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Sommario/riassunto

China's environmental problems and ecological crises are still considerable. Pollution and ecological deterioration are becoming worse, while the booming economy and rising population are adding to the pressure. Will the PRC be able to avoid the traditional route of industrialization and embark on the path of sustainable development? Friends of Nature is China's first environmental NGO, and their first environmental yearbook deals with the year 2005, the year of the Songhua River toxic spill crisis, the bird flu attacks, but also of a number of governmental and local initiatives to begin to tackle the increasing pressure on the environment. Here are the voices of experts and witnesses from the PRC itself describing and commenting upon the environment and protection measures in China in 2005, from the public perspective.