2018 Annual Report on the Development of CTTI Source Think Tanks

China Think Tank Research and Evaluation Centre
2018 Annual Report on the Development of CTTI Source Think Tanks

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1 Progress in the Construction of New Types of Think Tanks with Chinese Characteristics

1.1 Full Formulation for Think Tank Policies and Documents

1.1.1 Guidance on the Direction of Think Tank Development by National Policies

(1) The Construction of New-Type Think Tanks Highly Valued by the Party Central Committee

The construction of new types of think tanks with Chinese characteristics is highly valued by the CPC Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping at its core, for serving as an important support for making decisions in a sound, democratic way on the basis of law by the Party and the government, and having great significance to stay on and develop the path of socialism with Chinese characteristics, enhance China’s global voice and achieve national rejuvenation. Since the 18th CPC National Congress, the party and state leaders have repeatedly emphasized the importance and necessity of building new types of think tanks with Chinese characteristics on many occasions, and expounded the connotations, goals, ways and the responsibilities of think tanks.

In April 2013, President Xi Jinping made an important instruction for the construction of new types of think tanks with Chinese characteristics, which was the clearest and richest comment from the central highest leadership for it; in May of that year, the significance of constructing such think tanks was pointed out by Liu Yandong, member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and Vice Premier of the State Council then, in the forum “Developing the Philosophy and Social Sciences of University, Promoting the Construction of new types of Think Tanks with Chinese Characteristics”. President Xi made the development of think tanks as a national diplomacy when visiting Germany in March, 2014, after which “Think Tank Diplomacy” would become the “secondary-track diplomacy” in our international exchanges and cooperation. Since then, President Xi repeatedly put forward that we should make use of think tanks to promote international exchanges
and cooperation when he met other state leaders or attended international forums. In a forum on work in philosophy and social sciences in May, 2016, President Xi mentioned the achievements in think tank’s development, and pointed out its problem and focus. In the report at the 19th CPC National Congress of the CPC in October, 2017, President Xi made clear that, “we will speed up the development of philosophy and social sciences with distinctive Chinese characteristics, and strengthen the building of new types of think tanks with Chinese characteristics”. In the Report on the Work of the Government in March, 2018, Premier Li Keqian referred that “we will see China’s new-type think tanks are well run”. Such important speeches and instructions about the development of new-type think tanks made by the party and state leaders, facilitated the formulation of policies and documents and greatly developed the construction of new types of think tanks with Chinese characteristics. Li Cheng, director of Brookings Institution China Center, thought it never happened around the world that national leaders concerned about the development of think tanks in person, but it also the biggest advantage for it.

(2) The Top-Level Design of Think Tank Policies Being Perfected

The Third Plenary Session of the 18th CPC Central Committee proposed to enhance the construction of new types of think tanks with Chinese characteristics while creating and improving a system of decision-making consultation. The development of such think tanks, along the need for a campaign of innovation in philosophy and social science, was highlighted again at the Fifth Plenary Session of the 18th CPC Central Committee. “Opinions on Strengthening the Construction of New Types of Think Tanks with Chinese Characteristics” (“The Opinions”) was issued as a guiding document for the development of new-type think tanks, by the General Office of the CPC Central Committee and the General Office of the State Council in January, 2015. “The Opinions” expounded the theoretic and practical problems in developing new-type think tanks, which marked the rapid development stage of the construction of think tanks. In November, 2015, “The Plan of Pilot Projects for China Top Think Tanks” was adopted at the session of the Central
Leading Group for Deepening Reforms (CLGDR); thereafter, “Tentative Measures for the Administration of China Top Think Tanks” and “Tentative Measures for the Management of Special Funds for China Top Think Tanks” also successively issued. In May, 2017, the CPC Central Committee issued “Opinions on Accelerating the Construction of Philosophy and Social Sciences with Chinese Characteristics”. The nine ministries and departments including the Ministry of Civil Affairs and the Publicity Department of CPC Central Committee, issued “Opinions on Sound Development of Private Think Tanks” and so on. These policies and documents clarified the significance of building new types of think tanks with Chinese characteristics while planning the overall blueprint and making such think tanks into the national governance system based on the top-level design, which is a long-term endeavor of holistic and strategic importance, guiding the direction of developing the think tanks.

1.1.2 Provincial and Municipal Policies Followed up Level by Level

The party and state leadership’s remarks on think tanks and the national development policies of think tanks gave general guidance to the construction of new types of think tanks with Chinese characteristics, and the policies of think tank’s development from all provinces and cities are an important step toward implementing the top-level design. As the provincial and municipal policies followed up level by level, the management for new-type think tanks becomes standardization, institutionalization, proceduralization and legalization so that both the management system and the development environment have been further improved.

Provinces and cities responded well to “The Opinions” and introduced corresponding recommendations, or placed these recommendations into the proposal agenda, for example, recommendations on how to build new-type think tanks have been released by more than twenty provincial level administrative regions, including Hunan, Jiangsu, Guangdong and Shanghai. Despite the differences among provinces or municipalities, these recommendations were presented according to the actual situation of the development of local think tanks, in order to strengthen their
construction, to establish and improve the system of decision-making consultation. On a macro-scale, “The Opinions” is the one with overall and strategic importance, so that these recommendations combine its spirit into the provincial conditions, and extract principles that have guiding and practical values for the province. Compared with provincial policies, the municipal policies and documents of building new-type of think tanks with Chinese characteristics are focused more on developing their own system of think tanks, for example, some cities like Shenzhen, Suzhou, came up with ways to shape a pattern of think tanks and to reform relevant management system with their experience, after reviewing their current situations, features and problems about the local development of think tanks.

1.1.3 The Systematic Improvements of Policies and Documents

For the past two years, the recommendations on how to build new-type think tanks have been followed up and implemented from the Party Central Committee to provinces and cities. In addition, the diverse policies and documents of the concrete construction in think tanks continued to be published, from which we can see they gradually became systematic and the system of think tank policies have been improved. “The Plan of Pilot Projects for China Top Think Tanks”, for example, identifies the guidelines and basic requirements of developing top think tanks, and puts forward the specific measures on how to be selected, qualified and managed as pilot projects for think tanks. The fundamental institutional framework for the pilot projects is built by the corresponding “Measures for the Administration of China Top Think Tanks” and “Tentative Measures for the Management of Special Funds for China Top Think Tanks”, which have initially formed a standard, effective working mechanism and operation model.

In addition, every aspect of think tank development is covered by the wide-ranging policies and documents that can be divided as follows:

First, they are associated with the development and management of new-type think tanks and their assessment and appraisal. Jiangsu, for example, has released “Tentative Methods for the Assessment and Appraisal of New-Type of Think Tanks in
Jiangsu” in December, 2016 to explain the assessment and evaluation index system of its new-type think tanks. “Measures for the Administration of New-Type Think Tanks in Heilongjiang” was under deliberation at the work conference of developing new-type think tanks in Heilongjiang in July, 2018. At the same year, Zhejiang Province discussed the making of measures to develop and manage its new-type think tanks, and the assessment and appraisal index system of the new-type think tanks at its work conference of developing new-type think tanks, strengthening and standardizing the development and management of such think tanks. Besides these government documents, many universities, such as East China Normal University, Shanghai Normal University, Hunan University and Fuzhou University, have also introduced some measures for the administration of new-type think tanks.

Second, they are concerned with the fund management of think tanks. As an old Chinese saying, food and provisions should go ahead of troops. The autonomy and flexibility in the use of think tank funds directly affect the operation and development of think thinks, and the motivation of talents. “Tentative Measures for the Management of Special Funds for China Top Think Tanks” (“The Special Funds Management Measures”), issued in 2015, made a general guidance to manage the funds for new-type think tanks with Chinese characteristics. “The Special Funds Management Measures” was supplemented by the Ministry of Finance and the National Planning and Leading Group for Philosophy and Social Sciences in December, 2016. After that, some provinces, including Ningxia Autonomous Region, Anhui and Heilongjiang, released measures for funds management one after another, appropriate for themselves, and explained the expense range, budget management, supervision and inspection of special funds.

Third, they are connected with the accreditation and reward for think tank’s findings. The research of think tanks are different from academic research, so there are large differences in the form of their findings. How to improve the system of accreditation and reward for think tank’s findings is about the motivation of researchers. Establishing and enhancing the accreditation and incentive mechanisms
for think tank’s findings have been set out in the “Opinions on Strengthening the Construction of New Types of Think Tanks with Chinese Characteristics” and recommendations on how to build new-type think tanks by provinces and cities. Thereafter, provinces like Anhui, Hunan, and universities like East China University of Political Science and Law, Xinan University, Anhui University of Finance and Economics, introduced independent measures for the accreditation of think tank’s findings.

1.1.4 Policy Support for the Development of Different Types of Think Tanks

A series of policies and documents have been published to develop different types of think tanks in various industries and fields, especially to support the development of university and private think tanks, in order to implement the construction pattern of “coordinately promoting the development of Party or government organizations, Academy of Social Sciences, Party schools or administrative colleges, universities, armed forces, research institutions and private think tanks” in “The Opinions”.

First, policies and documents to promote the development of university think tanks. Universities possess natural advantages to build top think tanks. The Vice Premier, Liu Yandong, focused on playing the unique role of universities to contribute to construct new types of think tanks with Chinese characteristics in the forum “Developing the Philosophy and Social Sciences of University, Promoting the Construction of New Types of Think Tanks with Chinese Characteristics” in May, 2013. “Plan to the Construction of New-Type University Think Tanks with Chinese Characteristics”, issued by the Ministry of Education in February, 2014, devoted to forging a development pattern of university think tanks with rational structure and various types. After that, Yunnan, Gansu, Liaoning, Guangdong, Ningxia Autonomous Region, Shaanxi and other provinces all released relevant documents to develop university think tanks.

Second, policies and documents to promote the development of private think tanks. As the edge of the think tank circle, the development of private think tanks is weakest in capacity. To make the coordination with Party or government
organizations, universities and private think tanks, the development environment of private think tanks must be made to soundly support the construction of private think tanks. The nine ministries and departments including the Ministry of Civil Affairs, the Publicity Department of CPC Central Committee, the Organization Department of CPC Central Committee, issued “Opinions on Sound Development of Private Think Tanks” in May, 2017, making arrangements to standardize and guide the healthy development of private think tanks, which marks a new stage of China’s development of private think tanks. Keeping up with the Party Central Committee, provinces like Gansu, Jiangsu and Shandong introduced recommendations on how to promote private think tanks based on the practical situation.

Third, policies and documents to promote the development of think tanks in various fields. With the rising of building new-type think tanks, the development of think tanks has been gradually involved in various industries and fields, and published relevant policies and documents to promote the specialization of think tanks. Ministries, such as Ministry of Water Resources, Ministry of Public Security, Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Transport, have introduced recommendations on how to specialize think tanks. Moreover, projects for the construction of new-type think tanks proposed by other departments and industries, claimed for boosting industrial, specialized think tanks, setting up and improving the system of decision-making consultation in various fields. Since “Opinions on Improving New-Type Think Tanks in the Industry and Information Technology” issued by the General Office of the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) in 2016, the think tank list in the field of industry and information technology was organized and established by the Policies and Regulations Department of MIIT to gather resources of think tanks and enhance the level of decision-making consultation. At present, 91 institutions in China have been selected in the think tank list of MIIT, including 29 university think tanks. “Opinions on Improving New-Type Think Tanks in Surveying, Mapping and Geoinformation” was issued by the Leading Party Members’ Group of National Administration of Surveying, Mapping and Geoinformation in January, 2018 to fully
deploy the system of new-type think tanks in surveying, mapping and geoinformation; in March, Department of Science and Technology of Guangdong Province presented a draft, “Tentative Measures for the Administration of New-Type Think Tanks in Science and Technology”, planning to building think tanks in science and technology; in June, Yang Chuantang (Secretary of the Leading Party Members’ Group of Ministry of Transport) and Li Xiaopeng (Deputy Secretary and Minister of the Leading Party Members’ Group of Ministry of Transport) published the article, “The Construction of High-Quality, New-Type Think Tanks in Transport” in Guangming Daily; in September, Civil Aviation of Administration issued “Implementation of Improving New-Type Think Tanks of Civil Aviation of Administration”, which meant the new-type think tanks of China’s civil aviation entered the implementation phase.

1.2 The Think Tank System and Platform Becoming Mature

1.2.1 Gradual and Reasonable Improvement in the Configuration of Think Tank System

According to 2017 Global Go To Think Tank Index Report, China ranks the second in terms of total number of think tanks. Clearly, strength in numbers is not same as fine quality. In fact, China still lacks think tanks with better international influence and reputation. “The Opinions” expounds the significance, aims, characteristics and ways to build the system of new-type think tanks. The important, strategic choice to develop new types of think tanks with Chinese characteristics is to build “specialized top think tanks that the state is urgent need of, each being unique in its own way for institutional innovation and leadership in development”. Focusing on building top think tanks, giving fund and policy supports, as well as making examples and models in think tank construction all contribute to leading the direction of new-type think tanks, and enriching the system of them. Nowadays, China has formed a system of new-type think tanks “led by national top think tank, supported by provincial and municipal key think tanks and supplemented by other new-type think tanks” which is clear in the portrait level and abundant in the landscape level.

First, China top think tanks lead the development. As the reform entered a critical
stage and a more difficult phase, the problems we confront are more complicated. How to make more democratic and scientific decisions for the Party and government and solving the tough issue are the major part of the battle to reform. The development of China top think tanks aims at strategic problems that urgently need to be solved, for better serving to make strategic decisions of the Party and government. The experimental construction of China Top Think Tanks (CTTT) was officially launched when the conference on this endeavor was held in Beijing in December, 2015. Since then, 25 institutions have been selected as experimental units for CTTT construction and a CTTT Council was established. Overall, with varied types and distinctive features, the first batch of CTTT are typical and representative, covering a wide range of research. Publicity Department of CPC Central Committee announced 13 CTTT units for priority development in 2017. In addition, programs of key think tanks in other departments and industries have been gradually set up, and topics about think tank programs and decisions have been connected to solve. Ministry of Education, for example, established a university alliance of top think tanks in September, 2017, and 31 first member units jointly signed “University Alliance Convention on Top Think Tanks”, aiming to build useful think tanks trusted by the Party and government and making better demonstrated cluster effect in joint development of top think tanks of universities.

Second, provincial and municipal key think tanks support the development. The cultivation and development of provincial and municipal key think tanks are an important part of the system of new-type think tanks with Chinese characteristics, serving as the reserve force for national top think tanks to support their development. 24 provincial administrative regions in China set up provincial key think tanks, think tanks for priority development or research projects of key think tanks by October, 2018. Take Jiangsu for example, the General Office of CPC Jiangsu Provincial Committee and the General Office of Jiangsu Provincial Government released “Opinions on How to Strengthen the Building of New Types of Think Tanks in Jiangsu”, and then announced the first nine key top think tanks and developed a series
of documents, including “Tentative Measures for the Assessment and Appraisal of New-Type Think Tanks in Jiangsu”, “Assessment and Appraisal Index System of New-Type Think Tanks in Jiangsu”, “Methods for the Appraisal of Key High-Level Think Tanks and Fund Management (the Draft)” and “Assessment and Appraisal Index System of Key Top Think Tanks (the Draft)”, providing effective policy support for the construction of key provincial think tanks. What’s more, Jiangsu established the Committee for Guiding the Construction of New-Type Think Tanks, and founded the New-Type Think Tank Council of Jiangsu Province in May, 2017 to discuss the construction of CTTT and evaluation of this endeavor. In 2016, Publicity Department of CPC Jiangsu Provincial Committee released “Notice on Establishing Think Tanks for Priority Development in Jiangsu” and made a list of 15 provincial key think tanks for priority development. Besides these provincial high-level think tanks and think tanks for priority development, Jiangsu also established dozens of research centers for decision-making. Such think tanks spread in nearly one hundred research areas, such as economy, law, agriculture, history, education and climate. So far, Jiangsu has initially formed the configuration of three-level pyramidal new-type think tanks that is “top think tanks + think tanks for priority development + research centers for decision-making”.

Third, other new-type think tanks supplement the development. On the one hand, there are “more mixed think tanks than standard ones, more amateur think tanks than specialized ones, more new think tanks than old ones” in China, so necessarily, the Central Committee should focus on the development of CTTT and provinces and cities should focus on the development of key think tanks, so as to put the limited funds and expert resources together to change the characteristics of new-type think tank system of “smallness, weakness and looseness”. On the other hand, due to a large number of think tanks in China, besides the national, provincial and municipal key think tanks, there are many specialized think tanks, research centers, corporate think tanks, private think tanks and so on, which depend on universities and research institutes. These think tanks can be found in all walks of life, but they are different
from each other in research areas, strength and scale. As the same time, such think tanks play an important role in motivating the marketplace of think tank ideas.

1.2.2 Diverse Think Tank Platforms

At present, China’s development of think tanks is still at an early stage, with a sharp rise in the number, but still weak in strength and imbalanced in development. As an important platform in the magnificent project of building new-type think tanks with Chinese characteristics, think tank alliances play a unique role in carrying out research cooperation and communication, and sharing information resources, as well as partly changing the situation of “smallness, weakness and looseness” of think tank development so as to make think tanks work as a unit and expand their influence. After “The Opinions” was announced, China’s think tank platforms gradually become diverse while think tank alliances are increasingly dynamic. These alliances can be divided into many types by research areas, regions and scales as follows:

First, regional think tank alliances. Combining their own superior strength, regional think tank alliances focus on problems to be solved in development and provide the service for policy consultation. Jiangsu, for example, the first regional think tank alliance, “Think Tank Alliance among Nanjing, Zhenjiang and Yangzhou”, was founded in Nanjing in September, 2015. The alliance is an innovative collaboration platform of think tanks, jointly launched by Federations of Social Science in Nanjing, Zhenjiang and Yangzhou, and aims to gather talents and intellectual resources of these places to overcome various difficulties and problems in comprehensively deepening reform. It can also convey people’s feelings and opinions, feed into advice for the decision-making of the Party committee and government and promote the integration and sustainable, coordinated development of economic, political, social, ecological and civilized construction in the region of Nanjing, Zhenjiang and Yangzhou. In June, 2016, “National Think Tank Alliance among Cities along ‘the Belt and Road’” was set up by unincorporated academic groups that were constituted with key think tanks including Federations of Social Science in 32 pivot cities along “the Belt and Road”. The alliance is intended to positively respond “the
Belt and Road” initiative and create a great platform making joint discussion, cooperation and research, strategic study and judgement, and policy evaluation for cities and institutions in the development of “Belt and Road”, offering consultation to the government, suggestions to synergize development strategies in areas, and promoting benign interaction between think tank research and government decision-making.

Second, international think tank alliances. In recent years, the think tank community in China is devoted to international communication and cooperation, and expands the network of think tanks to make China’s voice heard on various international think tank forums. In October, 2017, “Think Tank Alliance of Global Cities” was jointly founded by research institutes of think tanks in New York, Paris, Singapore, Seoul, Hong Kong, Beijing and Shanghai. The alliance aims to be a platform that promotes academic and policy research of urban management in an all-round way, a communication platform of best practices for urban management at the global level, and a platform to boost communication and cooperation of the bodies among cities. Working together with Worldwide Universities Network (WUN), Renmin University of China proposed and advanced to set up “Think Tank Alliance of Worldwide Universities” which focuses on the theme of green development of “the Belt and Road” to deeply communicate and discuss hot issues for all countries in the world, especially the region of “the Belt and Road” initiative. The alliance aimed to strengthen the development of think tanks, make their influence and work together to make “knowledge exchange” into “knowledge cloud”, promote “think tank dialogue” as “think tank alliance” and build an “intellectual silk road”, contributing to global governance and development. Shanghai Cooperation Organization Economic Think Tank Alliance was established in May, 2018, in order to build a stable exchange and cooperation mechanism and a platform of think tank alliance to make sustainable and sound development for regional economic cooperation.

Third, industrial (domanial) think tank alliances. Such think tanks are constituted with think tanks in the relevant industries (domains), focusing on trends and problems
of their industries (domains) and constructing platforms for exchange and cooperation of think tanks. For example, the Conference on the Establishment of MIIT Think Tank Alliance & MIIT Think Tank Forum were held in Beijing in June, 2018, when the website of MIIT Think Tanks was officially started. MIIT Think Tank Alliance should aim to become a platform for work exchange, theoretical discussions, services to government and foreign liaison in the area of industry and information technology, giving full play to the role as a bridge of linking and supporting. Twenty famous research institutes in China started “Think Tank Alliance of American Studies” in July, 2018 to carry out basic, policy-oriented and prospective researches on issues, such as economic and political situation of the United States, domestic and foreign policies of the United States and the relation between China and the United States, so ad to actively conduct international exchange and cooperation. Think Tank Alliance of Ecological Civilization in Fujian was established in November, 2018, which aimed to pull provincial think tank resources together to provide more intellectual support for the development of ecological civilization of Fujian.

1.3 Communication and Dissemination of Think Tanks Deepening

With the development of China’s new-type think tanks, the strength and interaction are gradually growing. On the one hand, exchanges in think tanks like conferences, talents and programs are more frequent and increasingly deepening; on the other hand, since President Xi made the development of think tanks as a national diplomacy, the “Think Tank Diplomacy” has become the secondary-track in our international exchanges. Our think tanks are steadily going abroad to join in the international think tank development and gradually make dialogues and exchanges with international think tanks.

1.3.1 Think Tank Conferences Promoting the Communication and dissemination of Think Tank Ideas

Different think tank conferences or forums on different themes serve as an important platform for think tank exchanges of ideas, opinions and researches. After “The Opinions” was published, the development of China’s think tanks entered a
golden period when think tank conferences or forums at various levels, with different types or themes strongly were emerging. Think tank experts could carry out deep discussion on important theoretical or practical issues that need to be solved in different areas, such as “The Belt and Road”, “big data”, “Internet +”, “Artificial Intelligence” and “poverty alleviation”, so as to hold conferences or forums with some influence. “China University Think Tank Forum” has been held four years since its first annual meeting in Shanghai in December, 2014. This forum aimed to discuss how university think tanks conduct prospective, well-targeted policy researches in reserve for the state’s major strategic needs, improve research quality and promote content innovation in face of new situation and requirements, so as to lead and drive the development of university think tanks, and expand their influence. Hosted by Guangming Daily Press and Nanjing University, the first “Conference on Chinese Think Tank Governance” was launched in Nanjing University on December 17th, 2016, combining keynote report, discussion in categories and the releasing of works, and attracting hundreds of experts and scholars in think tank community and ideological and theoretic circles, and making great influence in China. One year later, “Chinese Think Tank Governance & the Spreading of Thoughts and Theories Summit Forum 2017” was grandly held in Beijing, including nearly 800 participants from think tank community, ideological and theoretic circles, administrative departments of provinces, cities and autonomous regions, and university departments of scientific research. Officials of National Philosophy and Social Sciences Planning Office and Social Sciences Department of Ministry of Education made guidance in this conference; Zhang Zheng, chief editor of Guangming Daily Press, and Chen Jun, ex-president of Nanjing University, delivered speeches there; leading officials in charge, such as the deputy editor Li Chunlin, the deputy chief editor Lu Xiangao, and the deputy secretary of Party committee of Nanjing University Zhu Qingbao, hosted the conference or published research findings. Celebrities from the theoretic circles and think tank community, like Wei liqun, Zhang Junkuo, Cai Fang, Feng Jun, and Liu Hongwu(the representative of annual think tanks) gave keynote speeches. More
participants shared their opinions and made in-depth communication in the two special sessions, six paralleled sub-conference and several processes to publish results for the Summit Forum. Besides extensive coverage of *Guangming Daily* and its media matrixes, more than ten media, including China Daily, CCTV News Channel, Xinhua News Agency, Chinese Social Sciences Today, and the journal National Governance, reported this forum, so that we can see its great influence from it.

With the development of specialized think tanks from all walks of life, the specialized think tank forums with different themes in various areas are also increasingly growing, in addition to comprehensive think tank conferences and forums. “Forum on Environment and Development”, for example, has been held for four times since December, 2015. It is an annual activity of excellent academic exchanges to build think tanks based on resources and environment in the western area of China, concentrating on hot and prospective issues on resources, environment and regional development, supporting strategic decisions on environment and development, and spreading relevant thoughts and scientific technologies. “2018 First China High-Level Seminar for Technology Incorporate Think Tanks” was successfully held at the National Science Library of Chinese Academy of Sciences in August, 2018, aimed to study problems for technology incorporate think tanks while developing, promote the deep combination between the incorporate development and technological innovation, and discuss the role of incorporate think tanks to play and the responsibilities to take in supporting the development of incorporates and dealing with outside risks.

