

Abstract

NGOs, Civil Society, and Environmental Governance in China

Professor Tang will examine the evolving role of NGOs and civil society in China's environmental governance. Drawing on data collected in the past decade through multiple surveys and interviews with NGO leaders, local environmental officials, and corporate executives, he will argue that (1) although environmental officials and corporate executives have felt increasing societal concerns for environmental protection, they have yet to learn to work with NGOs productively to address those concerns; and (2) the contributions of NGOs to environmental governance have been hampered not just by China's authoritarian setting, but also by some of their own internal developmental dynamics shaped by their leaders' close ties to the party-state system.