

**Date and Time:** Monday 9 September 2024 18:00:00 CEST

**Job Number:** 233037833

**Documents (100)**

1. [*Asia Pulp & Paper joins CDP initiative to drive sustainable production across supply chain*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5H06-PN81-JCF9-231V-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** emission and energy or emission and reduction or emission and targets or emission and greenhouse gas or energy and reductions or energy and targets or energy and greenhouse gas or reductions and targets or reductions and greenhouse gas or targets and greenhouse gas

**Search Type:** Terms and Connectors

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| News | Timeline: 20 jul 2015 tot 20 jul 2016; Locatie: International; Plaats van publicatie: Europe; Taal: English |

2. [*Farmers need to get bigger and better, says report*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5H83-YBJ1-F0BB-S0RR-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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3. [*Australia's carbon emissions are increasing, government report shows A report quietly released on Christmas Eve shows Australia's emissions rose by about 1% in 2014-15, compared with the previous year*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5HPF-5171-F021-60N1-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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4. [*- Monsanto Releases 2015 Sustainability Report Report Highlights Progress On Sustainability Commitments Reinforces Pledge To Be Carbon Neutral By 2021*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5J9S-B8C1-F0K1-N0XB-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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5. [*Australia was ready to act on climate 25 years ago, so what happened next? New book investigates how corporate interests and ideologues worked to make Australia doubt what it knew about climate change and its risks*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5GM4-MCX1-F021-646X-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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6. [*Historic climate change deal expected Paris agreement set to limit temperature increases to 'well below 2 degrees'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5HKD-WSC1-JC8Y-831V-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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7. [*SABIC Saudi Arabia releases 2016 sustainability report*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5JPN-RRG1-F14X-V03M-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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8. [*Rallying cry in Paris to avoid environmental catastrophe*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5HG8-JD01-F039-60HG-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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9. [*Rallying cry in Paris to avoid environmental catastrophe*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5HG7-58P1-DXXV-40NS-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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10. [*UFU welcomes protection for agriculture in Paris climate change deal*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5HKY-NN51-JDPF-N3SM-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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11. [*Countryfile - 5:36 PM GMT*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5K51-D5P1-JBH6-C0VY-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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12. [*Poverty and climate change go hand in hand There's a huge cost in switching to new methods and greener technologies - India will need help*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5HK1-9FT1-DY9P-N2NG-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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13. [*Countryfile - 5:36 PM GMT*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5K51-D5P1-JBH6-C0WT-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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14. [*Countryfile - 5:36 PM GMT*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5K51-D5P1-JBH6-C0W0-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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15. [*Countryfile - 5:36 PM GMT*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5K51-D5P1-JBH6-C0WG-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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16. [*Biochar Market Insights, 2016 To 2022 - Global Market Outlook, Trends, Growth*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5K3Y-4VV1-F0K1-N4JW-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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17. [*Countryfile - 5:36 PM GMT*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5K51-D5P1-JBH6-C0WJ-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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18. [*Countryfile - 5:36 PM GMT*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5K51-D5P1-JBH6-C0W2-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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19. [*Countryfile - 5:36 PM GMT*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5K51-D5P1-JBH6-C0WS-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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20. [*Countryfile - 5:36 PM GMT*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5K51-D5P1-JBH6-C0WN-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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21. [*Countryfile - 5:36 PM GMT*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5K51-D5P1-JBH6-C0VV-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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22. [*Countryfile - 5:36 PM GMT*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5K51-D5P1-JBH6-C0WR-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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23. [*Countryfile - 5:36 PM GMT*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5K51-D5P1-JBH6-C0X4-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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24. [*- General Mills reports progress on global responsibility commitments*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5JHX-F791-F0K1-N2DS-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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25. [*Countryfile - 5:36 PM GMT*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5K51-D5P1-JBH6-C0W7-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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26. [*Brussels announced its verdict: large estates lose out to small estates*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5GNP-05B1-JD09-31J6-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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27. [*Shifts in transitional protein solutions Millennials are the drivers of change in many areas of food production - Part I*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5N8W-X6F1-DYG1-P3GW-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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28. [*Countryfile - 5:36 PM GMT*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5K51-D5P1-JBH6-C0VX-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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29. [*Companies calling for climate change action ENVIRONMENT*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5H29-B2X1-DY9P-N1S8-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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30. [*- General Mills reports progress on global responsibility commitments*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5JJ5-FTB1-JD3Y-Y1XW-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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31. [*-IFC Hosts a CEO Panel at COP21 to Discuss Climate-Smart Investments in Emerging Markets*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5HJM-7JY1-F0K1-N086-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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32. [*Farm Stewardship Centre renews focus for 21st century*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5HBN-2FD1-F0K1-N09V-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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33. [*Arctic powers in Alaska for talks as pace of global warming threatens ice cap Factory and farm emissions may be reducing the ability of the Earth's frozen wastes to reflect harmful solar rays*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5H5K-GWY1-JCJY-G0V4-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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34. [*Arctic powers in Alaska for talks as pace of global warming threatens ice cap Factory and farm emissions may be reducing the ability of the Earth's frozen wastes to reflect harmful solar rays*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5H5K-GWY1-JCJY-G0V3-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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35. [*Time to share the pain; no excuses Tackling climate change*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5JKS-VJ21-DYS1-01H2-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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36. [*The Sunday Herald Holyrood Hustings ... this week the parties debate the Environment*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5JD3-4MF1-JD7N-K1D0-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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37. [*Carbon Navigator to be annual task in Beef Data and Genomics Programme*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5JYT-G2C1-F0BB-S2PX-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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38. [*FARMING POLL 2015: Sore points for three out of four farmers*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5H0M-TBW1-F0BB-S26N-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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**Search Terms:** emission and energy or emission and reduction or emission and targets or emission and greenhouse gas or energy and reductions or energy and targets or energy and greenhouse gas or reductions and targets or reductions and greenhouse gas or targets and greenhouse gas

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| News | Timeline: 20 jul 2015 tot 20 jul 2016; Locatie: International; Plaats van publicatie: Europe; Taal: English |

39. [*ASTM International approves new alternative jet fuel*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5JJY-87G1-DYXB-S3B4-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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40. [*Experts' talk about climate change*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5J22-R0X1-F15H-C1GM-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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41. [*-World Bank-New Climate Innovation Center Launched to Promote Green Growth in Vietnam*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5HK9-4T01-JD3Y-Y4YS-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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42. [*Emissions set to soar as love of steak takes off in Asia*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5HK7-32M1-DY93-M07R-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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43. [*Emissions set to soar as love of steak takes off in Asia*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5HD3-SN51-DY93-M181-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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44. [*What the Paris climate deal means for Southeast Asia*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5HMT-GH91-F03R-N33G-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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45. [*Hydro feels the impact as Californian drought powers on.*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5GPR-PH41-F0PT-M362-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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46. [*- DTE Energy customers save nearly $ 600 million in 2015 through energy efficiency programs*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5K7B-NRP1-F0K1-N12Y-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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47. [*SABIC highlights innovation with details of world's largest co2 purification plant in sustainability report*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5JT5-BM41-F0K1-N4PG-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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48. [*SABIC highlights innovation with details of world's largest co2 purification plant in sustainability report*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5JT5-BM41-F0K1-N4CF-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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49. [*SABIC highlights innovation with details of world's largest CO2 purification plant in Sustainability Report*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5JP5-S5C1-F0K1-N52H-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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50. [*SABIC highlights innovation with details of world's largest CO2 purification plant in Sustainability Report*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5JP5-S5C1-F0K1-N4P7-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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51. [*- SABIC HIGHLIGHTS INNOVATION WITH DETAILS OF WORLD'S LARGEST CO2 PURIFICATION PLANT IN SUSTAINABILITY REPORT*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5JP6-RR91-JD3Y-Y1H8-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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52. [*Farm Stewardship Centre renews focus for 21st century*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5HBN-2FC1-F0K1-N53Y-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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53. [*A shoddy little deal instead of facing our global duty Ireland should accept its share of responsibility for climate justice, not protect powerful vested interests*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5GKP-H7F1-JC8Y-84J0-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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54. [*Can a 'steak tax' tackle climate change?*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5HWJ-DC91-DYS1-03DJ-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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55. [*EMISSION IMPOSSIBLE As EU leaders discuss emissions cuts, battlelines are being drawn up between the Irish agricultural sector and the environmentalists, says John Mooney*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:626G-R2F1-JCBW-N0WW-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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56. [*Food and drink companies found to be ignoring biggest impact on climate CDP analysis finds fewer than a quarter of big food, beverage and tobacco brands report agricultural emissions*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5GV5-T611-F021-62N7-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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57. [*Ségolène Royal, French Minister of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy: Viewpoint*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5WS6-C4N1-DXYV-73SC-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

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58. [*Meat tax far less unpalatable than government thinks, research finds People are more likely to back policies to curb meat eating for health and climate reasons, Chatham House survey suggests*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5HFK-K3S1-JCJY-G38P-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

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| News | Timeline: 20 jul 2015 tot 20 jul 2016; Locatie: International; Plaats van publicatie: Europe; Taal: English |

59. [*Can organic help Scotland's historic diet issue?*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5J0B-2NP1-JD7N-K2K2-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

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60. [*Meat tax far less unpalatable than government thinks, research finds People are more likely to back policies to curb meat eating for health and climate reasons, Chatham House survey suggests*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5HFK-K3S1-JCJY-G38N-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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| News | Timeline: 20 jul 2015 tot 20 jul 2016; Locatie: International; Plaats van publicatie: Europe; Taal: English |

61. [*Tackling climate change without Chinese emissions data*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5HBV-B1S1-DY9P-N4BM-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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62. [*Enda: I'll bring in laws on climate As Paris hosts UN environment summit, world leaders also pay tribute to city's terror victims*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5HH3-XMW1-DY9P-N3CJ-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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63. [*New "Champions 12.3" Coalition to Inspire Action to Reduce Food Loss & Waste*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5HYY-K961-F190-G2FD-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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64. [*Biochar Market Report by Applications Gardening, Agriculture, Value Change Analysis and Forecast 2015-2021*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5HFV-M6R1-JD3Y-Y42D-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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65. [*Africa's future depends on a tough new global climate treaty*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5K85-NM91-JD09-315T-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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66. [*Let's hail the Paris agreement and get to work OPINION*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5HKV-NDF1-DXXV-44GH-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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67. [*Let’s hail the Paris climate change agreement and get to work*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5HKM-Y5M1-JCM7-G4BB-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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68. [*Climate change and Pembrokeshire people*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5J2H-JS31-JBR2-114B-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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69. [*Global Biochar Market Size, Share, Growth, Trends and Analysis Report 2021: Acute Market Reports*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5HG3-JWM1-F0K1-N18T-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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70. [*Sustainability recognised at the 2015 Bord Bia Food and Drink Awards*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5HGX-VM21-JCW9-2228-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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71. [*UNCOP 21: Assessing Implications For Industries*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5HMY-1FB1-JD33-J2KT-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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72. [*World set to use more energy for cooling than heating Rising demand for air conditioning and refrigeration threatens to make planet hotter and undermine pledges to rein in emissions*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5H7F-XKC1-F021-627X-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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73. [*World set to use more energy for cooling than heating Rising demand for air conditioning and refrigeration threatens to make planet hotter and undermine pledges to rein in emissions*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5H7F-K8T1-F021-636D-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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75. [*GE's Integrated Biomass Gasification Solution to Power Phoenix Energy's North Fork Project*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5GWF-P371-F0K1-N1R7-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** emission and energy or emission and reduction or emission and targets or emission and greenhouse gas or energy and reductions or energy and targets or energy and greenhouse gas or reductions and targets or reductions and greenhouse gas or targets and greenhouse gas

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76. [*Countryfile - 00:21 AM GMT*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5K6M-6X51-JBH6-C4W1-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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78. [*World set to use more energy for cooling than heating Rising demand for air conditioning and refrigeration threatens to make planet hotter and undermine pledges to rein in emissions*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5H7F-K8T1-F021-636F-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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79. [*GE's Integrated Biomass Gasification Solution to Power Phoenix Energy's North Fork Project*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5GWF-P371-F0K1-N25P-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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80. [*- GE's Integrated Biomass Gasification Solution to Power Phoenix Energy's North Fork Project*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5GWN-NDH1-JD3Y-Y3PG-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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| News | Timeline: 20 jul 2015 tot 20 jul 2016; Locatie: International; Plaats van publicatie: Europe; Taal: English |

81. [*Flow Sensors Market Set to Reach 8.49 USD Billion by 2020 - IndustryARC Research*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5J74-04T1-JB72-11MV-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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| News | Timeline: 20 jul 2015 tot 20 jul 2016; Locatie: International; Plaats van publicatie: Europe; Taal: English |

82. [*- UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE - How 'more food per field' could help save our wild spaces*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5J15-83N1-JD3Y-Y4X5-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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83. [*Advice for dairy farmers: Contract rearing or organic are alternatives*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5H83-YBJ1-F0BB-S0VD-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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84. [*Irish farming needs to get smart 'Climate-smart' farming will boost incomes while safeguarding food supply in the face of climate change, writes Joseph Curtin*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5GKR-20T1-JBVM-Y1NT-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

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| News | Timeline: 20 jul 2015 tot 20 jul 2016; Locatie: International; Plaats van publicatie: Europe; Taal: English |

85. [*WE THE PEOPLE: A CASE FOR CLIMATE ACTION Dutch campaigners have taken legal action against their government for its failure to combat climate change. Could Irish campaigners do the same?*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5J2W-29T1-DYS1-041T-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

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86. [*Taoiseach: Climate change deal 'must not compromise Ireland 's food industry'*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5HH2-PT91-JCW9-22T9-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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87. [*Climate pact gives a step, if not a cure Agreement recognizes its own shortcomings, but also the potential*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5HKR-9RN1-DYR7-C14Y-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

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88. [*Associated British Foods PLC Annual Results -3-*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5H99-GVB1-F0CC-S4PH-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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89. [*Climate talk hope versus reality*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5HH5-JVN1-DY5K-Y2J2-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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90. [*Climate talk hope versus reality*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5HH5-JVM1-JBPJ-732G-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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91. [*Climate-smart agriculture: a primer Rural farmers are on the front line of the climate change battle, using sustainable techniques to grow their crops*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5JG1-J241-F021-648C-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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92. [*Climate-smart agriculture: a primer Rural farmers are on the front line of the climate change battle, using sustainable techniques to grow their crops*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5JG1-J241-F021-648B-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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93. [*Plant pioneers £1.5m scheme for food waste REFUSE DISPOSAL GIANT UNVEILS UK's FIRST SPECIALIST SITE*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5J0H-X7F1-DY9P-N38T-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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94. [*Land degradation costs the world up to $10.6tn a year, report says Study says effective land management will be critical in meeting sustainable development goals of alleviating poverty and ensuring long-term food security*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5GXR-0691-F021-64PM-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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| News | Timeline: 20 jul 2015 tot 20 jul 2016; Locatie: International; Plaats van publicatie: Europe; Taal: English |

95. [*St Helens Biffa depot unveiled as first in £1.5m food waste scheme Waste services specialist aims to cut amount of food sent to landfill with new handling stations*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5J0J-1JJ1-JCJY-G2XN-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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96. [*Paper reports on Myanmar 's climate action plan*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5HHR-X181-JC8S-C4FH-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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| News | Timeline: 20 jul 2015 tot 20 jul 2016; Locatie: International; Plaats van publicatie: Europe; Taal: English |

97. [*China president sends "strong signals" at Paris climate summit - Xinhua*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5HH4-0FH1-DYRV-30N2-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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98. [*Arctic powers in Alaska for talks as pace of global warming threatens ice cap US to host summit of polar nations as fears grow that the Earth's frozen wastes are losing their ability to deflect harmful rays*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5H5K-GWY1-JCJY-G0V5-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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100. [*Arctic powers in Alaska for talks as pace of global warming threatens ice cap US to host summit of polar nations as fears grow that the Earth's frozen wastes are losing their ability to deflect harmful rays*](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:5H5K-GWY1-JCJY-G0V7-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1516831)

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# [***Asia Pulp & Paper joins CDP initiative to drive sustainable production across supply chain***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H06-PN81-JCF9-231V-00000-00&context=1516831)

Progressive Media - Company News

September 21, 2015 Monday

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**Section:** PAPER AND BOARD; Government and Public Interest

**Length:** 306 words

**Highlight:** Asia Pulp & Paper (APP) is now a part of the CDP’s ‘Road to Paris' initiative, which intends to endorse a global timeline for ***reducing*** the loss of natural forests in half by 2020, and completely eliminate the loss by 2030.

**Body**

Asia Pulp & Paper (APP) is now a part of the CDP's 'Road to Paris' initiative, which intends to endorse a global timeline for ***reducing*** the loss of natural forests in half by 2020, and completely eliminate the loss by 2030.

The joint initiative undertaken by CDP and We Mean Business aims to promote low-carbon economy in order to secure sustainable economic growth.

APP has joined the initiative, which comprises other members as well, to move ahead with a universal climate agreement before the UN Climate Change Conference (COP21) which will be hosted in Paris in December.

The members intend to eliminate commodity-driven deforestation from their supply chains, which accounts almost 15% of global ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions***.

The firms will co-ordinate to focus on sustainable production of ***agricultural*** commodities, including soy, palm oil, leather, beef, timber, and pulp.

APP has already been following a 'zero deforestation commitment' across its supply chains since February 2013.

The firm also intends to phase out around 7,000ha of commercial plantation for protecting carbon-rich peatlands in Indonesia, as announced in August.

APP sustainability managing director Aida Greenbury said: "As a signatory to the 'Road to Paris' initiative, we have demonstrated our continued commitment to protecting the world's remaining forests.

"Ambitious ***targets*** such as zero deforestation can be agreed to, implemented and achieved by global companies, many of those operating in emerging economies. Our view is that wherever a company is involved in the forest supply chain, they should be committing to fight climate change and deforestation.

"We look forward to working with CDP and the We Mean Business Coalition to help spread this message during Climate Week in New York, as well as the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris in December."

**Load-Date:** September 22, 2015

**End of Document**



[***Farmers need to get bigger and better, says report***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H83-YBJ1-F0BB-S0RR-00000-00&context=1516831)

Irish Examiner

October 29, 2015 Thursday

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**Section:** BUSINESS

**Length:** 301 words

**Body**

That is the view of the Agri-Food Strategy Group whose Synthesis Report was formally launched by European Commissioner for ***Agriculture*** and Rural Development, Phil Hogan.

The need for technical advancements, specialist knowledge availability and education are also recurring themes in the report.

The report recommends that Irish ***agriculture*** sets realistically achievable ***targets*** for the improvement of farm practices in areas such as the management of soil fertility, grass production and utilisation.

The report also highlights the need for research into the degree to which genetic, technical and husbandry advances have the potential to ***reduce*** ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions***.

There is also a pressing urgency to re-assess the future direction of education and training systems to raise the technical awareness and financial capabilities of all involved in farming and the agri-food sector.

The report also calls for active consideration to be given to reorientation of the CAP, to incentivise greater food-chain collaboration and adoption of food production systems that are sustainably competitive.

It recommends closer alignment of food production, processing and marketing to overcome deficiencies and the sharing of risks and rewards.

New organisational structures are needed to enhance the uptake of existing and new knowledge .

As EU commissioner, I am always encouraged when member states take the initiative to prepare their farmers and agri-food sectors for the 21st century.

This is a time of great change in the sector, with both challenges and opportunities appearing from all angles. Those who prepare themselves best today will reap the benefits tomorrow, said Mr Hogan.

The Agri-Food Strategy Group are agri-food experts and policy strategists who gathered informally in a voluntary capacity in 2014.

**Load-Date:** October 29, 2015

**End of Document**



[***Australia's carbon emissions are increasing, government report shows; A report quietly released on Christmas Eve shows Australia's emissions rose by about 1% in 2014-15, compared with the previous year***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HPF-5171-F021-60N1-00000-00&context=1516831)

The Guardian

December 26, 2015 Saturday 7:19 AM GMT

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**Section:** AUSTRALIA NEWS

**Length:** 360 words

**Byline:** Guardian staff

**Body**

Australia's ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions*** increased in 2014-15, a report released with obscure timing by the Australian government has shown.

Related: What does the Paris climate agreement mean for Australia? | Lenore Taylor

The December 2015 quarterly update of carbon ***emissions***, which covers the period to the end of June 2015, was released with no fanfare on Christmas Eve. The quarterly update forms part of Australia's international reporting of its ***emissions***

It shows that Australia's ***emissions*** increased by 0.8% last financial year compared with the previous one, and 1.3% when land use and deforestation were taken into account. Australia generated 549.3 mega-tonnes of carbon dioxide in 2014-15.

The Australian government promised at the Paris climate talks to ***reduce*** ***emissions*** by 26% to 28% by 2030 and will likely come under pressure to do more after the world agreed to work to keep the global temperature rise to 2C.

The report points to increases in electricity, stationary ***energy*** (excluding electricity), transport, fugitive ***emissions***, and industrial processes and product use. However it says there was a steep decline - 3.8% - in ***emissions*** from ***agriculture***.

***Emissions*** from electricity generation rose 3% in 2014-15, despite demand from consumers remaining flat in 2014-15. Power generation from black coal increased by 1.4%, and brown coal generation increased by 9.7%.

Related: Australia could increase ***emissions*** 26% and still meet Kyoto pledge, says climate group

Electricity from wind and other renewables (excluding small-scale solar) increased 12.2% on the previous 12 months, but hydroelectric generation fell by 30.3%.

Electricity generation was the largest source of ***emissions***, accounting for 34% in 2014-15.

Prof Will Steffen from the Climate Council told Fairfax Media the December figures showed Australia needed to urgently wean itself off coal to meet its global commitments.

"If we're putting more into the atmosphere than the year before, than we're heading in the wrong direction," he said. "We've got to drop ***emissions*** fast. We've got to get out of fossil fuels very quickly, coal first - there can no new coalmines anywhere in the world."

**Load-Date:** December 26, 2015

**End of Document**



[***-Monsanto Releases 2015 Sustainability Report; Report Highlights Progress On Sustainability Commitments; Reinforces Pledge To Be Carbon Neutral By 2021***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5J9S-B8C1-F0K1-N0XB-00000-00&context=1516831)

ENP Newswire

March 16, 2016 Wednesday

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**Length:** 693 words

**Body**

ST. LOUIS - Monsanto Company today released its 2015 Sustainability Report. Since announcing some initial sustainability commitments in 2008, the company has advanced its principle of pursuing a broad range of sustainable ***agricultural*** solutions to help nourish a growing world.

'At Monsanto, we are proud to work with our collaborators and partners to cultivate meaningful change as we continue to take decisive action to further embed sustainability into our business,' said Jesus Madrazo, Monsanto's Vice President of Corporate Engagement. 'We are pleased to share our sustainability report and the positive progress we are making toward our commitments.'

The report, Growing Better Together, provides a transparent review of Monsanto's sustainability efforts from three perspectives - people, planet and company.

People: Helping make balanced meals more accessible for everyone on the planet, and improving lives for farmers, employees, consumers and communities.

Planet: Pursuing ***agricultural*** solutions that help mitigate climate change, ensure access to fresh water, preserve biodiversity and improve soil health.

Company: Placing high ethical standards, effective corporate governance, responsible product stewardship and transparent reporting at the center of the way it operates its business.

Monsanto recently advanced several important sustainability goals. The company has increased irrigation efficiency in its seed production business and curbed its operational ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions*** intensity in its crop protection business. Monsanto also became the first company to partner with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Monarch Butterfly Conservation Fund, making a multimillion-dollar commitment to support efforts to benefit monarch butterflies.

Other highlights from the 2015 report include the following:

***Reducing*** ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions*** from its crop protection operations by 22 percent by 2020: Attained 73 percent of goal.

Increasing irrigation water application efficiency across the global seed production operation by 25 percent by 2020: Attained 35 percent of goal.

Helping farmers use nutrients more efficiently to curb ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions*** on 1 million acres in the United States by 2020: Attained 20 percent of goal.

In December 2015, Monsanto announced its commitment to make its operational footprint carbon neutral by 2021 through a unique program ***targeted*** across its seed and crop protection operations, as well as through collaboration with farmers.

The full Monsanto 2015 Sustainability Report and highlight summary is available online here. Each year, the company publishes a sustainability report which includes its United Nations Global Compact Communication on Progress. This report was prepared in accordance with the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) G4 voluntary Sustainability Reporting Guidelines. For the first time, the company also is reporting on how its efforts align with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, adopted in September 2015.

About Monsanto Company

Monsanto is committed to bringing a broad range of solutions to help nourish our growing world. We produce seeds for fruits, vegetables and key crops - such as corn, soybeans, and cotton - that help farmers have better harvests while using water and other important resources more efficiently. We work to find sustainable solutions for soil health, help farmers use data to improve farming practices and conserve natural resources, and provide crop protection products to minimize damage from pests and disease. Through programs and partnerships, we collaborate with farmers, researchers, nonprofit organizations, universities and others to help tackle some of the world's biggest challenges. To learn more about Monsanto, our commitments and our more than 20,000 dedicated employees, please visit: discover.monsanto.com and monsanto.com. Follow our business on Twitter at twitter.com/MonsantoCo, on the company blog, Beyond the Rows at monsantoblog.com or subscribe to our News Release RSS Feed.

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**Load-Date:** March 16, 2016

**End of Document**



[***Australia was ready to act on climate 25 years ago, so what happened next?; New book investigates how corporate interests and ideologues worked to make Australia doubt what it knew about climate change and its risks***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GM4-MCX1-F021-646X-00000-00&context=1516831)

The Guardian

August 6, 2015 Thursday 10:47 AM GMT

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**Section:** ENVIRONMENT

**Length:** 1457 words

**Byline:** Graham Readfearn

**Body**

There's something about climate change that almost everyone in Australia has either forgotten or never knew in the first place.

In 1990 Bob Hawke announced his government wanted the country to cut ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions*** by 20% by the year 2005.

For a fleeting moment, it seemed the Australian public, politicians and the media were in agreement with the science.

But a new book investigates how the industries that stood to lose the most worked to undermine the science and entirely reshape the story being told to the public.

"We have been propagandised," says the author, Maria Taylor.

**Hawke was ready**

In 1989 Hawke described a "growing consensus amongst scientists" showing there was a strong chance that major climate change was on its way, that this change was linked to human activity, and this could have "major ramifications for human survival" if nothing was done.

Public statements by scientists in Australia and around the world, backed by government reports and research, had established unambiguously that humans were causing climate change. Bold steps needed to be taken if the major risks of catastrophic climate change were to be mediated.

The UN's intergovernmental plan on climate change delivered its first blockbuster assessment of the climate science in 1990.

Taylor's book recalls how Australia was working its way towards a detailed plan to deliver Hawke's proposal. State governments had response strategies in place. Politicians were largely on board. So was the fourth estate. The public understood the science and the huge risks of not acting.

Now, a quarter of a century later, climate change has been turned into a toxic political football. Scientists have their integrity attacked on a daily basis.

Related: Australia's climate change 'debate' all talk and no action

Climate science denial is a feature of the conservative media and many members of the public are either confused about the science, ambivalent about the issue or entirely uninterested.

So how has Australia has managed to find itself behind where it was a quarter of a century ago?

**The book**

Around 2007, Taylor was asking herself that question. How did the corporate interest replace the public interest? How did climate science become "controversial" in the eyes of the public?

Taylor, who is a journalist and newspaper publisher, wanted to know how Australians were "persuaded to doubt what they knew".

From the late 1980s industry and climate contrarians got to work to reframe the issue from the science to the economics.

She reviewed hundreds of newspaper articles and government reports for a PhD thesis and now a book, called Global Warming and Climate Change: What Australia Knew and Buried ... Then Framed a New Reality for the Public " (you can download a copy free from publisher ANU Press).

Taylor also interviewed about a dozen key insiders, including scientists, advisers, politicians and journalists. She says the fact that Australia was ready and willing to act 25 years ago has itself been a forgotten story.

Almost no one that I spoke to remembered the 1990 ***emissions*** ***reduction*** ***target***. Even people like [former ***energy*** minister] John Kerin, who co-signed it!

In the book Taylor explains how from the late 1980s industry groups, free market advocates and climate contrarians got to work to reframe the issue from the science to the economics.

By 1996 much of the damage was done. The advent of John Howard's government ensured there would be no more genuine progress.

Taylor charts how opponents helped reposition environment groups as being anti-jobs and against the national interest. The book documents how climate science deniers were promoted by "free market" thinktanks to push uncertainty instead of risk.

She explains the shift to policies driven by "economic rationalism" meant that imposing regulations on polluting industries became close to impossible.

Commenting on the policy announced this week by the US president, Barack Obama, to regulate ***greenhouse gases*** from the ***energy*** sector, Taylor says:

In this country, regulation has become a dirty word. This book gives us a sense of why there are now barriers to us going the same way [as President Obama].

**Vested interests**

Among the documents reviewed by Taylor were some of the public relations messaging being developed and communicated in the late 80s by the fossil fuel industry and free-market groups.

Taylor highlights two reports released in 1989 and 1992 by mining company CRA (a division of what became Rio Tinto) that "established the contrarian themes that came to dominate the decade".

It went like this. Cutting ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions*** would be expensive. Australia's efforts to cut ***emissions*** would be tiny in a global context. The country's economy would be damaged by action on ***emissions***. Action would only hurt Australia's export industries. Working to lower demand for ***energy*** would negatively impact people's lifestyles.

Taylor writes that a 1992 CRA report questioned the integrity of scientists, asked if humans were causing global warming, pushed free market ideology as the only true choice, and suggested the media were being manipulated by totalitarians and conservation was the enemy of development.

Those arguments are easily recognisable as the same talking points being pushed today.

Related: For Tony Abbott, it's full steam ahead on coal, 'the foundation of prosperity'

The book shows how the momentum for action began to stall after Paul Keating successfully challenged Hawke for the Labor leadership and the top job in late 1991.

Insiders she spoke with told her Keating "really was not that interested in this issue" and his government started to promote a false dichotomy that you couldn't protect the environment and support the economy at the same time.

One of the many ways the book shows how industry managed to impose its interests on policy was in the Howard government's reliance on modelling from the Australian Bureau of ***Agricultural*** and Resource Economics on the costs of particular climate policies.

The Howard government used these numbers to prosecute its cautious climate policy positions and to justify it through media articles.

That modelling was supported financially by the likes of the Australian Coal Association, the oil giant Exxon Mobil and the mining majors BHP and Rio Tinto.

**Media echo**

Taylor also leans on the findings of two 2001 books that revealed the influence of industry and free-market ideology on Australia's ***greenhouse gas*** policy - Clive Hamilton's Scorcher and Guy Pearce's High and Dry.

Taylor says:

What really changed was the story that was told to the citizens. By both politicians and the media - working in tandem to set the agenda on what we should understand and believe.

Reviewing news articles and government documents from the late 80s and early 90s, Taylor found "human responsibility for the 'enhanced greenhouse effect' was accepted" on practically every occasion.

The role of the media in Australia, which is so dominated by the Murdoch press. That played a key role...

Taylor is critical of how, by 1997, many political and economic reporters were "dutifully scribing the story established by the business and political elite".

A point to make is the role of the media in Australia, which is so dominated by the Murdoch press. That played a key role, in a sense that as the 90s rolled on it was so much easier to get out a consistent narrative if you don't have a really diverse press. From what I saw - and what the documentary evidence showed - the ABC did have a leadership role for a long time in informing the public about climate change, but it really drew back in the late 90s. There was no other story being told.

Free-market neoliberal thinktanks, including the Institute of Public Affairs, promoted climate science denialist views and industry talking points that were picked up by the media.

Groups supported by fossil fuel companies provided the "ingredients for cooking up confusion", Taylor writes.

She says she wants Australians to be reminded of this forgotten history and how they were spun a story that rejected science and risk management in return for protecting the interests of the polluting industries.

If as a society and as citizens we understand where we have been then we can more easily move on ... and we can understand why there is such confusion and such a toxic debate that's developed over a fairly simple story of risk management for the whole of society. If we know that, once, we thought differently and could do things differently, then we know we could do it again.

For me, Taylor's book shows how Australia could have acted on climate change a quarter of a century ago, but how corporate interests and economic ideologies not only stopped the clock on action, but wound it back.

**Load-Date:** August 6, 2015

**End of Document**



[***Historic climate change deal expected; Paris agreement set to limit temperature increases to 'well below 2 degrees'***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HKD-WSC1-JC8Y-831V-00000-00&context=1516831)

The Irish Times

December 12, 2015 Saturday

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**Section:** FRONT PAGE; Pg. 1

**Length:** 504 words

**Byline:** Harry McGee

**Body**

The world is on the brink of a major breakthrough on climate change, with an historic agreement expected in Paris today that will limit global temperature increases to "well below 2 degree Celsius" above pre-industrial levels.

The deal has come after two weeks of intensive negotiations, including three all-night sessions this week, at the COP21 Summit, in Le Bourget.

Crucially, the text for limiting global warming includes a reference to moving towards a more ambitious 1.5 degree ***target***.

Parties, including environmental campaigners, have welcomed the addition of the longer-term goals, including a move to "***emissions*** neutrality"; better transparency; guaranteed climate financing of $100 billion a year to 2020 for poorer countries; and five-year reviews to ensure each country keeps up their ambition levels.

The potential of the accord was described by the conference president, French foreign minister Laurent Fabius, as "a big step forward for humanity as a whole". Mr Fabius was due to present the final draft today with the 50 final bracketed areas of text, denoting disagreement, removed.

Well-placed sources told *The Irish Times* they expected the agreement to be sealed later today after difficult negotiations yesterday.

"I will present a text that is as balanced and as ambitious as possible," Mr Fabius said last night.

The agreement will have no immediate implications for Ireland, which negotiated as part of the EU bloc.

**Agrifood sector**

However, the higher ***emissions*** ***targets*** could mean a new regime of carbon taxes or levies on ***agriculture*** and the agrifood sector, which accounts for a third of Ireland's ***greenhouse gases***.

UN secretary general Ban Ki-moon said he was optimistic. "This negotiation is the most complicated, most difficult but most important for humanity", he said.

On the implications for Ireland, climate expert Prof John Sweeney, of NUI Maynooth, said all Irish transport, including trains, would need to be electrified by 2050 and Irish ***agriculture*** would have to pay a carbon tax. "With economic growth, Ireland will be one of the richest countries again in two-three years' time," he said.

"I just do not expect to see any special favours for Irish ***agriculture***."

**Polluter pays**

With an increase of 300,000 planned in the national herd, and no appreciable ***reduction*** in ***emissions***, Prof Sweeney said a price would have to be put on ***agricultural*** ***emissions*** under a "polluter pays" principle.

"We will have to adjust our ***agriculture*** taxation system to reflect that." He said the most likely outcome was a carbon tax on agrifood companies.

Minister for the Environment Alan Kelly welcomed the reference to 1.5 degrees and said Ireland, like Europe, had sought an ambitious agreement that included transparency and long-term goals.

He defended Irish ***agriculture*** policy, which he said was among the most sustainable in the world.

"We have analysis that shows that though the dairy herd is going to increase in coming years, we can do so with the amount of ***emission*** we have at the moment," he said.

**Load-Date:** December 11, 2015

**End of Document**



[***SABIC Saudi Arabia releases 2016 sustainability report***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JPN-RRG1-F14X-V03M-00000-00&context=1516831)

just-auto global news

May 6, 2016 Friday 12:10 PM GMT

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**Length:** 933 words

**Byline:** just-auto plus Extended News

**Body**

The SABIC sustainability report 2015, entitled Enabling Tomorrow’s Solutions, released on 3 May 2016, features the company’s sustainability achievements throughout the world and highlights how SABIC is setting the standards for innovation and sustainable development in the chemical industry.

“SABIC has always been about much more than bringing economic value to Saudi Arabia and the countries where we operate, we have brought a wide range of benefits to society and the environment throughout our global network,” said Yousef Al-Benyan, Acting vice-chairman and CEO of SABIC. “Since sustainability became a foundation of our 2025 strategy - the road-map to our emergence as the preferred world leader in chemicals - we have come a long way. The sustainability report is a snapshot of this invaluable contribution, we hope it inspires others strive for innovative solutions that benefit our communities.”

The report covers high priority topics such as resource and ***energy*** efficiency; innovation and sustainability solutions, EHSS and product safety, supply chain, human capital and social impacts and community relationships.

CO2 Purification plant at Jubail, a SABIC manufacturing affiliate The report prominently features a CO2 purification plant that opened last year at United, a SABIC affiliate in Saudi Arabia, boosting the company’s overall operational efficiency. The new facility can capture and purify up to 500,000 metric tonnes of CO2 from the production of ethylene glycol every year.

“This impressive project has become a standard bearer for sustainable, efficient and environmentally conscious development,” Awadh Al-Maker, Executive vice president for technology and innovation at Sabic. “The project shows how technology can ***reduce*** ***emissions***, convert waste CO2 into valuable products, and increase operational efficiency, providing SABIC with both short- and long-term gains.”

The purified CO2 is channelled through a network to other SABIC affiliates, where it is used in the production of useful products, such as urea for ***agricultural*** nutrients, liquefied CO2 for the food and drink industry, and methanol, a building block for many other chemicals that we use daily. The network enables SABIC to maximise resource efficiency by enabling integration between multiple sites.

Resource and ***energy*** efficiency SABIC continued progress to meet ambitious goals in resource and ***energy*** efficiency throughout its global operations: ***reducing*** ***energy*** consumption, ***greenhouse gas*** (GHG), and water intensities by 25%, and material loss intensity by 50% from levels in 2010 by 2025.

SABIC’s global utilisation of CO2 as a feedstock increased to 3.3m metric tonnes, helping to ***reduce*** material loss intensity by 29% since 2010. Over the same period, GHG ***emissions*** intensity has decreased by 7.8%, ***energy*** intensity by 8.1%, water intensity by 11%.

Innovations and sustainability solutions With our commitment to ingenuity and collaborative approach to technology and innovation, SABIC created a demonstration house for its home of innovation initiative that is designed to achieve a net-zero ***energy*** balance in the demanding conditions of the Saudi Arabian desert. SABIC also qualified 23 new sustainability products: solutions that enhance economic, social, and environmental benefits throughout the life-cycle. With innovation hubs in five key regions - the US, Western Europe, Saudi Arabia, Southeast Asia, and Northeast Asia - the company’s total patent portfolio filings grew to a new high of 10,960 in 2015.

EHSS and product safety  In environment, health, safety, and security, SABIC continued strong improvement globally. This progress is marked by a ***reduction*** in the EHSS incident rate by 30% to reach 0.48, which is a strong step toward our 2025 goal of 0.25 incidents for every 200,000 hours worked. Hazardous substance chemical release incidents also fell by 36% and the volume of accidental releases by more than 92%. Process safety performance metrics continue to improve, and there were no major process safety incidents, occupational illnesses or fatalities. Development of a product safety metric progressed this year, and more than 11,000 product safety inquiries were received, which indicated an increasingly complex regulatory environment.

Supply chain Supply chain was another area of forward progress with the launch of a comprehensive supply chain and procurement framework that continues to push SABIC toward a leadership position in sustainability, the implementation of two new key performance indicators plus standardised, global EHSS incident reporting; and the completion of educational programmes to optimise performance. Significant developments occurred in modernisation of the road and ocean fleet, and other enhancements to the company’s inter-modal transportation network.

Human capital To continue the development of human capital, SABIC focused on talent acquisition, and growing and retaining a workforce with the skills and leadership qualities needed to meet the demands of the industry. Throughout the year, 30,835 employees - from entry- to executive-level - participated in training programmes. Other highlights included the successful completion of executive MBAs by 53 leaders.

Social impacts and community relationships  In 2015, SABIC gave US$53.9m to community projects to increase education in science and technology, protect the environment, promote health and wellness, and support water and ***agriculture*** projects. In addition to direct contributions, SABIC’s employees dedicated themselves to community projects in many countries that feature in the report.

**Load-Date:** May 6, 2016

**End of Document**



[***Rallying cry in Paris to avoid environmental catastrophe***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HG8-JD01-F039-60HG-00000-00&context=1516831)

FT.com

November 27, 2015 Friday 5:59 AM GMT

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**Length:** 1293 words

**Byline:** Pilita Clark, Environment Correspondent

**Body**

Among the thousands of  [*delegates heading to Paris*](http://www.ft.com/intl/paris-climate-talks) to finalise a new global climate change accord, there will be hundreds of business executives from almost every type of industry.

There is a simple reason. In theory, the outcome of the two-week UN talks in Paris that start on November 30 could affect the way companies fuel cars, heat buildings, power factories and make steel and cement.

That is because the main objective of the talks is an agreement among the world’s governments to collectively clamp down on carbon dioxide ***emissions*** from burning the fossil fuels used for these activities today.

For this to happen, however, there will need to be a big shift in the $90tn of investment expected over the next 15 years in infrastructure for the world’s ***energy*** systems, cities and ***agricultural*** sectors.

In other words, investors will need to be persuaded that governments are going to make it easier for them to make money from a new electric bus system or a wind farm rather than a highway or a coal power plant.

“The reason business executives will be in Paris is that the whole purpose of the agreement is to boost clean infrastructure investment,” says Jonathan Grant, a climate policy specialist at PwC, the consultancy. “A successful deal in Paris will shape business decisions over the next 15 years and touch on all sectors of the economy, not just the ***energy*** system.”

Such an outcome is by no means assured at the Paris meeting, known as COP 21.

Nearly 200 countries will be represented in Paris, which may yet turn out to be a repeat of the last time governments tried to strike a new global climate deal, in Copenhagen in 2009.

That effort failed but if COP 21 succeeds, few sectors will be more affected than the oil, gas and coal industries.

Burning these fuels to supply ***energy*** accounted for 47 per cent of the increase in annual ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions***, mostly carbon dioxide, between 2000 and 2010. That is why so many climate change policies focus on alternatives to fossil fuel ***energy***, such as wind farms, biofuels and wood chip heaters.

It is also the reason a fossil fuel divestment movement has emerged over the past two years, and why the governor of the Bank of England, Mark Carney, has warned investors face “potentially huge” losses if governments take tougher climate action that “strands” fossil fuel assets.

Against this background, the lead-up to the Paris talks has been notable for the number of oil and gas companies that have  [*publicly backed*](http://www.oilandgasclimateinitiative.com/news/oil-and-gas-ceos-jointly-declare-action-on-climate-change/) the need to tackle climate change. In May, the chief executives of six of Europe’s largest groups, including Royal Dutch Shell and BP, called for a global carbon pricingframework. They joined others including Saudi Aramco in October to    [*back*](http://www.oilandgasclimateinitiative.com/news/oil-and-gas-ceos-jointly-declare-action-on-climate-change/) a successful deal in Paris. “That’s very, very new,” says Christiana Figueres, the UN’s top climate change official. “We didn’t have that in Copenhagen.”

