CHINA CROSSROADS

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Green Funding: The Development of Sustainable Finance in China

Steffen Schiottz-Christensen Vice President for North Asia at IFU Denmark's Development Finance Fund

Heidi Berg

Former Head of Communications at Norfund Norway's Development Finance Fund



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To reach the sustainable development goals of the Paris agreement, massive capital investment must be mobilized globally. The field of sustainable investments is well developed in Western countries, with reporting standards, investment products etc. China is the world's largest issuer of green bonds but is still at a nascent stage when it comes to developing and implementing standards. What is the likely development of sustainable investments with Chinese characteristics, and what are the opportunities for foreign investors to engage?

Steffen Schiottz-Christensen is Vice President for North Asia at IFU, the Danish government investment fund for developing countries. He has extensive China experience as Asia CEO for two fortune 500 companies (Maersk and SHV Energy) and is Chairman or Director of the board of a number of Chinese companies, driving strategy and overall execution. He holds an MBA from IMD Business School in Switzerland, as well as executive training from Harvard Business School and Stanford.

Heidi Berg is an Independent Consultant working on Norway-China related projects. She is now engaged in two projects in the sustainable investment field and is writing a report on "Sustainable Investments with Chinese Characteristics." Before moving to China in 2018, Heidi was Project Director at Telenor working with mobile financial services in India, Bangladesh and Thailand, and was Head of Communications at Norfund, the Norwegian investment fund for developing countries. Heidi holds a master's degree in International Management from the Norwegian School of Economics and Business Administration.

<u>China Crossroads</u> hosts talks on all topics related to China, including business, foreign policy, and other areas as they relate to China, the idea being that China is both already a "crossroads" of the world and itself at a "crossroads" in terms of its future global influence. For more information, contact Frank Tsai at <u>editor@shanghai-review.org</u>.