

Translation



The following plan is a list of China's short- to medium-term policy priorities for agriculture and rural areas. Notably, the plan reflects the Chinese leadership's deep concern over food security, particularly regarding the country's dwindling supply of prime farmland and its heavy consumption of grain and cooking oil. To meet these challenges, the plan calls for a more self-sufficient domestic biotech industry and larger stockpiles of germplasm resources.

Title

Plan for Accelerating the Construction of China into an Agricultural Powerhouse (2024-2035)
加快建设农业强国规划(2024—2035年)

Authors

The Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party (中共中央) and the State Council (国务院)

Source

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Plan for Accelerating the Construction of China into an Agricultural Powerhouse (2024-2035)

Xinhua News Agency, Beijing, April 7 [2025]. Recently, the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) Central Committee and the State Council published the *Plan for Accelerating the Construction of China into an Agricultural Powerhouse (2024-2035)*, and also issued a notice requiring all regions and departments to conscientiously implement it in light of their actual conditions.

The main content¹ of the *Plan for Accelerating the Construction of China into an*

¹ Translator's note: Although Xinhua calls the following text the "main content" of the *Plan for Accelerating the Construction of China into an Agricultural Powerhouse*, rather than the full text, CSET has not observed a fuller version of the *Plan* online. It is likely that this Xinhua version of the text is the most comprehensive version that China will release publicly.

Agricultural Powerhouse (2024-2035) is as follows.

A world power² must first strengthen its agriculture, and only when agriculture is strong can a country be a world power. Being an agricultural powerhouse is the foundation for being a modernized socialist world power. In the face of new circumstances and new requirements, accelerating the construction of China into an agricultural powerhouse must be the general strategic outline for “three rural”³ work and must be placed in an important position in constructing China into a modernized socialist world power. This Plan has been formulated for the purpose of accelerating the construction of China into an agricultural powerhouse.

I. Overall Requirements

Taking Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era as the guide, comprehensively implementing the spirit of the 20th Party Congress and the Second and Third Plenums of the 20th CCP Central Committee, and fully implementing General Secretary Xi Jinping’s important remarks on “three rural” work, comprehensively and accurately implement the new concept of development (新发展理念), accelerate construction of the new development pattern (新发展格局), focus on promoting high-quality development, be rooted in national and agricultural conditions and embody Chinese characteristics, and maintain strategic resolve and keep in it for the long haul. Persisting in prioritizing the development of agriculture and rural areas, we shall utilize the experience of the “1,000 Model Villages, 10,000 Villages Restored” Project⁴ to improve long-term mechanisms for promoting the comprehensive revitalization of rural areas, refine mechanisms for the integrated development of urban and rural areas, promote the modernization of agriculture and rural areas in tandem, even more firmly hold to the bottom line of national grain security and the red line of arable land protection, accelerate construction of a harmonious and beautiful countryside suitable for living and employment, effectively promote the comprehensive

² Translator's note: This translation renders the Chinese word 强国 qiángguó—which literally means "strong nation"—in English in two different ways, depending on context. Where the translator judges that qiángguó is used in the general geopolitical sense, it is translated as "world power." Where the translator judges that the text refers to a specific flavor of qiángguó, it is translated as "powerhouse," as in the phrase "agricultural powerhouse" (农业强国). For a more thorough discussion in English of the Chinese word qiángguó, see:

<https://www.newamerica.org/cybersecurity-initiative/digichina/blog/lexicon-wangluo-qiangguo/>.

³ Translator's note: The "three rural" issues (“三农” 问题) are: developing agriculture, raising farmer income, and developing the rural economy.

⁴ Translator's note: The "1,000 Model Villages, 10,000 Villages Restored" Project (“千村示范、万村整治”工程), often abbreviated in Chinese as the "1,000-10,000 Project" (千万工程), is an initiative begun in China's Zhejiang Province in 2003—when Xi Jinping was the provincial Communist Party chief there—to simultaneously improve rural environmental conditions and enhance villagers' quality of life.

revitalization of rural areas, and accelerate the construction of China into an agricultural powerhouse with strong supply assurance, strong scientific and technological (S&T) equipment, strong management systems, strong industrial resilience, and strong competitiveness, thereby allowing farmers to live better lives, and providing strong support for, through Chinese-style modernization, comprehensively promoting the construction of China into a world power and undertaking the rejuvenation of the nation.

