



CGTN: The “innovation mosaic”: Mapping China’s new quality productive forces

Descrizione

COMUNICATO STAMPA “CONTENUTO PROMOZIONALE”

CGTN has released an in-depth analysis mapping China’s cross-regional landscape of new quality productive forces. By synthesizing government work reports from 31 provincial-level regions across the Chinese mainland, the article illustrates how China’s top innovation hubs – the Greater Bay Area, Yangtze River Delta and Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei region – are evolving into an integrated “innovation mosaic.” With the 2026 national “Two Sessions” on the horizon, this article offers global audiences a window into China’s next five years of high-tech self-reliance and specialized industrial development.

BEIJING, March 01, 2026 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) – At this year’s Spring Festival Gala, the spotlight was stolen not by the singers or comedians, but by a troupe of choreographed robots and AI-generated visuals from “Seedance 2.0.” As a spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs recently noted, China has become the first nation to surpass 5 million domestic valid invention patents, holding roughly three-fifths of the world’s AI patents and two-thirds of those in robotics.

Yet, to understand how this innovation vitality actually functions, one must look past the gala’s neon lights and into the data-heavy government work reports emerged from provincial Two Sessions across the country. These reports reveal that China’s tech strategy is no longer a top-down monolith, but a sprawling, hyper-local “hardcore jigsaw” where each province – including autonomous areas and municipalities – is carving out its own niche in the pursuit of new quality productive forces – a shorthand for high-tech, high-efficiency industries that prioritize innovation over traditional, heavy-polluting growth.

Three engines of integration

The most striking trend in this year's reports is the "clumping" of innovation. The traditional powerhouses – the Greater Bay Area (GBA), the Yangtze River Delta and the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei cluster – are evolving from mere economic zones into integrated innovation corridors.

The Greater Bay Area: Sitting on China's south coast, the GBA is focused on the "mid-test" – the bridge between a lab prototype and a mass-market product. With drone production already accounting for 90 percent of the national total and industrial robots at 40 percent, the GBA is doubling down on embodied AI and deep-sea exploration.

The Yangtze River Delta: Reaching out from China's east coast, this region is behaving like a single, massive R&D lab. Shanghai is pushing the frontier of brain-computer interfaces and 6G, while Anhui – once defined by its traditional agricultural roots – has transformed into a hub for quantum computing and nuclear fusion. Jiangsu, notably, leads the nation in potential unicorn companies, focusing on the "new three" products of EVs, batteries and solar panels.

Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei zone: Beijing remains the cerebral cortex of the nation, breaking 210 bottleneck technologies last year. The focus is shifting towards synergy with Tianjin's manufacturing – specifically in trustworthy computing – and Hebei's burgeoning digital infrastructure in the Xiongan New Area.

Digital leap of the strategic depth

The provincial reports also dispel the myth that high-tech is exclusive to the coast. A "go west" movement for data and green energy is in full swing, driven by the national "East Data, West Computing" initiative.

Inner Mongolia and Guizhou are leveraging their cool climates and cheap energy to become the nation's digital basements. Inner Mongolia's computing power scale has reached a staggering 220,000 PetaFLOPS, while Guizhou has attracted over 150 Huawei cloud ecosystem partners.

Ningxia and Qinghai, once known for coal or salt, are now hubs for green hydrogen and zero-carbon computing. Ningxia is building a "Hydrogen-Ammonia Valley," while Qinghai's clean energy installed capacity now exceeds 93 percent, fueling a new generation of green data centers.

Regional specialization and 15th Five-Year Plan

What stands out is the granular specialization of each province. Shaanxi is betting on attosecond lasers; Shandong is utilizing its coastline for maritime satellite launches, with 137 satellites launched so far from the Oriental Aerospace Port; and Hubei is turning its "Optics Valley" into a global epicenter for optoelectronics.

This local ferment is not accidental. It is the groundwork for the 15th Five-Year Plan period (2026-2030), which places high-level technological self-reliance at the heart of China's modernization. By 2026, the goal is to ensure that these localized clusters – whether it's Heilongjiang's smart agricultural machinery or Jiangxi's "core-light-screen-touch" electronic chain – form a resilient national circuit.

The road to national Two Sessions

This local ferment serves as the critical preamble to the 2026 national Two Sessions, scheduled to open in Beijing on March 4 and 5. As lawmakers and advisors gather from across the nation, the signals from the provinces are clear: the focus has shifted from catch-up growth to defining the frontiers of future industries. By the time the national gavel falls in Beijing later this week, these provincial “hardcore puzzles” will be officially locked together, forming the strategic blueprint for China’s next era of self-reliance.

For more information, please click:

<https://news.cgtn.com/news/2026-03-01/The-innovation-mosaic-Mapping-China-s-new-quality-productive-forces-1L9VhC4zuP6/p.html>

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