

Policy recommendations for promotion of green jobs in China

Zhang libin

Institute for Labor Studies,
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一、Background

- **(一) International Background**
- **(二) National background**
- **(三) Current research**

(一) International Background

Green Jobs Initiative is a joint initiative by ILO 、 UNEP、 IOE and ITUC. It aims to help countries to protect and create environmentally sustainable decent work to ensure a just transition to a green economy.

(二) **National background**

- The development of green jobs is in line with the Chinese government's development strategy.
- In China, there are many practical and effective policy interventions in promoting the development of green employment.
- China make a significant contribution on the global green jobs both in terms of volume and growth perspective

二、 the definition and scope of green jobs

- (一) theoretical definition
- All jobs that are able to make economic activities and living environment greener and more environment-friendly are green jobs.
 - All jobs adopting green technologies, technics, raw materials
 - All jobs producing green products and providing services to green production.
 - All jobs engaging in environmental protection and ecological system protection.

二、 the definition and scope of green jobs

(二) the definition from the view of policy

Employment in industries, professions, sectors and enterprises in an average social pollution discharge level

- low input, high output,
- low consumption, low pollution discharge,
- recycling ability and sustainability,
- which is in line with the development strategy of building resource saving and environment friendly society.

二、 the definition and scope of green jobs

- Low input and high output refer to employment that results from improving management level and enhancing production efficiency.
- Low consumption and discharge refer to employment that is created through energy and resources saving and waste reducing by improving technological level.
- Recycling ability and sustainability are not only the ideas of ecological self-restoration and economic and social sustainability, but also refer to employment related to recycling economy, pollution management and ecological environment protection.

二、 the definition and scope of green jobs

(三) Category of green jobs

- Green jobs are those jobs related to the development of a low carbon, environmentally friendly economy.
- Jobs related to the reduction of the environmental foot-print of economic sectors and activities
 - help reduce and prevent pollution, decontaminate contaminated environmental media and preserve the environmental capital.
- Jobs related to the development of a low carbon economy
 - help change the production and consumption patterns by reducing the emissions of GHGs and increasing the capacity to capture them.

三、 Current situation of China Green jobs

- **(一) Employment in environment protection industries**
- **(二) Employment in Renewable energy**
- **(三) The employment impacts of thermal power industry's “Upgrading the large and Suspending the small” policy**
- **(四) Forestry Green employment**

(一) Employment in environment protection industries

Environmental protection industry has huge market potential. According to the Association of Environmental Protection industries, currently there are over 3 million employees in the industry.

Table 4-1 Industrial structure of environmental protection in 2004

	total	Environmental protection products	Comprehensive use of resources	environmental protection service	Clean products
Number of companies	11623	1867	6105	3387	947
Number of employees (million)	159.5	16.8	95.9	17	23.3

(二) Employment in Renewable energy

- According to The related researches by the Energy Institute of the State Development and Reform Committee, by the end of 2007, the number of people working in the new energy industry was 1.1 million, mainly spreading across solar power, wind power and biomass energy industries, only very few worked in other industries.

Table4-2 Renewable Energy Industry Workers

Solar power boiler	Photovoltaic power	Solar Power	Wind power	Biomass energy	Others	Total
800000	100000	150	20000	200000	1000	1121000

(三)

The employment impacts of thermal power industry's “Upgrading the large and Suspending the small” policy

- During 2003 to 2020, the number of employees reduced is expected to be about 607,000. If more plants with large capacity (such as 125 MW or 200 MW) are closed in the future, the total number of employees reduced will increase.
- On the other hand, new-built large units could absorb 58,500 employees, about 31,800 employees are hired newly after the installation of desulphurization facilities in coal-fired units (direct effect) . So the net employment effect of the thermal power industry's “Upgrading the large and Suspending the small” policy is that, 516,633 jobs will be lost from 2003 to 2020.

(四) Forestry Green employment

- **Employments created by forestation and reforestation, restoration of degraded ecosystems, building the combination system of agriculture and forestry, and improving forests sustainable development**
- **Employments by developing timber production and processing**
- **Employments from developing forest chemicals, forest machine manufacturing, forest tourism, forest food, forest herbs, economic forest, flower growing, bamboo industry, and so on.**

(四) **Forestry Green employment**

- Since 1980, the country has invested heavily on strengthening forest ecosystem building, undertaking key forest projects, expanding the total amount of forest resources, and enhancing forest carbon trade function. According to the estimates of forest coverage targets, by 2010 when forest coverage reaches 20%, the newly created jobs would reach 17,795,000.
- China had over 1200 forest parks, directly or indirectly created 3.5 million jobs.
- Forest related side industries: bamboo forest, floral industry ,etc. have vast development potentials.
- By the end of 2007, total registered forestry workers amounted to 1,849,200 people. They worked in the fields of agricultural forestry and fishery, public management and social organizations, water environment and public facility management, manufacturing, etc.