1.3.2 Network Platforms Promoting the Communication and dissemination of Think Tank Information

As think tanks rapidly develop in China, the think tank information is growing exponentially; so the think tank platforms of different types are constantly spring up. Think tank network platforms are crucial in displaying, disseminating, building and sharing think tank information.

The think tank network platforms can be divided into different types for various
clients. First, comprehensive think tank network platforms. Comprehensive think tank network platforms focus on studying regional think tanks and serving their development. As the first think tank platform to exchange in Hubei, “A New-Type Think Tank Platform in Hubei” is positioned to serve the whole country and embrace the world based on Hubei, and aims to build a platform to disseminate and transform think tank results, borrow and attract talents, and facilitate communication between decision-makers and think tanks. The building of think tank platforms gives an impetus to timely issue and widely disseminate the results of think tank experts, further strengthens the connection between think tanks and decision-making bodies, and motivates think tank results to give full play in transforming and applying in the decision-making bodies. “Think Tanks in Jiangsu” in the host of Publicity Department of the CPC Jiangsu Provincial Committee, is an important showcase for the think tank development in Jiangsu, and completely presents prestigious think tanks, think tank experts, researches and activities.

Second, specialized think tank network platforms. The specialized think tank network platforms focus on revealing relevant information about think tanks in a field or industry. “A Think Tank Platform of Big Data in Guizhou” was officially started in January, 2018, which pulled resources like data, knowledge and experts together to provide scientific decision-making for all levels of government in Guizhou and precise intellectual service and decision-making support for the whole process of solving specific problems. On the basis of decision-making model and AI technology, it can also automatically generate sensible, advisable and traceable reports by subject based on digital characteristics, as well as make overall plans for governmental and social data resources to rapidly promote deep integration and application between big data and aspects like government affairs, economy, society and technology. “Qindao Think Tank Platform of Science and Technology” came online in April, 2017 and officially ran in November, 2018. What it can share is more than 300 think tank research findings and more than 620 million literature search references, including industrial technology roadmap, which have been accumulated by Qindao Institute of
Science and Technology Information in recent years. After registration and certification, think tank experts and the public can be fully served on this platform. This is a new important action of Qingdao to develop high-level technology think tanks and provide intelligent information services for its scientific and innovative decision-making. The platform offers four services, including dynamic monitoring of technology and innovation, think tank result sharing, knowledge of special subjects and personalized and customized services.

1.3.3 Participating in International Exchange to Make “Voice of China’s Think Tanks”

With further developing new types of think tanks with Chinese characteristics, our think tanks begun to go abroad and actively participated in international exchange and took part in cooperation and research on global issues in recent years to make “voice of China’s think tanks” and deliver Chinese values. Participating in international exchange not only need to “bring in”, but also “go abroad”. To build “influential and international top think tanks” should draw from experience of developed countries and attract international think tank talents, as well as embrace an international perspective to energetically engage in exchanges and cooperation among countries and give full play to China’s think tanks in international affairs. In the past a few years, China has bided for or hosted international think tank conferences, vigorously participated in international think tank forums and actively build think tank platforms for international exchanges so as to promote China think tanks to go abroad, which were reflected in themes of these conferences focusing on important strategies in China, like China-Africa Cooperation, “the Belt and Road”.

“China-Africa Think Tank Forum (CATTF)” was launched by Zhejiang Normal University in 2011, as a high-level platform for academic communication between China and Africa, which was approved by Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Commerce of the People’s Republic of China. With the tenets of “NGO Initiative, Government Support, Frank Dialogue and Consensus Building”, it is held in China and Africa every year. CATTF aims to promote African and Chinese studies, enhance
mutual understanding, work for consensus, and offer constructive advice on cooperation. Since its founding, CATTF has scored a series of important achievements and brought great influence all over the world so that it was incorporated into the framework of Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) by Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People’s Republic of China and became a high-level institutional platform for China-Africa academic exchanges and think tank dialogues. President Xi Jinping said, “With more people-to-people exchanges in culture and art, education, sports, and between our think tanks, the media, and women and young people, we will strengthen the bond between the people of China and Africa” in 2018 Beijing Summit of the FOCAC in September, 2018, which also reflected “Think Tank Diplomacy”.

“China-CEEC Think Tanks Network” (16+1 Think Tanks Network) was proposed by Li Keqiang, Premier of the State Council, and established based on “the building of a 16+1 think tank network developed by the leading of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences” which was presented in the Suzhou Guidelines signed by 17 premiers of China and Central East and European Countries. “16+1 Think Tanks Network” will integrate dominant resources of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and think tanks in China and 16 Central East and European countries to carry out strategies, such as the construction of new-type think tanks, China-European Partnership and “the Belt and Road” initiative, and to support and promote “16+1 cooperation”, whose aim is to build a coordination mechanism and top exchange platform of international think tanks between China and Central East and European countries. The first think tank of China for independent registration in Europe, “China-CEE Institute” was established at Hungarian Academy of Sciences in April, 2018, whose founding will boost China-CEEC cultural communication, academic exchange and policy dialogue, playing an important role in China-CEEC cooperation and think tank exchanges.

Silk Road Think Tank Network (SiLKS) was proposed by Development Research Center of the State Council (DRC) together with relevant international think tanks on the first “Silk Road Forum” in Istanbul, Turkey in 2014, and was officially established
as an international think tank network by 33 think tanks, 8 international organizations and 1 incorporate on the “Silk Road Forum” in Madrid, Spain in October, 2015, whose aim is to provide high-level intellectual support for “the Silk and Road” through discussion and collaboration. “Silk Road Think Tank Network Guidelines” was approved on the first annual meeting of SiLKS in Warsaw, Poland in June, 2016. Now, there are 42 members and 13 partners in SiLKS, including 36 authorized think tanks in 30 countries, 12 international organizations like the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, and 7 international incorporates.

1.4 Significant Progress in Think Tank Research and Evaluation

In the past a few years, the construction of new types of think tanks with Chinese characteristics has been thriving in industries of different regions. With the advancement of practices, the think tank development has been suffering from many real problems while gaining experience. The think tank research is an important way to analyze the working and development mechanism of think tanks, sum up the experience about think tank development and propose the developmental direction. As the diagnosis of think tank development, think tank evaluation will help correct its direction and urge think tanks to learn from each other. The construction of new types of think tanks with Chinese characteristics and think tank research and evaluation cannot be separated from each other. Since “The Opinions” published in 2015, we can see high hope for the think tank research and evaluation, pointing to a massive upsurge.

1.4.1 Think Tank Research and Evaluation Institutions Spring up

As “the brain trust of think tanks”, think tank research and evaluation institutions mainly study think tanks or the whole think tank industry and play an important role in think tank research and evaluation.

Think Tank Industry Research Center of Shanghai University was set up as a school-level research institution in 2014 in order to speed up the development of think tanks in Shanghai and the whole country, according to the guiding principles from
central leadership’s instructions. The center takes national development and Shanghai development as its core issue, based on the practice of reform, development and modernization, so as to build a comprehensively academic think tank in China.

The peak year for the building of think tank research and evaluation institutions was in 2015. Chinese Cultural Industry Think-Tank Research Center was established in March, 2015; in April, China Think Tank Research and Evaluation Center of Nanjing University was set up; in May, Zhejiang University of Technology’s Global Think Tank Research Center was inaugurated and Think Tank Research and Release Center of *Guangming Daily* was founded; in June, CTTS of Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences begun to operate as materialization; in November, Sichuan Academy of Social Sciences and Chengdu Library and Information Center of Chinese Academy of Sciences started “Chinese Think Tank Research Center”. China Institute of Social Science Evaluation was set up in Beijing on July 21st, 2017.

Since then, think tank research and evaluation institutions have come into the stage of steady development. On the one hand, with sustainable development, such established institutions published a lot of influential think tank development reports, think tank evaluation reports, journals, papers and academic works. On the other hand, there are more new think tank research and evaluation institutions founded, such as, Wuhan University’s World-Class Think Tank Research and Evaluation Center, Education Think Tank and Education Governance Research and Evaluation Center of Changjiang Education Research Institute, Think Tank Research Center of Shandong Academy of Social Sciences, New-Type Think Tank Research Center of Hebei Academy of Social Sciences and Think Tank Research Center of Tsinghua University’s School of Public Policy and Management.

1.4.2 A Massive Upsurge in Think Tank Research Findings

The construction and research of new-type think tanks is booming in China with a massive upsurge in findings, which is guided by President Xi’s thought on it. A system of knowledge and academic studies on the construction of new types of think tanks with Chinese characteristics has taken initial shape—a system rooted in China’s
own think-tank-related practice, which has laid a strong informational and theoretical foundation for building new types of think tanks with Chinese characteristics.

(1) Abundant Publication of Books about Think Tank Research

Think tank books are an important form of think tank research. In the wave of building new-type think tanks with Chinese characteristics, the number of all kinds of think tank books is increasing. Remarkably, in addition to books of some think tank experts or scholars published by themselves, many book series are compiled or translated by a think tank institution or research team, with systematic, specialized and edged characteristics, tending to make a significant impact.

As an important part of the plan of Nanjing University for building new-type think tanks with Chinese characteristics, *Nanjing University Think Tank Collection* is one of platforms for the cooperation between China Think Tank Research and Evaluation Center of Nanjing University and Think Tank Research and Release Center of *Guangming Daily*, which aims to disseminate and introduce experience about the construction of foreign think tanks to make us learn from under the new situation. The collection was edited by Li Gang, deputy director of the center and top expert, who has planned, edited and issued ten key books, including *Improving Think Tank Management: Practical Guidance for Think Tanks, Research Advocacy NGOs, and Their Funders; The Idea Brokers: Think Tanks and the Rise of the New Policy Elite; A Capitol Idea: Think Tank and US Foreign Policy; La RAND Corporation (1980-2009): La reconfiguration des saviors stratégiques aux États-Unis; The Transformation of American Politics: The New Washington and the Rise of Think Tanks; Chinese Think Tank Index, Think Tanks, Foreign Policy and Geo-Politics: Pathways to Influence; The Idea Industry; Theory and Methodology of Think Tank Evaluation; 2017 Chinese Think Tank Index Report.*

*Theoretical Paradigm and Practical Innovation on the Development of University Think Tanks*, written by Wang Heng, the professor of Institute of African Studies of Zhejiang Normal University (ZNU), has been published by World Affairs Press in September, 2017. As one of a series of books about African think tank and thought
studies under the library of Institute of African Studies of ZNU, the book focus on solving three fundamental questions on the current development of university think tanks: firstly, “why”—whether universities develop think tanks or not and the reasons why universities develop think tanks; secondly, “what”—what connotations and particularities that make university think tanks different from other think tanks are and what their advantages are; thirdly, “how”—how to promote the development of university think tanks, transform and extend the value of university ideology and knowledge to make spillover effects by think tanks.

Northern Lights: Exploring Canada’s Think Tank Landscape, written by Donald E. Abelson, the political science professor of University of Western Ontario, was published on November, 2017, translated by Fudan Development Institute, as one of books among Contemporary International Think Tank Translations released by CTTS of Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences. As the first book to comprehensively explore Canada’s think tanks, this book is of importance to know Canada’s policy institutions. It discusses how think tanks rise in Canada, and expounds many common problems about think tanks—the way how or in what the conditions think tanks will influence public opinions and policies. The writer analyzes in what conditions the think tanks will pay more attention to advocate politics instead of policy research, and strives to explain why think tank institutions are suitable and able to construct the discourse on important policy issues. There are other wonderful books like Contemporary International Think Tank Translations, for example, Think Tanks as Catalysts: Democratization and Market Reform in Developing Transitional Countries, whose writer is James G. MacGann and translators include Xie Huayu, Think Tanks: The Brain Trusts of US Foreign Policy, written by Kubilay Yado Arin and translated by Wang Chengzhi.

(2) Increasingly Growing Think Tank Papers

Think Tanks of Guangming Daily (Weekly), established on December 25th, 2014, has released more than 200 issues. As the first issue named after “Think Tanks” in national print media, it aims to present top research findings of think tanks and boost
the development of new types of think tanks with Chinese characteristics by publishing articles of experts, making exclusive interviews and so on. It mainly releases think tank research findings, offers strategies and suggestions of think tank experts, develops and researches themselves and introduces experience of successful think tanks to have voice from mainstream media and attach great attention in society for the construction of such think tanks.

*Think Tank Theory and Practice* is the first professional journal of think tanks in China, jointly established by National Science Library of Chinese Academy of Sciences and Nanjing University in February, 2016, as a platform to issue findings of academic think tank research, aiming to explore think tank theories, support think tank construction, guide think tank practice and spread think tank findings. It is constituted with different columns, such as features/feature stories, theoretical research, think tank development, expert interview, case analysis, think tank evaluation, think tank report and think tank scan. This journal is published every two month and has 16 issues including over 300 papers so far.

Since then, newspapers, journals and magazines started to launch think tank columns and accept papers about think tank studies. Many library and information academic journals, such as *Library Tribune*, *Think Tank Theory and Practice*, *Document, Information & Knowledge*, *Library and Information*, *Library Journal*, *Library, New Century Library*, *Information Research and Journal of Library and Information Sciences in Agriculture*, publish a large number of papers on think tank for academic research, making library, information and archives science become important subjects and supporting new-type think tank research. The increasing of papers on thank tank studies is mainly due to the rapid development of new-type think tanks with Chinese characteristics, the building of publication platforms for papers and the enthusiasm of think tank researchers. By November, 2018, CNKI has over 10,000 papers only in the name of “think tank”, “brain trust” or “thinking bank”, mostly published after 2013. Because of these numerous papers involved many fields, the construction of new-type think tanks with Chinese characteristics is greatly
supported by theories.

(3) Different Types of Think Tank Evaluation Reports

Depending on their own research resources, some think tank research and evaluation institutions set up different evaluation indexes to periodically conclude and present the construction of new types of think tanks with Chinese characteristics in different dimensions, which produces corresponding think tank reports. Limitations may exist in any evaluation index, but diversified evaluation indexes are of great importance to build the think tank evaluation system with Chinese characteristics. In other words, think tank evaluation will help to summarize experiences, find shortcomings and adjust direction when developing think tanks. At present, the published think tank reports in China include series of *Chinese Think Tank Report* of CTTS of Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences, *Comprehensive Evaluation AMI Research Report on Chinese Think Tank* of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS), *Chinese Think Tank Influence Report* issued jointly by the Horizon Institute of Global Development Power and state-run news website China.org.cn, *Chinese University Think Tank Development Report* of Zhejiang University of Technology’s Global Think Tank Research Center, series of *Chinese Think Tank Index Report* of China Think Tank Research and Evaluation Center of Nanjing University, series of *Impact Report of Chinese Think Tank* issued by Sichuan Academy of Social Sciences and Chengdu Library and Information Center of Chinese Academy of Sciences, *Global Think Tank Evaluation Report* of China Social Sciences Evaluation Center of CASS. Overall, such various think tank reports with diversified indexes released by think tank research and evaluation institutions, has initially formed an evaluation method combining objective data with subjective assessment, improving China’s think tank evaluation system.

**1.5 Conclusion**

As an essential part of national soft power, the construction of new types of think tanks with Chinese characteristics is an important means to build modern governance system, strengthen modern governance capability and drive a more open policy
community. President Xi made far-sighted, detailed instructions on this construction on April 15th, 2013 that we should regard think tank development as an important part of national soft power and make it a national strategy. Since then, documents and policies to promote think tank development have been successively issued at all levels from central to local for more than five years when national, provincial and municipal think tank systems have been gradually improved. With international communication and spreading deepening and think tank researches vigorously carrying out, the external environment has also improved and the endogenous dynamics has strengthened, bringing the construction and development of China’s think tanks into golden age and reaching new heights. Towards the goal to build “specialized top think tanks that the state is urgent need of, each being unique in its own way for institutional innovation and leadership in development”, we have gained outstanding achievements and gradually formed a new-type think tank system “led by national top think tank, supported by provincial and municipal key think tanks and supplemented by other new-type think tanks, clear in the portrait level and abundant in the landscape level”. China think tanks always focus on issues in China, summarize experience of China, make China’s voice, deliver China’s ideas and display Chinese style in development, coming to play an important role in serving national strategies and social public policies.

2 An Overview of the CTTI System

2.1 A Review of the Developing and Constructing Process of the CTTI System

2.1.1 Research and Development Background of the CTTI System

In April 15, 2013, President Xi Jinping pointed in an instruction that we should build new types of think tanks with Chinese characteristics, Chinese style and Chinese manner that can rival famous western think tanks and a state strategy of think tank constructing was launched. However, China has not established a complete statistical analysis method for think tanks by 2015. Opinions vary on how many think tanks are
there in China. The reason why China does not have complete and systematical think tank statistics is that we lack think tank statistical indicator system.

In order to comprehensively describe and collect think tank data and to equip it with the function of data reduction, data search, data analysis and data application, China Think Tank Research and Evaluation Center(CTTREC) of Nanjing University, in collaboration with Think Tank Research and Release Center (TTRRC) of Guangming Daily, started to research and develop China Think Tank Index (CTTI) and formed a research group hosted by Li Gang in June, 2015. By now, the research and development of CTTI System have experienced four phases. The first phase was from June to October in 2015, during this period, researchers completed the system requirement analysis and field design, they determined the basic idea of system design and clarified the system architecture design. On October 18th of the same year, CTTI's mid-term research results were released at the "Symposium on Think Tank Evaluation and Governance" jointly sponsored by Guangming Daily Theory Department and Nanjing University. The achievement was also named as one of the top ten events of 2015 think tank. Subsequently, from November 2015 to June 2016 was the second phase of the system development when researchers completed the development of CTTI's overall system. From July to September 2016, it entered the third phase, when system environment deployment, online test, and commissioning a third-party to test system security were completed. The system was finally released online on September 28, 2016 and was open to all sourced think tanks included to input data.

After the first three phases of system development, CTTI has a relatively complete data field and a list of the first group of source think tanks was included and released in 2016. After more than a year of operation, CTTI has collected a large number of actual needs from various think tanks and management departments, they found that the lack of information management tools for think tanks had seriously restricted the daily management of think tanks. In this regard, in May 2017, the Chinese Think Tank Research and Assessment Center of Nanjing University and the
research team of Think Tank Research and Release Center of *Guangming Daily* decided to further improve the CTTI data fields and to optimize system functions to support solutions to these needs. On this basis, the two centers proposed to jointly create an enhanced data information tool for IT management of think tanks, and the CTTI Plus version came into being. In order to maintain the stability of the system and the reliability of existing data, the core functions of the CTTI Plus version will continue those of CTTI, but the new version will be a comprehensive upgrade of the original one. Moreover, the difference between its positioning and CTTI product positioning is that the CTTI Plus focuses not only on the quantitative evaluation of think tanks, but also on the business needs of think tank information management.

With the joint efforts of the research team, CTTI Plus has been updated and tested online by the end of 2017 and will be put into use from 2018. In May of the same year, the “2017 CTTI Think Tank Best Practice Awards (BPA) Release and Think Tank Evaluation System Seminar” was held in Nanjing by Think Tank Research and Release Center of *Guangming Daily* and China Think Tank Research and Evaluation Center of Nanjing University. The release and launching ceremony of CTTI Plus system in this event attracted eager attention of domestic think tank peers, experts and scholars, the new version of the system has also been widely promoted and utilized.

2.1.2 Overall Architecture of the CTTI System

At present, apart from local main system, the overall architecture of CTTI also includes two other aspects: cloud management of think tanks and the think tank community mechanism. It features a multi-level star topology for user rights assignment. The topology of user ID and rights description is shown in Fig.1.
Fig. 1 Topology of CTTI Plus’ Functional Architecture

The central area demarcated by the curved line represents the think tank community users and the think tank cloud users; the dots beyond the curved line stand for the cloud think tanks. CTTI will provide an online information sharing platform for the Chinese Think Tank Community, as well as further description of the levels of think tank management through the think tank cloud function.

(1) The Think Tank Community (TTC) has been incorporated as a new mechanism into CTTI for the construction of an online alliance of new types of Chinese think tanks and the sharing of achievements in think tank development. The TTC is meant to offer a substantiated network resource platform for think tanks and administrative authorities that are committed to promoting exchange and cooperation between new Chinese think tanks. The TTC membership will mainly consist of government authorities, public institutions, and non-profit legal persons. The members will have access to all the data and functions of the system. Meanwhile, CTTI will assist them in deploying local systems, creating local think tank clouds, and ensuring the daily refreshing of intra-system data, as shown in Fig.2.
Think tanks added by TTC members can be recommended to CTTI’s pool of supplementary resource and properly weighed via an intra-system process. The local data of TTC members will be divided into two parts: the data on institutions and experts included in the CTTI system will be refreshed on a daily basis to TTC members by CTTI; the data on institutions and experts created by TTC members themselves will be locally maintained for security and privacy. When any TTC user-recommended think tank is included in the CTTI source think tank list, CTTI will incorporate all its data at one go and refresh such data on a daily basis, together with those of other source think tanks, to the TTC’s local system.

For compatibility with TTC members’ existing information management systems, we will support customized front interfaces for member units and provide data exchange interfaces to facilitate connection and data exchange with existing systems. In addition, single sign-on will be adopted for log-on by foreground users under the control of all TTC members.

(2) The Think Tank Cloud function has been developed for CTTI II to meet the think tank supervisory authorities’ needs in practical work, after visits to a large number of think tanks and think tank supervision units as well as a summary of previous experience. CTTI has developed the think tank cloud function, which
provides institutions or authorities with data management needs with access to the CTTI system’s well-developed think tank data fields, advanced database schema, and scientific assessment algorithm. It offers data management service to think tanks and supervisory authorities by means of an online big data resource trusteeship platform. Think tank clouds are meant to provide well-developed think tank management and index service to users that are incapable of designing and developing think tank data management systems. Access to think tank clouds can endow common institutions and units with the same capacity for data management and retrieval as those of the CTTI system.(As shown in Fig.3.)

![Think Tank Cloud Management System](image)

**Fig. 3 Think Tank Cloud Management System**

Think tank cloud users can add institution/expert users by themselves for supervision of what is under their control, at the meanwhile, they will have access to CTTI’s highly trustworthy resources without separate deployment or use of local hardware resources. It is necessary to emphasize that, in order to maintain data security, all data among think tank clouds are independent of each other. All data belonging to the users of any think tank clouds are only accessible to the think tank accounts within the framework of that particular cloud rather than to the public. Think tank cloud managers can incorporate think tanks and experts into think tank clouds for centralized management by creating cloud think tanks.(As shown in Fig.4).
2.1.3 Main Functions of CTTI System

(1) Foreground Retrieve and Browse

Main functions of the front end of CTTI system are retrieval and news browsing. In terms of retrieval, the process includes six types of tasks: institution retrieval, expert retrieval, product retrieval, activity retrieval, demand retrieval and comprehensive retrieval. CTTI supports fuzzy queries and multi-condition queries. Multi-condition queries can be achieved by separating key words by spaces, just like the common search engine. Among them, comprehensive retrieval is the "OR" operation of the first five types of retrievals. And for these five tasks, CTTI provides a secondary screening function for the search results. There are several conditions for each screening item, which can be selected by checking. For institution and expert retrievals, CTTI provides an alphabetical index for quick searching. Final retrieval results of CTTI include two parts: a result list and a related result. The result list refers
to a list of all the items that meet the search condition, and the result items are sorted according to the hit weight, which means that the matching rate of retrieval field is ranked from high to low.

![Fig. 5 Retrieval Task Process](image)

At the same time, the CTTI system also has a news browsing function in the foreground. The system will regularly push the latest news and announcements in the system station, as well as popular organizations and different types of achievements with large number of hits, so that users can obtain relevant information in time.

(2) Background Data Processing and User Management

Based on a powerful database, the CTTI background includes two task processes: data processing and user management. The main functions of the data processing include data entry, modification, review, release and maintenance (as shown in Fig.6). The “data” includes not only organization, expert, product and activity data, but also peripheral data such as news and demand information. Data comes from network or paper sources collected manually. In the data processing flow, institutional and expert users can log in to the system through different portals and enter the data of the
corresponding fields. These data will be released or open for retrieval after reviewed by the system administrator. System administrators have the highest authority for auditing and data management. For audited data, all system users and visitors can retrieve directly.

