

Heavy Investment in Water Conservation Projects

China will introduce 15 new major water conservation projects in 2017, amid efforts to boost investment and stabilize growth, according to National Development and Reform Commission.

Total investment in major water projects under construction is set to exceed RMB 900 billion (US \$131.3 billion) by the end of this year.

So far, 106 of the 172 major water conservation projects have been launched. Total investment in ongoing projects exceeds RMB 800 billion (US \$116.3 billion).

Against the backdrop of the economic "new normal," China views infrastructure investment as a significant force towards boosting growth.

Official statistics show that China's fixed asset investment continued to cool in 2016, with a year-on-year growth of 8.1 percent, compared with 10 percent in 2015, and 15.7 percent in 2014. However, investment in infrastructure construction rose by 0.2 percentage points, amounting to year-on-year growth of 17.4 percent in 2016.