

Climate Change: Not Fake News: Last week we saw the G19 breaking off from the US position on climate change. With fake news everywhere, we take a real look this month at climate risk plus action so far. First, see why we think it's time to step up efforts to bridge science and policy and to go 'science unusual' to counter fake news. Look no further than China's groundwater shortage for urgency. Biswas & Hartley from the Lee Kuan Yew School for Public Policy explore solutions. Meanwhile, China has approved the revised 'Water Pollution Prevention & Control Law'. Closer to home, action is underway to transform Hong Kong into a climate ready & flood resilient sponge city, as Leung from the Drainage Services Department shows. But is HK's water supply secure under climate change? Much is made of the DongShen Agreement's price tag but discussions need to move onto more complex issues such as the city's rampant overuse and leakage. Hear from Civic Exchange on HK's 'illusion of plenty'. Even China's power sector is taking action to treat air pollution from thermal power plants. However, this is not good news for wastewater - is zero liquid discharge the way to tackle the issues? Bluetech Research's Owen expands. Climate resilience financing is on the rise. We sat down with Dr. Chan from the Climate Bonds Initiative working group to find out the latest on green finance. How have China's climate bonds been received? What's next? Climate change is not fake news. It's more than time to take a reality check!



JULY NEWSLETTER

EDITORIAL

Climate Change: Not Fake News: Last week we saw the G19 breaking off from the US position on climate change. With fake news everywhere, we take a real look this month at climate risk plus action so far.

Science & policy have their own language but given that significant climate risks are being overshadowed by fake news, can we afford to speak in tongues? See why we think it's time to step up efforts to bridge science and policy and to go 'science unusual' to counter fake news.

Look no further than China's groundwater shortage for urgency. The overstressed North China aquifer serves 11% of the country's population, 13% of its agricultural production and 70% of its coal production. Prof Asit K Biswas & Kris Hartley from the Lee Kuan Yew School for Public Policy explore solutions from sponge cities to volumetric pricing systems. China, at the end of June, approved the revised 'Water Pollution Prevention & Control Law', which will come into effect 1 Jan 2018.

Closer to home, action is underway to transform Hong Kong into a climate ready & flood resilient sponge city, as Richard Leung from the Drainage Services Department shows. But is Hong Kong's water supply secure under climate change? Much is made of the DongShen Agreement's price tag but discussions need to move onto more complex issues such as the city's rampant overuse and leakage. Hear from Civic Exchange on HK's 'illusion of plenty'.

Even China's power sector is taking action: not simply by lowering carbon emissions but also by treating air pollution in thermal power plants. However, this is not good news for wastewater - is zero liquid discharge the way to tackle the issues? Bluetech Research's Rhys Owen expands.

Solutions need finance and some good news is that climate resilience financing is on the rise. We sat down with Dr. Christine Chan from the Climate Bonds Initiative working group to find out the latest on green finance globally and in China. How have China's climate bonds been received? What's next?

Climate change is not fake news. Ignoring the truth about climate change will not change impending events and rising water risks. It's more than time to take a reality check!



'Science Unusual' to Counter Fake News!

Science & policy have their own language but given that climate risks are being overshadowed by fake news, can we afford to speak in tongues? See why we think it's time to step up efforts to bridge science & policy with finance

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Groundwater Shortage Calls For Urgent Action

China's groundwater is overextracted and this needs immediate tackling. Prof Biswas & Hartley from the Lee Kuan Yew School for Public Policy explore solutions from sponge cities to volumetric pricing systems.

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Hong Kong: A Climate Resilient Sponge City

Hong Kong is prone to tropical cyclones, which will be exacerbated by climate change. Can the city become climate & flood resilient? Hear from Leung from the Drainage Services Department on actions taken so far

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Hong Kong's Pricey Water Deal With China

Much is made of the DongShen Agreement's price tag but discussions need to move onto more complex issues such as the city's rampant overuse & leakage. Hear from Civic Exchange on HK's 'illusion of plenty'

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Rise of ZLD In China's Power Sector

Treating air pollution in thermal power plants can yield hard-to-treat wastewater as a by-product: is zero liquid discharge the way forward? Bluetech Research's Owen expands

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Green Financing For Climate Resilience

We sat down with Dr Chan from the CBI working group to get the latest on green finance globally & in China. How have China's green bonds been received? What is next for investors?

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TAPPING IN

CWR Related Events

- 27 Aug–1 Sep: [World Water Week 2017](#): Come join the discussion on the future of Made In China fashion at our event on 30 Aug at 11am

Government

- NPC: [Revised 'Water Pollution Prevention and Control Law'](#) approved; effective 1 Jan 2018
- State Council: [Establishment of Five Pilot Green Finance Reform & Innovation Provinces](#): Guangdong, Guizhou, Jiangxi, Zhejiang & Xinjiang
- PBoC, CBRC, CSRC, CIRC, SAC: [Development Plan for a Standardised Financial System \(2016-2020\)](#): incl. research on disclosure standards for green finance
- MoF, PBoC, CSRC: [Notice on Promoting Standardisation of Affairs for Asset Backed Securitisation for PPP projects](#): environ & water PPPs prioritised
- MEP: [Technical Guideline for Deriving Water Quality Criteria for the Protection of Human Health](#)
- NDRC, MoF, MWR, MoA, MLR: [Promoting Comprehensive Agricultural Water Price Reform](#): establish an evaluation mechanism

Events

- 12-14 Sep: [2017 Water Technology & Environmental Control Exhibition & Conference](#)

Reports

- ADMCF, Civic Exchange, WYNG Foundation: [The Illusion of Plenty: Hong Kong's Water Security, Working Towards Regional Water Harmony](#)
- UNEP: [G20 Green Finance Synthesis Report](#)
- TCFD: [Final Report: Recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures](#)
- OilChange Intl, Friends of the Earth, WWF, Sierra Club: [Talk is Cheap: How G20 Governments are Financing Climate Disaster](#)
- Greenpeace: [Overcapacity, Over-withdrawal: How tackling coal power overcapacity can ease water stress](#)
- Hsiang et al: [Estimating Economic Damage from Climate Change in the United States](#)

Interest

- Draft of China's 1st soil pollution law under review by NPC
- South China suffering from floods while North China experiences heat waves
- China's 2016 municipal water use grew while agri & industrial use fell
- MEP launches campaign against pollution from imported waste processing
- China & ADB launch green financing platform to fight pollution

Hot on Weibo:

- Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei region to promote smart environment protection platform

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