“It is unprecedented,” says Helge Lund, chief executive of the UK’s BG Group and former chief executive of Norway’s Statoil, both of which took part in the two initiatives. The challenge posed by climate change means “there’s a very clear realisation in that group that we can’t communicate ourselves out of this”, he says. “I think we have to perform ourselves out of this.”

That means the industry has to take steps such as becoming more ***energy*** efficient and ***reducing*** the routine flaring of gas from its operations.

But oil and gas use is not about to go away, Mr Lund adds, arguing the best way to bring down global ***emissions*** would be to quickly replace coal with natural gas in the world’s power plants, because burning coal produces far more carbon dioxide than natural gas. On the eve of the Paris talks, the UK unveiled plans to phase out coal power by 2025. The move coincided with OECD countries reaching an agreement to scale back the billions of dollars in support for coal power plants delivered by their export credit agencies. But coal still accounts for 41 per cent of electricity generation globally today while renewables and gas each produce 22 per cent.

The coal sector’s answer to the challenge of climate change is making its power plants cleaner, with highly efficient power station technology and carbon capture and storage systems.

Carbon capture technology in particular has proved too expensive to become widespread so far, even though governments around the world have committed more than $24bn to funding it over the past 14 years.

Much of the growth in coal demand will come from India, the world’s third-largest emitter after China and the US.

Ahead of the COP 21 meeting, India has joined more than 160 other countries that have spelt out plans to ***reduce*** or curb their ***emissions*** as part of an eventual Paris agreement.

New Delhi’s planincludes measures to ***reduce*** its carbon intensity, or the amount of carbon pollution per unit of gross domestic product, and boost its use of solar power. But the proposal also envisages more of the coal-fired power plants that make up about 61 per cent of its installed generating capacity.

Spending $1bn on the most efficient types of coal plants in India could ***reduce*** more carbon pollution than spending the same amount on renewables in Europe, according to a report last week from the World Coal Association.

But renewable ***energy*** proponents say building dozens more coal plants, with an expected lifespan of decades, risks committing to in far too many carbon ***emissions*** in the future than is safe for the climate.

“It’s absolutely striking that India is the most vocal proponent of almost unlimited coal build,” says Michael Liebreich, founder of the Bloomberg New ***Energy*** Finance research group.

“What we see is India hewing to a path which is very old school,” he says, adding the Indian government’s rhetoric on the climate negotiations has been “probably the least helpful of the major participants in the run-up to Paris”.

There is no shortage of analysis on the global benefits of lowering ***emissions*** in the main industry sectors that power economies in developing and developed countries alike.

One  [*influential study*](http://2015.newclimateeconomy.report/) published ahead of the Paris meeting, *The New Climate Economy* report, estimates that the bulk of cuts in ***emissions*** cuts needed to curb global warming could be achieved directly by ensuring these activities produce a lot fewer ***greenhouse gases***.

Michael Jacobs, the leading author of the report, says that the Paris accord will ideally create a virtuous circle, where businesses and investors come to expect governments to cut ***emissions***, which leads to growth in the global market for low carbon goods and services, which in turn encourages more investment and lowers costs.

“As costs fall, that would enable countries to cut their ***emissions*** further than they currently believe they can,” he says. “The story of solar power over the last decade, in which policy has driven demand, which has driven costs down further, is a telling lesson in the way markets can be transformed.”

Whether the Paris accord will further accelerate global clean ***energy*** investment — now at more than $300bn a year — remains to be seen. The 160-plus pledges published so far are not going to be enough to ***reduce*** risky levels of global warming, the UN says. But many renewable ***energy*** companies are already pleased with what they say are the unprecedented insights they offer.

“They are mini business plans,” says Assaad Razzouk, chief executive of Sindicatum Sustainable Resources, a Singapore-based developer and operator of clean ***energy*** projects. “Weak and general at first, they will become stronger and more detailed over time,” he says, making it easier for companies like his to know where the big investment opportunities lie.

*Mr Lund was inadvertently referred to as Ms Lund on second mention on original publication of this article*

**Load-Date:** September 26, 2016

**End of Document**



[***Rallying cry in Paris to avoid environmental catastrophe***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HG7-58P1-DXXV-40NS-00000-00&context=1516831)

Financial Times (London, England)

November 27, 2015 Friday

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**Section:** FT REPORT - MANAGING CLIMATE CHANGE; Pg. 1

**Length:** 1274 words

**Byline:** Pilita Clark

**Highlight:** Time is running out to agree a deal to curb the risks of rising global temperatures, says Pilita Clark

**Body**

Among the thousands of delegates heading to Paris to finalise a new global climate change accord, there will be hundreds of business executives from almost every type of industry.

There is a simple reason. In theory, the outcome of the two-week UN talks in Paris that start on November 30 could affect the way companies fuel cars, heat buildings, power factories and make steel and cement.

That is because the main objective of the talks is an agreement among the world's governments to collectively clamp down on carbon dioxide ***emissions*** from burning the fossil fuels used for these activities today.

For this to happen, however, there will need to be a big shift in the $90tn of investment expected over the next 15 years in infrastructure for the world's ***energy*** systems, cities and ***agricultural*** sectors.

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Such an outcome is by no means assured at the Paris meeting, known as COP 21.

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That effort failed but if COP 21 succeeds, few sectors will be more affected than the oil, gas and coal industries.

Burning these fuels to supply ***energy*** accounted for 47 per cent of the increase in annual ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions***, mostly carbon dioxide, between 2000 and 2010. That is why so many climate change policies focus on alternatives to fossil fuel ***energy***, such as wind farms, biofuels and wood chip heaters.

It is also the reason a fossil fuel divestment movement has emerged over the past two years, and why the governor of the Bank of England, Mark Carney, has warned investors face "potentially huge" losses if governments take tougher climate action that "strands" fossil fuel assets.

Against this background, the lead-up to the Paris talks has been notable for the number of oil and gas companies that have publicly backed the need to tackle climate change. In May, the chief executives of six of Europe's largest groups, including Royal Dutch Shell and BP, called for a global carbon pricing framework. They joined others including Saudi Aramco in October to back a successful deal in Paris. "That's very, very new," says Christiana Figueres, the UN's top climate change official. "We didn't have that in Copenhagen."

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"It's absolutely striking that India is the most vocal proponent of almost unlimited coal build," says Michael Liebreich, founder of the Bloomberg New ***Energy*** Finance research group.

"What we see is India hewing to a path which is very old school," he says, adding the Indian government's rhetoric on the climate negotiations has been "probably the least helpful of the major participants in the run-up to Paris".

There is no shortage of analysis on the global benefits of lowering ***emissions*** in the main industry sectors that power economies in developing and developed countries alike.

One influential study published ahead of the Paris meeting, *The New Climate Economy* report, estimates that the bulk of cuts in ***emissions*** cuts needed to curb global warming could be achieved directly by ensuring these activities produce a lot fewer ***greenhouse gases***.

Michael Jacobs, the leading author of the report, says that the Paris accord will ideally create a virtuous circle, where businesses and investors come to expect governments to cut ***emissions***, which leads to growth in the global market for low carbon goods and services, which in turn encourages more investment and lowers costs.

"As costs fall, that would enable countries to cut their ***emissions*** further than they currently believe they can," he says. "The story of solar power over the last decade, in which policy has driven demand, which has driven costs down further, is a telling lesson in the way markets can be transformed."

Whether the Paris accord will further accelerate global clean ***energy*** investment - now at more than $300bn a year - remains to be seen. The 160-plus pledges published so far are not going to be enough to ***reduce*** risky levels of global warming, the UN says . But many renewable ***energy*** companies are already pleased with what they say are the unprecedented insights they offer.

"They are mini business plans," says Assaad Razzouk, chief executive of Sindicatum Sustainable Resources, a Singapore-based developer and operator of clean ***energy*** projects. "Weak and general at first, they will become stronger and more detailed over time," he says, making it easier for companies like his to know where the big investment opportunities lie.

**Load-Date:** November 26, 2015

**End of Document**



[***UFU welcomes protection for agriculture in Paris climate change deal***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HKY-NN51-JDPF-N3SM-00000-00&context=1516831)

Farming Life

December 14, 2015 Monday

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**Length:** 392 words

**Body**

The Ulster Farmers' Union has welcomed the special recognition of the importance of ***agriculture*** in the climate change deal, reached in Paris.

This protects it from climate change mitigation if this threatens food production. The UFU recently participated in the International Conference on ***Agriculture*** and Climate and says it will be joining other European farm lobby organisations in stressing that Article 2 in the Paris deal must be reflected in any new policies from the UK government or European Commission.

UFU deputy president, Barclay Bell, said farmers experienced first-hand the impact of climate change on weather patterns. "Weather is still the biggest determinant of their financial fortunes, since output dictates what a farmer has to sell. However the experience of arbitrary ***targets***, not least over biofuels, has confirmed that these are not the way to go. That is why we are so glad to see ***agriculture*** protected in the COP 21 agreement," he said.

The UFU says the agreement recognises the vital importance of ***agriculture*** not only to meet the needs of a growing world population, but as a source of land that can help absorb carbon. "We have said all along that farming can be part of the complex solutions to climate change over the coming decades. This has now been recognised in the final deal," said Mr Bell. He stressed however that while farmers recognised the need not to allow global temperatures to rise by more than 2 degrees, it was important the UK and others did not seek to break rank by imposing even tougher controls beyond this ***target***. "We now have a binding global deal, and that is the way it should be seen," said Mr Bell.

Before the Paris deal there had been calls for ***targets*** in key areas of ***agriculture*** to ***reduce*** methane ***emissions*** from livestock and further limit fossil fuel use for fuel and fertiliser. "This deal makes clear that if this is to happen it cannot be at the expense of ***agricultural*** productivity, which is the basis of national and global food security," said Mr Bell. He added that this does not mean the role of farming in ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions*** could be ignored. "This is clearly not the case, but thanks to the important protection now secured we can press for any new measures to be firmly based on science, and capable of being implemented without threatening farm output," he said.

**Load-Date:** December 14, 2015

**End of Document**



[***Countryfile - 5:36 PM GMT***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K51-D5P1-JBH6-C0VY-00000-00&context=1516831)

TVEyes - BBC 1 South East

July 3, 2016 Sunday

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**Section:** U.K. REGIONAL TV; Lifestyle

**Length:** 424 words

**Anchors:** John Craven

**Highlight:** Countryfile reports on rural and envionmental issues in the United Kingdom. By visiting different parts of the British countryside the presenters uncover the topics of wildlife, conservation, farming, food production and social history.

**Body**

**Speech to text transcript:**[[1]](#footnote-2)1

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**Load-Date:** July 3, 2016

**End of Document**



[***Poverty and climate change go hand in hand; There's a huge cost in switching to new methods and greener technologies - India will need help***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HK1-9FT1-DY9P-N2NG-00000-00&context=1516831)

The Daily Telegraph (London)

December 10, 2015 Thursday

Edition 2, National Edition

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**Section:** Pg. 28

**Length:** 720 words

**Byline:** ARUN JAITLEY

**Body**

Even though India has among the lowest per capita contributions to overall global ***emissions***, we are attending the Paris Climate Summit intent on doing our fair share. Our ambitious pledges to tackle climate change - our Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) - show our commitment to addressing the problem, as do our actions: we have introduced a carbon tax on fossil fuel and cut petroleum subsidies.

Yet we cannot commit, as some want, to a common global objective of restricting carbon and ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions*** without an affordable means of doing so. There is still a huge cost involved in switching to new processes and greener technologies and we simply cannot afford to do it alone.

India is a developing nation, and we must first acknowledge her needs; the eradication of poverty must remain our priority. This is why India's climate change commitments have been designed to address environmental concerns while also enabling us to meet the growth aspirations of our citizens and our overall development ambitions.

The effects of climate change are already chipping away at those aspirations and ambitions. India is more vulnerable to the global temperature fluctuations and hard-topredict seasonal changes because they affect our ***agricultural*** output, impoverish our rural communities and burden our economy. It is for this reason that India continues to increase her commitment to ***reducing*** ***emissions*** and adopting cleaner technologies; we may not be part of the problem, but we want to be part of the solution.

This is why we have set up two dedicated funds at national level to address the cost of adopting cleaner technology in sectors such as ***agriculture***, fisheries, water and forestry. To encourage a more considered consumption of fossil fuels, we have cut the petroleum subsidy by about 26 percent. We have also introduced a carbon tax on gasoline and diesel. To encourage ***energy*** generation through cleaner sources and to fund renewable ***energy*** projects, we have introduced tax-free infrastructure bonds of $794 million for the year 2015-16. Meanwhile, we have allocated $1.4 billion to the Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission, which aims to ***target*** the construction of 100 GW of solar generation by 2022. It should help us ***reduce*** CO2 volume by almost 85 million tons per year. We have also allocated $31 million for the period 2012-17 under the National Mission for Enhanced ***Energy*** Efficiency, which will save around 23 million tonnes of oil equivalent (TOE) and 98.5 million tons of CO2.

All these efforts stand to make a huge impact but we do require international support to prioritise and accelerate our initiatives in accordance with the principle of Common But Differentiated Responsibility (CBDR). If we are to replace coal, we need access to cleaner ***energy*** sources and technology at a viable cost. Even with the huge strides we are making in the direction of renewables, to do more, at a faster pace, we need help from developed nations. That's why international contributions towards the development and generation of greener technologies should be increased at the earliest possible opportunity through global carbon pricing, and by incentivising companies in the developed world to invest and share their research and development in this area. Our preliminary assessment indicates that the implementation of our climate change pledges up to 2030 would cost approximately $2.5 trillion. India stands ready to meet this commitment, but if we are to accelerate our efforts, then further financial support should be extended to poorer countries via the Green Climate Fund.

India's approach to its INDCs has been anchored in the vision of equity inspired by Mahatma Gandhi's famous exhortation: "Earth has enough resources to meet people's needs, but will never have enough to satisfy people's greed." India is still working to meet its people's basic needs - which is why we are looking to those countries whose populations no longer face existential questions for help. I am hoping for a positive outcome from the 2015 Paris Climate Conference which allows for such equitable sharing of responsibilities and will therefore enable more of us to do more to tackle climate change.

Arun Jaitley is India's minister of finance

"COMMENT on Arun Jaitley's view at [*www.telegraph.co.uk*](http://www.telegraph.co.uk)/ comment

**Load-Date:** December 10, 2015

**End of Document**



[***Countryfile - 5:36 PM GMT***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K51-D5P1-JBH6-C0WT-00000-00&context=1516831)

TVEyes - BBC 1 West Midlands

July 3, 2016 Sunday

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**Section:** U.K. REGIONAL TV; Lifestyle

**Length:** 424 words

**Anchors:** John Craven

**Highlight:** Countryfile reports on rural and envionmental issues in the United Kingdom. By visiting different parts of the British countryside the presenters uncover the topics of wildlife, conservation, farming, food production and social history.

**Body**

**Speech to text transcript:**[[2]](#footnote-3)1

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TVEyes - BBC 1 North East and Cumbria

July 3, 2016 Sunday

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**Section:** U.K. REGIONAL TV; Lifestyle

**Length:** 424 words

**Anchors:** John Craven

**Highlight:** Countryfile reports on rural and envionmental issues in the United Kingdom. By visiting different parts of the British countryside the presenters uncover the topics of wildlife, conservation, farming, food production and social history.

**Body**

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TVEyes - BBC 1 East Midlands

July 3, 2016 Sunday

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**Section:** U.K. REGIONAL TV; Lifestyle

**Length:** 424 words

**Anchors:** John Craven

**Highlight:** Countryfile reports on rural and envionmental issues in the United Kingdom. By visiting different parts of the British countryside the presenters uncover the topics of wildlife, conservation, farming, food production and social history.

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**Speech to text transcript:**[[4]](#footnote-5)1

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**Load-Date:** July 3, 2016

**End of Document**



[***Biochar Market Insights, 2016 To 2022 - Global Market Outlook, Trends, Growth***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K3Y-4VV1-F0K1-N4JW-00000-00&context=1516831)

M2 PressWIRE

June 28, 2016 Tuesday

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**Length:** 664 words

**Body**

June 28, 2016

The growing demand for the organic products is creating a good market for bio or organic products, which are used in different fields. One such organic product is Biochar which has gained traction in recent times. Biochar mainly finds its use as a soil amendment material. Our report on Global Biochar Market covers applications, segmentation and opportunities in this booming market. The report also covers extensive market analysis in the key markets such as US, Europe and APAC (Asia Pacific). This reports also includes company profiles of leading players in the space.

There are many other factors driving the Biochar market such as cohesive government policies, environmental awareness and availability of raw material, compatibility, raw material cost and increasing number of manufacturers. According to the report, Asia-Pacific is an emerging market which is showing highest growth among all geographies. China, Japan and India are the key ***targeted*** markets of Biochar. At present there are about 150 companies dealing in Biochar. Considering the bullish prospects of this market several companies are taking strategic moves to enter this market.

Browse full report with TOC @ [*http://www.acutemarketreports.com/report/global-biochar-market-insights-opportunity-analysis-market-shares-and-forecast-2016-2022*](http://www.acutemarketreports.com/report/global-biochar-market-insights-opportunity-analysis-market-shares-and-forecast-2016-2022)

Biochar is gaining traction in the market on the back of its properties. Besides being a soil amendment material, Biochar is also an easy and sustainable way to handle ***agricultural*** waste. Recent studies carried out on it reveals that Biochar is the most efficient solution for the management of the manure from birds and farm animals. In addition, Biochar is being effectively used as an important material for climate conservation as Biochar has properties to ***reduce*** GHG (***Greenhouse Gas***) ***emission***. Not just Biochar but its by-products are also useful. During the process of its formation it produces a soil enhancer which makes the soil more fertile. As Biochar is a useful material, governments in various countries are also encouraging Biochar usage by friendly government policies.

Companies profiled include:

1. Bio Char

2. Hawaii Biochar Products

3. Cool Planet ***Energy*** Systems

4. Genesis Industries

5. New England Biochar

6. WorldStove

7. Agri-Tech Producers LLC

8. Biochar Supreme

9. Chargrow LLC

10. Full Circle Biochar

11. biochar company

12. PhoenixEnergy

13. Biochar Products

14. The Biochar Company LLC

15. Takesumi Ltd

16. Sunmark Environmental

17. Vee-Go ***Energy***

18. Vermont Biochar

19. Waste to ***Energy*** Solutions

20. Sonnenerde

21. Proininso SA

22. Microbeix Pty Ltd

23. Biochar Solutions

24. Interra ***Energy***, LLC

25. Forest-Char

26. Abri Tech Inc

27. Diacarbon ***Energy*** Inc

28. EcoTrac Organics

29. Carbon Gold

30. Black is Green (BiG)

31. Carbon Terra

View all reports of this category @   [*http://www.acutemarketreports.com/category/chemicals-market*](http://www.acutemarketreports.com/category/chemicals-market)

This Occams Research Report covers

1. Historical data

2. Revenue forecasts, growth rates and CAGR upto 2022

3. Industry Analysis

4. Competitive Analysis

5. Key geographic growth data

6. In-depth profiling of companies

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**Load-Date:** June 28, 2016

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TVEyes - BBC 1 Oxford

July 3, 2016 Sunday

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**Section:** U.K. REGIONAL TV; Lifestyle

**Length:** 424 words

**Anchors:** John Craven

**Highlight:** Countryfile reports on rural and envionmental issues in the United Kingdom. By visiting different parts of the British countryside the presenters uncover the topics of wildlife, conservation, farming, food production and social history.

**Body**

**Speech to text transcript:**[[5]](#footnote-6)1

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**Load-Date:** July 3, 2016

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TVEyes - BBC 1 West

July 3, 2016 Sunday

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**Section:** U.K. REGIONAL TV; Lifestyle

**Length:** 424 words

**Anchors:** John Craven

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[***Countryfile - 5:36 PM GMT***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K51-D5P1-JBH6-C0WS-00000-00&context=1516831)

TVEyes - BBC 1 North

July 3, 2016 Sunday

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**Section:** U.K. REGIONAL TV; Lifestyle

**Length:** 424 words

**Anchors:** John Craven

**Highlight:** Countryfile reports on rural and envionmental issues in the United Kingdom. By visiting different parts of the British countryside the presenters uncover the topics of wildlife, conservation, farming, food production and social history.

**Body**

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TVEyes - BBC 1 East

July 3, 2016 Sunday

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**Section:** U.K. REGIONAL TV; Lifestyle

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TVEyes - BBC 1 Northern Ireland

July 3, 2016 Sunday

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**Section:** U.K. REGIONAL TV; Lifestyle

**Length:** 424 words

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TVEyes - BBC 1 Yorkshire and Lincolnshire

July 3, 2016 Sunday

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**Section:** U.K. REGIONAL TV; Lifestyle

**Length:** 424 words

**Anchors:** John Craven

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TVEyes - BBC 1 Southampton

July 3, 2016 Sunday

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**Section:** U.K. REGIONAL TV; Lifestyle

**Length:** 424 words

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[***-General Mills reports progress on global responsibility commitments***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JHX-F791-F0K1-N2DS-00000-00&context=1516831)

ENP Newswire

April 14, 2016 Thursday

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**Length:** 1082 words

**Body**

MINNEAPOLIS, Minnesota - Today, General Mills released its 2016 Global Responsibility Report, which outlines the company's goals and progress in the areas of health and wellness, sustainability, workplace and community engagement. This marks the 46th year General Mills has shared a report with stakeholders and the community.

'For 150 years, General Mills has been serving the world by making food people love,' said Ken Powell, chairman and CEO of General Mills. 'Our goal is to continue doing so for another 150 years by treating the world, its resources and people with care. We are encouraged by our progress over the last year and remain committed to doing even more.'

General Mills' progress towards its health profile improvements, sustainable sourcing commitment, and climate and water stewardship efforts are among the key highlights of this year's report.

Improving nutrition and health profiles

As a food company, General Mills recognizes that consumers around the world seek nutritious, convenient and affordable food for themselves and their families every day. General Mills believes that proper nutrition is essential for overall health and wellness.

Since the company implemented its U.S. Health Metric in 2005, more than 1,000 products have been nutritionally improved. In 2010, General Mills accelerated the company's sodium ***reduction*** efforts by pledging to ***reduce*** sodium 20 percent in 10 key U.S. retail product categories by 2015, and by the end of 2015 the company met or exceeded its goal in seven out of 10 categories and made significant progress in the other three.

Similarly, in response to consumers' changing preferences, in 2015 General Mills committed to removing artificial flavors and colors from artificial sources from all of the company's cereals by the end of 2017.

Continuing progress towards sustainable sourcing

In 2013, General Mills committed to sustainably source 100 percent of its 10 priority ingredients by 2020, representing more than 50 percent of the company's annual raw materials purchases. These raw materials, ranging from palm oil to wheat, oats, cocoa, dairy and corn, are ingredients the company believes can have the greatest impact from a sourcing standpoint.

To date, the most significant progress has been made toward fiber packaging (99 percent) and palm oil (100 percent) as well as nearly 50 percent or more sustainably sourced in vanilla, sugar cane and U.S. sugar beets.

Committing to climate change and water stewardship

The company achieved its 2015 ***targets*** related to GHG ***emissions*** and packaging within its direct operations. However, General Mills' greatest environmental impacts - including more than two-thirds of ***greenhouse gas*** (GHG) ***emissions*** and 99 percent of water use - occur outside its supply chain, primarily in ***agriculture***. Taking its GHG ***emissions*** commitment to the next level, the company set ***targets*** to reach science based, sustainable ***emission*** levels by 2050, and to make an initial ***reduction*** of 28 percent across the full value chain - from farm to fork to landfill - by 2025.

To advance the company's water stewardship work, General Mills continued its long-standing partnership with The Nature Conservancy to analyze challenges and opportunities within the company's most material and at-risk watersheds. Findings from this work were used to develop collaborative plans with stakeholders and communities to optimize water use and conservation.

In 2015, General Mills also released its Water Policy, which guides the company as it engages with stakeholders to improve the health of watersheds critical to its business.

'The most collaborative work we do as a company is through our climate and water stewardship efforts,' said Jerry Lynch, vice president and chief sustainability office at General Mills. 'With each commitment, it becomes more evident that we can make a significant impact and accomplish more by working together.'

Respecting human rights and empowering communities

Respect for human rights is fundamental to General Mills and its purpose. In 2015, General Mills joined in and implemented critical policies that established its Policy on Human Rights with a primary emphasis on the supply chain, and signed onto the UN Women's Empowerment Principles to reaffirm its commitment to promoting equal opportunity for women.

General Mills has a long-standing tradition of being deeply connected to the communities in which it conducts business - from France to Madagascar, Ghana to India, and Australia to North America.

Giving and volunteerism is focused on increasing food and nutrition security, advancing ***agricultural*** and environmental sustainability and strengthening the company's hometown communities. In 2015, General Mills and the General Mills Foundation donated more than $ 154 million to key initiatives that support communities around the globe, and 20 million meals were enabled through General Mills food donations globally.

'When we share our employees' food expertise, knowledge and skills with communities and partners around the globe, our potential impact exceeds more than any philanthropic budget could ever yield on its own,' Mary Jane Melendez, executive director of the General Mills Foundation.

Animal Welfare

General Mills is committed to continually advancing the humane treatment of animals in ***agriculture*** across the company's supply chain. In 2015, the company updated its animal welfare policy to include 'the five freedoms' beyond dairy cows to all other animals across the supply chain, and committed to using 100 percent cage-free eggs in its U.S. operations by 2025. The company will work closely with suppliers to deliver on these commitments.

Learn more about General Mills' economic, environmental and social commitments and progress by visiting GeneralMills.com/Responsibility, and to view the full Global Responsibility Report, interactive report and 3-minute video.

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About General Mills

General Mills is a leading global food company that serves the world by making food people love. Its brands include Cheerios, Annie's, Yoplait, Nature Valley, Fiber One, Haagen-Dazs, Betty Crocker, Pillsbury, Old El Paso, Wanchai Ferry, Yoki and more. Headquartered in Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA, General Mills had fiscal 2015 worldwide sales of US $ 18.7 billion, including the company's US $ 1.1 billion proportionate share of joint-venture net sales.

[Editorial queries for this story should be sent to [*newswire@enpublishing.co.uk*](mailto:newswire@enpublishing.co.uk) ]

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TVEyes - BBC 1 South West

July 3, 2016 Sunday

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**Section:** U.K. REGIONAL TV; Lifestyle

**Length:** 424 words

**Anchors:** John Craven

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[***Brussels announced its verdict: large estates lose out to small estates***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GNP-05B1-JD09-31J6-00000-00&context=1516831)

Hungarian Official News Digest

August 12, 2015 Wednesday

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**Length:** 833 words

**Body**

The European Commission has approved Hungary's Rural Development Programme for the period between 2014-2020. According to Miklos Zsolt Kis, State Secretary for ***Agricultural*** and Rural Development at the Prime Minister's Office, the Government has had a series of difficult consultations and talks, but has succeeded in protecting the interests of Hungarian farmers and the Hungarian provinces against Brussels on the most important issues.

The greatest achievement of the Rural Development Programme is that, instead of large farms, it focuses on the development of small and medium-sized businesses and family farms. As a result, the Hungarian Government has taken an historic step in ***agricultural***-social policy as these businesses will benefit from 80 per cent of the funding to be made available during the new cycle, thereby breaking with the concentration of grants in favour of large farms.

Karoly Arvai

From among the important Hungarian results of the consultations, the State Secretary further highlighted that the European Commission permitted the subsidisation of new watering projects aimed at increasing the extent of watered areas, against stringent conditions. Brussels accepted the enforcement of the Government's estate policy criteria also in the case of the ***Agricultural*** and Environmental Programme, i.e. similar to area-based grants, the grants of large operations will be ***reduced*** depending on their size. The Government has further succeeded in achieving that, compared with the rest of the EU Member States, ***agricultural***, food industry and forestry projects should be allocated a higher percentage, some 40 per cent of the funds of the Rural Development Programme. As a result, the Rural Development Programme may significantly contribute to increasing the competitiveness of ***agriculture***, the food industry and the wood industry, and to creating new jobs.

Karoly Arvai

The total funding of the Rural Development Programme, including the national co-funding and the area-based grants reallocated from large ***agricultural*** operations, amounts to some HUF 1,300 billion. The most important objective of the Rural Development Programme is to preserve jobs and to create new ones in the countryside. The programme therefore focuses on the development of micro-businesses, small and medium-sized enterprises and family farms with a major employment potential, in particular, in labour-intensive sectors, with special regard to animal husbandry, horticulture, and food processing.

Some HUF 75 billion will be available for the modernisation of existing animal husbandry farms and the establishment of new ones as well as for the procurement of machinery necessary for animal husbandry, while HUF 72 billion will be made available for the establishment of plantations, hot house gardening, and the technological modernisation of existing farms.

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A significant portion of the available funds will serve ***energy*** efficiency and the use of renewable ***energy*** sources. This will not only improve the competitiveness of the sectors concerned but will also permit the ***reduction*** of their ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions*** and their dependence on fossil ***energy*** which is mostly imported.

By virtue of the development of the food industry, we do not only generate new jobs, primarily in the countryside, but may also create a safe market for the absorption of ***agricultural*** ingredients, which contributes to the income security of farmers. Increasing the percentage of higher added-value products to 80 per cent within ***agricultural*** and food industry exports by 2020 is another important goal.

Due to the increasingly hotter summers and the ever less predictable distribution of precipitation, the risk of drought has increased significantly in Hungary. Therefore, the extension of watered areas is a fundamental demand on the part of local farmers. The programme contributes to climate change adaptation, and consequently to the enhancement of the security of production as well. At the same time, there will also be scope for the installation of effective frost prevention systems in horticulture.

Karoly Arvai

The Government continues to support the establishment and reinforcement of the businesses of young farmers with sizeable grants, amounting to some HUF 79.5 billion, thereby supporting a change of generations in ***agriculture***.

The ***agricultural***-environmental and ecological farming grants programme will be re-launched as of 1 January 2016. The programme has undergone major changes, and has become more ***targeted*** and more effective from an environmental point of view.

Rural municipalities may choose from a number of development and project grants; they will have a chance, inter alia, to refurbish roads outside residential areas, to build local producers' markets, and to modernise buildings for improved ***energy*** efficiency.

Some 5 per cent of the total funding will be available for the purposes of the LEADER programme during the next period, thereby ensuring the nation-wide coverage of the LEADER programme.

**Load-Date:** August 13, 2015

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[***Shifts in transitional protein solutions; Millennials are the drivers of change in many areas of food production - Part I***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5N8W-X6F1-DYG1-P3GW-00000-00&context=1516831)

Fleischwirtschaft International

September 3, 2015

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**Section:** EATING HABITS; Pg. 42;; No. 4

**Length:** 2935 words

**Body**

**ABSTRACT:**

By Henk Hoogenkamp For centuries, meat and meat products have been the center of the plate to supply protein and nourishment. Ever since the turn of the Century, a seismic shift occurred and especially meat-formulated snacks, cheese, egg and yoghurt are now considered the preferred emerging animal protein choices. In 2015 this trend is picking up further speed as increasing number of consumers replace meat with non-meat alternatives, including the great many extruded structured plant protein and hybrid foods in which meat is either eliminated or used as an component rather than a dominant source.

**FULL TEXT:**

The consumer landscape is changing rather quickly and especially the Millennial' consumer (born 1984-2004) are driving change in areas such as clean labels, natural, and recognisable ingredients. This powerful group of consumers is looking for unique meals or meat snacks with less or no preparation time. However, they also want the foods to fit a holistic wellness that are perceived as foundationally nutritious. Differentiating lifestyle foods for the specific consumer segments is transitioning to the new normal.

Consumer eating habits in the US are changing and there are clear indicators that explain why these patterns are evolving. The most obvious sign of change is the fact that Millennials will surpass baby boomers (born 1946-1964) as the largest generation in 2015. The Millennial customer prefers less processed food including menu components that are made to order, be personalised or customised.

Consumption of fresh foods, including vegetables, fruits and snack meat grew by 20% from 2003 to 2014. Looking at it from a different perspective, more than half of food and beverage consumption now happens when consumers are alone, not to mention the fact that households of just one person - 27% in 2015 - are at the highest level in US history. The trend of eating solo will grow in the years ahead and ultimately will also start to impact EU consumption patterns.

Meat rules protein

Consumers' relationship with meat in their diets is changing. This is mainly caused by the shift in perceptions of meat's effect on nutritional and health properties. Although it is true that affluent consumers are increasingly aware of the importance of dietary protein, they often look away from meat and instead prefer non-meat foods as their first choice. This development should set off alarm bells for the meat industry in the western world.

Growing meat consumption in emerging markets will push the global market with a volume growth of 3% in 2015. Poultry has emerged as the most-popular meat protein in the world, increasing by 4% volume growth.

Shifts in meat consumption occur in both developed and developing markets. The US and some EU countries have a negative growth (-1%), while poultry wins shares of the consumer stomachs at the expense of beef and pork with the exception of China. Some of the decline in meat consumption is due to health concerns, religious and sustainability issues, but also due to consumers embracing or adopting to a different diet and lifestyle.

The twin effects of time-pressed lifestyles and pressed budgets are the main reason that consumers living in affluent societies are shifting away from home-cooked traditional center-of-the-plate whole muscle meat cuts and switch to semi- or fully prepared natural wholesome options including snacks. Increasingly meat is looked at as an ingredient.

Back to natural

There is no question that today "fresh and natural" beats low-calorie and processed packaged foods. "Packaged fresh" is the new mantra for Americans and the social media savvy millennial generation in particular. The change from over-processed using "chemically-loaded" additives seems unstoppable and signals that a new age of whole and unadulterated food has arrived. The modern affluent consumer now wants simplicity that often translates to purity and less. Modern consumers are now too informed to fall for the gimmicks of the large food companies that dress up their products as "natural" but little else to substantiate the claim. As a matter of fact, the US Food and Drug Agency does not even regulate these claims.

The top 20 US food and beverage companies have started to lose business ever since 2008. These legacy companies are on a slow decline and - in fact - have become less relevant. There is a clear discrepancy between the image they want to portray and the suspicion in the mind of consumers. Increasingly the word "processed" translates to "unhealthy" and that is basically the cornerstone issue of the distrust in the current food system.

The big food companies have been put on notice and are changing their vocabulary accordingly. New language is now inserted to attract the interest of consumers: organic, natural, high-protein, extra veggie, and glutenfree. Out are words such as low-fat, light, or ***reduced***. Not only consumer language, also industry-speak has changed. Now, food is no longer "processed" but rather "preserved" and "formulas" has changed to "recipes". These seem subtle changes but the wholesome vocabulary is picking up great momentum.

The extraordinary paradigm shift is needed to align with the new consumer expectations of a clean and clear ingredient label. It is too early to tell if the multibillion-dollar remake and transformation of the food and meat industry will be successful. There is an obvious distrust in the mind of the consumer who is turning away from the colossal legacy food companies. Instead, an increasing number of consumers is seeking out authentic natural and pure food and meat products across nearly every category.

Over the past few years the volume of packaged food in the US has fallen and there is little doubt that mainstream supermarkets suffer from a decline of sales of conventional processed foods. But then again, why wonder? These mammoth food and meat companies misused for too long chemically sounding and unhealthy additives. Consumers have wised up and increasingly reject the notion that they are eating foods made with growth hormones, antibiotics, pesticides, gluten, genetically modified organisms (GMO's), preservatives, high fructose corn syrup, artificial flavours, colours, and emulsifiers such as polyglycerol and polyricinoleate.

The rebellion of American consumers has taken the big food companies by surprise so it seems. These companies are now figuring out whether the change is a fad or a long-lasting trend. But facts cannot be ignored in declining sales volumes in categories such as sugar-loaded breakfast cereals, canned soups, canned vegetables, lean cuisine, and frozen foods. The decline of frozen ready-to-eat meals is no surprise really. After all, "frozen" is the opposite of "fresh".

The large food and meat companies are faced with a huge controversy dilemma. There is the polarizing issue of GMP-labelling on one end and the growth of the new wave organic and natural foods on the other side. These issues are further clouded that increasing number of entrepreneurial food companies do not need to beg supermarkets for shelf space anymore. Internet sales, including Amazon, are now among the top10vendors in the US, a number that is rapidly growing with no end in sight.

No wonder that legacy food companies are out in full force to acquire (small) natural health food companies, while also radically rethinking their own food concepts and strategies of how to charm and regain the trust of their customers. It is likely that going forward it is clear that an actionable and transparent pathway will be needed how much additional value can be created. The philosophy should be proactive strategies, not only to reinvigorate existing portfolio brands but also to benefit from further "natural food" and "wellness" extension acquisitions in the consumer-branded space. The ultimate goal is to contemporise and add relevance to the food brand that will have a clean label positioning. The willingness of people to adopt new food trends is happening at a pace that is unprecedented. As the economy improves, consumers with more discretionary income will put food quality and image ahead of price.

Food bubble

In a world with rapidly increasing populations and a growing number of people moving up the food chain consuming grain-intensive animal proteins such as meat and dairy, chances are for real that a major disruption in food supplies is looming. Even now, some areas of the world can be seen as a "food bubble" which is the result of using unsustainable ***agricultural*** methods like over-pumping of groundwater in order to keep farming yields to unrealistic inflated high levels. Moreover, the rapidly changing consumption patterns, the growing populations, and depletion of natural resources pose real challenges for future generations.

The need to feed a growing number of people globally has resulted to widespread environmental degradation, and loss of biodiversity, affecting about 25% of global soil. Shifts to more protein-rich diets in developing countries and a growing demand for land harvested biofuels and biomaterials - especially in developed countries - will ultimately exceed sustainable supply capacities.

With the planet's population growing by some 80mill. people a year and the quality of life in developing countries improving, the demand for food will definitely expand. It is safe to predict that meeting the needs of some 9.4bn. people expected to be living on planet Earth in 2050 will require some heroic efforts.

The world population by 2050 will call for approximately 70% more in food to meet global demand. Demand will probably outstrip crop harvest, especially when resource limitations will continue to constrain global food systems. As such, it can be expected that food issues could become politically destabilising, very much the same way ***energy*** is today.

The quadrupling of the world's population since 1900 has caused a fundamental change in soil and crop harvest management to meet the rapid growing food demand globally. The future of food security need to be based on the professionalism of ***agriculture*** through research and applications, education, output efficiencies, and the redirecting of feed to food. Especially for developing countries, including India and China, the low levels of fertilizer nutrients uptake results in soil and water acidification, contamination of surface and groundwater, and rising ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions***.

The current ***agricultural*** increase in productivity of slightly more than 1% per year needs changing and intense farming based on new technologies to be implemented. ***Agricultural*** productivity is closely interconnected with food safety, genetically-modified organisms, health, nutrition, sustainability, environment and obesity. Diet, climate change and ***agriculture*** are intertwined and it is difficult to tackle one without consideration of the others.

How can the world reach a sustainable protein supply that meets growing nutrition and health expectations? Demand for premium protein is experiencing exceptional global growth and it can be expected that availability will fall short. As income levels in developing countries rise together with subtle changes to a Western diet, per capita protein consumption is expected to grow by 15 to 20%. In addition, nutritional awareness in affluent countries by specific segments such as sarcopenia and lifestyle nutrition will put further pressure on premium protein availability. Protein sustainability is not an easy issue, but most probably the answer is to optimise diet and health by promoting increased consumption of premium plant protein sources and a ***reduction*** of animal protein. To answer the rapidly changing market dynamics, it is likely that a blend of both plant and animal protein will optimise health as well as utilisation of available ***agricultural*** resources.

The synbio reality

It is clear that the world cannot rely solely on increases in arable land. Instead new technologies - including considering GMO - need to be implemented to meet the food demands of the future. In the last few decennia major strides have been made to increase both animal and plant protein production. However, more innovation needs to move through in order to significantly increase the current food production by 2050.

One of these emerging technologies is synthetic biology. Synthetic biology will be the next frontier of food science and technology. Synthetic biology, also known as "synbio" involves a technology in which genes from a plant are treated in a yeast environment creating new compounds by fermentation. Ultimately, synbio will evolve to a cost-effective and eco-sustainable technology and this next stage of genetic engineering can produce more efficiently than nature, using no land, and is not dependent on weather conditions.

Computer algorithms are now often used to analyse plant species and once identified, recombined to create design-specific protein properties including nutritive value, taste, flavour and functional performance. Stripping out and recombining a food's constituent parts will further push the boundaries of food science as it is known today.

In principle, synbio ingredients are chemically identical to its natural example. The future of synbio ingredients and food is only limited by our imagination. Both plant- and animal protein can potentially be manufactured by synthetic biology. For example, cows can be by-passed using fermentation to engineer animal-free milk. Animal-based dairy farming could very well develop into a historical curiosity. Animal-free milk using basically the same principles of biotechnology fermenting sugar into alcohol and further refinement by modulating yeast and enzymes, can create design-milk in which its components, including protein, fatty acids, flavour, viscosity, can be varied to obtain desired organoleptic and nutritive characteristics. For a growing number of future driven scientists, livestock is an antiquated technology.

Although synbio companies like to portray the "all-natural" status of this innovative technology, ultimately it will be the consumers who will decide whether or not they are ready to accept these modulated foods. In the meantime - like the "traditional" GMO's - the regulatory agencies are confronted with the formidable task to agree on adequate assessment and rulemaking about health and environmental safety as well as labeling.

***Greenhouse gas*** ***emissions***

Long-term ***agricultural*** ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions*** are clouded by two main uncertainties:

- How does livestock production and consumer preference for meat and dairy cope with much needed yield improvement in order to meet rapid growing demand?

- How fast do human dietary requirements and food preferences change?

***Emissions*** are closely interrelated to ***agricultural*** land, manure management, crop yield, genetic livestock improvement, and possible climate change and water availability. When extrapolating 2015 baseline knowledge to 2050 feed and food availability, it can be concluded that increased ruminant meat and dairy consumption will not be able to keep ***emission*** levels within agreed ***targets***, unless unprecedented technology improvements occur and implemented. Hence, based on today's state of technology, it can be predicted that meeting climate ***targets*** may require ***reducing*** meat and dairy consumption. To be specific, in reality this will mean an increase per capita consumption in the developing world and a much needed decrease in affluent societies. To be realistic however, this is not going to happen anytime soon.

Carbon dioxide ***emissions*** from ***energy*** and transportation currently take the largest share of climate pollution. On the heels of ***energy*** and transportation come the ***emissions*** from ***agriculture*** and these will continue to increase to keep pace with the projected significant growth of global meat and dairy consumption. It will be necessary to address these increases because when no adequate actions are implemented, nitrous oxide from field and methane from livestock may double by 2070, if not sooner.

Diets high in dairy and meat are expected to rise exponentially because of growing number of world citizens that will have the means to afford these much beloved foods as the primary source of nutrition. However, the enormous expected increase in animal protein consumption will mean a real setback to ***reduce*** ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions***.

