

China

Sudan, China express great concern with enhancing agricultural cooperation

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AL-FAO, Eastern Sudan, May 15 (Xinhua) -- Sudan and China have expressed great concern with enhancing agricultural cooperation and institute for a new experience similar to the pioneering experience between Khartoum and Beijing in the oil field which has achieved great benefits for the two countries' peoples.

The agricultural cooperation between Sudan and China comes at the top priorities of the coming period after 50 years of deeply- rooted ties that have now entered a phase of economic partnership in the field of agriculture.

The Sudanese Ministry of Agriculture and China-aid Agricultural Technology Demonstration Center (Sudan) on Tuesday signed an agreement for cultivating the Chinese cotton, which is genetically processed, at Al-Rahad agricultural scheme in Al-Fao area in eastern Sudan.

"Sudan, in its new development strategy, attaches a great concern to agriculture and we are looking forward to cooperation with China to achieve this strategy," said Abdalla Mohamed Ahmed, Director of Al-Rahad Agricultural project authority when addressing the signing ceremony.

"The Sudanese and Chinese sides can provide a model to the world on joint cooperation and they can establish a strategic agricultural partnership between them to be a symbol for the integration between the Chinese expertise and technology and the Sudanese potentiality during the coming fifty years," he added.

He reiterated Sudan's willingness to utilize the Chinese experience and Sudan's potentiality to achieve a quick integration between the two countries to establish a model of agricultural relationship to be a real addition to the standing strategic ties between the two countries.

Ashmawe Sabir, Coordinator of the China-aid Agricultural Technology Demonstration Center, for his part, said "the agricultural cooperation between Sudan and China achieves many benefits as agriculture constitutes the main resource in Sudan."

"Agriculture is the real resource for Sudan as the country enjoys all the necessary potentiality like water, fertile lands, human cadres and multi-climates that suit with cultivation of summer and winter crops together with hot zones vegetables," he noted.

He went on to say that entering an economic partnership with China in fields of agriculture and agricultural development would reflect on all the Sudanese people, particularly that China has financial and technological resources together with huge human experiences that could be utilized in this respect.

Meanwhile, Director of China-aid Agricultural Technology Demonstration Center Xu Hengyong reiterated the center's willingness to develop the agricultural technology in Sudan to increase the productivity of the different agricultural crops.

"The main task of the center is doing research in agriculture on broad areas and a lot of crops with integration of technology research and transfer. We also have a training program for training Sudanese technicians and scientists," he told Xinhua.

He added that the center's training program tends to inform the Sudanese with the agricultural technologies and how to introduce them in the agricultural circle to help

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increase the production of crops, noting that the training program would start this year.

The Sudan-China agricultural technology transfer project represents one of the most important projects in Sudan and it is expected to be generalized at other parts of the country, particularly the areas which need development of modern agricultural technologies.

In 2009, at the conclusion of the First Forum on Agricultural Cooperation, Sudan and China signed seven memorandums of understanding in field of agricultural cooperation between the two countries.

The memorandums included establishment of projects in fields of agricultural investment, production of improved seeds and modernization of the irrigation networks in Gezira State in central Sudan in addition to cultivation of cash crops.

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