![Data Processing flow](image)

**Fig. 6 Data Processing flow**

On the other hand, the background management process is only open to system administrators, including user registration and identity management, log management, parameter settings, news release, statistical analysis, data management, and auditing (as shown in Fig. 7).
The process shown by the dotted line is the user registration process, including institutional user and expert user registration. Experts cannot register as a system user unless they are associated with a think tank. The identity management process is responsible for the management of user accounts of different identities, including adding, deleting, changing, querying, password resetting, permission setting, and auditing of front-end registered users. The log management process mainly records all actions related to operations in the front and background for the convenience of operation auditing and troubleshooting. The parameter setting process mainly sets some control parameters of the system, including the email setting of sending emails, setting of information related to website crawling (frequency, time, etc.), log retention time of log management, and log size. The news release process mainly means CTTI's own news release, modification, deletion, release review, and revocation. The statistical analysis process mainly includes the statistics of the think tanks, experts, achievements and activities embodied, as well as the statistics of the region, organization type and research area of think tanks.

(3) Diversified Assessment Functions
The CTTI assessment is a multi-factor assessment model, which includes dozens or even hundreds of factors to maximize the authenticity of the think tank assessment. Based on the MRPAI algorithm, the CTTI system introduces customized assessment function that can be flexibly configured and subject assessment by experts. On the one hand, the system has statistic function of configurable fields, which allows different types and different dimensions of statistical results to be displayed, so that users can more intuitively observe the state of the data, freeing users from cumbersome reports and helping them deal with their daily management tasks quickly and easily. After logging in to the system, advanced users are free to choose data dimensions according to the target and focus of assessment. Then they can configure these dimensions according to their preferences and eventually obtain a customized ranking as a result of the assessment. On the other hand, in terms of think tank assessment, experts’ impression makes an essential dimension. The CTTI system has now included nearly 10,000 experts, who will be incorporated into the pool of subjective assessment resources for think tanks. The system will send a list of think tanks to be assessed as a link in an email to experts, who will log onto the system to grade them. Then advanced users or system administrators will make an integrated calculation of both the results of subjective assessment and those of quantitative assessment.

It is worth mentioning that the CTTI system adopts the mainstream big data analysis technology, and has realized the offline data statistics, analysis and mining functions of the think tank data. It aims to objectively evaluate and sort the think tank institutions and experts from different perspectives, mainly including parallel comparison between think tanks and that between experts, as well as how think tanks and experts are likely to develop in their particular fields. It is intended to provide the Party and the government with decision-making service and give statistical support for policy consultation in the designated areas.

All think tank users have access to basic functions corresponding to CTTI main system such as searching, browsing, managing, data processing and assessment.
2.2 Overview of CTTI Data Inclusion

Up to now, CTTI has included 706 institutions, 11992 experts, 17,878 events, and 115,421 achievements. It means that CTTI has covered various types and large volume of think tank data, which can meet the different needs of think tank information retrieval to a certain extent.

Take expert information for example, through the background statistics, more than three-quarters of the experts who have filled in the academic information have received doctoral education, and 15% of the experts have received master's education, while undergraduates, junior college students and experts with other qualifications account for less than 10%. It shows that the new think tank has more high-level intellectual resources, and most of the experts have received professional academic research training and education, and are proficient in a certain field. Therefore, we still have confidence in the human capital of the construction of new think tank.

Fig. 8 Distribution of Experts' Education Background

At the same time, we also counted the distribution of experts in the discipline. According to Fig.9, these experts are distributed in 13 subject areas. Among them, nearly three-quarters of the experts are from Economics, Law or Management, with the largest number of experts in Economics, accounting for 26%, and experts in Law and Management accounting for 23% and 20% respectively. In addition to these three types of disciplines, Engineering experts account for 9%, experts in Literary and
Philosophy each account for 5%, History experts account for 4%, Science and Education each account for 3%, Art, Medicine, Military and Agronomy experts are less than 1%. It can be concluded that China's new think tank experts are mainly concentrated in the field of social sciences. There are few experts in the field of natural sciences and humanities, and the structure of experts is still to be further optimized.

**Fig 9 Distribution of Experts’ Specialized Fields**

By counting the data of each sub-database of CTTI, we found that the product database contains the largest amount of information, covering products of many fields. Among them, the internal reference is the most characteristic and most important decision-making consultation result in China's think tank. Source think tanks has contributed nearly 8,000 articles by now. However, according to the statistics of the internal reference results of source think tanks, 76% of the internal reference reports failed to get a response after submission. The factor of confidentiality cannot be ruled out, and some reports have been commented on but no feedback was given to the think tanks that had submitted them among the approved internal reference reports, 17% received comments or instructions at the provincial and ministerial level, 3%
received feedback at the bureau/department level, and about 2% of the internal reference reports was approved by the sub-state or state level. This also reflects to some extent that there is a certain mismatch between the supply of policy research and the decision-making needs of the new think tanks, and the current think tanks need to offer better-targeted and more timely research and consultation service.

Fig. 10 Comments received by Internal Reference Reports of Source Think Tanks

Secondly, from the quantitative statistics, the paper has always been the main product of the source think tank. In the chart of “Papers Published by Source Think Tanks”, we conclude the following results according to the journals in which the papers were included in the core journal catalogue (Fig.11). Since a paper may be included in different core journal catalogues at the same time, we only count the
number of source think tank papers included in each core journal catalog. Obviously, CSSCI has the largest number of papers, 20,000 papers are from CSSCI source journals; SCI and SSCI have the number of papers ranging from 1000 to 2000; and the “Three Newspapers and One Journal” (*People’s Daily, Guangming Daily, Economic Daily and Seeking Truth*) published 213 papers, only accounts for 1% of the CSSCI inclusions. What needs to be affirmed is that most of the source think tanks have sound academic research foundation. However, think tank research is different from academic research and basic theoretical research in the general sense. It must emphasize service consciousness and pioneering and innovative ability. The new think tank system with college and university think tank as main body should focus on improving the attributes of think tank and realize reasonable resource allocation between academic research and decision-making services.

![Fig 11 Papers Published by Source Think Tanks](image)

In addition, source think tanks have different types of vertical and horizontal projects, and the number of vertical projects is almost twice that of horizontal projects. In the vertical project statistics, the number of provincial and ministerial-level
projects is the largest, reaching a total of 2051 (47%); 685 (16%) common/young scholar projects supported by the National Social Science Fund, 306 (7%) major projects supported by the National Social Science Fund or the Social Science Fund of the Ministry of Education, and 235 (5%) key projects supported by the National Social Science Fund and the National Natural Science Fund. In the horizontal project, the total number of social science projects is more than natural science; projects at or above 100,000 RMB account for the largest proportion of natural science projects undertaken by think tanks, while those at or above 50,000 RMB constitute the majority among social science projects. On average, each source think tank undertakes 7 projects of different types, but how to translate it into policy research products more effectively is a question that new think tanks should consider.

![Fig 12 Source Think Tank Projects by Type](image-url)
2.3 The Role and Impact of CTTI

CTTI's user base includes governments, enterprises, social organizations, etc. These users have a large number of policy research and consulting needs, but they may not know who is the most appropriate solution provider. And think tanks are often in a situation where there is insufficient task and they have no idea where the customer is. One of the goals of CTTI is to solve this information asymmetry. As a "vertical search engine" (professional search) of a think tank, CTTI is supported by complete fields, and displays the results of the query in a multi-angle query manner, showing the think tank from internal structure to external activities, from personnel to results, intelligently analysing various information of the think tank so as to quickly and accurately retrieve the target information, such as finding experts for the subject and finding the subject for the experts, thereby eliminating the "information asymmetry" between the think tank and users. The successful launch of CTTI has filled the blank of data management and online assessment tools in China's think...
tanks, provided basic data for the assessment of think tanks in China, clarified the complex work of new think tank assessment which is consist of organization assessment, product assessment, personnel assessment and activity assessment and guided this work to be rational and objective. However, it should be noted that the CTTI data is intended for think tank assessment and can provide a basis for various assessment.

At the same time, CTTI is not an imitation of a mature product in the West, but an independent innovation based on the advantages of China's system. Its design concept, functional layout, data collection mechanism, evaluation mechanism are all proposed independently. It is embodied in the following aspects:

First, CTTI established a data collection mechanism for co-construction and sharing, and attached importance to the objectivity and accuracy of the data. At present, there are three ways to collect data in the system: (1) report by source think tanks and experts; (2) manual collection by China Think Tank Research and Evaluation Center of Nanjing University; (3) automatic grab of online data. The first method is the mainstream. The data is entered by think-tank administrators or experts and submitted to the CTTI background for review. Each piece of data can not be submitted to the database until it is verified by the background. This kind of data collection mechanism looks labor-intensive, however, thanks to the most popular “crowdsourcing” (crowdfunding) model, data is constructed and shared by users and the data collection costs are distributed to each participant, making it relatively low. The manual mode greatly improved the accuracy and objectivity of the data. In order to reduce the situation in which the data is interfered, the impact value of each expert in each think tank of the CTTI is automatically calculated according to the reported data, except for a few fields filled out by the background administrator.

Second, CTTI's UI design and user experience have reached the forefront of similar products. For example, CTTI allows hundreds of thousands of people to enter data at the same time. Since collaborative research is a normal state in modern scientific research, there must be such a scene where different experts and different
think tanks have entered the same literature under their own name. Therefore, when data is entered in the CTTI, as long as the associated data appears, the system automatically pulls the existing data and allows the nearest entrant to modify it. This not only eliminates the same data, but also saves data entry. In addition, in order to help data entry personnel to accurately enter data without consulting the system manual, CTTI provides data entry prompts for almost every field. The prompts give explanation as well as examples of the field.

Third, system and data security of CTTI have reached the level of quasi-financial data security. On the deployment solution, CTTI deploys the application server separate from the data server and adopts the internal and external network isolation scheme. Public network users can only access the application server and cannot directly access the data server, which ensures data security. In terms of communication protocols, CTTI uses https SSL encryption protocol to ensure that all request data is encrypted during transmission, preventing an attacker from illegally accessing the system by intercepting the tampering request content. Due to the large amount of data collected by CTTI, in order to prevent the system data from being easily stolen, CTTI also make the design of anti-smashing network, adopting the B/S architecture and scientific permission setting and role allocation to ensure the availability and controllability of information, when general visitors access system, they can only query the most basic data and can not see the full picture of the system.

Fourth, CTTI has innovated a user tiered service model. In addition to the policy research institutions of the party and government that need to use think tanks, the CTTI users also cover civil affairs bureaus and propaganda departments that are responsible for the registration and guidance of the think tank, internal users such as think tank administrators and experts, academic propaganda units like universities, media, and research institutes, companies and other profit-making departments as well as the general public. CTTI designed a layered service solution for different levels of users and provided targeted services. Different levels of users access to different level and type of data. For example, various statistical icons and statistical
tools are designed in consideration of the needs of the administration departments. In the aspect of data presentation and export, the needs of think tanks are fully taken into consideration, think tanks and experts can easily manage and export data in CTTI.

Fifth, CTTI has established a statistical indicator system and metadata standards for new types of think tanks with Chinese characteristics in a certain sense. More than 900 fields included by the system realize a comprehensive coverage of various attributes of think tank basic information, expert information, product information, and activity information, and give three-dimensional portraits of various elements of the think tank. These data fields can be used as metadata for future development of other think tank systems.

Overall, since the system was launched, CTTI has been freely tested by more than 60 university libraries, such as Peking University, Renmin University of China, Fudan University, Nanjing University, Southeast University, etc.; online visits reached nearly 2 million times, becoming an important platform to find think tank and think tank experts in China and its influence is increasing day by day..

At the same time, Shandong Academy of Social Sciences (SASS) and Tianjin Federation of Social Science (TFSS) have become members of the CTTI think tank community, having completed their local system deployment. "China Think Tank Index" Tianjin Edition (CTTI-TJ) was first established and officially put into operation in 2018, and the integrated business management system of social science federation which was integrated with it has also been put into use. At present, there are more than 20 cloud think tanks, over 240 think tanks, and more than 2,000 think tank experts in CTTI-TJ. The conference management, project management, social science awards, journal editors, annual conference papers and other services of Tianjin Federation of Social Science will directly call CTTI-TJ data resources, its new business data will also be directly written into the database, making the CTTI data alive and useful. With the online launch of CTTI-TJ, Tianjin Federation of Social Science also explored to establish a dynamic management mechanism of CTTI source think tank, ranking the CTTI source think tanks in Tianjin every year and the latter
10% will face elimination.

In January 2018, China Think Tank Research and Evaluation Center of Nanjing University and the Think Tank Research and Release Center of Guangming Daily jointly edited and published the reference book named China Think Tank Index, which has been widely collected by domestic think tanks and university libraries, and also has been collected by some world-renowned think tank libraries such as Brookings Institution and Kissinger Research Center. In May 2018, the 2017 CTTI Think Tank Report (Bilingual Edition) based on CTTI source think tank data was successfully published, and the English version was published in full text by ON THINK TANK, an internationally famous think tank research website. Since then, many overseas think tank researchers have paid high attention to it. At 8:00 pm on December 6, 2018, the website director Enrique Mendizabal and the Washington Metropolitan Institute researcher Dr. Milton and other dozens of experts and scholars were online at the same time, and invited Professor Li Gang from China Think Tank Research and Evaluation Center of Nanjing University as the author representative of CTTI Think Tank Report (2017). They had a heated discussion on topics such as China's new think tank construction and CTTI Think Tank Report (2017). The promotion of China Think Tank Index and CTTI Think Tank Report (2017) has played a positive role in the CTTI source think tanks.

With the increasing influence of CTTI at home and abroad, and the steady increase in the number of think tank community members and think tank clouds, a period of fast development will surely come for the growth of system data. When that happens, on the strength of an academic community made up of nearly 10,000 experts and the capacity for customized, objective and quantitative assessment, CTTI will become a crucial tool for the think tank community, capable of both management and assessment—a tool that can help to push ahead with the construction of new types of Chinese think tanks.

3 Addition to Catalogue of CTTI’s Source Think Tanks in 2018
3.1 Principles of Source Think Tank Addition

Since the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, the construction of new types of think tanks with Chinese characteristics has entered a new era of stable development. Relevant central ministries and commissions and relevant provinces and cities have selected their key think tanks and think tanks for priority development. In order to enable the CTTI source think tank objectives to be more accurately reflected the development trend of new think tanks, the CTTI team decided to start the 2018 CTTI source think tank supplementation work on the basis of the full discussion and asking for experts’ advice. They will continue the combination of voluntary application by think tanks, data submission, expert review and diagnostic research and there will be high requirements for the selection of the second batch.

(1) Requirements for addition

Adhere to the same standards that were applied to the selection of the first batch of think tanks. Think tanks that expect to be added will be considered in terms of the following seven steps, with particular focus on whether they operate as substantial entities and whether they are highly capable of policy research and advice as indicated by successful products. Those who have been identified by provinces, cities, ministries and commissions as provincial and ministerial-level key think tanks and think tanks for priority development (policy research bases) are preferred.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Table 1 Benchmarks for the Selection of Source Think Tanks</th>
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<td><strong>Details</strong></td>
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(2) Rules of addition

The think tanks of a university can be recommended by the university’s research supervision department or by themselves. In the latter case, they should still obtain approval from that department. We have limited the number of CTTI source think tanks from each college or university in order to ensure fairness in the assessment of source think tanks and the university think tank index. However, such restrictions are not applicable to strong and highly active university think tanks that have distinct characteristics, abundant products, and flexible mechanisms. Besides, for regions, categories and policy areas in which smaller numbers of think tanks have been selected, we will give them full consideration and an appropriate measure of preference during the adding process.

(3) Addition Procedures

i) Think tanks expecting to be added should fill out the attached form
ii) Qualification Review

iii) Create accounts for think tanks that are up to the standard

iv) Think tanks that have passed the primary selection fill in the data

v) Data review

vi) Screen out the think tanks up to the CTTI criteria for the quality and quantity of data

vii) CTTI expert panel review

viii) Announce the addition list and issue the CTTI source think tank certificate.

3.2 The Process of Adding Source Think Tanks in 2018

The adding process was officially kicked off when the CTTI issued “2018 Notice on the Addition of CTTI Source Think Tanks” on July, 17, 2018. Think tanks expecting to be added were required to fill out “2018 CTTI Source Think Tank Addition Application Form” and provide their basic information as well as opinions from the research supervision departments of the organizations in charge of them or the organizations they are directly affiliated to for qualification review. The adding efforts received strong support from think tanks and research management departments. By September 30, 2018, the CTTI Addition Work Group received nearly 200 application materials of various types, most of which are provincial or ministerial-level key (nurturing) think tanks, and some are Ministry of Education (or state) key research bases, as well as several high-end cultivation think tanks of a country. The CTTREC of Nanjing University and the TTRRC of Guangming Daily made an initial selection of 87 qualified think tanks after joint surveys, discussions and reviews.

After the primary selection was completed, the Addition Work Group sent letters to the selected think tanks for data collection. Thanks to efforts from all quarters, these think tanks entered large amounts of precious data, including their basic information, experts, activities and products, in a responsive and meticulous manner between October 11 and November 20, 2017. This gave a strong support to the CTTI addition efforts.
As soon as data collection was over, the Work Group organized a team of experts for a second evaluation of the think tanks that had passed the primary selection, based on the data they filled in, their application forms and the survey results, by the standard of how scientific and complete the data were and the corresponding competitiveness. Think tanks which had not fulfilled the obligations they had been notified of during the primary selection, or which had failed to provide adequate and valid data for expert review, would be excluded from the addition list by the Work Group.

After these procedures, it was finally decided that 84 think tanks would be added to CTTI this time. These include 1 think tank of Party/government organization, 2 think tanks of academy of social sciences, 1 think tank of the Party school or administrative college, 79 university think tanks and 1 think tank of the research institution.

On the other hand, Tianjin Federation of Social Science (TFSS), Nanjing University and Guangming Daily have established strategic cooperation since 2016. In accordance with the three-party strategic cooperation agreement, the 2018 addition of CTTI source think tanks in Tianjin was organized and implemented by TFSS. The three phases of data reporting, addition reporting and addition review have got positive response from think tanks and superior supervisory units in Tianjin. TFSS launched the work of CTTI-TJ data reporting in the second half of 2018. By the end of November, more than 200 think tanks in Tianjin, especially those who expect to be added have rigorously and meticulously entered a large amount of data of their basic information, experts, activities, products, etc., strongly supporting the follow-up addition review work. Based on it, TFSS has clarified the addition reporting principle, which is taking both the requirements of the national think tank and the characteristics of the Tianjin think tank into consideration, and carried out the work of addition reporting. By the end of the application, a total of 32 applications from 14 units have been received, covering the major universities and social think tanks in Tianjin. After formal review, 30 candidate think tanks were selected to participate in the addition
review. In order to ensure the fairness and impartiality of the addition review, TFSS has repeatedly deliberated and formulated a detailed review plan. Through the qualification review, quantitative scoring, and MRPA scoring, the top 21 think tanks are recommended as CTTI source think tanks.

Finally, modified and corrected CTTI's existing source think tank list, plus 84 new think tanks added this year, and 21 think tanks recommended by Tianjin, CTTI has 706 official source think tanks.

### 3.3 Tianjin Source Think Tanks Addition Experience

Tianjin takes a big proportion in this year's think tank addition work. Since the publication of CTTI's first batch of source think tanks in 2016, it is the first time that provincial (city, autonomous region) units take the responsibility of organizing the addition of source think tanks in the region. The reason why TFSS can successfully complete this work can be listed as follow:

First, the leaders of TFSS attached great importance to the addition, which ensured that Tianjin became the first area to organize the work. In order to construct CTTI-TJ and to improve the CTTI source think tank addition in Tianjin, TFSS leaders went to Beijing and Nanjing several times to discuss the specific content and details of the cooperation strategy among the three parties. When the addition began, TFSS Party Group paid high attention to it and conducted many researches to ensure that the standard was supplemented, the process was serious, and the results were fair.

Second, the foundation of Tianjin think tank work ensured that the addition was completed at a high quality. Since 2015, TFSS has successively launched a series of think tank work, they not only established think tank organizations of different type and level, but also constructed a think tank information platform with CTTI-TJ as the database. Up to now, Tianjin Think Tank Alliance has nearly a hundred member think tanks, and the think tank information platform has realized that more than 20 cloud think tanks, more than 200 think tank institutions, and over 2,000 think tank experts to share information and work collaboratively online. The preliminary work has laid a solid foundation for this addition with high quality and at a high level.
Third, support from think tanks and their superiors ensured the addition completed on time and in good quality. Since the release of the addition notice, Tianjin social science community has shown great enthusiasm and serious attitude. Despite the heavy workload of data reporting and the relatively short preparation time for addition declaration and report, think tanks and their superiors worked closely together and carefully organized the work to finish it in time.

The CTTI source think tank addition in Tianjin is the first year of the attempt. It draws on national experience and explores methods suitable for local characteristics. Features can be listed as follow:

The first is to benchmark the country and pay attention to the locality. In the reporting stage, Tianjin has formulated local reporting standards that correspond to national reporting indicators, and adjusted the values of some reporting indicators according to the construction situation of local think tanks. At the same time, in order to highlight the characteristic of the local think tank that “Tianjin Think Tank Serves for Tianjin”, it also designed indicators that investigate how the think tank serve for local economy and society development in the reporting and review stage.

Second, it has wide participation and high degree of recognition. Think tanks applying for participation in this addition basically covered Tianjin's major colleges and universities, research institutes and key social think tanks. Each think tank and its superior supervisory department highly recognized and valued it. They repeatedly consult TFSS for details of this addition, some even organized the think tanks to manoeuvre the presentation in advance.

Third, the standards are clear and the assessment is scientific. The TFSS successively formulated clear addition reporting standards, qualification review standards, meeting evaluation and scoring standards, and used CTTI-TJ to automatically calculated MRPA scores. Considering that think tank work is different from traditional scientific research work, TFSS hired experts from different fields such as decision-making consulting management and demand departments and think tank management departments, think tank experts and other experts to form an
assessment expert group. It can avoid the problems brought by appointing university professors as review experts, which is athletes take the responsibility of referees and can guarantee the scientificity and impartiality of the review.

The fourth characteristic is dynamic management and system planning. There are 50 CTTI source think tanks in Tianjin after the 2018 addition. TFSS will make full use of the massive data resources in the database to implement dynamic management and lowliest place elimination mechanism to the 50 CTTI source think tanks, so that the database can be “alive” and “efficient” and the think tank can be “active”. At the same time, the two tasks of CTTI source think tank addition and CTTI-TJ data report will also be combined with other measures held by TFSS, such as think tank classification evaluation, supporting key think tanks, social think tank management. They will together shape a think tank construction system in Tianjin social science community and form a think tank work structure with outstanding emphasis and hierarchy.

3.4 Analysis of the CTTI Source Think Tank Data

（1）Regional Distribution of CTTI Source Think Tanks

First, the regional distribution of the CTTI source think tanks is shown in Fig.14, according to the administrative division of China. Overall, North China and East China show a noticeable superiority in number. Source think tanks in these two regions account for more than a half of all the selected think tanks. North China has 269 selected think tanks, or 38.22% of all the selected organizations, closely followed by East China, which has 190. The distribution of source think tanks is relatively even in other regions.
Secondly, compared with previous years, the regional distribution of the top five source think tanks is basically unchanged, still in Beijing, Shanghai, Tianjin, Jiangsu and Hunan. Among them, a total of 197 think tanks were selected in Beijing, and the total number of source think tanks ranked first. This is inseparable from Beijing's special political, economic and cultural status. The rankings of Shanghai, Tianjin and Jiangsu closely followed. As a major province for the development of social sciences, Hunan has fully integrated the advantages of resources within the province in recent years, and the construction of new think tanks has achieved remarkable results. At the same time, Guangdong, Hubei and Shanxi also continued to expand their think tanks, with the number of selected think tanks reaching more than 20. In addition, the number of think tanks in Chongqing, Shandong, Zhejiang, Sichuan, Hebei, Gansu, Jiangxi, and Liaoning provinces has also improved to some extent, and the construction of think tanks has presented a scene of “hundred flowers blooming”.
Fig. 15 Distribution of the CTTI Source Think Tanks by Province (Region/City)

(2) Distribution of CTTI Source Think Tanks by Type

The statistical chart on the distribution of the CTTI source think tanks by type shows that, university think tank is still the most important type in source think tank, with a total of 441 and accounts for 62%. There are 69 (10%) think tanks in Party or
government organizations, 51 (7%) in academies of social sciences, 48 (7%) in Party schools or administrative colleges, 36 (5%) society think tanks, 34 (5%) in research institutions, 13 (2%) media think tanks, 8 (1%) corporate think tanks, and 6 (1%) in the armed forces.

