

Solutions for the world's biggest problems: costs and benefits, ed by Bjørn Lomborg. Cambridge, 2007. 442p bibl ISBN 9780521887724, \$90.00; ISBN 9780521715973. pbk, \$29.99 In May 2004, under the auspices of the Copenhagen Consensus, Lomborg (now center director) convened a group of international scholars to discuss ten serious global problems and rank or prioritize them, using benefit-cost analysis and considering the probability of successful policy intervention. *Global Crises, Global Solutions*, which Lomborg edited (CH, Apr'05, 42-4712), was one outgrowth of that initiative. This new volume, which contains 23 largely stand-alone contributions by economists, was intended to form the backdrop of a May 2008 Copenhagen Consensus. It covers many of the same issues discussed in the earlier work--climate change, malnutrition, trade barriers, migration, financial instability, and conflicts--grouped under four major headings: "Economic Challenges," "Environmental Challenges," "Governance Challenges," and "Health and Population Challenges." Each article is well referenced. Author of the controversial 2001 volume *The Skeptical Environmentalist* (CH, Apr'02, 39-4560), Lomborg definitely espouses a particular point of view, but he has done a good job of choosing authors and topics amenable to open debate. In many respects, the 2004 and 2008 volumes are complementary rather than substitutes, and both certainly merit reading by policy makers, citizens, and scholars intent on making a better world. Summing Up: Recommended. General readers; all levels of undergraduate students; researchers and practitioners. -- A. R. Sanderson, University of Chicago