

Fundamental Change: The 'enemy' has been identified: China has declared "war on pollution". We take a closer look this month into the key ingredients required to wage a successful war against water pollution. Are there key areas of focus? What are the current stratagems & offensives? Is MEP reform from "mountaintop to the ocean" crucial for success? What are the policies implemented over the past year and what other fundamental changes need to take place? With almost 87% of the public concerned over food safety and drinking water, all eyes are on heavy metal pollution from industry as excessive discharge has led to soil contamination and fears over cadmium & chromium rice. We discuss at length with Professor Ma Zhong, Dean of the School of Environment at Renmin University fundamental issues in industrial water and how current standards and pricing are set so that it is cheaper to pollute than to clean up. Don't know anything about wastewater in China, start by checking out our 8 facts on wastewater. The situation is urgent – current water pollution has to be dealt with as wastewater will only rise with increasing urbanisation. Can China's cities meet this rising demand for water? Shanghai Green Initiatives Nitin Dani and Georgina Glanfield share their thoughts on how the public can play a role.



EDITORIAL 🗳️

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War on Pollution

Premier Li has just declared war on pollution. Tan expands on the government's stratagems & offensives and fundamental changes required to shore up the MEP's arsenal in order to wage a successful war

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8 Facts on China's Wastewater

Don't know anything about wastewater in China? Is it on the rise? Is industrial wastewater under-reported? Is it worse for rural areas? Check out our 8 facts from tech, key pollutants to standards

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Fundamental Issues in Industrial Water

Professor Ma Zhong, dean of the School of Environment of Renmin University gives his in-depth views on the industrial wastewater standards & pricing. Is it cheaper to pollute than to treat?

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MEP Reform: From Mountaintop to Ocean?

The MEP is currently regarded as

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Government

- Premier Li: [China declares war on pollution](#); air, water & soil pollution
- President Xi: RMB70 mn from central budget in 2014 for [major water conservancy projects](#)
- NPC Top Priority: Enhance environmental protection legislation
- NDRC Chairman, Xu Shaoshi: Confirmed NDRC restructuring plan
- MEP Minister, Zhou Zhengxian: Called for the public to expose environmentally damaging activities
- MEP: China to spend [RMB2 trn to tackle water pollution](#); RMB1.7 trn on air pollution
- MEP vice minister Wu Xiaoping: 12FYP total green investment could hit RMB 5trn
- MEP National Ecological Civilisation Awareness Survey: 80.9% deeply concerned" about environmental problems; 86.8% "highly concerned" over drinking water & food
- MoF: RMB 21.1 bn on energy conservation & environmental protection in 2014
- MoF, NDRC, MRW, MEP + 6 more ministries: Water to be included in [performance evaluation](#) of officials
- Food security: China to spend 10% more on farm subsidies in 2014
- Food safety: Revised food safety law due in next 5 years; expect fines to triple

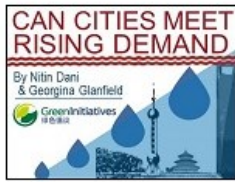
Reports

- WEF: [Global Risks 2014](#): Water crises rank #3
- Nomura: [Only Half-way Through](#): Industrial water tariff hike forecasted
- Greenpeace: [A Little Story](#) about a Fashionable



too weak to punish polluters due to dispersed authority & overlapping functions. Is reform to make a Super MEP necessary to improve China's 'mountains, water, forest, farmland & lakes'?

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Can Cities Meet Rising Demand
Nitin Dani and Georgina Glanfield from Green Initiatives in Shanghai, share their thoughts on how Chinese cities can ensure water security in the future. Can the public play a role?

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2013-2014 Key Water Policies
Haven't been following China's Three Red Lines strategy to protect water? Check out our summary of key water policies from 2013 to 2014

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[Lie](#):Luxury brands (Louis Vuitton, Dior & others) contain hazardous chemicals

- Zero Discharge of Hazardous Chemicals: [2013 Annual Report](#)

Events

- March 19: [Water Philanthropy Forum](#) in Hong Kong featuring CWR, IPE, WRI & Lu Guang sponsored by Coutts Bank (invite only)
- March 20: HSBC Forum: Water Pollution - Derail China's Economy? Featuring insights from CWR and WRI (invite only)
- April 23 & 24: [AIDF & ESCAP Water Security Summit 2014](#)

Interest

- Only 3 out of 74 monitored cities met China's pollution standards in 2013
- MEP criticizes several factories in central Henan for refusing inspections
- CNPC blacklisted by MEP for the 2nd time in 6 months & fined RMB0.5 mn
- Levi Strauss uses 100% recycled water in parts of its garment production; this process is used in key China factories
- Swire & Coca-Cola China wins the UNDP-Deloitte China Water Stewardship Award

Hot on Weibo

- Public urges more effort in the war on pollution & is eager to see results

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