The solution will be to develop improved genetics of livestock providing increased amounts of lean muscle meat, cultured meat, insect protein extraction and last but not least great tasting nutritive plant-based protein foods. Consumers should be encouraged to eat more plant-based protein foods to improve not only nutritional status, but also relieve rising world demand for meat and dairy protein. Most - if not all - of the West European countries are not self-sufficient in foods supply and heavily rely on vast imports from other parts of the world. Putting more emphasis on plant protein formulated diets is a major step forward for a country to secure its food supply. The bottom-line is that consumers should be encouraged to have diets that are less ***energy***-dense, allowing a larger food-intake containing more essential nutrients such as proteins, healthy oils, vitamins and minerals.

Henk Hoogenkamp

is a protein specialist, publicist and author. He has been previously President of DMV USA (now FrieslandCampina), and Senior Director Strategic Technology, Solae LLC (now DuPont).

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[***Countryfile - 5:36 PM GMT***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K51-D5P1-JBH6-C0VX-00000-00&context=1516831)

TVEyes - BBC 1 Scotland

July 3, 2016 Sunday

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**Section:** U.K. REGIONAL TV; Lifestyle

**Length:** 424 words

**Anchors:** John Craven

**Highlight:** Countryfile reports on rural and envionmental issues in the United Kingdom. By visiting different parts of the British countryside the presenters uncover the topics of wildlife, conservation, farming, food production and social history.

**Body**

**Speech to text transcript:**[[13]](#footnote-14)1

it back in the water Yes, she's been painted up to go back in the water. Yes, she will, she will be a big sail, big crew and a big sight. Well, a lick of paint is giving this old girl a new lease of life.

a working reminder of the rich history of this estuary. Now, it's claimed that ***agriculture*** emits more ***greenhouse gases*** It's hard to believe, when you look at this pastoral But when it comes to climate change, in fact they are. and producing the food we eat is responsible for around a Now a new report says that if farm-related ***emissions*** aren't in Paris last year will be breached. And the world would be unable to So, what's causing these harmful ***agricultural*** ***emissions***? This has to be the most hi-tech cow shed I've ever seen. We use them to measure the oxygen that a cow consumes Professor Chris Reynolds of the University of Reading says One thought, we've come up to the front-end. Well, it is in terms of where the methane is emitted from the cow. as opposed to coming from the back end of the cow. So, the cow's stomach has billions of microorganisms that help Specific microbes that account for that methane production. fact of the biology of ruminants like cows. On average, the estimate is that, for a lactating dairy cow, COWS LOW a cow emits enough ***energy*** to drive an average car about 2,000 miles. Alongside methane, mainly from cattle and sheep, nitrous oxide is fertilised crops. Overall, ***agricultural*** jokes about farting cows. Professor Lord Krebs certainly isn't amused. and says that farm-related ***emissions*** are a serious problem. Why is it important that farming now gets to grips with its Well, if we're serious about the Paris Agreement, and land use change account for between a fifth We are farming, after all, to feed people, How much more difficult does that make this problem? We've got a growing population, going up to As people get richer from countries like China, And meat has a much bigger environmental footprint than delicious and nutritious food, we've got to produce it with In total, ***agricultural*** ***emissions*** make up around 9% of the UK's The question of how to minimise these ***emissions*** something ***agriculture*** has been grappling with for some time. So far, two thirds of farmers have changed the way they work. This must have cost you a wee bit. Julian Gold is one of them. big to become more efficient. We're standing next to help you ***reduce*** your ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions***?

**Load-Date:** July 3, 2016

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[***Companies calling for climate change action; ENVIRONMENT***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H29-B2X1-DY9P-N1S8-00000-00&context=1516831)

The Journal (Newcastle, UK)

October 2, 2015 Friday

Edition 1, National Edition

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**Section:** BUSINESS; Pg. 2

**Length:** 288 words

**Byline:** EMILY BEAMENT

**Body**

LEADING food and drink companies have come together to call for action on climate change, warning rising temperatures threaten global food supplies. The heads of Mars, Unilever, Kellogg's and Nestle - which has a factory in Fawdon, Newcastle - are among those who have signed an open letter to world leaders, calling for a "sound agreement" on curbing global warming.

The demand comes ahead of crucial UN talks in Paris in December where countries will meet to try to agree a new global deal to cut ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions***.

In the letter, the company chiefs warn: "Climate change is bad for farmers and for ***agriculture***.

"Drought, flooding and hotter growing conditions threaten the world's food supply and contribute to food insecurity.

"By 2050, it is estimated that the world's population will exceed nine billion, with two-thirds of all people living in urban areas. This increase in population and urbanisation will require more water, ***energy*** and food, all of which are compromised by warming temperatures."

They said companies like theirs would have to produce more food on less land and using fewer natural resources. The letter set out a vision of farms that are productive and resilient, where water supplies were protected for communities, ***energy*** efficient transport was used and processing facilities powered by renewables.

And the companies pledged to ensure their supply chains became more sustainable, to be transparent about their efforts and share information to help other companies do the same and to urge governments to set ***targets*** to cut ***emissions***.

They called on leaders to "embrace the opportunity presented to you in Paris, and to come back with a sound agreement, properly financed, that can effect real change".

**Graphic**

Nestle are among firms that have <Bsigned an open letter to world leaders

**Load-Date:** October 2, 2015

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[***-General Mills reports progress on global responsibility commitments***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JJ5-FTB1-JD3Y-Y1XW-00000-00&context=1516831)

ENP Newswire

April 15, 2016 Friday

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**Length:** 1084 words

**Body**

MINNEAPOLIS, Minnesota - Today, General Mills released its 2016 Global Responsibility Report, which outlines the company's goals and progress in the areas of health and wellness, sustainability, workplace and community engagement.

This marks the 46th year General Mills has shared a report with stakeholders and the community.

'For 150 years, General Mills has been serving the world by making food people love,' said Ken Powell, chairman and CEO of General Mills. 'Our goal is to continue doing so for another 150 years by treating the world, its resources and people with care. We are encouraged by our progress over the last year and remain committed to doing even more.'

General Mills' progress towards its health profile improvements, sustainable sourcing commitment, and climate and water stewardship efforts are among the key highlights of this year's report.

Improving nutrition and health profiles

As a food company, General Mills recognizes that consumers around the world seek nutritious, convenient and affordable food for themselves and their families every day. General Mills believes that proper nutrition is essential for overall health and wellness.

Since the company implemented its U.S. Health Metric in 2005, more than 1,000 products have been nutritionally improved. In 2010, General Mills accelerated the company's sodium ***reduction*** efforts by pledging to ***reduce*** sodium 20 percent in 10 key U.S. retail product categories by 2015, and by the end of 2015 the company met or exceeded its goal in seven out of 10 categories and made significant progress in the other three.

Similarly, in response to consumers' changing preferences, in 2015 General Mills committed to removing artificial flavors and colors from artificial sources from all of the company's cereals by the end of 2017.

Continuing progress towards sustainable sourcing

In 2013, General Mills committed to sustainably source 100 percent of its 10 priority ingredients by 2020, representing more than 50 percent of the company's annual raw materials purchases. These raw materials, ranging from palm oil to wheat, oats, cocoa, dairy and corn, are ingredients the company believes can have the greatest impact from a sourcing standpoint.

To date, the most significant progress has been made toward fiber packaging (99 percent) and palm oil (100 percent) as well as nearly 50 percent or more sustainably sourced in vanilla, sugar cane and U.S. sugar beets.

Committing to climate change and water stewardship

The company achieved its 2015 ***targets*** related to GHG ***emissions*** and packaging within its direct operations. However, General Mills' greatest environmental impacts - including more than two-thirds of ***greenhouse gas*** (GHG) ***emissions*** and 99 percent of water use - occur outside its supply chain, primarily in ***agriculture***. Taking its GHG ***emissions*** commitment to the next level, the company set ***targets*** to reach science based, sustainable ***emission*** levels by 2050, and to make an initial ***reduction*** of 28 percent across the full value chain - from farm to fork to landfill - by 2025.

To advance the company's water stewardship work, General Mills continued its long-standing partnership with The Nature Conservancy to analyze challenges and opportunities within the company's most material and at-risk watersheds. Findings from this work were used to develop collaborative plans with stakeholders and communities to optimize water use and conservation.

In 2015, General Mills also released its Water Policy, which guides the company as it engages with stakeholders to improve the health of watersheds critical to its business.

'The most collaborative work we do as a company is through our climate and water stewardship efforts,' said Jerry Lynch, vice president and chief sustainability office at General Mills. 'With each commitment, it becomes more evident that we can make a significant impact and accomplish more by working together.'

Respecting human rights and empowering communities

Respect for human rights is fundamental to General Mills and its purpose. In 2015, General Mills joined in and implemented critical policies that established its Policy on Human Rights with a primary emphasis on the supply chain, and signed onto the UN Women's Empowerment Principles to reaffirm its commitment to promoting equal opportunity for women.

General Mills has a long-standing tradition of being deeply connected to the communities in which it conducts business - from France to Madagascar, Ghana to India, and Australia to North America.

Giving and volunteerism is focused on increasing food and nutrition security, advancing ***agricultural*** and environmental sustainability and strengthening the company's hometown communities. In 2015, General Mills and the General Mills Foundation donated more than $ 154 million to key initiatives that support communities around the globe, and 20 million meals were enabled through General Mills food donations globally.

'When we share our employees' food expertise, knowledge and skills with communities and partners around the globe, our potential impact exceeds more than any philanthropic budget could ever yield on its own,' Mary Jane Melendez, executive director of the General Mills Foundation.

Animal Welfare

General Mills is committed to continually advancing the humane treatment of animals in ***agriculture*** across the company's supply chain. In 2015, the company updated its animal welfare policy to include 'the five freedoms' beyond dairy cows to all other animals across the supply chain, and committed to using 100 percent cage-free eggs in its U.S. operations by 2025. The company will work closely with suppliers to deliver on these commitments.

Learn more about General Mills' economic, environmental and social commitments and progress by visitingGeneralMills.com/Responsibility, and to view the full Global Responsibility Report, interactive report and 3-minute video.

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About General Mills

General Mills is a leading global food company that serves the world by making food people love. Its brands include Cheerios, Annie's, Yoplait, Nature Valley, Fiber One, Haagen-Dazs, Betty Crocker, Pillsbury, Old El Paso, Wanchai Ferry, Yoki and more. Headquartered in Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA, General Mills had fiscal 2015 worldwide sales of US $ 18.7 billion, including the company's US $ 1.1 billion proportionate share of joint-venture net sales.

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[***-IFC Hosts a CEO Panel at COP21 to Discuss Climate-Smart Investments in Emerging Markets***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HJM-7JY1-F0K1-N086-00000-00&context=1516831)

ENP Newswire

December 8, 2015 Tuesday

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**Length:** 594 words

**Body**

IFC, a member of the World Bank Group, convened a panel of CEOs from five prominent emerging-market companies that have championed innovative climate-smart solutions in their respective countries.

The panel, which took place as part of the Caring for Climate Business Forum at COP21 in Paris, explored new approaches to scaling up green investments in emerging markets.

IFC, the largest global development finance institution supporting the private sector in emerging markets, has been at the forefront of climate change mitigation efforts in the past decade, with a total of $ 13 billion in long-term finance in projects in renewables, ***energy*** efficiency, sustainable ***agriculture***, green buildings, and adaptation. Through its advisory work, IFC has enabled a further $ 5.4 billion in climate-related investment projects.

IFC's climate-related interventions last year alone are expected to ***reduce*** 9.6 million metric tons of ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions***, the equivalent to taking more than 2 million passenger vehicles off the road.

'Fighting climate change requires the full buy-in and participation of the private sector. It also offers a triple-win: it's good for business, good for society, and good for the planet,' said Dimitris Tsitsiragos, IFC Vice President for Global Client Services, while offering opening remarks at the panel. 'We, at IFC are committed to supporting the private sector's response to climate change and as part of the World Bank Group, have committed to doubling our investment volume by year 2020.'

An increasing number of companies are acting to address the challenge, either by ***reducing*** their own ***emissions*** or expanding their businesses in a way that contributes to climate change mitigation and adaptation measures. Companies at the event shared valuable insights and perspectives from a diverse set of industries: International Housing Solutions of South Africa is boosting the affordable ***energy***-efficient housing market; Azure Power of India is responding to the government's challenge to install a hundred gigawatts of renewable ***energy*** capacity by 2022; Hexagon of Turkey is championing a creative waste-to- ***energy*** and fertilizer model; Solar Power Company Group of Thailand is transforming the country's renewable ***energy*** capacity with utility-scale solar farms; and India's Mahindra Group is showcasing its leadership in corporate carbon pricing.

'Our experience working in emerging markets globally points us to vast opportunities for innovation, both in terms of increasing climate-smart investments in emerging markets, and also in implementing new tools to help meet the enormous climate finance gap,' said Christian Grossmann, IFC Director for Climate Change. 'We hope these exchanges throughout COP21 will translate into actionable next steps for IFC and our partners.'

About IFC

IFC, a member of the World Bank Group, is the largest global development institution focused on the private sector in emerging markets. Working with more than 2,000 businesses worldwide, we use our capital, expertise, and influence, to create opportunity where it's needed most. In FY15, our long-term investments in developing countries rose to nearly $ 18 billion, helping the private sector play an essential role in the global effort to end extreme poverty and boost shared prosperity. For more information, visit [*www.ifc.org*](http://www.ifc.org)

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[***Farm Stewardship Centre renews focus for 21st century***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HBN-2FD1-F0K1-N09V-00000-00&context=1516831)

M2 PressWIRE

November 10, 2015 Tuesday

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**Length:** 307 words

**Body**

November 9, 2015

The Farm Stewardship Centre in Lethbridge will provide a renewed focus on applied research, evaluation and implementation of new methods and technology aimed at ***reducing*** the environmental footprint of farming and food production.

"Strengthening environmental stewardship practices is crucial to the responsible growth of a strong and sustainable ***agriculture*** sector that will help further diversify the Alberta economy. The staff at the centre will be working closely with producers, commodity groups and the research community to explore innovative approaches to how we grow food and care for the environment in this province." Oneil Carlier, Minister of ***Agriculture*** and Forestry

"The long-term success of the ***agriculture*** industry relies on Alberta continuing to show leadership in sustainable and environmentally responsible development. The Farm Stewardship Centre will be a tremendous resource for our ***agriculture*** producers to help them make informed decisions about how to best manage their operations." Shannon Phillips, Minister of Environment and Parks

Established in the 1980s, the Lethbridge research facility continues to evolve to meet the needs of the ***agriculture*** sector. Under its new mandate, the centre is undertaking projects that range from the assessment of ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions*** linked to fertilizer to developing systems that improve water and ***energy*** use on farms.

The work at the centre will complement other government initiatives including Growing Forward 2, which are designed to support the development of a sustainable and competitive ***agriculture*** industry. Through the federal-provincial Growing Forward 2 program, producers and agri-businesses have access to funding to support advances in animal health, food safety, market access, value-added industry development and environmental stewardship.

**Load-Date:** November 10, 2015

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[***Arctic powers in Alaska for talks as pace of global warming threatens ice cap; Factory and farm emissions may be reducing the ability of the Earth's frozen wastes to reflect harmful solar rays***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H5K-GWY1-JCJY-G0V4-00000-00&context=1516831)

The Observer (London)

October 17, 2015 Saturday 9:04 PM GMT

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**Section:** WORLD NEWS

**Length:** 745 words

**Byline:** Robin McKie Science editor

**Body**

Scientists in Alaska will raise the vexed issue of methane and "black carbon" pollution as they discuss tipping-point dangers posed by global warming in the Arctic.

A crucial meeting of the Arctic Council, in Anchorage, comes amid evidence that the polar region is warming faster than any other place on Earth and that sea ice coverage there has shrunk by nearly a third since 1979. Researchers now fear that new threats to climate stability are about to be unleashed in the Arctic. Warming in high latitudes is causing permafrost in Siberia and northern Canada to thaw and release plumes of methane stored there, they say. Methane is a powerful ***greenhouse gas*** and these releases threaten to trigger secondary rises in global temperatures.

In addition, researchers warn that black carbon - ultra-fine particles produced by factories and farms and deposited thousands of miles from ***emission*** points - could be significantly ***reducing*** the brightness of snow and icefields. With less solar radiation reflected back into space, the region will warm up even faster, leading to a longer melt season and even greater ***reductions*** in ice.

"The sources of black carbon and methane ***emissions*** affecting the Arctic are the oil and gas sector, waste, domestic burning, shipping and other modes of transportation, ***agricultural*** burning, other industry and ***agricultural*** sources, and natural sources including wildfires and wetlands," said Jon Kahn, director of the ministry of environment and ***energy*** in Sweden and an Arctic Council delegate, in a recent blog.

Kahn has played a key role in setting up past Arctic Council investigations of the dangers posed by methane and black carbon to the region. Crucially, Kahn noted that the US, which has just assumed presidency of the council, has agreed to maintain this interest and, in particular, to look more closely at flaring, the burning of natural gas that cannot be processed or sold, and which has been linked to the release of secondary climate pollutants such as black carbon.

The Arctic Council is made up of representatives of the main north polar nations - Canada, Denmark (through its dependencies of Greenland and the Faroe Islands), Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russia, Sweden and the United States. In recent years, its work has come into sharp focus as the Arctic has warmed up and its sea ice cover has shrunk, exposing once inaccessible oilfields and sea routes.

Russia has been particularly aggressive in claiming rights over newly exposed territories, while US president Barack Obama recently triggered controversy by giving the go-ahead to Shell to drill for oil in the Chukchi Sea.

However, the US administration has since made significant retreats over its oil drilling policy in the Arctic and last week announced new curbs on oil and gas exploration in Arctic waters off Alaska's northern coast. This has raised hopes that it will use its presidency of the Arctic Council to try to strengthen measures that will protect the fragile polar environment. The Arctic suffers by comparison with its southerly counterpart, the Antarctic, which is controlled by an international treaty that bans all mining, oil drilling or the presence of the military, and which strictly controls all environmental hazards. By contrast, the Arctic is owned by nations who have very different ideas about how to run the place. It is the task of the Arctic Council to reconcile these differing aspirations.

For its part, the United Kingdom, which has strong interests in both Arctic and Antarctic research and exploration, has permanent observer status at the council and uses its scientific expertise and knowledge of the region to optimise its political leverage at debates.

The UK has been criticised for its lack of ambition in Arctic debates. A House of Lords report, Responding to a Changing Arctic, recently warned that the UK does not always take a full role in Arctic discussions. In the report, peers recommended that the post of UK Arctic ambassador be created. However, the government has since dismissed the idea, arguing that such a post is unnecessary. "We already have a strong influence and certainly do not need honorific posts with grand titles to make our presence felt," said one UK Arctic expert.

This year, the UK natural environment research council said it would spend an extra £16m on Arctic research in order to better understand how climate change there is likely to affect wildlife, fish stocks and the environment.

**POTENTIAL THREATS**

**Load-Date:** October 17, 2015

**End of Document**



[***Arctic powers in Alaska for talks as pace of global warming threatens ice cap; Factory and farm emissions may be reducing the ability of the Earth's frozen wastes to reflect harmful solar rays***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H5K-GWY1-JCJY-G0V3-00000-00&context=1516831)

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**POTENTIAL THREATS**

**Load-Date:** October 17, 2015

**End of Document**



[***Time to share the pain; no excuses; Tackling climate change***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JKS-VJ21-DYS1-01H2-00000-00&context=1516831)

The Irish Times

April 23, 2016 Saturday

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**Section:** OPINION; Pg. 17

**Length:** 462 words

**Body**

Another milestone in the international response to global warming was marked in New York yesterday when representatives of countries from all over the world gathered at the United Nations headquarters to sign the landmark accord on climate change, agreed at the Paris summit last December. Although many heads of state or government, including US president Barack Obama, were not present for the ceremony, it is now almost certain that the deal will come into force next year as soon as it achieves the UN's "55/55" formula - the support of 55 countries covering more than 55 per cent of global ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions***.

Under the Paris Agreement, more than 190 nations agreed to ***reduce*** these ***emissions*** so low that, in the second half of this century, the concentrations of carbon dioxide remaining in the atmosphere can be safely absorbed by natural systems such as forests. The task we all face is monumental, because reaching this goal by 2050 will require a "serious and significant effort to decarbonise the global economy", as Christiana Figueres, outgoing executive secretary of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, said on her way to New York.

Indeed, to show that they "walk the talk", the travel ***emissions*** from all of the delegations will be tallied and offset by carbon credits.

With new temperature records being set almost month by month, the Paris Agreement aims to limit global warming to two degrees Celsius, or even below that critical threshold for humanity. The United States, China, India, Canada, Mexico and South Africa are expected to formally approve the agreement later this year, but the EU may take longer as an equitable share-out of the effort to ***reduce*** overall ***emissions*** by 30 per cent by 2030 - as it pledged in Paris - remains to be negotiated between member states, including Ireland. And this additional burden falls on top of a widely anticipated failure to meet our own EU ***target*** for 2020.

Playing our part in tackling climate change is not high on the agenda of talks between Fine Gael, Fianna Fáil and others about forming a government. But it should be. The outgoing Coalition had its Action Plan for Jobs, which was reviewed annually and clearly produced results. A similarly single-minded focus on climate is now required, with the aim of cutting ***emissions*** from ***agriculture***, buildings and transport.

Instead, however, the outgoing Government has been putting all of its effort into making a "special case" for Ireland in Brussels, in the hope of ensuring that we will have a less onerous EU ***target*** to meet in 2030. This is not only shameless but also quite possibly futile as other member states are likely to conclude that, much as we might like to think otherwise, there is nothing "exceptional" about Ireland after all.

**Load-Date:** April 22, 2016

**End of Document**



[***The Sunday Herald Holyrood Hustings ... this week the parties debate the Environment***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JD3-4MF1-JD7N-K1D0-00000-00&context=1516831)

The Sunday Herald (Glasgow)

March 27, 2016 Sunday

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**Section:** Pg. 11

**Length:** 1734 words

**Byline:** party spokespeople

**Body**

THE SNP have championed action on climate change. Scotland is a world leader on ***reducing*** carbon ***emissions*** - both in terms of our ambition and our record.

In 2009, we set world-leading ***targets*** to ***reduce*** the nation's ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions*** by 42 per cent by 2020, and by 80 per cent by 2050.

With four years to go to 2020 the latest independent statistics show that Scotland's ***emissions*** have already ***reduced*** by 38.4 per cent since 1990 and that Scotland is on track to exceed our 42 per cent ***target*** several years early.

We are outperforming the UK as a whole and are one of the leading countries in Western Europe in terms of ***reducing*** ***emissions***.

That is great news and is thanks to a huge effort by communities, businesses, individuals and families as well as by the SNP Government.

Our efforts to date have been recognised by the UN, which described Scotland as "a shining example", and by the UK Committee on Climate Change which said we are "among the world leaders".

The SNP have also led the way on climate justice, establishing Scotland's Climate Justice Fund - the first of its kind in the world - and have spent £6 million to date to help poor communities in the sub-Saharan countries of Malawi and Zambia adapt to the impacts of climate change.

If re-elected the SNP will continue to champion action on climate change and will increase our Climate Justice Fund to at least £3m per year for the life of the Parliament.

LABOUR will use the powers of our parliament to protect the air we breathe, the water we drink and the food that we eat.

The worldwide consensus on climate change is clear: the last thing we need is another fossil fuel.

That is why Labour would say loud and clear - no ifs, no buts, no fracking in Scotland.

The SNP have refused to rule out fracking in Scotland.

In fact, their ***Energy*** Minister said he expects a debate on the issue next year.

We've been here before with the SNP. They condemn something to win votes, freeze it for a period, order a big report and then go ahead and do it anyway.

They did it with the council tax and all the signs suggest they are going to do it with fracking.

The SNP say their decision on fracking will be guided by reports that won't be published until after the election.

Nicola Sturgeon now needs to come clean. If she is looking at the principle of fracking then why pay for reports looking at decommissioning? If the Scottish Government is not planning to allow fracking in Scotland, why is it researching how to clean up its aftermath?

It's time for the SNP to support Labour's call for an outright ban. The moratorium is not an outright ban; it's only a temporary freeze. Scotland deserves answers before May 5 on whether or not the SNP will support an outright ban or whether they are leaving the door open for drilling.

Scotland will be the best again on climate change by enacting bolder plans. Scottish Liberal Democrats will give a priority to warm homes, renewable heat, low-carbon transport as well as continued support for a diverse range of renewable electricity generation.

We will expand Government actions to create warm homes and take it seriously as a National Infrastructure Priority. New initiatives will meet our aims on fuel poverty and climate change.

We will put a focus on renewable heat, adopt the first-ever industrial heat strategy, and promote combined heat and power to use waste heat more effectively. We will not permit fracking as it would open a new front on fossil fuels. We will end open-cast coal mining, given the devastating damage done to landscapes with little prospect of restoration.

To cut the carbon out of transport we will speed up rail journey times to the North East and Highlands, support extension of high-speed rail into Scotland and develop contactless multi-mode payment for all public transport.

We will not support the surge in air transport pollution and the cuts to environmental programmes that would come from abolition of Air Passenger Duty.

We will promote the natural environment and take tougher action on wildlife crime.

Liberal Democrats say that the empowerment of individuals is not limited to the current generation. Future generations should have the same rights as we do to live their lives in the ways that they choose. That means we must pass on a sustainable legacy.

SCOTLAND is the most beautiful country in the world and we are all rightly proud to call it home. We have hundreds of natural wonders sitting on our doorstep - no matter where in Scotland we live. Our landscape attracts millions of tourists every single year, employing hundreds of thousands of Scots and making a contribution worth billions of pounds to our economy. That's precisely why the Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party supports the creation of further national parks across Scotland. They would not only help protect some of our best landscapes, but would also help attract more tourists and support local businesses. Our natural environment can only be supported through sustainable communities across Scotland and that's why it is crucial to develop better digital infrastructure, invest in transport links as well as affordable housing.

However, nothing threatens our environment more than climate change. Scotland's parties are united in their support for the ambitious climate change ***targets***, but we differ in our approach to meeting them. The Scottish Conservatives have always promoted measures that would improve ***energy*** efficiency, but progress in this area has been very slow. Upgrading it to a national infrastructure priority is a start, but we need to significantly boost funding too. Renewable heat is another area where progress has been painfully slow and we particularly need to do more to encourage district heating networks across urban and rural areas. It is our duty to support our natural environment, for Scotland today - and Scotland tomorrow - depends on it.

GREENS have been Holyrood's boldest environmental champions since day one. From proposing the first climate change laws to defending our seas and air from pollution, to driving investment in warm homes or safer streets we have always challenged the cosy consensus to deliver change. Grey parties will always put the environment in a box - arguing for more renewables one day then expansion of airports the next. We need the right choices for the environment every single day, especially if we are to drive the global fight to halt climate change, while creating jobs and tackling poverty.

I'm fed up with other parties flip-flopping on fracking - by introducing new laws we can keep the fracked gas we cannot afford to burn in the ground. We need positive action to ban the pesticides that threaten wildlife and people while supporting a new generation of greener farmers through subsidy and land reform. A Food, Farming and Health Act would put a "right to food" into law, eradicating food poverty and get people connected from field to plate.

That bold land reform agenda can also tip the balance for communities, so our treasured local green spaces are protected from aggressive developers while incentivising housing on derelict land. We can't afford to wait while species fighting eradication are massacred. We can't afford to make climate-vulnerable communities wait because the SNP Government won't prioritise enough flood protection schemes.

It's time for a bolder, greener Holyrood, so make it happen.

FOR RISE, it's obvious that more ethical business practices and summits of world leaders have not been enough to prevent the world being engulfed in ecological crisis. We believe that to combat climate change, we need system change. Scotland can play a leading role in the global transformation to a sustainable society. To do so however, we must be prepared to tackle inequality and the free market. We would end austerity, instead pushing massive public investment towards creating 100,000 fairly paid green jobs. These would be doing things like building a new, publicly-owned, renewable ***energy*** infrastructure, manufacturing green technology or protecting Scottish ecosystems. Public services must be in public hands to ensure they work together to help decarbonise Scotland. We would build 100,000 new public homes, ending our housing crisis. These would use the latest smart technologies to ensure minimal ***energy*** needs and maximum sustainability. We would take all of Scotland's public transport network back into public hands, creating a single nationally integrated system that was free for all users. The costs of these would be massively offset by savings from ***reduced*** air pollution, congestion and road accidents.

Scotland's unequal pattern of land ownership has allowed the aristocracy to depopulate Scotland and turn huge estates into ecological deserts. We would end this with radical and far-reaching land reform that would see land used by reinvigorated communities for sustainable ***agriculture*** and rewilded to protect Scotland's biodiversity.

SCOTLAND has a huge range of different habitats and extensive biodiversity which makes it hard for Government to create legislation that fits all.

We will abolish excessive and unnecessary EU regulation and directives, replacing the current system of top down management with a system of individual stewardship.

So far the ***targets*** set by Government are arbitrary and can have contrary effects on the environment and biodiversity. We will scrap ***targets*** regarding forestry, rewilding and carbon ***emissions***.

EU ***targets*** have destroyed Scottish heavy industry such as steel smelting and driven companies out of Scotland to the Far East where they can pollute at will. This neither helps the planet nor Scots trying to find a job.

Ukip wants to keep heavy industry and jobs in Scotland where we can work with them to ***reduce*** pollution with technology.

Wind power is hopelessly inefficient, ruins our tourist industry and puts public money into the pockets of wealthy landowners and investors, while at the same time pushing up bills for pensioners and steel makers.

Ukip are completely opposed to covering Scotland with inefficient Germany propellers. We need a mix of power and ***energy*** generation.

The EU Water Framework Directive has led to a lack of river dredging in Scotland resulting in catastrophic flooding. This directive might be suitable for sun dried Sardinia but not for Scotland.

Decisions on dredging and environment should be left to Holyrood.

**Load-Date:** March 27, 2016

**End of Document**



[***Carbon Navigator to be annual task in Beef Data and Genomics Programme***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JYT-G2C1-F0BB-S2PX-00000-00&context=1516831)

Irish Examiner

June 9, 2016 Thursday

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**Section:** SUPPLEMENTS

**Length:** 569 words

**Body**

***Agriculture*** accounts for approximately 30% of production of these Irish ***greenhouse gases***, with most of the remainder being contributed by the transport and domestic sectors.

***Agricultural*** ***emissions*** are difficult to ***reduce***. Nevertheless, ***agriculture*** ***emissions*** are in steady decline, and are currently 9% lower than in 1990.

Irish grass-based beef production systems are already relatively carbon efficient, and farmers who adapt a number of practices and technologies can significantly improve efficiency, improve profitability, and lower GHG ***emissions*** all at the same time.

The Carbon Navigator is an online farm management package produced by Bord Bia and Teagasc that quantifies the environmental gains that can be made on each individual s farm.

Each participant in the Beef Data and Genomics Programme (BDGP) must complete a Beef Carbon Navigator by October 31, 2016.

Is there a Beef Carbon Navigator cost for the farmer?

The first completion of the Carbon Navigator must be undertaken in conjunction with an approved advisor.

The Department will cover the cost of the approved advisor for the completion of the Carbon Navigator.

The farmer s cost is incorporated into the annual BDGP payment.

How does the Beef Carbon Navigator work?

The navigator quantifies the environmental gains that can be made on each applicant s farm, by setting ***targets*** in key areas such as grassland management.

It is a very useful and simple tool which allows individual farmers to look at changes which can be made on their farm in areas such as the length of the grazing season or their average calving rate, and then illustrates what that change would mean in terms of ***reduced*** GHG ***emissions*** from his/her herd, and the increased profitability associated with such a change.

What must the farmer do?

Specifically in 2016, each farmer participating inthe BDGP is required to provide details that highlight how a farm s GHG ***emissions*** can be ***reduced***.

The areas covered are lengthening the grazing season, lowering the age at first calving, achieving a higher calving rate, improving growth rates, using nitrogen more efficiently, and slurry management.

The report compares your farm performance with similar farms, and highlights the potential impact on income and on GHG ***emissions***, of reaching the ***targets*** set.

What does the farmer have to do after 2016?

Following on from the initial completion in 2016, applicants must submit data annually to allow for an  update of the carbon navigator.

This data will be submitted via survey forms issued by the ICBF to each applicant and will cover areas such as grazing season length, fertiliser use, and slurry spreading.

What do BDGP participants have to do before October 31?

The Department, through a service provider (Teagasc), has trained qualified advisors on the process of completing a carbon navigator.

Details of trained advisors are available on the Department s website.

Individual BDGP participants should select an advisor of their choice from the list, and make an appointment to complete their navigator.

The advisor will assist the farmer in the completion of the navigator in 2016 (before October 31), and will also provide farmers with an overview of the benefits associated with reaching the individual ***targets*** set out in the navigator.

The farmer is then expected to complete the carbon navigator in each of the following years, either online or through the submission of key data as set out above.

**Load-Date:** June 8, 2016

**End of Document**



[***FARMING POLL 2015: Sore points for three out of four farmers***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H0M-TBW1-F0BB-S26N-00000-00&context=1516831)

Irish Examiner

September 24, 2015 Thursday

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**Section:** SUPPLEMENTS

**Length:** 362 words

**Body**

They are far from happy with publication of their EU direct payments, with 78% of the 569 farmers surveyed as part of the Irish Examiner ICMSA farming survey agreeing this is is an unfair invasion of their privacy.

It s not heard to reason why 63% of those surveyed strongly agree with the statement, and 15% slightly agree.

The information being made freely available on a publicly accessible website angered farmers.

If there was some sort of restriction on who could access the information, perhaps farmers might not be as angered.

Their organisations argued that publishing direct payment information would arouse the interest of criminals who ***target*** rural dwellers.

Farmers have said they are not against transparency, or the right of EU taxpayers to check what payments farmers get, but their security concerns are genuine.

Another sore point: suggestions that Irish farmers should cut back production in order to ***reduce*** global warming are not well received.

Three out of four in the survey disagreed with the suggestion that Irish farmers should cut back their production to ***reduce*** global warming (51% strongly disagreed, 24% slightly disagreed).

Paradoxically, although ***agriculture*** accounts for a relatively very high 32% of ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions*** in Ireland, our grass-based production system makes Irish livestock farming more environmentally sustainable than some systems in other countries.

Our farmers know we have the climate to grow grass, and environmentally friendly systems so why should they ***reduce*** production?

Farmers are also annoyed at how strictly the Department of ***Agriculture*** implements EU legislation, with 73% of those surveyed agreeing that the Department is too strict (51% strongly agree , 22% agree ).

Perhaps the claw back of money by the Department where payments were overclaimed on ineligible lands is partly to blame for the anger.

Three out of four farmers are also against the bank s right to repossess a family home, if the mortgage hasn t been paid in over a year.

Only 14% of those surveyed agree with the right of banks to repossess family homes in this circumstance.

Follow this link for more survey findings and analysis Survey methodology

**Load-Date:** September 24, 2015

**End of Document**



[***ASTM International approves new alternative jet fuel***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JJY-87G1-DYXB-S3B4-00000-00&context=1516831)

Progressive Media - Company News

April 18, 2016 Monday

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**Section:** AVIATION; Regulatory Approvals

**Length:** 436 words

**Highlight:** Technical standards organisation ASTM International has approved a new alternative environmentally friendly, bio-based jet fuel, known as alcohol to jet synthetic paraffinic kerosene (ATJ-SPK).

**Body**

Technical standards organisation ASTM International has approved a new alternative environmentally friendly, bio-based jet fuel, known as alcohol to jet synthetic paraffinic kerosene (ATJ-SPK).

Supported by the US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), the recent approval has brought the total number of these approved products for use in air travel to five.

Compared with the conventional petroleum-based fuels, ATJ-SPK expects to make air travel more environmentally sustainable and help to ***reduce*** air quality ***emissions***.

FAA noted that it approves new renewable jet fuel pathways through ASTM International and the agency's ***emissions*** and noise (CLEEN) collaboration with the aviation industry played a vital role in ATJ-SPK.

A renewable product, ATJ-SPK is created from an alcohol called isobutanol that is derived from renewable feed stocks, including sugar, corn or forest waste.

Previously approved renewable fuels are synthesised iso-parafins (SIP), hydro-processed esters and fatty acids synthetic paraffinic kerosene (HEFA-SPK), Fischer-Tropsch synthetic paraffinic kerosene (FT-SPK) and Fischer-Tropsch synthetic kerosene with aromatics (FT-SKA).

SIP converts sugars into jet fuel; HEFA-SPK uses fats, oils and greases; FT-SPK and FT-SKA use several sources of renewable biomass such as municipal solid waste, ***agricultural*** wastes and forest wastes, wood and ***energy*** crops. These fuels can also be made from fossil resources, including coal and natural gas.

The alternative fuels are expected to help the aviation industry to meet its climate change goal of carbon neutral growth.

ATJ-SPK is said to ***reduce*** ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions*** on a lifecycle basis by up to 85%.

The alternative jet fuels are considered to have the potential to be increasingly viable for cost-competitive production and extensive use.

While fulfilling cost-saving aim of the aviation industry, the FAA intends to support developing ways to use the alternative fuels directly in existing aircraft without making any change to engines or other equipment while maintaining an equivalent level of safety and performance to petroleum jet fuels.

Additionally, the FAA is working with industry, other government agencies and academia through the Commercial Aviation Alternative Fuels Initiative (CAAFI) and the agency's aviation sustainability centre (ASCENT), a consortium of research universities.

Last month, the FAA selected two unleaded fuel formulations from Shell and Swift Fuels for further testing, as part of its current efforts to develop an acceptable unleaded fuel for small airplanes.

The testing is scheduled to begin this year and end in 2018.

**Load-Date:** April 19, 2016

**End of Document**



[***Experts' talk about climate change***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5J22-R0X1-F15H-C1GM-00000-00&context=1516831)

Isle of Man Today

February 8, 2016 Monday

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**Length:** 416 words

**Body**

Two experts are to give a talk about tackling global climate challenges and carbon ***emissions***.

Professors Kevin Anderson and Alice Bows-Larkin will give a public talk at The Studio Theatre, Ballakermeen High School, on Wednesday, February 17, at 6.15pm.

The talk is free to attend and tickets can be booked via {[*https://goo.gl/9Pbgc0*](https://goo.gl/9Pbgc0) | this site} or via the Department of the Environment, Food and ***Agriculture***'s environment Facebook page.

Kevin is Professor of ***Energy*** and Climate Change at the School of Mechanical, Aerospace and Civil Engineering at University of Manchester and Deputy Director of the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research. He has advised the UK Government on climate change.

Alice is Professor of Climate Science and ***Energy*** Policy at the university and a director and researcher for the Tyndall Centre. She is associate editor of the journal Carbon Management.

In their talk 'Going beyond dangerous climate change: how Paris locks out 2 C', they state there is a widening gulf between political rhetoric on climate change and the reality of escalating ***emissions***.

They believe there's little chance of maintaining the rise in global temperature to below 2 C despite a global commitment to do so.

Their visit is organised jointly by the Department of Environment, Food and ***Agriculture*** (DEFA) and Isle of Man Friends of the Earth.

While in the island, the speakers will also brief Tynwald Members and visit secondary schools.

Ralph Peake MHK, member of DEFA with responsibility for environment, safety and health, attended the annual conference on climate change, hosted by the Royal Institute for International Affairs, ahead of the crucial United Nations climate conference held in Paris in December.

It was in Paris that nations committed to a universal, binding agreement to combat climate change.

Mr Peake reiterated that climate change was high on the Isle of Man Government's agenda.

As a small island nation, we are only too aware of the effects unchecked climate change would have,' he said.

Tynwald last year approved our policies on mitigating for and adapting to climate change. Work by the department on a strategy for ***reducing*** ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions*** is now under way.

It is important that, as a nation, we keep up to date on international developments and update our approach accordingly. As part of this we need to listen to and learn from experts in the field and the visit of two such eminent professors will give us an even greater understanding of the subject. '

**Load-Date:** February 9, 2016

**End of Document**



[***-World Bank-New Climate Innovation Center Launched to Promote Green Growth in Vietnam***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HK9-4T01-JD3Y-Y4YS-00000-00&context=1516831)

ENP Newswire

December 11, 2015 Friday

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**Length:** 509 words

**Body**

A new business hub supporting local clean-tech enterprises was launched today by the Government of Vietnam with the Governments of Australia and the United Kingdom and the World Bank Group.

First of its kind in the country, the Vietnam Climate Innovation Center (Vietnam CIC) aims to assist 48 clean-tech businesses within its first three years of operations, expanding access to new and improved climate-smart products and services to over 1,700 households.

Vietnam is one of the five countries most vulnerable to climate change and the Government sees clean technologies as key to ***reducing*** ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions*** by 8 to 10 percent between 2010 and 2020, and a further 1.5 to 2 percent by 2050.

'The VCIC will contribute to the government's comprehensive efforts to respond to climate change and promote green growth,' said Nguyen Quan, Vietnam's Minister of Science and Technology. 'In line with Vietnam's Green Growth Strategy 2011-2020 with a vision toward 2050, the VCIC's innovative model will help local enterprises catalyze innovative technology for green and sustainable growth.'

To achieve the country's goal of 50 percent of enterprises applying green production techniques by 2020, the World Bank Group's Climate Technology Program estimates that Vietnam's clean technology market will need up to $ 19 billion in investment through to 2025.

The Vietnam CIC, which is supported by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the UK Department for International Development, will provide financing, mentorship, and advisory services to the growing number of local clean-tech entrepreneurs working in five key sectors-***energy*** efficiency, information technology, renewable ***energy***, sustainable ***agriculture***, and water management.

'The private sector plays a central role in the global climate change response,' said Layton Pike, Deputy Head of Mission, Australian Embassy to Vietnam. 'All countries, both developed and developing, can help mobilize climate-friendly private sector investment by creating an enabling environment for innovative businesses.'

'The VCIC will help turn climate challenges into opportunities of growth as it helps small and medium enterprises scale the most innovative private-sector solutions to climate change,' said Victoria Kwakwa, World Bank Country Director for Vietnam. 'By encouraging domestic entrepreneurship and innovation, as well as supporting local clean-tech enterprises, the center will help ***reduce*** ***emissions*** and improve climate resiliency, while also creating jobs and improving regional competitiveness.'

Hosted by the Ministry of Science and Technology, the VCIC is part of World Bank Group's Climate Technology Program, which is currently implementing a global network of innovation centers in seven countries.

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**Load-Date:** December 11, 2015

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[***Emissions set to soar as love of steak takes off in Asia***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HK7-32M1-DY93-M07R-00000-00&context=1516831)

Agence France Presse -- English

December 11, 2015 Friday 3:34 AM GMT

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**Length:** 926 words

**Dateline:** Jakarta, Dec 11 2015

**Body**

Climate change is the last thing on Maya Puspita Sari's mind as she tucks into a steak and splurges on ice cream, products that were once a luxury but are now a growing staple in the diets of millions of Indonesians.

But the livestock sector is a major contributor to climate change -- accounting for 14.5 percent of the total global amount of ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions*** caused by human activity according to the UN Food and ***Agriculture*** Organization -- more than those produced from powering all the world's road vehicles, trains, ships and planes combined.