In this work, we must: Bolster production capacity and build a solid base. Giving greater prominence to improving overall agricultural production capacity, we shall focus closely on weaknesses in the supply of grain and important agricultural products, lay solid foundations in terms of facilities, technology, equipment, policies, and systems, and firmly grasp the food security initiative at a high level. Be innovation-driven and deeply cultivate momentum. Persisting in the core position of innovation in the overall modernization picture, we shall strengthen the dual drivers of reform and S&T, intensify efforts to tackle key and core technologies (关键核心技术) for agriculture, and comprehensively deepen rural reform further, so as to improve the innovation, competitiveness, and total factor of production (要素) productivity of agriculture, and enhance our stamina for agricultural powerhouse construction. Be green and low-carbon, and highlight the underlying tone. Firmly establishing the concept that pure waters and lush mountains are invaluable assets, we shall accelerate the formation of green and low-carbon ways of production and living, and make green, recycling, and low-carbon development become the distinctive underlying tone of an agricultural powerhouse. Enrich farmers through joint contributions and shared benefits. Focusing on protecting the interests of agricultural smallholders, with promoting sustained increases in farmers' incomes and continuously narrowing the urban-rural income gap as the main focus, we shall promote industrial development and employment in a coordinated manner, further improve the support system for strengthening agriculture, benefiting rural areas, and enriching farmers (强农惠农富农), firmly defend the bottom line of no large-scale return to poverty, and promote the common prosperous development of urban and rural areas, making the results of agricultural powerhouse construction benefit farmers more substantially and more equitably. Make orderly, step-by-step progress, fighting solidly and steadily. Based on resource endowments and the stage of development, adapting to changing demographics, and respecting the underlying principles of rural development, we shall start with the most pressing practical problems in agricultural and rural development and those that farmers are most anxious about, and push forward in stages solidly and steadily, adapting to local conditions and focusing on practical results.

The main objectives are: By 2027, clear progress (明显进展) will have been made

in agricultural powerhouse construction. Substantial progress (实质性进展) will have been made in comprehensive rural revitalization, with agricultural and rural modernization reaching a new level. The ability to stabilize production and ensure supply will have been consolidated and enhanced, with overall grain production capacity reaching 1.4 trillion catties,⁵ and a reasonable level of self-sufficiency in important agricultural products being maintained. Support for agricultural S&T and equipment will continue to be strengthened, breakthroughs will be made in tackling key and core technologies, significant progress will be made in breeding research, and phased results will be achieved in making up for shortcomings in agricultural machinery and equipment. The modern rural industrial system will be basically sound, with production chains, supply chains, and value chains extended and expanded, and the international competitiveness of agriculture will be further improved. Positive progress will be made in construction of a harmonious and beautiful countryside suitable for living and employment (“beautiful countryside construction”), and the rural ecological environment will be significantly improved, with efforts focused on properly accomplishing a number of practical things that are tangible and accessible to the masses, gradually achieving convenience in travel, water use, and toilet use, and steadily improving sewage treatment, medical services, pensions and social security, rural civilization, and the level of industry-driven income gains for farmers (产业带农). The results of poverty alleviation will have been consolidated and expanded, with the growth of rural residents’ per capita disposable income basically being in line with the growth of GDP, and the income gap between urban and rural residents continuing to narrow. By 2035, remarkable results (显著成效) will have been achieved in agricultural powerhouse construction. Decisive progress will have been made in comprehensive rural revitalization, agricultural modernization will have been basically achieved, and rural areas will basically have modern living conditions. Food production capacity will be stable, and supply will more secure; rural production chains will have more complete upgrading and improvement, and be more fully integrated; rural areas will be a fully equipped with facilities, and life will be more convenient; rural public services will be universal and equitable, and assurance (保障) for them will be stronger; rule of law construction for agriculture and rural areas will be more complete; the governance systems in rural areas will be basically sound, and society will be more peaceful; farmers’ incomes will have grown steadily, and urban-rural development will be more coordinated. By the middle of this century, construction of China into an agricultural powerhouse will be complete. Supply will be secure and reliable, we will be self-reliant (自立自强) in S&T innovation, facilities and equipment will be complementary and complete, rural production chains will be sound and efficient, rural

⁵ Translator's note: A catty (or jīn; 斤) is a Chinese unit of weight equal—in the People's Republic of China—to 500 grams, or roughly 1.1 lbs.

villages will be civilized and beautiful, farmers' lives will be happy and prosperous, our international competitive advantages will be obvious, urban and rural areas will be fully integrated, rural areas will be fully revitalized, and the modernization of agriculture and rural areas will be fully realized.

II. Comprehensively strengthening the foundation of food security to grasp the Chinese people's rice bowl more firmly and securely

Make ensuring stable and safe supplies of grain and important agricultural products the top priority, and implement the strategy of preserving farmland and improving agricultural technology (藏粮于地、藏粮于技战略) so as to lay a solid foundation for accelerating the construction of China into an agricultural powerhouse.

(1) Comprehensively strengthen the protection and construction of arable land. Improve the "three-in-one" protection system for the quantity, quality, and ecology of arable land, reform and improve the arable land use and compensation balance system, incorporate all types of uses of arable land under unified management, improve the quality acceptance mechanism for supplementary arable land, and ensure that the standards for balance are met. Strictly defend the red line of protecting 1.865 billion *mu*⁶ of arable land and 1.546 billion *mu* of permanent basic farmland. Carry out the treatment and improvement of saline or alkaline arable land in a region-by-region, differentiated manner, and, according to local conditions, promote the development of arable land such as saline and alkaline land as reserve resources. Prioritize the construction of high-standard farmland on arable lands in the northeast black soil region, plains, and irrigable areas, improve construction standards and quality, and promote the gradual construction of high-standard farmland on all qualified permanent basic farmland. Improve the construction, inspection, and maintenance mechanisms for high-standard farmland, and establish and improve the quality supervision and inspection system for farmland construction projects. Implement initiatives to increase the organic matter in arable land, and strengthen the protection and utilization of black soil and the treatment of degraded arable land. Strengthen the construction and renovation of modern irrigation zones, and improve the agricultural water infrastructure network. Comprehensively improve agricultural disaster prevention, mitigation, and relief capacity.

