of long-abandoned mines, with an estimated restoration area of 26,200 hectares; gave guidance to help relevant regions advance 49 demonstration projects for the ecological restoration of long-abandoned mines already deployed in three batches, with work completed on 39,300 hectares. The national pilot survey of land ruined by mining was completed, laying the foundation for a clear picture of the current status and amount of land ruined by mining.

Marine Ecological Restoration

A total of 63 marine ecological conservation and restoration projects, launched in four batches during the 14th Five-year Plan period (2021–2025), were implemented, which saw the estimated restoration of 400 km of coastline and 31,000 hectares of coastal wetlands. The area of mangrove land increased to 30,300 hectares, making China one of a few countries in the world to see a net increase in mangrove area. Survey and evaluation were advanced on mangroves, seagrass meadows, and saltmarsh blue carbon ecosystems, continuously improving the capacity of ocean carbon sink.

Comprehensive Land Consolidation Across the Entire Territory

During the pilot period, investment in the pilot projects totaled over 670 billion yuan, and the comprehensive land consolidation of 480,000 hectares was completed, with the arable land area up by 44,000 hectares and the area of construction land down by 10,700 hectares, which played a remarkable role in optimizing the rural territorial space layout, supporting integrated urban-rural development and promoting rural revitalization. The Ministry issued Opinions on Drawing Inspiration from Zhejiang's Green Rural Revival Program to Advance the Comprehensive Land Consolidation Work Across the Entire Territory and the Implementation Guide for Comprehensive Land Consolidation Work Across the Entire Territory (Tentative), to transform comprehensive land consolidation work across the entire territory from a pilot program to an all-round endeavor.

Territorial Greening

In 2024, a total of 176 major projects to protect and restore key ecosystems were implemented, together with 10 territorial greening demonstration projects. Greening was completed on 7.67 million hectares of land (over 100 million *mu*), including 4.45 million hectares of afforestation and 3.22 million hectares of grass. The vegetation coverage rate for built-up urban areas reached 43.3 percent, the per capita area of parks and greenery in cities was 15.65 square meters, and the vegetation coverage rate for villages was 32 percent.

Three-North Shelterbelt Forest Program

In 2024, three hallmark campaigns under the Three-North Shelterbelt Forest Program were fully launched, with 287 key projects arranged throughout the year and 32 billion yuan put into them from the central budget. Work was completed on more than 3.8 million hectares. In the east part, green areas continued to expand while sand retreated. In the central region, a pattern of joint prevention and control efforts had basically taken shape. In the west, a sand-blocking green belt had been preliminarily formed around the Taklimakan Desert.

Wildlife Protection

The number of flagship species had been on the rise. The population of Tibetan antelopes grew to over 300,000; the number of snow leopards was back up to about 5,000; the numbers of Siberian tigers and Amur leopards were up from 27 and 42 at the beginning of the pilot project to 70 and more than 80 respectively; black-crested gibbons in Hainan increased from less than 10 in only two groups 40 years ago to 42 in seven groups. The diversity, stability and sustainability of the ecosystems had all been improving steadily. The source areas of the Yangtze, Yellow, and Lancang rivers are under holistic protection. Over 70 percent of the habitats of wild giant pandas are under protection and ecological corridors have been established to connect 13 isolated panda populations. A number of livelihood projects were launched, including comprehensive wildlife damage insurance, ecological resettlement, the development of gateway communities and model villages, and centralized cattle breeding initiatives.

Protection and research centers were established for seven flagship species, including the giant panda and Asian elephant. Giant pandas were successfully sent back to California. In total, 22 giant pandas returned to China in nine batches, and 10 were sent abroad in five batches, which struck a chord with the international community. Nationwide campaigns were launched to regulate the artificial breeding of tigers and other terrestrial wildlife. Steady progress was made in the construction of the national botanical garden system. Conformity assessments and feasibility

studies for establishing national botanical gardens at Shanghai Chenshan Botanical Garden and Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden were completed.

