

China Association for Science and Technology

- The China Association for Science and Technology (CAST) is the largest national non-governmental organization of scientific and technological workers in China. Through its member societies - nearly 200 in number - and local branches all over the country, the organization maintains close ties with millions of Chinese scientists, engineers and other people working in the fields of science and technology.
- The history of CAST can trace back to the eve of the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949 when a number of the nation's primary scientific and technological organizations were gathering at a meeting to call upon the country's science and technology community to dedicate all their efforts to the building of New China. The meeting led to the birth in 1950 of two new national organizations -- All-China Federation of Natural Science Societies and All-China Association for Science Popularization. In September 1958, the two organizations decided at their joint congress to merge into a unified single organization - the China Association for Science and Technology.
- Since its inauguration, CAST has made significant contributions to the prosperity and development of science and technology, to the popularization of science and technology among the public, to the emerging of large numbers of professional talents, and to the overall economic and social development in China.
- CAST maintains cooperative relations with scientific and technological organizations of many countries and, as the representative of Chinese science and technology community, are members of many international scientific and technological organizations. In 2004, CAST was granted consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

Learn more about CAST at <http://english.cast.org.cn/> .