***Emissions*** are predicted to jump dramatically as demand skyrockets -- the FAO predicts consumption of meat and dairy is expected to have risen 76 per cent and 65 per cent respectively by 2050.

Nowhere is this insatiable appetite growing faster than in Asia, where a huge, new middle class is consuming animal products like never before as tastes change and incomes rise.

Consumers in China and India are driving this trend but demand in emerging economies such as Indonesia -- a country of 250 million with a rapidly growing middle class -- is also tipped to explode.

For consumers like Sari, a 31-year-old accountant living in the cosmopolitan capital Jakarta, livestock products that were once rarely consumed outside major religious holidays, if at all, are now in abundant supply.

She grew up in rural Sumatra eating red meat once or twice a year, with little on offer besides rendang, a traditional spicy beef stew.

"Meat is no longer a luxury now and there are so many choices, like steak," she told AFP. "In Jakarta you can find all kinds of ice cream, yoghurt and other dairy products. It's great."

Christabelle Adeline Palar, a 25-year-old editor at a travel magazine, barely remembers eating meat as a child but now with a disposable income and an array of options, she knows what she wants.

"It's always meat," she said of her daily food choices, "except for days where I need to be more thrifty.

- Growing appetite -

Indonesians still consume less meat than their Asian neighbours -- averaging 2.7 kilograms per person every year, compared to 8 kilograms in Malaysia -- but this is changing. London-based think tank Chatham House ranks Indonesia a top-ten nation for forecast growth in beef, pork and chicken consumption by 2021.

Jakarta and its affluent, densely populated suburbs lead the way in meat consumption. People there -- often young with cash to spare -- eat around 12 kilograms of meat annually.

"Not only can they afford it, but there are many cafes and restaurants in the city that serve meat," Asnawi, chairman of the Indonesian Association of Meat Traders (APDI), who like many Indonesians goes by one name, told AFP.

Dairy producers are also optimistic. The Indonesian Association of Milk Producers says the market potential for dairy in Southeast Asia's largest economy is "tremendous", while New Zealand's Fonterra declared Indonesia one of its most important global markets when it opened its first local factory in September, predicting soaring demand as the "large and increasingly affluent population" seeks new products.

Nearly 90 per cent of Indonesia's dairy is imported, mainly from New Zealand and Australia, but local producers are also riding the wave as consumption grows.

"Our family only had about 20 cows when we first relocated here. Now we have 70," dairy producer Rahmat said from his small ranch on the outskirts of Jakarta.

- Curbs on consumption -

Ruminant animals emit huge amounts of methane, a gas that is more than 20 times more efficient than carbon dioxide in trapping the sun's heat, through belching and flatulence. Nitrous oxide, another potent ***greenhouse gas***, is also released by manure and fertilisers.

Growing population, urbanisation and incomes will increase global demand for meat and dairy, the FAO says, creating a "pressing" need to ***reduce*** the livestock sector's environmental footprint.

A 2013 report by the UN body says ***emissions*** could be ***reduced*** by 30 percent if farmers adopted better practices -- including quality feed, good manure management and improved breeding and animal health. But a recent review by the International Panel on Climate Change found the greatest potential for cutting ***emissions*** is a change in consumer habits.

Last year a report by Chatham House warned: "Dietary change is essential if global warming is not to exceed 2C," -- the UN ***target*** to limit average global warming -- but public awareness about the link between livestock and climate change remains poor.

In Indonesia, where livestock consumption is just taking off, president Joko Widodo has stated he wants the nation to be self-sustainable in beef production with 2019 the ***target***, according to media reports.

The creation of more cattle ranches could add to deforestation of a land already decimated by demand for palm oil, paper and rice. This year swathes of Southeast Asia choked in a thick haze as a result of slash and burn farming, releasing more ***greenhouse gases*** each day than all US economic activity.

Greenpeace Indonesia's Bustar Maitar said: "In Brazil, (livestock) farming activities are conducted on a massive industrial scale. If that's what we're aiming for, of course it would affect our forests."

But convincing people not to eat beef and yoghurt to prevent global warming could be a hard sell when public awareness of climate change is limited.

WWF Indonesia's Nyoman Iswarayoga told AFP: "Our public does not even understand the link between forest fires and ***emissions***, let alone meat consumption. Changing lifestyles and mindsets takes time."

**Load-Date:** December 11, 2015

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[***Emissions set to soar as love of steak takes off in Asia***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HD3-SN51-DY93-M181-00000-00&context=1516831)

Agence France Presse -- English

November 17, 2015 Tuesday 3:29 AM GMT

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**Length:** 926 words

**Dateline:** Jakarta, Nov 17 2015

**Body**

Climate change is the last thing on Maya Puspita Sari's mind as she tucks into a steak and splurges on ice cream, products that were once a luxury but are now a growing staple in the diets of millions of Indonesians.

But the livestock sector is a major contributor to climate change -- accounting for 14.5 percent of the total global amount of ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions*** caused by human activity according to the UN Food and ***Agriculture*** Organization -- more than those produced from powering all the world's road vehicles, trains, ships and planes combined.

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**Load-Date:** November 17, 2015

**End of Document**



[***What the Paris climate deal means for Southeast Asia***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HMT-GH91-F03R-N33G-00000-00&context=1516831)

Deutsche Welle World

December 18, 2015 Friday 4:30 PM EST

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**Length:** 1443 words

**Body**

Dec 18, 2015( Deutsche Welle World: [*http://www.dw.de/top-stories/world/s-1429*](http://www.dw.de/top-stories/world/s-1429) Delivered by Newstex) <nl/> Countries in Southeast Asia are among the most vulnerable to global warming. Now that a landmark global climate deal has been reached, DW examines how this may impact both the environment and the regional economy. Given its heavily populated coastlines, Southeast Asia is particularly susceptible to extreme weather events brought about by climate change.<nl/>

The main threat facing the region is sea-level rise and the increased intensity of tropical cyclones. The combination of these two could have detrimental economic and development costs, said Bill Hare, Director of Germany-based Climate Analytics, a non-profit climate science institute.<nl/> "We are already seeing an increased intensity of storms such as Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines two years ago which killed at least 6,300 people, left 11 million homeless and destroyed the economy and infrastructure across a large swath of the island archipelago," Murray Hiebert, the deputy director of the Sumitro Chair for Southeast Asia Studies at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), told DW.<nl/> Key livelihood sectors along the Mekong River - including ***agriculture***, fisheries, aquaculture and livestock - are most at risk during severe weather, while economies such as Laos, Thailand and Vietnam, collectively risk $16 billion (14.8 billion euro) annually due to the impacts of climate change, according to a report released this year by USAID.<nl/> And the impact of freak weather patterns - such as typhoons, droughts, destructive storms and intense precipitation - may be even worse than initially thought. While representatives from over 190 nations were negotiating a global climate deal in Paris, the Manila-based Asian Development Bank (ADB) issued a report warning that economic losses from climate change-related incidents in Southeast Asia could be 60 percent higher than previously estimated. <nl/> The ADB paper points out that the five countries that collectively account for 90 percent of regional ***greenhouse gas*** (GHG) ***emissions*** - Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam - may lose up to 11 percent of their gross domestic product (GDP) by the year 2100, compared to their 2009 projection of seven percent.<nl/> "As we learn more about the specific impacts of climate change, we are realizing just how vulnerable Southeast Asia is," David Livingston, an associate at the ***Energy*** and Climate Program at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, told DW.<nl/> "Record temperature levels seen in the warmer months of 2015 throughout the region will exacerbate in the decades ahead, with some countries, including Singapore and Indonesia, becoming virtually uninhabitable for certain days of the year by the end of the century," Livingston added.<nl/> The deal offers hope<nl/> One of the main goals of the landmark climate deal, reached on December 12 in the French capital, is to pursue efforts to limit global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius over pre-industrial levels.<nl/> By highlighting this ***target***, the agreement addresses the concerns of low-lying, vulnerable countries and also seeks to prevent or minimize potential damage due to extreme weather.<nl/> But even if warming is kept below 2.0 degree Celsius by 2100, that would commit Southeast Asia to a sea-level rise of about 75 centimeters, said environmental analyst Hare. "More dramatically, if countries were not meeting their ***emissions*** pledges, in a business-as-usual scenario, sea-level in the region could rise as high as above 100 centimeters," the expert warned.<nl/> Another important element of the Paris accord is a pledge by developed nations to muster billions of dollars per year, starting in 2020, to help poorer countries cope with the effects of climate change. <nl/> "Given the fact that developed countries have pledged to support developing countries to the tune of $100 billion (92.3 billion euro) annually from 2020 on, the Paris climate deal has created an expectation in Southeast Asia that national efforts to curb global warming will, indeed, be financially supported," Moritz Kleine-Brockhoff, project director of the German Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom in Indonesia, told DW.<nl/> Although critics of the Paris climate accord have been quick to point out the non-binding nature of the financial support pledges, Livingston said that there is still reason for hope.<nl/> "Countries will come together every five years, starting in 2020, to review their pledged commitments and consider amendments or extensions to these commitments. Because the process is intended to be transparent, methodologically sound, and visible, there is the potential for international pressure to lead to more ambitious commitments from many countries in the years ahead than would otherwise be the case," Livingston said.<nl/> Tackling deforestation<nl/> The vast sums of international financial support, although not immediately available, would be hugely beneficial to the developing Southeast Asian countries who have less financial capacity to ***reduce*** carbon ***emissions*** and develop ***energy*** efficient technology. <nl/> The ADB report points out that although climate stabilization might involve substantial initial costs, the benefits it brings would greatly impact the region in the long run and far outweigh the original financial investment.<nl/> As for concrete steps to ***reduce*** ***emissions*** in Southeast Asia, scaling down the rate of deforestation in Indonesia - one the world's top five emitters of carbon dioxide - is among the most urgent issues which needs to be addressed.<nl/> "Deforestation, the conversion of peat lands into palm oil plantations, as well as forest fires in Indonesia are the main sources of GHG ***emissions*** in Southeast Asia," asserts Brockhoff. "Indonesia's President Joko Widodo has promised to save remaining rainforest. But it remains to be seen whether this promise will be followed by action."<nl/> The destruction caused by deforestation and forest fires is also poorly publicized and has not received the attention it deserves, analyst Livingston noted.<nl/> "The tropical peat lands and forest fires ablaze throughout Indonesia resulted in the ***emission*** of nearly a gigaton of GHG ***emissions*** in just a few weeks - more than the entire annual ***emissions*** of Germany," Livingston said. "This was truly a full-scale environmental disaster that much of the world didn't notice. It's the worst such fire in Indonesia since 1997." <nl/> Regional cooperation needed<nl/> Besides combating deforestation, analyst Hiebert said, the region, as a whole, needs to switch from inefficient coal-fired power plants to cleaner forms of ***energy*** such as gas and possibly nuclear, solar and wind ***energy***.<nl/> Furthermore, Carnegie's Livingston added, governments in the region have to take measures to tackle pollution caused by oil production.<nl/> "Southeast Asia is also an area with extensive oil refining capacity and is home to various crude oil resources ranging from light, low-sulfur oils to heavy, sulfurous crude oil grades. These countries may wish to incorporate policies to ensure that the carbon intensity and local pollution associated with oil production and use declines over time," he explained.<nl/> Moreover, experts say more regional cooperation is required to tackle climate-related problems in Southeast Asia such as deteriorating air quality. Since regional air circulation means that pollution in one country would easily be transmitted to its neighbors, wealthier countries like Singapore, which experienced an intense haze for several days due to the forest fires in Indonesia, might be more motivated to help its neighboring countries.<nl/> "For a city-state that aspires to attract global capital and human talent, Singapore has an overriding interest in improving the level of environmental governance in neighbors such as Indonesia," Livingston added.<nl/> Climate expert Hare believes the most prominent measure to ***reduce*** ***emissions*** in the region is the removal of fossil fuel subsidies, which in 2014 totaled around $36 billion.<nl/> "These subsidies entail a major fiscal burden for many governments. Therefore removing them would ***reduce*** GHG ***emissions*** without affecting future GDP growth, in addition to giving some leeway to implement additional low-carbon policies," he argued.<nl/> Another relevant measure, he said, is the introduction of fuel standards in the transport sector. "This measure will provide significant co-benefits in terms of air quality improvement, and ***reduced*** fuel consumption."<nl/>

**Load-Date:** December 18, 2015

**End of Document**



[***Hydro feels the impact as Californian drought powers on.***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GPR-PH41-F0PT-M362-00000-00&context=1516831)

Water Power & Dam Construction

August 1, 2015

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**Section:** Pg. 38

**Length:** 1066 words

**Highlight:** The US State of California is experiencing one of its worst droughts in recorded history and increasingly severe effects are being experienced by communities, ***agriculture*** and the environment. An independent think-tank has examined the impact on hydropower production and is calling for consideration to be given to climate change when planning for future electricity generation.

**Body**

California's hottest and driest drought in recorded history is shifting the sources of ***energy*** for electricity with adverse economic and environmental consequences. According to the Pacific Institute, an independent think-tank focused on water issues, diminished river flows have resulted in less hydroelectricity, more expensive electricity, and increased production of ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions***.

"This severe drought has many negative consequences. One of them that receives little attention is how the drought has fundamentally changed the way our electricity is produced," said Pacific Institute President Peter Gleick, who wants to prompt a lively debate on how to factor in a changing climate when we plan for electricity generation.

Under normal conditions, electricity for California's millions of users is produced from a blend of many sources, with natural gas and hydropower being the top two. As data from the US Geological Survey shows, the drought has ***reduced*** state river flows for hydropower stations. As of 6 July 2015, 72% of stream gauges in California had flows less than 25% of normal. While more than 55% had streamflow less than 10% of normal.

Such a decline in river flow has led to natural gas becoming a more prominent player in the ***energy*** mix - and this is an expensive change, the Pacific Institute warns in its recent report. Between October 2011 and October 2014, California's ratepayers spent US$1.4B more for electricity than in average years because of the drought-induced shift from hydropower to natural gas. In an average year, hydropower provides 18% of the electricity needed for ***agriculture***, industry, and domestic use. Comparatively, in this three-year drought period, hydropower comprised less than 12% of total California electricity generation (less than the 13% recorded during the 2007-09 drought). Indeed, according to the California ***Energy*** Commission, in 2014 hydro plants produced 14,000MNW of power, or 6% of in-state electricity generation, down from 12% in 2013. "Unfortunately," the ***energy*** commission has stated, "California is in its fourth year of a severe drought."

Such hydro shortfall has been made up by burning more natural gas, increasing purchases from out-of-state sources, and expanding wind and solar generation. And as the figures above have shown, the economic effects are being felt. A longer view reveals an even more startling economic impact. Factoring in the dry years from 2007-2009 and a ***reduction*** of 62,000GWh of hydroelectricity, the total additional ***energy*** cost to the state's electricity users during the six years of recent drought was US$2.4B.

Furthermore, the Pacific Institute suggests that there is growing concern amongst climatologists that the current drought may be part of a longer trend.

"On average we note that under stable climate conditions decreases in hydro generation in dry years should be balanced with increases in generation during wet years,"Gleick states in his report. "However, there appears to be a downward trend in hydroelectric generation unrelated to changes in installed generation capacity. This raises the question of the role of climate change in affecting long-term hydrologic conditions in the state - a question beyond the scope of this analysis, but one that researchers are actively pursuing."

Further reliance on natural gas for the state's electricity production also has environmental costs, Gleick warns. Hydropower produces few or no air contaminants, whereas burning natural gas emits many pollutants, including climate-changing ***greenhouse gases***. During the 2011-14 drought period, burning more natural gas to compensate for limited hydropower led to an 8% increase in ***emissions*** of carbon dioxide and other pollutants from California power plants. If the current drought persists, water flowing to drive hydroelectric turbines will continue to shrink and expensive and polluting natural gas will become even more of a factor in the electricity production game.

"The drought continues," Peter Gleick says in conclusion to his report, "reservoir levels remain abnormally low, precipitation and especially Sierra Nevada snowpack are far below normal, and hydro generation is expected to continue to be below average. Thus, we expect the costs to California ratepayers and the environment to continue to mount."

Californian grid expected to maintain reliability despite lowered hydro production

According to data released by the US ***Energy*** Information Administration (EIA) on 6 July 2015, despite the fact that California's extreme to exceptional drought conditions since early 2014 have lowered hydroelectric generation, the state is expected to maintain grid reliability throughout the summer. The North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) expects more than 72GW of electricity generating capacity to be available this summer, with demands likely to peak at 53GW.

Low rainfall and warm weather has led to snowpack levels reaching zero as early as the end of May this year. EIA says that this will affect summer water runoff which forms part of water supply for Californian hydropower generators. Indeed NERC's 2015 assessment of available hydroelectric summer capacity has been derated by 3118MW. Since June 2014 more than 2000MW of new renewable capacity has come on line and has helped to offset this shortfall. EIA also says that increased generation from natural gas and electricity imports from surrounding areas are expected to make up for the ***reduced*** in-state hydro generation.

SOURCE: Today in ***Energy***. 6 July 2015. US ***Energy*** Information Administration. [*www.eia.gov*](http://www.eia.gov)

Further information

This article was compiled from the report Impacts of California's Ongoing Drought: Hydroelectricity Generation by Peter H. Gleick. March 2015. The Pacific Institute, Oakland, California, US. [*www.pacinst.org*](http://www.pacinst.org). Email: [*info@pacinst.org*](mailto:info@pacinst.org)

The full report is available online at:

[*http://pacinst.org/publication*](http://pacinst.org/publication)/ impacts-of-californias-ongoing-drought-hydroelectricity-generation

The Pacific Institute is an independent non-profit organisation which conducts research and analysis to advance environmental protection, economic development and social equity. Peter H. Gleick is co-founder and president of the Pacific Institute which was founded in 1987. He works on the hydrologic impacts of climate change; sustainable water use, planning, and policy; and international conflicts over water resources.

**Load-Date:** August 18, 2015

**End of Document**



[***-DTE Energy customers save nearly $ 600 million in 2015 through energy efficiency programs***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K7B-NRP1-F0K1-N12Y-00000-00&context=1516831)

ENP Newswire

July 14, 2016 Thursday

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**Length:** 780 words

**Body**

DETROIT - ***Energy*** customers participating in the company's ***energy*** efficiency offerings in 2015 will save nearly $ 600 million across all programs, including free home and business consultations, lighting discounts at local retailers and rebates on high-efficiency heating and air conditioning equipment as well as ***ENERGY*** STAR appliances.

Many other initiatives, including the free DTE Insight app - which allows customers to monitor real-time ***energy*** use from their smartphones - and a PowerScan tool to view ***energy*** consumption from any appliance, also contributed to the savings.

Customers participating in these programs have saved enough electricity to power about 460,000 homes and enough natural gas to heat more than 200,000 homes. The programs also have ***reduced*** ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions***, estimated to be the equivalent to more than 546,000 cars driven in one year.

'DTE ***energy*** efficiency programs save our customers money, ***reduce*** ***energy*** waste and improve the environment - all while creating jobs and supporting local businesses throughout Michigan,' said John Boladian, director of ***energy*** optimization at DTE ***Energy***. 'The savings start from the moment customers install a high-efficiency light bulb or ***energy*** efficient water heater, and lasts over the lifetime of their ***energy***-saving upgrades. Customers benefit immediately from discounts or rebates, and from long-term savings on their ***energy*** bills.'

DTE's free Business ***Energy*** Consultation is one way customers save. 'A DTE ***energy*** expert did a walk-through of my business, installed free ***energy*** efficient lights, water-saving aerators and gave me free advice on how to save even more,' said Fenton Brown, owner of Fenton's Jamaican Jerk Chicken restaurant in Southfield. 'Now I'm saving over 20 percent on my ***energy*** bill.'

Customers who have invested in larger ***energy*** efficiency projects include the Kentwood Public Schools. With the improvements made, the school district received $ 114,000 in DTE incentives and ***reduced*** its monthly ***energy*** costs by up to 25 percent.

More information on savings and programs are available in DTE's 2015 ***Energy*** Optimization Report at dteenergy.com/eoannualreport. DTE accomplishments highlighted in the report include:

Discounted more than 4.1 million high efficiency compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) and 1.1 million light-emitting diodes (LEDs) at more than 700 major retail locations

Recycled over 33,000 ***energy*** inefficient refrigerators, freezers, dehumidifiers and room air conditioners

Educated approximately 35,000 fourth- through sixth-grade students, teachers and parents at 345 schools in Michigan

Delivered over 18,000 free ***energy*** efficiency kits to homeowners

Introduced the free DTE Insight app to over 22,000 customers

Installed free ***energy*** efficient products through 1,550 Business ***Energy*** Consultations and 27,000 Home ***Energy*** Consultations

Completed over 40,000 ***energy*** efficiency projects for more than 15,000 businesses resulting in $ 150 million savings

Outfitted more than 33,000 apartments units with free ***energy*** efficiency products

Supported more than 150,000 low-income customers with ***energy*** efficient light bulbs and more

Launched an ***energy*** efficiency ***agriculture*** program to help Michigan farmers save on their ***energy*** bills

Developed partnerships and trained more than 2,400 contractors to implement the programs

Created more than 300 Michigan-based jobs in the manufacturing and service industries

For ***energy*** efficiency information, residential customers can visit dteenergy.com/saveenergy and business customers can visit dteenergy.com/savenow. DTE ***energy*** efficiency program information is also available by calling 866.796.0512. Customers interested in downloading the free DTE Insight app with an iPhone, Apple Watch, or Android phone, and have the smart meter, can go to the App Store or Google Play.

About DTE ***Energy***

DTE ***Energy*** (NYSE: DTE) is a Detroit-based diversified ***energy*** company involved in the development and management of ***energy***-related businesses and services nationwide. Its operating units include an electric utility serving 2.2 million customers in Southeastern Michigan and a natural gas utility serving 1.2 million customers in Michigan. The DTE ***Energy*** portfolio includes non-utility ***energy*** businesses focused on power and industrial projects, natural gas pipelines, gathering and storage, and ***energy*** marketing and trading. As one of Michigan's leading corporate citizens, DTE ***Energy*** is a force for growth and prosperity in the 450 Michigan communities it serves in a variety of ways, including philanthropy, volunteerism and economic progress.

Contact:

Beth Crick

Tel: 313.235.5555

[Editorial queries for this story should be sent to [*newswire@enpublishing.co.uk*](mailto:newswire@enpublishing.co.uk) ]

**Load-Date:** July 14, 2016

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[***SABIC highlights innovation with details of world's largest co2 purification plant in sustainability report***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JT5-BM41-F0K1-N4PG-00000-00&context=1516831)

M2 PressWIRE

May 18, 2016 Wednesday

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**Length:** 967 words

**Body**

May 17, 2016

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FinancialWire

May 18, 2016 Wednesday

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**Length:** 972 words

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M2 PressWIRE

May 4, 2016 Wednesday

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**Length:** 960 words

**Body**

May 3, 2016

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FinancialWire

May 4, 2016 Wednesday

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**Length:** 965 words

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[***-SABIC HIGHLIGHTS INNOVATION WITH DETAILS OF WORLD'S LARGEST CO2 PURIFICATION PLANT IN SUSTAINABILITY REPORT***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JP6-RR91-JD3Y-Y1H8-00000-00&context=1516831)

ENP Newswire

May 4, 2016 Wednesday

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[***Farm Stewardship Centre renews focus for 21st century***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HBN-2FC1-F0K1-N53Y-00000-00&context=1516831)

FinancialWire

November 10, 2015 Tuesday

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**Length:** 311 words

**Body**

The Farm Stewardship Centre in Lethbridge will provide a renewed focus on applied research, evaluation and implementation of new methods and technology aimed at ***reducing*** the environmental footprint of farming and food production.

"Strengthening environmental stewardship practices is crucial to the responsible growth of a strong and sustainable ***agriculture*** sector that will help further diversify the Alberta economy. The staff at the centre will be working closely with producers, commodity groups and the research community to explore innovative approaches to how we grow food and care for the environment in this province." Oneil Carlier, Minister of ***Agriculture*** and Forestry

"The long-term success of the ***agriculture*** industry relies on Alberta continuing to show leadership in sustainable and environmentally responsible development. The Farm Stewardship Centre will be a tremendous resource for our ***agriculture*** producers to help them make informed decisions about how to best manage their operations." Shannon Phillips, Minister of Environment and Parks

Established in the 1980s, the Lethbridge research facility continues to evolve to meet the needs of the ***agriculture*** sector. Under its new mandate, the centre is undertaking projects that range from the assessment of ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions*** linked to fertilizer to developing systems that improve water and ***energy*** use on farms.

The work at the centre will complement other government initiatives including Growing Forward 2, which are designed to support the development of a sustainable and competitive ***agriculture*** industry. Through the federal-provincial Growing Forward 2 program, producers and agri-businesses have access to funding to support advances in animal health, food safety, market access, value-added industry development and environmental stewardship.

(Distributed by M2 Communications ([*www.m2.com*](http://www.m2.com)))

**Load-Date:** November 10, 2015

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[***A shoddy little deal instead of facing our global duty; Ireland should accept its share of responsibility for climate justice, not protect powerful vested interests***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GKP-H7F1-JC8Y-84J0-00000-00&context=1516831)

The Irish Times

August 4, 2015 Tuesday

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**Section:** OPINION; Pg. 12

**Length:** 975 words

**Byline:** John Sweeney

**Body**

The *Fifth Assessment Report* of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), approved over the past two years by 195 governments, including Ireland, has provided a dramatic wake-up call on the ongoing crisis of climate change.

The realisation that the world has only a decade or two left to dramatically ***reduce*** its carbon ***emissions*** or face the unknown horrors of "dangerous climate change" represents the carefully considered view of the global community of atmospheric scientists.

As might be expected, the dwindling band of sceptics continues to fight a rearguard action, not least in Ireland, where the usual pseudoscientists, would-be climatologists, and scientific contrarians rehearse long-discredited arguments in various media outlets, including *The Irish Times.*

The familiar tactics of selectively quoting supposedly supportive sentences from IPCC reports, cherrypicking years for establishing temperature "trends" and using model uncertainties as justification for inaction,pop up again and again. They betray a misrepresentation of where the science is at and offer false premises to address the looming "planetary emergency".

The *Fifth Assessment Report* of the IPCC clarified the best scientific estimate is that essentially all of the warming over the past 60 years is due to human activity. While the ups and downs of individual years may give short-term comfort to deniers, the message that the future of climate is in human hands is indisputable. Cherrypicking years such as 1998 to downplay recent temperature trends, therefore, is mischievous - and at variance with what has been observed.

Warming has continued since 1998. Last year was the warmest on record, with early indications that 2015 will exceed even this. Such is the likely contribution from the current El Niño event, climatologists expect 2016 to be even warmer.

While short-term variations occur in those parts of the environment (ocean, land or air) where the excess heat of the planet is being stored, its continuing, rapid warming, due primarily to human activity, is not in any significant scientific doubt. Neither is there increased uncertainty regarding causes of future sea level rise. The IPCC report provided a complete budget for this for the first time: the very opposite of increased uncertainty.

Ireland will not be immune from adverse impacts of climate change, even in the short term. Increased frequency of extreme weather events are likely to become more common, with rainfall and sea-level changes having large economic consequences for our infrastructure, ***agriculture*** and biodiversity.

**Vulnerable**

Even before Eircodes, analysis of addresses in coastal Ireland confirms the costs of doing little to protect vulnerable people and places quickly rises above EUR 1 billion for individual storm surges from a rising sea level. Unlikely events occur sooner or later, as many western communities learned in winter 2013-2014.

What should our response be to this "planetary emergency", which the World Health Organisation estimates is responsible for the premature deaths of 150,000 people annually?

First, we have to accept our share of responsibility. On average, each Irish person is responsible for ***emissions*** of 12.6 tonnes of ***greenhouse gases*** annually; about 40 per cent more than countries such as the UK or Germany, and 40 per cent more than the average for the EU as a whole. Indeed, Ireland emits more ***greenhouse gases*** than the poorest 400 million people in the world combined. For a country with a proud record of positive assistance to the developing world, this is our unwelcome contribution to current and future food insecurity.

Second, we have to see beyond the political rhetoric to tackle the powerful vested interests working to ensure the polluter doesn't pay. In the long-delayed Climate Change Bill, the sectoral winners and losers have already been decided.

The household, ***energy*** and transport sectors are to be decarbonised completely by 2050 with effectively all our nonindustrial ***emissions*** being allocated to ***agriculture***. ***Emissions*** from this favoured sector (1.6 per cent of GDP) are rapidly increasing again and are not expected to peak until the late 2020s. Any fines or purchases of carbon ***emission*** quotas for breaching our 2020 ***reduction*** commitments will be levied on the general taxpayer.

I serve on the academic committee of the Shanghai Climate Change Research Centre. When my hosts ask about Ireland's plans to greatly intensify its ***agriculture*** over the next decade, increasing its dairy production by 50 per cent, I have to explain to them that China is a primary ***target***. Ireland's strategy is to sell more powdered milk to Chinese mothers who have traditionally relied on breastfeeding. Meanwhile, Irish taxpayers spend a six-figure sum to encourage Irish women to stop using powdered milk because breastfeeding is better.

As the crucial Paris Conference of Parties approaches, what guidance is being given to our negotiators?

**Special case**

It would seem the national short-term economic interest is all that matters. Special-case pleading for Ireland's ***emissions*** has reached a high level as concessions for Irish ***agriculture*** are sought for 2030. Irish farmers are among the most efficient dairy producers in Europe. German car manufacturers are among the most efficient car producers in Europe. Where does the special pleading stop?

Indications are that a shoddy little deal for 2030 is emerging which will enable Ireland to freeload on the efforts of other countries. The placing of short-term national interest before global duty is not the climate justice that Pope Francis, Ban Ki-moon, Mary Robinson or President Michael D Higgins talk about. Neither, one suspects, is it what the Irish people want their legacy to their children to be based on.

John Sweeney is emeritus professor of geography, Maynooth University

**Load-Date:** August 3, 2015

**End of Document**



[***Can a 'steak tax' tackle climate change?***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HWJ-DC91-DYS1-03DJ-00000-00&context=1516831)

The Irish Times

January 19, 2016 Tuesday

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**Section:** FEATURES; Pg. 14

**Length:** 907 words

**Byline:** Joe Humphreys

**Body**

The COP21 climate-change deal agreed in Paris last month has presented a new ethical dilemma for Ireland. Planned growth in the beef industry means that Ireland will fail to hit ***targets*** to ***reduce*** ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions***.

The Government justifies this on the basis that beef in Ireland is produced in a more sustainable and less intensive fashion than in many other countries.

But environmental groups such as An Taisce say the long-term sustainability of the planet should take priority over what is, by international standards, a luxury dietary option.

To try to settle the matter, Unthinkable sought the view of American philosopher and environmental expert Paul B Thompson, author of the recently published *From Field to Fork: Food Ethics for Everyone*. Thompson argues that "ethics should be viewed as a discipline for asking better questions", and therefore shies away from simplistic solutions.

"When we move into the intersection between climate ethics and food ethics, we find ourselves needing to juggle some complex trade-offs," he says. "We might meet ***targets*** such as those agreed to in Paris by ***reducing*** livestock production, but from the standpoint of obligations to our grandchildren we would be doing much less than we should be to really address climate change."

A broader point he makes is that changing consumer behaviour is less important than changing production methods. Or, as he puts it (providing today's idea): "We should not think that we can shop our way into a solution to climate change."

**To what extent should *greenhouse-gas* *emissions* enter our thinking when we choose what to eat?**

"I would say that they are in the mix, but should not be dominant considerations. ***Emissions*** are handled better as public-policy issues than as dietary choice issues."

**Some environmentalists advocate the introduction of a**

**'steak tax**

**' to factor in the cost of carbon *emissions* from beef farming. What do you think?**

"To start out with a milk or cheese tax might actually be more effective (remember, a lot of those cows are for dairy production). I suspect that there is a bit of strategic thinking in the advocacy of a steak tax, which might seem more palatable than a tax on milk. (After all, don't children drink milk?)

"Given what I've just said, I would endorse a steak tax only within the context of much larger and more richly considered climate policies. It could be part of the picture, but people would be misinformed if they thought it was making a major contribution to climate policy by instituting a steak tax in the absence of other, additional measures."

**Is it okay to damage the environment in order to achieve food security?**

"Well this is really a crucial ethical question that I take to be much more substantive than the climate questions. My short answer is that food security takes top priority, but even within the food security discussion there are complexities that are seldom appreciated. My book discusses how a naive urban-centred approach to food security actually harms food security for many of the poorest and most vulnerable people in the world, who as farmers would actually like to get a higher price for what they are producing.

"So in fact I don't endorse the 'feed the world' rhetoric that comes out of many agribusiness firms. If push comes to shove, people need to be fed, but the whole point of food ethics should be towards more subtle, long-range thinking that avoids the situation where push comes to shove.

"I do endorse more environmentally oriented approaches to ***agriculture***, and I think of environmental sustainability as an area where dramatic and effective changes are within reach. So to repeat, as a strictly moral point, people come first, but as a practical matter, environmental improvements may hold the greatest promise for an effective food ethics."

**What's the most ethical way of eating?**

"I'm tempted to be facetious, undertaking a comparison of knife and fork to chopsticks, for example. My book makes the point that we are really talking about buying and selling rather than eating when we get into food ethics, which suggests to me that we should be having a hard look at the way our current configuration of property rights, market structures and public policies affect a wide range of social and environmental values.

"I'm not going to quibble with someone who tries to make the best of a bad lot by trying to make food purchases that do the least harm, given the current structure of our food system, but I would take issue with those who define food ethics strictly in terms of 'the most ethical way of eating'.

"We could develop more ethically satisfactory food systems, and we have an ethical obligation to try and achieve this goal. Purchase decisions make a contribution to that end not so much by bringing about a particular good consequence as by sending a signal that these things matter.

"So in a nutshell, any time you buy a product at a premium price and the premium is linked to environmental, animal welfare, social justice or better health values, you are making a contribution to a more ethical food system by telling the food industry and our public policymakers that you care. What you buy is less important than the fact that you are sending that message."

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**Ask a sage**

Question: Can we really feed the world and save the planet?

Oscar Wilde replies: "The optimist sees the doughnut, the pessimist sees the hole"

**Load-Date:** January 19, 2016

**End of Document**



[***EMISSION IMPOSSIBLE; As EU leaders discuss emissions cuts, battlelines are being drawn up between the Irish agricultural sector and the environmentalists, says John Mooney***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:626G-R2F1-JCBW-N0WW-00000-00&context=1516831)

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**Section:** FEATURES; Pg. 14

**Length:** 1627 words

**Byline:** John Mooney

**Body**

The taoiseach seemed confident and had an assured manner as he briefed journalists at the COP21 global climate summit in Paris last Monday. Ireland, declared Enda Kenny, had struggled to meet its ***targets*** to ***reduce*** carbon ***emissions*** as a result of the recession, which he described as a "lost decade". It had meant fewer resources being available to invest in climate change research and infrastructure.

The bottom line was that Ireland would need "time and space" to meet stringent EU ***targets*** of a 40% ***reduction*** in ***emissions*** from 1990 levels by 2030. "We do not want to see a situation where we are limited in what we can produce by the abolition of quotas, only to find food is being produced in countries with inferior standards and higher ***emission*** levels," said Kenny.

Addressing the summit, the taoiseach spoke about Ireland's commitment to cut ***emissions*** by 2050 through the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Bill, though he warned that any plan could not be allowed to compromise the nation's capacity for food production.

Some environmental campaigners described the bill as a farce intended to distract attention from the government's inaction.

Malcolm Noonan, a Green party spokesman, said: "This bill is almost worse than doing nothing, because it is creating the impression something is being done when it's not. Climate change will be put on the backburner again, as it has throughout this government's term. The bill has no binding ***targets***, sets up a powerless climate change advisory council, is purely aspirational and has no requirements for anybody to do anything."

Kenny's government is accused of exposing Irish taxpayers to the threat of fines of billions of euros if the country fails to ***reduce*** carbon ***emissions*** caused by the ***agricultural*** sector, which is responsible for 30% of its total.

Some campaigners compare the relationship between Fine Gael and rural organisations such as the Irish Farmers' Association (IFA) to the one that existed between Fianna Fail and property developers during the Celtic tiger.

Is the government prioritising the interests of big farmers? Should Ireland radically change its ***agricultural*** policies and refocus on forestry and other types of sustainable and ethical farming that are more carbon-friendly? THE United Nations Food and ***Agriculture*** Organisation estimates that livestock farming is responsible for approximately 18% of all ***greenhouse gases*** globally. This is more than ***emissions*** produced by cars, planes and all other forms of transport put together. The problem is more acute in Ireland, as the national herd of cattle is disproportionately large. Ireland has 1.1m dairy cows and more than 5m cattle being reared for beef.

Cattle do not produce CO2 but do belch out between 80kg to 120kg of methane each per annum. Methane is 35 times more powerful than CO2 because it traps more infra-red radiation, which is causing the planet to warm, ice caps to melt, weather extremes, desert expansion and the destruction of wildlife habitats.

***Emissions*** from ***agriculture*** are likely to increase under Ireland's Food Wise 2025 plan which aims to increase the size of the dairy herd. Joseph Curtin, a senior research fellow on climate policy at the Institute of International and European Affairs, estimates that ***emissions*** from the sector will increase by 9% between 2012 and 2020, though the recession has ensured Ireland will probably meet its 2020 ***targets***. He said the real problem concerns Europe's plans to ***reduce*** ***emissions*** by 40% by 2030 - a ***target*** being negotiated by member states.

"Food Wise 2025 envisages a huge expansion in dairy and this would result in a significant increase in ***emissions***," said Curtin. "The benefits of Food Wise 2025 in terms of job creation and regional development are stated clearly, but the carbon costs, which are certainly available, have not been published."

Curtin estimates that, on current trends, Ireland's ***emissions*** will exceed the 2030 ***target*** by about 20m tonnes a year. This could result in the imposition of fines of (EURO)2.5bn. "This assumes we do nothing to ***reduce*** ***emissions*** from ***agriculture*** and transport, and that we get a moderate ***target*** from ongoing negotiations," he said.

The climatologist believes the government should change the ***agricultural*** landscape in Ireland. Some beef farmers should switch to planting forestry, since trees act as a carbon sink. "If we increased afforestation back to 20,000 ha per annum, we could close the 2030 gap by 6m-8m tonnes. If we retrofit [make more ***energy*** efficient] 1m homes we could save another 3m-4m tonnes and create thousands of jobs," he said.

Ireland has only 11% of its land mass as forest compared with an EU average of 42%, even though trees grow up to three times faster here than the EU average, according to government figures.

John Sweeney, a leading climatologist, believes Irish farmers are good stewards of the countryside, but are being let down by misguided government policy. "The policies are all short term. The government wants to expand the dairy industry but the price of milk has halved. It's crazy," he said.

"Ireland will always be a good ***agricultural*** country but we have to ask ourselves, what type of ***agriculture***? There are environmental consequences to what we are doing. We've seen the fodder crisis which cost us (EURO)500m. These are not one-off events. These weather extremes are going to become more frequent ... ***Agriculture*** will have to adapt, which might just involve some rethinking."

Sweeney said that Ireland's primary ***agriculture*** industry accounts for 1.65% of gross national product (GNP). This increases to 7% if agri-food (producing food ***agriculturally***) is added in. He said that the government was happy to allow 1.5m urban households and 3.5m motorists to pay carbon taxes to cover the cost of ***emissions*** by 135,000 farmers.

"This is something that has to be debated in public, rather than quietly pushed under the carpet."

Oisin Coghlan, a spokesman for Friends of the Earth, believes the taoiseach "let the cat out of the bag" in his comments before addressing the COP21. "He was basically saying ***agriculture*** was too important to be compromised by climate change," he said.

Coghlan suspects the government is going to seek a derogation for ***agriculture*** on the 2030 ***targets***, which are still being negotiated. "Compare how the government organised itself to promote jobs after the economic crash and how it has organised itself to take action on climate change," he said. "The action plan for jobs was driven by the taoiseach and his department. It set out an annual plans, quarterly reports and benchmarking, which worked.

"I don't think Ireland is going to be rewarded for its inaction. The EU knows if it gives in to Irish demands to protect our favoured industry, what's to stop the German's demanding a derogation for car manufacturing? If we keep going the way we are, and we do not get a derogation from the EU, we could be fined between (EURO)2bn and (EURO)5bn," he said.

Alan Matthews, a professor emeritus of European ***agricultural*** policy at Trinity College Dublin, asks why transport users are paying for the ***emissions*** of the ***agriculture*** sector. "If you emit a molecule of carbon from driving or from ***agriculture***, it's all the same," he said. "No one is saying you can't expand dairy farming in Ireland, no more than anyone is saying you shouldn't drive to work. But we should have a system of prices that reflects the environmental damage done by everyone. So if there is a carbon tax on fuel, there should be a carbon tax on farm produce."

Matthews has been criticised by the IFA for research he conducted on the beef industry, which concluded much of it would be lossmaking and unsustainable without European subsidies in the form of single farm payments.

"Much beef farming makes no sense whatsoever," he said. "The real problem with encouraging farmers to move into carbon-friendly types of farming is that there is no penalty for beef and dairy farming. Farmers are not forced to consider if there is a cost to the rest of society for their activities."

Harold Kingston, chairman of the IFA's environment and rural-affairs committee, said that the lobby group accepts the science but believes that a "one size fits all" approach to tackling greenhouse ***emissions*** is not feasible.

"I [agree] that some farmers should look at forestry. Certain farms are loss-making on beef, and there are some lands which would make better economic sense to plant with trees," he said. "But if we don't supply the beef, someone else will. There is no point in debating otherwise. Ireland has a unique environment and particular climate for producing dairy and beef. Grass is our best crop."

Kingston argues that it is not realistic to expect countries which have an ability to produce a certain product to be singled out. "It's a global problem. If you look at rice production, that should be stopped immediately. It's the same with almonds in California. Harvesting almonds uses a phenomenal amount of water," he said.

Asked whether the IFA is too close to Fine Gael, Kingston replied that the association supports the government's ***agriculture*** policies and believes that minister Simon Coveney is doing a good job. "For a long time we weren't listened to. Now we are," he said. The Department of Agri- culture said that projections by the Environment Protection Agency showed that ***agriculture*** ***emissions*** would rise by 2% by 2020.

"The ***agriculture*** sector is not looking for a free pass," it said. "***Agriculture*** will play its part but there is no silver bullet in terms of ***agriculture*** technology or practice that can be globally applied," it said.

The negotiations at COP21 continue this week.

