



“Gheorghe Asachi” Technical University of Iasi, Romania



Chuanrui Fu, Xinyue He, Ruirui Liao, Yanhui Wang*

School of Economics and Management, Fuzhou University, Fuzhou, 350108, China

This study empirically explores the impact of executives with an environmental background on the carbon emission intensity of China's industrial A-share listed firms, using panel data for 2003-2022. We find that such executives significantly reduce corporate carbon emission intensity. By identifying the underlying mechanisms, we confirm that they achieve this by improving the efficiency of corporate environmental protection investment, alleviating financing pressure, improving the level of green technology innovation, and improving the ability of environmental management. Further analysis shows that this inhibitory effect is significantly stronger for non-heavily polluting industries and firms under lenient environmental regulations.

Key words: corporate environmental management; enterprise carbon emission intensity; environmental protection investment; financing pressure; green technology innovation

Received: January, 2026; Revised final: March, 2026; Accepted: May, 2026

* Author to whom all correspondence should be addressed: E-mail: wang_yanhui11@163.com