![Fig. 16 Distribution of CTTI Source Think Tanks by Type](chart)

From the overall distribution of think tank type, the proportion of all kinds of think tanks has hardly changed much. Compared with last year, the think tanks of colleges and universities, of Party and government departments, and those of the academies of social sciences have increased in different degrees. Among them, as mentioned above, the main body of the newly-added source think tanks is also think tanks of colleges and universities. Universities represented by Xi'an Jiaotong
University, Shanghai Jiaotong University, Beijing Jiaotong University and many other top-ranking universities have improved their own think tank strength and once again strengthened think tanks in colleges and universities. For the latter two parts, there is also a small number of Party and government think tanks and academies of social sciences think tanks emerging, such as Northeast Asia Strategic Research Institute, Heilongjiang Social Development and Local Governance Research Institute, Shandong Academy of Innovation Strategy.

(3) CTTI source think tank distribution of main research areas

Specialized division of labor is an important feature of modern new think tanks. According to the CTTI’s statistics of background, the source think tank involves 54 specific research fields, and a small number of think tanks choose “other”, which no statistics will be made here. It should be noted that there are source think tanks that specialize in a particular research policy; there are also some think tanks that have multiple research areas, that is, a think tank is involved in multiple research policies. From the Distribution of CTTI Source Think Tanks by Area of Research (Fig.17), it can be seen that the research field of the source think tanks is relatively scattered, and the focused policy areas are diversified. Among them, industrial policy, financial policy, cultural policy, fiscal policy and market policy are the five specific research areas that the source think tank is most concerned about, and more than 100 think tanks are engaged in related fields.
Fig. 17 Distribution of CTTI Source Think Tanks by Area of Research

In addition, there are many research focus on think tanks that study diplomacy policy, social security policy, science and technology policy, resource policy, and foreign trade policy. It can be seen that economic, social and cultural issues that are closely related to real life are still the areas of greatest concern for think tanks, and each area reflects different research forces of think tanks. In contrast, there are few specialized think tanks that study policies on the following fields: personnel; the United Front; Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan; water conservancy; auditing; supervision and monitoring; drugs and public security. Those industries have no well-developed think tanks.

4 The MRPAI Assessment Indicator System and Ranking Rule

4.1 Basic Principles of Evaluation

The think tank is designed to provide public policy research and consulting products with public and non-profits attributes, so it is impossible to measure the value of think tanks and their products in full accordance with market mechanisms. Then the most common method of measuring the value of this kind of public product is public evaluation. There are innumerable types of public evaluation, which can be applied to public products, public services, public institutions, public governance, public environment and public systems. The main body of public evaluation is also diverse, including government, individuals, enterprises, social organizations, and so on. Generally speaking, if the party that invest public resources is regarded as Party A (the entrusting party) and the evaluated party as Party B, then the party that conducts evaluation would be the third party. Since most of the public resources in China are invested by the government, evaluation carried out by NGOs can be called third-party evaluation.

CTTI think tank assessment is a third-party process/outcome-oriented evaluation of think tanks in terms of their capability and efficiency of resource utilization.
During the process, we draw on relevant methods of the fourth-generation evaluation theory, combine with the specific reality of the field of think tank evaluation, and establish the following points as the basic principles of think tank evaluation.

(1) The purpose of evaluation is to professionally enhance the management of think tanks rather than generate power of governance or speech.

(2) Evaluation is the process of dialogue and exchange by which the evaluator learns from the evaluated. The evaluator and the evaluated need to participate in the evaluation process together, rather than unilateral disciplinary process.

(3) Evaluation involves systematic analysis based on data, the lack of which would make measurement impossible. Think tanks whose data are not available cannot be evaluated. The interpretation of the data in evaluation should be objective and accurate, and the results of the evaluation and analysis should not be distorted.

(4) The evaluation process must be fair and open, with verifiable and repeatable results and timely response to accountability demands from the public. The evaluator must have the essential professional qualifications.

(5) Business secrets must be respected, individuals’ privacy protected, and basic security requirements be strictly complied with for state secrets.

(6) All for public benefit, the evaluation outcome is to be publicly shared in non-profit ways within a certain range.

4.2 Selection of the MRPAI Assessment Indicators

The fields in the CTTI database serve to portray think tanks, experts, products and activities. They are the metadata format and standard vocabulary for describing think tanks. Theoretically speaking, a richer vocabulary will make for a more accurate portrait. Based on these data fields, we hope to make quantitative and qualitative analysis of data from CTTI source think tanks with a combination of expertise in data science and specialized knowledge about modern think tank management, and offer the result to a think tank community. In this regard, this year's report is an improvement and supplementation on the basis of the existing MRPA evaluation system, and has established a new evaluation indicator system, MRPAI. It should be
noted that when selecting and determining the measurement indicators, we do not cover every data field of the database, but make some choice. Specifically, we focus on the following principles when selecting those indicators:

（1）The granularity of the indicator data must be suited to their availability. Although China's new think tank construction has achieved certain results, think tanks differ enormously in their way of doing things, with a great variety in the form of raw data. Besides, China’s think tanks have low data cumulativeness, and the awareness of data management is lacking. Most think tanks do not have long-term data archives except for the key centers under the Ministry of Education, which have standard data filling procedures. Such being the case, in order to encourage think tanks to apply for inclusion in CTTI and make it less difficult to fill in data, most of the database fields are specifically set up a reasonable number of required data items. As a result, when selecting MRPAI indicators, we must consider the availability of the actual data of CTTI field. Therefore, the MRPAI indicators were selected according to the following procedures:

![Fig.18 MRPAI Indicator Selection Procedure](image)

At the beginning, the proposed indicators are entered into the system one by one to match the data. If data availability is below 80%, the granularity of indicators is abandoned or lowered. Take the “think tank expert” indicator for example. Though we had expected to evaluate experts’ professional titles and age structure, data matching showed that we have not acquired enough data in this field. However, the
number of experts and the annual budget had been reported by 90% of the think tanks. So these two values were selected as basic indicators for measuring a think tank’s resource (R).

(2) Indicator data must be highly essential, typical and expressive. The selected indicators must be essential and typical fields that can represent the attributes of think tanks. Such attributes are mainly reflected in a well-developed structure of governance, a strong tendency towards policy impact, proactive use of forums and meetings for greater public influence, and in-depth and pragmatic research and survey. Therefore, more indicators were selected from fields that can reflect such attributes (e.g., internal reference, written instructions or comments, research reports, projects, meetings, and research and survey) in order to highlight the attributes of think tanks.

(3) Indicators should be objective and systematic. The objectivity of indicators has two meanings; i) like CTTI data fields, indicators reveal the true attributes of think tanks as an integration of the most objective fields; ii) objective values instead of highly subjective estimates should be assigned to indicators. That indicators should be systematic refers to the existence of rigorously logical relationship between them. For instance, the five primary indicators of MRPAI reflect the performance logic of input and output. Only such indicators can make up what is called an indicator system.

(4) The indicator system must be conducive to the development of think tanks and suited to the status quo in this respect. If the construction of new types of think tanks with Chinese characteristics has achieved certain results in the past five years since 2013, then the next three years will be the crucial stage of the construction, it is a key stage for achieving high-quality development of new think tank construction. But we must also admit that there are still many problems such as inadequate understanding of how things work and the lack of standard procedures in operation. Therefore, we cannot measure the think tank according to international standards or standards that do not match to the present construction of China's think tanks. Otherwise, it is easy to dampen the enthusiasm of the evaluated think tanks, and it
would hardly help to develop think tanks by encouraging them and recognizing their performance.

According to these principles, we have selected 5 primary indicators and 24 secondary ones. The 5 primary indicators are M (management structure), R (resources), P (products), A (activities) and I (impact)—known as the MRPAI assessment indicators. As a result-oriented system for assessing the effectiveness of think tanks, MRPAI can evaluate a think tank from two dimensions—the quantity of resources used and the effect or effectiveness of resource utilization. It can measure a think tanks’s size and output, its effectiveness, and the intensity of its attributes. Therefore, the MRPAI system is in keeping with the principles for indicator selection and suitable for effective measurement of CTTI source think tanks.

In terms of secondary indicators, when we are solely interested in R, we can measure the size of a think tank’s budget and personnel. There is no doubt that a well-funded think tank with a large staff of experts and administrators is a big one. When we focus on P, we can measure the number of a think tank’s research fundings. Obviously, a think tank with fruitful findings is a good one. When we only look at A, we can measure the number of events organized by a think tank. Though a think tank cannot be considered a good one just because it holds many events, one that rarely does so can never be a typical think tank. Such think tanks are more like research centers in universities or the government’s policy research offices, although there is a certain academic and policy influence, but the think tank attributes may be weak. When we focus on I, we can measure the number of media reports and social impact. Media impact is one of the ways for think tanks to play the role in providing consultation for governments and educating the public, and it is also an important indicator to evaluate the level of think tanks.

An institution is usually considered to have strong think tank attributes when it has high values in P1, P2 and P5 and a high total value in the A and I category, MRPAI can also measure the effectiveness of a think tank, for its output divided by its resources equals its effectiveness.
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<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Management Structure</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Board of Directors</td>
<td>M1</td>
<td>Assign value if yes</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Academic Committee</td>
<td>M2</td>
<td>Assign value if yes</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Advisory Committee</td>
<td>M3</td>
<td>Assign value if yes</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Management Team/Chief Expert</td>
<td>M4</td>
<td>Assign value if yes</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>China Top Think Tank</td>
<td>M5</td>
<td>Assign value if yes</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resources</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>Annual Budget</td>
<td>R1</td>
<td>≤1 million Assign value for each additional sum of 100,000 yuan</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Scientific Research Staff</td>
<td>R2</td>
<td>≤10 persons Multiplied by value for each additional person</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Administrative Staff</td>
<td>R3</td>
<td>≤5 persons Multiplied by value for each additional person</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Cyber Resources</td>
<td>R4</td>
<td>Has a portal in Chinese Has a portal in English</td>
<td>20 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Products</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>Products</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>Products</td>
<td>P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------</td>
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<td>----------</td>
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<td>----------</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Single internal reference reports with or without leaders’ comments</td>
<td>P1</td>
<td>Assign value for each title</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Internal reference reports commented by leaders</td>
<td>P2</td>
<td>State level/per comment</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sub-state level/per comment</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Provincial or ministerial level/per comment</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sub-provincial or ministerial level/per comment</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Journals sponsored/run by Think Tanks</td>
<td>P3</td>
<td>Each CSSCI source journal</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Each common journal</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Each</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category</td>
<td>Code</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Assign Value for Each Unit</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books (officially published)</td>
<td>P4</td>
<td>bulletin/collection of internal reference reports</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research reports</td>
<td>P5</td>
<td>Assign value for each report</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Articles published in the theoretical edition of <em>People’s Daily, Seeking Truth, or Guangming Daily</em></td>
<td>P6</td>
<td>Assign value for each article</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic papers</td>
<td>P7</td>
<td>Each paper in CSSCI source journal</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Each paper included in SSCI/A&amp;HCI</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Each paper included in CSCI/EI</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Each of other papers</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vertical projects</td>
<td>P8</td>
<td>Vertical: major projects supported by National Social Science Fund or Social</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vertical Projects</td>
<td>Projects Supported</td>
<td>Supported by</td>
<td>Mark</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Key Projects</td>
<td></td>
<td>National Social Science Fund or National Natural Science Fund</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common/Young Scholar Projects</td>
<td></td>
<td>National Social Science Fund</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provincial/Ministerial Level Projects</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Horizontal Projects</th>
<th>P9</th>
<th>Basic Points for Each Project</th>
<th>Mark Point for Every 100,000 Yuan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Basic points for each project</td>
<td>+1 mark point for every 100,000 yuan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>Conferences and Meetings</th>
<th>A1</th>
<th>Each National Conference Sponsored or Organized</th>
<th>10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Activities**

- A, A1

**Conferences and Meetings**

- Each national conference sponsored or organized

**Horizontal Projects**

- P9

**Basic Points for Each Project**

- Mark point for every 100,000 yuan
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Impact</th>
<th>Newspaper</th>
<th>I1</th>
<th>Central level</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Surveys and observations</td>
<td>A3</td>
<td>Each survey by leaders/experts at or above the sub-state level</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Each survey by leaders at or above the provincial/ministerial level</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Each survey by leaders/experts at other levels</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Outbound visits for survey or observation</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training</td>
<td>A2</td>
<td>Each national training program</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Training on other levels</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Each conference at the level of province, municipalities or Autonomous Region</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Each international conference</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Other meetings</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 2 MRPAI Think Tank Assessment Indicators and Their Assigned Values

4.3 Value Assignment for MRPAI Indicators

The weight of indicators can be expressed in many ways. The direct assignment method has been adopted for MRPAI because it is easy to understand, intuitive, open, and verifiable. The evaluated party can directly verify the accuracy of the values according to an established algorithm, which makes for effective dialogue between the evaluator and evaluated. However, this method entails a high demand for assessment; the values assigned should be reasonable and the assessment system must guarantee precision. Otherwise it would be impossible to give timely response to questioning from the evaluated party.

The Delphi Method has been adopted for value assignment in Table 2. Four
rounds of questionnaire survey were conducted among 98 leaders and experts. The value assignment method is explained as follows.

The following circumstances have been taken into consideration when the values were assigned to the secondary MRPAI indicators in Table 2:

(1) The structural assessment of think tanks from M1 to M4 is only interested in the presence or absence of an internal management structure, without examining whether it works properly. This is compatible with the status quo of new think tank in China; first we check if this internal structure exists, and we will not see if it works properly until we do measurements later. As a result, the value assigned is not high, with the full score being only 45 points. M5 is a special value assigned to what has been listed among China Top Think Tanks in recognition of such prestige.

(2) R1 looks at the annual budget. Considering the generally small size of Chinese think tanks, with an annual budget of one million yuan being the norm, there is no need to differentiate between think tanks with an annual budget below one million. Twenty points are assigned to each of such think tanks, with one extra point for each additional sum of 100,000 yuan.

(3) R2 and R3 consist of staff indicators and their values. We do not distinguish between full-time and part-time personnel. As a result of reforms in the personnel system, a part-time employee can also be a full-time one; moreover, it would be hard to say if think tank experts are full-time or part-time since most of them have flexible work hours. In view of this, 40 points are assigned to each institution that has 10 or fewer researchers, with 2 extra points for each additional person. There will be 20 points for each administrative team with 5 or fewer persons, with one extra point for each additional person. With the increasing standardization of system data, this part of the data may need to provide corresponding certification materials in the future, and each think tank should prepare the recruitment contracts as soon as possible.

(4) R4, or cyber resources, can actually be considered as outcomes of think tank development. We see websites and other cyber resources as basic settings, just like work places. Since today’s think tanks are not demanding when it comes to work
places, there would be no way to verify whether they really have offices if they choose not to enter any data on this feature. Therefore, with respect to staff, funds, equipment and cyber resources, R4 focuses on cyber conditions while omitting measurement of physical working conditions. All the indicators it involves are verifiable and feasible. Since most Chinese think tanks have paid inadequate attention to website construction and are quite unfamiliar with the use of social media, value assignment to this indicator, is only based on presence or absence, without consideration of quality.

(5) Among the P indicators, high values are assigned to internal reference reports, leaders’ instructions and comments, and research reports. The questioned experts commonly believed that these are major indicators of think tanks’ influence on decision making and should carry more points. In fact, they also reflect the main purpose of building think tanks. The current points have been heightened according to experts’ opinions. Since it is not easy for most provincial-level think tanks to obtain comments from state leaders, points for such comments do not make much difference for the total points of common think tanks. Such value assignment is relatively fair since MRPAI assessment focus on comparing and ranking think tanks on the same levels. In order to encourage the writing of internal reference reports, values are assigned to any piece published in collections of such reports at or above the provincial or ministerial level (internally submitted serial publications), such as *Guangming Internal References*, with or without leaders’ comments. The assignment of high values to the P6 indicator shows the special prestige of *People’s Daily*, *Guangming Daily* and *Seeking Truth* in the Chinese system of policy discourse. Publishing articles in any of them means expansion of influence on policy and the public.

(6) The MRPAI indicator system has accorded a relatively high status to think tanks’ activities. High-level and high-caliber forums and conferences are important means by which think tanks can exert their influence. This is also a crucial feature that sets think tanks apart from traditional research institutions. Almost all of the
world’s famous think tanks are conference centers and major platforms for road shows of significant policies. As a result, high values are assigned to national or international conferences held by think tanks. There might be the undesirable practice of “erecting platforms and inviting celebrities”, but this is only true for a very small number of think tanks. In addition to spreading information, conferences make one of the major channels by which think tanks can extend their research and policy networks.

Survey and observation are a method of research with Chinese characteristics for think tanks. “Without investigation, there is no right to speak”, big data analysis cannot replace field survey. High values, therefore, are assigned to this type of activity in the MRPAI indicators.

(7) The focus of the I indicator is on the media impact of a think tank. At home and abroad, media impact has always been the focus of the think tank community. The citation rate of national or international newspapers, magazines, television and other media is also the most common public evaluation. This is because think tanks are different from traditional academic research institutions, communication is as important as research for think tanks. Therefore, appearances or expressing opinions on television, newspapers, and the Internet are considered to be important manifestations of think tanks’ influence. At present, we only include the coverage disseminated in newspapers, television and on the Internet since the application and influence of these three media in think tank communication are more extensive and have certain quality guarantees. Different values are assigned to different levels of reports, and the central level is the most authoritative, so it is assigned the highest value, and the values are successively decreased as the level of the report decreases. This year is the first time to introduce the I indicator. We will also consider incorporating more forms of new media indicators into the media influence evaluation.

5 The MRPAI Ranking Rules
5.1 Principle for Designing MRPAI Ranking Rules

Ranking is a crucial method of assessment and an important way to present the outcomes. In this method, the principal, universal, regular, stable and objective characteristics or elements of the object of assessment are compared according to one or a number of indicators, and the outcomes are presented in a particular form. The ranking method can effectively and visibly reveal the overall features of things in the same category and differences between them. However, details of individuals are likely to be overlooked, especially when there are too few indicators for ranking. Therefore, one must be careful against the tendency of seeing the forest of the trees when using this method.

One needs to pay attention to the following when using the ranking method:

1) Comparison within the same category. The accuracy of evaluation increases in proportion to similarity between the objects of evaluation. Therefore, when designing the MRPAI ranking algorithm, we always proceed ranking with categorization to reduce error.

2) Multi-dimensional presentation. If the ranking result is presented in a single dimension, one feature of the object of evaluation is likely to eclipse the other features, which would make it difficult to reveal the diversity of its attributes. This would not only impede the repetitive expression of its information, but also lead to unfair evaluation. Therefore, MRPAI ranking makes a point of presenting the outcome in multiple dimensions.

5.2 MRPAI Ranking Rules

MRPAI offers thirteen kinds of think tank ranking, which fall into categories—quantitative indicator ranking and effectiveness indicator ranking.

5.2.1 Ranking by Quantitative Indicators

1) The resource (R) ranking is based on the arithmetic sum of think tanks’ annual budget (R1), research staff (R2), administrative staff (R3), and cyber resources (R4).

2) The product (P) ranking is based on the arithmetic sum of single internal reference reports (P1), leader-commented internal reference reports (P2), journals
sponsored/ run by think tanks (P3), books (P4), research reports (P5), articles published in the theoretical edition of People’s Daily, Seeking Truth, or Guangming Daily (P6), academic papers (P7), vertical projects (P8), and horizontal projects (P9).

3) The activity (A) ranking is based on the arithmetic sum of conference and meetins (A1), training (A2), and survey and observations (A3).

4) The output (PAI) ranking, guided by output impact, is based on the formula PAI=P+A+I, i.e. the arithmetic sum of the value assigned to the three categories of indicators—product, activity and impact of the media.

5) The integrated (T[n]) ranking is based on the formula T(n)= R+ M+ P+ A, i.e. the arithmetic sum of the values assigned to the five categories of indicators—resources, management, products and impact of the media.

These five kinds of ranking reflect think tanks’ total resource and total products, describing the relative position of each among the CTTI source think tanks in terms of resources and products. A think tank is bound to have different positions in the five types of ranking. Such difference reflects its individual attributes, pointing to its unique features.

Besides these five ranking rules, in the future we will specifically introduce E (Expert Score) to carry out PAI-E ranking, i.e. the arithmetic sum of PAI and E. PAI value can effectively evaluate the output and social impact of think tanks. However, the CTTI system mainly adopts the data crowdsourcing mode for data collection, which may lead to unbalanced data filling of various think tanks. For example, some think tanks input too much data to CTTI, while some input too little data. In order to solve this problem, the system will introduce the subjective score of experts on the basis of objective data, and rank two scores by adding them together according to a certain proportion.

5.2.2 Ranking by Effectiveness Indicators

Effectiveness refers to a think tank’s competence and efficiency. Competence is a comprehensive reflection of its strategy for resource allocation, its capacity for management, and the development of its organizational system and culture. The
efficiency of a think tank means its ability to maximize its output with the most economical use of time, capital and manpower. Given the same total amount of resources, the more products and activities a think tank can offer, the more effective it will be. In this report, resources encompass four categories—experts, administration, budget and cyber resources. The output of a think tank is not the result of a simple combination of these resources, but that of a complex and integrated utilization of them.

Table 3 Rules for Think Tank Ranking by Effectiveness Indicator

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Ranking</th>
<th>Rule</th>
<th>Explanation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Resource Utilization Efficiency</td>
<td>(P+ A) / R</td>
<td>Output value/resource value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expert Effectiveness</td>
<td>(P+ A) / R2</td>
<td>Output value/expert resource value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Efficiency of Administrative Team</td>
<td>(P+ A) / R3</td>
<td>Output value/administration resource value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Contribution Ratio</td>
<td>(P+ A) / R1</td>
<td>Output value/capital investment value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expert Product Contribution Ratio</td>
<td>P / R2</td>
<td>Product value/expert resource value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Team Activity</td>
<td>A / R3</td>
<td>Activity value/administration team value</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.3 MRPAI Think Tank Expert Ranking Rules

To build a think tank with high impact and prestige, it is necessary to possess first-rate and high-level experts who are the core figures of thought innovation in the think tank. Our assessments have revealed that high performance experts are highly meaningful because there is a positive correlation between high performance, high competence and high prestige. If think tanks cannot manage talents well, anything else is not to mention.

The principles for MRPAI assessment of think tank experts are straightforward. The indicators involved fall into three categories: experts’ personal research products
(P), their personal activities (A), and honors and awards (H). Specific assessment indicators and value assignment are shown in Table 4. The performance of think tank experts, symbolized by Ep, is the arithmetic sum of the values assigned to the indicators in the three categories.

\[ Ep = P1 + P2 + P4 + P5 + P6 + P7 + P8 + P9 + A1 + A2 + A3 + H1 \]

**Table 4 Indicators and Value Assignment for MRPAI Think Tank Expert Assessment**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expert Products</th>
<th>P</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single internal reference reports (with or without leaders’ comments)</td>
<td>P1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value assigned to each report</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leader-commented internal reference reports</td>
<td>P2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State level /per report</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-state level/ per report</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provincial or ministerial level/ per report</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-provincial or ministerial level/ per report</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books (officially published)</td>
<td>P4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value assigned to each title</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Reports</td>
<td>P5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value assigned to each report</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Articals published in the theoretical edition of People’s Daily, Seeking Truth, and</td>
<td>P6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value assigned to each article</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Papers</td>
<td>P7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vertical Projects</td>
<td>P8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horizontal Projects</td>
<td>P9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expert Activities</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Training Program</td>
<td>A2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training on other levels</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation in reception of survey and study visits from leaders at or above the sub-state level</td>
<td>A3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation in reception of survey and study visits from leaders/experts at or above the provincial/ministerial levle</td>
<td>Each Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation in reception of survey and study visits from leaders/ experts at other level</td>
<td>Each Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honors and Awards</td>
<td>Honors/ awards at or above the provincial/ ministerial level</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The points and ranking of expert performance are not only openly available due to our privacy policy. Experts who need such information can obtain it by sending an email to ctti@nju.edu.cn.

