



ENVIRONMENTAL CHINA

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PACE*



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WELCOME to *Environmental China*, PACE's electronic newsletter devoted to giving interested readers a comprehensive update of news concerning China's environment. Any comments, suggestions or questions can be directed to cc.huang2@gmail.com. PACE especially welcomes any input or suggestions for news articles and will give due credit to anyone who contributes to the newsletter. If you know anyone who would like to subscribe, please direct them [here](#).

OPINION

[Time to take a green leap forward](#) (Global Times, 7/15/2010) Environmental governance might be a new term in China, but it has been on Beijing's agenda for years. Every year, foreign experts are invited to share their opinions on balancing economic growth and environmental protection. Laurence Tubiana (Tubiana), director of the France-based Institute of Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI), has been a member of the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development for four years. Global Times (GT) reporter Wu Mian talked to Tubiana on the obstacles and challenges that China faces in trying to go green.

[Small is beautiful in keeping China uniquely itself](#) (Global Times, 7/15/2010)

There is an odd phenomenon sweeping through local governments in China where leaders seem to have stumbled on to the next leap forward in their region's development. They no longer want to modernize, they're now keen to "internationalize."

[End of the frontier](#) (China Dialogue, 7/12/2010) China's Go West campaign is launching Yunnan into the global economy, but new infrastructure carries an ecological price tag. R Edward Grumbine reports on the green dynamics of a rural transformation.

PUBLIC SECTOR/NGOs

[Budding greens: A new generation of climate-change activists](#) (The Economist, 7/15/2010) China's environment, most obviously the air in its cities, has been deteriorating roughly at the same dizzy pace that its industry has been expanding. Now some young activists, notably in university environmental clubs, are campaigning to raise awareness of pollution. In the process, they are among the first of their generation to dabble with political participation.

[Typhoon Conson may reach land in China Friday: forecast](#) (Xinhua, 7/15/2010) China issued an orange alert on Thursday for wave surges, the second highest level warning, forecasting that Typhoon Conson may reach land Friday on the southeast coast of China's Hainan province.

[China's urban disease](#) (China Dialogue, 7/15/2010) Zhang Song is a Shanghai-based planning professor and urban-preservation expert. In the first half of a two-part interview, he talks to Zhang Chuanwen about the death of vitality in China's flash new cities.

[China's race to save the future: Welcome to the Sustainable Shanghai Virtual Tour](#) (Huffington Post, 7/15/2010) Let me be frank, I didn't write the Sustainable Shanghai Series for the money (actually, I haven't even covered the cost of the trip). I did it because I got laid off, had some vacation pay, had an opportunity to tag along with the [\[re\]think Shanghai GOAP crew](#), and saw an opportunity to tell a story I believed was important. Because some internal knob clicked and I realized that while my attention has been focused solely in one direction re: the environment, one of the most important stories of the planet's evolution was happening in the other direction.

[Ethnic unrest in Guangxi over water pollution by industrial plant](#) (AsiaNews, 7/15/2010) Thousands of ethnic Zhuang villagers in Jingxi County, Guangxi

Zhuang Autonomous Region, took to the street to protest over an aluminum plant that they say released sewage that poisoned drinking water in dozens of villages. [Mine pollution ravages farmland in south China's Guangdong Province](#) (People's Daily, 7/15/2010) Soil pollution by legions of mines has severely worsened in south China's Guangdong Province since 2008, according to a Chinese researcher. A province-wide survey conducted by the Guangdong Institute of Eco-Environment and Soil Sciences shows 40 percent of the province's soil is tainted with heavy metals, Thursday's China Daily quoted Wan Hongfu, a researcher with the institute, as saying.

[Crusader risks prison to save Chinese lake](#) (CNN, 7/14/2010) China's third largest freshwater body of water, Lake Tai, is at once placid and majestic, until it reveals its dirty secret. Lake Tai, or Tai Hu in Chinese, was once considered an ecological treasure in the heart of eastern China's land of fish and rice cultivation in Jiangsu province.

[Tiny mushrooms blamed for 400 deaths in SW China](#) (AP, 7/13/2010) Every year during the height of the rainy season, villagers of all ages in a corner of southwestern China would suddenly die of cardiac arrest. No one knew what caused Yunnan Sudden Death Syndrome, blamed for an estimated 400 deaths in the past three decades.

[Netizens wag tails over pet pooch tax](#) (China Daily, 7/13/2010) The majority of participants in a recent online poll agreed with the collection of a pet dog tax, though experts warned it was not a final solution to the problems involved in keeping pets in cities.

[Elderly Chinese man invents safety vest for mine disasters](#) (People's Daily, 7/12/2010) An elderly Chinese man in Ningbo City, southeast China's Zhejiang Province has invented a safety vest for use in mine disasters, according to Ningbo Daily.

[China to get first 100m-population province](#) (Reuters, 7/12/2010) Poor and populous Henan will become China's first province with more than 100 million people later this month, state media said today, giving it a population size similar to the Philippines.

CORPORATIONS

[Global clean energy report: China surpassed U.S. as top sector investor in 2009](#) (GreenTech, 7/15/2010) The United Nations Environment Program and the Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century today reveal in a pair of

new reports that despite an overall financial downturn in 2009, global investments in sustainable energy increased worldwide. Core clean energy investments from private and public sources totaled \$162 billion.