The Regulation on the Protection of Ancient and Famous Trees was issued. A meeting was convened to promote the protection of ancient and famous trees nationwide, and pilot protection projects were launched in four counties, namely Keqiao in Zhejiang, Shuangpai in Hunan, Jiange in Sichuan, and Huangling in Shaanxi. In cooperation with the Ministry of Public Security, the Spring Breeze 2024 campaign was launched to crack down on criminal activities that damage ancient and famous trees.

Disasters and Their Prevention and Control

Geological Disasters

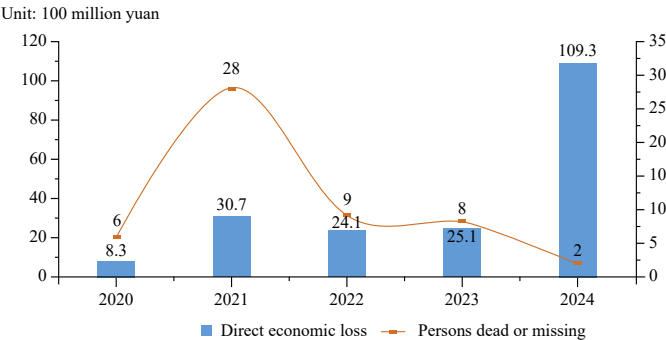
In 2024, China reported 5,719 geological disasters, including 3,316 landslides, 1,579 collapses, 727 mud-rock flows, and 97 sink-hole incidents. These disasters left 187 persons dead, 10 missing, and 49 injured, and led to a direct economic loss of 2.54 billion yuan. Compared with the same period of the previous year, the number of geological disasters, the number of persons dead or missing, and the direct economic loss increased by 55.9 percent, 155.8 percent, and 85.9 percent, respectively. Compared with the averages of the previous five years, the number of geological disasters and the number of persons dead or missing rose by 1.7 percent and 55.1 percent respectively, while the direct economic loss decreased by 8.3 percent. During the year, 622 geological disasters were successfully prevented, involving 10,235 possible casualties and avoiding 725 million yuan of direct economic loss, up 45.7 percent, 95 percent, and 43.6 percent respectively year on year. Every possible effort was made to defend geological disaster risks during the flood season, providing effective support for responses to major disasters such as the January 22 extreme landslide in Zhenxiong, Yunnan, and the extreme storms in Shaoguan, Guangdong; Longyan, Fujian; and Zixing, Hunan; and efficiently responding to a number of disasters including the landslide in the district of Nanyue in Hengyang, Hunan. Experts and technicians with natural resources authorities at all levels across the country made more than 593,000 visits to more than 2.3 million potential hazard points (including repeated counts), and responded to 13,616 geological disasters and hazards.

Geological Disasters of 2024 Compared with Those in the Previous Year and the Previous Five Years

	Number of Disasters	Casualties (person)	Direct Economic Loss (100 million yuan)
2024	5,719	197	25.4
Same Period of the Previous Year	3,668	77	13.7
Year-on-Year Change (%)	55.9	155.8	85.4
Change over Average of the Previous Five Years (%)	1.7	55.1	-8.3

Marine Disasters

According to preliminary statistics, in 2024, a total of 17 catastrophic marine disasters occurred across the country, causing direct economic losses totaling 10.93 billion yuan and two persons dead or missing. The direct economic losses rose by 165 percent while the casualties decreased by 86 percent compared with the average of the previous five years. The main types of disasters were storm surges and ocean waves, with sea ice, red tides, and green tides occurring to certain degrees. Among them, the direct economic loss caused by the storm surge was 10.5 billion yuan, accounting for 96 percent of the total loss. A total of 315 marine disaster alerts were issued and 46 marine disaster emergency responses were initiated during the year.



Direct Economic Loss and Persons Dead or Missing in Marine Disasters 2020–2024

In 2024, the sea level along China's coasts was 96 millimeters higher than usual (1993–2011) and seawater erosion and invasion intensified for some monitored coastline sections. Storm surges and coastal city flooding that occurred during high sea level periods had quite severe impacts on Fujian, Guangdong, Guangxi, and Hainan.