Kevin Myers, page 17

FARMERS ARE NOT BEING FORCED TO CONSIDER IF THERE IS A COST TO SOCIETY FOR THEIR ACTIVITIES

**Graphic**

Mind your carbon footprint there

**Load-Date:** March 13, 2021

**End of Document**



[***Food and drink companies found to be ignoring biggest impact on climate; CDP analysis finds fewer than a quarter of big food, beverage and tobacco brands report agricultural emissions***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GV5-T611-F021-62N7-00000-00&context=1516831)

The Guardian

September 3, 2015 Thursday 5:38 PM GMT

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**Section:** GUARDIAN SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS

**Length:** 747 words

**Byline:** Frances Way

**Body**

The vast majority of the world's biggest food, beverage and tobacco companies are ignoring their largest climate impacts by failing to disclose ***emissions*** from ***agricultural*** production, according to a new CDP analysis.

Related: Big food is going green, but will consumers buy in?

When talking about the impacts of climate change, few risks are more visceral or tangible than those it poses to future food supply. From spikes in food prices to threats to the coffee industry, consumers are increasingly aware of the effects of rising global average temperatures.

For companies in the food, beverage and tobacco sectors, climate change presents a two-fold challenge: the industry is highly exposed to climate-related impacts, but is at the same time a major contributor to increasing global ***greenhouse gas*** (GHG) ***emissions*** levels - particularly from ***agricultural*** production, which according to the IPCC causes 10-14% of global GHG ***emissions***.

These challenges are significant. KPMG has warned that inaction on climate change could threaten the financial viability of the food industry. The increase in unpredictable extreme weather events is already effecting ***agricultural*** productivity and food companies' supply chains are being hit: the ongoing drought in California is estimated to have cost the ***agricultural*** sector more than $2bn to date.

A growing number of companies are realising the risks. This year 92% of brands reporting to CDP - the global non-profit organisation that gathers data on environmental risk - noted risks from the physical impacts of climate change, up from 84% in 2012. Some companies are relating this to future financial outputs: Diageo projects that changes in temperature could have negative financial implications on its ***agricultural*** supply chain. This could force the company to spend up to $77m more in increased commodity costs and production disruption.

But, despite these clear business risks, many companies are not yet investigating where their largest climate impacts may lie. The biggest source of food-related GHG ***emissions*** occurs before produce leaves the farm gate, in the ***agricultural*** production portion of producer's supply chains. Yet only 22 of the 97 major food, beverage and tobacco brands that disclosed to CDP this year reported their indirect GHG ***emissions*** from ***agricultural*** production.

In addition, the majority of ***emissions***-***reduction*** activities companies report carrying out are focused on their direct operations, rather than their supply chain, where the bigger opportunities and risks lie, confirming that companies should be moving their attention from their own operations to their ***agricultural*** supply chain.

These risks are increasingly being realised by investors. Following a shareholder proposal set out by Green Century Capital Management and Oxfam America, one of the world's largest food and beverage companies, General Mills, recently became the first in its sector to adopt long-term, ambitious ***targets*** to cut GHG ***emissions***.

General Mills' strategy includes carbon ***emissions*** from its own operations but also from its supply chain, including those from ***agricultural*** production. The company is ahead of its peers in recognising ***agricultural*** production as producing the largest amount of GHG's of all its operations, bringing competitive advantage.

Related: Using big data could alert us to risks in the food supply chain

Data disclosed to CDP shows that major food producers that do take steps to address climate change through activities such as nutrient or manure management see multiple benefits, including financial savings. Over a third of food, beverage and tobacco companies report lower costs as a result of carrying out ***agricultural*** management practices with climate change benefit, either in their own farms or with suppliers.

Companies are also realising that they cannot do it alone. General Mills states that there is much to be achieved in pre-competitive collaboration across the industry when tackling ***emissions*** in ***agriculture***. Supply chain collaboration is also providing positive feedback, with firms like SABMiller and Dairy Crest group undertaking knowledge sharing to improve fertiliser use.

To truly ensure future resilience, food, beverage and tobacco companies must shift their focus from in-house ***emissions*** to those from ***agricultural*** production. While there are clear barriers to action, including the complexity of working with huge, global ***agricultural*** supply chains, signs of change are becoming more frequent.

**Load-Date:** September 3, 2015

**End of Document**



[***Ségolène Royal, French Minister of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy: Viewpoint***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5WS6-C4N1-DXYV-73SC-00000-00&context=1516831)

Oxford Business Group: Articles

January 2016

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**Length:** 665 words

**Body**

I'm optimistic about the outcome of the Paris Climate Conference, because I see that things are moving and are accelerating in the field of sustainable ***energy***. There is still a lot of work to do, but I am thankful to the Algerian authorities for their commitment to helping France achieve the goals of the Paris Climate Conference. In September 2015, Algeria sent its projection in terms of its ***energy*** mix and ***energy*** transition. This was a very encouraging gesture, and it is a strong signal from a producer of fossil fuels. We are currently advancing the goals of the Paris Climate Conference and, to do so, it was necessary to visit many African countries, including Algeria. We must imagine a future with this transition and this evolution. France has ***reduced*** the share of its nuclear power and ***energy*** needs coming from fossil fuels, in order to ramp up its usage of renewable ***energy***. This transition is very important, especially for countries around the Mediterranean, and therefore I believe that there are many fronts where France can work together with Algeria and its people.

No country is spared from global warming and climate change. It interested me to hear the minister of environment and water resources describe the impact of global warming on water scarcity, on the issue of desertification and on other issues related to ***energy*** and pollution. These are ultimately the same problems that are found globally with varying degrees of intensity. It is true, however, that the damage generated by climate change is enormous. Take for example the floods seen in Corsica, the melting snow on Mont Blanc, the decline of biodiversity and the negative effect that climate change has had on the coastline of Algeria.

At the same time, we have solutions. What must be understood is that being forced to change modes of development to ***reduce*** ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions***, to stop polluting and ***reduce*** our excessive use of the earth's natural resources, is in fact an opportunity. It allows our companies to organise themselves differently. Through innovation, investment, and the development of clean transport, companies will make a positive and real impact on the future. They can improve the ***energy*** efficiency of buildings, develop renewable ***energies*** such as solar power, address the issue of water treatment, question current waste treatment practices and explore biogas production in rural areas. Some of the major objectives of my visit were to reinforce the development of green funds, financing and technology transfer through partnerships on photovoltaic usage and ***agriculture***. In that same vein, it is important to strengthen our partnership with Algeria in the circular economy (waste, turning waste into raw material), biodiversity-related topics and renewables. These exchanges are very important and very fruitful for us in the fight against global warming, while at the same time help to create sustainable activities and jobs.

My stay was short but productive, and I was able to visit and witness some of the outstanding achievements Algeria has made in its ecological transition, particularly in water purification and waste treatment. In the area of water protection, major efforts were made in this country as early as 2005, with the signing of a water management agreement and sanitation in large cities with Suez. We need to ensure that everyone has access to renewable ***energy*** and, more specifically, that everyone has access to solutions that fight against global warming. I think of the protection of forests, for example. Deforestation has led to an accentuation of heat, whether in countries that have been deforested, or in cities. In each case, a lack of forests has had a negative impact on the quality of life. When we as people win back the presence of nature in our cities, we are contributing to the fight against global warming by helping to ***reduce*** carbon dioxide levels. Forests are carbon sinks so in that sense, it is an absolutely essential issue for the world.

**Load-Date:** March 12, 2020

**End of Document**



[***Meat tax far less unpalatable than government thinks, research finds; People are more likely to back policies to curb meat eating for health and climate reasons, Chatham House survey suggests***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HFK-K3S1-JCJY-G38P-00000-00&context=1516831)

The Guardian

November 24, 2015 Tuesday 12:29 AM GMT

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**Section:** ENVIRONMENT

**Length:** 921 words

**Byline:** Damian Carrington

**Body**

Taxing meat to simultaneously tackle climate change and improve global health would be far less unpalatable than governments think, according to new research.

Meat production produces 15% of all ***greenhouse gases*** - more than all cars, trains, planes and ships combined - and halting global warming appears near impossible unless the world's fast growing appetite for meat is addressed.

The new analysis says this could be done through taxes, increasing vegetarian food in schools, hospitals and the armed forces and cutting subsidies to livestock farmers, all supported by public information campaigns.

The research, from the international affairs thinktank Chatham House and Glasgow University, involved surveys and focus groups in 12 countries and found that even measures restricting peoples' behaviour could be accepted if seen as in the public interest, as was seen with smoking bans.

"Governments are ignoring what should be a hugely appealing, win-win policy," said lead author Laura Wellesley, at Chatham House.

"The idea that interventions like this are too politically sensitive and too difficult to implement is unjustified. Our focus groups show people expect governments to lead action on issues that are for the global good. Our research indicates any backlash to unpopular policies would likely be short-lived as long as the rationale for action was strong."

Increasing appetite for meat and population growth in developing countries mean global meat consumption is on track to increase 75% by 2050, which would make it virtually impossible to keep global warming below the internationally-agreed limit of 2C.

Meat consumption is already well above healthy levels in developed nations and growing fast in other countries, and is linked to rising rates of heart disease and cancer. To get to healthy levels, US citizens would need to cut the meat they eat by two-thirds, those in the UK by a half and those in China by a third.

If the world's population cuts to healthy levels of meat consumption - about 70g per day - it would ***reduce*** carbon ***emissions*** by an amount equivalent to annual output of the US, the world's second biggest polluter.

The UN climate change summit begins in Paris on 30 November, where the world's nations aim to seal a deal to tackle climate change.

Most countries have already submitted pledges to cut their ***emissions***, but they are not enough to keep warming below dangerous levels. Cutting meat eating to healthy levels would make up a quarter of that shortfall and is very low cost way of curbing ***emissions***, according to the report, but action to achieve this is non-existent.

Previous calls to cut meat consumption, from the chief of the UN's climate science panel and the economist Lord Stern, or to tax it, have been both rare and controversial.

"We are not in any way advocating for global vegetarianism," said Wellesley. "We can see massive changes [to ***emissions***] from just converging around healthy levels of meat eating." She said raising awareness of the impact on the climate from meat production was the first step, but was unlikely to shift diets by itself.

"The level of awareness is very low, indeed in China it is almost non-existent," said Catherine Happer, at Glasgow University. She said people in the 36 focus groups viewed meat taxes as the most effective, if unpopular, but that cutting subsidies for meat production was seen as both effective and popular.

"An awful lot of people were surprised that there were subsidies at all," she said. "They felt, particularly in the US, that governments had propped up a very unhealthy food market." Livestock subsidies in the 34 OECD nations alone were $53bn in 2013, including an average of $190 per cow. People also said any government action must avoid disadvantaging poorer citizens.

Prof Greg Philo, also at Glasgow University, said the key was "creating a new public understanding that industrial production of meat is not only dangerous to your own health but to human ecology as a whole."

Clare Oxborrow, a campaigner at Friends of the Earth, said: "Meat consumption can no longer be ignored in the climate debate - shifting diets to less meat and more plant proteins will be crucial. The government must stop using consumer backlash as an excuse for inaction".

The ***reductions*** mapped out by the report would not ***reduce*** the size of the global meat industry, the researchers said, because rising population is pushing up demand, but it would significantly slow its growth.

They also said efforts to make meat production greener could cut ***emissions*** by up to a third, but that this would be swamped by growing demand if action was not taken. Meat eating has plateaued in recent years in richer nations, but is growing fast in developing countries.

Previous studies have calculated that, on current trends, ***agricultural*** ***emissions*** will take up the entire world's carbon budget by 2050, meaning every other sector, including ***energy***, industry and transport, would have to be zero carbon, a scenario described as "impossible".

Meat production produces ***greenhouse gases*** via the methane emitted by livestock, the cutting down of forests for pasture, the production of fertiliser for feed crops and the ***energy*** and transport used by farmers. Beef is responsible for far higher ***emissions*** than chicken or pork.

None of the report's authors are vegetarians, but Rob Bailey, from Chatham House, said: "Having worked on this project, I have drastically ***reduced*** my meat consumption - I now eat it once a month."

**Load-Date:** November 24, 2015

**End of Document**



[***Can organic help Scotland's historic diet issue?***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5J0B-2NP1-JD7N-K2K2-00000-00&context=1516831)

The Herald (Glasgow)

February 1, 2016 Monday

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**Section:** Pg. 15

**Length:** 524 words

**Byline:** Cate Devine

**Body**

SCOTLAND'S Year Of Food And Drink 2015 has ended, but work is ongoing to keep up the momentum of record growth and it should come as no surprise that, in the light of the Scottish Government's ban on GM crops, organic food production is now having a bit of a moment as a key player in the future of Scottish ***agriculture***. It's being seen by many as a solution to the country's poor diet-related health record.

But it's going to be an uphill battle. The area of land managed organically in Scotland is falling, from almost 8 per cent in 2002 to just over 2 per cent in 2014, compared to a 1 per cent drop to just over 3 per cent in the rest of the UK - and a rise from over 4 per cent to about 6 per cent in Europe. On top of that, the number of organic producers and processors dropped from 900 in 2008 to less than 600 in 2014.

Last week saw the launch of Scotland's Organic Action Plan 2016-2020, in which the Scottish Organic Forum sets out its vision to make Scotland a world leader in green farming, alongside Denmark, France, Germany and other countries. It states the number one priority should be to increase public awareness about what it says are the economic, environmental and social values of organic produce, which is free of pesticides and antibiotics, is better for the resilience of the soil, produces slower-growing tastier meat and fresh produce, has higher standards of animal welfare, produces less ***greenhouse gases*** and protects biodiversity more than non-organic food production.

Persuading consumers to buy the higher ticket price of organic food compared to cut-price supermarket products will be part of a nationwide consumer campaign to promote organic over conventional. Also in the forum's sights are procurement and catering teams, businesses, public, private voluntary and third sector organisations, local and national policy makers, the Curriculum For Excellence and community food initiatives.

A feasibility study for a Scottish Organic brand is also planned. Much depends on getting organic brands into supermarkets and cafes, bars, restaurants and hospitals. Multiple and independent retailers will be asked to secure Scottish organic product listings.

Some of it is already out there. The Finlays, who produce Cream o'Galloway ice-cream at their dairy farm in Gatehouse of Fleet, have cut antibiotic and agro-chemical use by 90 per cent and doubled the productive life of their cows while also ***reducing*** ***energy*** use and ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions*** by more than half. They calculate that if all food were produced like this it would cost the same as industrially-produced food.

Takeaway sandwiches are another potential ***target***. According to a 2013 Defra report, 30 per cent of Britain's bread contained the weedkiller glysophate, which is often sprayed on to wheat crops pre-harvest to kill the crop, ripen it faster and make harvesting easier.

The use of glysophate on British cereals has increased by more than 400 per cent in the last 20 years, and the Soil Association cites a European study on city dwellers which found that in the UK, seven out of 10 people had traces of this weedkiller in their urine.

**Load-Date:** February 1, 2016

**End of Document**



[***Meat tax far less unpalatable than government thinks, research finds; People are more likely to back policies to curb meat eating for health and climate reasons, Chatham House survey suggests***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HFK-K3S1-JCJY-G38N-00000-00&context=1516831)

The Guardian

November 24, 2015 Tuesday 12:04 AM GMT

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**Section:** ENVIRONMENT

**Length:** 921 words

**Byline:** Damian Carrington

**Body**

Taxing meat to simultaneously tackle climate change and improve global health would be far less unpalatable than governments think, according to new research.

Meat production produces 15% of all ***greenhouse gases*** - more than all cars, trains, planes and ships combined - and halting global warming appears near impossible unless the world's fast growing appetite for meat is addressed.

The new analysis says this could be done through taxes, increasing vegetarian food in schools, hospitals and the armed forces and cutting subsidies to livestock farmers, all supported by public information campaigns.

The research, from the international affairs thinktank Chatham House and Glasgow University, involved surveys and focus groups in 12 countries and found that even measures restricting peoples' behaviour could be accepted if seen as in the public interest, as was seen with smoking bans.

"Governments are ignoring what should be a hugely appealing, win-win policy," said lead author Laura Wellesley, at Chatham House.

"The idea that interventions like this are too politically sensitive and too difficult to implement is unjustified. Our focus groups show people expect governments to lead action on issues that are for the global good. Our research indicates any backlash to unpopular policies would likely be short-lived as long as the rationale for action was strong."

Increasing appetite for meat and population growth in developing countries mean global meat consumption is on track to increase 75% by 2050, which would make it virtually impossible to keep global warming below the internationally-agreed limit of 2C.

Meat consumption is already well above healthy levels in developed nations and growing fast in other countries, and is linked to rising rates of heart disease and cancer. To get to healthy levels, US citizens would need to cut the meat they eat by two-thirds, those in the UK by a half and those in China by a third.

If the world's population cuts to healthy levels of meat consumption - about 70g per day - it would ***reduce*** carbon ***emissions*** by an amount equivalent to annual output of the US, the world's second biggest polluter.

The UN climate change summit begins in Paris on 30 November, where the world's nations aim to seal a deal to tackle climate change.

Most countries have already submitted pledges to cut their ***emissions***, but they are not enough to keep warming below dangerous levels. Cutting meat eating to healthy levels would make up a quarter of that shortfall and is very low cost way of curbing ***emissions***, according to the report, but action to achieve this is non-existent.

Previous calls to cut meat consumption, from the chief of the UN's climate science panel and the economist Lord Stern, or to tax it, have been both rare and controversial.

"We are not in any way advocating for global vegetarianism," said Wellesley. "We can see massive changes [to ***emissions***] from just converging around healthy levels of meat eating." She said raising awareness of the impact on the climate from meat production was the first step, but was unlikely to shift diets by itself.

"The level of awareness is very low, indeed in China it is almost non-existent," said Catherine Happer, at Glasgow University. She said people in the 36 focus groups viewed meat taxes as the most effective, if unpopular, but that cutting subsidies for meat production was seen as both effective and popular.

"An awful lot of people were surprised that there were subsidies at all," she said. "They felt, particularly in the US, that governments had propped up a very unhealthy food market." Livestock subsidies in the 34 OECD nations alone were $53bn in 2013, including an average of $190 per cow. People also said any government action must avoid disadvantaging poorer citizens.

Prof Greg Philo, also at Glasgow University, said the key was "creating a new public understanding that industrial production of meat is not only dangerous to your own health but to human ecology as a whole."

Clare Oxborrow, a campaigner at Friends of the Earth, said: "Meat consumption can no longer be ignored in the climate debate - shifting diets to less meat and more plant proteins will be crucial. The government must stop using consumer backlash as an excuse for inaction".

The ***reductions*** mapped out by the report would not ***reduce*** the size of the global meat industry, the researchers said, because rising population is pushing up demand, but it would significantly slow its growth.

They also said efforts to make meat production greener could cut ***emissions*** by up to a third, but that this would be swamped by growing demand if action was not taken. Meat eating has plateaued in recent years in richer nations, but is growing fast in developing countries.

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[***Tackling climate change without Chinese emissions data***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HBV-B1S1-DY9P-N4BM-00000-00&context=1516831)

Irish Independent

November 11, 2015 Wednesday

Edition 1, National Edition

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 40,41

**Length:** 538 words

**Byline:** David Stanway

**Body**

TO get a sense of how hard it is to measure ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions*** in China, it pays to visit the Deqingyuan poultry farm on the outskirts of Beijing where streams of chicken manure are piped from wooden sheds to an industrial gas digester that rises above the ground like a tethered balloon.

Turning waste into kilowatts qualifies Deqingyuan for valuable carbon credits under a UN-backed scheme known as the Clean Development Mechanism. The digester turns all that chicken slurry into natural gas, powering a nearby electricity station and supplying fuel to 39 surrounding villages.

Yet calculating those ***emissions*** requires a 54-page, UN-certified rulebook, a methodology that factors everything from the amount of methane removed from the manure to local temperatures and animal weight to come up with a figure.

And that cumbersome process can mean Deqingyuan's ***emissions*** savings vary wildly - sometimes by as much as 20pc.

"I don't know how they calculate the figure but there were many researchers from universities who came to assess it," said Vincent Wei, a marketing manager at Helee Bio-***Energy*** Technology, which built the plant.

Precise data collection is a tricky business, as the Volkswagen scandal over discrepancies between the company's ***emissions*** claims and the real world performance of its engines has shown.

But getting accurate data is crucial for governments seeking a global climate accord in Paris this December. Negotiators say that, to succeed, any agreement must be built upon "measurable, reportable and verifiable" statistics in order to assess whether countries are on track to meet ***emissions*** ***targets***.

And getting a better grasp of the right numbers is particularly crucial in the case of China, which is widely assumed to be the world's largest carbon emitter. China's ***energy*** use is so great that even minute errors in data can translate into a difference of millions of tonnes of [*www.****emissions****.No*](http://www.emissions.No) one currently knows how many tonnes of carbon China emits each year. Its ***emissions*** are estimates based on how much raw ***energy*** is consumed, and calculations are derived from proxy data consisting mostly of ***energy*** consumption as well as industry, ***agriculture***, land use changes and waste.

Many outside observers view the accuracy of those figures with scepticism.

"China's contribution (to the global climate plan in Paris) is based on CO2 ***emissions*** but China doesn't publish CO2 ***emissions***," said Glen Peters, senior researcher at the Centre for International Climate and Environmental Research in Oslo. "You're left in the wilderness, really."

Demands for better data played a major role in the failure of the 2009 Copenhagen conference, when China and several developing nations baulked at providing the rest of the world with detailed data, claiming it would be an intrusion on their sovereignty.

The last time Beijing produced an official figure was in 2005, when it said ***emissions*** stood at "approximately" 7.47bn tonnes. And while it has promised that ***emissions*** will peak by 2030 at the latest, experts say the statistical uncertainty is so great that forecasts on what that peak means can vary from 11bn to 20bn tonnes a year.

That margin is greater than the entire annual carbon footprint of Europe. (Reuters)

**Load-Date:** November 11, 2015

**End of Document**



[***Enda: I'll bring in laws on climate; As Paris hosts UN environment summit, world leaders also pay tribute to city's terror victims***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HH3-XMW1-DY9P-N3CJ-00000-00&context=1516831)

Irish Daily Mail

December 1, 2015 Tuesday

Edition 1, Ireland

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**Section:** FEATURES; Pg. 8,9

**Length:** 654 words

**Byline:** Senan Molony

**Body**

ENDA Kenny has pledged the Coalition will introduce climatechange legislation before calling a general election in the New Year.

The Taoiseach was yesterday speaking in Paris at the UN Climate Change conference, which is being attended by world leaders.

'Ireland's national long-term vision is presented in climate legislation, which sets out our intention to substantially cut CO2 [carbon dioxide] ***emissions*** by 2050,' Mr Kenny said.

This country is aiming for 'carbon neutrality' in the land sector which would not compromise our capacity for food production, he said.

He said: 'One really significant area for Ireland is our valuable and already efficient ***agriculture*** sector.

'Through a series of programmes, like carbon foot-printing 43,500 beef farms and 18,000 dairy farms, we are driving economic and environmental efficiency in ***agriculture*** and achieving results that we believe are both transferable and scalable.

'Our research will contribute to global progress and help all countries realise the potential of their land sectors in addressing climate change.

'Real transparency and accountability will benefit us all but we need to trust each other and the systems that we operate in.' Referring to the November 13 terror attacks, he said Paris was a city 'whose people have demonstrated remarkable bravery, courage and resilience in the face of the most horrendous crimes'.

About the climate, Mr Kenny said he hoped all delegations were serious about putting in place a legally binding agreement that would meet the ***emissions***-control goals already agreed. 'This requires action by everybody - big and small. Ireland is determined to play its part,' said the Taoiseach.

Ireland had committed, with its EU partners, to a collective ***target*** of ***reducing*** ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions*** by at least 40% by 2030, he said.

But the Green Party accused the Government of shaming Ireland on the international stage, and warned that despite their rhetoric, they will be judged on actions, not words. The Greens said Ireland was doing its best to limit its commitments.

Green leader Eamon Ryan said Fine Gael and Labour had no credibility on the issue, although his party failed to enact any climate change Bill during its term of office with Fianna Fáil.

Mr Ryan said: 'At the last UN climate talks in Lima, Ireland was awarded the "fossil of the day" award for failing to contribute to a key climate justice fund. We risk being awarded another with the Government's paltry contribution this time.

'The Government is being seen as a laggard, not a leader, on climate change and is shaming us internationally.

'They have spent huge amounts of political capital pleading with the EU to be recognised as a "special case" to get off the hook on EU 2030 ***emissions*** ***targets***.' In Paris, the Taoiseach also committed Ireland to scaling up finance for other countries struggling to cope with climate change. He told the UN conference that despite the economic crisis, Ireland had provided climate finance of (EURO)34million last year, including support for the least developed countries fund.

The fund supports adaptation in ***agriculture***, food and ***energy*** systems. It helps to strengthen the resilience of vulnerable households, primarily in sub-Saharan Africa, Mr Kenny said.

And there are more millions coming from Ireland to fight global warming, he pledged to international delegates.

'In addition to continuing our current level of support, which from 2016 to 2020 will ensure (EURO)175million in public funding, mainly for adaptation, Ireland will commence contributions to the Green Climate Fund in 2016 with a view to building up our support over the coming years,' he said.

'Building on our strong track record of supporting developing countries including in areas like climate justice... Ireland recognises that vulnerable communities need very considerable assistance in adapting to climate change.' [*senan.molony@dailymail.ie*](mailto:senan.molony@dailymail.ie)

'We're a laggard, not a leader'

**Graphic**

Windswept: Taoiseach Enda KennySmog: Cyclist in Fuyang, north China. Barack Obama, main picture, and world leaders pay respect to Paris terror dead yesterday

**Load-Date:** December 1, 2015

**End of Document**



[***New "Champions 12.3" Coalition to Inspire Action to Reduce Food Loss & Waste***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HYY-K961-F190-G2FD-00000-00&context=1516831)

InPR

January 30, 2016 Saturday 4:25 PM CET

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**Length:** 1090 words

**Body**

New "Champions 12.3" Coalition to Inspire Action to ***Reduce*** Food Loss & Waste

21 January 2016

At the World Economic Forum in Davos, a coalition of 30 leaders - Champions 12.3 - launched a new effort to inspire ambition and mobilize action to ***reduce*** food loss and waste globally. This leadership group aims to accelerate progress toward meeting ***Target*** 12.3 of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG s), which seeks to halve per capita food waste and ***reduce*** food losses by 2030.

Globally, a third of all food is lost or wasted between the farm and the fork. ***Reducing*** food loss and waste can be a triple win: It can save money for farmers, companies, and households; wasting less can feed more people; and ***reductions*** can alleviate pressure on climate, water, and land resources. The Champions include CEO s of major companies, government ministers, and executives of research and intergovernmental institutions, foundations, farmer organizations, and civil society groups. These leaders will work to create political, business and social momentum to ***reduce*** food loss and waste around the world.

The Champions will inspire action by:

Leading by example on how to ***reduce*** food loss and waste;

Motivating others to meet SDG ***Target*** 12.3;

Communicating the importance of food loss and waste ***reduction***;

Showcasing successful food loss and waste ***reduction*** strategies;

dvocating for more innovation, greater investment, better information, and increased capacity to ***reduce*** food loss and waste.

Food loss and waste has significant economic, social, and environmental consequences. According to the Food and ***Agriculture*** Organization of the United Nations (FAO), food loss and waste amounts to $940 billion in global annual economic losses. It contributes to hunger. And lost and wasted food consumes about one quarter of all water used by ***agriculture***, requires cropland area the size of China, and generates about 8 percent of global ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions***.

Wiebe Draijer: "As a leading food and agri financier worldwide, Rabobank counts many food producers among our customers. We are committed as a bank to contributing to an improvement of the global food supply by providing these customers access to financing, expertise and networks. We call it: Banking for Food. The objective of this programme is to increase food production and improve food distribution to the benefit of people's health and the environment. One of our priorities is ***reducing*** food waste, because it enables our customers to improve their returns while a more efficient use of raw materials has a positive impact on the environment and the stability of the food supply. Therefore, we happily participate in the global Champions initiative to join forces and raise awareness for the mutually benefitting aspects of food waste ***reduction***"

Today's announcement takes place during the World Economic Forum meeting in Davos, Switzerland, alongside the launch of The Rockefeller Foundation's new YieldWise initiative, a seven-year, $130 million commitment to halving food loss and waste globally. The Foundation's President, Dr. Judith Rodin, is also a Champion.

Champions 12.3 will complement and build upon ongoing successful UN programs to ***reduce*** food loss and waste including SAVE FOOD and Think.Eat.Save, efforts such as EU FUSIONS and the global Food Loss & Waste Protocol, private sector action like the Consumer Goods Forum's Food Waste Resolution, and other initiatives.

The Champions effort supports the UN Sustainable Development Goals adopted in September 2015. SDG 12 seeks to ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns. ***Target*** 12.3 specifically aims to halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer level, and ***reduce*** food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses, by 2030.

Inspired by the "No More Food to Waste" conference in The Hague in June of 2015, the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands formally called for the coalition's formation in September 2015, and is providing secretariat support for Champions 12.3, along with World Resources Institute.

Get more information at: [*www.champions*](http://www.champions) 123.org.

Champions 12.3 currently includes:

Dave Lewis (Group Chief Executive, Tesco - Chair)

Achim Steiner (Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme - Co-Chair)

Vytenis Andriukaitis (European Commissioner for Health and Food Safety)

Peter Bakker (President, World Business Council for Sustainable Development)

Paul Bulcke (Chief Executive Officer, Nestlé)

Wiebe Draijer (Chairman of the Executive Board, Rabobank)

Shenggen Fan (Director General, International Food Policy Research Institute)

Louise Fresco (President of the Executive Board, Wageningen University)

Liz Goodwin (Chief Executive Officer, Waste and Resources Action Programme)

Eva Kjer Hansen (Minister of Environment and Food, Denmark)

Hans Hoogeveen (Vice Minister for ***Agriculture***, The Netherlands)

Yolanda Kakabadse (President, WWF International)

Sam Kass (Senior Food Analyst at NBC News and former U.S. White House Chef)

Gina McCarthy (Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency)

Evelyn Nguleka (President, World Farmers' Organisation)

Kanayo Nwanze (President, International Fund for ***Agricultural*** Development)

Raymond Offenheiser (President, Oxfam America)

Cao Duc Phat (Minister of ***Agriculture*** and Rural Development, Vietnam)

Paul Polman (Chief Executive Officer, Unilever)

Juan Lucas Restrepo Ibiza (Chairman, Global Forum on ***Agricultural*** Research)

Judith Rodin (President, The Rockefeller Foundation)

Oyun Sanjaasuren (President of United Nations Environment Assembly and Member of Parliament of Mongolia)

Feike Sijbesma (Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Managing Board, Royal DSM)

Andrew Steer (President and Chief Executive Officer, World Resources Institute)

Tristram Stuart (Founder, Feedback)

Rhea Suh (President, Natural Resources Defense Council)

Rhoda Peace Tumusiime (Commissioner for Rural Economy and ***Agriculture***, The African Union)

Sunny Verghese (Co-Founder, Group Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer, Olam International)

Tom Vilsack (Secretary, U.S. Department of ***Agriculture***)

Senzeni Zokwana (Minister of ***Agriculture***, Forestry and Fisheries, Republic of South Africa)

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**Load-Date:** January 30, 2016

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[***Biochar Market Report by Applications Gardening, Agriculture, Value Change Analysis and Forecast 2015-2021***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HFV-M6R1-JD3Y-Y42D-00000-00&context=1516831)

M2 PressWIRE

November 25, 2015 Wednesday

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**Length:** 558 words

**Body**

November 25, 2015

AcuteMarketReports.com has announced the addition of " Biochar Market Report By Applications Gardening, ***Agriculture***, Value Change Analysis and Forecast 2015-2021 " Market Research Report to their Database.

The growing demand for the organic products is creating a good market for bio or organic products, which are used in different fields. One such organic product is Biochar which has gained traction in recent times. Biochar mainly finds its use as a soil amendment material. Our report on Global Biochar Market covers applications, segmentation and opportunities in this booming market. The report also covers extensive market analysis in the key markets such as US, Europe and APAC (Asia Pacific). This reports also includes company profiles of leading players in the space.

View Full Report with TOC @ [*http://www.acutemarketreports.com/report/biochar-market-report*](http://www.acutemarketreports.com/report/biochar-market-report)

There are many other factors driving the Biochar market such as cohesive government policies, environmental awareness and availability of raw material, compatibility, raw material cost and increasing number of manufacturers. According to the report, Asia-Pacific is an emerging market which is showing highest growth among all geographies. China, Japan and India are the key ***targeted*** markets of Biochar. At present there are about 150 companies dealing in Biochar. Considering the bullish prospects of this market several companies are taking strategic moves to enter this market.

Request a sample of Report @   [*http://www.acutemarketreports.com/request-free-sample/48560*](http://www.acutemarketreports.com/request-free-sample/48560)

Biochar is gaining traction in the market on the back of its properties. Besides being a soil amendment material, Biochar is also an easy and sustainable way to handle ***agricultural*** waste. Recent studies carried out on it reveals that Biochar is the most efficient solution for the management of the manure from birds and farm animals. In addition, Biochar is being effectively used as an important material for climate conservation as Biochar has properties to ***reduce*** GHG (***Greenhouse Gas***) ***emission***. Not just Biochar but its by-products are also useful. During the process of its formation it produces a soil enhancer which makes the soil more fertile. As Biochar is a useful material, governments in various countries are also encouraging Biochar usage by friendly government policies.

Companies profiled include:

1. Bio Char

2. Hawaii Biochar Products

3. Cool Planet ***Energy*** Systems

4. Genesis Industries

5. New England Biochar

6. WorldStove...

View all reports of this category @   [*http://www.acutemarketreports.com/category/****agriculture****-market*](http://www.acutemarketreports.com/category/agriculture-market)

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[***Africa's future depends on a tough new global climate treaty***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K85-NM91-JD09-315T-00000-00&context=1516831)

The Africa Report

January 31, 2016 Sunday

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**Length:** 1134 words

**Body**

If the world fails to make December's climate treaty stick, then a global climate catastrophe is certain. In Africa, we're well aware of that stark fact: we're already facing the harshest effects of climate change.

I have been a farmer in Nigeria for 35 years. Like tens of millions of farmers across our continent, I have seen first-hand how hard it is to succeed in ***agriculture*** in Africa. The climate is volatile and difficult, the soil often weak. Electricity supplies are unreliable and intermittent. As president of Nigeria, I was constantly reminded of these problems and sought to tackle them.

The Africa Progress Panel, of which I am a member, addresses these questions in its 2015 report, Power, People, Planet: Seizing Africa's ***Energy*** and Climate Opportunities. The report calls for determined leadership within Africa to address the climate challenge - as well as concerted action by the international community at the December climate talks and beyond.

What we need to achieve together is to break the link between ***energy*** and ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions***. That will take bold political leadership and practical policies. In 2015, several global leaders have raised the bar and focused on the need for an ambitious outcome in Paris. We need to see more of such inspiring leadership - not just for our own sake, but for future generations and life on the planet.

Greater cohesion among African countries is essential to success - in terms of the positions in Paris, as well as in how they negotiate until the very end. A coherent set of common African demands is critical if the world is to reach the level of ambition needed for the global climate talks to end with a viable, effective agreement.

Africa's leaders must push for "development first" while emphasising that it is possible for Africa to expand its economies and improve the wellbeing of its citizens by choosing a low-carbon path.

Africa stands to gain from developing low-carbon ***energy***, and the world stands to gain from Africa avoiding the high-carbon pathway followed by today's rich world and emerging markets. Indeed, some countries in the region are already at the front of the global trend of climate-resilient, low-carbon development, including Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria and South Africa.

African countries need to expand our power generation hugely to achieve universal access to modern ***energy*** - and we can do it without locking in high-carbon fuels. We can leapfrog straight

to renewable ***energy*** sources, just as we leapfrogged to mobile phones, bypassing fixed lines.

A strong African voice promoting the opportunities for a "triple win" in climate action, ***energy*** and poverty ***reduction*** can up the tempo for a scaling up of low-carbon ***energy*** investment, not just on the continent, but globally.

Unlocking this opportunity will not be easy. More than 600 million people on the continent still do not have access to modern ***energy***. Sub-Saharan Africa's electricity consumption is lower than Spain's. On current trends it will take until 2080 for every African to have access to electricity.

Changing this picture is not just a huge challenge, though - it's also a huge investment opportunity. Mil- lions of ***energy***-poor, disconnected Africans, who earn less than $2.50 a day, already constitute an ***energy*** market worth $10 billion a year.

What would it take to expand power generation and finance ***energy*** for all - while avoiding the high-carbon path that the rest of the world has followed? The Africa Progress Panel estimates that investment of $55bn per year is needed until 2030 to meet demand and achieve universal access to electricity. African governments could cover a large part of that financing gap themselves, by building credible tax systems and by redirecting the $21bn spent on subsidies for wasteful utilities and kerosene.

Additional revenues could be mobilised by stemming the haemorrhage of finance lost through illicit financial transfers, by narrowing opportunities for tax evasion and borrowing cautiously on bond markets. G8 and G20 countries must act on past commitments to strengthen tax-disclosure requirements, prevent the creation of shell companies and counteract money laundering.

Aid must play a supportive, catalytic role. Global and African investment institutions already see the growth and revenue prospects of African infrastructure in a world where demand is slowing in developed countries. Reforming ***energy*** utilities is also key.

Long-term national interest must override short-term political gain, vested interests, corruption and political patronage. ***Energy*** entrepreneurs can join the reformed utilities in investing revenues and ***energy*** funds in sustainable power that protects the planet and pays steady dividends.

Better and more accessible ***energy*** can also power up Africa's ***agriculture***. Governments should take advantage of climate adaptation opportunities that integrate social protection with climate-smart strategies to raise ***agricultural*** productivity and to develop rural infrastructure, cutting poverty while strengthening international efforts to combat climate change.

The countries responsible for the lion's share of ***greenhouse gases*** should place a stringent price on ***emissions*** by taxing them, instead of continuing effectively to pay emitters by spending billions on subsidies for fossil-fuel exploration and production.

By 2018, developed countries should withdraw all tax concessions, royalty relief and fiscal transfers, and, by 2020, all state aid to fossil-fuel industries.

Unlocking Africa's ***energy*** potential and building the foundations for a climate-resilient, low-carbon future will require ambitious, efficient and properly financed multilateral cooperation. Yet the current global climate finance architecture fails each of these credibility tests.

The pledge by the G7 leaders at the end of their summit this year to make deep cuts in ***emissions*** and to phase out fossil fuels by the end of the century is commendable. Their commitment to increase investment in the African renewables sector is also a powerful acknowledgement from some of the world's major emitters of the important role Africa can play in the global low-carbon transition.

The only promises that matter at the Paris climate summit are those that are kept. Africa's leaders must rise to the challenge. They are the voice of their citizens in the climate talks - and that voice must be heard.

Business leaders, religious leaders, the heads of social movements and the mayors of the world's cities must continue to pressure political leaders to reach an ambitious Paris agreement, backed by carbon pricing and taxation. Together we can create an overwhelming force for change to avert climate catastrophe and seize the opportunity to transform our ***energy*** systems and our economies. We must us act now and act together.

**Load-Date:** July 18, 2016

**End of Document**



[***Let's hail the Paris agreement and get to work; OPINION***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HKV-NDF1-DXXV-44GH-00000-00&context=1516831)

Financial Times (London, England)

December 14, 2015 Monday

London Edition 1

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**Section:** COMMENT; Pg. 13

**Length:** 809 words

**Byline:** Jeffrey Sachs

**Body**

The Paris agreement and the supporting decisions are a diplomatic triumph. They are an act of true global co-operation of historic significance. Yet it is crucial to distinguish between diplomacy and implementation. The diplomats have done their job: the Paris agreement points the world in the right direction with sophistication and clarity. It does not, however, ensure implementation, which remains the domain of politicians, businessmen, scientists, engineers and civil society.

Global agreements are necessary for global problem-solving and collaboration around a shared goal. The Paris agreement stakes out a global commitment to keep warming "well below 2C" and to pursue efforts to limit warming to 1.5C. This is serious and wise - the ***target*** has been improved (from the previous "below 2C") in light of scientific evidence on the grave risks of a massive rise in the sea level. The parties also aim to reach a global ***emissions*** peak as soon as possible.

Nor is the grim truth hidden from view. The voluntary intended nationally determined contributions at the heart of this agreement do not yet add up to a 2C limit, much less a 1.5C limit. The parties note that "much greater ***emissions*** ***reductions*** will be required". This is not a sham agreement, it is diplomats telling the world the truth - that we should aim high but are not yet doing so sufficiently.

The agreement covers the important bases: common but differentiated responsibilities; the need for financing (including the much-debated $100bn a year by 2020, now noted as a floor for post-2020); the need to develop and disseminate technologies; the need for capacity-building in many parts of the world, and the need for new institutions to help support all of this.

The text is balanced, smart, comprehensive, and encouraging. Real issues are discussed. A timeline for review and upgrading of commitments every five years is agreed, and a first stocktaking is proposed for 2018 - before even the entry into force of the agreement.

Cynics will say the agreement is unenforceable. They are right. They will imply that the agreement is therefore irrelevant, or doomed to fail - but in this, they are wrong. Agreements such as these appeal to our better angels, as well as to national self-interests. They strengthen resolve, clarify pathways, spur global responsibility, promote initiatives and generally make it more likely to avoid the freeriding that has so often stymied global co-operation.

As President John F Kennedy said about goal-setting, in the context of nuclear non-proliferation, "by defining our goal more clearly, by making it seem more manageable and less remote, we help all people to see it, to draw hope from it, and to move irresistibly toward it".

The 2C upper limit is feasible - just. The Deep Decarbonization Pathways Project , working in 16 countries accounting for more than 70 per cent of global ***emissions***, has demonstrated economically and technologically feasible pathways to low ***emissions*** by 2050. The 1.5C upper limit is likely to be breached in the coming decades but could possibly be regained later in the century through large-scale net negative ***emissions*** achieved via biological and geological carbon storage.

One of the notable commitments in the Paris agreement builds on the DDPP by calling on all countries to prepare "long-term low ***greenhouse gas*** development strategies". These should aim for low ***emissions*** by 2050, and should be submitted to the UNFCCC Secretariat by 2020. This will be a major spur to clear thinking about the deep transformations of ***energy*** and ***agriculture*** that are required for the 2C and 1.5C limits.

The diplomats have done their job. Laurent Fabius, French foreign minister and president of COP21, is a diplomatic genius. Ban Ki-moon, UN secretary-general, has made a historic contribution through years of steadfast, patient, quiet, and urgent diplomacy with the world's political, business, and scientific leaders. Three politicians deserve special praise: US President Barack Obama, who has braved the madness of a corrupted Republican party owned and operated by the oil lobby; Chinese President Xi Jinping, who has steered his country realistically towards a breath-able future; and French President François Hollande, who took on the political risks of this conference and managed brilliantly even as his country was reeling from terrorism. The technical leaders, notably Christiana Figueres, UNFCCC executive secretary, and Laurence Tubiana , French climate envoy, deserve special recognition.

The urgent, long overdue challenge of implementation now begins. This is not a job for diplomats but for business leaders, engineers, financial managers and politicians. Yet now we have the legal framework and shared vision to move us irresistibly towards our goal.