[Major decline seen in illegal logging](#) (BBC, 7/15/2010) The London-based thinktank Chatham House says consumer pressure, legal restrictions by importing countries and media attention have all contributed. Some important forest countries such as Brazil, Cameroon and Indonesia have seen much larger cuts, its report says.

[China's power consumption sinks in June, future looks dark](#) (International Business Times, 7/15/2010) China's power consumption grew at its slowest pace since October 2009 as an effect of the country's move to freeze power consuming heavy industries. National Energy Administration data showed that the country's power consumption rose by 14.14 percent, from a year ago period of 11.73 billion kilowatt per day. While the consumption at heavy industries rose 16.11 percent in June, it was down from May's 25 percent.

[China's Yingli Green Energy tapped for 15 MB of solar power in California](#) (Smart Planet, 7/14/2010) Chinese photovoltaic manufacturer **Yingli Green Energy** has been selected to provide 15 megawatts of solar modules for 16 solar power systems in California.

[Zijin shares drop after closing plant on waste leaks](#) (Bloomberg, 7/13/2010) Zijin Mining Group Co., China's largest gold producer, fell to the lowest level in more than 15 months in Hong Kong trading after it was forced to shut a copper smelter that leaked acidic water and killed fish.

[Zijin's largest mine contaminates river with waste](#) (Bloomberg, 7/12/2010) Waste from a copper and gold mine owned by Zijin Mining Group Co. has contaminated a river and killed fish in Fujian province, Xinhua News Agency said today, citing local environmental authorities.

[Chinese factories compete to woo laborers](#) (New York Times, 7/12/2010) If Wang Jinyan, an unemployed factory worker with a middle school education, had a résumé, it might start out like this: "Objective: seeking well-paid, slow-paced assembly-line work in air-conditioned plant with Sundays off, free wireless Internet and washing machines in dormitory. Friendly boss a plus."

[China's largest private healthcare group introduces traditional Chinese medicine for medical tourism](#) (Marketwire, 7/12/2010) Boai Medical Group, 错误！超链接引用无效。 largest private medical organisation, has commenced international operations that will provide a unique medical tourism services for international patients. The move allows for the Group's specialist treatment modality of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) combined with western medicine to be provided for a wider patient group. Modern Hospital Guangzhou - a flagship

institution within the Boai Group - is spearheading the expansion and has recently appointed an international medical tourism consultancy firm to develop its marketing and improve its patient quality practice.

GOVERNMENT

[China's top political advisor stresses construction of ecological, living environment in developing western regions](#) (Xinhua, 7/15/2010) China's top political advisor, Jia Qinglin, on Wednesday called for efforts to construct a better ecological and healthy living environment while pushing for rapid development in the country's western regions.

[China offers Argentina nuclear power technology](#) (Indo-Asia News Service, 7/15/2010) Argentine President Cristina Fernandez was received in Beijing on Wednesday by Chinese Prime Minister Wen Jiabao as Beijing offered to provide advanced technology for Argentina's planned fourth nuclear power plant. Before the talks with Wen, Fernandez told reporters that she felt very satisfied with her meetings with Chinese President Hu Jintao and other senior officials.

[Environment tribunals hammer polluters with legal accountability](#) (Xinhua, 7/15/2010) Three years ago, the water in Hongfeng Lake, in southwest China's Guizhou Province, was undrinkable. The seepage from 3 million tonnes of chemical waste piled up over decades by the shores of the lake had turned it into a toxic mess.

[India to partner with China, Pak on Sea Buckthorn cultivation](#) (OneIndia, 7/15/2010) As part of the Green [India](#) Mission, Minister of State for Environment and [Forests](#) Jairam Ramesh has launched a national sea buckthorn initiative for cultivation of the berries in the high-altitude cold deserts areas of the country.

[China stops subsidizing polluting industries](#) (American Public Media, 7/15/2010) The Chinese government withdrew its subsidies from some the country's most energy-intensive industries to stop paying polluters and also to show the world that it's economy is stable enough to make the withdrawal.

[China to continue supplying iodized salt: Health Ministry](#) (People's Daily, 7/14/2010) China's health chiefs Tuesday renewed their commitment to providing the country with iodized salt and refuted concerns of excessive iodine intake.

[Suspensions linger as east China river declared safe after spill](#) (People's Daily, 7/14/2010) Local government officials Tuesday declared an east China community's drinking water safe after a mining company contaminated a river 10 days ago.

[China to release 7 mln rare fish into largest lake this year](#) (People's Daily, 7/14/2010) Northwest China's Qinghai Province plans to release seven million of a

rare fish species into China's largest lake before the end of the year, to boost fish stocks, local authorities said Wednesday.

[China official warns more food safety scares likely](#) (Yahoo, 7/13/2010) China, which has seen a string of food safety scares in recent years, is likely to experience similar problems in the future due to the country's vast size, a top official was quoted Tuesday as saying.

[China may shut down labour camps](#) (The Daily Telegraph, 7/13/2010) China is considering closing its vast network of labour camps, allowing an unprecedented public debate over the controversial "re-education" program. Since the 1950s, China has used "re-education through labour" to imprison people without trial.

[China plans some \\$30 bln on rural grid construction](#) (Reuters, 7/12/2010) China will invest some 200 billion yuan in the next two and a half years to expand and upgrade its rural power grid network, China's energy officials said Monday.

[China imposes export quotas on rare earth elements](#) (Financial Post, 7/12/2010) China has taken new measures to restrict supply of rare earth elements, raising the spectre of a trade dispute and putting even more pressure on Western countries to develop new sources of supply.