



Belt and Road Initiative

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Observations from first day

- The initiative has been perceived by many as Chinese initiative to tackle problems of overproduction among other
- Project is largely viewed as infrastructure connectivity , larger agenda or its understanding is missing
- India has several concerns and has not endorsed the initiative
- Many countries – especially developing countries- are showing positive interest in BRI.
- Some of bilateral agreements –e g, with Kazakhstan , Pakistan-and so on, are increasingly becoming part of. BRI initiative
- Three years after announcing the BRI initiative now Chinese government is expecting action on ground



Why BRI be part of sustainable development agenda?


- ▶ BRI initiative is being perceived as Chinese initiative to create markets, develop strategic alliances and so on
- ▶ The initiative needs huge investments and its associated with huge risks both external and internal
- ▶ Countries have their development agendas
- ▶ Countries have also agreed on Paris Climate Change agreement to achieve their declared INDCs
- ▶ Can China link it with sustainable development agenda of the UN and Paris Climate Change agreement?
- ▶ This will help in not only helping countries to built infrastructure but built it in sustainable way and providing access to modern energy for their citizens.
- ▶ Countries then can explore investments through Climate Change Fund and BRICs Bank initiative

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- “Sustainable Energy for All empowers leaders to broker partnerships and unlock finance to achieve universal access to sustainable energy, as a contribution to a cleaner, just and prosperous world for all”. –UN report



Policy focus

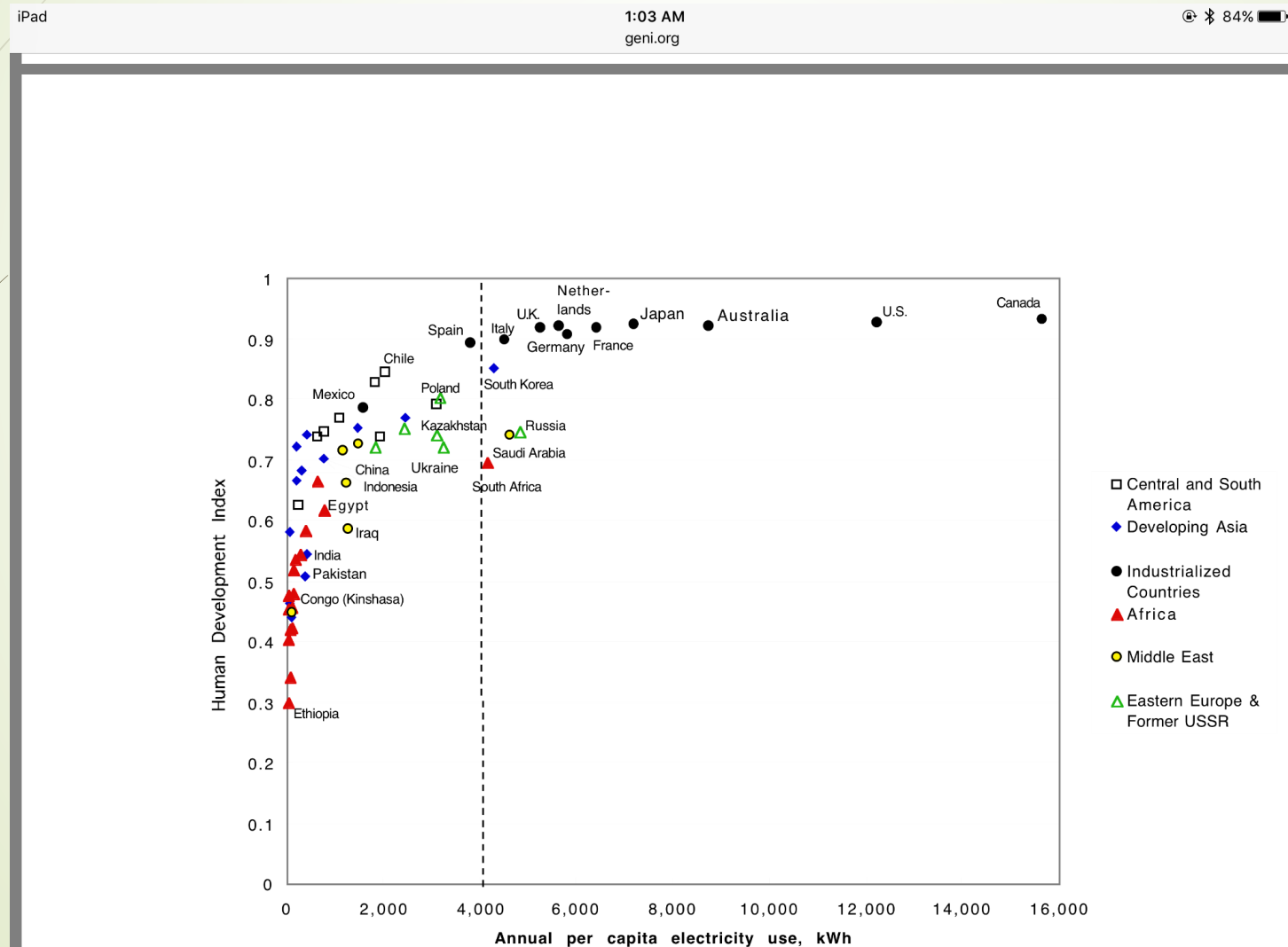
- Major issues faced by developing countries
 - Sustainable development in line with Paris Agreement on Climate Change
 - Access to energy
 - Climate resilient Infrastructure



Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

- Energy is central to any development agenda.
- Globally, about 20% population still does not have access to electricity.
- Energy is key to meet Climate Change Mitigation strategy as more than 60% GHG emissions are due to energy use.
- Still about 2.5 billion people use polluting inefficient cooking fuels such as fuel wood.
- Majority of this population resides in the south east asia and Africa.