Forest and Grassland Disasters

According to preliminary statistics, in 2024, a total of 292 forest fire disasters occurred across the country, involving 7,100 hectares of forests. The number of fire disasters decreased by 11 percent over the previous year, while the area of forest harmed increased by 71.2 percent. There were three grassland fire disasters, involving 3,700 hectares of grassland, down 80 percent and 97.4 percent respectively over the previous year.

Pine wilt disease was effectively contained through the Pine Protection 2024 campaign, with the number of county-level disease areas, township-level disease points, infected areas, and the number of pine trees that died from the disease all decreasing, accomplishing the national disease control target set for the 14th Five-year Plan period (2021–2025) ahead of time. In terms of the control of the fall webworm, the targets of no outbreak and no disturbance for the people nationwide, and no disaster and no disturbance for the people in Beijing were all achieved. A total of 15 departments joined hands to control the harm caused by boars and other wild animals, with safety hazards checked and removed. A dedicated campaign was organized to control *Spartina alterniflora*, covering a total area of 73,300 hectares nationwide, to effectively contain the spread of *Spartina alterniflora*. Continuous efforts were made to strengthen ecological conservation and restoration in the source areas of sandstorms. The occurrence of severe sandstorms in spring in the north reduced significantly over the past 10 years, with 10 sandstorm processes recorded in the spring of 2024.

Surveying, Mapping and Geographic Information

Surveying, Mapping, and Geographic Information Data

In 2024, China made comprehensive progress in building its national 3D real-world spatial system, acquiring 7.35 million sq km of terrain-level, city-level, and component-level 3D data. A total of 66 cities across the country launched real-world 3D city construction initiatives, of which 42 completed their work and passed relevant reviews. In cooperation with the National Data Administration, the Ministry announced 60 typical cases including the Key Technologies and Applications of 3D Real-World Modeling for Geological Disaster Prevention, further enriching the application scenarios of real-world 3D modeling.

The national foundational geospatial database underwent its annual update, completing the update of the 1:50,000 topographic database and coordinating updates to the 1:250,000 database. Efforts were made to pool resources from the over 3,300 satellite navigation and positioning base stations in the national natural resource system, forming one network that connects all satellite navigation and positioning base stations on the basis of the BeiDou system to provide unified surveying benchmark services for the whole society.

Surveying, Mapping, and Geographic Information Result Services

In 2024, authorities overseeing the surveying and mapping results of the natural resources system supplied to external parties 161,700 topographic maps of various scales, 1,350.75 TB of “4D” result data, 178,500 surveying and mapping benchmark result points, 157.58 TB of aerial photography result data, 4,922.24 TB of satellite image data, and 50.33 TB of national geographical condition data.

A total of 14,928 catalogue submissions were processed online through the National Surveying and Mapping Results Catalogue System, adding 409,800 entries of results. The National Catalogue Service System for Geospatial Information Resources newly released 1.69 million entries in 688 batches, welcomed 52,805 new registered users, responded to 2.07 million user queries, and provided 62,240 batches of downloads of public surveying and mapping results, with a data volume of 4.57 TB.

Regular updates of the Map World data was advanced, updating about 12.92 million entries of vector data and 2-meter-resolution images for 1.52 million sq km of land, and providing sub-meter-resolution images for 4.11 million sq km of land. The Map World 2024 was released. The formation of a World Map application ecosystem accelerated, with over 1.12 million registered users, more than 950,000 application systems supported, and the average number of daily visits to the map service interface exceeding one billion. It provided effective support to over 5,100 government users in more than 40 industries and departments, as well as 16,000 micro, small and medium-sized enterprises. Map World was included as one of the first 18 key demonstration projects of the National Data Administration.

