



State-Market-Civil Society Collaboration in Promoting Low Carbon Policies and Lifestyles

Fudan University, APPAM Conference Shanghai, May 26/27, 2013



Prof. Berthold Kuhn, Xiamen University

Key Arguments

- Climate protection requires collaborative governance between state, market, society (NGOs, citizens).
- Command-and-control, market-based and mechanisms and awareness raising activities are all needed.
- The concept of Sustainable Production and Consumption becomes more relevant, focus on innovative green technologies and changes in lifestyle.
- The challenge is to enabling citizens to coproduce (e.g. recycling) and influence green production: mobility, household level, (green) consumption.

Structure of the Presentation

- Climate Protection and Low Carbon Policies in China
- Extending the Coproduction Discourse to Low Carbon Policies
- State-Market-Civil Society Collaboration in China: Roles and Responsibilities
- Three Case Studies/Projects by Xiamen University, School of Public Policy
- Conclusions

The Climate Protection Issue in China

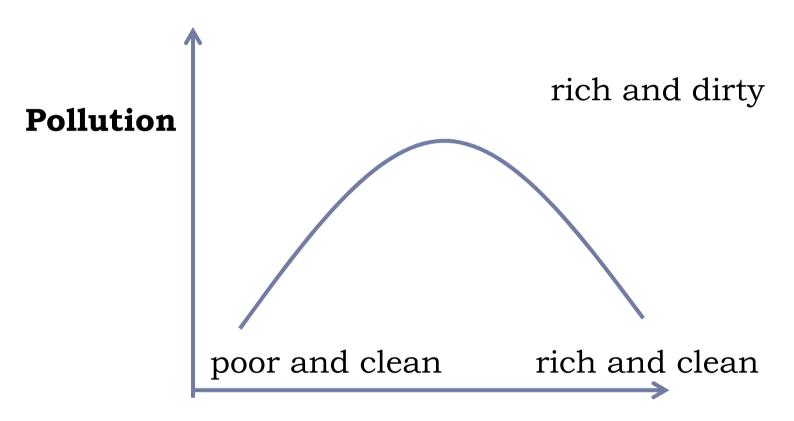
National Relevance

- Pollution Crisis in Beijing and elsewhere
- Media Reporting
- New Challenges for the New Political Leadership

Global Relevance

- Global Climate Governance Crisis
- "A more promising approach is to negotiate smaller agreements" (Barret ref. to game theory)
- Think global, act local: low carbon cities, NGOs

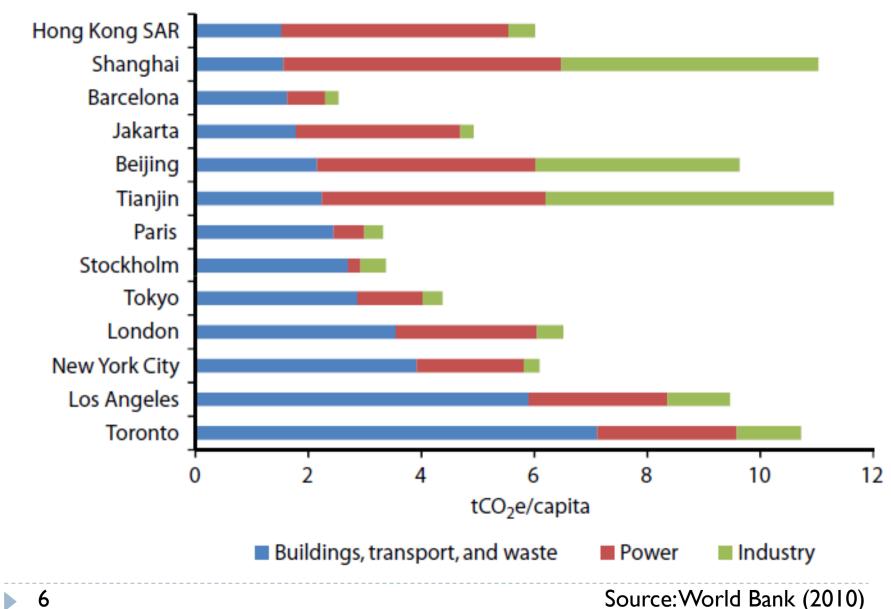
Table 1: Curve of Transition and Green Development



Time and Wealth

Kuhn, Berthold designed on the basis of Pieplow, Haiko/German Ministry of Environment (2012) with reference to debates on the Environmental Kuznet Curve (World Bank 1992.)

Table 2: Per Capita Emissions of Selected Cities







Kohlekraftwerk und Mann in einem Strandstuhl in Jining: "Die Luft ist so verschmutzt, dass ich Atemprobleme bekam."