(2) Raise production of grain and important agricultural products. Push ahead with a new round of initiatives to increase grain production capacity by 500 billion catties, thoroughly implement initiatives to increase the yield of major crops such as grains and oilseeds, and accelerate the construction of national food security industrial

⁶ Translator's note: A *mu* (亩) is a Chinese measurement of surface area equal to 0.164737 acres.

belts. Stabilize the production of rice and wheat, and promote structural optimization and quality improvement. Develop starchy root crops and miscellaneous cereals according to local conditions. Unlock the production potential of oil crops such as rapeseed and peanuts, and expand sources of oil such as *Camellia oleifera* and animal fats. Strengthen the “vegetable basket” mayoral responsibility system,⁷ develop the transport of southern vegetables to the north and the production of vegetables in cool and cold regions, promote the high-quality development of the live pig industry, boost the competitiveness of the dairy industry, carry out actions to increase the quantity and quality of cattle and goats raised for their meat, and develop modern fisheries. Actively develop and promote high-quality sugarcane varieties and speed up the improvement of mechanized operations. Promote the renewal and renovation of old natural rubber plantations, and accelerate the construction of specialty rubber plantations.

(3) Improve grain production support policies. Fully implement Party and government joint responsibility for arable land protection and food security, and consolidate responsibility for ensuring the supply of staple grains (“米袋子”). Improve the management system for ensuring that arable land is used for planting basic crops, and ensure that the area for planting staple crops (粮食) remains stable at around 1.75 billion *mu*, including around 1.45 billion *mu* for cereals (谷物). Speed up improvement of the income guarantee mechanism for grain farmers, refine the policy system for prices, subsidies, insurance, etc., and push to keep prices of important agricultural products such as grain at reasonable levels. Improve the catastrophic risk dispersion mechanism of agricultural insurance. Improve the benefit compensation mechanism for major grain-producing regions, refine the reward and compensation system for major grain-producing counties, and tilt central budget investment towards major grain-producing areas. Income from land transfers coordinated at the provincial level can be used, in accordance with regulations, for the construction of high-standard farmland and the upgrading of the modern seed industry⁸ in major grain-producing areas. An inter-provincial horizontal benefit compensation mechanism for grain production and sales areas should be established in a coordinated fashion.

⁷ Translator's note: The “vegetable basket” mayoral responsibility system (“菜篮子” 市长负责制) took effect in 36 Chinese cities in 2017. Under this system, every two years, the mayors of these cities are graded on a 0-100 scale that includes the five dimensions of their city's agricultural productivity, the maturity of its market for agricultural produce, how well it ensures food quality and safety, how stable and robust its agricultural production is, and how satisfied city residents are with the mayor's agricultural policies.

⁸ Translator's note: The Chinese term 种业, translated here as “seed industry,” is a broader term than its English translation would indicate. The Chinese character 种 *zhǒng* can refer to the seeds of plants, but can also refer to species, strains, or varieties of both plants and animals, and the planting, growing, and breeding of them.

(4) Strengthen the regulation and control of reserves of grain and important agricultural products. Accelerate improvement of the national reserve system. Coordinate the reform of the institutions and mechanisms for grain trading and reserve management, and establish a new regulatory model. Improve the whole-chain monitoring and early warning system for grain and important agricultural products. Implement actions to reduce and replace soybean meal use in animal feed and promote low-protein diet technology. Improve the long-term mechanism for grain and food conservation, promote conservation and loss reduction in all links of the whole chain, including sowing, harvesting, storage and transportation, processing, and consumption, and refine the system for combating food waste.

(5) Build a diversified food supply system. Firmly establish a broad view of agriculture and food (大农业观、大食物观), and develop food resources in an omnidirectional and multifaceted manner. Develop woody edible oils, provided that the ecological environment is protected. Develop high-quality, water-saving, high-yield forage grass production. Develop large-scale surface (水面) ecological fisheries, promote the construction of land-based and deep-sea aquaculture farms, and regulate the development of coastal fishing and open-ocean fisheries. Implement actions to modernize and upgrade agricultural facilities, build modern farming and breeding facilities with standardized specifications, advanced equipment, and high output efficiency, and develop new approaches such as agricultural factories. Develop biotechnology and the biotech industry, expand the edible fungus industry, and promote the industrialization of synthetic biology.

III. Promoting innovation in agricultural S&T equipment across all fields, and accelerating the achievement of high-level agricultural S&T self-reliance

Led by key and core agricultural technology research, and oriented towards the urgent needs of the industry, we shall accelerate agricultural S&T innovation, taking the seed industry as the focus, promote major agricultural S&T breakthroughs, and thereby promote the construction of China into an agricultural powerhouse by developing new productive forces (新质生产力) in agriculture.

