

What worries Iceland, a world without ice. It is preparing

Glaciers occupy over a tenth of Iceland. As temperatures rise across the Arctic nearly faster than any place on the planet, all of Iceland is considering the changing landscape and climate a matter of national urgency, and **grappling** with the prospect of a future with no ice.

grapple 抓住; 格斗

Energy producers are upgrading **hydroelectric** power plants and experimenting with burying carbon dioxide in rock to keep it out of the atmosphere. The fishing industry is **slashing fossil fuel** use with **energy-efficient** ships.

hydroelectric 水电的

slash 猛砍; 削减

fossil fuel 化石燃料

energy-efficient 节能的

The government is budgeting \$55 million over five years for reforestation, land conservation and carbon-free transport projects to slash greenhouse gas emissions. More will be spent by 2040, when Iceland expects businesses, organizations and individuals to be removing as much carbon dioxide from the atmosphere as they put in.

“Climate change is no longer something to be joked about in Iceland or anywhere,” Gudni Jóhannesson, Iceland’s president, said in an interview, adding that most Icelanders believe human activity plays a role. “We are taking responsibility to seek practical solutions. But we can do better,” he said.

Bigger nations like Norway and Finland have cut emissions more, and over 190 other countries except the United States have pledged to combat climate change under the Paris agreement. But with the impact in Iceland more visible than in other nations, it is doing what it can — while trying to turn the warming climate into an economic advantage.

“Let’s look at practical solutions instead of being filled with despair,” Jóhannesson said.