As China goes, so goes the world. China must be part of any solution to the world’s environmental problems. EDF is working on a variety of programs to help guide the world’s most populous country to a cleaner future. “We’re seeing in China a revolution in environmental thought,” says Dr. Daniel Dudek, VP and founder of our program there. “And that gives us an extraordinary opportunity to help the world’s largest emitter of greenhouse gases—and the world’s largest consumer of energy—move swiftly toward a clean environmental future.”

EDF has been deeply engaged with China since 1991, and we maintain a permanent office in Beijing. Since much of China’s pollution comes from export factories, EDF is working with Walmart to transform the manufacturing sector. (As with all our corporate partnerships, EDF accepts no payment from the company.) Walmart’s purchasing power—it uses some 30,000 Chinese suppliers—coupled with EDF technical expertise enables us to push factories to quickly improve environmental performance. For example, compliance with China’s environmental laws is required by Walmart’s contracts. And new standards for the company’s top 200 suppliers, which we helped create, require 20% cuts in energy use by 2012.

We also work closely with Chinese officials to help them develop the institutions they need to build a greener future, including environmental markets, strong environmental laws and the regulatory and enforcement capability to put them into action.

Video: See coverage of our work at edf.org/china10

For Fiscal Year 2010, our China work is included in the Climate line of our financial statement.