

Governing Sustainability Globally

April 25, 2013, Beijing

IISD Vice-President (International) Mark Halle spoke at a panel discussion at Carnegie Tsinghua, alongside Zhang Haibin, professor at Peking University and Zhou Dadi, former director general of Energy Research Institute at the National Development and Reform Commission. The discussion was hosted by Wang Tao and addressed the challenges and future of the global governance of sustainable development.

Failure and Success

Despite successes in many areas and the effective resolution of a number of sustainable development problems, we are still moving backwards on important sustainable development variables. Halle's premise was that, although **the achievements are clear**, international governance mechanisms for sustainable development **fail two essential tests**: they are an inadequate response given the dimensions of the challenges posed by sustainable development and they have are unable to evolve at the pace at which the challenges themselves advance.

Global Cooperation Limitations and Transformation

Halle then reviewed three major areas in which global cooperation is required: climate change (the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change process), trade (the Doha Round at the World Trade Organization) and the broader global agenda on sustainable development (Rio+20). Halle observed that, in **each case, the process was either at a virtual standstill or had yielded disappointing results**, despite the importance and urgency of the issues and the dangers attached to failure.

Given that reality, Halle speculated that **future progress would come from a wide variety of approaches** that play out at different levels, across different stakeholder communities and over a multitude of issues, some tightly defined and some universal. Those approaches include, but are not limited to: enabling policy frameworks aligned to the right institutions, reforming economic policies; unconventional alliances between governments, the private sector and civil society actors; enforcing environmental provisions; and designing new approaches to political accountability.

The Role of China

Halle noted the **positive future implications of China's rapidly growing role in international governance for sustainable development**. IISD and the Norway-based Fridtjof Nansen Institute are designing a project with partners in the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences to map out China's present and desirable future goals in these mechanisms. The project is considering China's strategy in traditional global institutions like the United Nations; new global or regional configurations like the Group of 20 (G-20) and Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, as well as purpose-built forums like the Forum for China-Africa Cooperation; its growing participation in non-governmental organizations (e.g., assuming the presidency of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature); and China's strategies across the soft-power world of voluntary standards and supply chain governance.

Carnegie Tsinghua's full report of the event can be found here: <http://carnegietsinghua.org/2013/04/25/governing-sustainability-globally/g1wy>

Comments are welcome in English to Mark Halle (mhalle@iisd.org), or in Chinese or English to IISD China program (iisdchina@gmail.com)

全球可持续发展治理

2013年4月25日 北京

IISD全球副总裁（国际事务）马汉理（Mark Halle）先生于卡内基清华中心的专题研讨会上发言，此活动由王涛主持，并邀请了北京大学张海滨教授及国家发改委能源研究所前所长周大地。与会嘉宾就可持续发展全球治理的挑战与未来展开讨论。

失败与成功

尽管在诸多方面取得成功，并且多项可持续发展问题已具备有效的解决方式，但在重要的可持续发展的变量因素方面我们仍有后退。马汉理先生的论点为，尽管**成就显著**，国际可持续发展治理机制**没有通过两个重要测试**：未能有效应对规模空前的可持续发展挑战；被证明无法跟上挑战的发展速度与进程。

全球合作的限制与转型

马汉理先生回顾了需要全球合作的三个主要领域—气候变化（联合国气候变化框架公约进程）；贸易（WTO多哈回合贸易谈判）；和覆盖更广的可持续发展全球议程（里约+20峰会）。他认为，尽管这些问题具有高度的重要性、紧迫性以及失败所带来的危险性，**上述每一方面的进展都处于停滞状态，或趋于令人失望的结果。**

马汉理先生由现状推测，**未来的进展将来源于一系列更广泛的措施**，而非某个单一的新措施。这些措施应适用于不同层次，覆盖不同利益相关群体，并涉及具有严格定义或广泛适用的多个问题。他们包括，但不限于，具有促进意义的政策框架和改革性的经济政策；政府、私营部门以及公民社会等相结合的非常规联盟；强有力的环境条款；设计新途径来确保政治问责等等。

中国的角色

马汉理先生提到中国在国际可持续发展治理上快速发展的角色以及这一现状对于未来的积极影响。IISD及总部在挪威的Fridtjof Nansen研究院，连同中国社科院的合作伙伴，正在设计一项课题来展现中国在这些机制中的现状和未来目标—涉及中国在以下机构中的战略：传统全球机构（如联合国）；新兴全球或地区机构（如G20、APEC）及目的导向的论坛（如中非合作论坛）；中国在非政府组织当中参与的增长（如自然保护国际联盟主席国）；以及中国在自愿性标准和供应链治理等国际软实力方面的战略。

卡内基清华中心的报告全文请参照：

<http://carnegietsinghua.org/2013/04/25/governing-sustainability-globally/glwy>

欢迎用英文向马汉理（Mark Halle）（mhalle@iisd.org）提出意见，或用中文或英文向国际可持续发展研究院中国项目（iisdchina@gmail.com）提出意见。

Published by the International Institute for Sustainable Development.

International Institute for Sustainable Development
Head Office

161 Portage Avenue East, 6th Floor, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3B 0Y4
Tel: +1 (204) 958-7700 | Fax: +1 (204) 958-7710 | Web site: www.iisd.org

About IISD

The International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) contributes to sustainable development by advancing policy recommendations on international trade and investment, economic policy, climate change and energy, and management of natural and social capital, as well as the enabling role of communication technologies in these areas. We report on international negotiations and disseminate knowledge gained through collaborative projects, resulting in more rigorous research, capacity building in developing countries, better networks spanning the North and the South, and better global connections among researchers, practitioners, citizens and policy-makers.

IISD's vision is better living for all—sustainably; its mission is to champion innovation, enabling societies to live sustainably. IISD is registered as a charitable organization in Canada and has 501(c)(3) status in the United States. IISD receives core operating support from the Government of Canada, provided through the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), from the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and from the Province of Manitoba. The Institute receives project funding from numerous governments inside and outside Canada, United Nations agencies, foundations and the private sector.

国际可持续发展研究院

总部地址: 161 Portage Avenue East, 6th Floor, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3B 0Y4
电话: +1(204)958-7700 | Fax: +1(204) 958-7710 | 网址: www.iisd.org

国际可持续发展研究院 (IISD) 在国际贸易与投资、经济政策、气候变化与能源、自然与社会资源管理以及通信技术在上述领域的作用等方面提供政策咨询, 以求为可持续发展做出贡献。我们通过报道国际谈判和传播从合作项目中获得的知识, 以开展更为缜密的研究, 促进发展中国家能力建设, 提高南北半球的网络覆盖面, 加强全球范围内研究者、从业者、公民和决策者之间的联系。

国际可持续发展研究院的愿景是让所有人以可持续的方式生活得越来越好。其使命是引领创新, 促进社会各领域的可持续发展。国际可持续发展研究院是一家在加拿大注册的慈善机构, 并在美国享有税法 501(c)(3) 款规定的非赢利组织待遇。国际可持续发展研究院的核心业务由加拿大政府通过加拿大国际开发署 (CIDA) 和国际发展研究中心 (IDRC) 提供支持, 同时也得到马尼托巴省的支持。国际可持续发展研究院的研究项目得到加拿大境内和境外许多政府部门、联合国机构、基金会和私营部门的资助。