

The Water Beneath Blue Skies: Air pollution and the battle for "blue skies" were the major environmental headlines at China's Two Sessions. We review blue skies but also what lies beneath, water, in our key takeaways. It's not just the government but also on-ground organisations taking action on water pollution. One such is MyH2O that was set-up by Ren. We sat down with her to learn more about one of China's first online crowdsourcing networks tackling drinking water quality. China's water scarcity is another serious issue. WRI's latest data shows that water stress across 54% of China worsened in 2001-2010. Dr Wang, Dr Zhong & Iceland share more from their research. Since water and energy are inextricably linked, tackling one can result in mutual benefits. A prime example as Xylem's Lu shows is China's energy intensive wastewater treatment industry, which is ripe for attractive energy saving opportunities. Meanwhile, PwC's Milnes shares their latest Low Carbon Economy Index, which China topped. While blue skies may be the focus, water and soil are no less important. So, get up to speed with our review of China's latest water policies.



MARCH NEWSLETTER

EDITORIAL

The Water Beneath Blue Skies: There is no doubt that air pollution was one of the major headlines at China's CPPCC & NPC meetings. As Premier Li Keqiang promised to step up the battle on air pollution saying, "we will make our skies blue again", we take a look at blue skies but also what lies beneath, water, in our key takeaways.

It's not just the government but also on-ground organisations taking action on water pollution. One such is MyH2O, one of China's first online crowdsourcing networks covering drinking water quality. We sat down with its founder, Charlene Ren, to learn about its inception, work and next steps.

Along with quality, China's water scarcity is another serious issue. WRI's latest data shows that water stress across 54% of China worsened in 2001-2010. Dr Jiao Wang, Dr Lijin Zhong & Charles Iceland share the good and the bad news from their research.

Since water and energy are inextricably linked, tackling one can result in mutual benefits. An example of a water and air win-win as Xylem's Lu Shuping shows lies in China's energy intensive wastewater treatment industry. With its rapid expansion it is ripe for attractive energy saving opportunities. Meanwhile, China had the biggest carbon emissions reduction for the first time. PwC's Robert Milnes on how this is tracked in their Low Carbon Economy Index.

While blue skies may be the focus, water and soil are no less important. So, get up to date with our review of China's key water policies over the last year.



Blue Skies & 13FYP Green Development

While the focus at China's Two Meetings this year was by far air pollution, water and soil are no less important. See our review for key takeaways from the meetings

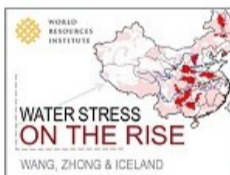
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MyH2O - Test Your Water

To improve transparency, Ren set up MyH2O, one China's first online crowdsourcing networks on drinking water quality. We sat down with Ren to learn more on their work, interactive map & what's next

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China's Water Stress: On The Rise

Water stress across 54% of China worsened in 2001-2010. WRI's Dr Wang, Dr Zhong & Iceland deliver the bad and the good news from China's latest water stress data

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Cost-Effective Carbon Reduction In Wastewater Treatment

The wastewater industry consumes a lot of energy. Xylem's Lu shows how its rapid expansion makes it ripe for attractive energy saving opportunities

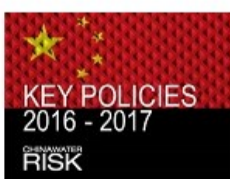
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China Leads The G20 On Climate Change

In 2015, the world economy decarbonised a record 2.8%. China led with the biggest reduction. PwC's Milnes on how this is tracked in their Low Carbon Economy Index

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Key Water Policies 2016-2017

Missed out on the key water and water-related policies in China over the last year? Get up to speed with our review

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TAPPING IN

CWR partnered events

- [BlueTech Forum 2017:](#) Register before 17 March for an early bird discount
- Environmental Finance & London Stock Exchange: [Water: Risk, Opportunity & Sustainability Conference 2017](#)

Government

- NDRC & MoHURD: [Notice on Construction of Pilot Climate Adaptation Cities:](#) list of pilot cities to be published
- NDRC & MoHURD: [Notice on Further Implementing Innovation Work for PPP in Key Municipal Projects:](#) publish list of cities to conduct work
- NEA: [13FYP on Demo Projects of Coal Deep Processing:](#) promote unconventional water use
- NEA: [Guiding Opinions on Energy Related Work in 2017:](#) reduce coal consumption
- CSRC: [Guiding Opinions on Supporting the Development of Green Bonds:](#) credit rating institutions to consider environ credit

Reports

- ADB: [Meeting Asia's Infrastructure Needs:](#) USD800 bn in water & sanitation costs from now to 2030
- PwC: [Low Carbon Economy Index 2016](#)
- UNEP: [A Review of International Financial Standards As They Relate to Sustainable Development](#)
- Xylem & Renmin University of China: [Research on Carbon Emission Reduction Pathways & Potential of the China's Wastewater Treatment Industry](#)

Interest

- 124,000 punishments issued to Chinese co's for environmental violations in 2016; fines totalled RMB6.6bn, up 56% y-o-y
- China to cut coal capacity by 150mt & steel by 50mt
- China's General Administration of Customs: announces year-long crackdown on illegal smuggling of foreign waste; electronic scrap & plastics targeted
- Anhui: 2 cities to pilot national climate-resilience programme

Hot on Weibo:

- Rumours of mandatory environmental pollution liability insurance for co's & institutions

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