

Beautiful China 2020: China wants to exert "tireless efforts" to build a "Beautiful China where the sky is blue, the land is green and the water runs clear" says Premier Li Keqiang in his 2016 work report during the 12th National People's Congress. Beautiful China is both a social & economic vision; challenges & innovations ahead are vast in the 13FYP. We review the new targets; additional ecological barriers, sponge cities, avoiding man-made disasters to catastrophe insurance and more. Beautiful China points to the health and longevity of the people and the country. With worries over endocrine disruptors and antibiotics in China's waterways, we interview Yin, the head of Water & Human Health Center at the Chinese Academy of Science for his take on these emerging contaminants in seemingly "clean" water. Meanwhile, with continued rapid urbanisation to 60% by 2020, experts from China's Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR) Working Group expand on how MAR can help mitigate rising water use and wastewater discharge. But being beautiful isn't cheap. Can China's new green bond rules help raise such funds? Trucost's Huang & Ip expands on their Chinese characteristics. Elsewhere, Fiji was the first to ratify the climate deal and CDP's Levick updates on successes & struggles on the road from COP21 so far. China has yet to ratify but its lead climate envoy said the nation will likely to "far surpass" its 2020 emissions reduction goal. Yet we are far from blue skies. Indeed, "tireless efforts" lie ahead. Kickstart these efforts by getting on top of China's policies in our summary "Key Policies for 2015-2016".



MARCH NEWSLETTER

EDITORIAL

Beautiful China 2020: China wants to exert "tireless efforts" to build a "Beautiful China where the sky is blue, the land is green and the water runs clear" says Premier Li Keqiang in his 2016 work report during the 4th Session of the 12th National People's Congress. Beautiful China is both a social & economic vision.

"To take a path that leads to both economic development and environmental improvement," structural reform from governance to economic mix is needed. We review the targets set for 2016 and 2020; additional ecological barriers & sponge cities to build resilience; avoiding man-made disasters to catastrophe insurance and more. Challenges & innovations ahead are vast in the 13FYP.

Beautiful China points to the health and longevity of the people and the country. Although over 300 million people gained access to safe drinking water in the 12FYP, there are now worries over endocrine disruptors, algal toxins and antibiotics in China's waterways. We interview Yin Zhan, the head of Water & Human Health Center at the Chinese Academy of Science for his take on these emerging contaminants in seemingly "clean" water.

Meanwhile, with continued rapid urbanisation to 60% by 2020, water use and wastewater discharge will both increase. We turn to experts Y. Zheng, Wang, F. Zheng & Dillon from the China Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR) Working Group to see how MAR can help build resilience and reclaim water for storage and use later.

But being beautiful isn't cheap. Already, China says it needs to spend RMB2 trillion per year to finance climate solutions and address environmental issues. Can China's new green bond rules help raise such funds and make China the leader in global green bonds? Trucost's Chaoni Huang & Derek Ip expands on their Chinese characteristics.

Elsewhere, Fiji was the first to ratify the climate deal towards a low carbon economy and CDP's Kate Levick updates on successes & struggles on the road from COP21 so far. China has yet to ratify but its lead climate envoy said the nation will likely to "far surpass" its 2020 emissions reduction goal. Yet we are far from blue skies.

Indeed, "tireless efforts" lie ahead. Kickstart these efforts by getting on top of China's policies in our summary "Key Policies for 2015-2016".



Beautiful China 2020: Water & The 13FYP

China wants to exert tireless efforts to build a Beautiful China where the sky is blue, the land is green and the water runs clear. Find out what this means for water and the economy

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Contaminants In "Clean" Water

Yin Zhan, head of the Water & Human Health Center of the Chinese Academy of Science, talks to us about endocrine disruptors, algal toxins, antibiotics & emerging contaminants in Chinese waters

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China Needs Managed Aquifer Recharge

Managed Aquifer Recharge (MAR) can help better manage China's water resources and increase climate resilience. Given rapid urbanisation, experts from China's MAR Working Group discuss opportunities & challenges ahead

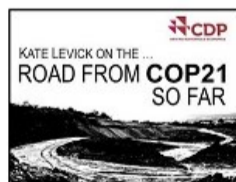
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What China's New Green Bond Rules Mean

The new rules can help China be a major player in the global green bonds market. Trucost's Huang & Ip expand on their Chinese characteristics

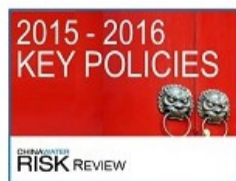
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The Road From COP21 So Far

Political momentum on climate action has not let up since Paris. With Fiji being the first to ratify the climate deal, CDP's Kate Levick updates on the road so far to a low-carbon economy

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Key Water Policies 2015 - 2016

Over the last year China has released a host of key water-related policies tackling the war on pollution, monitoring, food & energy security, green finance, circular economies and more. Stay on top of them with our review

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ReSource Award 2017 - Apply Now!

SwissRe Foundation is calling for applications for its 2017 ReSource Award. New social entrepreneurial initiatives driving sustainable water management practices should apply before 30 April 2016

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Government

- NPC: [2016 Government Work Report](#)
- NDRC: [Report on the Implementation of the 2015 Plan for National Economic and Social Development and on the 2016 Draft Plan](#)
- State Council: [Promoting Rural Water Tariff Reform](#): metering for large-med irrigated & groundwater-reliant farms by 2025
- State Council & CPC: [Strengthening Urban Planning & Construction Management](#)
- NDRC, MEP, MIIT, MoF, MOHURD et al: [Guiding Opinions on Promoting Green Consumption](#): details strategies by 2020 on recycling, green labelling, raising public awareness
- NDRC & MOHURD: [Action Plan on Climate Change Adaptation in Cities](#): planning by 2020
- NDRC, MoA & SFA: [Accelerating Circular Economy in Agri](#): 2020 targets reiterated
- NDRC & MEP: [Strengthening Pollution Prevention & Control along Yangtze River](#): by 2020 >75% of water at/above Grade III
- NDRC: ['Internet Plus' Green Ecological Three-Year Action Plan](#): strengthen environment & resource monitoring
- MEP: [List of Key Centrally Monitored Polluting Enterprises in 2016](#): 14,312 co's; 3,812 are wastewater treatment plants

Reports

- CWR-IRENA: [Water Use in China's Power Sector 2030](#)
- Greenpeace: [Update: Is China doubling down on its coal power bubble?](#)

Interest

- MEP restructuring: pollution dept. into 3 arms - water, air & soil
- Environment Minister: new environmental law still needs more teeth, too many co's still behaving illegally
- Environment Vice Minister: EIA not enforced adequately; working to amend law
- MWR: >RMB2 trn invested in water conservation in 12FYP
- NEA: to set up a market for renewable energy certificates
- NDRC: launches electricity trading exchanges in Beijing & Guangzhou
- Beijing: to eliminate untreated sewage discharged into rivers by end of 2018
- Vale/BHP's Samarco to pay USD5.1 bn in damages for tailings dam disaster in Brazil
- Apple issues USD1.5 bn in green bonds to finance global clean energy projects

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- Water & soil pollution openly discussed at NPC meetings

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