

# Preface 1

With the rapid growth of global industrialization, there has been substantial consumption of fossil fuels such as coal, petroleum, and natural gas along with growing carbon dioxide emissions. Unprecedented environmental and ecological crisis has clouded the world. Fortunately, the Climate Conference in Copenhagen signaled hope amid the sluggish global economic recovery. Countries worldwide have been braced for developing their scientific and industrial strategies in the era of the post financial crisis with a green and low-carbon philosophy. In recent years, China has witnessed rapid growth in its economic growth, attracting worldwide attention. China's economic growth has long been powered by resources and productive factors' input, and this rapid growth is realized at the cost of resources and environment. It has raised public concern on how to make a transition from extensive to efficiency-based growth model. The Plan for the 12th Five-Year Period enunciated the goal of building a resource-saving and environment-friendly society through green development, and appealed for increased crisis awareness and ideas of low-carbon development from the public. A green economy is emerging. As a developing country with rapid industrialization, urbanization, and modernization, China especially requires green development to win the future world competitions.

The Plan for the 12th Five-Year Period brought up 12 indicators for resource conservation and environment protection, among which 11 indicators are binding indicators. This shows our determination towards green development. Confidence and wisdom is not enough, we also need to establish performance evaluation index systems and mechanisms as scientific guidance to promote green development. The China Green Development Index Report 2011, completed by Beijing Normal University, Southwest University of Finance and Economics, leading thinkers in various fields together with the help of China Economic Monitoring and Analysis Center (CEMA), is such a guidance report which plays a significant role to help us promote green development.

Nature has bequeathed us valuable resources. If we want to go further, we should adapt the law of nature and follow a green development path. Green

economy has become a new driving force in the world economy after information and technology revolution, ushering our way into a green era. Under the guidance of the Chinese government, we are confident of making a bright future.



Ma Jiantang

## Preface 2

The year 2011 marks the beginning of China's economic and social development in the 12th Five-Year Period. As the plan for the period suggests, it is necessary for China to strengthen the sense of crisis and promote the green and low-carbon idea against the ever-restrained resource and environment, and meanwhile to facilitate energy-saving and environment-friendly production and consumption.

The implementation of the plan means a lot for China in improving its sustainable development and eco-efficiency. To help in this progress, the Beijing Normal University, Southwestern University of Finance and Economics, and the National Bureau of Statistics of China have worked together and produced the China Green Development Index Report in the consecutive 2 years.

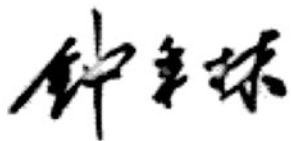
The 2010 report caught the spotlight of over 30 influential domestic and foreign news media such as the News Channel of CCTV, Xinhua News Agency and People's Daily, and network media like the Xinhua Net and Sina. It was highly appreciated by the public who also showed great concern.

The 2011 report saw more progress. Based on the advice from experts and institutions, the research team improved the indicators of China Green Development Index System, added in the City Green Development Index Measurement, and finally finished the China Green Development Index Report 2011: Regional Comparison.

This report is forward-looking, objective, and innovative. It starts with a summary of the green development achievements during the 11th Five-Year Period and looks into the future in the 12th Five-Year Period. It analyzes China's green development in recent years from perspectives such as past achievements, existing problems, regional comparison, and future opportunities and challenges.

It is to be noted that the rankings of provinces and cities are not fixed, and this is how the report helps in stimulating them to improve their rankings.

As an important force of scientific and technological innovation in China, Beijing Normal University, with abundant expert resources, will continue its exemplary role and work with others to contribute to the national economic and social development.

A stylized calligraphy signature in black ink, consisting of three characters: 钟 (Zhong), 秉 (Bing), and 琳 (Lin).

Zhong Binglin

## Preface 3

The concept of green development has gradually become the common sense of each country. In 2008, the UN unveiled a plan for green politics and green economy, which was well-received and carried out by countries worldwide. China's green development obtained remarkable achievements. The concept of green development enjoyed popular support and green actions were advanced in China. The pace of developing an energy-efficient and environment-friendly society with circular economy is constantly being speeded up.

2011 commences China's 12th Five-Year Period (2011–2015). At this historical point, we should not only summarize the achievements in green development during the 11th Five-Year Period (2006–2010), but also explicitly realize the current shortage of natural resources and environmental constraints. This will help us to put forward constructive recommendations to the green development during and after the 12th Five-Year Period.

The China Green Development Index Report 2011, launched by Professor Li Xiaoxi, deputy director Pan Jiancheng, and the research team, did fruitful research into green development. This report measures the green development level of 30 provinces, municipalities, and autonomous regions as well as 34 large- and medium-sized cities in China. The city-based measurement is first introduced into the report.

For one green earth and one green dream, we need to take green actions. The academic circle needs to actively explore and research the general rule of green development, and thus provide intellectual support to the green development of the economic society. The report was completed by Prof. Li Xiaoxi, with the dedication of other leading thinkers in economics, management, environment, and resources together with the help of the China Economic Monitoring and Analysis Center (CEMA).

As a national key university directly under the Ministry of Education and one of the key constructions of the "211 Project", Southwestern University of Finance and Economics will continue to push forward green development research and actively explore the transitional law of economic development pattern. We will

contribute our strength to economic development and social progress in China. We also believe that with the collective “green action” of the government, industry, and academic circle, our future will become greener.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of three stylized Chinese characters: 赵德武 (Zhao Dewu).

Zhao Dewu



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China Green Development Index Report 2011

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