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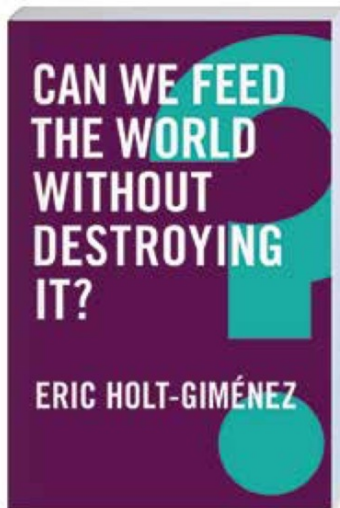
Will China Save the Planet?

BARBARA FINAMORE

Now that Trump has turned the United States into a global climate outcast, will China take the lead in saving our planet from environmental catastrophe? Many signs point to yes. China, the world's largest carbon emitter, is leading a global clean energy revolution, phasing out coal consumption and leading the development of a global system of green finance.

But as leading China environmental expert Barbara Finamore explains, it is anything but easy. The fundamental economic and political challenges that China faces in addressing its domestic environmental crisis threaten to derail its low-carbon energy transition. Yet there is reason for hope. China's leaders understand that transforming the world's second largest economy from one dependent on highly polluting heavy industry to one focused on clean energy, services and innovation is essential, not only to the future of the planet, but to China's very survival – and their own.

BARBARA FINAMORE is a Senior Attorney and Asia Director at the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC). She has over three decades of experience in environmental law and energy policy, with a focus on China for twenty-five years. In 1996, she founded NRDC's China Program, the first clean energy program to be launched by an international NGO.



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Can We Feed the World Without Destroying It?

ERIC HOLT-GIMÉNEZ

Nearly a third of the world's population suffer from hunger or malnutrition. Feeding them – and the projected population of 10 billion people by 2050 – has become a high-profile challenge for governments, multilateral institutions, big philanthropy and even the Fortune 500. This has unleashed a steady march of initiatives to double food production within a generation. But will doing so tax the resources of our planet beyond capacity?

In this sobering essay, scholar-practitioner Eric Holt-Giménez argues that the ecological impact of doubling industrial food production would be socially and environmentally catastrophic, and would not feed the poor. We already have the technology, resources and expertise to feed everyone. What is needed is a thorough transformation of the global food regime – one that increases equity while producing food and reversing agriculture's environmental impacts.

ERIC HOLT-GIMÉNEZ is Executive Director of Food First/Institute for Food and Development Policy.