*The writer is director of the Earth Institute at Columbia University*

**Load-Date:** December 13, 2015

**End of Document**



[***Let’s hail the Paris climate change agreement and get to work***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HKM-Y5M1-JCM7-G4BB-00000-00&context=1516831)

FT.com

December 12, 2015 Saturday 7:17 PM GMT

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**Length:** 819 words

**Byline:** Jeffrey Sachs

**Body**

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*The writer is director of the Earth Institute at Columbia University*

**Load-Date:** September 30, 2016

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[***Climate change and Pembrokeshire people***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5J2H-JS31-JBR2-114B-00000-00&context=1516831)

Western Telegraph

February 11, 2016 Thursday

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**Section:** BLOGS

**Length:** 605 words

**Body**

CLIMATE CHANGE AND PEMBBROKESHIRE PEOPLE.

The recent climate change talks in Paris ended with delegates from every country applauding the result.

It all appears to be very far away and vague, so it seemed worth  asking local people what they think about the issue, and whether they, or government or perhaps industry needs to respond

Farming is the most enduring local industry, and the most to be affected by climate change.  The National Farmers Union also has a local man, Meurig Raymond, as it's President. He kindly arranged to have some questions on the issue answered by their climate change officer.

FARMING AND CLIMATE CHANGE. FEBRUARY 2016.

How important an issue is climate change ?

***Agriculture*** is unique. It supplies food, stores carbon and generates renewable ***energy*** but is particularly vulnerable to extreme weather events.  However ***agriculture*** in the UK has significant potential to address the challenge of producing for the future as well as tackling climate change.

It is such an important issue that farmers from all across the world were at the recent Paris climate summit. We were very pleased to see that the terms 'food security' and 'food production' both made it into the final Paris Agreement.

How will climate change affect your industry ?

A recent NFU survey highlighted that 60% of farm businesses in England and Wales have been affected by severe weather events in the last 10 years. This is a stark reminder that ***agriculture*** is on the front line of climate change impacts as we've seen this winter.

Opportunities may also arise from warmer temperatures and longer growing seasons.  There are some examples of farmers growing new crops on a small scale e.g. Britain's first crop of 'table' grapes will hit some supermarket shelves this autumn.

The overall impact is very uncertain but the potential for better prospects for British farming bring a responsibility to help feed parts of the world where ***agriculture*** will be at greater risk.

What do you think is the cause of climate change ?

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change says the warming of the climate system is unequivocal and that human influence on this system is clear.

Is your industry taking any measures to mitigate the effects of climate change ?

The ***emissions*** profile of ***agriculture*** is fundamentally different from that of other sectors because ***greenhouse gases*** are emitted from inherently variable, biological processes linked to all kinds of ***agricultural*** production.

So ***agriculture***'s aim is to produce more with less environmental impact through more efficient use of inputs but there is no 'one size fits all' solution.

***Agriculture*** in the UK has ***reduced*** its ***emissions*** by about 20% since 1990.  And farmers and growers are continuing to play their part through better nutrient management practices, improving livestock health and fertility and investing in ***energy*** efficiency and renewable ***energy***.

In general, not just in farming, how will climate change be solved:-

The world is already committed to some change because of the 'lag' in the climate system so most aspects of climate change will persist for many centuries even if ***emissions*** of ***greenhouse gases*** are stopped.  The challenge for us all is to find ways to be better prepared for the weather and climate that might come our way whilst also significantly ***reducing*** ***emissions***.

Thank you.

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[***Global Biochar Market Size, Share, Growth, Trends and Analysis Report 2021: Acute Market Reports***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HG3-JWM1-F0K1-N18T-00000-00&context=1516831)

M2 PressWIRE

November 26, 2015 Thursday

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**Length:** 706 words

**Body**

November 26, 2015

AcuteMarketReports.com has announced the addition of "Global Biochar Market Size, Share, Growth, Trends and Analysis Report 2021: Acute Market Reports" Market Research Report to their Database.

The growing demand for the organic products is creating a good market for bio or organic products, which are used in different fields. One such organic product is Biochar which has gained traction in recent times. Biochar mainly finds its use as a soil amendment material. Our report on Global Biochar Market covers applications, segmentation and opportunities in this booming market. The report also covers extensive market analysis in the key markets such as US, Europe and APAC (Asia Pacific). This reports also includes company profiles of leading players in the space.

View Full Report with TOC at:

[*http://www.acutemarketreports.com/report/biochar-market-report*](http://www.acutemarketreports.com/report/biochar-market-report)

There are many other factors driving the Biochar market such as cohesive government policies, environmental awareness and availability of raw material, compatibility, raw material cost and increasing number of manufacturers. According to the report, Asia-Pacific is an emerging market which is showing highest growth among all geographies. China, Japan and India are the key ***targeted*** markets of Biochar. At present there are about 150 companies dealing in Biochar. Considering the bullish prospects of this market several companies are taking strategic moves to enter this market.

Browse All Reports of This Category at:

[*http://www.acutemarketreports.com/category/****agriculture****-market*](http://www.acutemarketreports.com/category/agriculture-market)

Biochar is gaining traction in the market on the back of its properties. Besides being a soil amendment material, Biochar is also an easy and sustainable way to handle ***agricultural*** waste. Recent studies carried out on it reveals that Biochar is the most efficient solution for the management of the manure from birds and farm animals. In addition, Biochar is being effectively used as an important material for climate conservation as Biochar has properties to ***reduce*** GHG (***Greenhouse Gas***) ***emission***. Not just Biochar but its by-products are also useful. During the process of its formation it produces a soil enhancer which makes the soil more fertile. As Biochar is a useful material, governments in various countries are also encouraging Biochar usage by friendly government policies.

For more information kindly visit:

[*https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/global-biochar-market-size-share-growth-trends-analysis-chris-paul-?published=t*](https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/global-biochar-market-size-share-growth-trends-analysis-chris-paul-?published=t)

Companies profiled include:

1. Bio Char

2. Hawaii Biochar Products

3. Cool Planet ***Energy*** Systems

4. Genesis Industries

5. New England Biochar

6. WorldStove

7. Agri-Tech Producers LLC

8. Biochar Supreme

9. Chargrow LLC

10. Full Circle Biochar

11. biochar company

12. PhoenixEnergy

13. Biochar Products

14. The Biochar Company LLC

15. Takesumi Ltd

16. Sunmark Environmental

17. Vee-Go ***Energy***

18. Vermont Biochar

19. Waste to ***Energy*** Solutions

20. Sonnenerde

21. Proininso SA

22. Microbeix Pty Ltd

23. Biochar Solutions

24. Interra ***Energy***, LLC

25. Forest-Char

26. Abri Tech Inc

27. Diacarbon ***Energy*** Inc

28. EcoTrac Organics

29. Carbon Gold

30. Black is Green (BiG)

31. Carbon Terra

This Occams Research Report covers

1. Historical data

2. Revenue forecasts, growth rates and CAGR upto 2021

3. Industry Analysis

4. Competitive Analysis

5. Key geographic growth data

6. In-depth profiling of companies

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Source: ABNewswire

**Load-Date:** November 26, 2015

**End of Document**



[***Sustainability recognised at the 2015 Bord Bia Food and Drink Awards***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HGX-VM21-JCW9-2228-00000-00&context=1516831)

Irish Examiner

November 30, 2015 Monday

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**Section:** BUSINESS

**Length:** 950 words

**Body**

The term can be defined as a way of growing or raising food, including animals, in an ecologically and ethically responsible manner, using practices that protect the environment, safeguard human health, are humane to farm animals and provide fair treatment to workers.

Origin Green is the national sustainability development programme developed by Bord Bia to internationally demonstrate the commitment of Irish food and drink producers to operating sustainably.

It enables Ireland s farmers and producers to set and achieve measureable sustainability ***targets***, ***reducing*** environmental impact, serving local communities more effectively and protecting the extraordinary rich natural resources that the country enjoys.

One of the eight categories in Bord Bia s recent bi-annual awards, which were presented to winners by ***Agriculture*** Minister Simon Coveney at the Mansion House, Dublin, was for sustainability.

It was open to companies that have shown leadership in implementing the principle of sustainable production and have differentiated their product offering through sound environmental, economic, and social criteria.

The fact that over 40 companies submitted entries for the category was an encouraging reflection of the growing interest being taken by Irish agri-food businesses in sustainability.

Due to the competitive nature of the category, the high calibre of entries, and the strategic importance of Origin Green, the judges deemed it appropriate to recognise the efforts of two companies.

The food company, Glanbia Ingredients Ireland (GII), and Island Seafoods, a family owned and run business in the fishing village of Killybegs, Co Donegal, were the companies honoured.

Bord Bia chief executive Aidan Cotter said over 85% of total Irish food and drink exports are now coming from companies that are fully verified members of Origin Green.

Sustainability is an established driver for the industry in terms of how it conducts business, and Origin Green has provided a renewed sense of purpose of how we can be different and still make a difference in a challenging marketplace, he said.

GIL is Ireland s leading dairy company.

It has 4,800 farmer suppiers and processes 1.8 billion litres of milk annually into a range of ingredients for export to over 60 countries.

As a founding member of Origin Green, it is committed to auditing its entire milk supply base under a number of sustainability indicators by 2016.

It also plans to ***reduce*** carbon ***emissions*** by 10% by 2020, zero waste to landfill by 2015 and achieve a 25% water abstraction by 2020.

GII, a 60:40 joint venture between Glanbia Co-op and Glanbia plc, has always been focussed on ***energy*** consumption and the associated costs. GII now aims to become a global leader in sustainable dairying.

The company supplies international food and nutrition customers across a range of sectors from branded cheese and butter through to the infant, sports, clinical and affordable nutrition markets.

Sustainability ***targets*** across its five mamufacturing plants are delivered as part of overall objectives and ***targets***, headed by its environmental management team.

***Targets*** on dairy farms are delivered by the Glanbia Milk Advisory Team which works closely with GII milk suppliers in the areas of quality, environmental and financial best practice.

Sean Molloy, Director of Strategy and Supplier Relations at GII, said the award was a very positive endorsement of the significant work within its business in the area of sustainability.

It recognised in particular the combined efforts of cross-functional teams that ensure sustainability remains a priority for GII, he said.

GII s sustainability manager Audrey O Shea said the company recognises that its customers value sustainability as much as it does.

It has come to denote transparency, traceability, responsibility and quality, all of which are core to the range of products we produce and how we produce them, she said.

With a turnover of over 3.5bn per annum, almost 6,000 employees and a presence in 34 countries worldwide, Glanbia s vision is to be one of the world s top performing nutrition companies.

Island Seafoods, the other sustainability award winner, was established in 1986 in the popular Donegal fishing village of Killybegs by Mick O Donnell,who still runs the business.

His son, Michael O Donnell said the company produces pelargic fish in bulk, exporting most of it to China, Japan, Russia, Europe, and Africa.

It is also into value added products for France and Germnay and employs about 20 people full time plus another 15 during the pelargic season in the winter months.

We are aways developing the product range and looking for new ways we can expand and give the workforce something to do all year round rather than just the fishing season, he said.

A hydro electric power plant produces 65% of the company s electricity while water from a dam above the factory is used to generate a turbine on site.

It saves 350 tonnes of ***greenhouse gases*** per year and in 1996 it built a state of the art plant to treat waste water from the premises.

Island Seafoods says it is now in talks to build a wind generated power plant which would make it completely independent from the electricity grid and further ***reduce*** carbon ***emissions***.

Because of the company s size, the judges were impressed by the level of innovation.

For instance, new technology has given the company the ability to track the kWh consumed per tonne of fish processed.

The company is now working to ***reduce*** the overall operational electricity usage and water consumption for cooling and cleaning by 15% by 2016.

It also has a comprehensive plan in place in terms of food waste, renewable ***energy***, cold store lighting, and social sustainability.

**Load-Date:** November 30, 2015

**End of Document**



[***UNCOP 21: Assessing Implications For Industries***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HMY-1FB1-JD33-J2KT-00000-00&context=1516831)

Business Monitor Online

December 18, 2015 Friday

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**Length:** 3051 words

**Highlight:** The UN 2015 Paris Climate Change Conference (UN COP21) change agreement, signed on December 12 marks a historic turning point towards the global push to tackle climate change (see 'UN COP21:P First Thoughts On Paris Agreement', December 14). This analysis will assess these impacts, focusing on the power, renewables, O&;#038;G, infrastructure, mining, autos and agribusiness sectors.

**Body**

The UN 2015 Paris Climate Change Conference (UN COP21) change agreement, signed on December 12, marks an historic milestone in the global push to tackle climate change ( *see 'UN COP21:P First Thoughts On Paris Agreement', December 14)*. Although, we note that the efficacy of the agreement rests on the individual countries' implementation of climate change policy and financing availability, the changing narrative concerning efforts to address climate change produced by the deal will have wide-ranging impacts on various industries. This analysis will assess these impacts, focusing on the power, renewables, O&G, infrastructure, mining, autos and agribusiness sectors.

**Renewables: Sentiment Rising**

Sentiment towards the global renewables industry will strengthen on the back of the COP21 agreement, as the deal paves the way for increased public and private funding into the sector - in line with government ***targets*** and policies pledged to increase the adoption of renewables sources into the ***energy*** mix.

Given that the global renewables industry has suffered from deteriorating market sentiment of late - owing to falling hydrocarbon prices, uncertain financing mechanisms and faltering policy - the pro-renewables rhetoric of COP21 will help reassure investor confidence in the sector. This is evidenced by the improving share prices of global renewables stocks over the last week - highlighted below by the S&P Global Clean ***Energy*** Index, which is comprised of 30 global companies involved in the clean ***energy*** sector.

|  |
| --- |
| COP21: Boost To Renewables Stocks |
| S&P Global Clean ***Energy*** Index, As Of December 2014 |
|  |
| *Source: Bloomberg* |

The effect the deal has on our forecasts is relatively muted, as implementation is due post-2020 and it is difficult to assess its tangible impacts at this early stage. Indeed, much depends on whether momentum is sustained over the course of the decade. That said, the positive sentiment towards the sector supports our already constructive forecasts for global renewables capacity. We expect, global non-hydro capacity to expand by nearly 80% between 2015 and 2024 - reaching nearly 1,300GW by 2024.

**Power: Gas Moving To The Fore, Asia Coal Stronghold**

The growing focus on ***reducing*** carbon ***emissions*** following the Paris agreement will provide an additional boost to gas-fired power generation in a large number of countries heavily dependent on thermal power, compounding the incentive provided by cheap natural gas prices at a global level ( *see 'Cheap Gas To Grow In 2016 Global Power Mix',December 3*). In addition, we expect the agreement to cement the emergence of a regional divide in investment into coal power between Western Europe, North America and most of Latin America on one side, and Asia and Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) on the other.

A mix of pricing dynamics, environmental regulations and strengthened public sentiment against coal will make it extremely unlikely that new coal-fired power plants are built in the western hemisphere (with the exception of some Latin American countries) over the coming ten years and beyond. Conversely, Asian and CEE countries have plans to significantly expand their coal power fleet, and we do not expect the Paris deal to alter the focus of governments in these regions on using coal-fired electricity to power their economic growth by capitalizing on cheap coal prices.

|  |
| --- |
| Asia Will Continue To Offer Opportunities To Coal Power Business |
| Share Of Coal-Fired Power Generation By Region In 2015f (LHS) And 2024f (RHS) |
|  |
| *f = BMI forecast. Source: EIA, National Sources, BMI* |

This means that international companies that provide engineering, production and construction (EPC) services for coal power plants will have to look primarily at Asia for business opportunities over the coming years, particularly as the financing environment for coal projects is brighter in Asia *(see 'Coal Financing Restrictions To Give China Business Opportunities, November 20)*. Besides the largest coal-power generators China and India, we expect to see significant demand for coal-fired power plants in Japan, Korea, Indonesia, Pakistan and Bangladesh - among other markets.

**Infrastructure: COP21 To Accelerate Tech Revolution**

While the infrastructure and construction sectors and their supply chains are large contributors to carbon ***emissions***, we believe the impact of the COP21 agreement will be extremely varied depending on markets. On the whole, the impact on developed construction markets will be acceleration of trends towards more integration of technology into the planning of buildings and the development of infrastructure. Legislation on ***energy*** efficiency within building construction is already in place in most cases and will likely be tightened and the introduction of more efficient transport monitoring systems will help increase the efficiency of existing infrastructure assets, helping to increase the use of public transport and ***reduce*** private vehicle use ( *see 'Five Key Themes For 2016: Infrastructure', December 10*).

Construction firms will have their profit margins squeezed, especially given the growing necessity to use sustainable timber, and the likely cost increases of building materials given pressure on cement and steel producers to shift to renewable sources of ***energy***.

|  |
| --- |
| Emerging Markets Key For Industry ***Emissions*** |
| Global - Emerging and Developed Construction Industry Value Forecasts |
|  |
| *f=BMI forecast. Source: BMI* |

In developing markets the COP21 impact on construction will be less game-changing. Given the underdeveloped capacity of many construction industries in emerging markets, the costs involved in transferring to more sustainable, technically demanding and complex projects will be too great in many cases. The creation of the Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction - an international organisation aimed at mainstreaming more sustainable building methods - was noticeable for its lack of Chinese or Indian governmental representation.

Emerging markets will feel the greatest impact from climate change and there will be resultant infrastructure opportunities. For financiers, renewables projects will gain greater traction, while mitigation projects such as flood prevention and irrigation networks will be a big focus for construction. In terms of transport infrastructure, the COP21 will provide greater impetus to accelerate public transport projects in major emerging cities battling with uncontrolled urban sprawl, although we believe other factors such as urbanisation and congestion remain more pressing issues driving investment into the sector.

**Oil & Gas: Adapting To The Less Oil-Friendly Environment**

The Paris agreement **poses a long-term downside risk to our global refined fuels consumption forecasts**. A broader move to tackle climate change could accelerate the ongoing shift to higher-grade fuels use in certain countries, in conjunction with new engine designs and technologies for the transportation sector, which would decelerate growth in fuels consumption.

The EU and the US have spearheaded the introduction of fuels ***emissions*** standards in recent years. This dynamic is already in play in several emerging markets in the Asia-Pacific including the likes of China, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam and the Philippines, which are already in the process of implementing or mulling over plans to switch to Euro-IV standard fuels in the coming years. However, the impact on consumption will be limited in the short-to-medium term, as we believe it will take some time for more stringent environmental laws or fuel economy standards to pan out in these countries.

Our Autos team believes that COP21 will not accelerate the proliferation of electric vehicles, as ambitious ***targets*** have already been in place in Germany, India and China. Moreover, take up of EVs has not been as rapid as expected and the risk EVs pose to fuels consumption to the end of this decade is thus limited.

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| Rising Fuel Efficiency Long-Term Downside To Demand |
| Refined Fuels Consumption % Chg y-o-y, By Region |
|  |
| *e/f = BMI estimate/forecast. Source: National Sources, EIA, BMI* |

The agreement **also poses an upside risk to natural gas consumption growth in several regions**, as implementation of policies to ***reduce*** ***emissions*** will favor a shift to cleaner ***energy***-sources, such as natural gas, at the expense of more polluting fuels, such as oil and coal. In North America, a combination of pricing and policy dynamics are already encouraging a switch from coal to natural gas and renewables, underpinning our positive growth outlook for gas demand. Similarly, this will provide greater impetus for the Chinese government to push forward with plans to increase domestic gas use, supporting our view for its gas demand to rebound from 2017 ( *see 'Pricing Reform Boosts Gas Consumption Outlook', November 23 2015*). O&G companies which are making strategic moves to extend their footprint in the gas market, such as Shell through its acquisition of BG, appear better placed for the long term post COP21.

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| COP21 Supporting 'Greener' Gas Power |
| Global Natural Gas-Fired Power Generation, TWh (LHS) And Share Of Total Mix |
|  |
| *f = BMI forecast. Source: EIA, BMI* |

COP21 is providing a platform for climate change policy to align globally behind a common agenda. As the operational, investment and business environment for the hydrocarbons sector evolves in the coming years and, **crucially, the narrative** *against* **the sector becomes more vociferous, policy and reputational risks for the industry will increase, taking a toll on the 'business-as-usual' model of the oil and gas sector.**

**Flexibility and adaptability will be crucial for the sector if it is to adapt to structural changes** that will come as a result of: (i) leaps in technology, (ii) changes in policy, and consequently, (iii) a less favourable price environment for hydrocarbons (oil and crude-based fuels especially) as demand moderates. The utilities sector in Europe poses a stark warning of how rapidly the dynamics of a sector can change as a result of a collapse in prices and changes in ***energy*** policymaking (Germany's *Energiewende* has left the German utilities scrambling to adapt). The coal sector is at the forefront of negative publicity with Barclays noting that the decarbonisation of investment portfolios will accelerate post COP21, as activist investors also align behind the Paris Agreement agenda against 'Big Coal'. It is unlikely that 'Big Oil' will escape similar headwinds in the coming years.

To what extent the existing O&G business model will be able to adapt when it is overtaken by events (technology leaps, policy changes, price collapses) is, in our opinion, the most pertinent strategic question for the O&G sector that has come to the fore following COP21.

**Mining: Coal In The Spotlight**

The mining sector will be one of the industries most affected by the UN COP21 deal, due to impact on the coal sector (we estimate that coal accounts for about 40% of global mining industry value). As discussed above, coal consumption was a key ***target*** of the conference, given that the combustion of coal accounts for more ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions*** than any other fuel. In terms of time scale, we see no significant impact on coal consumption, prices or production until 2020 at the earliest. Even then, implementation of the agreements will only limit, rather than derail growth in global coal consumption and production over the next ten years.

Assuming comprehensive implementation of the agreement, we identify the main negative impacts on coal mining as follows:

**1. Low Prices**

Low coal prices are already set to limit coal mine investment in the coming years. For instance, we forecast annual average production growth of 0.9% over 2016-2019 compared to 1.8% in 2011-2015. Industry estimates suggest that around half of global coal production is unprofitable at 2015 price levels. We expect thermal coal prices to remain low going into the next decade, forecasting them at USD65.0/tonne in 2020 compared to a December 2015 price of USD52.0/tonne and a January 2011 peak of USD136/tonne. Should COP21-related policies further limit consumption growth post-2020, this could see prices trade even weaker into the 2020s, further weighing on coal mine investment.

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| Weak Coal Mine Investment Ahead |
| Global Coal Mine Production, % Chg y-o-y |
|  |
| *Source: USGS, EIA, BMI* |

**2. Regulatory Restrictions**

Government policy will become less supportive of coal mining as the industry becomes increasingly unpopular with large portions of the electorate. Due to its association with carbon ***emissions***, coal mining has already become an easy political ***target*** and this trend would likely continue should COP21 agreements be implemented in full force. These public relations issues can materially impact coal mine investment, as illustrated by the following recent examples:

* **Local opposition to mines/infrastructure** - In the US, significant local protests in the Pacific Northwest has held up development of new rail and port export capacity for several years. While this alone is not the cause of the US coal industry's terminal decline, it has had a significant impact by preventing exports to Asia from developing into a viable support to the ailing industry.

1. ***Reduced* funding for coal projects** - Financial institutions are increasingly shying away from investing in coal assets. Over 2015, institutions including **Citigroup**, **Morgan Stanley** and **Allianz** announced that they would be ***reducing*** investment in coal related assets for a mixture of climate and business reasons. Should this trend gather pace, it would raise the cost for coal miners to borrow necessary capital for investment in mines, thereby hurting future output growth.

**Agribusiness: Limited Impact...For Now**

Although ***agriculture*** is a large contributor to GHG ***emissions***, we believe the sector will be relatively spared for now by the COP21 deals and potential adoption of stricter environmental regulations. This is because ***agriculture***, food production and food security are very sensitive topics in both developed and developing countries.

Currently, ***agriculture*** accounts for approximately 14% of GHG (mainly nitrous oxide and methane rather than carbon dioxide) and 25% when including forestry and other land use is included. The major drivers of the problem are deforestation, soil and nutrient management, and livestock ***emissions***. **Deforestation** will be one of the first issues to be addressed; in fact, the COP21's goal to have zero ***emissions*** by 2050 will require countries to keep large forests untouched and to improve land reconversion. On this front, Indonesia, which is a significant emitter in land-use change and forestry, will be one of the most impacted countries. It will see growing scrutiny and stricter regulations in the palm oil sector regarding future plantation expansion. Although the country has made some minor attempts to limit deforestation, implementation has been very difficult and fraud widespread. Brazil has already made efforts regarding deforestation, and is likely to follow in that direction over the coming years.

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| Palm Oil And Forestry: Key Emitters In Indonesia |
| Select Countries - GHG ***Emissions*** Profile, 2013 |
|  |
| *LUCF = Land use change and forestry. Source: World Resources Institute* |

Beyond the agreement and the hypothetical adoption of stricter regulations under the deal, we believe there will be a slow movement towards sustainability within the sector, which will increasingly impact global agribusiness supply chains and food regulations in the coming years.

* The ***emissions*** of the **cattle and dairy sectors** may come to the fore in the coming years and lead the adoption of regulations that would increase production costs (animal feed regulations, manure management, etc.). Moreover, the potential implementation of carbon taxes in several countries (mainly in the EU and in some countries in Asia) would impact these sectors, which are large GHG emitters.

1. **Promotion of 'climate-smart' *agriculture***, with the use of 'big data', precision ***agriculture*** and organic fertilisers in order to have the most efficient input use *(see 'Agribusiness: Key Themes For 2016', December 16).* China, where fertiliser over-application has led to the severe contamination of soils, will be one of the countries that will spear-head the move to ***reduce*** fertiliser use. Meanwhile, Western countries will increasingly use technology to improve efficiency at the farm level.
2. **Promotion of the *reduction* of post-harvest food loss and post-retail food waste**. Laws banning retailers from wasting unsold food - such as the one passed in France in December 2015 - will probably spread in the coming years.

**Autos: Failing *Emissions* Strategies To Persist**

We believe the COP21 agreement will do little to change this fact over the next five years with governments remaining less inclined to address failing ***emissions*** strategies until after 2020. This is most obvious in policies concerning electric vehicles (EVs). Most developed nations and key developing nations, such as China and India, have announced ambitious EV stock ***targets*** by 2020 or sooner yet have failed to make the necessary progress towards these goals. For example, China will likely fail to reach its goal of having 0.5mn EVs on the road by end-2015 and we remain sceptical on its goal of achieving 5mn EVs by 2020. Germany with only 18,948 pure EVs and 107,800 hybrid vehicles, most of which are conventional hybrids, will also likely fail to reach its goal of 1,000,000 electrified vehicles on the road by 2020. Similarly, India's overly ambitious goal of having 6-7mn electrified cars on the roads by 2020, looks close to impossible with an EV stock of just 2,689 vehicles in 2014 according to the International ***Energy*** Agency (IEA).

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| Forecasted 40% Rise In Global Fleet Remains Unchanged |
| Global Vehicle Fleet, Mn Units |
|  |
| *Source: National Sources, BMI* |

Furthermore, COP21 lacked a unified agreement on the transport industry specifically, leaving countries to make their own individual proposals on how transport ***emissions*** will be addressed and how much weight is given to transport over other industries. Thus, we believe governments have stuck to transport ***emissions*** ***reduction*** proposals that are largely in line with previous rhetoric and policies on the subject. As such, we don't see any sharp changes in transport ***emissions***-related policies over the next five years.

**Load-Date:** December 19, 2015

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[***World set to use more energy for cooling than heating; Rising demand for air conditioning and refrigeration threatens to make planet hotter and undermine pledges to rein in emissions***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H7F-XKC1-F021-627X-00000-00&context=1516831)

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Worldwide power consumption for air conditioning alone is forecast to surge 33-fold by 2100 as developing world incomes rise and urbanisation advances. Already, the US uses as much electricity to keep buildings cool as the whole of Africa uses on everything; China and India are fast catching up. By mid-century people will use more ***energy*** for cooling than heating.

Related: How America became addicted to air conditioning

And since cold is still overwhelmingly produced by burning fossil fuels, ***emission*** ***targets*** agreed at next month's international climate summit in Paris risk being blown away as governments and scientists struggle with a cruel climate-change irony: cooling makes the planet hotter.

"Most people tend to think of ***energy*** in terms of heat and light and transport," said Toby Peters, visiting professor of power and the cold economy at the University of Birmingham. "But more and more, it's going to be about cold. Demand for cold is already huge, it's growing fast, and we're meeting it in basically the same way we've been doing for a century. Cold is the Cinderella of the ***energy*** debate. If we don't change the way we do it, the consequences are going to be dramatic."

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"Heat we know, and we talk about it no end," said Nick Winser, a former head of Britain's National Grid who chairs the ***Energy*** Systems Catapult, a new UK technology and innovation centre in the ***energy*** field. "Cold has become a hugely significant - yet almost unsung - part of our ***energy*** footprint. We know the ***energy*** landscape is going to be very different in the near future. We need to see cold's place in it; start thinking of heat and cold as parts of one integrated system."

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As Stan Cox notes in Losing Our Cool, it took 15 years for the number of air-conditioned homes in the US to grow from 64m to 100m - but 50m new domestic AC units were bought in China in 2010 alone. The proportion of Chinese homes with refrigerators also soared, from 7% in 1995 to 95% in 2007.

But there is a problem. Almost all cold is still produced by what is known as vapour-compression refrigeration, 100-year-old technology that uses refrigerants - fluids, now usually hydrofluorocarbons or HFCs, that absorb and release heat - plus large amounts of electricity.

"It's a mature industry," said Graeme Maidment, professor of refrigeration and air conditioning at London South Bank University. "And for years it wasn't an obvious industry: it hummed along in the background, like an air conditioner, in fact. That's only changed in the past 15 years or so, because it's grown so fast and because we're so much more concerned by ***energy*** consumption, carbon ***emissions***, climate change."

Related: India's rising demands for cooling make it a hot topic

Air conditioning already accounts for about 40% of power use in Mumbai, India. More than half of Saudi Arabia's peak summer power consumption - generated by burning 1bn barrels of oil a year - also goes on air conditioning. Even in Britain, air conditioning and refrigeration account for almost 20% of total electricity use, Maidment said.

Most projections suggest that figure will rise sharply. Over the next 15 years, according to the EU, the ***energy*** used to cool buildings across Europe is likely to increase by 72%, while the ***energy*** used for heating them will fall by 30%.

About 87% of US buildings are now air conditioned, and trends in the developing world suggest it is advancing fast down the same route. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change estimates that demand for residential air conditioning alone will rise from 300 terawatt hours a year in 2000 to 4,000 in 2050 and 10,000 by 2100.

New sources of demand are expanding fast, too: according to Computer Weekly, global data centre power consumption quadrupled from 2007 to 2013, and is set to nearly double again over the next 15 years.

Research by the Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency predicts that by about 2060, the amount of ***energy*** used worldwide in cooling will overtake that used in heating.

"In the west," said Richard Williams of Heriot-Watt University, "we've traditionally been more concerned with efficiently capturing and reusing heat. The source for cold has mostly been conventional electricity, or diesel. We've just been very slow to realise how important cold has become to our lifestyles."

But air conditioning and refrigeration are doubly polluting: not only are they produced from climate-warming fossil fuels, but the HFCs and other refrigerants cooling systems use produce ***greenhouse gases*** that can be up to 4,000 times more potent than carbon dioxide.

If fossil fuel-generated ***energy*** still accounts for about 75% of all cooling ***emissions***, these refrigerant leaks could cumulatively increase the warming effect of manmade CO 2emissions by up to 25% by the middle of the century, according to the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment in the Netherlands. Altogether, Maidment said, refrigerant leaks and ***energy*** use in cooling account for "around 10% of global CO 2emissions. Already."

Some refrigeration units are far more harmful. According to a report by the ***energy*** consultancy E4tech, the small diesel-powered fridges on food trailers emit nearly 30 times more harmful particulate matter and six times more nitrogen oxides than the engine that powers the trucks.

That matters, because the world needs an awful lot more refrigerated food trailers. With the world's population forecast to reach 9 billion by 2050, cold's role in food security will be key. According to the UN Food and ***Agriculture*** Organisation, global food demand is set to grow by 50% in that time.

But the FAO also reckons as much as a third of all food is lost or wasted between harvest and home, mostly in the developing world. Halving food waste would feed 800 million of the 1 billion chronically undernourished people in the world, research by the International Institute of Refrigeration suggests.

"What's remarkable," said Peters, "is that 95% of ***agricultural*** research is about increasing yields." ***Reducing*** waste should be a priority, he said, and "cold really is the key. But cold done smartly. If we just replicate the old technologies, we're heading for environmental disaster."

What is cold done properly? For Maidment, who laments the fact that less than 0.2% of UK engineering research is devoted to cold technologies, it is about "***reducing*** the need for cooling by - for example - designing buildings better. It's increasing the efficiency of the cooling process. And then making sure the ***energy*** you do use is as clean as possible."

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Cold is also wasted. Peters pointed to liquefied natural gas, or LNG. "That's gas cooled to about -160C to be transported, then 'unpacked'," Peters said. "At present, all that cold gets dumped in the sea. And meanwhile, just up the road, someone's burning diesel to create cold."

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"It's a mature industry," said Graeme Maidment, professor of refrigeration and air conditioning at London South Bank University. "And for years it wasn't an obvious industry: it hummed along in the background, like an air conditioner, in fact. That's only changed in the past 15 years or so, because it's grown so fast and because we're so much more concerned by ***energy*** consumption, carbon ***emissions***, climate change."

Air conditioning already accounts for about 40% of power use in Mumbai, India. More than half of Saudi Arabia's peak summer power consumption - generated by burning 1bn barrels of oil a year - also goes on air conditioning. Even in Britain, air conditioning and refrigeration account for almost 20% of total electricity use, Maidment said.

Most projections suggest that figure will rise sharply. Over the next 15 years, according to the EU, the ***energy*** used to cool buildings across Europe is likely to increase by 72%, while the ***energy*** used for heating them will fall by 30%.

About 87% of US buildings are now air conditioned, and trends in the developing world suggest it is advancing fast down the same route. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change estimates that demand for residential air conditioning alone will rise from 300 terawatt hours a year in 2000 to 4,000 in 2050 and 10,000 by 2100.

New sources of demand are expanding fast, too: according to Computer Weekly, global data centre power consumption quadrupled from 2007 to 2013, and is set to nearly double again over the next 15 years.

Research by the Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency predicts that by about 2060, the amount of ***energy*** used worldwide in cooling will overtake that used in heating.

"In the west," said Richard Williams of Heriot-Watt University, "we've traditionally been more concerned with efficiently capturing and reusing heat. The source for cold has mostly been conventional electricity, or diesel. We've just been very slow to realise how important cold has become to our lifestyles."

But air conditioning and refrigeration are doubly polluting: not only are they produced from climate-warming fossil fuels, but the HFCs and other refrigerants cooling systems use produce ***greenhouse gases*** that can be up to 4,000 times more potent than carbon dioxide.

If fossil fuel-generated ***energy*** still accounts for about 75% of all cooling ***emissions***, these refrigerant leaks could cumulatively increase the warming effect of manmade CO 2emissions by up to 25% by the middle of the century, according to the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment in the Netherlands. Altogether, Maidment said, refrigerant leaks and ***energy*** use in cooling account for "around 10% of global CO 2emissions. Already."

Some refrigeration units are far more harmful. According to a report by the ***energy*** consultancy E4tech, the small diesel-powered fridges on food trailers emit nearly 30 times more harmful particulate matter and six times more nitrogen oxides than the engine that powers the trucks.

That matters, because the world needs an awful lot more refrigerated food trailers. With the world's population forecast to reach 9 billion by 2050, cold's role in food security will be key. According to the UN Food and ***Agriculture*** Organisation, global food demand is set to grow by 50% in that time.

But the FAO also reckons as much as a third of all food is lost or wasted between harvest and home, mostly in the developing world. Halving food waste would feed 800 million of the 1 billion chronically undernourished people in the world, research by the International Institute of Refrigeration suggests.

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What is cold done properly? For Maidment, who laments the fact that less than 0.2% of UK engineering research is devoted to cold technologies, it is about "***reducing*** the need for cooling by - for example - designing buildings better. It's increasing the efficiency of the cooling process. And then making sure the ***energy*** you do use is as clean as possible."

Winser sees "real opportunities for British businesses in all this". Peters, who co-authored a report on the cold economy to be published by the Birmingham University policy commission on 28 October, said we must "completely rethink cold. We need cooling, and we need it globally. Is sucking electricity off the grid really the best way to provide it?"

What if, he suggested, you could use cheap, off-peak renewable ***energy*** - wind, say - to make ice at night, and use that for cooling during the day? What about district cooling systems? "Storage," he said, "will be critical: we store heat, why aren't we storing cold? And new materials, to move cold around."

Cold is also wasted. Peters pointed to liquefied natural gas, or LNG. "That's gas cooled to about -160C to be transported, then 'unpacked'," Peters said. "At present, all that cold gets dumped in the sea. And meanwhile, just up the road, someone's burning diesel to create cold."

Waste LNG cold could also be used to power clean cold technologies: Dearman, a small UK engineering company with which Peters is involved, is road-testing a zero-***emission***, cold-producing engine that runs on nitrogen oxide and could replace the diesel refrigeration unit in a food trailer.

"We just need to think about cold differently," said Dearman. "Because solving cold, really doing it smarter, would actually do more to help the world meet its climate-change ***targets*** than almost anything else I can think of."

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[***GE's Integrated Biomass Gasification Solution to Power Phoenix Energy's North Fork Project***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GWF-P371-F0K1-N1R7-00000-00&context=1516831)

FinancialWire

September 9, 2015 Wednesday

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**Length:** 1008 words

**Body**

SAN FRANCISCO-- --GE's Distributed Power business (NYSE: GE), Western ***Energy*** Systems and San Francisco-based Phoenix ***Energy*** today announced they have signed an agreement for GE to provide equipment for an integrated biomass gasification solution to power a bioenergy plant in North Fork, the next in a series of bioenergy plants that Phoenix ***Energy*** is building in the state. GE's integrated biomass gasification solution includes an Ecomagination qualified, 1-megawatt engine and biomass gasification system. Phoenix ***Energy*** and GE have collaborated to design and implement this solution statewide.

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About Phoenix ***Energy***

Phoenix ***Energy*** is transforming the way the world makes and uses power. Phoenix ***Energy*** is a "private label" power company that builds, owns and operates small, on-site bioenergy plants in partnership with communities and businesses in the Ag, waste and forestry sectors. We enable our partners to become their own ***energy*** provider, producing electricity, heat and biochar at prices less than the traditional grid. We use local fuel to make local ***energy*** with and for local communities.

For more information, visit the company's website at [*www.phoenixenergy.net*](http://www.phoenixenergy.net).

About Western ***Energy*** Systems

Western ***Energy*** Systems (WES) is GE's authorized distributor for Jenbacher gas engine systems throughout the western United States in California, Oregon, Alaska and Hawaii. Focused exclusively on gaseous fueled engine and power generation systems, WES provides comprehensive application, sales engineering, systems integration, parts and service capabilities. As part of the Penn DDA/Penn Power Systems organization, WES brings over 50 years of experience in engine power applications with renewable and fossil fuels. For more information, visit the company's website at   [*http://www.pennpowergroup.com/western-****energy****-systems*](http://www.pennpowergroup.com/western-energy-systems).

About GE

GE (NYSE: GE) imagines things others don't, builds things others can't and delivers outcomes that make the world work better. GE brings together the physical and digital worlds in ways no other company can. In its labs and factories and on the ground with customers, GE is inventing the next industrial era to move, power, build and cure the world.   [*www.ge.com*](http://www.ge.com)

About GE Power & Water

GE Power & Water provides customers with a broad array of power generation, ***energy*** delivery and water process technologies to solve their challenges locally. Power & Water works in all areas of the ***energy*** industry including renewable resources such as wind and solar, biogas and alternative fuels; and coal, oil, natural gas and nuclear ***energy***. The business also develops advanced technologies to help solve the world's most complex challenges related to water availability and quality. Power & Water's six business units include Distributed Power, Nuclear ***Energy***, Power Generation Products, Power Generation Services, Renewable ***Energy*** and Water & Process Technologies. Headquartered in Schenectady, N.Y., Power & Water is GE's largest industrial business.

Follow GE Power & Water on Twitter @GE\_PowerWater and on LinkedIn.

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[***Countryfile - 00:21 AM GMT***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K6M-6X51-JBH6-C4W1-00000-00&context=1516831)

TVEyes - BBC 2

July 11, 2016 Monday

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**Section:** U.K. NATIONAL; Lifestyle

**Length:** 717 words

**Anchors:** John Craven

**Highlight:** Countryfile reports on rural and envionmental issues in the United Kingdom. By visiting different parts of the British countryside the presenters uncover the topics of wildlife, conservation, farming, food production and social history.

**Body**

**Speech to text transcript:**[[14]](#footnote-15)1

approach say it could be the only way to save the planet. This is organic spring barley with some nice weeds coming through cos it hasn't been sprayed. But Professor Lord Krebs believes the opposite. He says that intensive arable farming means lowers ***emissions***, for the same amount of food produced, than organic.