(6) Accelerate the overall leap in the level of agricultural S&T innovation. Strengthen the building of strategic strength in national agricultural S&T, provide stable support for agricultural basic research and public-interest research institutions (公益科研机构), incubate leading agricultural S&T enterprises, and build an agricultural S&T innovation system with clear tiers, collaboration within a division of labor, and an appropriate level of competition. Strengthen the forward-looking, strategic, and systematic layout of agricultural basic research, and accelerate research breakthroughs in genomics, preventive veterinary medicine, and the mechanisms by which major pest,

disease, and meteorological disasters are caused. Improve the conditions of national laboratories and national key laboratories (全国重点实验室) in the agricultural field, and establish a number of world-class agricultural research institutions and research-oriented agricultural universities. Strengthen the conversion of agricultural S&T achievements into practical applications (农业科技成果转化), and promote in-depth cooperation between major agricultural production regions and regions active in S&T innovation. Strengthen the protection of agricultural intellectual property rights and the combating of infringement. Improve the agricultural S&T promotion system combining public interest-oriented and profit-oriented [entities], and strengthen the construction of the grassroots agricultural technology promotion cadre.

(7) Promote a comprehensive breakthrough in independent innovation (自主创新) in the seed industry. Deeply implement the seed industry revitalization initiative, and accelerate the achievement of self-reliance in seed industry S&T, and independent controllability (自主可控) of seed sources. Strengthen the protection and utilization of germplasm resources, build major world-class national facilities for the preservation, identification, creation, and gene mining of agricultural germplasm resources, and promote the exchange and sharing of germplasm resources. Implement crop breeding joint research efforts and livestock and poultry genetic improvement plans, and accelerate the construction of the Nanfan Agricultural Silicon Valley.⁹ Implement major bioengineered breeding (生物育种) projects, select and breed varieties such as high-oil-content and high-yield soybeans and crops that tolerate high salinity and high alkalinity, and accelerate the industrial application of bioengineered breeding. Improve the system for protecting new plant varieties. Strengthen the construction of modern plant breeding and seed production bases, and improve the support and extension system for major varieties and the emergency germplasm resource assurance system.

(8) Promote the comprehensive upgrading of agricultural machinery and equipment. Strengthen R&D and application of agricultural machinery and equipment, and of key components such as large-scale high-end intelligent agricultural machinery and small-scale machinery suitable for hilly and mountainous areas, and accelerate the realization of domestically produced agricultural machinery and equipment comprehensively supporting the high-quality and efficient development of agriculture. Promote the scrapping and replacement of old agricultural machinery, and optimize the structure of agricultural machinery and equipment. Create important agricultural machinery and equipment industrial clusters, and establish an industrial structure with stable upstream and downstream support and the collaborative participation of related

⁹ Translator's note: Nanfan Agricultural Silicon Valley (南繁硅谷) is an experimental agricultural breeding facility under the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS; 中国农业科学院) National Nanfan Research Institute (国家南繁研究院) in Sanya, Hainan Province.

enterprises in fields such as engineering and electronics. Promote the deep integration of agricultural machinery and agronomy; promote connectivity between R&D and manufacturing, maturation and finalization, and promotion and application of agricultural machinery and equipment; and achieve full coverage in the application of high-performance agricultural machinery and equipment across the entire chain of cultivation, breeding, and processing.

(9) Promote the full integration of digital technology and modern agriculture. Establish and improve a space-air-ground integrated agricultural observation network, refine the agricultural and rural statistical survey and monitoring system, build an agricultural and rural big data platform with full coverage and multi-level connectivity, and improve mechanisms for the development and utilization of agriculture-related data. Research and develop intelligent agricultural technologies with independent intellectual property rights, and improve the intelligent agriculture standards system, so as to unleash digital productivity in agriculture and rural areas. Implement intelligent agriculture construction projects, promote the digital upgrading of large-scale farms (including pastures and fisheries), and incubate smart agriculture clusters with complete chains and collaborative linkages.

IV. Improving all parts of the modern agricultural management system, and promoting the organic connection of agricultural smallholders and modern agricultural development

We shall consolidate and improve the basic rural management system; firmly defend the bottom lines of not changing the nature of public ownership of land, not breaching the red line on arable land, and not harming farmers' interests; develop appropriate-scale agricultural operations; and promote the high-quality development of agricultural management entities, so as to add vitality and momentum to the acceleration of agricultural powerhouse construction.

(10) Raise the level of family farm intensification (集约化). In an orderly fashion, promote the pilot program to extend the second round of land contracts for an additional 30 years after they expire,¹⁰ and improve the complementary system for extended contracts. Deepen the reform separating the ownership, contracting rights, and use rights of contracted land, improve the mechanism for exercising collective

¹⁰ Translator's note: All land in China is owned by the state. To give farmers a sense of ownership over their land—and thus to incentivize them to work on and invest in productivity improvements—in 1983 China granted most of the farmers in the country a 15-year lease, running through 1997, on the land they were farming. This was the first round of land contracts. China subsequently extended these in a second round of land contracts (第二轮土地承包) lasting 30 years, beginning in 1998 and ending in 2027. A third round of land contracts will presumably begin in 2028.

ownership of contracted land, protect according to law the legitimate land rights of contracting farmers, and explore effective ways to liberalize (放活) land operation rights. Implement capacity enhancement projects for agricultural smallholders, and encourage agricultural smallholders to carry out production through joint household operation and joint farming.

