

**Fast & Furious Water Ten:** So the highly anticipated 'Water Pollution Prevention & Control Action Plan' or 'Water Ten' is finally out. It is more comprehensive and tougher than expected with tight compliance deadlines for some regions and industries. The plan's actions are fast & furious and indicates a tough 'comply or else' stance by the State Council. Multiple related policies & new industrial standards released hot on the heels of the plan also point to a fast & furious shift to a "New Norm". Why? Because groundwater is under pressure in the North and the public are worried about pollution in their drinking water sources. But is the new plan enough? Are the targets too soft or do they reflect the complexity of tackling water pollution? Will the plan revamp Chinese agriculture and shed light on inconsistencies in water in coal? If China can protect water sources and deliver safe drinking tap water, will the bottled water market continue to thrive? It was bottled water galore at the World Water Forum in Korea last month. Check out our takeaways from this tri-annual forum and why country representatives attending should take a page from the Water Ten - it's fast, it's furious - be prepared.



MAY NEWSLETTER

## EDITORIAL

**Fast & Furious Water Ten:** So the highly anticipated 'Water Pollution Prevention & Control Action Plan' or 'Water Ten' is finally out. It is more comprehensive and tougher than expected with tight compliance deadlines for some regions and industries. The plan's actions are fast & furious and indicates a tough 'comply or else' stance by the State Council.

Multiple related policies & new industrial standards released hot on the heels of the plan (see "Tapping In" column) also point to a fast & furious shift to a "New Norm". Why? Because groundwater is under pressure in the North and the public are worried about pollution in their drinking water sources. But is the new plan enough? Are the targets too soft or do they reflect the complexity of tackling water pollution?

With the latest official report showing continued deterioration of groundwater quality, focus is expected to turn to water pollution from agriculture and coal mining. We take a look at key takeaways from Shanghai's Global Agriculture Sustainability Forum in relation to the new plan - will it revamp Chinese agriculture? We also examine water in coal and find that despite multiple policies on the matter, the road ahead is still murky with inconsistencies in data and targets.

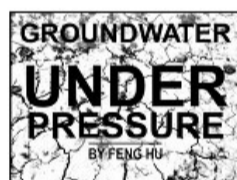
Ultimately, if China can protect water sources and deliver safe drinking tap water, will the bottled water market continue to thrive? It was bottled water galore at the World Water Forum in Korea last month. Check out our takeaways from this tri-annual forum and why country representatives attending should take a page from the Water Ten - it's fast, it's furious - be prepared.



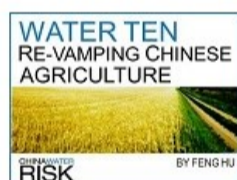
**Water Ten: Comply Or Else**  
China's new Water Ten Plan sets tough action on pollution prevention & control. While this is good for the water sector, less obvious is who or which sectors will be impacted. See why China is serious about fast & furious reforms  
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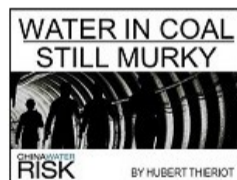
**Can The 'Water Ten' Protect Water Sources?**  
Some 40% of urban residents drink bottled water. This could change with the Water Ten Plan, which aims to deliver safe drinking water from the tap. Are the targets tough enough? Or will bottled water proliferate?  
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**Groundwater Under Pressure**  
New official survey says that China's groundwater quality has yet again deteriorated. Can the Water Ten Plan turn this around? Who will be affected? Find out what's at stake & why the next 5 years are crucial  
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**Water Ten To Revamp Chinese Agriculture**  
Takeaways from Shanghai's Global Agriculture Sustainability Forum are reviewed in relation to the new plan. Fertilizer, pesticide, irrigation & product tractability markets look set to change. Find out how  
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**Water In Coal: Still Murky**  
Multiple policies were issued recently over the proper management of coal mine water, especially mine water reuse to alleviate groundwater woes. But the road ahead is still murky with inconsistencies in data & targets  
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**2015 World Water Forum: 5 Key Takeaways**  
See what tops our list of key takeaways from the 2015 World Water Forum in South Korea. From bottled water to 'green hydropower' & transboundary issues - where does China stand on these global matters?  
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## TAPPING IN

## Government

- State Council: [Water Pollution Prevention & Control Action Plan](#)
- State Council & Central Committee of CPC: [Opinions on Accelerating the Construction of Ecological Civilization](#)
- State Council: [Govt Info Disclosure Work Plan 2015](#): disclose on water, pollution, nuclear & food
- NDRC: [Circular Economy Plan 2015](#)
- NDRC: [Measures for the Safe Operation of Hydropower Dams](#): regular safety checks for mid & large dams
- NDRC, MEP & MIIT: Cleaner Production Evaluation Index System for [Thermal Power, Paper & Pulp & Rare Earth Processing](#)
- NDRC & MoF: [Pilot Cities For Electricity Demand Side Management](#): Beijing, Guangdong, Hebei, Jiangsu & Shanghai
- NDRC: [Development Plan for City Cluster Yangtze River](#): water source protection & industrial optimization
- NEA: [Action Plan for Clean & Efficient Coal Utilization of Coal \(2015-2020\)](#)
- MEP & MoF: [Promote PPP in Water Pollution Prevention & Control](#)
- MEP: [6 new industrial pollution discharge standards](#) from Jul 2015
- MLR: [2014 Land & Resources Annual Report](#)
- MoA: [Opinions on Prevention & Control of Agriculture Nonpoint Source Pollution](#)
- MoA: [Transformation & Upgrading of Rural Biogas Projects for 2015](#): add 0.5bn cum

## Reports

- Ceres: [Feeding Ourselves Thirsty](#)
- GEF, FAO: [Groundwater Governance - A Global Framework for Action](#)

## Interest

- MEP: shuts 66 golf courses
- Daily environmental fines for 26 cases in Jan & Feb = RMB12.4mn
- Hebei: tightened water pollution discharge standards for steel, cement, coal boilers & rural wastewater
- Inner Mongolia: lakes shrunk 30% in 30 years from irrigation & mining
- Shanxi: wastewater discharge fee to double from 1 June 2015
- Central bank affiliates propose Ecological Development Bank for "green finance"
- McDonald JV fined RMB3.9mn for polluting water

## Hot on Weibo:

- Lanzhou university students fall ill from contaminated water

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