
RDI Annual Report 2021

Painting a Brand-New Picture of the New Era

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Preface

2021 witnessed the start of a new era, bringing us major changes unseen in a century. 2021 also marked the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of China (CPC), which led the people to start a new journey toward achieving China's second centenary goal. In the past year, China has maintained a leading position in the world in economic development and epidemic control, with the progress made in scientific and technological innovation strength, reform and opening-up, people's livelihood and ecological civilization...All these achievements are made from much hard work and great tenacity of the Party and the Chinese people under the strong leadership of the CPC Central Committee with Xi Jinping at the core.

Great change means not only great challenges but also great opportunities. In this changing world, it is imperative for new-type application-oriented think tanks to play an essential role in consultation & suggestion, theoretical innovation, public opinion guidance, social service and public diplomacy so that they can contribute to major issues, for example, modernizing China's governance system and capacity, promoting the Fourth Industrial Revolution, serving the Belt & Road Initiative (BRI) and building a community with a shared future for mankind. After nearly eight years of experimentation and practice, We - Research and Development International (RDI) - have gradually developed an innovative working mode and gained strong core capabilities. We have striven to give full play to the important role in providing scientific and democratic services for decision-making, adhered to the result-oriented working method and integrated resources from all sides to show our value as a think tank, forming wider domestic and international influence.

We have followed the national strategic planning to promote the high-quality development of regional economy. In 2021, we closely followed the national strategy in the strategic planning of Hainan Free Trade Port, the Guangdong-Macao In-Depth Cooperation Zone in Hengqin, SCO Demonstration Zone in Qingdao, RCEP Qingdao Pilot Innovation Base for Economic and Trade Cooperation, etc., for which, after making intensive studies on their regional characteristics and development orientations, we have put forward constructive policy suggestions and schemes, promoting the top-level design scientifically and achieving notable progress. Meanwhile, we held a high-level consultative conference themed on "digital economy" in Jiaxing to boost the local digital economy and technology industry, and actively promoted the high-quality development of the robotics industry in Yuyao.

We have focused on the development of emerging technologies and the transformation and upgrading of industries. Science and technology are core drivers of high-quality development. In 2021, by holding high-end theme summits such as the Digital Building Summit, Digital China Summit and Digital Health Industry

Forum, we have not only profoundly participated in and accelerated the development of the digital economy at the policy and planning levels but also assisted in reinforcing and upgrading weak links in the industrial chains at the practice level, thus linking the core enterprises in the industrial chains and promoting the transformation and upgrading of industrial digitalization and digital industrialization. By making the most of our resource advantages in the big health industry, we have focused on the development of digital therapy and digital health and promoted the modernization of biotechnology and traditional Chinese medicine(TCM). We have participated in the 1st China Urban Culture Development Conference in-depth and promoted the synergy between local governments and outstanding enterprises engaged in cultural tourism. In high-end manufacturing industries, we have carried out a series of practical research work in critical fields, such as robotics and machine tools, and issued several high-quality research reports.

We have continued to serve the BRI and actively participated in international friendly exchanges. In the new era, China is actively promoting the construction of an open world economy, the building of a community with a shared future for mankind, and the reform of the global governance system, and continuously offering Chinese wisdom, Chinese solutions, and Chinese strength for world peace and development. We are committed to strengthening international exchanges and cooperation based on the BRI and displaying our unique value as a new-type application-oriented think tank in building a community with a shared future for mankind. In 2021, we intensively participated in a series of events marking the 70th anniversary of China-Pakistan diplomatic relations and participated in the construction of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor with high quality. We have been highly concerned about major international hotspot issues and conducted in-depth research on changes of the situations in Central Asia, South Asia, Afghanistan, etc., under the guidance of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, the Committee for Ethnic and Religious Affairs of the National Committee of the CPPCC, etc.

We have been consolidating and improving our research capabilities as a think tank. In 2021, based on our in-depth investigation and inspection, we have issued a number of high-quality research reports, which attract extensive attention. Especially, the policy suggestions for high-quality development of the Guangdong-Macao In-Depth Cooperation Zone in Hengqin, digital economy, robotics industry, etc., have exerted significant influence, which practices the core values of RDI an application-oriented think tank.

In 2021, we steadily strengthened and improved our relationships with networks such as think tank, city, enterprise, international and media networks, and worked hand in hand with our partners. Under the guidance and support of the International Department of the Central Committee of CPC, the National Development and Reform Commission of China (NDRC), the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, etc., we have continuously strengthened collaborative innovation with think tanks such as China Economic Information Service (CEIS) of

Xinhua News Agency, China Center for Information Industry Development (CCID) of the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, China Academy of Information and Communications Technology (CAICT), and China Optimization Society of Capital Construction, achieving mutual benefits and win-win cooperation. We have also attached great importance to the cultivation and development of young talents. The Secretariat has gradually grown into an executive team with "Post-80s Generation" and "Post-90s Generation" as the core, full of sense of commitment and innovative thinking, which provides solid safeguards and inexhaustible motivation for the sustainability and deepening of research and practice.

2022 will usher in the 20th CPC National Congress, and we are striding towards a new era where the people have faith, the nation has hope, and the country has strength. Looking forward to 2022, we are full of confidence and expectations and will continue to work with our partners to draw a blueprint for the future. Facing major changes unseen in a century, only through vigorous and determined endeavor can we prove worthy of our times and live up to our mission, thus making our contributions to painting the brand-new picture of the new era.

Vice-Chair of the 12th NPC Foreign Affairs Committee

Chair of Advisory Committee of BRI International Think Tank of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, CASS

Chair of Advisory Committee of RDI

January 2022

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