(11) Promote the economic empowerment of the rural collective economy (农村集体经济). Deepen reform of the rural collective property rights system, and improve the supervision and management service system for rural collective assets. Give full play to the advantages of rural collective economic organizations, such as their proximity to farmers, comprehensive services, and demonstration and driving effects, and refine the overall coordination function of rural collective economic organizations in serving agricultural production. Develop the new rural collective economy (新型农村集体经济), and establish operating mechanisms with clear property rights and reasonable distribution, thereby giving farmers fuller property rights.

(12) Promote the quality and efficiency improvement of new agricultural operations entities (新型农业经营主体). Guide farm households in developing family farms, and raise the production and management capabilities of family farms. Support farmers' cooperatives in voluntarily forming federations (联合社) in accordance with law, and encourage farmers' cooperatives to carry out agricultural product processing, warehousing and logistics, marketing, etc. Improve the agricultural operations system, improve the mechanism for determining the transfer price of contracted land management rights, promote cooperative operations by farmers, and link support policies for new agricultural operations entities with increasing farmers' income. Improve the level of agricultural industrialization, and improve the interest linkage mechanisms for various market entities in efforts to connect closely with farmers and drive farmers' incomes (联农带农). Deepen the comprehensive reform of supply and marketing cooperatives (供销合作社). Strengthen the unified agricultural operation, management, and service functions of state-owned farms, and promote the unified and coordinated development of urban, rural, and reclaimed areas.

(13) Build a more convenient and efficient agricultural society-oriented¹¹ services system. Strengthen the capacity-building of the main agricultural society-oriented service entities, and guide all kinds of agriculture-related entities in expanding into the social services field. Innovate and extend service models such as single-step and

¹¹ Translator's note: The phrase "society-oriented" (社会化) typically refers to public services that are at least partially provided by non-government entities, such as corporations or community groups.

multi-step trusteeship,¹² and promote the expansion of services from grain and oil crops to cash crops, livestock and poultry, aquaculture, and other fields, and from the production stage to the pre- and post-production stages. Improve the standards for society-oriented agricultural services, and enhance the level of standardized services.

V. Promoting agricultural industrial system upgrading throughout the entire chain, and raising agriculture's comprehensive benefits

Relying on the characteristic resources of agriculture and rural areas, develop the multiple functions of agriculture, uncover the diverse value of the countryside, and accelerate the construction of a modern rural industrial system that coordinates grain, cash crops, and forage crops, promotes agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry, and fisheries simultaneously, links together production, processing, and marketing, and integrates agriculture, culture, and tourism, so as to build agriculture into a large modern industry.

(14) Promote the optimization and upgrading of agricultural product processing and circulation. Improve the national R&D system for agricultural product processing technology, and develop a diverse range of processed products with excellent quality. Improve the national backbone network for the circulation of agricultural products, optimize the layout of cold chain distribution centers in production areas, and push for counties and villages in need to strengthen construction of on-farm refrigeration and preservation facilities. Improve the logistics and distribution systems in counties and villages, encourage large e-commerce platform, logistics, and trading entities to set up operations in rural areas, and develop rural e-commerce service outlets.

(15) Promote the upgrading of agriculture based on quality improvement and branding. Further promote cultivation of excellent varieties, quality improvement, brand creation, and standardized production, and increase the supply of green agricultural products of excellent quality. Implement an agricultural standardization improvement plan. Establish and improve the quality evaluation and certification system for agricultural products, and improve the regulatory monitoring system for agricultural product quality and safety. Incubate a number of regional public (公用) brands, corporate brands, and product brands with excellent quality and strong competitiveness. Strengthen the cultural empowerment of Chinese agricultural brands, and promote the integration of agricultural brands with elements of China's outstanding traditional culture.

¹² Translator's note: "Single-step and multi-step trusteeship" (单环节、多环节托管) refer to farmers entrusting third-party service providers with one or more aspects of agricultural production, while the farmers retain use rights over the land used for production.

(16) Accelerate development of industries with distinctive rural characteristics (乡村特色). Make farming and breeding industries with distinctive rural characteristics more refined and excellent, do a good job in selecting varieties with distinctive local characteristics, and develop characteristic farming and breeding that features clean production areas, full implementation of standards, and excellent quality. Innovatively develop rural specialty handicrafts, nurture rural artisans, and promote the revitalization of traditional craftsmanship in rural areas. Further develop cultural industries with distinctive rural characteristics, and strengthen the protection of agricultural cultural heritage, ethnic minority villages, traditional buildings, etc.

