

# ENVIRONMENTAL CHINA

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## OPINION

[The US and China must show leadership on climate change](#) (Guardian, 12/11/2013)

The world is approaching a watershed moment in its battle to limit the risks posed by global climate change, and international leadership from the United States is needed now more than ever before.

[Confucius goes green](#) (Global Times, 12/11/2013) Frustrated with the problems of modern society, many people have turned to ancient wisdom for answers. Could the cure for environmental woes also lie in the ancient teachings of Confucius? Earlier this year the International Confucian Ecological Alliance (ICEA) was founded.

['Human-centered' urbanization a way out of smog: experts](#) (China Daily, 12/18/2013)

Experts say "human-centered" urbanization, a topic raised at a recently concluded conference of China's leaders, may help bring a breath of fresh air to the smog-smothered nation.

[Renewed effort to curb pollution](#) (China Daily, 12/19/2013) It was not surprising to see environmental protection being given top priority at the recently concluded Third Plenary Session of the 18th Communist Party of China Central Committee. The environment has been the biggest casualty of China's remarkable growth over the last three decades, which was re-addressed at the just closed Central Economic Conference.

[China faces \\$176bn bill to clean up air pollution](#) (Guardian, 12/20/2013) Cleaning up China's air pollution will cost 1.75 trillion yuan (£176b) between 2013 and 2017, a high-ranking environmental official has estimated.

[On the right road back to nature](#) (China Daily, 12/20/2013) Hunan gets its clean act together by balancing economic development with conservation On the banks of Liuye Lake in Changde, where the morning mist hangs over water as clear as a looking glass, Ma Fengchi smiles at the world his generation made for their children. His 65-year-old son, Ma Jianshi, smiles with him.

## RESEARCH AND CIVIL SOCIETY

[China's supercomputer technology used to monitor smog](#) (Xinhua, 12/09/2013) A computer model capable of more accurately forecasting and analyzing the cause of smoggy days is expected to be put into operation in the following three to five years.

[Liaoning fines cities for heavy air pollution](#) (Global Times, 12/11/2013) Liaoning fined eight cities in the Northeast China province a total of 50.42 million yuan (\$8.3 million) on Tuesday for heavy air pollution, the first of its kind under new regulations released last year. Liaoning's capital city Shenyang received the heaviest fine of 34.6 million yuan (\$5.6 million). The city had only three days that met official air standards in January.

[China's coal emissions responsible for 'quarter of a million premature deaths'](#) (Guardian, 12/12/2013) Emissions from coal plants in China were responsible for a quarter of a million premature deaths in 2011 and are damaging the health of hundreds of thousands of Chinese children, according to a new study.

[China tells pilots: learn to land in smog](#) (Guardian, 12/12/2013) Chinese authorities have told pilots who fly to Beijing they must be qualified to land their aircraft in the low visibility brought about by smog – the latest missive related to the capital's heavy air pollution, which the government this week lauded as a beneficial shield against missile attacks.

[Bad air hurts all of us, so let's take action](#) (Global Times, 12/17/2013) I want to share what my friends have been up to recently, other than complaining about the bad air quality. One friend gave up his consulting business and opened an online store selling PM 2.5 masks. I'm pretty sure his business is booming. Another friend tried to convince us to invest money by buying stocks of air purifier manufacturers.

[War on waste](#) (Global Times, 12/18/2013) Besieged by piles of garbage, big cities in China are trying to sort out the long-running saga of waste sorting. The southern city of Guangzhou in Guangdong Province plans to calculate garbage disposal fees differently next year, and started a trial in six residential communities on December 1.

## **COPPORATE SECTOR**

[Air purifier brands criticized for inaccurate specs](#) (Global Times, 12/10/2013) The heavy smog that has descended on large part of China recently has boosted sales of air purifiers, but manufacturers and experts on Tuesday called for a compulsory national standard to regulate the rapidly growing market.

[UPDATE 1-Australia clears way for China's Yanzhou Coal to buy out local unit](#) (Reuters, 12/10/2013) Australia on Wednesday cleared the way for China's Yanzhou Coal Mining Co to take full control of its local unit, offering reassurance that the country remains open to foreign investment.

[UPDATE 1-Guangdong may withhold free permits in China's 4th emissions scheme: sources](#) (Reuters, 12/12/2013) China's Guangdong province has warned emitters that unless they bid for carbon permits in government auctions at a regulated minimum price, they will not receive any free permits under the nation's fourth emissions trading scheme, sources said.

[China aims for half a million green vehicles by 2015](#) (China Daily, 12/21/2013) China has been actively promoting the use of environment friendly vehicles in recent years. The central government outlined its newest incentive program this September, to push for the use of new energy vehicles in 28 pilot cities.

## **GOVERNMENT**

[China says poorly prepared to fight impact of climate change](#) (Reuters, 12/09/2013) China is poorly prepared to tackle the impact of climate change that presents a serious threat to the country, thanks to a lack of planning and public awareness, the government said on Monday.

[China seeks reasonable GDP while avoiding 'negative side effects'](#) (China Daily, 12/14/2013) China vowed to maintain stable economic policies to achieve reasonable GDP growth without leaving negative side effects while deepening its reform measures in 2014, as the country's top leaders wrapped up a key economic meeting on Friday.

[China Focus: Smoggy Chinese cities to clear the air](#) (Xinhua, 12/19/2013) China has introduced various emergency responses and long-term measures against air pollution in the central and eastern regions. The air quality index (AQI) reading for Xi'an, capital of Shaanxi Province, reached 500 on Wednesday afternoon, at the top of the AQI scale and indicating hazardous pollution, according to the national air quality monitoring website.

[China follows green path to urbanization](#) (Xinhua, 12/20/2013) Friday's air is chilly but clear in Beijing, a city which all too frequently luxuriates under a blanket of smog. Air pollution is only one of the symptoms of the imperfect growth model which favored GDP growth over every other factor, including environmental benefit.