REPORT FOR BROAD PUBLIC

BRAZIL AND CHINA FACING GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES: NOTES TO A BILATERAL AGENDA
About the Project

The following Report for Broad Public seeks to summarize, in an objective and illustrative manner, the main conclusions and recommendations contained in the Policy Paper “Brazil and China: Elements for Environmental Cooperation”. The Paper is the final result of the initiative “Brazil and China Facing Global Environmental Challenges: notes to a bilateral agenda” developed by the Brazilian Center for International Relations (CEBRI) in dialogue with the United Nations Environment Programme’s office in Brazil and in association with the World Conservation Monitoring Center (WCMC-UNEP). The project’s objective is to promote discussion among environmental experts and key stakeholders in the Brazil-China relationship, from the diplomatic, academic, political and business constituencies, in order suggest the main thematic priorities and cooperation strategies that should compose a new and ambitious environmental agenda between Brazil and China, with potential co-benefits in the achievement of global targets associated to biodiversity protection, the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

In order to meet this goal, the project helped consolidate a network of experts that are continuously engaged in the promotion of Brazil-China cooperation on environmental, climate and sustainability issues. Within the scope of the project, four roundtables were organized to discuss aspects of strategic importance or promising potential in the bilateral relationship, including climate diplomacy, sustainable cities, biodiversity and perspectives for greening the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). Furthermore, the group of stakeholders assembled throughout the initiative joined efforts to promote other events and research projects focused on innovative perspectives for Brazil-China environmental cooperation, specifically concerning industry 4.0, energy transition and transformation, sustainable infrastructure, climate governance, green finance, food security and biotechnology.

1st Roundtable
Brazil-China Dialogue Perspectives in the International Agenda for Climate Change and Sustainable Development

Speakers: Ambassador Paulo Estivallet de Mesquita (Appointed as Brazilian Ambassador to China), Ambassador José Antônio Marcondes de Carvalho (General Subsecretary, Ministry of Environment, Energy, Science and Technology), Igor Brandão (Agrobusiness Manager, Apex Brasil), Ambassador Benoni Belli (Diplomatic Planning Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Relations).
2nd Roundtable

Well-being in Cities and New Lifestyles: Societies in Development

Speakers: Ilan Cuperstein (Regional Vice-Director for Latin America, C40), Fernando Cavalleri (Researcher, Pereira Passos Institute), Sérgio Veloso (Coordinator, BRICS Urbe/BRICS Policy Center), Suzana Kahn Ribeiro (Professor and Coordinator of the Green Fund, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro), Ana Toni (Executive Director, Climate and Society Institute), Larissa Wachholz (Directing Partner, Vallya), Janaina Camara da Silva (Journalist, Radar China/Xinhua).

3rd Roundtable

A New Biodiversity Agenda Between Brazil and China

Speakers: Fábio Scarano (Executive Director, Brazilian Foundation for Sustainable Development), Daniela Lerda (Coordinator, Climate and Land Use Alliance Brasil), Bernardo Strassburg (Executive Director, International Institute for Sustainability), Roberto Cavalcanti (Professor, University of Brasília).
4th Roundtable

Green Belt and Road Initiative and the perspectives for Brazil

Speakers: Anna Jaguaribe (Member of the Board of Trustees, CEBRI and Institute for Brazil China Studies), Adriano Proença (Professor, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro), Braulio Dias (Professor, University of Brasilia).

EVENTS RELATED TO THE PROJECT

VI China Analysis Group Meeting

Complementarity and dependency in energy and the transition to a low-carbon economy

Speakers: Zhou Xizhou (Diretor in China for Natural Gas and Renewables, IHS Markit), Ricardo Besada (Executive Manager at the Strategy and Organization Department, Petrobrás), Izabella Teixeira (Senior Fellow, CEBRI).
Roundtable
China’s Ecological Civilization Development, Green and Low-Carbon Transition, for Addressing Climate Change: Opportunities and Challenges
Speaker: Professor Dr. Wang Yi (CAS Institutes of Science and Development)

Brazil-China Innovation Dialogue 2019
Climate change and disruptive technologies in food production and energetic transitions
Speakers: Anna Jaguaribe (Member of the Board of Trustees, CEBRI and Institute for Brazil China Studies), Luiz Davidovich (President, Brazilian Academy of Sciences), Xin Liu (Director, Beijing Genomics Institute), Rogério Studart (Senior Fellow, World Resources Institute), Suzana Kahn Ribeiro (Professor and Coordinator of the Green Fund, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro), Júlio Leite (Deputy Director for Public and Socio-Environmental Management, Brazilian National Development Bank), Renato Rodrigues (Researcher, Embrapa Solos), Izabella Teixeira (Senior Fellow, CEBRI), Lia Valls Pereira (Associate Researcher, Getúlio Vargas Foundation).

