China’s Environmental Challenges: the People’s Response

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China Environment Forum
March 2016
Balcony farming in Hunan
Source: Simon Song, South China Morning Post
Gansu
Source: Associated Press
Taijiquan in Anhui Province
Source: AP
Guanqiao Lake
Source: themysteryworld.com
Jiangxi province
Source: Associated Press
Guiyu E-waste
Source: thetechnologicalcitizen.com
Guiyu E-waste
Source: thetechnologicalcitizen.com
2012 Cadmium spill in Liuzhou city, Guangxi
Source: Wall Street Journal
16,000 dead pigs in Shanghai drinking water tributary, 2014
Source: Getty
PX plant explosion in Zhangzhou, Fujian April 6th, 2015
Source: www.hexun.com (Photo by: @林辰同学 at weibo)
Tianjin explosions August 12, 2015
Source: The Diplomat
Information politics
NGO networking
Bearing Witness
Accountability politics
Undercover investigations
Symbolic politics: Naming and Shaming
Symbolic politics: theater
Celebrity and CEO activism
Transparency politics
Supply chain analysis
Internet activism
“Taking a walk”
Environmental Mass Incidents
Public interest lawsuits
Information Politics and Networking
Liang Congjie in Friends of Nature’s Antelope Car
Source: The Guardian
Bearing witness:
Shi Lihong and Xi Zhinong
Source: www.facetofacemedia.ca
Yunnan Snub-nosed Monkey
By Xi Zhinong
Accountability politics
Source: hk.apple.nextmedia.com
Accountability politics: Tiger Leaping Gorge dam site

Source: international rivers
Undercover Investigations

Source: Greenpeace
Naming and Shaming: Greenpeace Detox campaign
Source: vimeo.com
ZARA is addicted to hazardous chemicals

Greenpeace Detox campaign
Source: Greenpeace
Greenpeace Detox campaign
Source: cdn.greenprophet.com
Symbolic politics: Street theater
Source: Greenpeace
Symbolic politics: Theater
Phosphate mining in panda habitat, Sichuan
Source: Greenpeace
Information Transparency: Ma Jun
Institute of Public and Environmental Affairs
Source: National Geographic
Supply Chain Tactics
Investigation of Apple supply chain

Source: IPE Apple report
A Map of China’s Cancer Villages

Chinese reporter Deng Fei and Doubieaf have Google Mapped China’s cancer villages. A screenshot is below. See the Google Map here.

The map also provides news report details on each of the listed villages. The following is a portion of that list, translated by CDT:

Transparency politics – Cancer Village map

Source: chinadigitaltimes.net
Celebrity activism:
Yao Ming in Wild Aid’s anti-shark fin campaign
Source: Wild Aid
CEO activism: Alibaba chief Jack Ma supplies water pollution monitors for data upload
source: Bloomberg
Environmental Mass Incidents
“Taking a walk” Chengdu, 2008
Incinerator protest in Guangzhou, 2009
Source: globalvoicesonline.com
“Taking a walk” protest in Dalian, 2012
Source: BBC
Dalian PX protests
Source: Reuters
A special role for journalists

Chai Jing and “Under the Dome”
March 2015
Chai Jing: Have you ever seen real stars?
Little girl: No.

Jing: Have you seen blue sky?
Girl: A little blue in the sky.

Jing: Have you seen the clouds?
Girl: No.

Source: <Under the Dome> by Chai Jing
History is made like this.
When millions of everyday people will say, 'No. I'm not satisfied. I don't want to wait. I will not sit back. I will stand up and do something. Right now, right here, right in this moment.'

— Chai Jing
“As a journalist, my job should be focused on writing a good report. But half of my effort is spent on considering how to get a story past the censors and the likelihood of punishment.”

Liu Jianqiang
Source: cawa.fr
A New Environmental Law with teeth?
Source: xinhuanet
Public interest lawsuits
Public interest lawsuit

Taizhou Jiangsu chemical case, 2014. Polluters fined 160 million RMB ($26,000,000 USD)
Source: Xinhua
New frontiers: Monitoring China on the world stage

Environmental Justice and the Displacement of Environmental Harm
China’s pursuit of minerals and fossil fuels in Latin America, Africa

Source: Sam Ayres; Inter-American Dialogue
Sept. 2014 Protest over Sino-Cambodian dam
(Source: Asianews Agency)
To build the canal, 175 billion cubic feet of earth will need to be excavated.

This earth will be piled in designated areas along the length of the canal.

If it were piled within the boundaries of the District, it would be 92 feet high across the entire city.

Source: the Washington Post
Demonstrators block Panamerican highway in Managua, December 2014
Source: La Prensa via REUTERS
Thank you