Beijing

Pictures: Matthias Eifert





29.09.2011

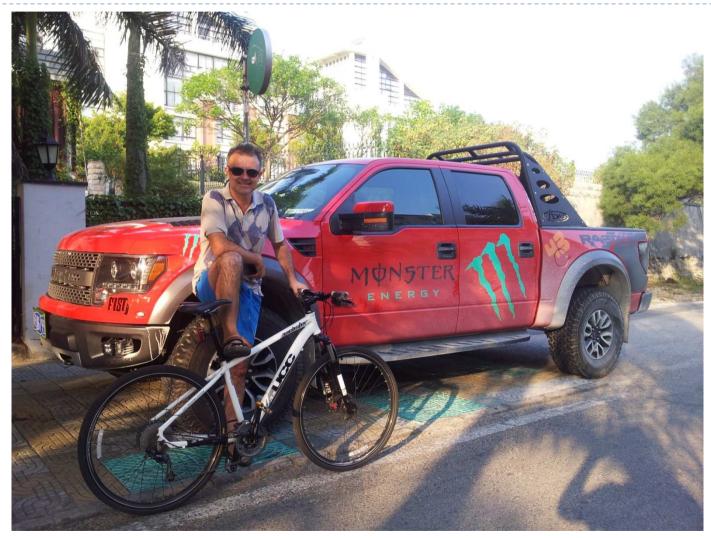
Picture: Spiegel Online

The Vision: Eco-Cities and...



Picture: Berthold Kuhn (in Xiamen)

...Low Carbon Lifestyles.



China's Green Transition Path Lead Questions:

- What are the roles and contributions of the state, the private sector, civil society organizations and media?
- Growing state-private sector civil society cooperation or conflict among stakeholders?
- Will show case projects lead to coherence or will there be an increasing gap between regions and cities?

Extending the Coproduction Discourse to Environmental/Climate Protection

- ▶ E.Ostrom: Environmental Economist
- V. Pestoff et. al. on social issues, A. Meijer on social media
- Questions and Lessons:
 - Definition: individual/group participation, volunteering?
 - Cooperation versus co-production
 - Ceiling? Outcrowding?

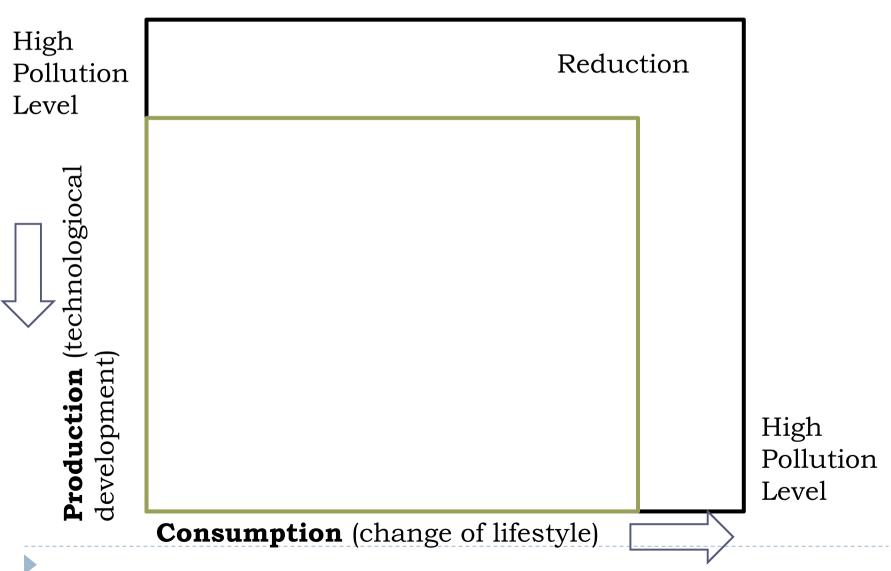
Co-production and Mobilization of Resources

- External incentives may crowd out or crowd in behaviors that are based on intrinsic preferences (E. Ostrom 1999/2000).
- Civil society organizations may be viewed as agents who harvest the intrinsic motivation of citizens to volunteer, to engage and to co-produce public goods.
- The proposition of specific comparative advantages, disadvantages and trade-offs of civil society organizations (Kuhn 2005/2009) is essential to identify the right institutional arrangements for mobilizing resources.
- In China, the crowd in argument may be easier to accept for the political leadership than the crowd out theory when reasoning about the level, the depth and breadth of government engagement in social and environmental policies.