5.4 University Think Tank Index Ranking Rules

As professional organizations for strategic and policy research and consultation, think tanks are a product of composite demands in politics, administration and social government in contemporary society. It is also a product of further division of labor for both knowledge and society. Institutions of higher learning and think tanks are totally different social organizations. Generally speaking, universities are much older and larger than think tanks, and much more complex in structure and function. Most university think tanks form part of universities, with the think tank function being one of their multiple functions. The think tank capability of a university is generally in proportion to the number of its schools, departments and institutions engaged in strategic studies and policy studies. It is easy to find out that universities with powerful schools or departments for economy, government and administration, international relations and law tend to have highly capable and influential think tanks. For instance, though away from the political center, Harvard ranks among the top American university in think tank capacity thanks to the influence of the John F. Kennedy School of Government. The university think tank index represents a description and assessment of a university’s think tank capacity and the influence of...
its tanks.

The CTTI university think tank index is the sum of the integrated assessment scores of those among its source think tanks that belong to the same university. That sum is this university’s total think tank value, which is defined as $U^{ts}$. Then the $U^{ts}$ of another university is divided by $\max U^{ts}$. The ratio thus obtained, which must be equal to or smaller than 1, is multiplied by 100 to become the university’s think tank index $\text{index}^{UT}$. The specific formula is as follows:

$$\text{index}^{UT} = \frac{U^{ts}}{\max U^{ts}} \times 100$$

Detailed evaluation and analysis of this year's university think tank can be consulted in the Report of the Top 100 CTTI University Think Tanks in 2018.

5.5 MRPAI Assessment System

The MRPAI assessment system, which is in the background of CTTI, consists of three sub-systems—think tank ranking, expert ranking, and university think tank index ranking. Think tank ranking can be overall or by different types. The same is true of expert ranking and university think tank index ranking.

The MRPAI assessment system involves a deep understanding of the MRPAI indicator system, value assignment, and ranking rules. An advanced ranking algorithm has been employed and some basic machine-learning features have been included for real-time assessment of source think tanks.

In addition, the MRPAI assessment system can be searched and is capable of statistical analysis of data. It can not only pinpoint each think tank and expert, but also calculate the scores each think tank has got on the 60 points in the MRPAI indicators. This makes it possible to compare such scores and reveal a think tank’s strengths and weaknesses in management, resources, products and activities, which is of enormous help for improving the management of think tanks.

Moreover, the points in the MRPAI indicators are in the form of adjustable parameters so that evaluators (which can be think tank supervising authorities, researches, or users with special needs) can modify the values assigned to indicators according to their purposes and obtain customized ranking results. This reflects the
flexibility of the MRPAI system.

It should be noted that the MRPAI assessment system is currently in the background and cannot be accessed from the foreground. This can help to protect the security of organization or expert assessment data as well as the privacy of experts. The CTTI project team will never disclose detailed results of assessment to any third party without consent from organizations or experts themselves. The data released this time are only primary indicator values and include no specific scores on secondary indicators. If any think tank needs information on specific scores, it can send an official email to ctti@nju.edu.cn. The CTTREC of Nanjing University will export the relevant outcomes to that particular think tank.

6 the Analysis of MRPAI Assessment Result Data

Following the principles of previous years, this year’s assessment is not only based on a scientific and reasonable evaluation system, but also combined with a complete data filling situation of think tanks. According to the analysis of 706 CTTI think tanks’ data filling situation, 520 of them have filled in relatively sufficient and accurate data. Therefore, these 520 think tanks are assessed and ranked as the main objects. This year’s assessment, based on data accumulated over the years, principally falls into three categories: 1) assessment on private think tanks; 2) assessment on university think tanks (see 2018 Annual Report on CTTI University Think Tanks & Top 100 University Think Tanks); 3) assessment on think tanks in various research areas. To protect the privacy of think tanks, we have only released the results for the most outstanding think tanks in each category. If a source think tank wants to know the specific ranking result, it can write an email to the CTTREC of Nanjing University (ctti@edu.nju.cn). We will provide relevant information one on one.

6.1 Examples of Evaluation Data on Private Think Tanks

After a review of data on private think tanks, 26 of them fill in more complete data. We rank them according to their output impact, i.e. PAI (the arithmetic sum of the value assigned to the three categories of indicators—product, activity and impact of the media.), and eventually select and publish the top 15 private think tanks, as
shown in Table 5.

**Table 5 Top 15 Private Think Tanks According to Performance in PAI assessment**

*(in alphabetical order according to the first letters of their names in pinyin spelling)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Names of Think Tanks</th>
<th>PAI</th>
<th>P</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>I</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grandview Institution, Beijing</td>
<td>503</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>253</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Charhar Institute</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changjiang Education Research Institute</td>
<td>1182.5</td>
<td>1086.5</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chongqing Think-Tank Institute</td>
<td>486</td>
<td>366</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China Region Development &amp; Reform Institute (CRDRI)</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South China business think tank of Guangdong University of</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance and Economics</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China Strategy Institute for Intellectual Property (Guangdon ZHONGCE Intellectual Property Research Institute)</td>
<td>322</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intellisia Institute</td>
<td>583.5</td>
<td>321.5</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Pangoal Institution</td>
<td>698.5</td>
<td>412.5</td>
<td>286</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shanghai Finance Institute</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shenzhen Innovation and Development Institute</td>
<td>332</td>
<td>272</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China Center for International Economic Exchanges</td>
<td>121.5</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China Silk Road iValley Research Institute</td>
<td>783.5</td>
<td>783.5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Compared with previous years, the assessment results of social think tanks have been relatively stable. It should be noted that most private think tanks don’t record media reports, so I value is relatively low. But actually, they have exported a large number of intellectual achievements, which have had an important impact on the domestic society and even the international community. For example, Center for China & Globalization publishes 10 research works every year, including *Report on Globalization of Chinese Enterprises, Annual Report on the development of Chinese Students Studying Abroad Report on China’s Regional International Competitiveness*, which are cooperatively published by Social Science Academic Press(China). It also undertakes the research project of many national ministries and commissions, holds multiple forums and think tank seminars, submits more than one hundred proposal reports to the relevant ministries and commissions of the Chinese government, and possesses a large number of brand achievements and high media exposure. It is the leading global research institution of private think tank in China. The sessions between China and Japan, China and America, China and Korea, and China and Europe, which are carried out by China Center for International Economic Exchanges, are of great significance to promoting communication between China and other countries. The Global Think Tank Summit held by the Center is a feast of ideas and an important platform for exchanges and cooperation of global think tanks. The Pangoal Institution initiated the establishment of a global governance think tank linking nearly 20 first-rate think tanks from China, the United States, Germany, Italy, India, Singapore, Canada and other countries, which greatly enhanced the voice of Chinese think tanks in global governance. China Silk Road iValley Research Institute is committed to achieving China Dream and promoting the construction of the Belt and Road initiative, which is a new think tank promoting the state to participate in governance and top-level design of international economic organization and
international financial organization. It has been listed as one of the best think tanks by the Belt and Road Initiative Data Report, which is issued by the leading group office of the Belt and Road initiative construction promoted by the central government and the the Belt and Road initiative data center of State Information Center. The Charhar Institute has been one of the core institutions in the field of Chinese public diplomacy research since its establishment, effectively promoting the development of China's public diplomacy theory and practice and the improvement of private think tanks on international relations.

Some private think tanks excel in some specific areas. For example, Changjiang Education Research Institute has gathered a number of well-known education experts at home and abroad, and it has held Beijing· Changjiang Education Forum in Beijing before the National People's Conference (NPC) and the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) sessions every year since 2009, inviting NPC deputies, CPPCC members, well-known education experts and leaders of relevant departments and bureaus of the ministry of education to jointly discuss education reform and development; it has also released the annual education index—— China Education Index, and Top 10 key words of China Education, since 2015, which has widely influenced the society. Intellisia Institute provides scientific, fair and objective policy analysis, research reports and academic guidance for Chinese public and policy makers in a long term, steadily promotes research in the fields of Sino-US relations, risk prediction, Southeast Asian political economy and the Belt and Road initiative, and provides first-class intelligence support and decision-making consultation services for the government, enterprises and individual customers. China Strategy Institute for Intellectual Property (Guangdon ZHONGCE Intellectual Property Research Institute) is the first state-level and high-end professional service institution of intellectual property in Guangdong, which focuses on intellectual property policy research, strategy formulation, industrial operation and other aspects. It has contributed an important force in the field of intellectual property. In recent years, China Institute of Science and Technology Evaluation has formed a series of national
blue books, such as *Report on World Innovation Competitiveness*, *Report on Global Environmental Competitiveness*, *Report on the Development of Chinese Tea Industry*, which have authoritative influence on the construction of evaluation index system and the evaluation of competitiveness.

In addition, China Region Development & Reform Institute, Chongqing Think-Tank Instituton and Grandview Institution have their own characteristics, providing strong decision-making support for the government. South China business think tank of Guangdong University of Finance and Economics, as a new think tank this year, also has certain potential

6.2 Examples of Evaluation Data on Think Tanks in Various Research Areas

We divide source think tanks into 12 policy research fields: macro-economy and international trade, industry and finance, regional research and international relations, party building and national governance, social governance and public utilities, law and public security, culture and education, environment, energy and infrastructure, information and technology, three rural issues, the Belt and Road initiative and comprehensive think tank. In each research area, we measure and analyze the output impact (PAI) of source think tanks, and select and publish the results of top think tanks in each field. It should be noted that the results of each category are ranked in alphabetical order according to the names of think tanks.

6.2.1 Macro-economy and International Trade

There are 62 think tanks engaged in the research of macroeconomic and international trade policy. Most of them focus on national economy, regional economic development, international or regional trade and other issues. Table 6 selects and publishes the assessment results of the top 15 think tanks. University think tanks have contributed a lot to this field by relying on the resource advantages of economics-related disciplines. For example, the Research Institute of Chinese Economy of Fudan University is positioned to provide forward-looking policy advice and suggestions for China's future medium-and-long-term economic growth and
development, focusing on major strategic issues in China's economic growth and development in the next 20 years and writing a large number of internal references and think tank reports accordingly. Center for Quantitative Economics of Jilin University is good at using the method of quantitative analysis to study the frontier issues in China's economic field. It has developed the think tank information platform Economic and Social Index Research Database, and its website has been well constructed with nearly 60,000 visits. The College of Economic and Social Development of Nankai University, with its unique disciplinary advantages, aims to improve the ability of social transformation of scientific research achievements and give out Nankai's voice around the hot issues of economic and social development. In addition, some think tanks of party and government organizations have performed well, such as the development research center of Inner Mongolia autonomous region and Macroeconomic Research Institute in Hebei Province Development and Reform Committee, both of which have carried out a large number of surveys on hot and difficult issues in local economic and social operations, so as to ensure the local governments' policy decision in the economic field.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Names of Think Tanks</th>
<th>PAI</th>
<th>P</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>I</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Institute of Anhui Economic Development Research, Anhui University of Finance and Economics</td>
<td>2635.5</td>
<td>2057.5</td>
<td>575</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institute of International Economics, University of International Business and Economics</td>
<td>1376.5</td>
<td>1376.5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Institute of Chinese Economy, Fudan University</td>
<td>1212</td>
<td>1020</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Industry and Finance

There are also 62 think tanks engaged in industrial and financial research. Most of them focus on financial policies, various industrial policies, enterprise management, market consumption, innovation and development, etc. Table 7 selects and publishes the assessment results of the top 15 think tanks. In the field of finance, Chongyang
Institute for Financial Studies of Renmin University of China has been officially recognized as the Secretariat of the Green Finance Committee of the Chinese Monetary Society by the Chinese government, and the Institute has hired 96 former politicians, bankers and well-known scholars from more than 10 countries as senior researchers. It enjoys a high reputation in the world, and it has also been reported by a large number of media and has played an important role in many fields. As a representative of first-class enterprise think tank, Suning Institute of Finance has also been an important intellectual source in this field. The think tank has set up columns in more than 30 mainstream financial and economic media and self-media platforms, published more than 400 columns monthly, received more than 100 media interviews, and actively voiced in the mainstream financial and economic forums, shaping its wide influence. Moreover, Suning Institute of Finance specially has established the daily work post of data management, arranging special personnel to update and maintain the data in the CTTI system, thus realizing the modern management of think tanks. In terms of enterprise operation, China Business Working Capital Management Research Center is a leader in the industry. It has established a number of think tanks information platforms, thematic databases and comprehensive databases, and developed the Global Enterprise Capital Management Case Base. Both its results and media reports show its unique advantages.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Names of Think Tanks</th>
<th>PAI</th>
<th>P</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>I</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Innovative Development Institute, Anhui University</td>
<td>2370.5</td>
<td>2279.5</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Base of Beijing Modern Manufacturing Development, Beijing University of Technology</td>
<td>659</td>
<td>614</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grandview Institution</td>
<td>503</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>253</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institution</td>
<td>Total Budget (Unit: 10,000)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Research Center for Economic Comprehensive Competitiveness, Fujian Noral University Branch</td>
<td>576.5 517.5 59 0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center for Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei Development Research, Beijing University of Technology</td>
<td>5093 4177 916 0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institute of De Rong, Hebei Finance University</td>
<td>636 280 356 0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China (Henan) Innovation and Development Institute, Huanhe Science and Technology University</td>
<td>1117 309 477 331</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Institute of Machinery Industry Economic &amp; Management</td>
<td>1696 1598 98 0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yangtze Industrial Economics Institution, Naijing University</td>
<td>3284.5 817.5 2344 123</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suning Institute of Finance</td>
<td>1926.5 1561.5 365 0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tianjin University of Commerce Modern Service Industry Development Research Center</td>
<td>515.5 515.5 0 0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Survey and Research Center for China Household Finance, Southwestern University of Finance and Economics</td>
<td>678.5 367.5 188 123</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China Business Working Capital Management Research Center, Ocean University of China</td>
<td>9297 9235 62 0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chongyang Institute for Financial Studies, Renmin University of China</td>
<td>1280 801 479 0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaborative Innovation Center of Industrial Upgrading and Regional Finance (Hubei), Zhongnan University of Economics and Law</td>
<td>2171 1108 1060 3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6.2.3 Regional Research and International Relations

In order to further promote and strengthen the regional and national research in colleges and universities, the Ministry of Education held the First Working
Conference on Regional and National Research in March 2012. In the following years, more than 100 universities and nearly 400 research institutes in China have become the national regional research record center of the Ministry of Education. Universities have shown a good momentum for rapid development of national and regional research, and think tanks of universities have become the main force of regional research. Among them, the Research Center for Co-development with Neighboring Countries of East China Normal University establishes regional country studies on the basis of interdisciplinary collaborative studies of international political economics, geopolitics and history, launches a series of influential and important academic and consultative achievements, and establishes overseas studios to create a new model for think tanks to promote overseas research. The Africa-Wide Information of Zhejiang Normal University is the first comprehensive and substantive African research institute of Chinese universities established in 2007 with the support of the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. After more than 10 years of development, it has become a widely influential African research institute in China and a national think tank of African affairs. The think tank has submitted more than 40 Advisory reports to various ministries and commissions, many of which have been approved by national leaders or recruited by the Special Journal of University Think Tanks of the Ministry of Education. At the same time, it has also hosted a series of important academic conferences such as the Forum of China-Africa Think Tanks and the Seminar of China-Africa Media Think Tanks, which have a wide range of influence and receive a lot of reports from domestic and foreign media. Besides the efforts of university think tanks, a small number of private think tanks and think tanks of the Academy of Social Sciences have also made important contributions to this field.

In August 2018, the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) officially approved the granting of Special Consultative Status of non-governmental organizations to the Center for China & Globalization (CCG). CCG has become one of the few Chinese institutions with this qualification and the first Chinese think tank
to formally acquire this status. CCG's accession to the consultative status indicates that China's think tanks are actively going global, giving full play to the international influence of non-governmental organizations and deeply participating in global governance. The Paris Peace Forum was held in Paris to achieve world peace and promote multilateral cooperation through innovative global governance from November 11 to 13. Two initiatives proposed by CCG, the establishment of the International Federation of Talents Organizations and the international e-commerce union (D50), were successfully broken through from nearly 900 projects and highly recognized by the sponsors. At the same time, CCG President Wang Huiyao was elected to the Executive Committee of the Paris Peace Forum to guide and participate in the work of the forum as a member of the Executive Committee. This indicates that Chinese think tanks have more opportunities to become deeply involved in global governance.

Pangoal Institution focuses on global governance, the Belt and Road Initiative, innovation driven, macroeconomic research and other fields, and it has especially won the recognized influence in the research of Sino-South Korean relations and Sino-Indian Relations. The Institute of European Studies of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences is a national scientific research institution specializing in European comprehensive research and national research. It has produced fruitful research results. At the same time, it has set up a network of exchange and cooperation among think tanks of Central and Eastern European countries. It plays an important role in promoting and strengthening China's track-two diplomacy with Central and Eastern European countries.

Table 8 Top 15 Think Tanks in Regional Research and International Relations According to Performance in PAI Assessment

(in alphabetical order according to the first letters of their names in pinyin spelling)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Names of Think Tanks</th>
<th>PAI</th>
<th>P</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>I</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Center for American Studies, Fudan</td>
<td>885</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>609</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University</td>
<td>1941.5</td>
<td>1622.5</td>
<td>290</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>----</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guangdong Institute for International Strategies, Guangdong University of Foreign Studies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China-ASEAN Research Institute, Guangxi University</td>
<td>646.5</td>
<td>401.5</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the Research Center for Co-development with Neighboring Countries, East China Normal University</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academy of Overseas Chinese Studies in Jinan University</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>604</td>
<td>187</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pangoal Institution</td>
<td>698.5</td>
<td>412.5</td>
<td>286</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle East Studies Institute, Shanghai International Studies University</td>
<td>1932.5</td>
<td>773.5</td>
<td>622</td>
<td>537</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center for Global Public Opinions of China, Shanghai International Studies University</td>
<td>1155.5</td>
<td>1155.5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institute of South Asian Studies, Sichuan University</td>
<td>732.5</td>
<td>360.5</td>
<td>372</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German Studies Center, Tongji University</td>
<td>767.5</td>
<td>367.5</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institute of Korean Peninsula Studies, Yanbian University</td>
<td>918</td>
<td>637</td>
<td>281</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center for China’s Neighbor Diplomacy Studies, Yunnan University</td>
<td>2004.5</td>
<td>1801.5</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa-Wide Information, Zhejiang Normal University</td>
<td>3316.5</td>
<td>2029.5</td>
<td>1187</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institute of European Studies of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences</td>
<td>1168</td>
<td>1142</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2.4 Party Building and National Governance

There are 26 source think tanks engaged in the research of party building and national governance. These think tanks mainly focus on party building, government, social system and other issues. Table 9 selects and publishes the assessment results of the top 10 think tanks.

In the aspect of Party building, the Institute for the Development of Socialism with Chinese Characteristics of Southeast University has performed well. Focusing on following up and explaining the Party's innovative theory and carrying out practice and countermeasure research on the development of socialism with Chinese characteristics, it has achieved fruitful theoretical results. It has published nearly 10 important theoretical articles in central media such as *People's Daily*, *Guang Ming Daily*, and *Red Flag Manuscript*, held a number of relevant meetings and training, and actively built up his international influence. In terms of national governance, Beijing Institute of Letters to Government, based on a large number of detailed complaint reporting data and materials, has submitted more than 200 internal references and obtained a large number of instructions, which provides important support and reference for the government's relevant decision-making in the field of petition policy. At the same time, the Institute of State Governance Studies of Peking University has also made a certain contribution to this field, which is a comprehensive new think tank integrating scientific research, discipline construction, personnel training and social services. The institute has a relatively perfect management system and holds many important conference activities every year. Moreover, many internal references have been approved and instructed by the leaders at the national level, providing support for the decision-making of national governance modernization.

| Center for China & Globalization | 4228.5 | 3365.5 | 836 | 27 |

**Table 9 Top 10 Think Tanks in Party Building and National Governance According to Performance in PAI Assessment**

*(in alphabetical order according to the first letters of their names in pinyin spelling)*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Names of Think Tanks</th>
<th>PAI</th>
<th>P</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>I</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Institute of State Governance Studies, Peking University</td>
<td>1557.5</td>
<td>751.5</td>
<td>806</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beijing Institute of Letters to Government</td>
<td>3049.5</td>
<td>2503.5</td>
<td>546</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institute for the Development of Socialism with Chinese Characteristics, Southeast University</td>
<td>2135</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institute of State Governance of Huazhong University</td>
<td>503.5</td>
<td>233.5</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Institute of Party Building Theory and Practice Innovation</td>
<td>444</td>
<td>444</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Center of the Management-decision Evaluation of Jiangxi Normal University</td>
<td>705</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese Government and Politics Unite Research Centre, Nankai University</td>
<td>296.5</td>
<td>135.5</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Center of China Economic Reform Innovation and Assessment, Xi’an Jiaotong University</td>
<td>345.5</td>
<td>265.5</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China Society of Administrative Reform</td>
<td>523.5</td>
<td>145.5</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shanghai Academy</td>
<td>1900.5</td>
<td>739.5</td>
<td>971</td>
<td>190</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6.2.5 Social Governance and Public Utilities

Among the 12 major think tanks classified in this report, 72 think tanks in the field of social governance and public utilities are the maximum number of source think tanks. Table 10 selects and publishes the results of the top 20 think tanks. Source think tanks in this field mainly focus on local governance, health, social security, regional planning and other aspects of public policy, each with its own characteristics. For example, based on the great needs of national construction and the leap-forward development of Hubei Province, Hubei Collaborative Innovation Center
of Industrial Upgrading and Regional Finance carries out the coordinated tackling of key problems by government, learning, research, enterprise and using five-in-one, and constructs the Think Tank, Talent Tank, Think Tank and Information Tank of the innovation of urban and rural community social management. The center has built a professional think tank information platform for urban and rural community social management, as well as a variety of thematic databases and comprehensive databases. The number of achievements is quite abundant. Its internal reference has also received leadership instructions at different levels for many times, and its overall strength is strong. Soviet Area Revitalization Institute of Jingxi Normal University is a key new think tank pilot construction unit in jiangxi province. Based on the integration of resources advantages of the university, it carries out the research on basic theories and application countermeasures of the revitalization of the Soviet area, providing intellectual support and social services for the revitalization and development of the former central Soviet area. More than 40 consulting reports and policy Suggestions have been provided to the central committee, national ministries and commissions (offices), provincial commissions and provincial governments, and more than 30 of them have been approved and instructed by party and state leaders, ministries and commissions, provincial commissions and provincial governments. The Center for Modern Chinese City Studies of East China Normal University, relying on the national key disciplines of human geography, sociology and economics, carries out research on urban geography and urban society, undertakes a number of national key projects, holds a large number of relevant meetings every year, and conducts various reception and inspection activities, which has produced a certain range of influence.