Surveying, Mapping, and Geographic Information Security Monitoring

The surveying and mapping industry expanded further, with a total of 22,289 organizations with surveying and mapping qualifications nationwide, up 6.1 percent year on year. Among them, there were 2,225 Grade-A and 20,064 Grade-B organizations. Administration has been improved for the industry, issuing the Management Measures for the Provision of Classified Surveying and Mapping Results to External Parties to strengthen relevant management. The Ministry of Natural Resources and local natural resources authorities approved 6,185 applications for the use of classified basic surveying and mapping

results, and approved 87 applications for the provision of China's classified surveying and mapping results to external parties.

The Ministry issued the Circular on Surveying, Mapping, and Geographic Information Security Related to Intelligent Connected Vehicles to improve relevant management. Map review and regulation were strengthened and the Ministry joined hands with the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology to issue the Circular on Regulating the Loading and Use of Maps in Mobile Internet Apps. It also collaborated with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to strengthen map use management for major events. The Ministry hosted activities to observe Surveying and Mapping Law Publicity Day and Awareness Raising Week for National Territories, and organized the sixth National Contest on the Chinese Territory. Map review was carried out according to law and the Ministry and local natural resources administration authorities handled a total of 18,111 map review tasks and approved 15,897 of them.

Surveying and mapping quality management was improved. According to relevant laws and regulations, the 2024 national surveying and mapping quality supervision and random review was carried out with the Ministry and local authorities reviewing a total of 172 3D models from 168 qualified surveying and mapping organizations. The overall pass rate was 91.7 percent and the rates for Grade-A and Grade-B organizations were respectively 99.3 percent and 86.7 percent.

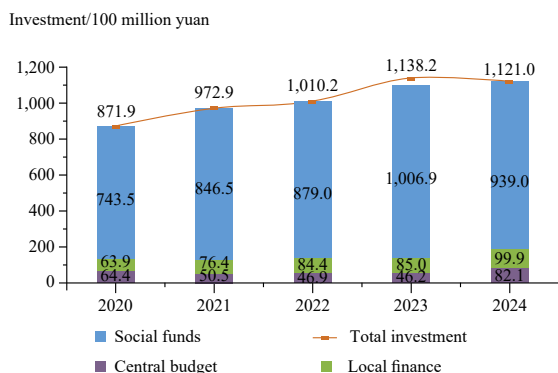
In line with relevant requirements set out in the Opinions of the State Council on Carrying Out Pilot Projects for Business Environment Innovation, six pilot cities, including Beijing, Shanghai, Chongqing, Hangzhou, Guangzhou and Shenzhen, were designated to launch pilot projects giving intelligent connected vehicles access to high-precision maps under the premise of security.

Geological Exploration

Investment in Geological Exploration

In 2024, 112.1 billion yuan was invested in geological exploration across the country. Of the total, 8.21 billion yuan came from the central budget, 9.99 billion yuan from local finance, and 93.9 billion yuan from social funds. The investment in non-oil and gas geological exploration was 13.92 billion yuan (including 2.32 billion yuan from the central budget, 5.19 billion yuan from local finance, and 6.41 billion yuan from social funds). A total of 2.66 billion yuan was invested in basic geological survey, 6.49 billion yuan in hydro-geological survey, environmental geology and geological disaster survey and evaluation, 2.08 billion yuan in geological science and technology and comprehensive research, and 180 million yuan in geological material services and informatization.

According to preliminary statistics, in 2024, a total of 150 new mineral fields were discovered in the country, including 103 large and medium-scale mineral fields.



Investment in National Geological Exploration 2020–2024

Progress in Geological Exploration

In 2024, regional geological surveys at a scale of 1:50,000 were completed across 14,000 sq km in key metallogenic belts. Fifteen 1:250,000 geological maps and databases for major metallogenic belts were compiled, along with 1:250,000 basic aeromagnetic maps covering 26 key metallogenic belts nationwide. Geochemical maps covering 39 elements were made for four key metallogenic belts, including the Himalayas and the Gangdise. Up to 33 sets of geological records and map series were compiled and published.