XV China Analysis Group Meeting
Brazil and China facing global environmental challenges
Speakers: Izabella Teixeira (Senior Fellow, CEBRI), Marco Túlio Scarpelli Cabral (Head of the Environment Division II, Ministry of Foreign Affairs), Wenhong Xie (China Programme Manager, Climate Bonds Initiative), Akio Takahara (Adjunct Fellow, Japan Institute of International Affairs)
Sino-Brazilian Cooperation: an opportunity for the multilateral environmental agenda

Brazil and China are strategic players in the global environmental and sustainable development agenda. Both are megadiverse countries with significant environmental assets and challenges that have shaped their national development and international insertion strategies. Both are also regional leaders and important stakeholders in south-south cooperation, having already worked together to reach bilateral understandings that paved the way for multilateral environmental accords, as was the case of the Paris Agreement and the Nagoya Protocol.

If properly structured with regard to common interests, guided by a stepwise process and well defined over time as to its strategic nature, the Sino-Brazilian environmental agenda can result not only in bilateral benefits, but also in important co-benefits for global environmental challenges that must be dealt with through multilateral cooperation mechanisms. A renewed understanding between Brazil and China regarding the importance of environmental issues for their national development, and a clearer view of the existing complementarities and cooperation opportunities, can open new paths toward a global low-carbon economy and serve as an incentive for other countries, especially developing nations in the global south, to raise ambitions in their compromises to tackle climate change.

The diagram below illustrates the basic outlines of a possible roadmap for bilateral and multilateral environmental cooperation between Brazil and China, which is further detailed in the Policy Paper.

**MULTILATERAL COOPERATION**

**CLIMATE CHANGE (SDG 13)**
- Increasing ambition of the NDCs
- Update of the global climate governance system
- Strengthening the science-business-policy nexus in climate action

**RESOURCE EFFICIENCY (SDG 12)**
- Promotion of circular economy and of policies, businesses and behaviors oriented by the principles of resource efficiency and decoupling
- Diffusion in the market of mechanisms to evaluate natural capital risks and opportunities
- Regulation to promote the efficient use of environmental resources (circularity)

**BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION (SDG 15)**
- Adoption of Nature Based Solutions (NBS)
- Fighting illegal deforestation and developing the potential for bioeconomy in the Amazon
- Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework and new ambitions for conservation and preservation goals
- Exchange of land restoration and reforestation techniques/ectosystem restoration
BILATERAL COOPERATION

AGRICULTURE, INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT (SDG 2)
- Traceability and environmental sustainability of supply chains and agricultural commodities
- Technology exchange to advance low-carbon agriculture and ensure food safety
- Agro-environmental planning with pricing and management of environmental and climate risks
- Sustainability branding of Brazilian agricultural products to meet new consumption and production patterns

ENERGY TRANSFORMATION AND ENERGY TRANSITIONS (SDG 7)
- Access, efficiency and quality of energy use in Brazil
- Technology exchange in the development of renewable energies
- Energy security with decentralization of energy systems and diversification of sources
- Neutralization and decarbonization of the energy matrix

SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE, BELT AND ROAD INITIATIVE AND GREEN FINANCE (SDG 9)
- New sustainability standards for Chinese infrastructure investments in Brazil
- Regulation, planning and financing of low-carbon infrastructure projects
- Green finance: regulatory model, market compliance and integration with international markets
- BRI: perspectives for cooperation in infrastructure and environment

TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION, NEW ECONOMIES AND SUSTAINABLE CITIES (SDG 11)
- Technological innovation: disruptive technologies and the development process
- Circular, low-carbon and green economies: a bilateral agenda
- Economic diversification and sustainable development of the Amazon, including connectivity
- Urban agenda: opportunities in mobility, sanitation, digitalization of services and big data
Environment: an opportunity for enhancing Brazil–China bilateral relations

Brazil and China have a long-lasting, solid and dense bilateral relationship, historically based on pragmatism and mutual interests. Brazil was the first country in the world with whom China established a strategic partnership, in 1993. Since 2009, China has been Brazil’s largest trading partner, mainly in agriculture and energy commodities, and in 2010 it also became the largest foreign investor in Brazil, especially in the energy and infrastructure sectors. There is ample space, however, to move the relationship beyond trade and investment, strengthening cooperation in strategic areas that can be articulated under the umbrella of an innovative environmental agenda. In this sense, the Policy Paper recommends the upgrading of the existing bilateral cooperation structure with the establishment of a Technical Chamber dedicated to environmental, sustainability and climate change issues within the China–Brazil High Level Cooperation and Coordination Commission (COSBAN), which is the main diplomatic mechanism responsible for the defining and advancing the priorities of the bilateral relationship.