**Table 10 Top 20 Think Tanks in Social Governance and Public Utilities According to Performance in PAI Assessment**

* (in alphabetical order according to the first letters of their names in pinyin spelling)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Names of Think Tanks</th>
<th>PAI</th>
<th>P</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>I</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Institute for Innovative City</td>
<td>476.5</td>
<td>425.5</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization</td>
<td>Funding</td>
<td>Staff</td>
<td>Students</td>
<td>Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guangzhou Development Research Institute, Guangzhou University</td>
<td>581.5</td>
<td>405.5</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center for Modern Chinese City Studies of East China Normal University</td>
<td>2449</td>
<td>1364</td>
<td>870</td>
<td>215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center of Social Governance Research, South China University of Technology</td>
<td>872</td>
<td>571</td>
<td>301</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institute of Modernization, Jiangsu Provincial Academy of Social Sciences</td>
<td>742.5</td>
<td>674.5</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jiangxi Academy of Social Sciences</td>
<td>1258.5</td>
<td>1218.5</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soviet Area Revitalization Institute of Jingxi Normal University</td>
<td>1963</td>
<td>1760</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaborative Innovation Center of Chinese Society Transformation Research, Jiangxi Normal University</td>
<td>1220.5</td>
<td>1162.5</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCA-ECNU Center for China Administrative Division Research</td>
<td>542.5</td>
<td>276.5</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>154</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academy of Healthy Jiangsu, Nanjing Medical University</td>
<td>420.5</td>
<td>358.5</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center for Health Management and Policy, Shandong University</td>
<td>486</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Center for Local Governance, Shanghai University</td>
<td>686</td>
<td>472</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China Institute for Urban Governance, Shanghai Jiaotong University</td>
<td>646</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>416</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaborative Innovation Center or Security and Development Studies, Sichuan University</td>
<td>998</td>
<td>992</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center for Social Security Studies, Wuhan University</td>
<td>708.5</td>
<td>627.5</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
There are 42 source think tanks engaged in the research of law and public security. Most of these think tanks are university think tanks. They carry out different professional research directions relying on relevant professional disciplines. Table 11 selects and publishes the results of the top 15 think tanks. The Institute of International Law of Wuhan university is an important academic center in the field of international law research in China. It is also one of the first batch of high-end national think tanks with fruitful achievements. In the past year, it has published a total of 15 books, which have generated great repercussions in the academic and practical circles at home and abroad. In addition, he has published more than 60 academic papers and submitted more than 50 consulting reports in Chinese Journal of International Law, Hong Kong Law Journal, People's Daily, China Law and other well-known domestic and foreign journals and newspapers, and undertaken nearly 30 horizontal and vertical research projects. The Institute for Food Safety Management of Jiangnan University, relying on its disciplinary advantages and the support of the competent authorities, has continuously expanded its research field on the basis of focusing on food safety risk management, established a series of brand achievements such as China Development Report on Food Safety and China Development Report on
Online Public Opinion of Food Safety, served the government's decision-making, and developed the data mining platform of food safety incidents to provide data support for China's food safety governance. It has established a certain influence at home and abroad.

In the field of public safety, Jiangsu Public Security Institute has given full play to the functional advantages of the competent government departments and the research advantages of colleges and universities, constructed a cooperative and innovative mechanism for the deep integration of government organs, universities and scientific research institutes, took the lead in undertaking the research tasks of major public safety needs projects in the whole province, and written several articles with the approval of provincial and ministerial leaders, in order to promote public safety in Jiangsu Province. The modernization of governance system and capacity provides theoretical and intellectual support.

Table 11 Top 15 Think Tanks in Law and Public Security According to Performance in PAI Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Names of Think Tanks</th>
<th>PAI</th>
<th>P</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>I</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Institute of Modern Policing Reform Ministry of Public Security</td>
<td>1438.5</td>
<td>978.5</td>
<td>433</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guangxi Development Research Institute of Intellectual Property, Guangxi University</td>
<td>436</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>268</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Base for the Implementation of National Intellectual Property Strategy, Tianjin University</td>
<td>552.5</td>
<td>188.5</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institute for Food Safety Management, Jiangnan University</td>
<td>2460</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>273</td>
<td>178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jiangsu Public Security Institute, Jiangsu Police Institute</td>
<td>2010.5</td>
<td>1434.5</td>
<td>481</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Research Center of Intellectual Property Development in Jiangsu, Nanjing University of Science and Technology</td>
<td>385.5</td>
<td>182.5</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center for Basic Laws of Hong Kong and Macau Special Administrative Regions, Shenzhen University</td>
<td>1498.5</td>
<td>345.5</td>
<td>703</td>
<td>450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center for Capital Social Safety, People's Public Security University of China</td>
<td>478</td>
<td>356</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wuhan University Institute of International Law</td>
<td>4738</td>
<td>4624</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Institute of Environmental Law, Wuhan University</td>
<td>808.5</td>
<td>635.5</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institute for Chinese Legal Modernization Studies, Nanjing Normal University</td>
<td>2312.5</td>
<td>2136.5</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center for the Development of Rule of Law and Judicial Reform Research of Zhongnan University of Economics and Law</td>
<td>2676.5</td>
<td>1169.5</td>
<td>672</td>
<td>835</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center for Studies of Intellectual Property Rights, Zhongnan University of Economics and Law</td>
<td>2700</td>
<td>1677</td>
<td>888</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intellectual Property Research Institute of Central South University</td>
<td>811.5</td>
<td>406.5</td>
<td>404</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural Law Research Center of China Central South University</td>
<td>579</td>
<td>323</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6.2.7 Culture and Education

70 think tanks are engaged in the research in the field of culture and education, involving language culture, ethnic culture, media, education, history and other directions. Table 12 selects the list of think tanks with PAI ranking top 20. In this field, nearly 80% of think tanks are university think tanks. Universities have rich
humanities and social science research resources, so they have natural academic advantages compared with other think tanks in carrying out decision-making consultation services in the field of culture and education. Think tanks of normal universities are outstanding especially in the field of education. The Institute of Curriculum & Instruction of East China Normal University focuses on the research fields and directions of internationalization of curriculum theory, curriculum evaluation and policy, subject curriculum, teachers’ professional development and learning science. It has sponsored several publications, such as Global Education, Frontiers of Curriculum Studies, and led the research and development of policy texts, such as National Basic Education Curriculum Reform Outline and Curriculum Standards of Teacher Education. It also developed a think tank platform for monitoring the quality of curriculum implementation process in primary and secondary schools, which has made outstanding contributions to the new round of basic education curriculum reform and teachers’ education curriculum reform in China. It is known as the national team in the field of curriculum and teaching research. The Center for Studies in Moral Culture of Hunan Normal University has established the China’s Moral Status Assessment Data Center to dynamically grasp China's moral status and provide intellectual support for the government's decision-making. The Center for Studies of Media Development of Wuhan University is an important platform for the study of communication innovation in China. It regularly publishes the Annual Report on China’s Communication Innovation and the Research Report of China’s Media Development. It also won the Outstanding Contribution Award of China’s Media Discipline in 2015 and 2016. It provides theoretical support and advisory services for the development of media and society in China.

Besides university think tanks, there are a few private think tanks, think tanks of party/government organizations, such as Changjiang Education Research Institute, The Research Institute of Nanjing Massacre History & International Peace, China Youth and Children Research Center, and etc.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Names of Think Tanks</th>
<th>PAI</th>
<th>P</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>I</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Institute of Beijing Study, Beijing Union University</td>
<td>663</td>
<td>553</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institute of International and Comparative Education, Beijing Normal University</td>
<td>966.5</td>
<td>719.5</td>
<td>247</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China Academy of Social Management, Beijing Normal University</td>
<td>4030.5</td>
<td>3741.5</td>
<td>289</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Institute of Chinese Studies, Beijing Foreign Studies University</td>
<td>3157.5</td>
<td>2439.5</td>
<td>718</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Research Centre for Language Capacity, Beijing Foreign Studies University</td>
<td>616.5</td>
<td>478.5</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changjiang Education Research Institute</td>
<td>1182.5</td>
<td>1086.5</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moral Development Think-tank, Southeast University</td>
<td>1672.5</td>
<td>1386.5</td>
<td>286</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center for Studies in Moral Culture of Hunan Normal University</td>
<td>1551</td>
<td>1333</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Institute of Educational Policy Research, East China Normal University</td>
<td>1061.5</td>
<td>887.5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Institute of Curriculum &amp; Instruction of East China Normal University</td>
<td>1923</td>
<td>1222</td>
<td>701</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Institute for Modern Chinese Thought and Culture, East China Normal University</td>
<td>1255</td>
<td>1150</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Research Institute of Nanjing</td>
<td>862.5</td>
<td>538.5</td>
<td>298</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.2.8 Environment, Energy and Infrastructure

The field of environment, energy and infrastructure mainly includes the development and protection of ecological environment, climate and meteorological issues, energy development, sustainable development, and infrastructure construction consisting of transportation, shipping, and other aspects, and etc. It is mainly concentrated on university think tanks. A total of 30 think tanks from different sources are engaged in this field. Table 13 selects the top 10 think tanks according to PAI scores. The Research Center for Beijing Transportation Development of Beijing Jiaotong University conducts theoretical and empirical research on the construction of
urban transportation system. It has published more than 900 academic papers, published more than 80 books, and completed more than 300 scientific research projects, providing strong academic and intellectual support for the construction and development of Beijing transportation. Sichuan Oil & Gas Development Research Center of Southwest Petroleum University has successfully built famous academic brands such as Western Oil and Gas Forum and China Natural Gas Industry Prosperity Index. Many think tanks submit scientific advice and policy suggestions for local governments and energy enterprises to formulate medium and long-term development strategies, and provide the public and researchers with important references of correct assessment of the development situation of the oil and gas industry. Think Tank on Natural Disaster Prevention and Geological Environment Protection of Chengdu University of Technology has carried out research in the fields of geological disaster assessment and environmental protection. The research results have won nearly 70 awards with economic benefits of billions of yuan. It has published more than 50 monographs and textbooks, nearly 3000 papers at home and abroad, and nearly 50 authorized invention patents. Shanghai International Shipping Institute established by Shanghai Maritime University mainly provides decision-making consultation and information services for the government, domestic and foreign enterprises and shipping institutions. The China Shipping Database built by the institute is a public service platform integrating statistics and information resources in the field of port and shipping in China, aiming at providing one-stop data service with convenient query and data analysis functions to government organs, shipping enterprises, scientific research institutes and other types of users.

<p>| Table 13 Top 10 Think Tanks in Environment, Energy and Infrastructure According to Performance in PAI Assessment (in alphabetical order according to the first letters of their names in pinyin spelling) |
|----------------|--------|---|---|---|
| Names of Think Tanks | PAI | P | A | I |
| Research Center for Beijing | 7897 | 6172 | 1725 | 0 |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Think Tanks</th>
<th>PAI Total Score</th>
<th>PAI Impact Factor</th>
<th>PAI Citation</th>
<th>PAI Index</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transportation Development, Beijing Jiaotong University</td>
<td>771.5</td>
<td>391.5</td>
<td>380</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beijing Logistics Informatics Research Base, Beijing Jiaotong University</td>
<td>1964</td>
<td>1668</td>
<td>296</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Think Tank on Natural Disaster Prevention and Geological Environment Protection, Chengdu University of Technology</td>
<td>1785.5</td>
<td>1365.5</td>
<td>420</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electric Power Planning &amp; Engineering Institute</td>
<td>1558</td>
<td>1184</td>
<td>374</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Grid Energy Research Institute</td>
<td>514</td>
<td>481</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beijing Energy Development Research Center, North China Electric Power University</td>
<td>762</td>
<td>637</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Institute of Climatic and Environmental Governance, Nanjing University of Information Science and Technology</td>
<td>1700</td>
<td>1312</td>
<td>327</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shanghai International Shipping Institute, Shanghai Maritime University</td>
<td>603</td>
<td>186</td>
<td>415</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APEC Sustainable Energy Center, Tianjin University</td>
<td>430</td>
<td>310</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sichuan Oil &amp; Gas Development Research Center, Southwest Petroleum University</td>
<td>6.2.9 Information and Technology</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The field of information and technology covers policy issues such as the Internet, information technology, science and technology. 19 source think tanks are mainly engaged in this field. Table 14 selects the top three think tanks according to PAI.
scores. Most of these think tanks come from research institutes.

For example, Jiangxi Academy of Sciences Institute of Science & Technology Strategy is a high-end technology think-tank in Jiangxi province, which carries out overall and forward-looking research around the major issues of Jiangxi's scientific, technological, economic and social development. It has built the Platform for Scientific Application and Information Sharing of the World's Lakes and written dozens of internal reference reports, which provide decision-making assistance for the development of science and technology in Jiangxi Province.

The Public Opinion Big Data Research Center of Guangzhou in Jinan University has established a big data dissemination laboratory, with a sound domestic and foreign public opinion data mining system and case base platform, which promotes the interdisciplinary communication and cross-boundary sharing of big data. In addition to think tanks of research institutes and universities, there are also some private think tanks, such as Shenzhen Innovation and Development Institute, China Institute of Science and Technology Evaluation, and AliResearch. Shenzhen Innovation and Development Institute has held a series of brand projects, such as Dameisha Chinese Innovation Forum, 30 People of Shenzhen Reform Forum, and Jinpeng Reform and Innovation Award. Since 2014, the Annual Report on China's Reform and Innovation has been published annually, which promotes the exchange of think tanks at home and abroad, and helps to improve the internationalization level of Chinese private think tanks.

Table 14 Top 3 Think Tanks in Information and Technology According to Performance in PAI Assessment
(in alphabetical order according to the first letters of their names in pinyin spelling)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Names of Think Tanks</th>
<th>PAI</th>
<th>P</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>I</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Public Opinion Big Data Research Center of Guangzhou, Jinan University</td>
<td>557.5</td>
<td>220.5</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jiangxi Academy of Sciences Institute of</td>
<td>1165.5</td>
<td>1072.5</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Three Rural Issues refers to the study of agriculture, rural areas and farmers. A total of 10 think tanks are engaged in the research of three rural issues, involving rural education, new rural construction, agricultural modernization, rural economy and other research directions. Table 15 selects the top 5 think tanks according to PAI scores. Institute of China Rural Studies in Central China Normal University dates back to the 1980s. For a long time, it has produced a large number of high-quality research results on the basis of field investigation and empirical research. It has established a development platform for rural think tanks in China. With the goal of One Tank Knows Farmers, it collects rural survey and multi-dimensional data to realize the three-dimensional display of rural morphology, change and reality. Zhejiang University’s China Academy for Rural Development has formed a number of outstanding research results with certain international recognition and policy influence, for example, Land Issues in the Process of Urbanization won the first China Rural Development Research Work Award. It hosted a variety of high-level international and domestic academic seminars, such as International Academic Seminar on Frontiers and Development Strategies of Agricultural Economic Management Discipline jointly organized by the National Natural Science Foundation Committee. The International Symposium on China's three rural issues jointly held with the Economic Association of China in the United States has had an important impact at home and abroad.

In addition to paying attention to the three rural issues in China, Jin Shanbao Agricultural Modernization Research Institute of Nanjing Agricultural University focuses on agricultural development in South America and African countries, summarizes the experience of agricultural modernization in East Asia such as Japan and Korea, and publishes a set of Jinshanbao Blue Book every year, which includes...
its achievements in the field of agricultural economy and rural development in the past year. Jinshanbao Agricultural Summit and Jiangsu Rural Development Forum are held annually to discuss the important events and problems in the agricultural economy and rural development of our country in that year, providing policy references for the agricultural modernization construction of Jiangsu Province and even our country as well as the implementation of agricultural going-out strategy.

Table 15 Top 5 Think Tanks in Three Rural Issues According to Performance in PAI Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Names of Think Tanks</th>
<th>PAI</th>
<th>P</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>I</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Modern Agricultural Development Research Center, Northeast Agricultural University</td>
<td>607.5</td>
<td>486.5</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China Institute of Rural Education Development, Northeast Normal University</td>
<td>786.5</td>
<td>741.5</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institute of China Rural Studies, Central China Normal University</td>
<td>8870.5</td>
<td>8125.5</td>
<td>737</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jin Shanbao Agricultural Modernization Research Institute, Nanjing Agricultural University</td>
<td>701</td>
<td>691</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China Academy for Rural Development, Zhejiang University</td>
<td>1552.5</td>
<td>656.5</td>
<td>534</td>
<td>362</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6.2.11 the Belt and Road initiative

Since China put forward the strategy of the Belt and Road initiative, the research on related fields has always been a hot topic. According to the data from CTTI source think tank, a total of 17 think tanks are engaged in the the Belt and Road initiative research, involving many research directions such as international tourism resources
development, high-end talent training, Sino foreign trade and cultural exchanges, international business cooperation, and regional and national social development research. Table 16 selects the top 5 according to PAI scores. 15 think tanks are university think tanks among these 17 think tanks, relying on the abundant research resources or geographical advantages of their universities. For example, Inner Mongolia University of Finance and Economics makes full use of geographical advantages, set up the Research and Cooperative Innovation Center of China-Mongolia-Russia Economic and Trade Cooperation and the Construction of the Grassland Silk Road Economic Belt, carry out research around China-Mongolia-Russia Economic Corridor and Silk Road Economic Belt, and establishes multiple international cooperation platforms and research centers, such as the China-Mongolia Cooperation Research Institute, China-Mongolia Business School.

The establishment of the Institute of “The Belt and The Road” Pilot Free Trade Zone by Xi'an Jiaotong University marks the new stage of internationalization, marketization and openness for the research work of the free trade pilot zone in the western region. It has become a new engine for the rapid development of Shaanxi Free Trade Zone, and provides a strong think-tank support for Shaanxi to catch up with and surpass the development goals.

In addition to 15 university think tanks, there are two private think tanks, China Silk Road iValley Research Institute and One Belt One Road 100 Forum. The two private think tanks have brought together renowned experts, scholars, government officials, entrepreneurs and media practitioners from all over the world to provide intellectual support for the construction of the Belt and Road initiative.

Table 16 Top 5 Think Tanks in the Belt and Road initiative According to Performance in PAI Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Names of Think Tanks</th>
<th>PAI</th>
<th>P</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>I</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Institution</td>
<td>Grants (RMB)</td>
<td>Publications (Number)</td>
<td>CTTI (Number)</td>
<td>Total (Number)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China Academy of One Belt and One Road Strategy Institute, Beijing International Studies University</td>
<td>482.5</td>
<td>298.5</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institute of the Belt and Road, Jiangsu Normal University</td>
<td>504</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaborative Innovation Center for the Study on China, Mongolia and Russia economic and trade cooperation &amp; construction of Economic Belt on the Prairie Silk Road, Inner Mongolia University of Finance and Economics</td>
<td>1503</td>
<td>1043</td>
<td>460</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XJTU Institute of “The Belt and The Road” Pilot Free Trade Zone</td>
<td>841.5</td>
<td>597.5</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China Silk Road iValley Research Institute</td>
<td>783.5</td>
<td>783.5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6.2.12 Comprehensive Think Tank

In addition to the 11 main research areas mentioned above, there is also a type of comprehensive think tanks, mainly composed of local party schools/administrative college, social sciences, etc. Different from think tanks in other fields, comprehensive think tanks usually carry out interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary and comprehensive research. There are 46 comprehensive think tanks in total in CTTI source think tanks, and provincial social science academies account for nearly 60% of the 46 comprehensive think tanks. Comprehensive think tanks have carried out a lot of research on think tanks by virtue of their own institutional and resource advantages.

For example, the Academy of Social Sciences in Shandong, as one of the first pilot units for the construction of key new think tanks in Shandong province, advocated the establishment of the Shandong Think Tank Alliance, opened online websites and Wechat public numbers, held the Taishan Think Tank Forum, and established Shandong Social Sciences Report to focus on introducing top-quality results of think tanks around the provincial central work of provincial party committees and the construction of a strong province of economy and culture. Party
School of the Human Provincial Committee of C.P.C Human Academy of Governance carried out a large number of training and meetings. Moreover, Decision Consulting Essentials, Think Tank Newsletter and Selected Results anthology of Decision Consulting founded by it had a great impact in the province.

Party School of Zhejiang Provincial Committee of C.P.C (Zhejiang Institute of Administration) strives to enhance academic influence and the level of scientific research and consulting work. It has made positive and effective progress in building a model Party School of universities at a high level. The Party and government think tanks with high citations rank top in the number of papers.

Besides, some academies of Social Sciences also actively participate in the research and evaluation of think tanks. For example, some academies of social sciences have successively issued special evaluation reports on think tanks, such as Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences, Sichuan Academy of Social Sciences and Shandong Academy of Social Sciences.

7 Suggestions on strengthening the construction of new think tanks with Chinese characteristics

According to the general goal of realizing a new think tank with Chinese characteristics by 2020 mentioned in the Opinion, more than half of the time has passed since General Secretary Xi Jinping put forward the proposal of building a new type of think tanks with Chinese characteristics in April 2013. In the first half of the construction of new think tanks with Chinese characteristics for more than five years, remarkable achievements have been made. However, in the process of first half construction, some problems have gradually emerged. As General Secretary Xi Jinping pointed out, "Some think tanks pay more attention to quantity than quality, some pay more attention to form dissemination than content innovation, and some are formalistic practices such as setting up a platform, inviting celebrities and holding forums." Therefore, in the second half of the construction of new think tanks with Chinese characteristics, we should not only learn from the construction experience of the first half, but also focus on solving the problems left over from the first half.
7.1 Innovating the System and Mechanism of Think Tanks and Improving the Governance of Think Tanks

Since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China proposed to "improve the decision-making mechanism and give play to the role of think tanks", China has issued a series of policy documents from the central and local governments to promote the development of think tanks. However, in the concrete practice of building new types of think tanks with Chinese characteristics, the development of think tanks is still limited by the existing mechanisms and systems. The main reason is that most of the think tanks in China are institutional think tanks, including the party schools, the school of administration, the academy of social sciences, the think tanks of universities, etc. Most of them have competent units and do not have completely independent legal personality. Therefore, Think-tank’s operating is easily limited by a director unit, leading to think tank’s construction into a "sandwich" trap, namely the upper of the sandwich is the administrative department of state/province ministries’ think tanks, the middle one is the parent unit (e.g., college, Chinese academy of social sciences), and the lower is the think tank. State/province ministries need to work on the think tank through the parent unit, which to some extent causes difficulties in policy implementation and restricts the development of think tanks. In addition, there are still some problems such as the imperfect operation mechanism of the think tank itself, the unreasonable recognition and incentive system of the think tank's achievements.

The building of new types of think tanks with Chinese characteristics is not a decisive battle but a protracted one. Only by breaking the shackles of mechanism and system and improving the governance system of think tanks can we optimize the external environment for the development of think tanks and enhance the internal driving force for their development. On the one hand, the management system of think tanks should be improved, and the development policies of think tanks in central provinces and cities should be promoted, so that think tanks can fully enjoy the policy dividends. In the development of more than five years, part of the think tank
development experience is worth using for reference. For example, Nanjing University established Yangtze Industrial Economics Institution and Zijin Media Think Tank. At the same time, these two think tanks registered the "non-citizen" legal entity think tank in the provincial civil affairs department, which solved the "sandwich trap" of think tank development by means of "one entity, two brands", allowing two think tanks to enjoy the dividend of national policies and at the same time make convenient use of school resources. On the other hand, the operation mechanism of think tanks should be improved, the internal ecology of think tanks should be optimized, and the benign development of think tanks should be promoted. We will formulate a scientific and reasonable system for recognizing and encouraging the achievements of think tanks. First, attach importance to the establishment of the basic law of think tanks -- the constitution of think tanks, so as to institutionalize and standardize the operation of think tanks. Second, change the previous academic evaluation model of discussing heroes in core journals, flexibly identify the achievements of think tanks, improve the enthusiasm of think tank researchers, and provide guarantee for think tank research.

7.2 Improving Think Tank Service Model and Providing Embedded Service

In addition to the government internal research office that is close to the decision-making department, there is a supply and demand information asymmetry between most of the think tanks and the decision-making department. On the one hand, due to insufficient or limited disclosure of government information, think tanks have a single channel to obtain government information, so they cannot obtain detailed and reliable information data for research support. On the other hand, there's not enough interaction between the decision department and the think tank, and it's hard to get a chance to participate in a government policy seminar, and it's going to be a problem of "the file data is not available, the policy information is not available, and the feedback can't be seen". Secondly, at present, the research and consulting business of think tanks is too concentrated on the front end of the policy process, and the
business model is top-heavy. That is to say, the policy consulting service provided by think tanks focuses on the drafting and drafting of policies, and pays less attention to the evaluation, feedback and education of policies. The business focus is superficial.

Building new types of think tanks with Chinese characteristics is an important way to improve the decision-making mechanism. First, focus on demand-side reform. The decision department has to value, trust, rely on, and support the thinktank to provide decision counseling services, to support the development policy of the thinktank, financial support, information support, platform support, and to promote the cooperation of the policy lab in the government yard to the think tank. Second, think tanks need to change the previous consulting service mode and provide "embedded decision-making consulting services" for decision-making departments by embedding policy process, decision-making consulting process, decision-making consulting scenario and policy community. Specifically, through the embedding of policy process, think tanks provide full-chain services for decision-making departments from policy discussion and formulation to policy implementation and policy evaluation and feedback. Through the embedding of decision-making consultation process, from data collection to final report writing, give full play to the technical support of think tanks; Through the embedding of decision scenario, the cause and effect of policy can be understood. Through the circle embedding of the policy community, it generates strong mutual trust with decision-making departments and policy research departments.

