

# The Belt and Road Initiative

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# Outline

- Introduction
- Concept and Ideas
- Progress so far
- Opportunities for the UK
- Conclusion

# Introduction

1. Sept & Oct, 2013 President Xi proposed Silk Road Economic Belt and 21st Century Maritime Silk Road (OBOR/ B & R I)
2. Mar 2015 “Vision and Actions on Jointly Building Silk Road Economic Belt and 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road” issued  
([http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa\\_eng/zxxx\\_662805/t1249618.shtml](http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/zxxx_662805/t1249618.shtml))
3. January 16, 2016, AIIB opened its doors
4. May 2017 “Building the Belt and Road, Concept, Practice and China’ s Contribution” published

Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation in Beijing

# **Vision and Actions on Jointly Building Silk Road Economic Belt and 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road**

Issued by the National Development and Reform Commission,  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Ministry of  
Commerce of the People's Republic of China,  
with State Council authorization

March 2015

# **Building the Belt and Road: Concept, Practice and China's Contribution**

Office of the Leading Group for  
the Belt and Road Initiative

May 2017

# Concept and Ideas

- Silk Road Spirit
  - Peace and cooperation
  - Openness and inclusiveness
  - Mutual learning
  - Mutual benefits
- China's foreign policy & New type of international relations
  - Peace
  - Cooperation
  - Development
  - Win-win

# Concept and Ideas

- Community of shared interests/responsibility/future

Our interests intertwine in an interdependent world

To facilitate common development

To facilitate flow of production factors, distribution of resources, integration of markets

# Concept and Ideas

## The Principles

Extensive consultation  
joint contribution  
Shared benefit/growth

# Concept and Ideas

- Meet the changes of our times

Common challenges: lack of development/sluggish growth/ globalization/shortcomings of global economic governance

- Promote cooperation in key areas: connectivity, production capacity, trade & investment
- Improve connectivity & dovetail development strategies

Policy coordination, infrastructure connectivity, trade facilitation, financial integration, closer people to people ties

- Encourage cultural & people to people bond, dialogues among civilizations



# Framework

- Five Routes (Belt 3, Road 2 )
- Six Corridors
- Six modes of communications
- Multiple countries
- Multiple ports

# BELT AND ROAD INITIATIVE 「一帶一路」倡議



EUROPE 歐洲

CENTRAL AND WESTERN ASIA  
中亞及西亞

MEDITERRANEAN SEA 地中海

CHINA 中國

Reach out to  
**48%**  
of the Belt and Road  
population within  
**5 HOURS**  
5小時內能接觸  
「一帶一路」地區  
48%人口