China has been dedicating itself to environmental issues as an assertive solution to national problems and as a political position to strengthen its image in multilateral forums. For the past two decades, China’s five-year plans have consistently included large-scale investments in environmental infrastructure and ecological restoration, as well as targets to reduce environmental pollution and promote energy and resource efficiency in the industrial sector. Around a decade ago, the Chinese Government began using the concept of “Ecological Civilization”, which was enshrined in the constitution in 2012, to synthesize its vision of a society living in harmony with nature. China is also specifically interested in this agenda because of the environmental compliance of the global infrastructure network it is developing under the BRI, initially proposed in 2013.

Brazil has a long tradition in multilateral and bilateral environmental cooperation, as well as consolidated expertise in the governance of complex environmental programs with international partners. Because of this tradition, environmental and climate diplomacy has historically been a channel for Brazil to exercise soft power. Environmental governance is embedded in the country’s development strategy because of the need to manage a vast territory covered with biomes that impose different challenges, including the Amazon and the Cerrado, which are biodiversity hotspots.

China sees Brazil as a partner who can contribute to guarantee its energy and food security, concerns that are currently impossible to address without considering climate change. The sustainability of agricultural supply chains and energy transition strategies are naturally central components of the bilateral environmental agenda. Brazil must structure this agenda in order to better explore the complementarity with China and Asia on food and energy supply, seeking technology transfer, quality investments in associated infrastructure and exports of higher added-value. Sustainability is one of the values to be added.

Considering China’s ambition for an “Ecological Civilization” and the opportunity for better alignment of new Brazilian development policies with the protection of the environment, the political context can be advantageous for bilateral cooperation on environmental issues, especially if they are framed through their economic and social co-benefits.
Mutual Bilateral Interests: topics with potential alignment for environmental cooperation

1. AGRICULTURE, INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT

The most recent discussions on international trade are attaching increasing importance to the demands of consumer markets with respect to environmental impacts, nature conservation and sustainability of commodity production and supply chains. There is an increasing demand for environmental traceability of products consumed all over the world, though this demand gains different contours and perspectives according to the characteristics each consumer market. These new standards are already referenced in trade agreements, including the EU-Mercosur Agreement, and are already conditioning access to markets and impacting the image of producing countries, as was the case with Brazil’s soy moratorium.

China is the largest food importer in the world. After the transformations undergone over the past 40 years by its agricultural sector, Brazil went from being a food importer to one of the largest agricultural exporters, by virtue of a competitive tropical agriculture driven by technological innovations and national development strategies. In addition to food security, two important considerations presently govern China’s agricultural trade policy: concern with the origin and quality of food (food safety) and the environmental guarantee of sustainable production. Brazilian agriculture must be prepared to meet this demand, advancing its role in the global food security agenda and better defining its ambitions and responsibilities with regard to the sustainable use of natural resources, biodiversity protection and tackling climate change. A roadmap to achieve this goal should include the revitalization of technological cooperation mechanisms associated to Brazilian and Chinese universities and research centers, promoting the joint development of innovative low carbon agriculture techniques.

The Policy Paper suggests that commercial cooperation between Brazil and China can be enhanced through an innovative vision of the alignment of common national goals with positive global externalities, based on the connection of areas of interest (as illustrated in the diagram below). If properly structured in terms of supply chain traceability, resource efficiency, low carbon food production and biodiversity conservation, this process could lead to the sustainability branding of Brazilian agricultural products.