四、 Legal, institutional and policy environment for the development of China's green jobs

- (一) legislations on environment protection**
- (二) relevant industrial policy**
- (三) relevant economic policy**

(一) legislations on environment protection

- law about ecological and natural resources protection
- law on environment pollution management and public pollution control
- law about resources saving and comprehensive use
- law about promoting recycling economy and clean production
- law on specific administrative system and regulations issued by State Council and Administrative ministries

(二) relevant industrial policy

- 1. develop renewable energy, optimize energy structure
- 2. Eliminate backward productive power
- 3. Promote technological innovation of conventional industries and reduce pollutant discharge
- 4. Save the energy, improve efficiency of using energy, reduce pollutant discharge
- 5. Promote pilot of recycling economy, pursue clean production, reduce pollutant discharge
- 6. Enhance the level of comprehensively using resources
- 7. Strengthen management of environmental pollution
- 8. Actively develop environmental protection industry
- 9. Reduce GHG emission in agriculture and countryside
- 10 Promote tree planting, enhance Carbon sink capacity

(三) relevant economic policy

1. Fiscal policy

- direct investment
- financial subsidies
- public procurement
- financial transfer payment to environmental protection by government

2. Tax policy

- value added tax
- consumption tax
- income tax
- resources tax

3. Financial policy

五、 **Policy Recommendations**

- The initial results show that the development of green employment has broad potential, and could promote decent employment.
- The transformation towards and the promotion of green economy are the direction and inevitable trend for China's future economic and social development. These have continuously generated more and more emerging industries, which are becoming the new points of economic growth that lead the way for economic development and job creation.
- The only option faced by human resource policy is to follow the trend of green development and effectively promote green employment.

五、 Policy Recommendations

- **(一) The guiding ideology and basic principles**
- **(二) Policy recommendations for green employment promotion**

(一) The guiding ideology and basic principles

- 1. The principle of promotion by classification
- 2. Industrial, environmental and employment policies are equally important and should be considered simultaneously
- 3. Attentions must be paid to its effects on employment while promoting low-carbon, sustainable development
- 4. Green employment promotion policies requires adjustments on green employment itself
- 5. Industry-specific green job promotion policies

(二) Policy suggestions for green employment promotion

- 1. Ensure green employment development by legal means
- 2. Policies and measures for Green employment promotion
- 3. Draw up green skill development plan to promote green employment development
- 4. To strengthen protection for green workers' rights and interests
- 5. To align social partners for green employment improvement
- 6. Improve the environmental for promoting company's greening development
- 7. Establish employment compensation mechanism in the international climate negotiations

1. Ensure green employment development by legal means

- (1) To conduct employment evaluation on industrial and environmental policies
 - set up a social evaluation index system centered on employment for environmental protection.
 - Policy preparation for possible negative employment effects
 - budget arrangement for employment effects.
 - Prediction should be conducted before policy making.
- (2) Modify and improve respective laws and legalize the employment evaluation for industrial and environmental policies

2. Policies and measures for Green employment promotion

- (1) The greening of human resource market mechanism to promote green employment
- (2) The greening of existing active employment policy to promote green employment
- (3) Develop green job posts through policy support.
- (4) Develop green employment in the socialist new countryside construction and west development
- (5) To drive employment growth by supporting the development of green employment type small enterprises

(1) The greening of human resource market mechanism to promote green employment

- set up a green post certification system, stimulate enterprises to develop green jobs.
- set up a professional green job certification system, to promote worker's transformation towards “green collar”
- greening the public employment service system

(2) greening existing active employment policy

- encourage companies to hire peoples suffered from economic greening.
- help companies overcome difficulties due to transition to green production
- encourage self-employed entrepreneurs in green economy
- promote reemployment through public employment services and reemployment training
- provide employment support for those in difficulties.
- carry out early retirement for some old workers.
- provide good support for the difficult regions.

(3) Develop green job posts through policy support.

- To nurture waste recycling posts in the communities
- Require each company to hire an certified environmental appraiser, a large quantity of new jobs could be created

(4) Develop green employment in the socialist new countryside construction and the western development

- to develop green jobs through eco-agriculture, special agriculture, special agricultural product's processing industry, special eco countryside travel industry, new energy industries, rural public services positions.
 - develop an energy and ecology compensation mechanism
 - optimize the present policies on promoting university graduates to take up grass root jobs, and guiding technical people to start up green businesses in the countryside.
 - there should be increased publicity in order to let more people become aware of the broad potential of rural green employment.
 - rural worker's education must be strengthened

(5) supporting the development of green employment type small enterprises

- For those classified as green employment type small enterprises, Green Employment Organization Certificates should be given, which could be used as the basis for enjoying respective supportive policy.

3. Draw up green skill development plan

- (1) To survey green job status and draw up functional spectrum for green jobs
- (2) Draw up plans for technical and technological enhancement for green industries
- (3) To Green the existing entrepreneur training
- (4) To Strengthen reorientation and relocation training during the transition towards green employment
- (5) To gradually develop green job vocation qualification and green skill appraisal
- (6) To set up a green skill development system encompassing all workers

4. To strengthen protection for green workers' rights and interests

- improving working environment
- Increasing salaries, improving social security
- Enhancing employment security
- Promoting harmonious labor relationship construction

5. To align social partners for green employment improvement

- To improve publicity, create an atmosphere for the entire society to promote green employment development

6. Improve the environmental for promoting company's greening development

- Improve environmental standards for companies operation
- Promote companies' sustainable development by rewards and penalties
- Continuously improve the financing facilities for green development

7. Establish employment compensation mechanism in the international climate negotiations

- So far, international climate talks focus only on the national emission reduction targets, without taking into account the social costs of reducing emissions. To this end, employment compensation mechanism should be established in the negotiations. Make compensation on financial, technical, or emission reduction targets for developing countries whose employment were adversely affected due to reducing emissions.

Thanks for your attention!

Contact: Zhang Libin

Email: qq41903@126.com