PACIFIC OCEAN  
太平洋

Over **62%** of the  
world's population  
佔全球人口超過62%

Over **34%** of the world's  
merchandise trade  
佔全球貨物貿易超過34%

Around **31%** of the world's GDP  
佔全球生產總值約31%

SOUTH ASIA  
南亞

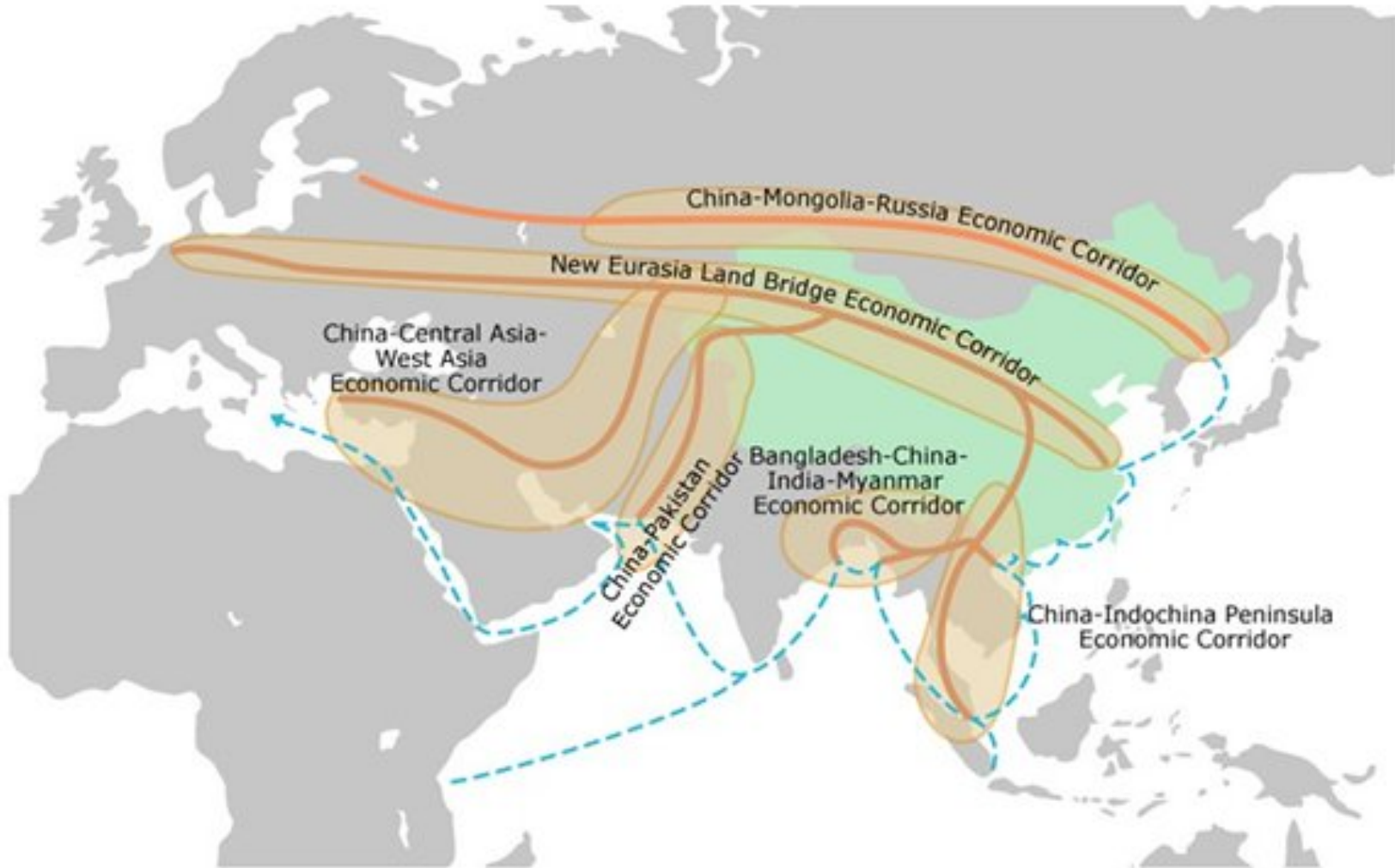
SOUTHEAST ASIA  
東南亞

HONG KONG 香港

INDIAN OCEAN  
印度洋

This preliminary map is based on the proposed geo-economic cooperation as described in the *Vision and Actions on Jointly Building the Silk Road Economic Belt and 21st Century Maritime Silk Road* document. Actual routes may differ and may also extend to encompass other territories as the project develops.  
本地圖乃根據《推動共建絲綢之路經濟帶和21世紀海上絲綢之路的願景與行動》描述的地緣經濟合作建議而繪製，僅供參考。實際路線或會略有不同，並可能隨著項目發展而延伸至其他地區。

## The Belt and Road Initiative: Six Economic Corridors Spanning Asia, Europe and Africa



# Framework - Infrastructure connectivity

- Rail, highways, sea lanes
- Aviation, pipelines
- Information networks



# Framework

- Multiple countries

Start working with first group of countries for demonstrative effect Southeast Asia/ Central Asia

- Multiple ports

Ports and key cities to ensure safe sea passage for maritime cooperation

# Progress so far

- A growing number of cooperation agreements
- A number of flagship infrastructure projects
- A number of trade and investment outcomes
- The cultural interaction and people-to-people exchanges

# Cooperation agreements

- Deliverables of the B & R Forum for international cooperation

5 categories, 270 specific outcomes

85 intergovernmental agreements with 69 countries and int'l org

*Guiding Principles on Financing the Development of the Belt and Road*

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-05/15/c\\_136286376.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-05/15/c_136286376.htm)



# Infrastructure projects

- China-Pakistan Economic Corridor
- Mombasa-Nairobi Standard Gauge Railway
- The Hungary-Serbia Railway & the Jakarta-Bandung High Speed Rail
- Pan-Asian railway network (China-Laos and China-Thailand)
- China Railway Express (China- Europe)

# Trade and investment outcomes

- Chinese companies have set up 56 business cooperation zones in more than 20 countries, generating nearly 1.1 billion US dollars in tax revenue and creating over 180,000 jobs locally.
- From 2014 to 2016, trade between China and countries along the Belt and Road exceeded three trillion dollars, growing faster than the global average.
- In the same period of time, China invested more than 50 billion dollars in these countries.

# Vibrant cultural interaction and people-to-people exchanges

- Strengthen cooperation and communication between B&R partners in education, science, culture, health, tourism and sports
- Cultural exchange and tourism, art and film festivals, and symposiums and dialogues between think tanks.
- Foster better understanding and deeper friendship

# China –UK

## Natural/key partners for B & R

- Chancellor Harmond B & R Forum
- Trade & Investment cooperation
  - HPC Royal Abert Dock
- Yiwu train to London
- People to people exchanges
  - 170,000 students
  - 1 million tourists

# Opportunities for the UK 1

- Shared commitment to staying open and seeking closer cooperation.

For China, a major step in opening up

President Xi at Davos

For UK, Global Britain

Cooperation showcases our commitment to openness/prosperity

# Opportunities for the UK 2

- Complementarity of our respective strengths

UK: professional services/English language/creative industries/  
advanced manufacturing/R & D/high-tech

China: market/capital/engineering/manufacturing

Together, play to the respective strengths, partnership for new  
business models/ financing (green bonds/ RMB bonds)

# Opportunities for the UK

- Potential of working together to develop the market of a third country

China: More assistance to developing countries

UK: traditional ties, esp. Commonwealth/common law countries  
Leader in international development

Together more than one plus one

# Conclusion

- Open inclusive initiative, public good
- Chorus, not solo
- Economic, trade, cultural..., not geopolitics
- Ambitious but also practical
- Huge opportunities for China, UK and the world
- Risks/challenges as well





BELT AND ROAD PORTAL

“一帶一路” - 英文门户网站