

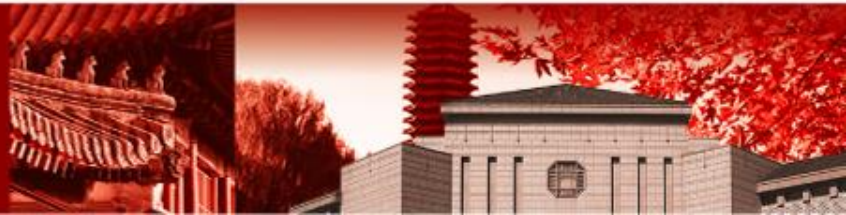
# Challenges and Opportunities for Local Climate Governance from Legal Perspective

Fengqiao MEI

College of Environmental Science and Engineering (CESE), PKU



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# Introduction to CESE PKU

- CESE PKU

- Formally established in 2007

- Center of Environmental Science 1982

- Departments:

- environmental science

- environmental engineering

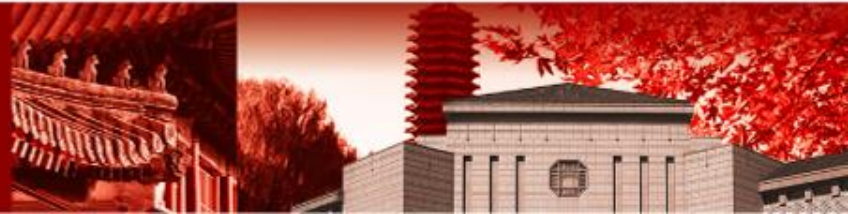
- environmental management

- Personal interests

- environmental law and policy



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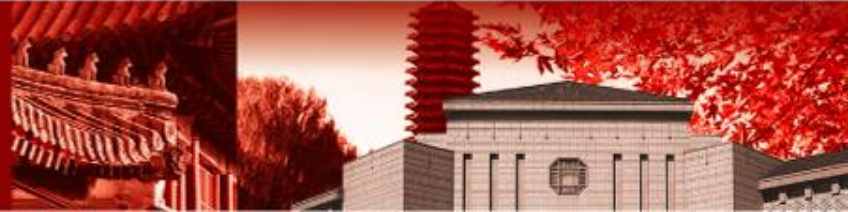


# 1 Introduction

- Climate change: both a global and local issue
  - white paper: *China's policies and actions for addressing climate change (2008)*
    - Average surface temperature in China increased 1.1°C over the last 100 years (1908-2007)
    - Wide adverse impacts on Ecosystems and Economy in China will be expected
      - Agricultural production of major crops, including wheat, rice and corn, will be decreased
      - Vulnerability of the ecosystems will be further increased, and the water resources in the northern China will be reduced
      - The net economic loss due to climate change will be significant in China, 4.7% of GDP (Fankhauser S, 1995)



- China's responses to climate change
  - Internationally: participation and commitments
    - Active participant in international efforts
    - Party to UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol
    - Commitments at the Paris Summit
      - peak CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by around 2030
      - reduce CO<sub>2</sub> per unit of GDP by 60-65% over the 2005 level
      - raise the share of renewable energy consumption to 20%
      - increase forest stock by around 4.5 billion m<sup>3</sup> over 2005
    - Strengthening the eco-civilization construction vigorously
    - Promoting the green, circular and low-carbon economy
    - Integrating into the national long-term development program



## – Domestically: setting targets and taking actions

- Include the relevant targets in the Five-Year Plan

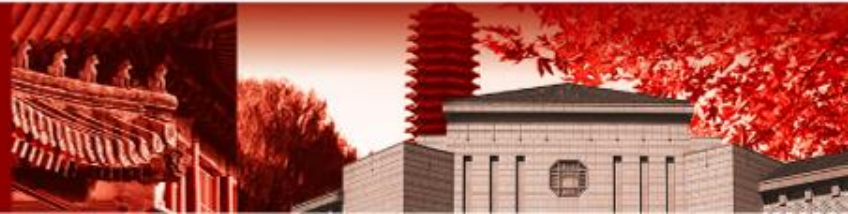
### 12<sup>th</sup> Five-Year Plan (2011-2015)

