

## FOOD SECURITY INCREASINGLY AT RISK ACCORDING TO LEAKED IPCC REPORT

Food security threatened for hundreds of millions as crop yields are negatively affected by climate change.

Food security [will increasingly be threatened](#), with crop yields expected to drop by as much as 2 percent per decade for the rest of the century, according to a draft of a UN Report to be finalized later this month by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

The report, obtained by *The Independent* in Britain, cites that food demand is on course to rise 14 per cent per decade until 2050. "Hundreds of millions of people" will be displaced because of coastal flooding and loss of land as sea levels rise.

[Another study](#) published in the journal *Nature Climate Change*, found that crop yields will be negatively affected by climate change much earlier than expected. The study noted that losses in yield are forecasted to be greater in the latter half of the century, and stronger in tropical regions than moderate ones.

## CITIES' POLLUTION CAUSES DIFFERENT REACTIONS

Drivers in Paris limited to driving as pollution levels exceed safe levels; Meanwhile Chinese insurers offer to cover smog-related health risks.

The French government [issued restrictions](#) on drivers in Paris this week, allowing them to only drive on alternating days after air pollution reached dangerous levels. On Tuesday the city's streets were open only to cars with even-numbered plates but odd-numbered cars were let off the hook the following day.

Due to unseasonably warm and dry weather, Paris experienced greater than normal amounts of smog. This is the first restriction on driving since October of 1997.

Southern Belgium was also impacted and offered free public transport in its Wallonia region.

Meanwhile, a state-owned Chinese insurer will offer Beijing residents insurance against health risks associated with air pollution. The policy promises to pay covered 10 to 50 year olds 1,500 yuan (USD 240) to policy holders hospitalized because of smog.

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## CHINA DEMANDS COMPANIES BEGIN REPORTING CARBON EMISSIONS

Thousands of Chinese companies will be expected to report on future emissions of all six greenhouse gases.

The National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC), China's top economic planning agency, said this week that all Chinese companies emitting more than 13,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e must report anticipated annual emissions. The reporting standard could impact thousands of companies.

The agency released a note saying that the goals of the reporting are to "tighten the control over major emitters, provide statistics for capping greenhouse gas emissions and launch a carbon trading scheme".

Analysts estimate that the rule to enter into force from 2015.

A state-owned Chinese insurer is offering Beijing residents insurance cover against air pollution.

The city of Chongqing has wasted no time in positioning itself to benefit from these changes in emission rules by proposing it establish a pilot carbon market.

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## BIG OIL RESPONDS TO CLIMATE CHANGE

BP fails to provide a new renewables capex and criticizes unburnable carbon studies. Shell admits that profits will be impacted by emissions.

BP has decided not to set a new target for renewable energy investment. In 2005 it targeted a renewable spend of \$8 billion by 2015. It achieved \$8.3 billion but has avoided issuing a new target.

Furthermore, BP rejected investors' fears over 'unburnable carbon' as over simplistic and overstating the financial impact.  
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Meanwhile, Shell has admitted that the company will face project delays and higher costs unless it lowers its emissions. Both will impact profits states the Shell Strategic Report.

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Exxon is expected to release a report later this month that will disclose its calculation of carbon emissions and how it incorporates the risk of regulation to its spending plans.

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## US GOVERNMENT AND CORPORATIONS ANNOUNCE CLIMATE BIG DATA PROJECT

The White House and major companies launch over 100 datasets, web services and tools

As part of President's Obama's climate initiative, the White House launched a range of climate projects designed to assist businesses, the public and government agencies.

Data is already publically available on [www.data.gov/climate](http://www.data.gov/climate) and hopes are high that the data and tools will expand significantly over time.

Various companies have made contributions to this initiative including Google, Microsoft and Intel as have other organizations such as MIT, NASA and the Rockefeller Foundation.

The hope is that parties such as city planners will use the data and models in their day-to-day work and it will also dramatically increase public awareness about the threats associated with climate change.

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### Believe it or not

According to [the BBC](#) "lightning appears to be killing and injuring increasing numbers of people in developing countries... It is something increasing every year and we think this is a manifestation of climate change but we also need to establish whether deforestation has also contributed."