7.3 Optimizing the distribution of human resources in think tanks and enriching the talent team

Talent is the foundation of think tank development. In recent years, the number of Chinese intelligent library entities has rapidly increased, and only CTTI has 700 think tanks distributed in more than 50 strategic and policy fields. However, it is worth noting that the talent team construction of think tanks has not kept pace with the growth of the number of think tanks. At present, the talent team of think tanks in China has many part-time staff but few full-time staff, many researchers but few
support staff, and many research teams but few leading experts. Therefore, it is necessary to optimize the human resource layout of think tanks and enrich the talent team of think tanks, so as to provide continuous power for the development of think tanks and guarantee the high quality and high level of the research results of think tanks. Think tank talent team construction must pay attention to the following points:

First, pay attention to the proportion of auxiliary staff and researchers. Reasonable proportion of auxiliary staff and researchers is an important guarantee to improve research efficiency. Auxiliary personnel include administrators, research secretaries, and research assistants. For example, the experience of the Rand Corporation is that "two fellows are less efficient than one fellow and half a secretary". In addition to a large number of administrative affairs, the think tank studies are equally trifling, long-term and constancy. The auxiliary personnel can carry out the logistics support of the research for the researchers. Second, increase the proportion of full-time researchers. External researchers or part-time researchers can promote the exchange of ideas of think tanks, expand the research field of think tanks, and establish the brand effect of think tanks. However, if the number of part-time researchers is too large, it is not easy to form a stable and efficient think tank research team. Currently, however, the number of part-time researchers in some tanks is far beyond full-time research personnel, who need to incorporate more full-time researchers to build their own core research team. Third, think tank leaders are needed. On the one hand, think tank development needs academic leaders. In the initial stage of think tanks and the stage of think tank brand establishment, influential experts are needed to enhance the popularity of think tanks. On the other hand, the operation and management of think tanks need talents "who understand think tanks, are proficient in academics and have a general knowledge of management". Academic star type think tank managers tend to be a tiger with wings added to the development of think tanks. Fourth, absorb and cultivate "T" talents and optimize the talent structure. Intelligent library research is characterized by multidisciplinary, broad field, complexity and comprehensiveness. There are knowledgeable and specialized "T" type talents who
have natural professional advantages in carrying out think tank research. In short, only by cultivating leading think tank talents, gathering top think tank experts, and rationally allocating human resources, can a certain scale of think tank research team layout be formed with leading talents as the guidance, senior experts as the core, researchers as the backbone, and research assistants as the assistance, so as to provide talent guarantee for the construction of new types of think tanks with Chinese characteristics.

7.4 Enhancing International Exchange and Cooperation to Make the World Understand China

As an important way to realize the modernization of China's governance capacity and system, the construction of new types of think tanks in China cannot be achieved behind closed doors. On the one hand, it is the demand for the construction of new think tanks with Chinese characteristics. Western think tanks developed earlier and their operating mechanisms are more mature. The construction of new think tanks in China is still in its infancy, and a large number of institutional problems need to be solved. Therefore, the construction of new types of think tanks with Chinese characteristics should be in line with the international standards, strengthen the international exchanges of think tanks, understand the dynamics of the western think tank industry, and learn from the development experience of western think tanks to know each other. Of course, learning from others is not the same as copying from others. To build new types of think tanks with Chinese characteristics, we need to keep in mind the words "special" and "new".

On the other hand, enhancing the international exchange of thinktanks is the need of our diplomatic strategy. "Think tank diplomacy" has gradually become a "second track" beyond official diplomacy and people-to-people exchanges, and its core is the exchange of information and ideas. Think tanks play an important role in foreign exchanges because of their special relationship with official decision-making and special status as professional policy researchers. They are more flexible and professional than official diplomacy and non-governmental exchanges. At present,
China's comprehensive national strength is on the rise, and its interactions with the international community have become ever closer. China is actively participating in global governance and promoting the building of a global community of Shared future. However, with the continuous changes in the world pattern and the strengthening of political and economic globalization, China's participation in global affairs is faced with more complex challenges and requires stronger, more professional and deeper theoretical support and decision-making support. It also provides a theoretical basis, policy advice and exchange platform for the development of China's major foreign country's diplomacy. Therefore, our nation's think tank has to focus on our country's strategic needs, to hit global hotspot issues, to make a "Chinese voice" in global governance, to increase the international influence of our nation's think tank, and to make the world understand China. For example, China has built a number of think tanks and international forums around the Belt and Road Initiative. These think tanks and forums have played an important role in promoting the Belt and Road Initiative and establishing China's international voice.

7.5 Establishing Brand Awareness of Think Tanks and Building Flagship Products

Professionalism is the basic attribute of think tanks. Without professionalism, think tank research will become "a tree without roots". However, at present there are thousands of domestic think tanks, involving a wide range of professional fields. How to stand out among the numerous think tanks is a question that must be considered in the process of think tank construction and development. Different from pure academic research institutions, think tanks are also media, shouldering the role of policy education and public opinion guidance, and the credibility of think tanks is the guarantee for think tanks to play the above functions. Therefore, think tanks must establish brand awareness, build flagship products, and improve the identification and credibility. First of all, think tank research should reflect "specialized, refined, special and excellent", which is the foundation of think tank. For example, the Institute of African Studies of Zhejiang Normal University has long focused on African studies,
carried out systematic and comprehensive research, and accumulated a large number of research results. It is now the leader of African study in China.

Second, focus on building think tanks' flagship products. Think tanks and think tanks' flagship products complement each other, that is, think tanks promote and disseminate the research results of think tanks through flagship products, while excellent think tank products in turn help establish the brand image of think tanks. First, create well-known forums and conference. For example, Shanghai Forum hosted by the Development Research Institute of Fudan University is a large international academic forum, aiming to build a platform for the communication between Chinese and foreign political and business scholars, and make suggestions for regional development and national plans. Since its inception in 2005, the forum has attracted nearly 4,000 speakers at home and abroad. It has always been a pioneer in innovation, in order to better serve the human race, the development of the country, and the improvement of the people's life, and has gradually been a well-known brand of forum at home and abroad. Second, create a flagship publication. For example, the *Rand Review*, a flagship magazine published by the Rand corporation, an internationally renowned think tank, and *Globalization*, a publication founded by China Center for International Economic Exchanges, focusing on the major strategic issues of international and domestic economic and social development. Third, publish star products. For example, *Nanjing University Think Tank Collection* published by the Research and Evaluation Center of China Think Tank in Nanjing University, and the large-scale documentary *I come from Africa* shot by the Institute of African Studies of Zhejiang Normal University mentioned above.

### 7.6 Promoting the Coordinated Development and Improving the System of Think Tank

The opinions proposed to "promote the coordinated development of party and government departments, social sciences, party school administration, universities, military, research institutes, enterprises and social think tanks. But the problems of incoordination are also existed in the present state of development. According to
CTTI source data, university think tanks account for half of the total number of think tanks in China, while enterprise think tanks and social think tanks account for less than one tenth. Others, such as think tanks for the party, government and military, and the Chinese academy of social sciences, rank second in terms of number, but they have natural advantages in providing decision-making consultation services because of their close relationship with decision-making departments. In addition, think tanks are geographically unevenly distributed. For example, the number of think tanks in east and north China accounts for nearly 75% of the total number of think tanks, which are mainly concentrated in Beijing and Shanghai. Of course, the centralization and clustering of think tank industry are related to the political, economic and cultural status of Beijing and Shanghai. It is undeniable that although China's central and western regions are relatively backward in economic development, they also need professional think tanks to provide policy consulting services for local economic and social development. With the grand goal of building a moderately prosperous society in all respects, this demand is even more urgent. However, the development of think tanks in China's central and western regions is lagging behind.

Therefore, we should promote the coordinated development of think tanks. On the one hand, we should promote the coordinated development of all types of think tanks, especially private think tanks and enterprise think tanks. Other types of think tanks are more or less susceptible to institutional influence, while private think tanks have unique advantages, more objective, independent and flexible. Therefore, we must strongly support the development of social think tanks, give full play to the advantages of private think tanks, form "catfish effect", and prosper the policy market. On the other hand, we should support the development of local think tanks in the central and western regions. Based on the local situations, we can provide strong intellectual support for local social and economic development.

CTTI Source Think Tanks (2018-2019)
(in alphabetical order according to the pinyin spelling of names)
(I) Think Tank of Party/Government Organizations (69)

Beijing Institute of Letters to Government

Tariff Policy Research Center of Ministry of Finance of the People’s Republic of China

International Economics and Finance Institute

Economic Information of Chongqing (Comprehensive Economic Institute of Chongqing)

China Center for Contemporary World Studies

Development Research Center of Fujian Provincial People’s Government

Public Security Development Strategy Research Institute of the Ministry of Public Security

Institute of Modern Policing Reform Ministry of Public Security

International Cooperation Center for National Development and Reform Commission

National Center for Education Development Research

National Institute of Hospital Administration

China Communication Research Center, State Administration of Press, Publication, Radio, Film and Television

National Center for Climate Change Strategy and International Cooperation

Strategic Research Center of Oil and Gas Resources, MLR

State Grid Energy Research Institute

Development Research Center of the State Council

The Institute of Fiscal Science and Policy of Hebei Province

Macroeconomic Research Institute in Hebei Province Development and Reform Committee

Research Institute of Machinery Industry Economics & Management
Development Research Center, the People’ Government of Jilin Province
Research Institute of People’ Government of Jiangsu Province
Jiangxi Provincial Research Center
Research Center for Social Science Development of Higher Education Institutions, the Ministry of Education
Development Research Center of Liaoning Provincial Government
The Research Institute of Nanjing Massacre History & International Peace
Development Research Center of Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region
Research Center for Rural Economy
National Society for the CPC Building Studies
International Cooperation Center for National Development and Reform Commission
China Institute for Marine Affairs
Shandong Academy of Innovation Strategy
Taxation Institute of State Administration of Taxation
China Institute of Sport Science
China National Health Development Research Center
Shandong Macro-Economy Research Institute
Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation
Shanghai Academy of Development and Reform
Shanghai Academy of Educational Sciences
Shanghai Pudong Academy of Reform and Development (Institute of China (Shanghai) Free Trade Zone)
The Development Research Center Shanghai Municipal People’s Government
Ministry of Justice Crime Prevention Research Institute
Binhai Research Institute in Tianjin
Intellectual Property Development Research Center of the State Intellectual Property Office
Tianjin Innovation and Development Institute
Center for Studies of United Front
Zhejiang Development & Planning Institute (ZDPI)
Central Compilation & Translation Bureau
The Research of Marxism of Central Compilation & Translation Bureau
World Development Strategy Research of Central Compilation & Translation Bureau
Chinese Academy of Fiscal Sciences
China Center for Urban Development
China Institute of International Studies
Chinese Institute of Land and Resources Economy
National Institute of Education Sciences
Chinese Academy of Labour and Society Security
China Research Center on Aging
China Tourism Academy
Research Institute of Leadership, China Executive Leadership Academy Pudong
Research Institute of Yangtze River Delta, China Executive Leadership Academy Pudong
Research Institute of Socialism with Chinese Characteristics, China Executive Leadership Academy Pudong
China Youth & Children Research Center
Financial Institute of the People’s Bank of China
Chinese Academy of Personnel Science
National Statistical Society of China
Chinese Academy of Cultural Heritage
China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations
Chinese Academy of Press and Publication
Ministry of Civil Affairs of the People’s Republic of China

(Ⅱ) Think Tanks of Academies of Social Sciences (51)
Anhui Academy of Social Sciences
Beijing Academy of Social Sciences
Chongqing Academy of Social Sciences
Chongqing Center for Productivity Development
Institute for Innovative City
Fujian Academy of Social Sciences
Gansu Academy of Social Sciences
Guangdong Academy of Social Sciences
Guangxi Academy of Social Sciences
Guizhou Academy of Social Sciences
Hainan Academy of Social Sciences
Hebei Academy of Social Sciences
Henan Academy of Social Sciences
Heilongjiang Provincial Academy of Social Sciences
Strategic Research Institute for Northeast Asia, Heilongjiang Provincial Academy of Social Sciences
Institute for Social Development and Local Governance of Heilongjiang,
Heilongjiang Provincial Academy of Social Sciences
Hubei Provincial Academy of Social Sciences
Hunan Academy of Social Sciences
Jilin Academy of Social Sciences
Jiangsu Provincial Academy of Social Sciences
Institute of Modernization, Jiangsu Provincial Academy of Social Sciences
Jiangxi Provincial Academy of Social Sciences
Liaoning Academy of Social Sciences
Nanjing Academy of Social Sciences
Inner Mongolia Academy of Social Sciences
Ningxia Academy of Social Sciences
Qinghai Academy of Social Sciences
Institute of Modernization
Shandong Academy of Social Sciences
Shannxi Academy of Social Sciences
Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences
Sichuan Academy of Social Sciences
Tianjin Academy of Social Sciences
Tibetan Academy of Social Sciences, TAR
Xinjiang Academy of Social Sciences
Yunnan Academy of Social Sciences
Zhejiang Academy of Social Sciences
Chinese Academy of Social Sciences
National Academy of Economic Strategy, CASS
Marxist Political Economy Innovation Think Tank in Contemporary China, CASS

The Institute of Contemporary China Studies
National Institution for Finance & Development
National Institute of Global Strategy, CASS
Institute of European Studies of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences
Shanghai Academy
National Institute of Social Development
Institute of World Economics and Politics
Taiwan Institute of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences
Ideological Research Institute of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences
China National Center for Cultural Studies
China-CEEC Think Tanks Network

(Ⅲ) Think Tanks of Party Schools/Administrative College (48)

Research & Assessment Center for Anhui Public Policy of Anhui School of Administration

Gansu Institute of Public Administration
Chinese Academy of Governance
E-Governance Research Center of China National School of Administration
Research Center for Development Strategy and Public Policy of China National School of Administration
Advisory Committee for Party Decision of China National School of Administration
Hebei Academy of Governance
Research Institute of Party Building Theory and Practice Innovation
Shandong Academy of Governance
Shannxi Academy of Governance
Shanghai Party Institute of CPC (SPI), Shanghai Administration Institute (SAI)
Institute for Great-Leap-Forward Development of Yunnan
Anhui Provincial Committee Party School of CPC
Party School of CPC Beijing Municipal Committee, Beijing Administration College
Fujian Provincial Committee Party School of CPC, Fujian Administration College
Gansu Provincial Party School of CPC
Party School of the Guangdong Provincial Committee of CPC, Guangdong Institute of Public Administration
Party School of Guangxi Autonomous Region Committee of CPC, Guangxi Institute of Public Administration
Guizhou Provincial Party School of CPC, Guizhou Administration College
Hainan Provincial Party School of CPC, Hainan Academy of Governance
Hebei Provincial Party School of CPC
Henan Provincial Party School of CPC, Henan Academy of Governance
Heilongjiang Provincial Party School of CPC, Heilongjiang Academy of Governance
Hubei Provincial Party School of CPC, Hubei Academy of Governance
Party School of the Hunan Provincial Committee of CPC, Hunan Academy of Governance
Party School of the Jilin Provincial Committee of CPC, Jilin Academy of Governance
Party School of the Jiangsu Provincial Committee of CPC
Party School of the Jiangxi Provincial Committee of CPC, Jiangxi Academy of Governance
Party School of the Liaoning Provincial Committee of CPC
Party School of Ningxia Autonomous Region Committee of CPC, Ningxia Academy of Governance
Party School of the Qinghai Provincial Committee of CPC, Qinghai Academy of Governance
Party School of the Shandong Provincial Committee
Party School of the Shannxi Provincial Committee
Party School of the Sichuan Provincial Committee of CPC
Party School of the Tianjin Municipal Committee of CPC, Research Center of New-Era Innovative and Service-Oriented Government
Party School of the Tianjin Municipal Committee of CPC, Research Center of Tianjin New-Era Decision-Making of CPC
Party School of the Tianjin Municipal Committee of CPC, Research Center of New-Era Modern Economic System
Party School of the Tianjin Municipal Committee of CPC, Tianjin Academy of Governance
Party School of Tibet Autonomous Region Committee of CPC, Tibet Autonomous Region Academy of Governance
Party School of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region Committee of CPC, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region Academy of Governance
Party School of Zhejiang Provincial Committee of CPC, Zhejiang Institute of Administration
Party School of Central Committee of CPC
Department of Party Building, Party School of Central Committee of CPC
Institutes for International Strategic Studies
Party School of Chongqing Provincial Committee of CPC, Chongqing Institute of Administration
China Society of Administration Reform (CSOAR)
Research Institute for the China’s Political Party System of the Central Institute of Socialism
Party School of Mongolia Autonomous Region Committee of CPC, Mongolia
Academy of Governance

(IV) University Think Tanks (441)

Institute of Anhui Economic Development Research, Anhui University Finance & Economics
Innovative Development Institute, Anhui University
Institute of Information and Strategy Studies, Peking University
National School of Development, Peking University
Institute of State Governance Studies, Peking University
Institute for Cultural Industries, Peking University
The Constitution and Administrative Law Research Center of Peking University
Research Center for China Urban Economy, Peking University
Beijing Research Institute of International Cultural Communication, Beijing International Studies University
Beijing Tourism Development Research Center, Beijing International Studies University
Beijing Research Institute of Cultural Trade of Beijing International Studies University
China Academy of One Belt and One Road Strategy Institute, Beijing International Studies University
Research Center of Capital Garment Culture and Industry of Beijing Institute of
Fashion Technology
Beijing Social Building Research Base, Beijing University of Technology
Research Base of Beijing Modern Manufacturing Development, Beijing University of Technology
China Aeronautical Engineering Science and Technology Development Strategy Research Institute, Beihang University
Research Center for Beijing Transportation Development, Beijing Jiaotong University
Beijing Logistics Informatics Research Base, Beijing Jiaotong University
National Academy of Economic Security, Beijing Jiaotong University
Institute of Chinese Marxism and Cultural Development, Beijing Jiaotong University
Sustainable Development Research Institute for Economy and Society of Beijing Institute of Beijing Studies, Beijing Union University
Beijing Research Center for New Countryside Construction, Beijing University of Agriculture
Institute of International and Comparative Education, Beijing Normal University
Capital Economics of Education Research Base, Beijing Normal University
Beijing Institute of Culture Innovation and Communication of Beijing Normal University
Smart Learning Institute of Beijing Normal University
Collaborative Innovation Center of Assessment for Basic Education Quality, Beijing Normal University
China Institute of Education and Social Development, Beijing Normal University
China Institute for Income Distribution, Beijing Normal University
Winter Olympics Culture Research Center of Beijing Sport University
International Institute of Chinese Studies, Beijing Foreign Studies University
National Research Center for State Language Capability, Beijing Foreign Studies University
Gulf Arab States Research Center, Beijing Foreign Studies University
National Research Center for Canadian Studies, Beijing Foreign Studies University
Center for Japanese Studies, Beijing Foreign Studies University
British Studies Centre, Beijing Foreign Studies University
Center for China-Germany People-to-People Exchange Studies, Beijing Foreign Studies University
Center for Central and Eastern European Studies, Beijing Foreign Studies University
Research Center for Knowledge Management, Beijing Information Science & Technology University
Beijing Literature Language and Cultural Heritage Center, Beijing Language and Culture University
Sichuan Mineral Resources Research Center, Chengdu University of Technology
Think Tank on Natural Disaster Prevention and Geological Environment Protection, Chengdu University of Technology
Institute of Urban-Rural Construction and Development, Chongqing University
Center for Public Economy & Public Policy Research, Chongqing University
Legal Strategy Research Institute of National Cyberspace Security and Big Data, Chongqing University
Consilium Research Institute, Chongqing University
Institute for Sustainable Development Research of CQU
Institute for China Public Service Evaluation and Research, Chongqing University
Research Center for Economy of Upper Reaches of the Yangtze River, Chongqing Technology and Business University
Think Tank for Yunnan Religious Governance and Ethnic Unity and Progress, Dali University
DMU’s Belt and Road Initiative Research Institute
Northeast Asia Research Center, Dalian University of Foreign Language
Institute of Economic and Social Development, Dongbei University of Finance and Economics
China Academy of Northeast Revitalization, Northeastern University
Modern Agricultural Development Research Center, Northeaster Agricultural University
Institute of East-Asian Studies, Northeast Normal University
Research Institute of Rural Education, Northeast Normal University
Moral Development Think-Tank, Southeast University
Research Center for Anti-Corruption with Rule of Law, Southeast University
Research Center for Traffic Rule of Law and Development, Southeast University
Judicial Big Data Platform of People’s Court, Southeast University
Research Center for Modern Management Accounting Innovation, Southeast University
China High Quality Development Evaluation Research Institute, Southeast University
Institute for the Development of Socialism with Chinese Characteristics, Southeast University
Institute of International Economics, University of International Business and Economics
Research Institute for Global Value Chains, University of International Business and Economics
China Institute for WTO Studies, University of International Business and Economics
National Research Center for Economic Comprehensive Competitiveness, Fujian Normal University
Fudan Development Institute, Fudan University
Center for American Studies, Fudan University
Fudan University Center for Population and Development Policy Studies
Center for Think Tanks Research and Management in Shanghai, Fudan University
Center for Asia-Pacific Cooperation and Governance, Fudan University
Center for Building and State Development Studies, Fudan University
Research Institute of Chinese Economy, Fudan University
China Institute, Fudan University
The Research Center for Investigative Theory and Application in Northwestern Ethnic Regions, Gansu Institute of Political Science and Law
National Economics Research Center, Guangdong University of Finance and Economics
Guangdong Institute for International Strategies, Guangdong University of Foreign Studies
Guangxi Research Institute for Innovation and Development of Guangxi University
China-ASEAN Research Institute, Guangxi University
Guangxi Development Research Institute of Intellectual Property, Guangxi University of Nationalities
Guangzhou Development Research Institute, Guangzhou University
Guizhou Research Institute of Big Data Industry Development and Application, Guizhou University
ASEAN Research Institute of Guizhou University
Institution of Public Market and Government Procurement, University of International Relations
Center for International Strategy and Security Studies, University of International Relations
Heilongjiang Regional Innovation Driven Development Research Center, Harbin Engineering University
“One Belt and One Road” Think Tank for Talent Strategy, Harbin Institute of Technology
Heilongjiang Innovation and Entrepreneurship Research Center, Harbin Institute of Technology
Think Tank of Public Health Security and Medical Reform Strategy of Heilongjiang, Harbin Medical University
Hainan Policy and Industrial Reform Institute of Low-Carbon Economy, Hainan University
Hainan Institute of Development on International Tourist Destination, Hainan University
Research Center for Policy and Law of the South China Sea of Hainan Province, Hainan University
Hebei Research Center for Eco-Environment Sciences, Hebei University
Hebei University Research Center for Social Development of Islamic Countries
Center for Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei Development Research, Hebei University of Technology
Institute of De Rong, Hebei Finance University
Hebei Research Center for Moral Culture and Social Development, Hebei University of Economics and Business
Collaborative Innovation Center for Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei Integrated Development, Hebei University of Economics and Business
Collaborative Innovation Center of Social Governance by Law and Virtue, Hebei University of Economics and Business
Research Base for Modern Service and Public Policy, Hebei Normal University
Research Center for Changcheng Cultural Security, Hebei Normal University
Academy of Hinterland Development, Henan University
Institute for Cultural Development and Strategy of Heilongjiang University
Institute for Longjiang Revitalization and Development, Heilongjiang University
Co-Innovation Center of Cultural Development and Strategy, Heilongjiang University
Co-Innovation Center of Sino-Russia Strategy, Heilongjiang University
Centre of Hubei Cooperative Innovation for Emission Trading System, Hubei Co-Innovation Innovation Center
International Trade Research Center, Hunan University
Financial Development and Credit Management Research Center, Hunan University
Research Center of Honest Administration, Hunan University
Research and Spread of National Studies in Yuelu Academy of Hunan University
China Industrial Finance Collaborative Innovation Center, Hunan University
China Center for Cultural Soft Power Research, Hunan University
Center for Studies in Moral Culture of Hunan Normal University
Human Research Institute of Chinese International Promotion, Hunan Normal University
Institute of Core Socialist Values of Hunan Normal University
Institute of Ecological Civilization, Hunan Normal University
Beijing Energy Development Research Center, North China Electric Power University
Research Center for High Speed Railway and Regional Development, East China Jiaotong University
Center for Energy Economics and Environmental Management, East China University of Science and Technology
Research Center for Social Work and Management, East China University of Science and Technology
Center for Russian Studies of ECNU (CRS)
Institute for National Educational Policy Research, East China Normal University
Institute of Schooling Reform and Development, East China Normal University
Institute of Curriculum and Instruction, East China Normal University
Shanghai Innovation Research Base of Population Structure and Development Trend, East China Normal University
Research Center of Yangtze River Delta Regional Integration, East China Normal University
University
  Center for the Study and Application of Chinese Characters, East China Normal University
  The Center for Modern Chinese City Studies, East China Normal University
  The Institute for Modern Chinese Thought and Culture, East China Normal University
  Research Center for Co-development with Neighboring Countries, East China Normal University
  East China Institute of Prosecution, East China University of Political Science and Law
  Center for Rule of Law Strategy Studies, East China University of Political Science and Law
  Institute of Public Policy, South China University of Technology
  Guangzhou Financial Services Innovation and Risk Management Research Base, South China University of Technology
  Center of Social Governance Research, South China University of Technology
  Center for Government Performance Appraisal, South China University of Technology
  Non-traditional Security Centre of Huazhong University of Science and Technology
  The Institute of State Governance, Huazhong University of Science and Technology
  Huazhong University of Science and Technology School of Health Policy and Management
  Peikang Chang Institute for Development Studies, Huazhong University of Science and Technology
  Institute of China Rural Studies, Central China Normal University
  North Jiangsu Development Research Institute, Huaiyin Institute of Technology
  China (Henan) Innovation and Development Institute, Huanghe Science and
Technology College