Human development index and energy



Source- GENI.org



Goal 8: Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all

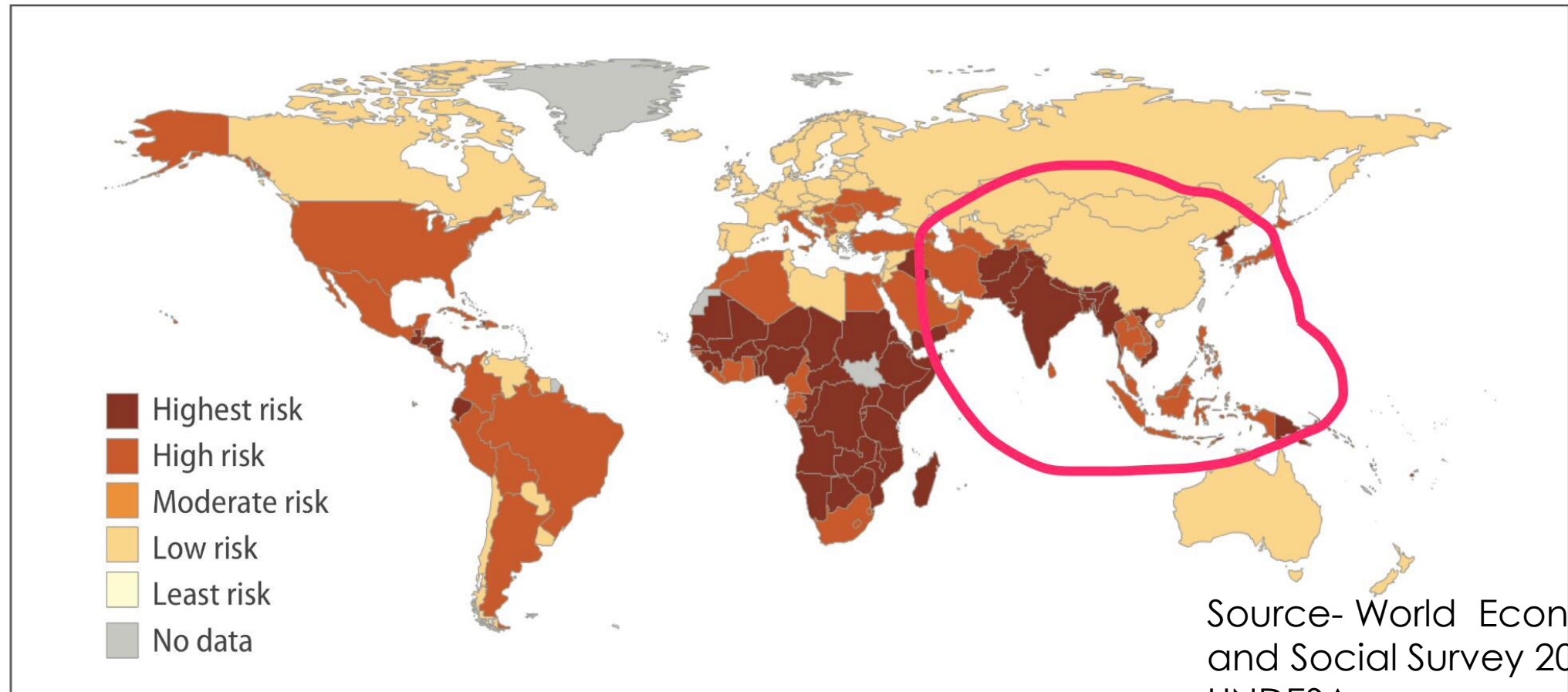
- Global unemployment increased from 170 million in 2007 to nearly 202 million in 2012, of which about 75 million are young women and men.
- Nearly 2.2 billion people live below the US\$2 poverty line and that poverty eradication is only possible through stable and well-paid jobs.
- 470 million jobs are needed globally for new entrants to the labour market between 2016 and 2030.

Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

- Basic infrastructure like roads, information and communication technologies, sanitation, electrical power and water remains scarce in many developing countries
- 2.5 billion people worldwide lack access to basic sanitation and almost 800 million people lack access to water, many hundreds of millions of them in Sub Saharan Africa and South Asia
- Quality infrastructure is positively related to the achievement of social, economic and political goals
- Manufacturing is an important employer, accounting for around 470 million jobs worldwide in 2009 – or around 16 per cent of the world's workforce of 2.9 billion. In 2013, it is estimated that there were more than half a billion jobs in manufacturing

Risk of Climate Change for all Countries 1995- 2014

Risk of climate change of all countries, by quintile, 1995–2014



Source- World Economic and Social Survey 2016, UNDESA



Climate Change



- Climate Change is reality faced by many countries.
- The landmark Paris agreement signed by countries.in COP21 last year is likely to come in force by Nov 4, 2016.
- The participating nations agree to do something about mitigation and adaptation of ClimateChange impacts through this INDCs (Intended Nationally Determined Commitments)
- These involve enhanced use of renewable energy, energy efficiency and adaptation measure.



Way forward

- China may like to ensure the financing of infrastructure development happens on strong policy framework in the countries.
- Infrastructure development happens on the sustainable development principles
- Climate Change is major risk especially for coastal areas and sound policies for climate resilient infrastructure development is need of the hour
- It is important to ensure that infrastructure investment is in line with the Paris Agreement commitment of the individual nations .
- **The BRI initiative then can serve the goal of common destiny**



Thank you for your time!!

These are my personal views and not organisational.