Production and Consumption

- Prevention, Re-use, Recycling, Up-Cycling: Reiner Pilz, Thornton Kay (1994), Gunter Pauli (1999)
- ► Sustainable Production and Consumption Framework
- United Nations promulgates the integration of the whole life cycle of products and services, EU: SWITCH-Asia
- Actors Perspective (Nemeskeri 2008, Kuhn 2005/2009)
- theories of comparative advantages, dilemmas, trade-offs of civil society organisations (Kuhn 2005/2009)

Table 3: Green Technology and Green Consumption



Designed on the basis of Schützemmeister 2010: 268

State-Market-Civil Society Cooperation in China

- Unorthodox interaction between the state and the market are ubiquitous (Francis 2001)
- Proliferations of Hybrids
- Hybrids: State Owned Enterprises, GONGOs, social enterprises
- Climate protection: command and control, market based mechanisms, others, e.g. awareness raising

The Role of the State

- Strong state, policy power, regulatory power but weak implementation
- National Renewable Energy Law (2006)
- ▶ National Climate Action Plan (2007)
- Upgrade of SEPA (2008)
- ▶ Low Carbon Provinces and Cities (2010)
- Emission Trading Schemes (2011)
- Five-Year-Plan (2011-2015)
- State Council White Paper on Energy Policy (2012)

State Actors: "Bureaucratic Land Rush"? (Conrad 2010)

- State Council: policy formulation
- National Leading Group on Climate Change
- National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC)
- Ministry of Environmental Protection
- Ministry of Sciences and Technology
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Environmental Protection Bureaus: EIA
- Economic Development Bureau at city level
- Construction and Administration Office
- Department of Environment and Sanitation
- Transport, Agriculture, Science, Maritim Affairs....

Market-based Mechanisms

- More flexible, more cost-effective, continuous stimulus (Cao 2010)
- Cap and Trade (Price-based quantity based),
- tax policies (carbon tax?),
- access to loans, procurement rules
- Subsidies received international criticims (SolarTec bankruptcy 2013)
- Pollution liability insurance, starting with coal industry in 2009
- Special guidelines for petrochemical industry (March 2013)
- Large territory, economic and cultural diversity, decentralised economy

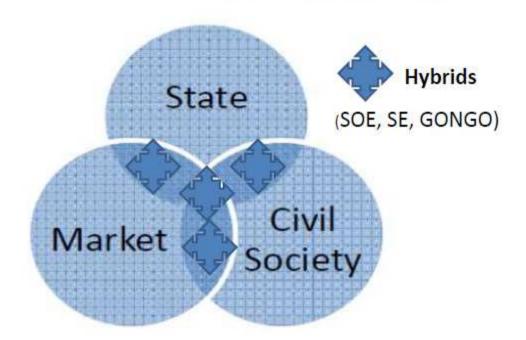
Private Sector Actors and Instruments

- Consulting Firms (PwC, KPMG, McKinsey, Syntao): Sustainability Maturity Curve, Urban Sustainabilitt Index
- UN Global Compact
- Dow Jones Sustainability Index Emerging Markets (www.greenbiz.com, 2013/Febr.)
- Global Reporting Initiative
- Carbon Disclosure Project
- Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)
- Social Enterprises: Planet Before Profit

The Role of Civil Society (CS) and NGOs

- Sphere of state-market-civil society (family)
- CS comprises initiatives and organisations that engage in activities of mutual and public benefit

Table 4: State-Market-Civil Society Spheres



The Role of Civil Society (CS) and NGOs

- Regulatory framework restrictive but signs bode well for certain NGOs: shehui tuanti, jijinhui, min fei (almost 500T)
- Educating on sustainable consumption
- Relating complex and abstract issue to people's life
- ▶ China Climate Action Network, Rio+20 presence
- OASIS, Shanghai (Green Commuting)
- Zero Waste Alliance
- Naming and Shaming of MNC

Civil Society and Low Carbon Lifestyles

- Influence on technology development, trends
- Bourdieu: habits, social distinction
- charismatic role models, Life style of Health and Sustainability (LOHAS).
- Social media
- Protest potential: 300T petitions 11 Year Plan
- Dongyang (2005, Xiamen (2007), Guanxi Zhuang (2010)
- ▶ 2012: Shifang in Sichuan province, Qidong in Jiangsu province and Ningbo in Zhejiang province.
- striking a balance between supporting environmental concern of citizens and maintaining good relations and cooperation with the government

The Role of the Media

- Lack of independence
- Growing spread, use and influence of social media
- Air Quality China and China Air Quality Index are popular smart phone applications.
- More reporting on climate protection/event oriented: international conferences
- Pollution reporting

Case Study (1): Conferences in Xiamen

- ▶ Two Chinese-German conferences as Rio+20 follow-up
- Sensitive topic, long and high level approval procedures.
- Researchers & Practitioners Government, Business, NGOs, media bloggers: Luo Jianming/Basu Fengyun (Guangzhou).
- Exchanges across disciplines, between different types of institutions and experts of different backgrounds are rare.
- Imiting factor for developing and spreading new ideas and products of technology development and to increase awareness and coproduction of goods and services.