- Increase the share of renewable energy consumption 11.4%
- Reduce the energy consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> emission per unit of GDP 16% and 17% respectively
- Increase the forest stock 600 million m<sup>3</sup> (14.3 billion m<sup>3</sup>)

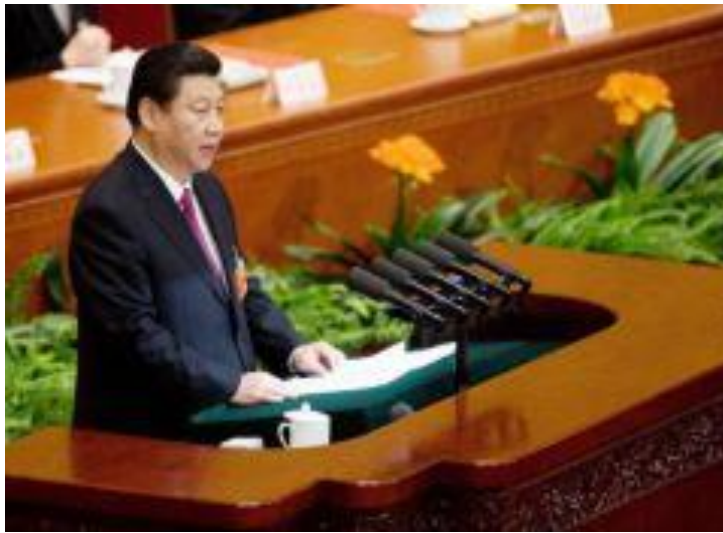
- Provide the relevant policy and legal supports

### Relevant Policies and Laws

- National planning for addressing climate change (2014-2020)
- Environmental, energy, forest laws; law on climate change
- Trial operation of carbon trading system in 7 provinces/cities
- Technical standards for relevant industries and products



- In general, China takes climate change issue seriously and see it as a great opportunity for the renaissance of the Chinese nation



*President Xi Jinping addressing the People's Assembly*



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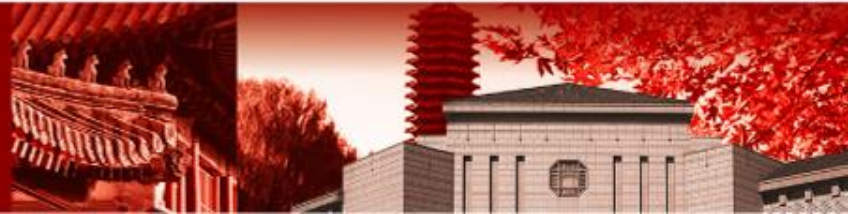
# 2 Challenges and Opportunities

## 1. Awareness of local government officials

- Local government officials, less priority on climate change and environmental protection
- New APPCL: synergistic control of the GHGs and other air pollutants
- Improving the performance evaluation system for local government officials
- A new law on climate change is being discussed and the target-oriented responsibility system will be established