The bilateral dialogue in agriculture, trade and environment can engender the adoption of standards and parameters for the environmental sustainability of Brazilian agricultural products, providing the Chinese consumer market with a new reference. In turn, these standards can later be attributed to the values of reference that qualify Brazilian agricultural products to access other markets and consumers, as well as offer new political and economic foundations to the exercise of Brazilian food diplomacy.
Environmental sustainability of Brazilian agricultural products

Environmental traceability of production chains, technological innovation for productivity gains and low-carbon production, efficient use of natural resources (soil and water, in particular), protection of biodiversity and agroenvironmental planning to meet climate change adaptation demands, following the 3S standards for food production (sustainability, safety and security)
2. ENERGY TRANSFORMATION, ENERGY TRANSITION AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Driven by interests in investments, energy security and technological innovations, energy cooperation has been a central component of the Brazil–China dialogue since the early 1990s. Chinese interest in Brazil's energetic resources is evidenced by the elevated concentration of Chinese investments in generation, transmission and distribution of electricity. 72% of all Chinese investments in Brazil were directed to the electrical sector between 2014 and 2017. Oil and natural gas are also part of the equation. The current debate on incentives to increase the share of natural gas in the Chinese economy presents opportunities for the sector in Brazil, both in terms of growing demand and in terms of attracting investments to finance the necessary infrastructure. Still, the trade-offs associated to using natural gas as a “transition fuel” must be calculated by each country according to their own possibilities and energy transition strategies.

In most parts of the world, the main dimension of the energy transition is associated with changes in the electrical matrix with a view to reducing GHG emissions. Since the electrical matrix is predominantly fossil in most countries, as it is in China, energy transition and decarbonization can be approached as part of the same context. This is not the case of Brazil, which has a predominantly renewable electrical matrix and can therefore be more ambitious in the definition of targets and strategies to implement a transition agenda with a view to driving energy transformation. The Policy Paper suggests that Brazil is strategically positioned to aim for a leading role in the global energy transformation and that China can be a valuable partner in developing the technological innovations necessary to build smart, decentralized energy grids that incorporate renewable sources at accessible prices, thus contributing to greater energy security in the country.

China’s heavy dependence on non-renewable energies (86.2% of its energy mix in 2017) is a key challenge in the equation of national development versus responsibilities and externalities related to the growth of GHG emissions. Aware of this vulnerability, the Chinese government established regulations and incentives that have led Chinese companies to become global leaders in the development of technologies related to energy transition and climate change, such as electric vehicles, solar panels and wind turbines. Brazilian policy-makers and business leaders should promote entrepreneurial and technological partnerships in the energy sector that emphasize the existing complementarities with China in the transition to a low carbon economy (in terms of solar, wind, biomass etc.). Gains related to decoupling environmental impacts, economic growth and energy security may be the result of solutions built around priorities such as more cost-efficient integration of renewable energies, energy efficiency and decentralized generation.

3. SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE, BELT AND ROAD INITIATIVE AND GREEN FINANCE

Infrastructure financing has become an increasingly important aspect of the bilateral relationship due to a powerful conversion of interests. On one side, Brazil urgently needs to address its infrastructure deficit, which engenders high social and economic costs, from the fact that 46.8% of the population does not have access to sewage to the elevated logistic costs that make Brazilian exports less competitive. Chinese investments, whether through private companies, state owned enterprises (SOEs) or development finance mechanisms, offer a unique opportunity for Brazil to bridge the existing

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infrastructure gap. On the other hand, Brazil is a very attractive market for China, despite the legal uncertainty. In the medium term, returns tend to be compensatory, and in the long term, the country is part of a larger Chinese strategy for Latin America.

Development finance, with emphasis on infrastructure projects, is an important component of China’s globalization strategy and of its new foreign policy, which has the BRI as its main platform. The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) and the New Development Bank (NDB), both in which Brazil participates, are specifically focused on sustainable infrastructure financing. With or without officially joining the BRI, Brazil could fortify its infrastructure program through a jointly developed framework and project pipeline for investments in sustainable infrastructure, created in a dialogue between BNDES, the China Development Bank (CDB), the NDB and private stakeholders.

The sustainable infrastructure agenda is strategic for the regional development of the Brazilian Amazon, as a path to meet the needs of the local population without increasing deforestation. Furthermore, it can be a precondition to improve Brazil’s international image. Chinese banks are on their way to becoming the main source of funding for projects in the Amazon Basin and some Chinese investments in the region have been deemed unsustainable. However, Brazil has the installed capacity to propose a clear set of norms and standards for the environmental sustainability of infrastructure projects, which, if transposed from the bilateral relationship to the BRI and regional integration initiatives, can contribute to increase the ambition of the global sustainable and natural infrastructure agendas.

