

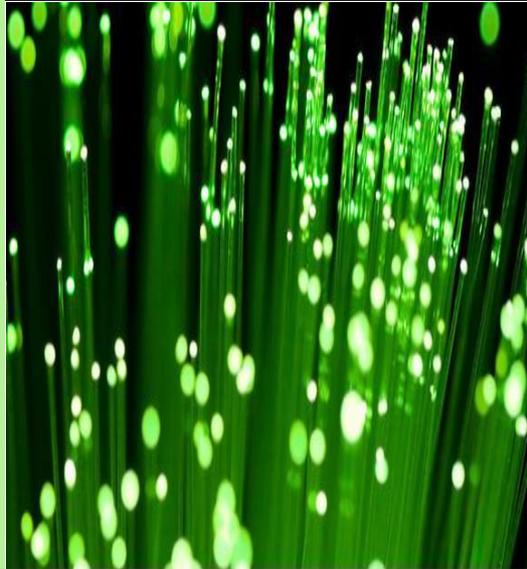
# ICT and Green Innovation Policy in China

Jin Shang (E-mail: jks21@le.ac.uk)



## Introduction

- Environmental protection has become a global issue (i.e. The Copenhagen Summit, Green Campaigns, etc.).
- As one of the world's largest and fastest growing economies, China has become the second biggest greenhouse gas emitter in the world.
- In order to solve the problem, the Chinese government has carried out a series of activities, among which to promote wide use of IT/ICTs has become one of the key measures.
- Basically, the paper is going to look into China's 'Green Innovation' policy, with respect to the strategic use and development of IT/ICTs.



## 1. 'To promote industrial productivity with the use of information technology'

- Information technologies can be widely applied to increase productivity or efficiency of the industrial development.
- Due to the uncompleted development of industrialization, the industrial development is still the first important economic task of China's national development.
- Therefore, the Chinese government wants to drive industrialization with promoting the use of information technologies (i.e. traditional industries, agricultural industries, service Industries, industrial enterprises).
- However, due to the unbalanced progress of China's industrialization, the process of development is not very balanced.



## 2. 'To encourage development and innovation of information industry'

- Development of 'weightless industry' is seen to be an effective way to adjust and improve the mode economic growth.
- Although industrial development is still the most important in China, information industry has also gained great support from the government, and has become China's fastest growing economic sector .
- There are a large variety of sectors in China 'information industry' (i.e. Telecommunications, Software industries, Network industries, Creative industries).
- 'Digital divide' has to be taken as a serious problem for the development.



## 3. 'To manage and control industrial and urban pollution with information system'

- IT/ICTs can be used to measure and control the impact of industrial and urban development on environment.
- Due to the fast industrial and urban development, China's environment has been, to some degree, damaged.
- Chinese government has taken many activities to reverse the situation (i.e. environmental monitor system, environment exchange, low-carbon CBD, energy office).
- Due to the huge profits from industrial and urban development, some enterprises are not interested in cooperating with government on environment protection.



## 4. 'To promote development of Green ICT infrastructure and Green ICT industry'

- Green ICT and the relevant industrial development is becoming one of the most heated discussion topics in the world today.
- Huge and increasing consumption of energy by ICT infrastructure has been affecting China's sustainable development now.
- Therefore, the development of 'Green ICT Infrastructure' has attracted increasing attention of the Chinese government.
- Even though there is a great ambition for developing China's own 'Green ICT' industry, the technological restrictions have to be taken as one of biggest challenges affecting the overall progress.