

Technology and Global Change

Technology and Global Change describes how technology has shaped society and the environment over the last 200 years. Technology has led us from the farm to the factory to the internet. Technology's impacts are now global, and change continues to accelerate. Technology has eliminated many problems, but has added many others (ranging from urban smog to the ozone hole to global warming).

This book is the first to give a comprehensive description of the causes and impacts of technological change and how they relate to global environmental change. It organizes history into a sequence of technology clusters, each with its distinctive environmental "footprint". The result is a new, original explanation of change – illustrated with innumerable quantitative examples, data, and graphics – that makes this book required reading for all now looking to technology for environmental solutions: technologists, environmentalists, policy makers, and academics.

Written for specialists and nonspecialists alike, this book will be useful for researchers and professors, as a textbook for graduate students, for people engaged in long-term policy planning in industry (strategic planning departments) and government (R&D and technology ministries, environment ministries), for environmental activists (NGOs), and for the wider public interested in history, technology, or environmental issues.

ARNULF GRÜBLER is a Research Scholar at the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis and is one of the world's leading scientists in the history of technological change and its impact on the environment. After taking a PhD at the Technical University of Vienna, Austria, he has been a lecturer at various institutions: International Centre for Theoretical Physics, Trieste, Italy; University of Vienna, Austria; Technical University of Graz, Austria; Mining University Leoben, Austria. He is a Lead Author of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), and an Editorial Board Member of the *Journal of Industrial Ecology* and *Technological Forecasting and Social Change*. He is the author, co-author, or editor of five books, three special journal issues, and over 50 peer reviewed articles and book chapters and some 30 additional professional papers in the domains of technological change, energy systems, climate change and mitigation options, and resource economics. His published books include *The Rise and Fall of Infrastructures* (1990, Physica Verlag, Heidelberg), *Diffusion of Technologies and Social Behavior* (1991, Springer Verlag, Berlin), *Environment and Development* (1994, Jugend und Volk Verlag, Vienna, in German), *Global Energy Perspectives to 2050 and Beyond* (1995, World Energy Council, London).

The International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis

is an interdisciplinary, nongovernmental research institution founded in 1972 by leading scientific organizations in 12 countries. Situated near Vienna, in the center of Europe, IIASA has been for more than two decades producing valuable scientific research on economic, technological, and environmental issues.

IIASA was one of the first international institutes to systematically study global issues of environment, technology, and development. IIASA's Governing Council states that the Institute's goal is: *to conduct international and interdisciplinary scientific studies to provide timely and relevant information and options, addressing critical issues of global environmental, economic, and social change, for the benefit of the public, the scientific community, and national and international institutions.* Research is organized around three central themes:

- Global Environmental Change;
- Global Economic and Technological Change;
- Systems Methods for the Analysis of Global Issues.

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by

Arnulf Grubler

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