

Key Takeaways from “Fueling China’s Innovation”

The Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) is one of the most important scientific research organizations in the world. Through its network of research institutes, universities, companies, and think tanks, CAS plays an important role in advancing S&T research, fostering commercialization of critical and emerging technologies, and contributing to S&T-related policymaking. In this primer on CAS, we take a look at these three aspects of CAS’s core functions. Our key findings are as follows:

S&T Research

- CAS is the top producer of STEM research globally, both in terms of total number of papers and number of highly cited papers.
- CAS is a hub of top-tier S&T researchers and plays an important role in training the next generation of experts. In 2022, CAS ranked second globally among institutions by number of top-cited researchers, trailing only Harvard University.

Commercialization of Critical and Emerging Technologies

- CAS fosters technology transfer from research organizations to industry through various commercialization mechanisms, including making investments via asset management companies and venture capital firms, licensing proprietary research, and offering contract research services.
- CAS provides research, financing, and personnel to support the founding and development of technology companies.

S&T Policymaking

- CAS plays a key role in the development and implementation of China's S&T policies and played an important role in founding the National Natural Science Foundation of China and creating S&T development programs.
- CAS academicians are among the most important individuals in China’s S&T ecosystem. They influence resource allocation to S&T projects and often serve in important policymaking roles that shape China’s approach to S&T innovation.

For more information:

- Download the report: <https://cset.georgetown.edu/publication/fueling-chinas-innovation-the-chinese-academy-of-sciences-and-its-role-in-the-prcs-st-ecosystem/>
- Contact us: cset@georgetown.edu