

The Economics of Air Pollution in China: Achieving Better and Cleaner Growth | 9780231541893 | Jun Ma | 304 pages | 2016 | Columbia University Press, 2016

Air pollutants do not discriminate between the rich and the poor, the politician and the "average Joe." They put everyone's health and economic prosperity at risk, creating future costs that are difficult to calculate. Yet many people, including some in China, are concerned that addressing environmental challenges will jeopardize economic growth. In *The Economics of Air Pollution in China*, leading Chinese economist Ma Jun makes the case that the trade-off between growth and environment is not inevitable. In his ambitious proposal to tackle severe air pollution and drastically reduce it, Ma Jun argues that though this pollution is created by Chinese manufacturing and export of goods, it is demand for these goods in the United States that fuels production. The United States is ironically causing its own environmental degradation through trade with China.^{1,8} The shorter lifespans of Beijing's citizens has been connected to high pollution levels.^{7,8} Compared to citizens living in southern China, the average life span for Beijing's citizens is five to six years shorter. Beijing's air pollution affects the health of its citizens and threatens to limit the future success and expansion of the city. Though the contamination is extensive, there are possible solutions which can address the problem. Clean Air is a "Luxury" in Beijing's Pollution Zone. National Public Radio. Retrieved from <http://www.npr.org/>. Comment: This book is in VG+ condition. Inside text/images are crisp and clean. Outer cover is clean, but does show normal signs of wear. Binding is tight. Used items are not guaranteed to include supplementary materials such as CDs or access codes. Many engineering solutions to China's huge pollution problem have been proposed, yet *The Economics of Air Pollution in China* correctly identifies the structural drivers of pollution and sets out the required changes in economic, financial, and fiscal policies. Meticulous, comprehensive, and rooted in robust economic theory, the book's messages are relevant to other economies that seek environmentally sustainable growth. Many engineering solutions to China's huge pollution problem have been proposed, yet *The Economics of Air Pollution in China* correctly identifies the structural drivers of pollution and sets out the required changes in economic, financial, and fiscal policies. For the first time, *The Economics of Air Pollution in China* systematically studied the issue of air pollution in China from an economic perspective, which will have important academic and policy implications. A profound view from this book is that while clean technologies are important in