Business and financing opportunities for sustainable low-carbon growth, integration of climate change foresight into economic planning, and incorporation of environmental externalities into pricing and risk evaluation, reflect the basic outlines of green finance agendas. National markets for green equities are emerging, even though at different paces. The adoption by China, in 2016, of the “Guidelines for Establishing the Green Financial System” helped establish the regulatory framework necessary to promote the rapid development of carbon markets and financial instruments such as green bonds, green credit lines and carbon taxes. Brazil, mainly through initiatives of BNDES, has been seeking to promote new experiences in green finance and made significant advances, particularly in the case of green bonds. The Brazilian private sector is increasingly interested in the development of market instruments that increment business opportunities in the transition to a low carbon economy. The dialogue with China can be especially useful in the development of a framework for carbon pricing in Brazil.

The Chinese experience demonstrates the multiple and diversified paths through which development planning can incorporate green finance. The promotion of compatibility and integration between the Brazilian and Chinese green financial systems can leverage the growth of the Brazilian green bonds market and attract much needed investments in sustainable infrastructure, especially in the sense of promoting interconnectivity in the Amazon Region.
4. SUSTAINABILITY IN THE CONTEXT OF TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION, NEW ECONOMIES AND CITIES, IN ADDITION TO CHALLENGES OF CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE

The so-called disruptive technologies show great potential to enable the achievement of the SDGs by providing advances in health and well-being, agriculture, energy and resource management. Big Data analysis can assist in the management of critical urban systems and global issues, improving decision-making processes and allocation of resources by providing information in real time. The Internet of Things allows new conditions for monitoring the natural world and people. Drones and customized satellites are important for precision agriculture. Genome sequencing is changing paradigms in food production and health treatments. Today, China is a global leader, alongside the Unites States, in the development of all these technologies.

Technological innovation was one of the pillars of China’s transformation in recent decades. The flourishing innovation ecosystem that exists in China today is the result of long-term technological roadmaps, like the Made in China 2025 Plan or the National Plan for the Medium and Long-Term Development of Science and Technology. In the age of data, China has been accumulating a series of experiences in various sectors that certainly provide benchmarks for the development of projects in Brazil. Greater cooperation between Brazilian and Chinese research and development (R&D) institutions and greater integration between both country’s innovation ecosystems can be a driver of innovation in Brazil. Furthermore, a closer examination of the incentive structure and regulatory framework implemented by China to boost its innovation ecosystem (including regulation to promote the circular economy) can be of great use to Brazilian policy-makers.

The Policy Paper suggests that Brazil should strategically aim to develop a high-technology bioeconomy and that China is a valuable partner to achieve this goal. Scientific and economic cooperation between both countries can promote the digital transformations necessary to upgrade the Brazilian industry, with emphasis on the potential of bioindustries that integrate sustainable sociobiodiversity value chains. Considering the Chinese experience in big data management, industrial internet, genome sequencing and artificial intelligence, among others, there are multiple opportunities for technology transfer and exchange.

Analyzing the Chinese experience, it is possible to conclude that the innovation process is born in companies, out of the need to face daily challenges, and materializes in cities. China is making a significant effort to make its cities more sustainable and resource efficient, including building different “eco-cities” or “sponge cities” as models. The Chinese government implemented successful public-private partnerships to digitalize critical services, rationalize public transport, encourage conscious consumption, and promote carbon sequestration and energy transition in cities. As in China, Brazilian municipalities should encourage a greater role for the corporate sector in the design of sustainable urban solutions, specially concerning the use of big data in the management of critical urban systems. The search for ways to promote sustainable urban development and greater quality of life in cities, while addressing common urban issues – such as climate change, water and waste treatment, pollution, security, housing and transport – is an opportunity to strengthen cooperation between Brazil and China, not only at the federal level but also by promoting a more permanent engagement of subnational governments in the bilateral dialogue.
Brazil and China: common multilateral interests in environment, sustainability and climate change

A recent report by the World Economic Forum identified climate change and biodiversity loss as two of the highest global risks in terms of potential impact, in addition to relating them to other vulnerabilities such as voluntary migration, natural disasters, water crises and hunger. Resource efficiency and decoupling the use of natural resources from economic growth and human well-being is a key strategy to mitigate these risks, contributing to the achievement of SDGs and the implementation of the Paris Agreement. This is why the Policy Paper identifies climate change, biodiversity protection and the sustainable use of natural resources as the three most important multilateral agendas that should be addressed in a new framework for environmental cooperation between Brazil and China.

