



ENVIRONMENTAL CHINA

*A weekly update of China's environmental news and analysis from
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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

[Seeing China's push for clean energy up close: My visit to Trina Solar](#) (NRDC, 9/15/2010) While I was traveling in China last week, I visited the headquarters of Trina Solar, one of the largest solar photovoltaic manufacturers in the world. The tour was very impressive and showed me so clearly what you can accomplish with targeted clean energy policies—the kind of policies we cannot get through the U.S. Congress.

[Will China dominate the green economy? And if they do, should we worry?](#) (The Christian Science Monitor, 9/13/2010) Today, the New York Times has published a [long piece](#) on the microeconomics of activist industrial policy in China. According to the NY Times, using subsidized loans and free land provided by government, chinese firms are "taking over" this exciting new growing industry.

PUBLIC SECTOR/NGO'S

[China's rare earth campaign targets environmental protection](#) (People's Daily, 9/17/2010) Without rare earths, producing iPods and Blackberry cell phones would be impossible and even Copenhagen might become meaningless. However, for 45-year-old Liu Shengyuan, had rare earths not been mined, his hometown would have remained a beautiful place.

[Coal ash a source of concern in China: Greenpeace](#) (AFP, 9/16/2010) China's coal-fired plants produce enough toxic ash to fill an Olympic-sized swimming pool every two-and-a-half minutes, creating contaminants that travel far and wide, Greenpeace said on Wednesday.

[Over-development on the Tibetan Plateau endangers China's future](#) (The Epoch Times, 9/15/2010) Over-development in the Tibetan Plateau in recent years has turned swathes of land to desert, imperiling China's crucial water arteries the Yangtze River, Yellow River, and others. The changes warrant decisive action from the authorities, according to a number of water experts, lest the "Water Tower of China" be destroyed.

[Deep cracks appear in north China farmland, cause unknown](#) (Xinhua, 9/13/2010) Cracks as deep as 10 meters have continued opening up in the middle of alfalfa fields in Chifeng City, north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, since July, as farmers delay harvesting for fear of injury.

[Zhejiang locals wage war of noise against invading boar](#) (Guardian, 9/13/2010) Farmers in eastern [China](#) are resorting to vuvuzelas, gongs, firecrackers and bombs to ward off wild boar that are threatening their crops. Local officials in Zhejiang say the animal population has increased fivefold in the past 10 years because villagers - their main predator - are moving into the cities and gun licences have been restricted as part of the security arrangements for the Shanghai Expo.

[China mass measles vaccination plan sparks outcry](#) (Washington Post, 9/12/2010) China's plans to vaccinate 100 million children and come a step closer to eradicating measles has set off a popular outcry that highlights widening public distrust of the authoritarian government after repeated health scandals.

CORPORATIONS

[Chinese consortium mulls \\$20 billion investment in Nigeria's infrastructure](#) (Business Day, 9/17/2010) The Commonwealth Business Council on Thursday disclosed that a consortium from China is perfecting plans to invest about \$20 billion on infrastructure development and capacity building in Nigeria.

[China to tap Aussie liquefied natural gas](#) (Global Times, 9/17/2010) Chevron has signed a preliminary agreement to supply liquefied natural gas from Australia to

China National Petroleum Corp, the country's largest oil and gas producer, media reports said Thursday.

[China is set to lose 2% of GDP cleaning up decades of pollution](#) (Bloomberg, 9/17/2010) Li Pingri remembers swimming with fish and shrimp as a boy in Guangdong's Chigang waterway in China. Today, even after the city spent 48.6 billion yuan (\$7.2 billion) on a cleanup, he can't stand the canal's smell.

[Green Globe Partner \(China\) launches Chinese version of Green Globe Standard v1.3](#) (ETurbo News, 9/15/2010) Green Globe Partner (China) Ltd. launched the complete translation of the internationally-recognized Green Globe Standard v1.3 for sustainable operation and management, as well as supporting documentation for environmental consultants and auditors. The Chinese language edition of the Green Globe Standard provides businesses and government organizations across the Greater China region, access to the key criteria that define internationally-accepted sustainability practice.

[BSR advances social investment in China with New CiYuan initiative](#) (PR Newswire, 9/16/2010) BSR will launch its [CiYuan](#) (China Philanthropy Incubator) initiative Friday in Beijing, bringing together influential Chinese and international representatives of the business, nonprofit, foundation, and government communities to advance both the quantity and quality of social investment in China.

[Baoshan Steel, Geely to cut weight of China cars, compete with Volkswagen](#) (Bloomberg, 9/16/2010) Baoshan Iron & Steel Co., supplier of half of China's auto steel, is working with Chinese carmakers to cut vehicle weight by as much as 10 percent to compete with market leaders including Volkswagen AG

[VantagePoint Venture Partner launches \\$100m China cleantech fund](#) (AltAssets, 9/16/2010) VantagePoint Venture Partners has announced the initial closing of a \$100m fund aimed at what it describes as the burgeoning cleantech and financial services sectors in China's Bohai Rim region.

[China shifts away from low-cost factories](#) (New York Times, 9/15/2010)

Companies here in [China](#)'s industrial heartland are toiling to reinvent their businesses, fearing that the low-cost manufacturing that helped propel the nation's economic ascent is fast becoming obsolete.