(17) Promote the integrated development of rural industries. Promote upgrading of the entire process of production, processing, and distribution, and expand the space for industrial value-added and efficiency gains. Further promote the construction of well-positioned (优势) specialty industrial clusters, modern agricultural industry parks, and agricultural industry demonstration towns, and implement rural industry integrated development projects. Support outstanding and strong enterprises as leaders in agricultural industrialization, enlarge “production chain leader” (产业链“链主”) enterprises and leading regional enterprises to lead the industry’s development, optimize small and medium-sized enterprises, and form an enterprise development pattern with production synergies, technological complementarities, and sharing of factors of production. Vigorously cultivate new industries and new business formats (新业态) in rural areas, promote the deep integration of agriculture with industries such as tourism, education, and healthcare, and enrich the variety of leisure agriculture and rural tourism products.

(18) Accelerate the comprehensive green transformation of agriculture. Fully implement total agricultural water use control and quota management, carry out comprehensive governance of groundwater overdrafting, and further promote comprehensive agricultural water price reform. Improve crop rotation and fallow systems for arable land, and strengthen the governance and safe use of contaminated arable land. Protect important biological species and genetic resources, and strengthen agricultural biosafety management. Improve the ledger system (台账制度) for important agricultural resources. Promote comprehensive prevention and control of nonpoint source agricultural pollution, and develop ecological circular agriculture. Improve integrated protection and systematic management mechanisms for mountains, rivers, forests, farmlands, lakes, grasslands and deserts. Properly implement the ten-year fishing ban on the Yangtze River and the summer marine fishing moratorium, and promote in-depth water conservation and control in Yellow River basin agriculture. Establish a monitoring system for agro-ecological environmental protection. Promote comprehensive ecological compensation, improve the horizontal ecological protection

compensation mechanism, and coordinate promotion of compensation for ecological and environmental damage.

VI. Further deepen agricultural cooperation with foreign countries, and cultivate new advantages for agriculture in international competition

Persist in cooperation within openness and win-win outcomes within cooperation, enhance the linkage effects between domestic and international markets and resources, and strive to create a new situation of agricultural cooperation with foreign countries on a wider scope, in a broader range of fields, and at a deeper level.

(19) Raise the international competitiveness of agriculture. Encourage well-positioned domestic agricultural products to participate in international competition, and promote the transformation and upgrading of trade in agricultural products. Implement actions to promote trade in agricultural services. Optimize special administrative measures for foreign investment access in the agricultural sector, and give full play to the early and trial implementation role of free trade pilot zones and Hainan Free Trade Port. Deepen multilateral and bilateral agricultural cooperation relationships, and promote global development initiatives for cooperation in the food security field. Implement international big science (大科学) plans and projects in the agricultural field. Deeply participate in global food and agricultural governance.

VII. Carry out high-quality promotion of a harmonious and beautiful countryside suitable for living and employment, and raise the level of modern living in rural areas

Benchmarking against the basic modern living conditions in rural areas, promote the coordinated development of material civilization and spiritual civilization, achieve comprehensive improvement of rural areas, and enable farmers to live modern and civilized lives where they are situated.

(20) Continue to improve the level of rural construction. In the territorial spatial planning of counties, strengthen overall planning for the spatial layout of towns, villages, industrial parks, etc., and prepare village plans on a differentiated basis. Deeply implement rural construction initiatives, and gradually increase the completeness of rural infrastructure, the convenience of public services, and the comfort of the living environment. Promote rural infrastructure upgrading, and strengthen construction of rural transportation networks, water supply facilities, energy systems, and new infrastructure (新型基础设施). Further improve the rural public service system, raise the quality of rural education, do a good job of running necessary small-scale rural schools, promote the healthy development of the rural

medical and health system, raise the level of rural pension services, and improve the care service system in rural areas for the elderly, left-behind women and children,¹³ and people with disabilities. Make solid progress in the rural toilet revolution, carry out region-specific and differentiated promotion of rural domestic sewage and garbage treatment, and improve mechanisms for the long-term management and protection of the rural living environment. Prepare guidelines for improvement of village appearance, and protect distinctive aesthetic features of rural areas.

(21) Improve the overall effectiveness of rural governance. Adhere to and develop the “Fengqiao experience”¹⁴ in the new era, and improve the rural governance system that combines self-rule, rule of law, and rule by moral example under the leadership of the Party organization. Further promote the comprehensive revitalization of the countryside through grassroots Party-building, build and strengthen grassroots Party organizations in rural areas, and improve the stable operating fund assurance system for village-level organizations with inputs mainly from government fiscal funding. Cultivate and select leaders of village Party organizations. Promote the effective connection of grassroots discipline inspection and supervision organizations with village affairs supervision committees. Promote the standardization of villagers’ autonomous organizations, strengthen the construction of grassroots mass organizations, and promote the healthy development of rural service-oriented, public good-oriented, and mutual-aid-oriented social organizations. Improve systems such as villagers’ meetings and villagers’ representative meetings, and improve the rural grassroots public legal services system. Improve the regularization mechanism for the crackdown on gang-related crimes (扫黑除恶) in rural areas, and manage rural religious affairs according to law. Promote a shift of focus in governance and services toward the grassroots, improve the system of matching the responsibilities, powers, and resources of townships and towns (or sub-districts), strengthen the service management capabilities of townships and towns (or sub-districts), and promote pragmatic and effective governance methods. Strengthen the construction of emergency management and fire safety systems in counties and villages.