A total of 27,000 sq km of 1:50,000 regional hydro-geological surveys were completed and the national groundwater monitoring network was operated and maintained efficiently. Up to 55,000 sq km of 1:250,000 ecological geological surveys, along with evaluations of territorial ecological zoning features, were completed. Refined evaluations were carried out on the carbon sequestration capacity of the Turpan-Hami Basin and other regions and pilot geological storage tests were completed for compressed air in the

Yellow River Delta. Geological safety risk evaluations were completed for major hydropower projects in the review and approval phase, and pilot projects were advanced for geological safety risk survey and zoning in seven cities, including Tianjin and Wuhan, to support the prevention and control of land sinking and karst collapse risks.

Progress in Mineral Exploration

In terms of energy minerals, one 100-million-tonne-level new oil field and four 100-billion-cubic-meter-level gas fields were discovered. Up to 130 billion cubic meters of new proven reserves were discovered at the Inner Mongolia-Shaanxi Gas Field. This gas field is the first coal bed gas field in the world to have gas reserves over 3,000 meters underground. An extra-large uranium reserve was discovered in Jingchuan, Gansu Province.

The Qihe-Yucheng region of Shandong became a 100-million-tonne-level iron-rich ore exploration and development base. Up to 19.78 million tonnes of new copper resources were discovered in Julong and 4.17 million tonnes in Duolong of Xizang. A total of 24.58 million tonnes of new bauxite reserves were discovered in Lujialing Mining Area in Xin'an of Henan, and 21.24 million tonnes in Lijiashan Mining Area in Jiaokou of Shanxi. Up to 159 tonnes of new gold reserves were found in Zhalong of Xizang, 55 tonnes in the Tongshan Copper Mine of Heilongjiang, and 53 tonnes in the Tengjia Mining Area in Zhaoyuan of Shandong. In the Jijiaoshan Mining Area in Linwu of Hunan, 1.31 million tonnes of new lithium reserves were found, and in the Changsa region of Wenchang, Hainan, 85,200 tonnes of new zirconite reserves and 1,141 tonnes of new hafnium metal reserves were discovered. In the Xishan Mining Area of Shandong, 1.02 million tonnes of rare earth reserves were detected.

Other Geological Surveys

Exploration was carried out to survey and evaluate new clean energy types such as helium and hydrogen in order to support China's transformation toward green energy. Basic zoning was completed for territorial ecosystems nationwide, monitoring continued for major ecological risks such as land desertification, stony desertification, and lake shrinking, and proposals were made for responses to major ecological issues such as groundwater overdraft in the Heihe River Basin and the shrinking of Chahannao'er Lake.

Supervision and Enforcement

National Natural Resources Supervision

In 2024, the national natural resources supervision authorities focused on arable land protection and ecological conservation and gave priority to the control of the "three zones and three lines" in the supervision and examination in the 31 provincial-level regions (provinces, autonomous regions, and municipalities), as well as the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps. They issued supervision letters to the relevant provincial-level governments regarding prominent breaches of related laws and regulations and announced 80 major problems to society, made appointments with persons in charge of the government of 14 cities and counties with prominent breaches, ineffective rectification, and repeated offenses after rectification, urging local authorities to effectively handle relevant problems according to law and based on facts and requiring local authorities to avoid applying one solution to all problems without distinction. In accordance with the requirements of the coordination mechanism, the supervision authorities delivered examination results to related units and departments, to help support supervision synergy across various departments.

Natural Resources Law Enforcement

In 2024, a total of 14,100 land and 2,093 mine violations were investigated nationwide, with respectively 10.96 billion yuan and 435 million yuan collected in penalties and confiscations. Ten typical cases of land law-enforcement actions were released; four criminal cases involving the illegal occupation of arable land were jointly announced with the Ministry of Public Security; and four typical cases concerning the non-litigation enforcement and supervision of the confiscation and disposal of illegal buildings/structures in land law enforcement were jointly issued with the Supreme People's Procuratorate. These cases served as warnings and educational examples, urging and guiding local natural resources authorities to enforce the law strictly and to uphold the red line for arable land protection.