[China's textbook publishers learn environmental responsibility](#) (People's Daily, 9/14/2010) China's primary and middle school children will get a lesson in environmental protection just by opening their text books this academic year. Text book publishers have begun a trial of new environment-friendly printing standards, the General Administration of Press and Publication (GAPP) announced Tuesday.

GOVERNMENT

[China pushes for energy cooperation, innovations](#) (Beijing Review, 9/17/2010)

China will adopt a more open attitude toward international science and technology cooperation and exchanges in energy conservation and emissions reduction, a senior official from the Ministry of Science and Technology (MST) said on Thursday.

[China plans to monitor firms' environmental impact](#) (AFP, 9/16/2010) China said it will require listed firms in polluting industries to publish environmental impact reports annually as the government steps up efforts to hit an energy efficiency target. The requirement will apply to 16 industries including thermal power, steel, cement, coal and mining, the Ministry of Environmental Protection said in a statement posted on its website Tuesday.

[Top Chinese legislator urges improving people's income in poor NW region](#)

(Xinhua, 9/15/2010) Top Chinese legislator, Wu Bangguo, has urged government departments to take effective measures to solve shortages of drinking water and improve the living standards for residents in an impoverished northwestern area of the country.

China to get tough on pollution, buy more from US (Reuters, 9/15/2010) China will introduce stricter rules to reduce industrial pollution, a senior economic planning official said on Tuesday. Zhang Xiaoqiang, a vice-chairman of the National Development and Reform Commission, also told a meeting of the World Economic Forum in this northern port city that China was willing to import more from the United States.

[China rejects US trade complaint over clean energy](#) (AP, 9/15/2010) China rejected a U.S. union's trade complaint over Beijing's support for clean energy industries and said Wednesday such criticism is hypocritical at a time when China is under pressure to cut [greenhouse gas emissions](#).

[China vows grain self-sufficiency; Cocfo's Fei sees wider corn shortage](#)

(Bloomberg, 9/15/2010) China, the world's biggest consumer of grains, will probably have an increased autumn harvest and will stay self-sufficient in corn, wheat and other cereals, [Zeng Liying](#), deputy director of the State Administration of Grain.

[China urges World Bank to give more say to developing countries](#) (Xinhua,

9/15/2010) China on Wednesday urged the World Bank (WB) to actively promote the formulation of new international economic rules and standards, and give more say and presence to developing nations. Chinese Vice Premier Wang Qishan made the remarks in a meeting with visiting World Bank President Robert Zoellick.

[Chinese premier urges Tianjin's Binhai New Area to take lead](#) (Xinhua, 9/14/2010) Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao has urged the Binhai New Area of Tianjin Municipality to take the lead in China's development. Wen made the remarks during his inspection tour of the coastal municipality in north China Sunday on the sidelines of the 2010 Summer Davos Forum, which opened Monday.

[Metal prices on a high as Beijing goes green](#) (Financial Times, 9/14/2010) China's efforts to clean its environment are sending some metals prices to record highs as Beijing forces the closure of polluting mines and processing plants.

Although China is known for its appetite for raw materials including oil and copper, it is the largest producer of minerals and metals ranging from coal and lead to little-known commodities such as antimony.

[China to cut fossil fuel in total energy mix to 85 percent by 2020: ex-lawmaker](#) (Xinhua, 9/14/2010) Cheng Siwei, a renowned Chinese economist and a former senior legislator, said China is estimated to reduce the proportion of fossil fuel in total energy mix from the current 91 percent to 85 percent in 2020.

[Greening China, from a paint pot](#) (Asia Times, 9/14/2010) China's fast economic growth over the past 30 years may be a miracle, but it has been achieved at a price - heavy pollution and the destruction of natural resources. Trying to make a correction, President Hu Jiantao put forward his "scientific [outlook](#) on development" shortly after he took the reins in 2002-2003. In short, Hu calls for more balanced or environment-friendly development. Accordingly, the government has worked out and enforced a spate of policies and measure to reduce pollution and the destruction of natural resources and over-cultivation of arable land.

[China to develop traditional Chinese medicines to fight super bugs](#) (People's Daily, 9/14/2010) Chinese pharmaceutical companies and research institutions have jointly launched a program to research and develop traditional Chinese medicine to fight super bacteria, according to China's Ministry of Health.

[For Vancouver mayor, China makes an environmental leap forward](#) (The Globe and Mail, 9/13/2010) Who's better at tackling [climate change](#)? Countries with democracies or the dictator-led government in China? For Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson, it's China hands down. In an interview from Shanghai broadcast on CBC Monday, the mayor said he didn't have any reservations about trying to drum up green business in a dictatorship like China because the country is more advanced in some ways.

[China making inroads on emissions](#) (Washington Post, 9/12/2010) When it comes to climbing [China's](#) bureaucratic ladder, closing factories to cut greenhouse gas emissions can be a career booster. [Huang Huikang](#), as vice mayor of [Tangshan](#) in northeastern China, made energy efficiency one of his top priorities, taking aggressive steps to curb greenhouse gases from the city's many factories. Today he

is China's special representative on climate change, negotiating with officials from countries worldwide.

[Exact number of tick cases unknown: MOH](#) (People's Daily, 9/11/2010) China's top health authorities admitted on Friday they still did not have the exact number of patients suffering from the disease from tick bites. By Friday, the infection recognized as human granulocytic anaplasmosis (HGA), had reportedly spread to 12 provinces including Henan and Shandong, causing at least 31 deaths.