(22) Deepen construction of spiritual civilization in rural areas. Promote and practice the socialist core values concept (社会主义核心价值观), expand construction of

¹³ Translator's note: In China, rural people who migrate to cities for work often leave their dependents behind in their home villages, usually because the migrant workers are not permanent residents of the cities and are barred from using certain public services there such as public education for their children. These dependents are known as "left-behind" (留守).

¹⁴ Translator's note: The "Fengqiao experience" (“枫桥经验”) refers to local Party committees and governments resolving disputes and social conflicts at the local level, without the need for higher-level intervention. In 1963, Chairman Mao praised Fengqiao Town in Zhejiang Province for doing just this.

new-era civilization practice centers,¹⁵ and cultivate new-era farmers. Implement projects on civilized rural style construction, strengthen moral instruction and incentives and constraints, and continue to promote the rectification of outmoded habits and customs in rural areas. Strengthen the protection and continuity of traditional villages. Promote the revitalization of traditional Chinese festivals, and do a good job in holding the Chinese Farmers' Harvest Festival with farmers as the main participants. Implement the Farming Culture Inheritance and Protection Project (农耕文化传承保护工程), and strengthen the discovery, collation, protection, and utilization of agricultural cultural heritage. Strengthen the construction of rural public cultural service systems and implement cultural projects that benefit the people (文化惠民工程). Improve mechanisms to support rural folk art, and increase the supply of rural cultural products and services that are rich in the fun and flavor of farming and rural life, and embody harmony, sweetness, and beauty.

VIII. Promote integrated development of urban and rural areas, and narrow urban-rural disparities

Persist in making increasing farmers' income the central task of "three rural" work, allocate more resources and forces to industrial employment, and effectively improve the people's livelihoods and well-being.

(23) Expand channels for farmers to increase their incomes and prosper. Expand county-level industries that bring prosperity to villagers (富民产业), promote the accelerated integration of county-level industries into the production chains, supply chains, and innovation chains of neighboring large and medium-sized cities, and guide labor-intensive industries in migrating to the county level in stages. Support agriculture-related universities and enterprises in properly conducting high-quality vocational skills training, encourage special training for occupations in short supply that migrant workers (农民工) are in urgent need of training for, improve cross-regional employment service mechanisms, and establish regional labor cooperation platforms, so as to promote employment of farmers and increase their incomes. Strengthen standardized management of rural residential building sites,¹⁶ and allow the legally owned housing of farmers to be put to profitable use through leasing, issuing shares of stock, cooperation, and other means. In an orderly fashion, promote the reform of rural collectively operated construction land entering the market, and improve the rural land

¹⁵ Translator's note: China's new-era civilization practice centers (新时代文明实践中心) are designed to indoctrinate ordinary people in Xi Jinping's signature ideology, Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, at the grassroots level.

¹⁶ Translator's note: "Rural residential building site" (宅基地) is a Chinese legal designation for collective rural land that is set aside for the construction of villagers' dwellings and outbuildings.

value appreciation income¹⁷ distribution mechanism. Improve the financing mechanism for basic health insurance for urban and rural residents, push coverage under the basic old-age insurance system for all rural residents and raise the basic old-age pension standard at an appropriate time, and improve the mechanism for formulating and dynamically adjusting the subsistence allowance standard.

(24) Promote the integrated development of urban-rural development. Coordinate new-style industrialization (新型工业化), new-style urbanization (新型城镇化), and comprehensive rural revitalization, and comprehensively improve the integration level of urban and rural planning, construction, and governance. Improve the institutional mechanisms and policy systems for the integrated development of urban and rural areas, promote the equal exchange and two-way flow of urban and rural factors of production, and promote the balanced allocation of public resources. Improve mechanisms for linking government investment with financial and social investment,¹⁸ and steadily increase the proportion of land transfer income used for agriculture and rural areas. Build a unified market for urban and rural construction land, and newly compiled county- and township-level territorial spatial plans should allocate no less than 10% of the construction land index for use in agriculture and rural areas. Improve the supporting policy system for the conversion of the agricultural population into urban residents, implement a system of providing basic public services based on household registration¹⁹ at the place of permanent residence, and promote the right of qualified agricultural migrants to enjoy the same rights as the registered local population in terms of social insurance, housing assurance, compulsory education for their accompanying children, etc. Use the county as an important starting point for the integrated development of urban and rural areas; promote rural-urban transportation route connection, power supply network interconnection, and passenger

¹⁷ Translator's note: "Rural land value appreciation income" (土地增值收益) is the amount that Chinese farmers gain from selling the use rights—legally, all land in China is owned by the state, not by individuals—to agricultural land to property developers who convert the farmland into land for construction. This includes various transfer fees and taxes the developer must pay, as well as the increase in the value of the land since the farmer obtained use rights to it.