Forestry and Grassland Law Enforcement and Supervision

A coordinated approach was taken to enforce laws governing forests, grasslands, wetlands, wastelands, and nature reserves. Special campaigns were launched, including the "Protect the Green" action and the dedicated campaign against overgrazing. A total of 39 typical cases of forest and grassland destruction were announced in four batches. Nationwide, 79,300 administrative cases involving forests and grasslands were investigated and concluded. Fourteen projects of remote-sensing monitoring of human activities in national-level natural reserves were carried out, resulting in the identification and notification of more than 48,000 suspected problems.

Technological Innovation and International Cooperation

Technological Innovations

In 2024, the Ministry submitted 55 national standard plans for approval, issued 261 industry standard plans, submitted 35 national standards, including the Code of Practice for Real Estate Registration, and issued 208 industry standards. Altogether, 1,484 technological achievements were registered, up 21 percent year on year. Nine institutions and 13 individuals across the ministry system received national honors for their contributions to science popularization. Nine science popularization books were selected as 2023 National Excellent Popular Science Publications, and two micro-video works were recognized as 2023 National Excellent Popular Science Micro-Video Works.

The deep underground national major scientific and technological project was officially launched, the international Deep-time Digital Earth metascience program was implemented, and task deployment was completed for the key R&D program on strategic mineral resource development and utilization. National key laboratories related to energy resources were approved for establishment. The 40th Antarctic expedition and the 14th Arctic Ocean expedition were carried out smoothly.

International Cooperation

In the presence of state leaders, the Ministry of Natural Resources signed cooperation agreements in the fields of geology and mining, oceans, and surveying and mapping with several countries, including Serbia, the Maldives, and Pakistan. It actively participated in diplomatic events at the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation Beijing Summit, and the China-Africa cooperation centers on geoscience, oceans, and satellite remote sensing were included in the Forum's Beijing Action Plan. Multiple cooperation proposals were incorporated into bilateral joint statements or intergovernmental cooperation outcome lists.

Practical cooperation projects were carried out with Kazakhstan, the Maldives, Germany, and other countries in areas such as geological survey, marine science and technology, territorial space governance, and ecological conservation and restoration. The Ministry played an active part in global governance, supporting the operation and development of the UN Global Geospatial Knowledge and Innovation Centre, and deepening cooperation with the International Union for Conservation of Nature to jointly establish the Nature-based Solutions Asian Hub. The China-Africa Center Marine Science and Blue Economy Cooperation Center was established in Egypt, and 20 international students were admitted under the 2024 Marine Scholarship of China. Active participation was also made in the UN Secretary-General's Panel on Critical Energy Transition Minerals.

The 2024 China Mining Conference and Exhibition was successfully held, facilitating the signing of contracts worth nearly 6 billion yuan in total value. The number of partners of the World Coastal Forum increased to 24, and public products such as the Global Coastal Status Report continued to be developed. The 2024 East Asian Seas Congress and World Ocean Week in Xiamen, the 2024 Global Ocean Development Forum, the China-Island Countries Ocean Cooperation Forum, and the 8th China-Southeast Asian Countries Marine Cooperation Forum were organized, and public products such as plans for cooperation with island countries were released to actively promote China's achievements in ecological development.

At the 16th session of the Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, a China Pavilion showcased China's experience and achievements in combating desertification and in the Three-North Shelterbelt Forest Program. Eighteen founding member countries jointly signed the agreement on establishing the International Mangrove Center. Cooperation with Belt and Road countries in desertification prevention and control continued to advance, with nine forestry and grassland cooperation agreements signed. The International Horticultural Exhibition 2024 Chengdu and the 2024 World Forestry Industry Conference were successfully held. Lu Qi of the Chinese Academy of Forestry received the 2024 Champions of the Earth Award by the UNEP.