China has recently begun promoting market-oriented policy instruments to reduce carbon emissions as part of its domestic climate strategy. A centerpiece of this new policy approach has been the launch of pilot carbon markets in seven distinct regions. How has this “bottom-up” experiment with carbon market development affected the prospects for nationwide carbon trading in China? Have the carbon trading pilots advanced the prospects for sustained climate action in China? In this seminar, Carla Freeman proposes some answers to these questions based on research in all seven carbon trading pilots, thanks to support of an E²SHI seed grant.

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