Why do you think more intensive farming could offer part of the solution? Some people might think that's rather counterintuitive. It does seem counterintuitive, but when I talk about intensive farming, I mean sustainable intensification. Not simply doing more of the same, but thinking smart - using, for example, precision ***agriculture*** so we can ***reduce*** fertiliser input. I know it's controversial, but GM crops may play a role because you might be able to engineer them so they don't need nitrogenous fertiliser added to them. And in that way we can use the same amount of land - or less land, even - to produce the food we need, and use the rest of the land to suck carbon out of the atmosphere to use it to store carbon. OK, so the key point of this argument is in effect what you do with the land that you are no longer using for farming? Exactly. How would this work? Would it be local areas - you'd have more forests alongside intensive farming? Or would it, maybe in Britain's case, be intensive east, wild west? I think you'd probably have to view it on a landscape scale, rather than the individual farm scale, for a number of reasons. One thing is that some parts of the country are more productive in terms of ***agricultural*** soils than other parts, and other parts which are less productive may be more suitable for growing trees or other forms of wilding. Do we need to get a bit tougher with farming and begin to put in sort of hard ***targets***? Definitely. I think the voluntary approach hasn't worked. It's not producing the ***reductions*** that we need. In fact, if you look between 2009 and 2014, ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions*** from ***agriculture*** have gone up in this country, so we're actually heading in the wrong direction and I think that's evidence that the voluntary approach at the moment isn't working. Cutting ***emissions*** from farming raises some very thorny dilemmas - with potential changes to our landscape, our diets, farmers' livelihoods and even animal welfare. Achieving low carbon farming might be possible, but only with tough regulations that may well prove unpopular. There's no doubt about it - Pembrokeshire is a striking county with lots to capture the imagination of any photographer. And if you think you've got a keen eye for a good picture, well, here's a reminder of how to enter this year's Countryfile photographic competition. Our theme is from dawn till dusk, and the very best entries will feature in next year's Countryfile calendar. As always, we'll have an overall winner voted for by Countryfile viewers. Not only will their picture take pride of place on the cover of the calendar - they'll also get to choose photographic equipment worth #1,000. Whoever takes the judge's favourite photo will be able to pick photographic equipment to the value of #500. To enter the competition, please write your name, address and a daytime and evening phone number on the back of each photo with a note of where it was taken, which must be in the UK. Then send your entries to... The competition isn't open to professionals and your photos mustn't have won any other national prize. We can only accept hard copies, not computer files. And I'm sorry, but we won't be able to return any of your entries. The full terms and conditions are on our website, where you'll also find details of the BBC's code of conduct for competitions. The competition closes at... Which means you've got just under three weeks to send in your entries. Pictures that reflect the British countryside from dawn till dusk. Well, as a farmer, Adam's used to early starts, and today is no different. He's heading down to Cornwall with a very special delivery. From our farm we're lucky

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[***Countryfile - 00:21 AM GMT***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5K6M-6X51-JBH6-C4XK-00000-00&context=1516831)

TVEyes - BBC 2 Wales

July 11, 2016 Monday

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**Section:** U.K. REGIONAL TV; Lifestyle

**Length:** 683 words

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**Load-Date:** July 10, 2016

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[***World set to use more energy for cooling than heating; Rising demand for air conditioning and refrigeration threatens to make planet hotter and undermine pledges to rein in emissions***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H7F-K8T1-F021-636F-00000-00&context=1516831)

The Guardian

October 26, 2015 Monday 10:48 AM GMT

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**Section:** ENVIRONMENT

**Length:** 1507 words

**Byline:** Jon Henley

**Body**

The world faces a looming and potentially calamitous "cold crunch", with demand for air conditioning and refrigeration growing so fast that it threatens to smash pledges and ***targets*** for global warming.

Worldwide power consumption for air conditioning alone is forecast to surge 33-fold by 2100 as developing world incomes rise and urbanisation advances. Already, the US uses as much electricity to keep buildings cool as the whole of Africa uses on everything; China and India are fast catching up. By mid-century people will use more ***energy*** for cooling than heating.

Related: How America became addicted to air conditioning

And since cold is still overwhelmingly produced by burning fossil fuels, ***emission*** ***targets*** agreed at next month's international climate summit in Paris risk being blown away as governments and scientists struggle with a cruel climate-change irony: cooling makes the planet hotter.

"Most people tend to think of ***energy*** in terms of heat and light and transport," said Toby Peters, visiting professor of power and the cold economy at the University of Birmingham. "But more and more, it's going to be about cold. Demand for cold is already huge, it's growing fast, and we're meeting it in basically the same way we've been doing for a century. Cold is the Cinderella of the ***energy*** debate. If we don't change the way we do it, the consequences are going to be dramatic."

Artificial cold is a recent phenomenon : the first domestic air-conditioning unit appeared in 1914, the first home fridges in 1930. As late as 1965, only a third of UK homes had one.

But cold has quietly become a part of 21st-century life, certainly in advanced economies: people expect air conditioning to make homes, offices and cars comfortable (and many cities habitable); most food in the developed world is chilled or frozen; medicines, including vaccines, need refrigeration; industries such as steel, chemicals and plastics depend on cooling; deprived of cold, data centres - and the internet - would collapse in minutes.

"Heat we know, and we talk about it no end," said Nick Winser, a former head of Britain's National Grid who chairs the ***Energy*** Systems Catapult, a new UK technology and innovation centre in the ***energy*** field. "Cold has become a hugely significant - yet almost unsung - part of our ***energy*** footprint. We know the ***energy*** landscape is going to be very different in the near future. We need to see cold's place in it; start thinking of heat and cold as parts of one integrated system."

Demand for cold is rising exponentially. Driven by a warming planet and a rapidly expanding middle class in the developing economies - and warmer climes - of south and south-east Asia, air conditioning in particular is surging.

As Stan Cox notes in Losing Our Cool, it took 15 years for the number of air-conditioned homes in the US to grow from 64m to 100m - but 50m new domestic AC units were bought in China in 2010 alone. The proportion of Chinese homes with refrigerators also soared, from 7% in 1995 to 95% in 2007.

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Related: India's rising demands for cooling make it a hot topic

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M2 PressWIRE

September 9, 2015 Wednesday

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**Length:** 1004 words

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About Phoenix ***Energy***

Phoenix ***Energy*** is transforming the way the world makes and uses power. Phoenix ***Energy*** is a "private label" power company that builds, owns and operates small, on-site bioenergy plants in partnership with communities and businesses in the Ag, waste and forestry sectors. We enable our partners to become their own ***energy*** provider, producing electricity, heat and biochar at prices less than the traditional grid. We use local fuel to make local ***energy*** with and for local communities.

For more information, visit the company's website at [*www.phoenixenergy.net*](http://www.phoenixenergy.net).

About Western ***Energy*** Systems

Western ***Energy*** Systems (WES) is GE's authorized distributor for Jenbacher gas engine systems throughout the western United States in California, Oregon, Alaska and Hawaii. Focused exclusively on gaseous fueled engine and power generation systems, WES provides comprehensive application, sales engineering, systems integration, parts and service capabilities. As part of the Penn DDA/Penn Power Systems organization, WES brings over 50 years of experience in engine power applications with renewable and fossil fuels. For more information, visit the company's website at   [*http://www.pennpowergroup.com/western-****energy****-systems*](http://www.pennpowergroup.com/western-energy-systems).

About GE

GE (NYSE: GE) imagines things others don't, builds things others can't and delivers outcomes that make the world work better. GE brings together the physical and digital worlds in ways no other company can. In its labs and factories and on the ground with customers, GE is inventing the next industrial era to move, power, build and cure the world.   [*www.ge.com*](http://www.ge.com)

About GE Power & Water

GE Power & Water provides customers with a broad array of power generation, ***energy*** delivery and water process technologies to solve their challenges locally. Power & Water works in all areas of the ***energy*** industry including renewable resources such as wind and solar, biogas and alternative fuels; and coal, oil, natural gas and nuclear ***energy***. The business also develops advanced technologies to help solve the world's most complex challenges related to water availability and quality. Power & Water's six business units include Distributed Power, Nuclear ***Energy***, Power Generation Products, Power Generation Services, Renewable ***Energy*** and Water & Process Technologies. Headquartered in Schenectady, N.Y., Power & Water is GE's largest industrial business.

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**Load-Date:** September 9, 2015

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[***-GE's Integrated Biomass Gasification Solution to Power Phoenix Energy's North Fork Project***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GWN-NDH1-JD3Y-Y3PG-00000-00&context=1516831)

ENP Newswire

September 10, 2015 Thursday

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**Length:** 981 words

**Body**

SAN FRANCISCO - GE's Distributed Power business (NYSE: GE), Western ***Energy*** Systems and San Francisco-based Phoenix ***Energy*** today announced they have signed an agreement for GE to provide equipment for an integrated biomass gasification solution to power a bioenergy plant in North Fork, the next in a series of bioenergy plants that Phoenix ***Energy*** is building in the state.

GE's integrated biomass gasification solution includes an Ecomagination qualified, 1-megawatt engine and biomass gasification system. Phoenix ***Energy*** and GE have collaborated to design and implement this solution statewide.

For the North Fork project, Phoenix ***Energy*** will use the GE gasification solution to convert excess forest biomass to electricity, heat and biochar, supporting the state and federal efforts to ***reduce*** wildfire risk, eliminate wasteful pile and burn management practices and improve carbon sequestration. The renewable biomass is procured locally from U.S. Forest Service and CalFire managed lands. With GE's process, the carbon in the biomass is left mostly in solid form as biochar. This biochar is then put back into California ***agriculture*** to improve soil health and water retention and can also be used as carbon filter media. GE will provide an integrated biomass solution including the gasifier, gas conditioning system and engine.

'GE is the first company to offer us a single end-to-end solution on the complete biomass system, rather than piecing it all together from multiple vendors. This is game changing for the forested communities,' said Phoenix ***Energy*** CEO Greg Stangl. 'By working together, GE has given us the confidence that this is the right solution to use throughout California to produce sustainable local ***energy*** from local biomass, creating local jobs.'

The North Fork project is the recipient of a $ 4.9 million grant awarded by the California ***Energy*** Commission. Other Phoenix ***Energy*** projects nearing agreement will interconnect with various local utilities under California's new SB-1122 legislation, which seeks to support further deployment of bioenergy in the state.

'The ***Energy*** Commission invests in innovative cleaner ***energy*** concepts like Phoenix ***Energy***'s North Fork project because they create a pathway towards achieving California ***energy*** and ***greenhouse gas*** ***emission*** ***reduction*** goals,' said Rizaldo Aldas, the ***Energy*** Commission's renewable ***energy*** R&D program lead. 'Bioenergy is environmentally and economically sustainable, and the successful development of projects like this one move biomass forward as a key renewable ***energy*** resource for the state.'

Phoenix ***Energy*** plans to commence operation of the North Fork plant in the fourth quarter of 2016. GE and Western ***Energy*** Systems also will provide technical support and service for Phoenix ***Energy***'s installed systems.

'This important agreement underscores our commitment to providing alternative ***energy*** solutions to help meet global ***energy*** goals for renewable power generation,' said Scott Nolen, global technical solutions leader for GE's Distributed Power business. 'Our gasification system and engines are designed to meet our customers' needs for both high efficiency and reliability while increasing fuel flexibility. The Jenbacher system is well suited for Phoenix ***Energy***'s process requirements.'

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**Load-Date:** September 10, 2015

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[***Flow Sensors Market Set to Reach 8.49 USD Billion by 2020 - IndustryARC Research***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5J74-04T1-JB72-11MV-00000-00&context=1516831)

PR Newswire Europe

March 3, 2016 Thursday 9:30 AM EST

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**Length:** 1103 words

**Dateline:** HYDERABAD, India and MINNEAPOLIS, March 3, 2016

**Body**

According to the report "Flow Sensors Market Analysis and Forecast - By Technology (Coriolis, Magnetic, Mass, Ultrasonic, Vortex, Thermal); By Industry (Automotive, Manufacturing, Oil and Gas, Petrochemical, Healthcare) - (2015-2020)",the flow sensors market is estimated to reach $8.49 Billion by 2020 to grow at CAGR 7.1%.

     (Logo:[*http://photos.prnewswire.com/prnh/20141106/712194*](http://photos.prnewswire.com/prnh/20141106/712194))

Browse - 90 Market Tables,70 Figures spread through 225 Pages and an in-depth TOC on "Flow Sensors Market Analysis".

[*http://industryarc.com/Report/191/Flow-Sensors-Market-Forecast.html*](http://industryarc.com/Report/191/Flow-Sensors-Market-Forecast.html)

Flow Sensors are devices used to directly or inferentially measure the flow rate of the fluid.The Flow Sensor Marketcan be segmented based on the fluid characteristic that is measured, the end use industry for the flow sensor and technology utilized in flow sensor.Theglobalflow sensors market generatedrevenueof $5.62Billionin the 2014and is forecast to growata CAGR of7.1%through2020.The rising demand for accurate flow measurements and the growing need to monitor and control the flow are the key drivers for this market.

PDF Sample @[*http://www.industryarc.com/pdfdownload.php?id=191*](http://www.industryarc.com/pdfdownload.php?id=191)

The growth in demand is primarily due to changing governmental regulations.ThemountingWaste Water Management Practicesand environmentalregulations,especiallyAPAC and South America, are estimated to leadtheincreased adoption of flow sensors.Recently, the U.S. government passed regulations to ***reduce*** ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions*** in power plants and landfill sites. In addition, European Union has also emphasized on ***reducing*** carbon dioxide ***emissions*** and has set potential ***target*** of 20% less ***greenhouse gases*** from 1990 to 2020. MCERT regulations (robust monitoring of ***emissions*** through air, land and water) have been approved in the U.K in order to curtail ***emissions***.

Flow sensors can be classified based on the principle of working into five major types including: velocity flow, mass flow, and differential pressure sensors. The differential pressure and positive displacement flow sensors are the oldest technologies in the flow sensors market. The velocity, differential pressure and the mass flow sensors are the dominant ones in the market. The improved accuracy of the newer flow sensor types such as velocity and mass flow sensors has resulted in increased demand due to replacement of the older types. The shale gas revolution in North America has led to increased adoption of flow sensors and the increasing need for accurate measurements which maximize the profits.

Make an Inquiry@[*http://industryarc.com/inquiry-before-buying.php?id=191*](http://industryarc.com/inquiry-before-buying.php?id=191)

Flow sensors are classified based on the type of technology into electromagnetic, ultrasonic, orifice plate, coriolis, open channel and pilot tubes and others. The new technologies such as ultrasonic, coriolis, electromagnetic have already penetrated into the market and are projected to provide tough competition for the existing technologies.  The new installations and effective dispatch of flow sensors provides an impetus to the market growth.

Flow sensors are used in various industries including oil and gas, chemical, pharmaceutical, food and beverage as well as consumer applications such as HVAC.Theincreasing number of applications such as in the paper and pulp industry has propelled the flow sensor market, particularly the ultrasonic flow sensors segment. The growth of the end use industries such as oil and gas, due to the shale oil revolution, is projected to drive the flow sensors market.

The TopFiveCompanies in the Flow Sensors Market include:

ABB AG (Switzerland)Emerson Electric Co. (U.S.)Endress+Hauser AG (Switzerland)G.E (U.S.)Siemens AG (Germany)

These companies have a combinedmarketshare of 60% in the flow sensor market.Though these companies have a dominant position in the market,there are a few Companies such as Krohne, Inc.(Germany), Omron(Japan), Omega(U.S.), Yokogawa Ltd.(Japan), Toshiba(Corporation), Floe line(U.S.)and so onwhich are providing a strong competition to the top players in the market. Flow sensor companies have concentrated on launching innovative products and augmenting their product portfolio as their core strategy in order to gain competitive edge in this growing market. New flow sensor technologies such as coriolis, laser based and electromagnetic sensors have been launched as they offer additional capabilities and increased accuracy and reliability. The development of innovative products is set to propel the flow sensors market.

Segmentation Based on Geography:

America- U.S.A., Canada, Mexico, Brazil & OthersEurope- UK, Germany, France, Scandinavia & Rest of Eastern EuropeAPAC- China, Japan, Australia, India & OthersRest of the World- Middle East & Africa

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3D Sensors Market Analysis:Sensing Technology (Interactive Displays, Capacitive, Infrared, Ultrasonic, Electric Field, Image Sensor, MEMS); Verticals (Consumer Electronics, Automotive, Robotics, Industrial Automation) - Forecast (2015 - 2020)

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We look forward to support the client to be able to better address customer needs; stay ahead in the market; become the top competitor and get real-time recommendations on business strategies and deals. Contact us to find out how we can help you today.

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**Load-Date:** March 3, 2016

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[***-UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE - How 'more food per field' could help save our wild spaces***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5J15-83N1-JD3Y-Y4X5-00000-00&context=1516831)

ENP Newswire

February 2, 2016 Tuesday

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**Length:** 1198 words

**Body**

Increased farm yields could help to spare land from ***agriculture*** for natural habitats that benefit wildlife and store ***greenhouse gases***, but only if the right policies are in place.

Conservation scientists call on policymakers to learn from working examples across the globe and find better ways to protect habitats while producing food on less land.

***Agricultural*** expansion is a leading cause of wild species loss and ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions***. However, as farming practices and technologies continue to be refined, more food can be produced per unit of land - meaning less area is needed for ***agriculture*** and more land can be 'spared' for natural habitats.

While this may sound like good news for nature, conservation scientists warn that, without the right policies, higher farm yields could be used to maximise short-term profits and stimulate greater demand, resulting in less wilderness and more unnecessary consumption and waste.

Now, leading conservationists writing in the journal Science are calling on policymakers to harness the potential of higher-yield farming to spare land for conservation, instead of solely producing more food and profit. By minimising the footprint of farming in this way, vital land could be spared for maintaining and restoring the rapidly dwindling natural world.

The authors describe a series of 'land-sparing mechanisms' that link yield increases with habitat protection, such as land-use zoning and smart subsidy schemes, along with real-world examples that show how they can work - from India to Latin America.

They write that replicating these mechanisms elsewhere depends on 'the political will to deliver strong environmental governance'.

'Reconciling ***agriculture*** and conservation is one of this century's greatest challenges,' said Dr Ben Phalan from Cambridge University's Department of Zoology.

'To help meet that challenge, we need to move on from thinking about higher yields simply as a means to produce more food, and to use them to free up land for conserving biodiversity and ecosystem services,' said Phalan, who authored the policy paper with colleagues from Cambridge, the RSPB and Brazil.

Previous research from Cambridge and elsewhere has shown sparing land for nature by producing more food per field is the 'least worst option' for both biodiversity and ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions***, says co-author Andrew Balmford, Cambridge professor of conservation science.

'Sparing tracts of land as natural habitat is much better for the vast majority of species than a halfway house of lower-yielding but 'wildlife-friendly' farming, and we have recently shown that in the UK land spared through high-yield farming could even sequester enough ***greenhouse gases*** to mitigate the UK's ***agricultural*** ***emissions***,' said Balmford.

However, Phalan says that policies to encourage higher farm yields need to avoid the 'rebound effect'. First identified by William Jevons in 1865 - when he noticed more efficient engines increased rather than ***reduced*** coal use, as engines were put into more widespread use - the rebound effect for higher yields could see food prices drop, encouraging greater consumption, more food waste and even more conversion of habitats to farmland.

Higher yields may also increase the cost of conservation if they allow farmers to earn more per field. 'If a hectare of farmland is producing higher profits, farmers will charge more to give it up for conservation,' said Phalan. He says that conservation efforts can be undermined by unintended consequences. 'Halting ***agricultural*** intensification or expansion in one area may just shift pressure to farm in others. Increasing farm yields can help counter this 'leakage'.'

The land-sparing approaches advocated by the researchers are designed to address both rebound effects and leakage. Examples from around the world show how these approaches can work, although researchers caution that further work is needed to improve and test each of them.

Designating 'land-use zones' for both conservation and farming would safeguard habitats, while incentivising higher yields to compensate for limits on the extent of farmland. Researchers say that restrictions should ***target*** export commodities rather than staple foods.

In Costa Rica, for example, the clearance rate of mature forests halved after the government zoned forests as off-limits for ***agricultural*** expansion. Food production for export shifted from cattle farming toward high-yielding pineapple and banana crops.

Economic incentives can be tailored to increase yields and prevent destruction of wildlife, with payments conditional on conservation. Himalayan herders are rewarded for setting aside pastures for wild sheep - a food source for snow leopards - and insuring against loss of their livestock. This has dramatically improved yields and eliminated killing of the endangered cats for livestock protection.

To encourage land sparing in developing countries, help with enhancing yields should focus on smallholder farmers growing staple crops. Researchers say that technical advice on water management and multiple cropping should be balanced with advice on ***reducing*** any side-effects: by using natural pest control and other agro-ecological methods, for example, instead of pesticides.

Policies and practices to minimise pollution are essential. 'If yields are increased using large quantities of fertilisers and pesticides, they can pollute the air and rivers. It is even possible that the effects of this pollution could cancel out the benefits of sparing natural habitats,' said Phalan.

Improved farming practices can have a knock-on economic as well as environmental impact. In the Philippines, introducing irrigation helped lowland rice farmers produce two crops per year rather than one. The higher labour demands were met by employing upland farmers, who invested their new income in fertiliser, boosting their own yields and ***reducing*** farmland expansion.

Deforestation rates in the uplands halved, while larger and poorer households were those most likely to benefit.

Combinations of these mechanisms and more will make saving land from ***agriculture*** and sparing it for nature more likely, write the researchers. They point to Brazil as an example of multiple policy interventions working together:

'Zoning of protected areas and forest conservation on private land, combined with subsidising farmers to increase yields on degraded pastures rather than create new ones, has seen deforestation of the Brazilian Amazon decline steeply since 2004 - although it's too early to say if this success will be sustained,' said co-author Dr Bernardo Strassburg of Brazil's International Institute for Sustainability.

Phalan says that, while these examples show land sparing can be achieved, making sure that higher-yield farming benefits nature at scales that matter will require commitment from senior levels of government.

'Making space for nature is largely a question of societal and political priorities,' said Phalan. 'The challenge is less whether it's possible to reconcile farming and conservation, than whether those with power are willing to make it a priority.'

[Editorial queries for this story should be sent to [*newswire@enpublishing.co.uk*](mailto:newswire@enpublishing.co.uk) ]

**Load-Date:** February 4, 2016

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[***Advice for dairy farmers: Contract rearing or organic are alternatives***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H83-YBJ1-F0BB-S0VD-00000-00&context=1516831)

Irish Examiner

October 29, 2015 Thursday

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**Section:** SUPPLEMENTS

**Length:** 1160 words

**Body**

It is unlikely that there will be any great new enterprise developments in the near future.

Fortunately, there is great scope for growing and improving the efficiency of existing enterprises.

Improvements in animal health and breeding, together with new developments in grass and clover technology, will be very beneficial.

However, alternative enterprises such as contract rearing or organic production might suit some farmers.

Contract rearing

Contract rearing of replacements for local dairy farmers or for export is likely to provide an alternative system of farming in some areas.

This system of farming has advantages over many traditional dry stock systems.

These include:

\* ***Reducing*** the investment risk involved in dry stock farming;\* Facilitates part-time farming;\* No time spent in buying and selling stock;\* Good cashflow, as the rearer is normally paid by direct debit monthly;\* Likely to be more profitable than some other dry stock systems;\* Provides a guaranteed income if ***targets*** are achieved (legal contract).

Contract rearing isn t the only farmer-to-farmer business worth considering.

Direct selling of grain and other crops such as maize, whole crop, and fodder beet, is likely to provide an alternative sales outlet for other farmers.

Organic production

There has been a huge push toward organic production in the past few decades.

Teagasc has been very involved and millions of euro have been spent developing and promoting organic produce.

Teagasc has been supportive of organic production and has appointed organic advisers and a series of trials and upskilling of staff have been carried out.

Despite claims to the contrary, organic food has little or no health benefits to offer over freshly produced non-organic Irish food produced under similar conditions and within normal health and food safety regulations.

There will always be a limited market for organic food in Ireland and it is desirable that it should be supplied by home producers. However, organic produce will always be only on the fringes of Irish ***agriculture*** unless a significant export market can be developed.

Many organic producers are small-scale part-time farmers.

In recent years the organic sector has got a much needed boost with the launch of an action plan to drive the development of the sector.

If the organic sector can develop an export market for its products and get a slice of the multibillion-euro EU organic market, it will give it a much-needed boost and an opportunity to grow, but continued favourable treatment from CAP/government schemes is essential.

There has been huge growth in organic production in France in recent years with the help of large government support.

Land area in organic production in France doubled between 2007 and 2012 to 3.8%, with 36,000 operators.

The French government has set out a plan to again double the area in organic production by 2018.

The earliest adopters of organic production were in Sweden and Denmark and Finland, but the number of organic farms in these countries has declined.

Some 80% of the total organic food spending in the EU is in Germany, France, Britain, and Italy.

The first essential for successful changing to organic dairy farming is that farmers are already very efficient non-organic farmers, and that they can grow and manage clover swards successfully.

Unfortunately, some of the people who went into organic dairying did so because they were not very successful at non-organic dairying.

Others changed because they strongly believed in the concept of organic production.

Organic dairy production is much more expensive than conventional dairying, and a decent price premium is required in order for it to be profitable.

Farmers get paid a very good premium for five months, including the winter period. Therefore predominantly autumn calving is required for optimum profitability.

Fortunately Irish farmers have a good outlet for organic milk through Glenisk which is a very progressive company with an excellent range of products.

A major barrier to organic expansion is that the extra cost of production is not always reflected in the prices charged in the super markets for organic foods.

As regards other organic enterprises such as sheep and cattle, they are easier than organic dairying. As most of Ireland s sheep and cattle are finished off grass, they are already the nearest thing that can be got to organic.

Cheese

It is great to see Irish farmhouse cheeses winning awards internationally.

Farmhouse cheeses has been among the most successful enterprises developed over the past few decades to enhance farm incomes.

This is a growing business, but nevertheless will always remain in the hands of only relatively few specialised producers.

Forestry

Ireland has a relatively small proportion of its land under forestry, despite some huge grants and incentives being put in place in the past few decades.

Except for very poor land areas which have no potential for growing food or feed products, I think forestry is not a good use of land.

However, forestry has a positive effect on ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions***, which will be beneficial nationally.

Income from forestry is very dependent on grants and subsidies, but it is more profitable than most dry stock systems and it has relatively low labour requirements.

Many farmers have put some of the poorer parts of their land into forestry during the past few decades and the resulting EU payments have provided some very useful farm income.

Biofuels

Primary biofuel production is unlikely to have much of a future in Ireland.

Secondary biofuels involve the manufacture of biogas or electricity from a wide range of raw materials, including slaughter house and other waste, grass silage, and specialised crops such as elephant grass.

Secondary biofuel technology is at an early stage of development, and there are continuous improvements with technical developments and a range of raw materials.

Secondary biofuels promise to provide greater environmental benefits than primary biofuels, when they are fully developed.

Some experts believe the production of biomass does hold some huge potential for Ireland if there is a rethink by the Government to give it proper support and plans for conversion into ***energy***.

Biomass crops could be a very good alternative tillage crop as well as providing a significant national ***reduction*** in green house gasses.

Ireland currently imports huge amounts of biofuels to meet current ***targets***.

Unless there is a change in policy, there will be massive increase in these imports.

Fracking

Fracking, which extracts gas from shale, has made a huge contribution to ***energy*** supplies in the US.

As a result, it is forecast that the US will be self-sufficient in ***energy*** supplies in the not too distant future.

There is evidence that Ireland has a good supply of shale gas, but environmental concerns are likely to delay the development of its extraction.

However, with new and improved technology this could be a valuable source of ***energy*** for Ireland in the future.

**Load-Date:** October 29, 2015

**End of Document**



[***Irish farming needs to get smart; 'Climate-smart' farming will boost incomes while safeguarding food supply in the face of climate change, writes Joseph Curtin***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GKR-20T1-JBVM-Y1NT-00000-00&context=1516831)

Irish Independent

August 4, 2015 Tuesday

Edition 1, National Edition

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**Section:** FARMING;NEWS; Pg. 5

**Length:** 998 words

**Body**

GLOBAL ***agriculture*** is at a crossroads. The climate is changing, impacting food production, farming practices, and the environment.

A growing global population needs to be fed, yet food production itself is a major contributor to a changing climate. How we deal with these challenges is the starting point for climate-smart ***agriculture*** - the latest thinking on how farmers and policy-makers can boost farm productivity in an environmentally and socially sustainable way.

Climate-smart ***agriculture*** is about boosting farmers' income while strengthening their resilience to climate change, and ***reducing*** ***agriculture***'s climate footprint by curbing ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions*** and increasing carbon storage.

It relies on farmers' own ingenuity to meet the consequences of climate change, like floods and temperature rises, by adapting their farming practices. But, on a broader level, climate-smart ***agriculture*** depends on policy decisions that meet global challenges like fighting world hunger and increasing food production. It is the big idea whose time has come.

To help us better understand attitudes to climate-smart ***agriculture***, the Institute of International and European Affairs and the RDS, supported by Glanbia Ingredients Ireland, Diageo, and several other public and private sector partners, conducted a survey of stakeholders in Ireland and internationally. The survey respondents ranged from farmers to policymakers, non-government organisations (NGOs) to [*www.agribusiness.No*](http://www.agribusiness.No) one agrees what country is the global leader on climate-smart ***agriculture***, according to the survey. That means there is an opportunity for Ireland to position itself as a leader in climate-smart ***agriculture***, and in the production of carbon-efficient food.

Agri-food in Ireland is a sector on the move. The dairy industry is evolving towards new and innovative food products, with higher value added.

We are connecting local communities across the country to vast and diverse food markets around the globe. The Government's latest strategy for the sector, Food Wise 2025, aims to increase the value of our agri-food exports by 85pc to (EURO)19bn over the next decade.

This ***target*** cannot be achieved without increasing ***emissions*** over a period when Ireland will be legally bound to ***reduce*** these gasses.

Unsurprisingly, our survey shows that 8opc of stakeholders consider this a major challenge. But it is an opportunity, too, with 86pc saying that establishing Irish leadership on climate-smart ***agriculture*** could benefit the agri-food sector.

Ireland is well placed to lead in climate-smart ***agriculture*** because of our competitive advantages in farming, including a temperate climate and fertile land that favours carbon-efficient grass-based livestock production.

We have world-leading agri-food businesses and excellent Government and agency support for the sector. Already, we have success stories like the Origin Green Programme.

Survey respondents were clear that domestic action is key to establishing a leadership position on climate-smart ***agriculture***.

They identified better use of fertiliser, boosting research and innovation, and optimising land use as among the most important success factors.

Almost nine out of 10, or 87pc, identified economically and environmentally optimising our land resource, between dairy, beef, tillage and forestry, as a key climatesmart strategy.

How this can be achieved in practical terms will be a central focus of future work under the Leadership Forum.

Establishing an international leadership position will demand that all stakeholders in the sector pull together in the common good.

A huge majority of all stakeholders, whether NGOs, farmers, government, independent experts or agri-business, identified the three pillars of climate-smart ***agriculture*** as important for Ireland - increasing farm incomes and productivity, ***reducing*** ***emissions***, and building resilience to climate impacts.

While some differences emerged - farmers and agribusiness understandably focused on farm incomes and productivity while NGOs tilted towards ***reducing*** ***emissions*** - the common ground we identified is very encouraging.

With world population expected to reach nine billion by 2050, food production needs to increase by nearly 70pc just to keep pace with demand. This must happen in an increasingly carbonconstrained world, with ***emissions*** dramatically ***reduced*** in order to avoid the worst impacts of dangerous climate change that would hit the world's poor hardest.

Negotiations Survey respondents were clear: we must consider this challenge in a global context. If Ireland is to be a global leader, we must lead in international negotiations, especially in the EU, and build climatesmart relationships with development partners.

Our survey of international experts showed they believe developing countries should focus on building resilience to the impact of climate change, followed by boosting productivity and farm incomes. In developed nations, the sample identifies cutting ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions*** as the most important pillar, followed by building resilience to climate change impacts.

This shows that climatesmart ***agriculture*** can mean different things in different contexts. Our work is focused on agreeing what it means for Ireland.

The next phase of global ***agriculture*** is likely to be dominated by the climatesmart agenda. In Ireland, there is a case for climatesmart food production to emerge as a key goal for the domestic economy.

But we must continue to look outwards, too, making our expertise available to partner governments around the world. How we respond to new challenges in ***agriculture*** will be a measure of our leadership capacity, as well as our ability to seize opportunity.

Joseph Curtin is a Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of International and European Affairs and a member of the Government National Advisory Council on Climate Change.

There is an opportunity for Ireland to position itself as a leader in climate smart ***agriculture*** and in the production of carbon efficient food

**Graphic**

CALAMITY: Farmers rush to transplant paddy on a flooded field amid heavy rainfall in Hunan province, China last week. Approximately one million people have been affected by severe downpours in several Chinese provinces, causing collapsed houses, decimating crops as well as blocking highways. REUTERS/CHINA DAILYSUPPORTS: A farmer plants saplings in a paddy field on the outskirts of Agartala city in India last week. India is to buy oilseeds and pulses directly from farmers for the first time this year, in addition to its existing purchases of wheat and rice. The plan aims to boost production and close a supply gap that has driven country's annual import bill up to $12bn ((EURO)10.9bn). REUTERS/JAYANTA DEY

**Load-Date:** August 4, 2015

**End of Document**



[***WE THE PEOPLE: A CASE FOR CLIMATE ACTION; Dutch campaigners have taken legal action against their government for its failure to combat climate change. Could Irish campaigners do the same?***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5J2W-29T1-DYS1-041T-00000-00&context=1516831)

The Irish Times

February 13, 2016 Saturday

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**Section:** WEEKEND; Pg. 6

**Length:** 1100 words

**Byline:** Sylvia Thompson

**Body**

Taking your government to court may be for only the very brave or foolhardy, but almost three years ago a group of citizens in the Netherlands decided to do just that when they initiated proceedings against the Dutch government for its lack of effective action on climate change. In June last year the Urgenda Foundation (urgenda.nl/en) and almost 900 coplaintiffs won their case, compelling the Dutch government to adopt more stringent climate policies - the first time, the campaigners said, that a court had ruled that a state must take precautions against global warming.

Although, not unexpectedly, the Dutch government is appealing the judgment, it has confirmed its promise to work towards cutting its ***emissions*** by 25 per cent by 2020, compared with 1990 levels, as the court required.

"This case has been acknowledged as groundbreaking, and it captured the imaginations of nongovernmental organisations and citizens'-rights groups across the world," says Dr Áine Ryall, who teaches environmental law at University College Cork. "It got people thinking that litigation is one way of forcing governments to act on climate change."

**Protect natural resources**

In the US the group Our Children's Trust is planning to bring federal, state and local

legal actions

(ourchildrens trust.org/us/federal-lawsuit) to force administrations to act more strongly.

Those cases are grounded in the doctrine of public trust, according to which the government has a duty to protect the natural resources that are essential for collective survival and prosperity. The actions will demand that the US government recognise and protect the collective right to a stable, livable climate.

In April last year an international group of legal experts published the Oslo Principles on Global Climate Change Obligations; they argued that tort law and human-rights law already make states accountable for their ***emissions*** of ***greenhouse gases***.

Here, the Government's Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act was criticised last year for not specifying ***targets*** to ***reducing*** ***greenhouse-gas*** ***emissions*** in Ireland; in addition, the last National ***Greenhouse Gases*** Mitigation Plan expired in 2012.

So how do Irish environmentalists believe they can tackle the Government's lack of clarity about ***reducing*** ***greenhouse gases*** from our transport, power, building and ***agriculture***?

**Human rights**

Attracta Ui Bhroin of the

Irish Environmental Network

, which is made up of more than 30 NGOs, believes that the

Aarhus Convention

, which Ireland ratified in 2012, bolsters citizens' right to a healthy environment.

The convention recognises the rights to access information about the environment, to participate in environmental decision-making and to review environmental decisions in a timely, affordable way.

The issue of cost is most important, according to Ui Bhroin. "Going to court is an extremely traumatic experience and a huge undertaking in terms of resources. It is hugely expensive in Ireland, whereas the costs in the Urgenda case, which were awarded against the government, were EUR 13,500."

The Irish Government recently acknowledged the issue of cost, at least partly, by introducing an "own costs rule", under which each side pays its own costs in court cases about environmental issues; if litigants are successful in some of their arguments, they may be awarded their costs. "This is very welcome - but insufficient because it's discretionary," Ui Bhroin says.

The Government has also proposed to introduce a new Aarhus Bill, to clarify environmental-justice legislation as required under EU law and the Aarhus Convention.

A pending court case will test whether there will be a provision for limited costs in cases taken against the government for breaches of the EU habitats directive.

Ui Bhroin says that Irish citizens should be very cautious about taking a case against the Government on an environmental issue. "They would certainly need to take legal advice on what their costs might be before they consider it."

**Pro bono work**

Charles Stanley-Smith of

An Taisce

says the research involved in taking a legal case against the government is particularly onerous, as different departments and public bodies share responsibility for mitigating climate change. "You would need lawyers to work pro bono or have a very rich patron," he says.

But the Aarhus Convention has helped. "The protection of costs provided by Aarhus has allowed us to take the judicial review of the peat-fired power plant in Edenderry, in Co Offaly," says Stanley-Smith.

In October 2015 the High Court quashed Bord na Móna's permission, granted by An Bord Pleanála, to extend until 2023 the life of the plant, which is also fuelled by biomass. The court said that the environmental impact of extracting peat for the plant hadn't been assessed.

"By An Taisce addressing this in the Irish courts, and the Irish courts upholding EU law, this serves to ***reduce*** the massive reputational and cost risk to Ireland of action being taken against Ireland by the European Commission, given the breach of the EU law at issue," says Stanley-Smith's colleague Ian Lumley.

The High Court put a stay on the quashing order until April this year, to allow An Bord Pleanála to consider a second planning application by Offaly County Council; An Taisce and Friends of the Irish Environment have both appealed the application.

Áine Ryall of University College Cork, who was recently appointed to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee, sees climate justice as part of the wider environmental movement. "Climate marches provide a momentum to put pressure on politicians," she says. "Some argue that it is the role of the courts to enforce the law and not to implement policy. Yet the law can step in when the normal democratic process fails."

**Irish legal action Crowd-funding a case**

A Belgian-born woman living in Co Wicklow is seeking support for legal action against the Government over what she says is its slow action on climate change.

Mieke Vanfleteren, who lives in Newtownmountkennedy with her Irish partner and two children, says the Government should have an ambitious programme to make the transition to a fossil-fuel-free economy.

More than 400 people have joined Vanfleteren's Facebook group, Climate Court Case Ireland, she has begun to crowd-fund the cost of bringing the case to court, and she is looking for a solicitor to take on the case.

Vanfleteren has been inspired by citizen campaigns in the Netherlands and Belgium, which she says "can urge the Government to take sufficient action to safeguard the habitability of Ireland for future generations".

**Load-Date:** February 12, 2016

**End of Document**



[***Taoiseach: Climate change deal 'must not compromise Ireland's food industry'***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HH2-PT91-JCW9-22T9-00000-00&context=1516831)

BreakingNews.ie

November 30, 2015 Monday 06:50 PM GMT

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**Section:** IRISH NEWS

**Length:** 784 words

**Body**

Enda Kenny has said that says Ireland's ***agriculture*** industry will have to be given special treatment in any deal to limit its carbon ***emissions***.

The Taoiseach was speaking to an audience of world leaders this evening, as a two-week summit on climate change began in Paris.

He told reporters that it is not realistic for Ireland's ***agriculture*** sector to meet the EU ***targets*** for cutting carbon ***emissions***.

Speaking at the summit in Paris, he told other world leaders that the agri-food industry would need special consideration.

"Ireland's national long-term vision is presented in climate legislation which sets out our intention to substantial cut CO2 ***emissions*** by 2050, while developing an approach towards carbon neutrality in the land sector that does not compromise our capacity for food production."

<strong>Taoiseach's speech in full</strong>

Ireland agrees with the statements made by Presidents Junker and Tusk and the Luxembourg Presidency, on behalf of the EU and its Member States.

COP 21 provides a unique opportunity for the political leaders of this generation to provide lasting foundations for the preservation and sustainability of generations of the future.

Excellencies, colleagues:

Many of us in this room came together in New York in September to agree the Sustainable Development Goals - the most ambitious programme of action ever agreed by the nations of the world.

Today, we meet in Paris, a city whose people have demonstrated remarkable bravery, courage and resilience in the face of the most horrendous crimes.

I hope that we are serious about putting in place a legally binding agreement on climate change that will underpin our actions on the goals already agreed and enhance our ability to reach them. This requires action by everybody - big and small.

Ireland is determined to play its part. We have committed, with our EU partners, to a collective ***target*** to ***reduce*** ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions*** by at least 40% by 2030.

Ireland's national long-term vision is presented in climate legislation, which sets out our intention to substantially cut CO2 ***emissions*** by 2050, while developing an approach towards carbon neutrality in the land sector that does not compromise our capacity for food production.

We are developing a National Mitigation Plan to achieve that vision.

One really significant area for Ireland is our valuable and already efficient ***agriculture*** sector. Through a series of programmes, like carbon foot-printing 43,500 beef farms and 18,000 dairy farms, we are driving economic and environmental efficiency in ***agriculture*** and achieving results that we believe are both transferable and scalable.

Our research will contribute to global progress and help all countries realise the potential of their land sectors in addressing climate change.

This is not just about opportunities - but about the cooperation that will allow us to address our common challenges. Real transparency and accountability will benefit us all but we need to trust each other and the systems that we operate in.

Building on our strong track record of supporting developing countries including in areas like climate justice, human rights, gender and education, Ireland recognises that vulnerable communities need very considerable assistance in adapting to climate change.

Despite recent difficult economic circumstances, Ireland provided public climate finance of 34 million in 2014, including support for the Least Developed Countries Fund. These funds support adaptation in ***agriculture***, food and ***energy*** systems, and help to strengthen the resilience of vulnerable households, primarily in sub-Saharan Africa.

Ireland is committed to scaling up climate finance;

1. In addition to continuing our current level of support, which from 2016 to 2020 will ensure 175 million in public funding, mainly for adaptation, Ireland will commence contributions to the Green Climate Fund in 2016 with a view to building up our support over the coming years.

2. We will increase our contribution to the Least Developed Countries Fund and

3. We are also examining ways to mobilise private finance from Ireland, to further contribute to the 2020 goal.

The negotiations this week will be very difficult but if we are serious then we should leave Paris with an ambitious and binding agreement that will ultimately limit global temperature increase to less than 2 degrees above pre-industrial levels. In this regard, I wish to salute the leadership the French Republic has brought to hosting the negotiations.

I encourage our negotiators to bring this process to a successful conclusion next week. Let's send the signal the world is waiting for and let us not deprive our successors and their children of a real future before they are born.

**Load-Date:** November 30, 2015

**End of Document**



[***Climate pact gives a step, if not a cure; Agreement recognizes its own shortcomings, but also the potential***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HKR-9RN1-DYR7-C14Y-00000-00&context=1516831)

International New York Times

December 14, 2015 Monday

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 7

**Length:** 1126 words

**Byline:** JUSTIN GILLIS

**Dateline:** LE BOURGET, France

**Body**

**ABSTRACT**

By highlighting the gulf between humanity's stated goals and its plans to achieve them, the climate deal may produce a more intensive worldwide push.

**FULL TEXT**

After the stomping and cheering died down, and the hugs and toasts ended, a question hung in the air as the climate conference came to a close: What does the new deal really mean for the future of the earth?

Scientists who closely monitored the talks here said it was not the agreement that humanity really needed. By itself, it will not save the planet.

The great ice sheets remain imperiled, the oceans are still rising, forests and reefs are under stress, people are dying by tens of thousands in heat waves and floods, and the ***agriculture*** system that feeds seven billion human beings is still at risk.

And yet 50 years after the first warning about global warming was put on the desk of an American president, and quickly forgotten, the political system of the world is finally responding in a way that scientists see as commensurate with the scale of the threat.

''I think this Paris outcome is going to change the world,'' said Christopher B. Field, a leading American climate scientist. ''We didn't solve the problem, but we laid the foundation.''

The agreement reached here on Saturday will, if faithfully carried out, achieve far larger cuts in ***emissions*** than any previous climate accord. It will ***reduce***, without eliminating, the risk that runaway climate change might render parts of the earth uninhabitable. It will lessen somewhat the possibility of a collapse of one of the ice sheets, which would cause a rise in the sea of 20 feet or more.

The deal, in short, begins to move the countries of the world in a shared direction that is potentially compatible with maintaining a livable planet over the long term.