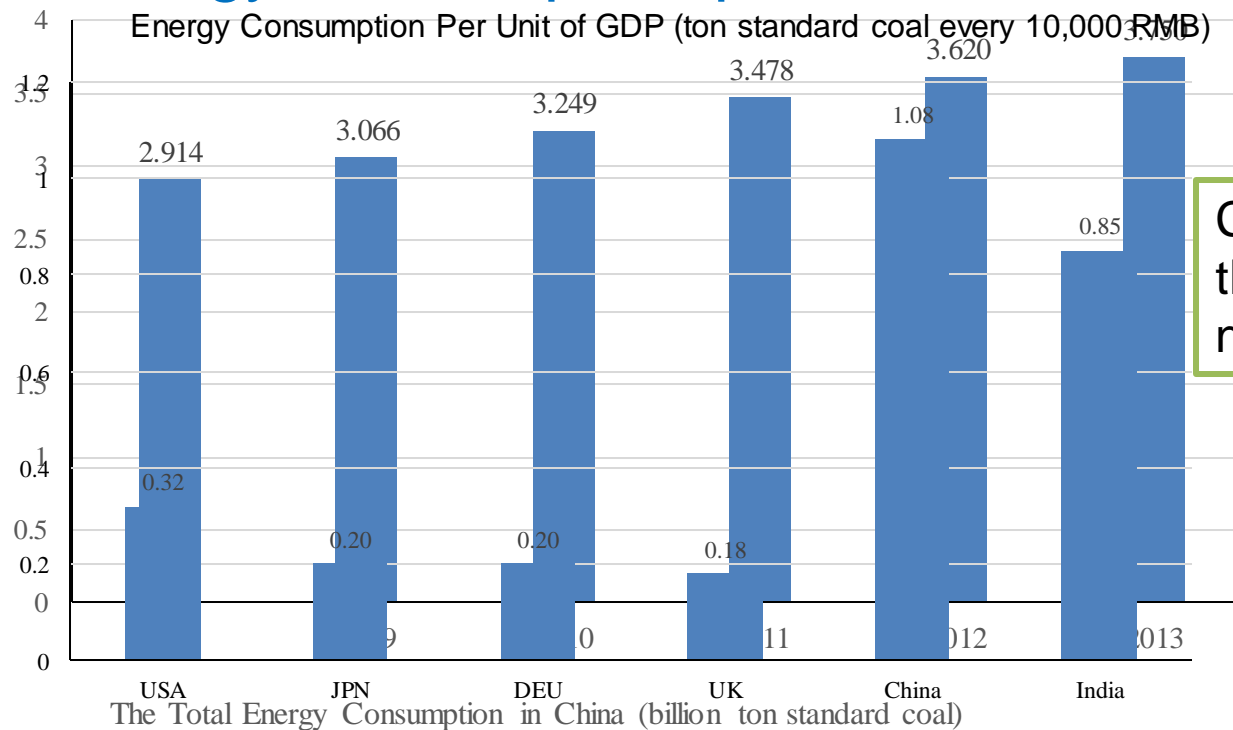


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## 2. Backward technology and production

### – Energy consumption per unit of GDP in China



CDM does not help the transfer of technology

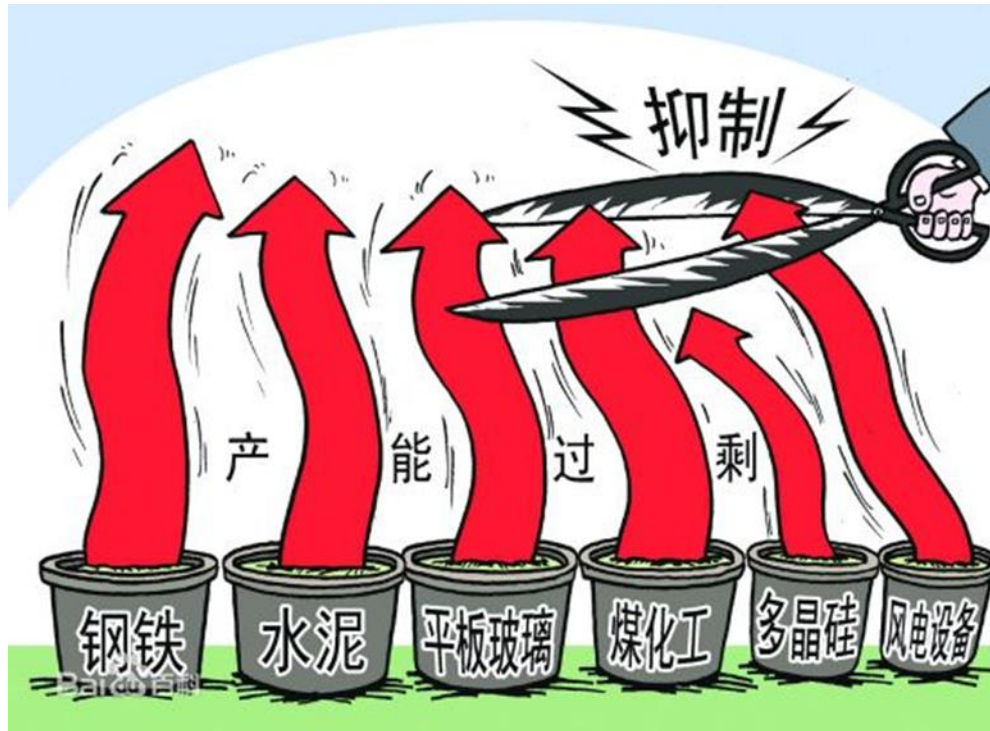


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## – Excessive production capacity