Entrepreneurship and Innovation Graduate School, Jilin University
Center for Northeast Asian Studies, Jilin University
Research Center for Social Justice and Governance of Jilin University
Center for Quantitative Economics of Jilin University
China Center for Public Sector Economy Research at Jilin University
China Center for Aging Studies and Social-Economic Development, Jilin University

Chinese Culture Research Center, Jilin University
Institute of Industrial Economics, Jinan University
Institute of Guangzhou Nansha Free Trade Test Area Research, Jinan University
The Public Opinion Big Date Research Center, Jinan University
Academy of Overseas Chinese Studies in Jinan University
Institute for Food Safety Risk Management, Jiangnan University
Jiangsu Institute of Educational Modernization, Jiangsu Second Normal University

Academy of Applied Maritime Talents of “the Belt and Road”, Jiangsu Maritime Institute
Jiangsu Public Security Institute, Jiangsu Police Institute
Institute of “the Belt and Road”, Jiangsu Normal University
Coordinated Innovation Center for Establishing an All-around Affluent Society in Jiangxi, Jiangxi University of Finance and Economics

The Collaborative Innovation Center of Strategic Emerging Industry Development of Jiangxi Province for Monitoring, Forecasting and Decision Supporting, Jiangxi University of Finance and Economics

Research Center of Nonferrous Metal Industry Development, Jiangxi University of Science and Technology

Research Center of the Management-Decision Evaluation of Jiangxi Normal University
Jiangxi Industrial Transformation and Development Research Center, Jiangxi Normal University
Soviet Area Revitalization Institute of Jiangxi Normal University
Collaborative Innovation Center of Chinese Society Transformation Research, Jiangxi Normal University
Yunnan Integrated Transport Development and Regional Logistics Management Think Tank, Kunming University Science and Technology
Research Institute of Kunming Scientific Development, Kunming University
Silk Road Economic Research Institute of Lanzhou University of Finance and Economics
The Center for Afghanistan Studies of Lanzhou University
Research Center for Silk Road Belt Construction of Lanzhou University
Center of Studies of Ethnic Minorities in Northwest China of Lanzhou University
Evidence-Based Social Science Research Center of Lanzhou University
China Research Center for Government Performance Management, Lanzhou University
Institute for Central Asian Studies, Lanzhou University
Collaborative Innovation Center of the Opening of Northeast China for Northeast Asia, Liaoning University
China Academy of Northeast Revitalization, Liaoning University
Research Center for the Economics and Politics of Transitional Countries, Liaoning University
MCA-ECNU Institute for Administrative Division
Jiangxi Development Research Institute of Nanchang University
Tourism Planning and Research Center of Nanchang University
Research Center for Central China Economic and Social Development of Nanchang University
Modern Service Industry Think Tank of Nanjing University of Finance and Economics
Institute of African Studies, Nanjing University
Zijin Media Think Tank, Nanjing University, Nanjing University
Interdisciplinary Center for Risk, Disaster & Crisis Management
Yangtze Industrial Economics Institution, Nanjing University
Center for the Social and Economic Development of Yangtze River Delta of Nanjing University
Collaborative Innovation Center of South China Sea Studies, Nanjing University
Jiangsu Academy of Talent Development, Nanjing University of Science and Technology
The Research Center of Intellectual Property Development in Jiangsu, Nanjing University of Science and Technology
Jin Shanbao Agricultural Modernization Research Institute, Nanjing Agricultural University
Institute for Chinese Legal Modernization Studies, Nanjing Normal University
Research Institute of Climate and Environmental Governance, Nanjing University of Information Science & Technology
Institute of Healthy Jiangsu Development, Nanjing Medical University
Purple Academy of Culture & Creativity, Nanjing University of Arts
Binhai Development Institute, Nankai University
Institute of Issues in Contemporary China, Nankai University
College of Economic and Social Development, Nankai University
Japan Research Center of Nankai University
APEC Study Center of Nankai University
Center for Studies of Political Economy of Nankai University
China Academy of Corporate Governance, Nankai University
Collaborative Innovation Center for China Economy, Nankai University
Chinese Government and Politics Unite Research Center, Nankai University
Jiangsu Yangtze Economic Belt Research Institute, Nantong University
Collaborative Innovation Center for the Study on China, Mongolia and Russia
economic and trade cooperation & construction of Economic Belt on the Prairie Silk Road, Inner Mongolia University of Finance and Economics

Center for Studies of Mongolia, Inner Mongolia University
Center for Mongolian Studies, Inner Mongolia University
Donghai Institute of Ningbo University
Hui Institute of Ningxia University
China Institute for Arab Studies at Ningxia University
Qinghai Provincial Research Center, Qinghai University
Brookings-Tsinghua Center for Public Policy
Institute of International Relation, Tsinghua University
Institute for Contemporary China Studies, Tsinghua University
Research Center for Technological Innovation, Tsinghua University
Carnegie-Tsinghua Center for Global Policy
Research Center for Contemporary Management, Tsinghua University
Center for Crisis Management Research, Tsinghua University
Center for China in the World Economy, Tsinghua University
Institute of Contemporary World Socialism, Shandong University
Center for Confucius Institute Studies, Shandong University
Shandong School of Development at Shandong University
Shandong Regional Financial Reform and Development Research Center, Shandong University
Center for Health Management and Policy, Shandong University
The Institute for Studies in County Development, Shandong University
Center for Judaic and Inter-Religious Studies of Shandong University
Research Institute of Political Parties, Shandong University
Cooperative Innovation Center for Transition of Resource-Based Economics, Shanxi University of Finance and Economics
Institute of Management and Decision of Shanxi University
Institute for the Study of Jin-Merchants of Shanxi University
Center for Experimental Economics in Education at Shaanxi Normal University
Northwest Land and Resource Research Center, Shaanxi Normal University
Northwest Institute of Historical Environment and Sicio-Economic Development, Shaanxi Normal University
Central Asia Institute of Shaanxi Normal University
Language Resources Development Research Center, Shaanxi Normal University
Institute for Western Frontier Region of China, Shaanxi Normal University
Institute for Public Policy and Governance, Shanghai University of Finance and Economics
Shanghai Institute of International Finance Center, Shanghai University of Finance and Economics
China Industrial Development Institute, Shanghai University of Finance and Economics
China Public Finance Institute, Shanghai University of Finance and Economics
Collaborative Innovation Center of China Pilot Free Trade Zone, Shanghai University of Finance and Economics
Center for Drug and National Security in Shanghai University
Research Center for Local Governance, Shanghai University
Center for Latin American Studies, Shanghai University
Center for Turkish Studies, Shanghai University
Think Tank Industry Research Center of Shanghai University
Shanghai Center for Global Trade and Economic Governance, Shanghai University of International Business and Economics
Shanghai WTO Affairs Consultation Center, Shanghai University of International Business and Economics
Shanghai International Shipping Institute, Shanghai Maritime University
China Institute of FTZ Supply Chain, Shanghai Maritime University
Institute of Urban Science in Shanghai Jiao Tong University
The Center for Third Sector, Shanghai Jiao Tong University
Center for Reform, Innovation and Governance at Shanghai Jiao Tong University  
Research Base on National Marine Rights and Strategy, Shanghai Jiao Tong University  
Cultural Industry Innovation & Development Academy, Shanghai Jiao Tong University  
Institute of Arts and Humanities, Shanghai Jiao Tong University  
Center for World-Class Universities, Shanghai Jiao Tong University  
Institute for Public Opinion Research, Shanghai Jiao Tong University  
China Institute for Urban Governance, Shanghai Jiao Tong University  
China Strategy Institute of Ocean Engineering, Shanghai Jiao Tong University  
Institute of Silk Road Strategy Studies of Shanghai International Studies University (SISU)  
Centre for British Studies, SISU  
Middle East Studies Institute, SISU  
Central for Global Public Opinions, SISU  
Research of Foreign Language Strategies, SISU  
SCO Research Institute, Shanghai University of Political Science and Law  
Institute for the Security Studies of “the Belt and Road”, Shanghai University of Political Science and Law  
Institute of Urban Governance, Shenzhen University  
Center for Basic Laws of Hong Kong and Macau Special Administrative Regions, Shenzhen University  
Institute of China Overseas Interests, Shenzhen University  
Institute of Human Resources Development and Management, Shenyang Normal University  
Beijing Economics and Social Development Policy Research Base, Capital University of Economics and Business  
Beijing Basic Education Research Base, Capital Normal University  
Institute of South Asian Studies, Sichuan University
The Faculty of Social Development and Western China Development Studies, Sichuan University
Center for Tibetan Studies of Sichuan University
Collaborative Innovation Center for Security and Development of Western Frontier China, Sichuan University
Soochow University Think Tank
Think Tank for Urban Development, Suzhou University of Science and Technology
Center for Economic Analysis of Law and Policy Evaluation, Tianjin University of Finance and Economics (TUFTE)
Business Management Research Center of TUFTE
Research Center for Finance and Insurance, TUFTE
Tianjin Academy of Free Trade Area, TUFTE
Coordinated Innovation Center for Binhai Finance in China, TUFTE
China Center for Economic Statistics Research, TUFTE
Research Center for Tianjin Urbanization and New Rural Construction, Tianjin Chengjian University
Research Base for the Implementation of National Intellectual Property Strategy, Tianjin University
Educational Science Research Center of Tianjin University
Center for Biosafety Research and Strategy, Tianjin University
APEC Sustainable Energy Center, Tianjin University
Collaborative Innovation Center for Cultural Inheritance of China’s Traditional Villages & Architecture Heritages, Tianjin University
Research Institute of China Green Development of Tianjin University
International Research Centre for the Chinese Cultural Heritage Conservation, Tianjin University
Research Center of Tianjin Letters of the Rule of Law, Tianjin Polytechnic University
Research Center of Energy Environment and Green Development, Tianjin University of Science and Technology
Food Safety Strategy and Management Research Center of Tianjin University of Science and Technology
Research Center of Circular Economy and Green Development, Tianjin University of Technology
Think Tank for China’s Major Engineering Technology “Going Out” Investment Model and Control, Tianjin University of Technology
Tianjin University of Commerce Modern Service Industry Development Research Center
Research Institute of Governance, Tianjin Normal University
Research Center of Regional Development Strategy and Reform, Tianjin Normal University
Center for Crisis Management Research, Tianjin Normal University
Institute of Free Economic Zone, Tianjin Normal University
Fitness Research Think Tank, Tianjin University of Sport
Tianjin Institute for “the Belt and Road” Strategic Studies, Tianjin Foreign Studies University
Northeast Asia Research Center, Tianjin Foreign Studies University
Institute of Finance and Economics of Tongji University
German Studies Center, Tongji University
Tongji University Sustainable Development and New Urbanization Think-Tank Institute for China & World Studies, Tongji University
Wuhan University Institute of International Law
Institute of National Culture Development, Wuhan University
Research Institute of Environmental Law, Wuhan University
The Center for Economic Development Research of Wuhan University
Wuhan University Center of Economic Diplomacy
Center for Studies of Media Development, Wuhan University
Center for Social Security Studies of Wuhan University
Center for the Studies of Information Resources, Wuhan University
The Institute of Quality Development Strategy of Wuhan University
Wuhan University China Institute of Boundary and Ocean Studies
National Institute of Chinese Language Matters and Social Development, Wuhan University
Institute for the Development of Central China, Wuhan University
Institute of “the Belt and Road” Pilot Free Trade Zone, Xi’an Jiaotong University
Research Institute of Eurasian Economy and Global Development, Xi’an Jiaotong University
Research Center for Social Governance and Social Policy Collaborative Innovation, Xi’an Jiaotong University
Silk Road Institute for International and Comparative Law of Xi’an Jiaotong University
Collaborative Innovation Centre for Silk Road Economic Belt Studies, Xi’an Jiaotong University
China (Xi’an) Digital Economy Development Research Center, Xi’an Jiaotong University
Research Center of China Economic Reform Innovation and Assessment, Xi’an Jiaotong University
Research Centre of Chinese Management, Xi’an Jiaotong University
Research Institute of Silk Road Cultural Heritage Protection and Archeology, Northwest University
Institute of Middle Eastern Studies, Northwest University
Economic Development Research Center of West China, Northwest University
Research Center for Science, Technology and Industry Development for National Defense of Western China, Northwestern Polytechnical University
The Research Center for “the Belt and Road” Initiative and Education Development, Northwest Normal University
The Gansu Province’s Construction and Research Center of Cultural Resource and Chinese Civilization, Northwest Normal University
Center for Targeted Poverty Alleviation & Regional Development Research, Northwest Normal University
Institute of Anti-Terrorism Studies, Northwest University of Political Science and Law
Institute of National Religion of Northwest University of Political Science and Law
Collaborative Innovation Center of Financial Security, Southwest University of Finance and Economics
Survey and Research Center for China Household Finance, Southwest University of Finance and Economics
Institute of Chinese Financial Studies of Southwest University of Finance and Economics
Western Center for Economic Research in China, Southwest University of Finance and Economics
The Research Center for Public Culture, Southwest University
Research Center for Urban and Rural Education Development, Southwest University
Center for Studies of Education and Psychology of Minorities in Southwest China of Southwest University
Center for Hellenic Studies, Southwest University
Center for Iranian Studies, Southwest University
Research Center of Western Transportation Strategy and Regional Development, Southwest Jiaotong University
Sichuan Province Cyclic Economy Research Center, Southwest University of Science and Technology
Development Research Center of Oil and Gas of Sichuan, Southwest Petroleum University
Human Rights Institute, Southwest University of Political Science and Law
Institute for Tibetan Sustainable Development, Tibet University
Center for Collaborative Innovation in the Heritage and Development of Xizang Culture, Xizang Minzu University
Center for Southeast Asian Studies, Xiamen University
Center for Higher Education Development of Xiamen University
Center for Macroeconomic Research, Xiamen University
Taiwan Research Institute of Xiamen University
China Institute for Studies in Energy Policy, Xiamen University
Local Legislation and Social Governance Research Center, Xiangtan University
Public Administration and Regional Economic Development Research Center of Xiangtan University
The Studying Center of Mao Zedong Thought, Xiangtan University
Government Performance Evaluation and Management Innovation Research Center of Xiangtan University
Research Center of Revolutionary Spirit and Cultural Resources of the Communist Party of China, Xiangtan University
Institute of Korean Peninsula Studies, Yanbian University
Think Tank of Coastal Development, Yancheng Teachers University
Hebei Provincial Public Policy Evaluation and Research Center, Yanshan University
Hebei Design Innovation & Industrial Development Research Center, Yanshan University
Center for Advanced Study of Public Policy, Yunnan University of Finance and Economics
Research Institute for Indian Ocean Economics, Yunnan University of Finance and Economics
Yunnan Think Tank on Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, Yunnan University of Finance and Economics
Frontier Ethnic Problems Think-Tank of Yunnan University
Institute of Myanmar Studies, Yunnan University
Culture Development Institute of Yunnan University
Center for China’s Neighbor Diplomacy Studies, Yunnan University
National Institute for Innovation Management, Zhejiang University
Center for Non-Traditional Security and Peaceful Development Studies, Zhejiang University
Public Policy Research Institute of Zhejiang University
Center for Research of Private Economy, Zhejiang University
The Collaborative Innovation Center for “the Belt and Road” Initiative, Zhejiang University
China Academy for Rural Development of Zhejiang University
China Academy of West Region Development, Zhejiang University
Institute of China’s Science, Technology and Education Policy, Zhejiang University
Center for China Farmers’ Development, Zhejiang A & F University
Institute of African Studies, Zhejiang Normal University
Ningbo Maritime Silk Road Institute, Zhejiang Wanli University
National Center for Radio and Television Studies, CUC
The Capital’s Research Base of Media Economy (BJ Media), CUC
Institute of Marine Development, Ocean University of China
Center for Japanese Studies, Ocean University of China
China Business Working Capital Management Research Center, Ocean University of China
Anhui Province Key Laboratory of Big Data Analysis and Application, University of Science and Technology of China
Research Center of Anhui Science and Technology Innovation and Regional Development, University of Science and Technology of China
China Urban Public Security Management Think Tank, China University of
Mining and Technology
Institute of Airport Economics, Civil Aviation University of China
Research Center for Environment and Sustainable Development of the China Civil Aviation, Civil Aviation University of China
Research Center for International Development, China Agricultural University
Institute of China Agricultural Economics and Rural Development, China Agricultural University
Center for Land Policy and Law, China Agricultural University
Chongyang Institute for Financial Studies, Renmin University of China
National Academy of Development and Strategy, Renmin University of China
The Research Center of Civil and Commercial Jurisprudence of Renmin University of China
Population and Development Studies Center, Renmin University of China
Collaborative Innovation Center for Social Transformation and Social Governance, Renmin University of China
The Research Center of Criminal Justice at Renmin University of China
China Financial Policy Research Center, Renmin University of China
Center for Capital Social Safety, People’s Public Security University of China
School of Law-Based Government, China University of Political Science and Law
Institution for Human Rights at China University of Political Science and Law
Collaborative Innovation Center of Judicial Civilization of China, China University of Political Science and Law
China Society of Administrative Reform, China University of Political Science and Law
Collaborative Innovation Center of Industrial Upgrading and Regional Finance (Hubei), Zhongnan University of Economics and Law
The Co-Innovation Center for Social Management of Urban and Rural Communities in Hubei Province, Zhongnan University of Economics and Law
Center for the Development of Rule of Law and Judicial Reform Research of Zhongnan University of Economics and Law
Center for Studies of Intellectual Property Rights, Zhongnan University of Economics and Law
China’s Income Distribution Research Center, Zhongnan University of Economics and Law
Institute for Local Governance of Central South University
Legislative Research Base for Education of Central South University
Institute of Metal Resources Strategy, Central South University
Collaborative Innovation Center for Resource Conserving & Environment-friendly Society and Ecological Civilization
Center for Social Stability Risk Assessment of Central South University
Political Consultation Office of United Front Department, CSU
Institute of Medical and Health Law, CSU
Applied Ethics Research Center of CSU
Intellectual Property Research Institute of Central South University
Research Center of Chinese Village Culture, Central South University
China Center for Cultural Law Research of Central South University
Institute of State Governance, Sun Yat-sen University
Institute of South China Sea Strategic Studies, Sun Yat-sen University
Institute of Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao Development Studies, Sun Yat-sen University
Institute of Public Procurement, Central University of Finance and Economics
International Institute of Green Finance, Central University of Finance and Economics
China Center for Internet Economy Research Central University of Finance and Economics
Center for China Fiscal Development, Central University of Finance and Economics
( V) Military Think Tanks (6)

Beijing System Engineering Research Institute
Research Center for Defense Technology and Civil Military Integration of National University of Defense Technology
National Defense Science and Technology Strategy Research Center of National University of Defense Technology
International Studies Center of National University of Defense Technology
National Defense University of People's Liberation Army, NDU, PLA

Academy of Military Sciences, PLA, China

(VI) Think Tank of Research Institutes (34)

Beijing Research Center for Science of Science
Surveying and Mapping Development Research Center, NASG
Rural. Development Research Institute of Hunan
Jiangsu Information Institute of Science and Technology (Jiangsu Science and Technology Development Strategy Research Institute)
Jiangsu Suke Academy of Innovation Strategy
Jiangxi Academy of Sciences Institute of Science & Technology Strategy
International Engineering Education Center, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
Research Center of Science and Technology for Development
Qindao Institute of Science and Technology Development Strategy
Institute of Science and Technology for Development of Shandong
Shanghai Institutes for International Studies
Shanghai Institute of Science & Technology Policy (Shanghai Institute of Science & Technology Management)
Shanghai Institute for Science of Science
Capital Institute of Science and Technology Development Strategy
Development Research Center of the Ministry of Water Resources of P.R.China
Tianjin Research Institute of Economic Development
Western China Think Tank on Resources, Environment and Development
China Steel Development & Research Institute
Zhejiang Institute of Science and Technology Information (Zhejiang Institute of Science and Technology Development Strategy)
China Center for Information Industry Development
Chinese Academy of Engineering
China Aerospace Engineering Science and Technology Development Strategy Research Institute
Chinese Research Academy of Environmental Sciences
National Academy of Innovation Strategy
Chinese Academy of Science and Technology for Development
Institute of Scientific and Technical Information of China
Chinese Academy of Sciences
Institutes of Science and Development, Chinese Academy of Sciences
Center for Forecasting Science, Chinese Academy of Sciences
CNPC Economics & Technology Research Institute
China Academy of Information and Communication Technology
China Institute of Science and Technology Development Strategies on Information and Electronic Engineering
Chinese National Academy of Arts
Think Tank for Traditional Chinese Medicine, China Information Association for Traditional Chinese Medicine and Pharmacy

(VII) Corporate Think Tanks (8)
AliResearch
Beijing Greatwall Enterprise Institute
Electric Power Planning & Engineering Institute
Institute of China Development Bank
Suning Institute of Finance
Tengyun Think Tank
Advising Committee for China. Academy of Management Science
CITIC Foundation for Reform and Development Studies

(VIII) Private Think Tanks (36)

Grandview Institution
International Institute for Urban Development, Beijing
The Charhar Institute
Changjiang Education Research Institute
Institute of Industry Development Research, Changsha
Chongqing Think Tank
China Region Development & Reform Institute (CRDRI)
Asia-Pacific Innovation Economic Research Institute of Guangdong
South China Business Think Tank of Guangdong University of Finance and Economics
China Strategy Institute for Intellectual Property (Guangdong ZHONGCE Intellect Property Research Institute)
Intellisia Institute
Hainan Institute for World Watch
Research and Development International, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences
The Association of Soft Science Research of Liaoning
The Pangoal Institution
Chunqiu Institute for Development and Strategic Studies
Shanghai FC Institute of Economics Forecast CO., Ltd
Shanghai Academy of Huaxia Social Development Research
Shanghai Institute of Finance and Law
Shanghai Finance Institute
Shenzhen Innovation and Development Institute
Wanb Institute
New Silk Road Economic Institute
One Belt One Road 100
Knowfar Institute for Stragglers and Defense Studies
China Institute for Reform and Development
China Center for International Economic Exchanges
China Finance 40 Forum
China Society of Economic Reform
China Institute for Leadership Science
National Institute for South Sea Studies
China Enterprise Reform and Development Society
China Silk Road iValley Research
Center for China & Globalization
China Institute of Science and Technology
China Development Institute

(IX) Media Think Tanks (13)

YICAI Research Institute
Cover Institute
Phoenix International Think Tank
Research Center of Cultural and Creative Industry at Guangming Daily
Guangming Think Tank
Guangzhou Daily Data & Digit Institute
Liaowang Institute
Nanfang Media Think Tank
South Reviews Media Institute
Shengjinghui Think Tank
China Economic Trends Research Institute
People's Daily Online New Media Institute
Xinhua News Agency