

# China



Drawing upon a strong network that spans the United States and Asia and the Pacific, we work closely with local partners, academics, policymakers, and nonprofits to create a positive impact and contribute to China's development. The Asia Foundation is committed to strengthening these partnerships to facilitate China's ability to help foster Asia and the Pacific's ongoing emergence as a peaceful, just, and thriving region.

## Highlights

### Long history of support

The Asia Foundation was one of the first NGOs to provide development assistance to China. Immediately following the normalization of U.S.-China relations in 1979, the Foundation, at the invitation of China's Ministry of Science and Technology, sponsored eminent computer scientists from across the globe to travel to Beijing for a seminar on information technology and its importance to Chinese economic development.

### Collaborating across institutions

Successful collaborations with Chinese government agencies and institutions, including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Justice, and the Ministry of Civil Affairs, on U.S.-China exchanges, social governance innovation, and disaster management, and supported a wide range of projects with Chinese academic and nonprofit partners to strengthen philanthropy.

### Fostering innovation and empowerment

Committed to driving innovation, empowerment, and sustainable development in China and beyond. We achieve this by fostering creative solutions and empowering vulnerable communities.

## 2023 Snapshot



Promoted U.S. - China youth exchanges and regional cooperation



Supported township-level planning for rooftop solar power systems in less developed rural area of China



Continuous empowerment of underserved women entrepreneurs including women with disabilities across China



# Flagship Initiatives



## Partnership across sectors

The Asia Foundation cooperates with a range of local partners in China to enhance domestic development and promote international cooperation. Today, our work in China focuses on four key areas: facilitating U.S.-China exchanges, combatting environmental challenges through climate action, bolstering women's entrepreneurship, and ensuring inclusion and support for persons with disabilities.

## Environment and climate action

Our environment portfolio focuses on three integrated areas:

- Regional cooperation between China, Southeast Asia, and Northeast Asia
- Climate resilience in overseas infrastructure projects
- Sustainable energy solutions across rural China

Along with the Beijing Chaoyang District Yongxu Global Environmental Institute, the Foundation successfully piloted a model for planning township-level rooftop solar power systems in Caijiaya Village. This model will enable townships across rural areas of China to implement renewable energy.

## U.S.–China exchanges

People-to-people exchanges, especially those engaging youth, are critical to forging lasting and effective cross-border relationships through which we cooperate and develop innovative solutions to transnational issues. The 2030 Climate Champions project connects and empowers young leaders from China and the U.S. to develop solutions to urgent climate challenges. The project creates a space for collaboration, knowledge sharing, and cross-cultural understanding. Supported by the U.S. Embassy in Beijing, this project promotes youth engagement across countries in the face of a global climate crisis.

## Women's entrepreneurship

The Foundation organized training sessions for over 1,200 women entrepreneurs in Shanghai, Chongqing, and Shanxi, specifically for returned migrants, rural women, unemployed women, and ethnic minorities. In addition, we established an alum network, arranged one-on-one mentoring sessions for selected trainees, and promoted ongoing interaction and peer support. We aim to foster a more inclusive business atmosphere and empower women entrepreneurs by continuing to strengthen their networks.

## Disability inclusion

Eighty-five million people with disabilities (PWD) live in China, with 75% residing rurally and 48% being women. Unfortunately, PWDs in these areas face unequal opportunities, limited access to training, and are often excluded from economic decisions. To combat this, we encourage equal participation in economic opportunities by promoting inclusive employment policies, and empowering rural PWDs through inclusive employment pilot projects.

The Asia Foundation is a nonprofit international development organization committed to improving lives across a dynamic and developing Asia. Informed by six decades of experience and deep local expertise, our work across the region is focused on good governance, women's empowerment and gender equality, inclusive economic growth, environment, and climate action, and regional and international relations.