

U.S. Mid-Atlantic/China Clean Energy

Interface of Technology, Policy & Investment

Top 10 U.S.-China Collaborations in Cleantech

March 17, 2011 in [Article](#), [CERC & HUB](#), [Clusters](#), [Innovations](#), [Policy](#), [Technology](#) | Tags: [building efficiency](#), [china](#), [clean energy](#), [cleantech](#), [efficiency](#), [electric vehicles](#), [energy](#), [environment](#), [innovation hubs](#), [investment](#), [s&ed](#), [solar](#), [technology](#), [Terry Cooke](#)

The following post was co-authored by Shawn Lesser (Watershed Capital Group) and me and



appeared initially on the [Cleantechies](#) blog:

A number of the [cleantech](#) efforts between the United States and [China](#) reflect the need for cooperation on issues surrounding climate change and clean energy as it is a major factor in the relations of these two countries. Although there are still issues to resolve in many of the collaborations, it is believed that if the United States and China can continue in their cleantech collaborations, that it will show the world that two major players on the international platform are serious about combating the challenge of [climate change](#), and it will also encourage other countries to create alliances. Through collaboration, the two largest greenhouse gas emitters will be able to create technologies required to combat climate change. Not only that, but tangible benefits will be developed, not just for the United States and China, but the world as a whole.

1) United States – China Ten Year Framework for Cooperation on Energy and Environment

was established in 2008, and it “facilitates the exchange of information and best practices to foster innovation and develop solutions to the pressing environment and energy challenges both countries face.” It also led to the creation of “EcoPartnerships” – a way to encourage both United States and Chinese stakeholders to strengthen their commitment to sustainable economic development within the local level.

2) United States – China Clean Energy Research Center (CERC) has its main headquarters in both countries. It will facilitate research and development of technology by a team of leading scientists and engineers in the clean technology industry. The research center receives both private and public funding which is split evenly for each country. The initial research priorities of the United States – China Clean Energy Research Center includes building energy efficiency, clean vehicles, and clean coal, which includes carbon capture and storage. It was founded in 2009 by United States President Barak Obama and Chinese President Hu Jintao. The goal of the research center is to “build a foundation of knowledge, technologies, human capabilities, and relationships in mutually beneficial areas that will position the United States and China for a future with very low energy intensity and highly efficient multi-family residential and commercial buildings.”

3) **United States – China Energy-Efficient Buildings (CERC-EEB)** Action Plan enables the United States and China to work alongside the private sector in an effort to develop energy efficient rating systems and building codes, benchmark industry energy efficiency, provide training to building inspectors as well as energy efficiency auditors at industrial facilities, synchronize test procedures and performance metrics for consumer products that are energy efficient, exchange energy efficient labeling systems best practices, and assemble a new annual United States – China Energy Efficiency Forum. The action plan will be achieved through green building and communities, industrial energy efficiency, consumer products standards, advanced energy efficiency technology, and public and private engagement.

4) **United States – China Electric Vehicles (CERC-EV)** Initiative builds upon the previous United States – China Electric Vehicle Forum which was held in 2009. The initiative comes from the shared interest in increasing the utilization of electric vehicles to decrease oil dependence and greenhouse gas emissions, while promoting viable economic growth. This initiative includes a joint standard in development, demonstration projects in multiple cities in each country, technical road mapping, as well as projects to provide the public with more information.

5) **21st Century Coal Program (CERC-ACTV)** promotes a cleaner use of coal resources, such as large-scale carbon capture and storage projects. The program calls for collaboration between a number of companies in the United States, including General Electric, AES, and Peabody Energy, which will be working with a number of Chinese companies to develop an integrated gasification combined cycle power plants, methane capture, as well as a number of other technologies.

6) **China Greentech Initiative** was founded in 2008 and has rapidly grown to become the only China-international collaboration platform of 100+ organizations, focused on identifying, developing and promoting green technology solutions in China. CGTI released its first free public deliverable, *The China Greentech Report* at the World Economic Forum in Dalian, China in 2009. With over 50,000 copies in use, the report is commonly referred to as the ‘primer’ by which to understand China’s greentech markets.

7) **United States Alliances in Chinese Cleantech Industry** includes the availability of a number of United States cleantech companies to invest into the Chinese cleantech industry. Currently, many companies from the United States are finding opportunities through alliances and cleantech and capital technology transfer investments. This leads to an increase in opportunities to assist cleantech into becoming one of the largest industries on a global platform. There has been much in the way of cross-border collaboration in many cleantech sectors, including solar and wind generation, water technologies, smart grid infrastructures, and electric transportation.

8) **United States – China Renewable Energy Partnership** develops roadmaps for widespread and continual renewable energy research, development and deployment in the United States and China, including renewable energy road mapping, regional deployment solutions, grid modernization, advanced renewable energy technology research and development collaboration in advanced biofuels, wind, and solar technologies, and public-private engagement to promote renewable energy and expand bilateral trade and investment via a new United States – China Renewable Energy Forum held annually. In connection with the U.S.-China Renewable Energy Partnership, another important area of U.S.-China cooperation is the **Shale Gas Initiative**.

9) **United States – China Energy Cooperation Program** describes itself as the only non-governmental organization that focuses on the United States – China business development within the clean energy sector. The partnership’s purpose is to “promote commercially viable project

development work in clean energy and energy efficiency, and support the sustainable development of the energy sectors in both countries.” It was founded in Beijing in 2009, initiative by the United States commercial sector, and provides a vehicle allowing companies from both countries to work together and pursue clean sector market opportunities, address any trade impediments, and increase sustainable development.

10) Key U.S.-China Regional Cooperation Initiatives. An important layer of ‘connectivity’ in the U.S.-China clean energy business landscape is provided by long-standing, regionally-based cooperative initiatives. Top among these are the [U.S.-China Green Energy Council](#) (based in the Bay Area), the [U.S.-China Clean Energy Forum](#) (based in Greater Seattle with a Washington DC presence), and the [Joint U.S.-China Cooperation on Clean Energy](#) (based in Beijing, Shanghai and Washington DC).

Article by Shawn Lesser & Terry Cooke.

Shawn is president and founder of Atlanta-based [Sustainable World Capital](#), which is focused on fund-raising for private equity cleantech/sustainable funds, as well as private cleantech companies and M&A. He is also a co-founder of the [Global Cleantech Cluster Association \(GCCA\)](#), and can be reached at shawn.lesser@sworldcap.com

*Terry Cooke is Strategic Advisor for Global Partnerships for the Global Cleantech Cluster Association (GCCA). He is also a 2010 Public Policy Scholar on U.S.-China Clean Energy at the Woodrow Wilson Center and author of the forthcoming *Sustaining U.S.-China Clean Energy Cooperation* being published by the Kissinger Institute of the Woodrow Wilson Center. His website is www.terrycooke.com.*

Share this:

[Print](#)

[Email](#)

3

[Facebook](#)

Share

Like

Be the first to like this post.

1 comment

[Comments feed for this article](#)

[June 10, 2011 at 4:18 am](#)

[Gill's Notes::USA and China Cleantech « timothymununu](#)



[...] <http://mterrycooke.wordpress.com/2011/03/17/top-ten-united-states-and-china-collaborations-in-cleant...> [...]

[Reply](#)

LEAVE A REPLY

Enter your comment here...

[Guest](#) [Log In](#) [Log In](#)



Email (required)

Your email address will not be published.

Name (required)

Website

Notify me of follow-up comments via email.

Notify me of new posts via email.

Post Comment

u