

FINANCIAL TIMES

Hong Kong

Uncertain role of
China's communists

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US welfare

Work ethic forced
on the underclass

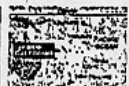
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World Business News Paper: <http://www.ft.com>

TUESDAY APRIL 9, 1997

USA \$1.50, Canada \$2.00, Europe £1.20

INTERNATIONAL NEWS DIGEST

Pollution's \$500bn promise

Governments should do more to encourage sales of technology to control pollution and improve the environment, according to United Nations studies to be published tomorrow. The studies say the market for such goods and services could more than double to \$500bn by 2000.

One of three studies commissioned by the UN Development Programme urges governments to spread information about investment opportunities in the environmental field, and better enforce environmental laws and regulations.

Another of the studies recommends setting up an International Bank of Environmental Settlements to help channel funds to poorer countries needing help for environmental improvements.

The UNDP estimates that, by 2000, around \$500bn a year will be spent on pollution-control goods and services simply to comply with environmental regulations.

It adds that much of the \$1,000bn needed for new power-generation capacity in developing and former communist countries by 2000 will be spent on developing renewable energy supplies.

It says another \$250bn will be absorbed in energy efficiency projects over the next 20 years. It expects a global market for electric vehicles to grow from virtually zero to \$2.5bn by 2000.

Industrialised countries at present account for 67 per cent of global environmental sales. *Leyla Boulton, London*