



CHINA • YUNNAN



LMC

3rd YICMG held in Laos

The third Youth Innovation Competition on Lancang-Mekong Region's Governance and Development (YICMG) was held at Vientiane, Laos from January 27-30, drawing in 69 youthful contestants from nine universities in the six Lancang-Mekong countries.

With the theme of "Solution to green industry and tourism", this year's YICMG focuses on governance and development problems in the Mekong region, doing research and coming up with innovative solutions.

Students from Guangxi University of Finance and Economics and National University of Laos were granted the awards for best group creativity. Youths from Cambodia, Thailand and other Mekong countries also won prizes.

The YICMG was jointly launched in 2016 by Fudan University, Shanghai International Culture Association, and others.

(China News; Khmer Times)



For more information, please visit our website.

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BELT AND ROAD

China-Laos cooperation benefits both sides



Honored guests attend the Laos-China Belt and Road Cooperation Forum in Vientiane, Laos, on Feb. 2, 2018. Xinhua photo

The first Laos-China Belt and Road Cooperation Forum is being held here on February 2-3, with delegates focusing their discussions on furthering the China-Laos cooperation that benefits both countries and contributes to the creation of a community of shared future.

China-Laos relations have enjoyed sound development, especially since the state visit by Chinese President Xi Jinping last year, after which bilateral

ties have witnessed leap-forward development, said Soukthavy Keola, a former counselor at the Lao Embassy in China.

China and Laos, close neighbors, have been enjoying fruitful cooperation in a wide range of fields ranging from infrastructure, trade, financing, education and tourism among others.

Under the Belt and Road Initiative, China and Laos will have much more to achieve in win-

win cooperation. The two countries have agreed to jointly build a China-Laos economic corridor and further elevate the scale and level of their economic and trade cooperation.

In the conference hall where over 500 delegates from government departments, enterprises and media sectors from both countries gather, a number of business cooperation intentions or agreements were signed.

(Xinhua/Abridged)

OPENING-UP

Yunnan eases visa permits for foreign talent

Southwest China's Yunnan Province will adopt a new visa policy for foreigners starting March 1, easing visa applications from foreign professionals and skilled workers.

Applicants who qualify as high-end talent, including scientists, leading figures in technology-intensive sectors, international entrepreneurs and skilled workers can apply for the visa.

The visa is valid for up to 10 years with multiple

entries, or 180-day stays for a single entry, according to Yunnan Provincial Administration of Foreign Experts Affairs.

Spouses and minor children of the applicants will be given the same visa.

"Yunnan is at a critical stage of economic restructuring and upgrading," said Ruan Chaoqi, director of the Yunnan Provincial Administration of Foreign Experts Affairs.

(Xinhua)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Riverside RV camping lures tourists to Xishuangbanna

Groups of tourists driving recreational vehicles (RV) recently flocked to south Yunnan's Xishuangbanna, where they enjoyed great leisure at a RV camping site beside the Lancang-Mekong River.

At the camp site, tens of RVs from cross China were hub to hub with each other. At meal times, tables were set at the RVs' frontage. The Chinese northerners' steamed buns and mutton compete with the southerners' rice and fish.

Among the tourists was

Mr. Wang from central China's Henan Province, who spent 400,000 yuan on his RV. "It is worthwhile because I can enjoy fresh air and vegetables in Xishuangbanna thanks to my RV," said Wang. I feel very happy to be here.

The site charges each tourist 30 yuan per day, supplying power, clean water and other sound facilities.

In the evening, the RV tourists play badminton together, chatting in an air of friendship.



A recreational vehicle at the Xishuangbanna camping site near the Lancang-Mekong River. By Zhang Ruogu (Yunnan Daily)

VOICE

International community hails China's battle against poverty

Since 2012, over 60 million in China have been permanently lifted out of poverty, and the poverty headcount ratio has dropped from 10.2 percent to less than four percent.

With 700 million people still living in extreme poverty worldwide, the international community cares about China's poverty reduction experience. And China's accomplishments are widely acclaimed across the world.

"China has set an example for other countries in terms of poverty reduction," said Ms. Ana Campos, Programme Advisor for FAO's Strategic Programme on Rural Poverty Reduction.

"Thanks to targeted poverty alleviation policies, poor families have embarked

on a path of sustainable development." Ms. Christiane Vienne, Chairwoman of the Belgium-China Friendship Group of the Belgian Federal Parliament, told People's Daily recently.

Mr. John Naisbitt is a best-selling American author and a well-known futurist. "From a global perspective, China's efforts to reduce poverty are of tremendous value to the world's emerging economies seeking to escape poverty," he said.

China's poverty reduction experience was also heatedly discussed at the 2018 World Economic Forum Annual Meeting, recently concluded in the Swiss town of Davos.

Mr. Leonid Gusev, senior researcher at the Analytical Centre of the Moscow State

Institute of International Relations, told our reporter that other countries are benefiting from the Chinese people's improving living standards.

Other nations are seizing the opportunities associated with China's idea of building a moderately prosperous society to develop their own trade and tourism sectors. "By ending poverty, China will create a bigger consumer market and instil more vitality into the world economy.

China's poverty reduction experience is also suitable for sharing with a large number of developing countries," Gusev was quoted as saying.

According to a professor at an Indian university, the Chinese government's goal of winning the battle against poverty by 2020 has set an

example for all the countries.

This influence even touches the world's developed countries and offers Chinese wisdom and a Chinese approach to solving this enormous problem facing mankind.

(People's Daily/Abridged)

To our readers

The upcoming Chinese Spring Festival will cause publication of China Yunnan articles to be suspended for one week. We will continue to publish the 105th edition on March 2. May all of our readers a happy Spring Festival. Many thanks for your interest in China's Yunnan, and happy Chinese new year to all!

— the editorial team

Didi launches rural ride-sharing in NW Yunnan

Chinese ride-hailing giant Didi Chuxing has launched its rural ride-sharing service in northwest Yunnan's Lanping County on February 5. It is the first time that Yunnan villagers can access car-pool trips at home.

"So easy! Now we can get on a car soon after leaving home. We ordered the car on the phone and we know when the car will reach the town." Zhang, a mid-aged man from Lanping's Fengta village, said

in high spirit.

Traditional shuttle buses are time-consuming, and for a ride we often wait for quite a while, said another villager, adding the Didi car-pool trips are much easier.

Didi's rural ride-sharing, which aims to provide smart transportation service for all villagers in Lanping by 2020, is supported by local authorities.

By Wang Shujian (Yunnan Daily)