Iron and Steel, cement, flat glass, coal chemical, polysilicon, wind power equipment

### Solutions

- Phase-out
- merger
- transfer



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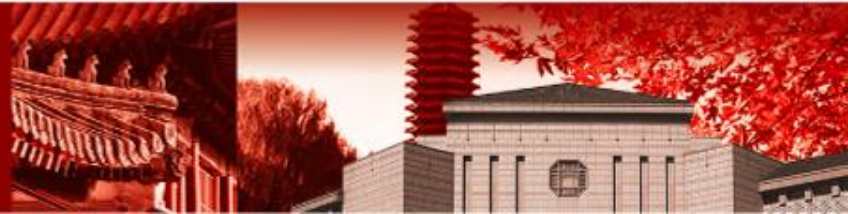
### 3. Renewable energy development

– Law on energy conservation (1997,2007), Law on renewable energy (2005)

- Investment in 2014: US\$ 89.5 billion
- Problems: higher costs, difficult to connect to the energy grid due to local protectionism and poor management
- 50% wind power mills in the western provinces was shut down
- Solutions: improve the relevant policies, establish the supporting facilities, break local protectionism



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## 4. Unleashing the market vitality

– Market force is vital to environmental and climate protection

- Success story: municipal wastewater treatment



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## 5. Public participation in climate initiatives

– Public awareness of environmental protection increased

### 对抗气候变化，民众最常做些什么？



资料来源：国家气候变化秘书处《公众认知调查2013》 [zaobao.com](http://zaobao.com)

### Proposals

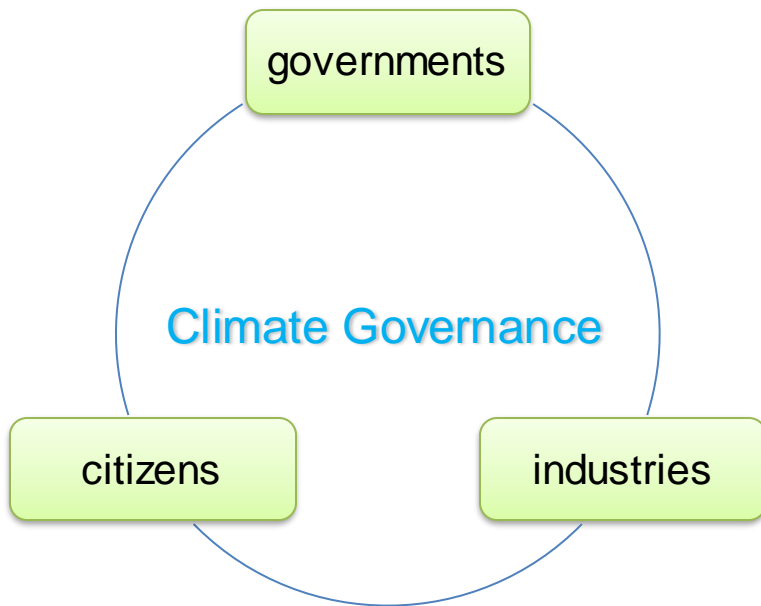
- Guidelines for daily actions
- Facilitate public participation
- Public interest litigation
- Roles of Environmental NGOs



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# • Summary



## *Common but differentiated responsibilities*

### Governments

- take actions by themselves
- encourage actions by others
- restrict government intervention

### Industries

- take actions by themselves
- comply with laws and policies
- fulfil their social responsibilities

### Citizens

- take actions by themselves
- advisory and supervisory roles
- educate the next generations



# 3 Conclusions

- At the international level
  - Cooperation in technology development
  - Financial support to less developed nations
- At the national level
  - Awareness raising
  - Policy coordination and coherence
  - Market mechanisms



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