¹⁸ Translator's note: The Chinese term 社会投入, translated literally as "social investment," refers to any source of funding outside of government budget outlays. This term encompasses investment by private individuals and private institutions. However, inputs from state-funded entities such as state-owned enterprises (SOEs), including state-run banks, also fall under the umbrella of "social investment."

¹⁹ Translator's note: In China, the household registration, or hùkǒu (户口), system prevents people who move from one locality to another—often, rural migrant workers seeking urban jobs—from easily gaining legal residency in their new location. People who live and work in one city for years or even decades sometimes never become legal residents of their new home, because their hùkǒu remains tied to their hometown and the bureaucratic process for getting it changed is very cumbersome. Without a new hùkǒu, workers and their families have difficulty getting into local schools and in accessing social services.

transport and logistics integration; and promote the unification of standards and convergence of systems for basic public services in urban and rural areas. Strengthen construction of the county-level commercial system, and tap rural consumption potential.

(25) Strengthen the endogenous development momentum of formerly poverty-stricken areas and people. Improve regularized mechanisms for preventing rural poverty from arising or returning, and establish a tiered and differentiated assistance system for low-income rural populations and underdeveloped areas. Promote the high-quality development of assistance industries in formerly poverty-stricken areas in accordance with the principles of consolidation, upgrading, revitalization, and adjustment; build a system of assistance industries with good growth and strong driving forces; and make the development of industries that connect closely with farmers, drive farmers' incomes, and enrich farmers the priority for support when using central government subsidy funds for the comprehensive revitalization of rural areas. Accelerate the making up of shortcomings in the rural infrastructure of formerly poverty-stricken areas, and prioritize laying out the supporting facilities needed for industrial development. Develop vocational education for formerly poverty-stricken areas, and continue to carry out the "Dewdrop Project+" Employment Promotion Initiative.²⁰ Continue doing a good job on targeted assistance by central government units, deepen collaboration between the eastern and western regions, and push forward the "10,000 Enterprises Revitalizing 10,000 Villages" Initiative.²¹ Concentrate support on key counties for national rural revitalization, and strengthen follow-up support for poverty alleviation relocation. Deeply implement the Initiative to Revitalize Border Areas and Bring Prosperity to their Populations.²² Improve the long-term management mechanism for assets formed from national investments in poverty alleviation.

9. Assurance measures

To accelerate the building of China into an agricultural powerhouse, it is necessary

²⁰ Translator's note: The Dewdrop Project (雨露计划) is a Chinese government-funded effort to provide people recently lifted out of poverty with education, employment, entrepreneurial skills, and other support. China launched the Dewdrop Project in 2004 and complemented it from 2022 with the "Dewdrop Project+" Employment Promotion Initiative ("雨露计划" 就业促进行动).

²¹ Translator's note: China launched the "10,000 Enterprises Revitalizing 10,000 Villages" Initiative ("万企兴万村" 行动) in 2022 to get private companies more involved in providing poverty alleviation-related services in rural areas.

²² Translator's note: The Initiative to Revitalize Border Areas and Bring Prosperity to their Populations (兴边富民行动), launched by China in 1999, aims to build infrastructure, speed up economic growth, and improve the quality of life of ethnic minority communities living near China's borders.

to persist in and strengthen the Party's overall leadership, implement the Party's leadership in all areas, aspects, and links of building an agricultural powerhouse, and ensure that the decisions and arrangements of the Party Central Committee are put into practice. Party committees and governments at all levels must attach great importance to "three rural" work, firmly shoulder their responsibilities as the main actors, put agricultural powerhouse construction on the agenda when discussing official business, incorporate it into the national economic and social development plan, etc., and ensure that substantive progress is continuously made in all tasks concerning agricultural powerhouse construction. The relevant departments must enhance policy coordination and cooperation, strengthen effective connections between planning, projects, funds, and factors of production, and avoid duplicating construction arrangements. For major tasks and major engineering projects identified in this Plan, priority shall be given to assuring the supply of land. Improve the investment mechanism for rural revitalization, improve the rural financial service system, develop multi-level agricultural insurance, and focus on supporting key areas and weak links in agricultural powerhouse construction. Strengthen the training of cadres involved in agriculture, improve their abilities in "three rural" work, and build a team of cadres for "three rural" work that is politically strong, meets the requirements of the new era, and has the ability to serve agricultural powerhouse construction. Implement a talent support plan for rural revitalization, adhere to a combination of local training and external recruitment, strengthen the building of agriculture-related major programs in universities, improve the quality of vocational education, and build a strong talent cadre for agricultural powerhouse construction. Establish and improve the legal and regulatory system for agriculture and rural areas. Promote the development of agricultural powerhouse provinces in the developed eastern coastal regions, encourage cities and regions in the central and western regions with relatively high levels of economic development and good resource conditions to accelerate the construction of agricultural powerhouse cities, guide counties (or cities, or districts) with the right conditions to accelerate construction of agricultural powerhouse counties, and explore differentiated and distinctive development models according to different circumstances. Important matters should be promptly reported to the Party Central Committee and State Council to request instructions according to procedures.