

Poverty relief success a valuable example for other nations

By LI LEI | China Daily Global | Updated: 2021-03-19 00:00

At the latest Vision China event on Thursday, a panel of global observers endorsed the central role played by the Communist Party of China in eradicating domestic poverty and said the benefits can ripple across borders as the world races to reach the United Nations' no-poverty goal by 2030.

Beate Trankmann, the resident representative of the United Nations Development Programme in China, said the zero-poverty milestone was achieved through the Party's "targeted, bottom-up approach", which serves as a valuable example for other nations.

The 750 million Chinese who were rid of absolute poverty over the past four decades made up roughly three-quarters of the global total who left poverty behind during that period, a significant accomplishment in efforts to end poverty globally, she said in a video speech while addressing the event, held by China Daily.

The theme of the event was "The Way Forward after Beating Poverty".

She said that the UN's development agency is working to promote the nation's poverty-curbing expertise.

Less than a month ago, President Xi Jinping declared complete success in China's protracted, arduous battle to eliminate extreme poverty — a benchmark requirement in China's effort to build a "moderately prosperous society in all respects" before the Party's centenary this year.

That achieved, the Party has embarked on a new journey to build China into a modern socialist country.

"By continuing to apply the same level of resolve as it has in eradicating extreme rural poverty, China can... continue to contribute to sustainable development globally," Trankmann said.

While addressing the event, Zhou Shuchun, publisher and editor-in-chief of China Daily, said that poverty is a "worldwide, centuries-old problem that has plagued mankind since the beginning of history".

"The Chinese experience contributes to the world's wisdom, knowledge and solutions for establishing a new paradigm for poverty reduction," he said.

China recently unveiled its 14th Five-Year Plan (2021-25), a blueprint for development priorities. Zhou said China will boost the coordinated development of urban and rural areas and realize a smooth transition from poverty alleviation to rural vitalization during the period.

He also said that China will work hard with other countries to build a community with a shared future for mankind and to establish a more resilient, open and inclusive world economy in an effort to create a clean, beautiful world with lasting peace, universal security and common prosperity.

Robert Lawrence Kuhn, chairman of the Kuhn Foundation, said China's success in bringing the COVID-19 outbreak under control and ending extreme poverty was based on three principles—CPC leadership, General Secretary Xi Jinping's commitment and CPC mobilization.

Kuhn, winner of the China Reform Friendship Medal, said he has told stories of China for more than three decades and has shared his observations about China's anti-poverty endeavors. "China's poverty alleviation is the best story to undermine biases and disrupt stereotypes about China," he said.

"Just as future historians may well look upon China's fight against the coronavirus as a turning point in worldwide efforts to contain outbreaks of novel diseases, future historians may well recognize China's fight against poverty as a turning point in worldwide efforts to eradicate extreme poverty," he added.

Wang Xingzui, executive vice-president of the China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation, talked about its efforts to fulfill six of the goals in the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development —no poverty, no hunger, good health and well-being, quality education, clean water and sanitation, and decent work and economic growth.

He shared stories about the beneficiaries of some of its signature overseas programs and said China is fulfilling its "due international responsibility". The programs collectively have

benefited more than 1.3 million people in 24 countries and have increased people-to-people connectivity, he said.

Wang said it will continue implementing domestic development programs with nongovernmental resources to consolidate poverty reduction achievements and facilitate the national rural vitalization strategy.

Vision China was launched in 2018 and serves as a major podium for promoting China's voices via the media group's position as a globalized, all-media platform that features multilingual and multichannel distribution.

Seventeen previous Vision China events have been held in cities including Beijing, Tianjin, Macao, Hangzhou in Zhejiang province and Lanzhou in Gansu province, as well as in New York, London and Johannesburg.



Beate Trankmann



Zhou Shuchun



Robert Lawrence Kuhn

<http://epaper.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202103/19/WS6053ed8da31099a234354c40.html>