CLIMATE CHANGE

With the withdrawal of the United States from the Paris Agreement in 2017, China made the political decision of remaining a signatory country and reaffirmed the direction adopted by its climate policy, understood as driver of national development. The green dimensions of China’s development strategy include: (a) promotion of a robust economic structure that favors green, low-carbon and circular development; (b) creation of a market-based system for green technological innovation; (c) development of a green finance system; and (d) construction of a clean, low-carbon, safe and efficient energy sector with sustainable production and consumption patterns. Brazil, on the other hand, needs to define clearer strategies to implement its NDC. This is a crucial condition to allow the integration of the green finance, carbon market and technological innovation agendas into national development paths for the low-carbon era. Implementing Brazil’s NDC can also be an opportunity to deepen bilateral cooperation interests, as is the case with China. Complementarities in land use and energy emissions can be leveraged to help both countries seek new paths toward economic development solutions based on reducing carbon emissions and adapting to climate changes.

RESOURCE EFFICIENCY

To promote socioeconomic transition and the necessary structural changes in its economy, China is adopting the efficient use of natural resources and the circular economy as priorities. Through a combination of strategic planning, regulation, incentives, and technological development, China was able to promote low-carbon industries and a more circular urban metabolism, which increased the quality of life in many Chinese cities. The lack of competition and monitoring allows the Brazilian industrial sector to be very inefficient in the use of natural resources. Policies to minimize waste and promote the reuse of materials, along with the development of new biomaterials, would improve circularity and bring Brazil closer to the fourth industrial revolution. Adapting urban policies that have led to greater resource efficiency in China can also be a useful path for Brazil to address its own urban development issues, especially in relation to cities in the Amazon.

BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

By deciding to host COP 15 of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CDB), China assumed a strategic role in enabling its success and paving the way for an agreement on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. With respect to Brazil–China cooperation, this is a window of opportunity for the two megadiverse countries, who are also important actors in food and energy security. A structured action between both countries to advance nature-based solutions for food security, carbon neutrality and to reduce biodiversity loss, further ensuring nature conservation and ecosystem services as a structural part of a sustainable and resilient food production system, suggests an innovative path with national benefits and global co-benefits. Bilateral cooperation on forest restoration has significant potential for neutralizing emissions associated to other sectors, such as energy and infrastructure, contributing to a broader vision of the nature-based solutions agenda and to better land use planning in Brazil. China should be seen as an important partner in Brazil’s ambition to develop a high-technology bioeconomy and halt deforestation in the Amazon, which increased significantly in 2019. Cooperation between Brazil and China on biodiversity could also influence other emerging economies, seeking synergies with the climate change agenda though the BASIC Group or in the Group of 20 megadiverse countries, which represent more than 50% of global biodiversity hotspots.

Conclusion

As emerging countries with well-defined mutual cooperation interests, Brazil and China can play an important role in developing solutions to address global environmental problems. In parallel, the environmental agenda is also a singular opportunity for deepening Sino-Brazilian relations. It is in this context that the Policy Paper suggests four possible paths for bilateral dialogue on the environment, considering current cooperation interests in the areas of agriculture, trade, infrastructure, energy, finance, cities and science, technology and innovation. These bilateral cooperation routes are profoundly intertwined and linked to multilateral agendas and global issues like climate change mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity protection and resource efficiency. The Policy Paper structures a framework for Brazil–China environmental cooperation within which each country can choose to prioritize, link or adapt the different agendas according to their national development narratives and political ambition to contribute to global sustainable development.

6. The National Institute for Space Research (INPE) estimated that the deforestation rate in the Brazilian Legal Amazon was 29.54% higher in the period from August 2018 to July 2019, when compared to the same period in the previous year (going from 7.536 km² to 9.762 km²).
The Brazilian Center for International Relations (CEBRI) is an independent think tank that contributes to building an international agenda for Brazil. For over twenty years, the institution has engaged in promoting a pluralistic and proposal-oriented debate on the international landscape and Brazilian foreign policy.

In its activities, CEBRI prioritizes themes with the greatest potential to leverage the country’s international insertion into the global economy, proposing pragmatic solutions for the formulation of public policies.

It is a non-profit institution, headquartered in Rio de Janeiro and internationally recognized. Today, its circa 100 associates represent diverse interests and economic sectors and mobilize a worldwide network of professionals and organizations. Moreover, CEBRI has an active Board of Trustees composed of prominent members of Brazilian society.