Case Study 2: Xiamen Climate Protection Network Study*

- ▶ Campaigns and activities in the field of (1) low carbon industrial production, (2) low carbon traffic and (3) green energy construction.
- Waste prevention and recycling are not yet among the priority areas of low carbon policies.
- Responsibilities under the city's top leadership are spread over a number of departments.
- The Economic Development Bureau and Xiamen Development and Reform Commission are amongst the key actors.

^{*} supported by Konrad Adenauer Foundation, Shanghai Office.

Case Study 2: Xiamen Climate Protection Network Study*, continued

- Others include the Construction Office, Garden and Forests, Environment and Sanitation, Science and Technology, Maritime Affairs and Agriculture.
- Division of task, steering and coordination between departments remains opaque.
- * supported by Konrad Adenauer Foundation, Shanghai Office

Case Study 3*: Study on Climate Change Awareness, Role of NGOs and Citizens's Participation in China. An Expert Survey

- Which key factors and institutions influence citizens' attitudes and their participation in climate protection in China?
- Current attention paid to climate change is not as low as initially presumed by the research team.
- Social media play an important role.
- * supported by Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Shanghai Office

Case Study 3: Expert Survey Results

- The differences between the expert categories are pronounced on the question of the impact on the Rio+ 20 summit on the climate change discourse in China.
- Most positive evaluation by the group of Chinese researchers (3.20)
- All expert groups regard the role of the Government (political freedom, regulations, policies) as most crucial factor for the potential of NGOs role in climate protection.

Case Study 3: Expert Survey Results

- The factors "own capacity and competence", "own image and identity in society" and "citizens support" also rank high among the challenges for NGOs.
- The 26 degree campaign that advocated not to cooling down the room temperature in summer below 26 degree received the second highest number of nominations, including nominations from international experts.
- The potential of individual contributions of citizens' to climate protection in the area of consumption, transport and at household level is assessed between low and medium.

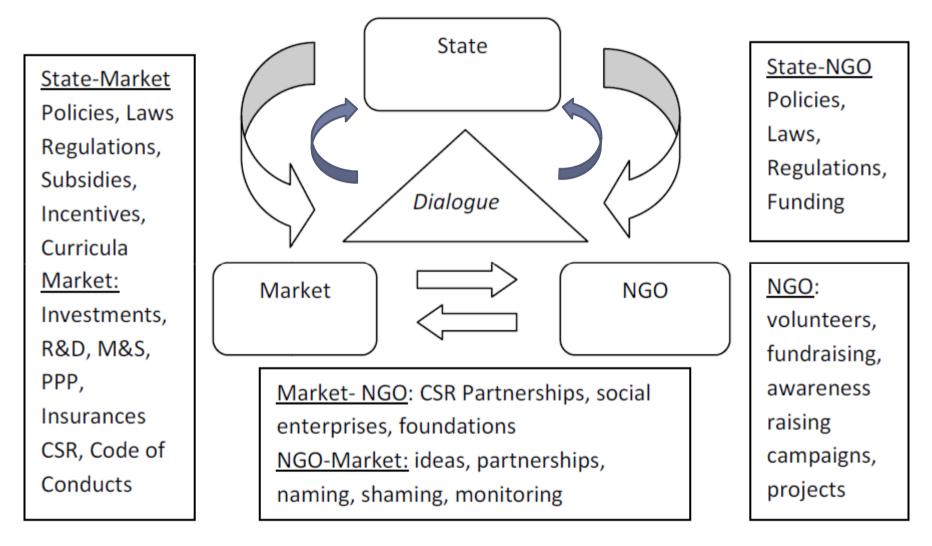
Case Study 3: Expert Survey Results

- The potential for voluntary work receives a higher assessment, especially among young Chinese experts with limited international experience.
- The cost factor is regarded as a decisive obstacle to citizens' participation according to all experts (mean 3.98).
- Experts opinionated that the combination of top down and bottom up initiatives may yield positive results.
- However, there may be significant local and regional variations regarding the follow up and quality of implementation among different cities and regions.

Conclusions

- Climate Protection requires contributions from the state, from market players and from civil society organizations.
- The complex and abstract issue of climate protection needs to be tackled with a variety of measures from different angles.
- China has demonstrated interest and willingness to take a series of actions including command-andcontrol, market-based and awareness raising initiatives.
- the designation of low carbon provinces and cities and the launch of emission trading schemes, are still in an infant stage with regard to standardized bench marking and effective supervision.

Table 5: Collaborative Governance Framework



designed by Berthold Kuhn for Fudan University/APPAM Conference, Shanghai, May 2013



谢谢你们



Prof. Dr. Berthold Kuhn, Xiamen University, School of Public Policy and GIZ-CIM, Rhineland-Palatinate Cooperation Expert

Contact: berthold.kuhn@t-online.de kb@xmu.edu.cn, www.innovateCo.de