

Think Tanks in China: Evolution and Challenges

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Outline

- The emergence and evolution of think tanks is a response to the social development demands
- The development and challenges of think tanks in China
- Role of Development Research Center (DRC)

1. The Emergence and Evolution

- ✓ The notion of think came into being in the modern era. It appeared in the speech made by former US president Harry Truman at his 80th birthday celebration.
- ✓ Think tanks in the developing countries have witnessed a particularly high growth since 1980s and in all there are approximately over 3000 think tanks worldwide.

Four features for a think tank

- a. Organizational
- b. Independent
- c. Non-profit
- d. Professional in public policy research

2. The development and challenges of think tanks in China

- ✓ As government administration in modern times has been increasingly complex and specialized, specific research departments and organizations are established inside the government agencies or monitoring organs.
- ✓ From the perspective of promoting good governance and democratic decision making of the government, the boom of policy consultancy is a natural development.

Challenges we are facing

- ✓ How to maintain the status of independence for their research and consultancy
- ✓ How to set up a mechanism of competition to promote the healthy development of policy consultancy
- ✓ How to develop and fulfill the role of non-governmental think tanks

3. Role of DRC

DRC is dedicated to the research on overall, comprehensive, strategic and long-term issues in the national economic and social development.

DRC has provided important thoughts and concrete policy recommendations on a wide range of issues, such as analysis and assessment of China's macroeconomic performance, long and medium-term economic and social development strategies, industrial policies, enterprise reform, market economy, opening of financial market, urban and rural development, harmonious social development, foreign economic and trade relations, innovation system and IPR protection, environmental protection and energy conservation, etc

- ✓ DRC has established connections with 234 overseas organizations from 73 countries and regions.
- ✓ Many government officials and researchers of think tanks from developing countries participated in the Economic and Social Policy Consulting Program for Developing Countries (ESPCP) program organized by DRC in the last 3 years.

Let's work, with joint efforts, for a peaceful, friendly, prosperous and beautiful world!

Thank you!