Hans Joachim Schellnhuber - a pioneering environmental scientist, chairman of the German government's advisory committee on climate change, and climate adviser to Pope Francis - declared on Saturday that ''this is a turning point in the human enterprise, where the great transformation towards sustainability begins.''

Perhaps the most important part of the deal is that it explicitly recognizes that countries were not ambitious enough in the ***emissions*** cuts they pledged ahead of the Paris negotiations, pledges that were incorporated into the document. The agreement, in effect, criticizes itself for not doing enough.

To compensate, the deal sets up a schedule of regular review that will encourage countries to raise their goals over time. It envisions a tighter system to monitor whether the nations are keeping their promises - though how tough that will really be was put off to future debates.

In interviews, scientists with long experience studying climate change, and a long history of being discouraged by the politics of the issue, said they were heartened by the cooperative tone in Paris. But for the deal to mean anything, they said, the celebratory moment must give way immediately to an era in which intensive efforts are made to squeeze ***emissions*** out of the world economy. That task will fall largely to businesses and investors, operating under ***emissions***-***reduction*** policies that countries have pledged to put into effect by 2020.

***Emissions*** of ***greenhouse gases*** - primarily of carbon dioxide from the burning of fossil fuels and the destruction of forests - have been rising for decades, interrupted only briefly by economic downturns. They stalled this year, projected to fall 0.6 percent in part because of the softness of the Chinese economy, in what some experts hope is an early sign of things to come.

Yet 2015 will nonetheless be the hottest year in recorded history, breaking a mark set only one year earlier. All 10 of the hottest years in a global record stretching to 1880 have occurred since 1998. No one under 30 has ever lived through a month of global temperatures below the 20th-century average.

Since an agreement in Cancún, Mexico, in 2010, the official goal of international climate policy has been to limit the warming of the earth to 2 degrees Celsius, or 3.6 Fahrenheit, above the level that prevailed before the Industrial Revolution. With the rapid warming that has occurred since 1950 as a result of industrial ***emissions***, the planet is already nearly halfway there.

The Paris deal sets a more ambitious ***target***, declaring that the global average temperature rise ought to be kept ''well below'' 2 degrees Celsius, and that countries should try to go further, limiting warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius. As small as that difference might sound, as an average warming over the surface of an entire planet, it is actually substantial. Scientists say it could make the difference, for example, between saving much of the Greenland ice sheet and losing it.

The research organization Climate Central found recently that 280 million people live on land that could eventually be submerged by the sea if warming were allowed to reach the higher number. If it were kept to the lower ***target***, the number would be cut by more than half, to 137 million people. Yet action on warming has been delayed for so long, and ***emissions*** allowed to rise so high, that reaching either ***target*** will be difficult.

Scientists say that limiting warming to the higher ***target*** would require that industrial ***emissions*** of ***greenhouse gases*** come to an end by roughly 2050, and to stay below the lower ***target***, by about 2030. But coal-burning power plants are being built today that can be expected to operate well past 2050, and fossil-fuel companies are spending hundreds of billions a year looking for new reserves that cannot be burned if either ***target*** is to be met. A serious campaign to meet the more ambitious goal would mean that in less than two decades, the nations of the world would probably have to bring an end to gasoline cars, to coal- or gas-burning power plants in their current form, and to planes or ships powered by fossil fuels.

Countries have offered no plans that would come remotely close to achieving either goal, and, given the current state of technology, it is difficult to see how they could be achieved. That led some scientists on Saturday to dismiss the tighter temperature ***targets*** as feel-good measures with no real meaning.

And yet, the tighter ***targets*** do throw the seriousness of the situation into sharp relief. Experts hope that by highlighting the gulf between humanity's stated goals and its plans to achieve them, the Paris deal will produce a more intensive push to figure out how it might actually be done.

''We lost a lot of time squabbling over the science,'' said Dr. Field, the American climate scientist. ''We lost a lot of time that could have been used trying out innovative solutions. Now, we have a lot of experimentation still to do.''

**Load-Date:** December 13, 2015

**End of Document**



[***Associated British Foods PLC Annual Results -3-***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H99-GVB1-F0CC-S4PH-00000-00&context=1516831)

London Stock Exchange Aggregated Regulatory News Service (ARNS)

November 3, 2015 Tuesday 7:00 AM GMT

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**Length:** 1651 words

**Body**

Revenue and operating profit at George Weston Foods in Australia were in line with last year. Tip Top bread volumes increased but margins fell as retailers featured bread in their drive for lower prices with heavy price promotion activity more than offsetting the benefits of cost ***reduction*** and productivity improvements across all bakery sites. Margins in the Don KRC meat business were affected by the high cost of bought-in raw materials in the first half, but improved substantially in the second driven by higher volumes, lower-cost raw materials and improved production efficiency. The management team remains focused on driving continued improvement in sales and factory performance.

At ACH in North America, Mazola achieved good volume growth following increased investment in advertising and marketing which highlighted the cholesterol-lowering benefits of corn oil. A better sales mix saw margins improve in the Flavours business, and Foodservice continued its steady growth driven by an improved economic climate.

SUGAR

2015 2014 Actual fx Constant

fx

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Revenue GBPm 1,818 2,083 -13% -9%

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Adjusted operating profit

GBPm 43 189 -77% -76%

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Adjusted operating profit

margin 2.4% 9.1%

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Return on average capital

employed 2.4% 10.5%

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Revenue and adjusted operating profit for AB Sugar were substantially lower than the previous year primarily driven by the further decline in EU sugar prices, and the underlying decline in profit was even greater given the non-repeat of last year's restructuring charge. In light of the structural changes in the world's sugar industry, we remained focused on delivering significant cost ***reduction*** across all of our businesses through our ongoing performance improvement programme. This will ***reduce*** our cost base but the ***reductions*** in the year could not compensate for the impact of lower prices.

Sugar prices in the EU stabilised towards the end of the financial year and with quota stock levels expected to ***reduce*** back towards historic norms during 2015/16, we have seen some price recovery for the 2015/16 marketing year. Prices in China increased during the year, as a consequence of lower domestic production and ***reduced*** imports, although they remain at a premium to import prices. World sugar prices remained under pressure declining to below 11.0 cents per pound at one point, thereby holding back domestic prices in some regions.

UK sugar production of 1.45 million tonnes was driven by very high beet yields and excellent factory performances. The UK crop for the 2015/16 season has made good progress but, with a ***reduction***, for that year, in the contracted area under cultivation in excess of 25%, and a return to more typical beet yields, sugar production is expected to be just short of 1.0 million tonnes. This will lead to a welcome fall in our stock levels following this year's high sugar production. Delivered beet costs for the 2015/16 campaign will be some 20% lower than the current year with a further substantial cost ***reduction*** now secured for the 2016/17 campaign.

In Spain, all factories performed well. Total production was ahead of last year at 709,000 tonnes of which 414,000 tonnes was from beet and 295,000 tonnes from refined raw sugars. The area under cultivation for 2015/16 is expected to be similar to this year.

Illovo produced 1.64 million tonnes in the year to September, marginally less than last year. The effect of drought on cane growth in South Africa was largely offset by strong production volumes across all other countries of operation. Zambia achieved record sugar production and further development at the factory is now planned which will increase sugar refining capacity and create new sugar conditioning and storage facilities to enable the supply of higher quality sugars to the region. The Malawi sugar market has been seriously disrupted by the country's continued economic difficulties and sales volumes and prices were lower as a result. In Tanzania, sugar production increased with the benefit of better growing conditions and an improved factory performance. Some improvement in the local trading conditions enabled an increase in domestic pricing and an improved sales mix, with pre-packed sugar taking an increasing share of the domestic market. Illovo continued its focus on the development of domestic and regional sales which have become increasingly important as world and EU prices become less attractive.

China saw some recovery in market prices and profitability improved as a result. In the south, cane volumes were some 30% below the previous year due to a combination of a lower planted area and poorer yields due to adverse weather conditions. Sugar production ***reduced*** from 560,000 tonnes to 413,000 tonnes in the year, benefiting from good factory extraction rates. The campaigns at our remaining northern beet factories, Qianqi and Zhangbei, were excellent with good factory throughput and better beet availability following our success in working with the growers over a number of years. Together, these two factories produced 94,000 tonnes of sugar in 2014/15.

In January, we announced our decision to cease sugar operations in Heilongjiang. Achieving beet yields sufficient to provide our factories in this region with an adequate supply of raw materials, at a competitive cost, has been particularly challenging for a number of years, even with the benefit of significant advances made both in ***agricultural*** and factory operations. We concluded that our factories at Yi'an and BoCheng were likely to remain uneconomic for the foreseeable future. We have now sold both factories and the final cost of ceasing these operations was GBP100m all of which was a non-cash charge. We have now commenced the relocation of most of our management team from the head office in Beijing to our remaining operating sites.

Vivergo Fuels

This business was formed in 2007 as a joint venture between ABF, BP and DuPont, which built a world-scale, wheat-fed, bioethanol plant at Saltend in Hull. In May, we assumed BP's share in the business thereby increasing our interest to 94%. In recent years the European market for bioethanol has been weaker than expected and we foresee that we may need to run this plant at a small loss in the short term. However, as the percentage of ethanol inclusion in gasoline increases in line with EU mandated ***targets*** by 2020, this market is forecast to move from surplus to deficit which we expect to lead to a price increase. Further operational improvements were made at Vivergo Fuels this year but continuing low prices resulted in the business sustaining an operating loss.

***AGRICULTURE***

2015 2014 Actual fx Constant

fx

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Revenue GBPm 1,211 1,312 -8% -8%

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Adjusted operating profit

GBPm 60 50 20% 18%

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Adjusted operating profit

margin 5.0% 3.8%

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Return on average capital

employed 19.2% 17.3%

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AB Agri had another record year with strong performances across all businesses. Adjusted operating profit was 18% ahead of last year at constant currency but revenues were 8% lower than last year as a result of softer commodity prices. Importantly, cash margins in the UK feed business were maintained.

UK feed volumes held up well despite continued pressure on the UK dairy sector where AB Connect's range of ruminant feed products offered a cost effective way of maintaining or improving milk yields and quality. It was a year of recovering volumes in the poultry sector following a difficult period, whilst in the pig sector, feed volumes were slightly ahead of last year. Market concerns remain over the relative cost of British pork compared with euro-denominated imports, but consumers have continued to support British produce. In Speciality Nutrition, the recent expansion and modernisation of the UK premix plant at Rugeley enabled the business to meet higher domestic demand and this year has also seen the further extension of its European operations into the strategically important Spanish swine market.

In response to the UK government's commitment to ***reducing*** the country's ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions***, AB Agri has now gained accreditation for its ***energy*** management system which has been deployed across all of its UK manufacturing sites and major offices. This will result in better measurement and management of ***energy*** use in the business and will increasingly inform its strategic investment decisions.

Frontier ***Agriculture***, our joint venture arable operation, celebrated its 10th anniversary this year. Formed in April 2005, the business has since doubled in size and now serves 10,000 customers. Over this decade the income from the supply of crop inputs such as fertilisers, seeds and agronomy services has grown significantly and now exceeds that from its original grain marketing business. This year, the business traded at similar levels to last year with added complexity in its grain trading operations, and lower than normal protein levels in domestic wheat which increased the demand for quality wheat imports.

**Load-Date:** November 3, 2015

**End of Document**



[***Climate talk hope versus reality***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HH5-JVN1-DY5K-Y2J2-00000-00&context=1516831)

New Scientist

November 28, 2015

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**Section:** NEWS;; No. 1278

**Length:** 1494 words

**Byline:** Michale Le Page

**Body**

This week PARIS PREVIEW

Climate talk hope versus reality

The UN climate treaty being negotiated in Paris is supposed to put us on track to prevent dangerous warming. Some say it's too late. Read both sides and make up your own mind, says Michael Le Page

official view: The Paris Protocol will build on the success of Kyoto

official view: A deal looks likely - THE political will is there

International efforts to tackle climate change began at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, leading to the 1997 Kyoto Protocol. Earlier this year, the branch of the United Nations that oversees climate negotiations, the UNFCCC, <a href="[*http://newsroom.unfccc.int/unfccc-newsroom/kyoto-protocol-10th-anniversary-timely-reminder-climate-agreements-work/*](http://newsroom.unfccc.int/unfccc-newsroom/kyoto-protocol-10th-anniversary-timely-reminder-climate-agreements-work/)">declared the protocol had proved that climate agreements work.

The protocol required that, by 2013, industrialised countries cut their ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions*** by an average of 5 per cent relative to 1990 levels. While some failed, most beat their ***targets***. Their collective ***emissions*** fell by about 23 per cent. "The Kyoto Protocol was a remarkable achievement in many ways," Christiana Figueres, head of the UNFCCC, has said. "It clearly played an important role in catalysing this promising trend, which has led to a collective and very welcome 'over-achievement'."

The protocol also "put in place pioneering concepts, flexible options, practical solutions and procedures for accountability that we often take for granted today", Figueres said.

"The Kyoto Protocol was a remarkable achievement - it pioneered concepts we take for granted today "

The countries that signed up to the 1992 climate convention - the Conference of the Parties or COP in diplomatese - started meeting every year in 1995. The third COP meeting established the Kyoto Protocol, to run until 2012.

The infamous 2009 meeting in Copenhagen failed to extend the protocol beyond 2012. A major sticking point, as ever, was trying to get industrialised countries to sign up to bigger cuts when developing nations were allowed to increase their ***emissions***.

Efforts in the last few years shifted from extending Kyoto to setting up a whole new climate treaty to run from 2020 to 2030. Instead of trying to impose ***targets*** on nations, individual countries have instead been asked to declare what they are prepared to do: their "Intended Nationally Determined Contributions".

Negotiators say the INDCs have exceeded expectations, and they are optimistic that a deal can be agreed at COP21 in Paris. Unlike with previous meetings, they say, there is real political momentum.

Paris deal will have same weaknesses as failed Kyoto protocol

Developing countries were not required to make cuts under the Kyoto Protocol. A number of industrialised countries - including the US, then the biggest polluter - didn't sign up and Canada withdrew in 2011.

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Even if every country took action in earnest today, extremely drastic - and politically unpalatable - measures would be required to stay below 2 °C, as <a href="go.nature.com/SQwKKm">Kevin Anderson of the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research in the UK and <a href="[*http://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1748-9326/10/10/105004/meta*](http://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1748-9326/10/10/105004/meta)">others have shown.

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Critics' take

The official view

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**Load-Date:** December 1, 2015

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[***Climate talk hope versus reality***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HH5-JVM1-JBPJ-732G-00000-00&context=1516831)

New Scientist

November 28, 2015

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**Section:** NEWS;; No. 1278

**Length:** 1494 words

**Byline:** Michale Le Page

**Body**

This week PARIS PREVIEW

Climate talk hope versus reality

The UN climate treaty being negotiated in Paris is supposed to put us on track to prevent dangerous warming. Some say it's too late. Read both sides and make up your own mind, says Michael Le Page

official view: The Paris Protocol will build on the success of Kyoto

official view: A deal looks likely - THE political will is there

International efforts to tackle climate change began at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, leading to the 1997 Kyoto Protocol. Earlier this year, the branch of the United Nations that oversees climate negotiations, the UNFCCC, <a href="[*http://newsroom.unfccc.int/unfccc-newsroom/kyoto-protocol-10th-anniversary-timely-reminder-climate-agreements-work/*](http://newsroom.unfccc.int/unfccc-newsroom/kyoto-protocol-10th-anniversary-timely-reminder-climate-agreements-work/)">declared the protocol had proved that climate agreements work.

The protocol required that, by 2013, industrialised countries cut their ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions*** by an average of 5 per cent relative to 1990 levels. While some failed, most beat their ***targets***. Their collective ***emissions*** fell by about 23 per cent. "The Kyoto Protocol was a remarkable achievement in many ways," Christiana Figueres, head of the UNFCCC, has said. "It clearly played an important role in catalysing this promising trend, which has led to a collective and very welcome 'over-achievement'."

The protocol also "put in place pioneering concepts, flexible options, practical solutions and procedures for accountability that we often take for granted today", Figueres said.

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The countries that signed up to the 1992 climate convention - the Conference of the Parties or COP in diplomatese - started meeting every year in 1995. The third COP meeting established the Kyoto Protocol, to run until 2012.

The infamous 2009 meeting in Copenhagen failed to extend the protocol beyond 2012. A major sticking point, as ever, was trying to get industrialised countries to sign up to bigger cuts when developing nations were allowed to increase their ***emissions***.

Efforts in the last few years shifted from extending Kyoto to setting up a whole new climate treaty to run from 2020 to 2030. Instead of trying to impose ***targets*** on nations, individual countries have instead been asked to declare what they are prepared to do: their "Intended Nationally Determined Contributions".

Negotiators say the INDCs have exceeded expectations, and they are optimistic that a deal can be agreed at COP21 in Paris. Unlike with previous meetings, they say, there is real political momentum.

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[***Climate-smart agriculture: a primer; Rural farmers are on the front line of the climate change battle, using sustainable techniques to grow their crops***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JG1-J241-F021-648C-00000-00&context=1516831)

The Guardian

April 5, 2016 Tuesday 3:25 PM GMT

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**Section:** FOLLOW THE FROG - RAINFOREST ALLIANCE PARTNER ZONE

**Length:** 855 words

**Body**

We've all noticed confused spring blossoms popping up in February. Or the occasional storm that is stronger than usual. But in many places around the world, climate change is more than a curiosity: those who depend on the land in order to live are the most vulnerable to it. Shifting weather patterns, shorter growing seasons, droughts and pests can make it nearly impossible for rural smallholder farmers to earn a living - and could eventually make some of your favorite foods disappear.

That's why the Rainforest Alliance works with communities to address these challenges. Climate-smart ***agriculture*** uses farming techniques that maintain and nourish arable land and decrease greenhouse ***emissions***. Successfully implementing the methods described below can help make farms more resilient and prepared for adverse events.

Related: Four ways to connect with the environment during vacation

Composting

Soil management techniques like composting can help keep the dirt rich in nutrients and better able to bounce back from less than ideal conditions, such as droughts. Compost can be made from organic materials including food waste and plants, which means it can help farmers ***reduce*** rubbish. Healthy soil is critical for producing abundant crop yields; some Rainforest Alliance Certified farms have achieved yields that are one and a half to two times higher than their noncertified counterparts.

Manual weed removal

Sometimes you have to get your hands dirty. Pulling weeds by hand instead of using chemical plant killers might be time consuming, but it's better for the health of the soil and could ultimately lower a farmer's operation costs. Sri Lanka-based tea farmer Mahendra Peiris has found this to be true. After participating in Rainforest Alliance training workshops supported by the Global Environmental Facility, Peiris used new integrated weed management methods. Manual pulling of weeds got rid of the expense of weed killers, and because the soil became healthier, Peiris noticed bigger and better crop yields without the added expense of clearing more land. And that helps to ***reduce*** climate change, since converting forest to cropland produces ***greenhouse gases***.

Organic fertilizer Organic fertilizers encourage crop growth without introducing potentially harmful chemicals to farmers, soil, plants, wildlife and water. Rainforest Alliance trainers in the Lampung province of Sumatra, Indonesia, teach local coffee farmers how to make an organic liquid fertilizer out of compost, animal manure and other organic materials. As with composting, ingredients in organic fertilizers can utilize matter that would otherwise be considered waste.

Soil erosion ***reduction*** Soil conservation leads to greater access to arable land and therefore ***reduces*** the need to clear forests. Planting on contours, such as hills or natural terraces, is one way to cut down erosion and maintain clean water sources - and also happens to look like highbrow landscape architecture. The Rainforest Alliance incorporates this practice in its trainings in Rwanda and other countries.

Water conservation Access to clean water is important for the health and vitality of any ***agricultural*** operation. Given the droughts induced by climate change and the fact that ***agriculture*** is responsible for approximately 70% of freshwater use globally, water conservation is a top priority. Common conservation practices include rainwater storage and water harvesting.

Related: Follow the Farmer: a coffee expedition to Costa Rica

Integrated pest management When, because of climate change, unchecked pests wreak havoc on crops, they can destroy the habitats of many creatures and disrupt the food chain at large. Instead of using harsh agrochemicals that threaten the health of the entire ecosystem, integrated pest management uses as many preventative and natural methods as possible, like introducing natural enemies to the ***targeted*** pest. Agrochemicals are used in small quantities, and only as a last resort.

Agroforestry Activities like cattle farming and ***agricultural*** expansion are major producers of the ***greenhouse gases*** that drive climate change. The Rainforest Alliance's CO2 Coffee project addresses the issue in the Mexican state Oaxaca, by working with more than 250 smallholder coffee farmers in the Chatina and Zapoteca regions. Because of the local community's work, the project has achieved a Verified Carbon Standard validation. The center of the project is agroforestry, which is a land use management system that involves simultaneously cultivating crops and trees. The reforestation efforts are expected to remove 130,000 tons of ***emissions*** from the atmosphere over a 30-year period. Once again, trees are our heroes - protecting crops and ***reducing*** ***emissions*** to the benefit of farmers worldwide.

This content is paid for by AMResorts in association with the Rainforest Alliance

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[***Climate-smart agriculture: a primer; Rural farmers are on the front line of the climate change battle, using sustainable techniques to grow their crops***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5JG1-J241-F021-648B-00000-00&context=1516831)

The Guardian

April 5, 2016 Tuesday 3:01 PM GMT

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**Length:** 833 words

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[***Plant pioneers £1.5m scheme for food waste; REFUSE DISPOSAL GIANT UNVEILS UK's FIRST SPECIALIST SITE***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5J0H-X7F1-DY9P-N38T-00000-00&context=1516831)

Liverpool Echo

February 2, 2016 Tuesday

Edition 1, National Edition

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 19

**Length:** 393 words

**Byline:** NEIL HODGSON

**Body**

WASTE services provider Biffa is creating a network of strategic food waste transfer stations across the UK in a £1.5m programme, with its St Helens depot the first to be unveiled.

The strategy is part of the firm's bid to lead the market in anaerobic digestion innovation.

Four new food waste transfer stations will be used to collect and sort food waste before it is sent to be treated at the company's anaerobic digestion plants in Staffordshire, Leicestershire and West Sussex.

The addition of the transfer stations will enable Biffa to process more food waste, in less time, creating huge efficiencies in the process of ultimately converting it into renewable ***energy***.

The first transfer station has now been installed inside Biffa's existing state-of-the-art waste transfer plant in St Helens, which was built in 2011.

The upgraded facility now has the capability to process general household food waste, as well as meat-based food waste produced by businesses.

Further transfer stations are planned in Yorkshire, the South West, the South East and Scotland.

Chris Savage, general manager of Biffa's anaerobic digestion plant at Cannock, one of the largest anaerobic digestion plants in Europe, said: "The UK generates around 15m tonnes of food waste each year, with businesses in the food service sector accounting for just under half of this.

"Sadly, 40% of this waste is currently lost to landfill due, in part, to a lack of regulation which would enforce food waste segregation among businesses as well as a lack of facilities to collect food waste.

"Biffa has a long-term commitment to diverting food waste away from landfill. Our investment into the new transfer stations will create great efficiencies in the collection and preparation of food waste before it is sent to our anaerobic digestion plants.

"There, the waste is treated and converted into renewable ***energy*** which is exported to the National Grid, as well as an ***energy***-rich 'liquid gold' digestate derivative, which farmers can apply to ***agricultural*** land." Disposing of food waste responsibly is becoming increasingly important as landfill diversion becomes the focus of waste management policy.

Research by the Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP) says the UK could ***reduce*** ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions*** by 27m tonnes and businesses could save £2bn, if we achieve zero food waste to landfill by 2020.

**Graphic**

Biffa's Chris Savage visits the new food waste transfer station

**Load-Date:** February 2, 2016

**End of Document**



[***Land degradation costs the world up to $10.6tn a year, report says; Study says effective land management will be critical in meeting sustainable development goals of alleviating poverty and ensuring long-term food security***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5GXR-0691-F021-64PM-00000-00&context=1516831)

The Guardian

September 15, 2015 Tuesday 1:21 PM GMT

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**Section:** GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT

**Length:** 704 words

**Byline:** Mark Anderson and Arthur Neslen

**Body**

Land degradation is costing the world as much as $10.6tn every year, equivalent to 17% of global gross domestic product, a report has warned.

More than half of the world's arable land is moderately or severely degraded, according to a report published on Tuesday by the Economics of Land Degradation (ELD) Initiative (pdf). The report estimates the cost of this environmental destruction, not only from lost ***agricultural*** production and diminished livelihoods, but also from the lost value of ecosystem services formerly provided by the land, including water filtration, erosion prevention, nutrient cycling and the provision of clean air.

Related: Sustainable development goals: all you need to know

Land degradation - decreased vegetation cover and increased soil erosion - also means that land is less able to store carbon, contributing to climate change. Land use changes represent the second biggest source of ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions*** after fossil fuel combustion, the study says.

"Burgeoning populations with shifting demographics and distributions are increasing the demands on land to produce food, ***energy***, water, resources and livelihoods," the report says.

Desertification, the result of climate change, is having a profound effect on migration. Karmenu Vella, European commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, said that land degradation and desertification is forcing hundreds of thousands to move from their homes. A study by the UN's Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), which was cited by the authors of the ELD report, found that the process may drive an estimated 50 million people from their homes in the next 10 years.

"Climate change is even one of the root causes of a new migration phenomenon. Climate refugees will become a new challenge - if we do not act swiftly," European commission President Jean-Claude Juncker said last week.

If sustainable land management was rolled out around the world, as much as $75.6tn could be added to the global economy every year through jobs and increased ***agricultural*** output, the report said.

As much as 2bn hectares of arable land could be rehabilitated and used for ***agricultural*** production, according to Louise Baker, coordinator of external relations at the UNCCD.

"We should look at realigning the incentive structure that we have away from incentives that degrade the land to those that promote sustainable management," said Baker, who listed agroforestry, terracing on sloping lands, water harvesting and appropriate crop selection as examples of good land management.

The report notes that the economic gains from arable land are often overlooked in favour of foreign investment or land grabs. "This divergence is likely to widen as land scarcity increases and land becomes increasingly seen as a 'commodity'," the report says.

The sustainable development goals (SDGs), due to be agreed in New York later this month, will seek to "halt and reverse land degradation" over the next 15 years.

Boosting the protection of land would advance other elements of the post-2015 development agenda, said Zafar Adeel, director of the UN's University Institute for Water, Environment and Health.

"We could very easily argue that sustainable land management is very relevant to achieving half of the SDGs, if not more," Adeel said, listing food security, poverty ***reduction*** and water resource management as goals that would benefit from better land management.

The report says: "Ensuring the implementation of more sustainable land management is of critical importance considering the vast environmental and socio-economic challenges we are collectively facing - from food, water, and ***energy*** security and malnutrition, to climate change, a burgeoning global population, and ***reduction*** in biodiversity, ecosystems, and ecosystem services."

The report is the culmination of four years' research by 30 research and policy institutions led by the UN University's Institute for Water, Environment and Health and the Consultative Group for International ***Agricultural*** Research's (CGIAR) Research Programme on Dryland Systems. The research was funded by Germany's Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, the European Commission and the Korean Forest Service.

**Load-Date:** September 15, 2015

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[***St Helens Biffa depot unveiled as first in £1.5m food waste scheme; Waste services specialist aims to cut amount of food sent to landfill with new handling stations***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5J0J-1JJ1-JCJY-G2XN-00000-00&context=1516831)

liverpoolecho.co.uk

February 2, 2016 Tuesday 6:10 AM GMT

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**Section:** NEWS

**Length:** 394 words

**Byline:** By Neil Hodgson

**Body**

Waste services provider Biffa is creating a network of strategic food waste transfer stations across the UK in a £1.5m programme, with its St Helens depot the first to be unveiled.

The strategy is part of the firm's bid to lead the market in anaerobic digestion innovation.

Four new food waste transfer stations will be used to collect and sort food waste before it is sent to be treated at the company's anaerobic digestion plants in Staffordshire, Leicestershire and West Sussex.

The addition of the transfer stations will enable Biffa to process more food waste, in less time, creating huge efficiencies in the process of ultimately converting it into renewable ***energy***.

The first transfer station has now been installed inside Biffa's existing state-of-the-art waste transfer plant in St Helens, which was built in 2011.

The upgraded facility now has the capability to process general household food waste as well as meat-based food waste produced by businesses.

Further transfer stations are planned in Yorkshire, the South West, the South East and Scotland.

Chris Savage, general manager of Biffa's anaerobic digestion plant at Cannock, one of the largest anaerobic digestion plants in Europe, said: "The UK generates around 15 million tonnes of food waste each year, with businesses in the food service sector accounting for just under half of this.

"Sadly, 40% of this waste is currently lost to landfill due, in part, to a lack of regulation which would enforce food waste segregation among businesses as well as a lack of facilities to collect food waste.

"Biffa has a long-term commitment to diverting food waste away from landfill. Our investment into the new transfer stations will create great efficiencies in the collection and preparation of food waste before it is sent to our anaerobic digestion plants.

"There, the waste is treated and converted into renewable ***energy*** which is exported to the National Grid, as well as an ***energy*** rich 'liquid gold' digestate derivative which farmers can apply to ***agricultural*** land."

Disposing of food waste responsibly is becoming increasingly important as landfill diversion becomes the focus of waste management policy.

Research by the Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP) says the UK could ***reduce*** ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions*** by 27m tonnes and businesses could save £2bn, if we achieve zero food waste to landfill by 2020.

**Load-Date:** February 2, 2016

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[***Paper reports on Myanmar's climate action plan***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HHR-X181-JC8S-C4FH-00000-00&context=1516831)

BBC Monitoring Asia Pacific - Political

Supplied by BBC Worldwide Monitoring

December 4, 2015 Friday

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**Length:** 699 words

**Body**

Text of report published by Thailand-based Myanmar publication The Irrawaddy website on 3 December

Paris, France - Burmese environmental activists in Paris for a 195-nation UN climate conference that began on Monday [30 November] have urged for cross-sector cooperation to implement the mitigation proposals outlined in Burma's [also known as Myanmar] climate action plan.

Burma is among 157 countries to submit an Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) action plan ahead of the conference, outlining commitments to help prevent average global temperatures rising above 2 degrees Celsius as the basis of a new international agreement.

In Burma's INDC, the country specifies proposed actions in the forestry and ***energy*** sectors to ***reduce*** ***greenhouse gas*** ***emissions***.

The government has ***targeted*** to maintain 30 percent of total national land area as "Reserved Forest" and "Protected Public Forest," alongside 10 percent of total national land area as "Protected Area Systems."

To decrease the rate of deforestation would provide a "significant mitigation contribution," according to Burma's submission.

In the ***energy*** sector, the country forecast an increase in the share of hydroelectric generation to 9.4GW by 2030; pledged to provide electricity to rural areas at least 30 percent of which would utilize clean ***energy*** sources; and ***targeted*** improving ***energy*** efficiency and savings potential in line with an "Improvement of Industrial ***Energy*** Efficiency" project being pursued in cooperation with the UN Industrial Development Organization.

In Paris for the conference, Thar Zin Oo, chairman of environmental group Gaiha Hita, said he was supportive of Burma's INDCs as it reflected the concept of climate justice. The bigger issue, he said, was implementation.

"We will have a new government soon and changes in ministries. People are very excited and happy for change. But in our youths' view, change should lead not only to development but development that is sustainable," he said.

Aung Myint, general secretary of the Renewable ***Energy*** Association Myanmar, concurred that ensuring implementation of the government's proposed mitigation actions would be crucial and necessarily require collaboration across the board.

"The state has beautifully drawn the laws and procedures. But in reality, there are so many difficulties to implement them practically, especially on environmental issues... It not only concernsthe environment ministry but also mining, water, electricity. Coordination between ministries is very important," he said, adding that the public must play a part in ensuring pledges were realized.

Thar Zin Oowas hopeful that the space for civil society input on environmental issues would broaden under a new National League for Democracy (NLD)-led government in 2016.

When asked what environment-related challenges the new government would face, the green activist highlighted issues over land, investment and new ***agricultural*** methods.

"There are lots of companies who are interested in providing[new ***agricultural***] techniques. We don't know what kind of companies will come. Are they organic or chemical or GM companies? Will companies with a bad history come?" he said.

Ei Khin Khin, co-founder of Mya Chemical Free, an outlet providing organic fruit and vegetables based in Rangoon, said businesses should not view civil society organizations (CSOs) as the enemy.

"Businessesshould work together with CSOs," she said, highlighting the need to collaborate on corporate social responsibility (CSR) concerns.

Delegates of 195 countries that have signed the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change are attending the conference in Paris, which is scheduled to run until Dec. 11 and herald a new global pact on combating climate change.

According to the "Global Climate Risk Index 2015," issued by Germanwatch, Burma ranked as one of three countries around the world most affected by extreme weather events for the period 1994 to 2013.

For Thar Zin Oo,responding to climate change is every citizen's duty.

"We already have a national-level climate change strategy and action plan. Everyone just needs to be dutiful," he said.

Source: Irrawaddy website, Chiang Mai, in English 03 Dec 15

**Load-Date:** December 4, 2015

**End of Document**



[***China president sends "strong signals" at Paris climate summit - Xinhua***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5HH4-0FH1-DYRV-30N2-00000-00&context=1516831)

BBC Monitoring Asia Pacific - Political

Supplied by BBC Worldwide Monitoring

December 1, 2015 Tuesday

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**Length:** 1165 words

**Body**

Text of report by official Chinese news agency Xinhua (New China News Agency)

Paris, 1 Dec: Chinese President Xi Jinping on Monday [30 November] sent strong signals at the ongoing Paris climate change conference, warning against mentality of zero-sum game, expressing resolve in fulfilling Beijing's commitments and showing willingness to advance international cooperation.

Xi made the remarks in a speech at the opening ceremony of the two-week Paris gathering, officially called the 21st Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

The highly-anticipated meeting, opened by leaders from over 150 countries, aims to produce a new international agreement to cut ***greenhouse gases*** beyond 2020 when the 1997 Kyoto Protocol expires.

Such an accord is seen as crucial for keeping the rise in global temperatures within two degrees Celsius above pre-industrial times, a goal scientists say should be met to avoid risky changes in the climate.

No mentality of zero-sum game

The Paris climate talks should reject the narrow-minded mentality of zero-sum game, said Xi, urging all countries, particularly developed countries, to assume more shared responsibilities for win-win results.

Developing nations insist their developed counterparts with completed process of industrialization shoulder the greater burden for carbon ***emission*** ***reductions***.

In his speech, Xi reiterated the principle of "common but differentiated responsibilities," a cornerstone laid by the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 1992, adding that it must be adhered to during the upcoming climate negotiations.

Xi suggested the Paris conference accommodate the national conditions of various countries and lay emphasis on practical results.

It is imperative to respect differences among countries, especially developing ones, in domestic policies, capacity building and economic structure, the Chinese leader said, noting the legitimate needs of developing countries to ***reduce*** poverty and improve their peoples' living standards should not be denied when the issue of climate change is being addressed.

Along with leaders of other developing nations, Xi also called upon developed countries to honor their commitment to climate finance and transfer of low-carbon and eco-friendly technologies to developing countries.

In the 2009 Copenhagen conference, it was agreed that poorer nations vulnerable to global warming impacts would receive 100 billion U.S. dollars per year by 2020 to give up fossil fuels and shore up defenses against climate-driven food scarcity, heat waves and storm damage.

"Developed countries should honor their commitment, mobilizing 100 billion U.S. dollars each year before 2020, and provide stronger financial support to developing countries afterwards," said Xi.

"It is also important that climate-friendly technologies should be transferred to developing countries," he added.

China's confidence, resolve

With regard to China's commitment to combating climate change, Xi said the world's second largest economy has confidence and resolve in walking its words.

As a matter of fact, China, as a developing country, has taken bold actions to ***reduce*** carbon ***emissions*** with ambitious climate goals.

According to an action plan submitted to the UNFCCC Secretariat late June, China has pledged to cut its carbon ***emissions*** per unit of GDP by 60-65 percent from 2005 levels by 2030, raise the share of non-fossil fuels in primary ***energy*** consumption to about 20 percent and peak its carbon ***emissions*** by the same year.

"This requires strenuous efforts but we have confidence and resolve to fulfill our commitments," Xi said.

China has been actively engaged in the global campaign on climate change, now topping the world in terms of ***energy*** conservation and utilization of new and renewable ***energies***.

Aimed at a more sustainable and balanced way of growth, China's next national development blueprint seeks to promote clean industrial production, low-carbon development and ***energy*** conservation from 2016 to 2020.

China will, on the basis of technological and institutional innovation, adopt new policy measures to improve industrial mix, build low-carbon system, develop green building and low-carbon transportation and establish a nationwide carbon-***emission*** trading market, Xi elaborated.

To act on climate change is not only driven by China's domestic needs for sustainable development, but also driven by its sense of responsibility to fully engage in global governance, and to forge a community of shared destiny for humankind, the action plan explained.

Advancing global cooperation

Xi stressed that the Chinese government will continue to advance international cooperation on climate change, and earnestly implement its policy commitment to south-south cooperation.

In September, China announced the establishment of the China South-South Climate Cooperation Fund, with an input of 20 billion yuan (about 3 billion dollars), to help other developing countries combat climate change "in a show of greater support," as Xi put it.

Next year, China will launch cooperation projects to set up 10 pilot low-carbon industrial parks and start 100 mitigation and adaptation programs in other developing countries, and provide them with 1000 training opportunities on climate change, Xi announced.

China will continue to promote international cooperation in such areas as clean ***energy***, disaster prevention and mitigation, ecological protection and climate-smart ***agriculture***, and low-carbon and smart cities, he said.

China will also help other developing countries build up their financing capabilities for dealing with climate change, Xi added.

Positive reactions

Xi's speech at the Paris gathering has drawn positive reactions from delegates and experts attending the 12-day event.

His remarks are welcomed, said Samantha Smith, leader of World Wide Fund for Nature's (WWF) Global Climate and ***Energy*** Initiative, noting Xi has detailed China's cooperation plans with other developing countries in the Monday speech.

The principles of "common but differentiated responsibilities", "equity" and "respective capabilities" as Xi reaffirmed in his remarks are what the UNFCCC requires, commented Przemyslaw Sobanski, an official at Poland's Department of Sustainable Development and deputy head of the Polish delegation to the summit.

Speaking highly of China's initiative of setting up the climate cooperation fund, Sobanski said China is playing a responsible role in coping with challenges brought about by climate change.

Xi's remarks show his resolve in addressing climate change and pushing for a strong agreement with all parties to take actions, said Jennifer Morgan, head of the climate program for the World Resources Institute, a global research organization that has been working on climate change for over two decades.

China is ready to step into a pivotal role in reaching common ground on key issues in Paris, Morgan added.

Source: Xinhua news agency, Beijing, in English 0000gmt 01 Dec 15

**Load-Date:** December 1, 2015

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[***Arctic powers in Alaska for talks as pace of global warming threatens ice cap; US to host summit of polar nations as fears grow that the Earth's frozen wastes are losing their ability to deflect harmful rays***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H5K-GWY1-JCJY-G0V5-00000-00&context=1516831)

The Observer (London)

October 17, 2015 Saturday 10:01 PM GMT

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**Section:** WORLD NEWS

**Length:** 742 words

**Byline:** Robin McKie Science editor

**Body**

Scientists in Alaska will raise the vexed issue of methane and "black carbon" pollution as they discuss tipping-point dangers posed by global warming in the Arctic.

A crucial meeting of the Arctic Council, in Anchorage, comes amid evidence that the polar region is warming faster than any other place on Earth and that sea ice coverage there has shrunk by nearly a third since 1979. Researchers now fear that new threats to climate stability are about to be unleashed in the Arctic. Warming in high latitudes is causing permafrost in Siberia and northern Canada to thaw and release plumes of methane stored there, they say. Methane is a powerful ***greenhouse gas*** and these releases threaten to trigger secondary rises in global temperatures.

In addition, researchers warn that black carbon - ultra-fine particles produced by factories and farms and deposited thousands of miles from ***emission*** points - could be significantly ***reducing*** the brightness of snow and icefields. With less solar radiation reflected back into space, the region will warm up even faster, leading to a longer melt season and even greater ***reductions*** in ice.

"The sources of black carbon and methane ***emissions*** affecting the Arctic are the oil and gas sector, waste, domestic burning, shipping and other modes of transportation, ***agricultural*** burning, other industry and ***agricultural*** sources, and natural sources including wildfires and wetlands," said Jon Kahn, director of the ministry of environment and ***energy*** in Sweden and an Arctic Council delegate, in a recent blog.

Kahn has played a key role in setting up past Arctic Council investigations of the dangers posed by methane and black carbon to the region. Crucially, Kahn noted that the US, which has just assumed presidency of the council, has agreed to maintain this interest and, in particular, to look more closely at flaring, the burning of natural gas that cannot be processed or sold, and which has been linked to the release of secondary climate pollutants such as black carbon.

The Arctic Council is made up of representatives of the main north polar nations - Canada, Denmark (through its dependencies of Greenland and the Faroe Islands), Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russia, Sweden and the United States. In recent years, its work has come into sharp focus as the Arctic has warmed up and its sea ice cover has shrunk, exposing once inaccessible oilfields and sea routes.

Russia has been particularly aggressive in claiming rights over newly exposed territories, while US president Barack Obama recently triggered controversy by giving the go-ahead to Shell to drill for oil in the Chukchi Sea.

However, the US administration has since made significant retreats over its oil drilling policy in the Arctic and last week announced new curbs on oil and gas exploration in Arctic waters off Alaska's northern coast. This has raised hopes that it will use its presidency of the Arctic Council to try to strengthen measures that will protect the fragile polar environment. The Arctic suffers by comparison with its southerly counterpart, the Antarctic, which is controlled by an international treaty that bans all mining, oil drilling or the presence of the military, and which strictly controls all environmental hazards. By contrast, the Arctic is owned by nations who have very different ideas about how to run the place. It is the task of the Arctic Council to reconcile these differing aspirations.

For its part, the United Kingdom, which has strong interests in both Arctic and Antarctic research and exploration, has permanent observer status at the council and uses its scientific expertise and knowledge of the region to optimise its political leverage at debates.

The UK has been criticised for its lack of ambition in Arctic debates. A House of Lords report, Responding to a Changing Arctic, recently warned that the UK does not always take a full role in Arctic discussions. In the report, peers recommended that the post of UK Arctic ambassador be created. However, the government has since dismissed the idea, arguing that such a post is unnecessary. "We already have a strong influence and certainly do not need honorific posts with grand titles to make our presence felt," said one UK Arctic expert.

This year, the UK natural environment research council said it would spend an extra £16m on Arctic research in order to better understand how climate change there is likely to affect wildlife, fish stocks and the environment.

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[***Arctic powers in Alaska for talks as pace of global warming threatens ice cap; US to host summit of polar nations as fears grow that the Earth's frozen wastes are losing their ability to deflect harmful rays***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:5H5K-GWY1-JCJY-G0V6-00000-00&context=1516831)

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