



CLIMATE STRATEGIES NUGGETS

Best of Climate Policy Journal



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Special Supplement on **CLIMATE MITIGATION POLICY IN CHINA**. The issue features

papers on emission projections, carbon trading, green growth, sectoral strategies and low-carbon cities. Below the list of articles featured in this Special Supplement.

Access all articles via Climate Strategies website: <http://climatestrategies.org/publication/climate-mitigation-policy-in-china/>

- **A review of Chinese CO2 emission projections:** The role of economic structure and policy - Michael Grubb, Fu Sha, Thomas Spencer, Nick Hughes, ZhongXiang Zhang & Paolo Agnolucci
- **Reformulating the low-carbon green growth strategy in China** - Yongsheng Zhang
- **China's sectoral strategies in energy conservation and carbon mitigation** - Can Wang, Yuan Yang & Junjie Zhang
- **Developing low-carbon cities through pilots** - Yufei Wang, Qijiao Song, Jijiang He & Ye Qi
- **Carbon emissions trading in China: The evolution from pilots to a nationwide scheme** - ZhongXiang Zhang

UPCOMING EVENTS: Side event at the UNFCCC COP21: Saturday 5th of December, 2015 at 18.30-20.00. Location EU Pavilion, Room Luxembourg

WEBPAGE: <http://climatestrategies.org/climate-policy-journal/>

BLOG: <https://climatestrategies.wordpress.com/>

Don't Forget: LAST CHANCE to download selected articles related to country studies or negotiation proposals! Free access via CS website only until the end of the year!

CLIMATE POLICY INFO HUB

Scientific Knowledge for Decision-Makers

The Hub offers evidence on climate policy options. It explores impacts and implications of international and EU climate policy for decision-makers in policy, business and civil society.

<http://climatepolicyinfohub.eu/>

Side events at COP21 Paris



Co-hosted by Climate Strategies or related to CS projects

For information on our presence and that of our members at the COP, please visit our dedicated page here: <http://climatestrategies.org/cop21-events-and-exhibit/>

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Climate Strategies

Newsletter
11/15
Issue 11

Reflections on Low Carbon Clubs

Academic discussion of 'carbon clubs' has mushroomed during 2015, with much of it suggesting a club of countries setting a common carbon price. The underlying belief is that carbon pricing is essential and requires international coordination, but that this cannot possibly be sufficiently achieved through the UNFCCC itself.

Yet in the international diplomatic community the concept remains controversial; indeed the word 'clubs' is anathema to many who interpret it to imply exclusive and potentially discriminatory arrangements. The political experience of carbon pricing also fuels scepticism about the idea of coordinating price levels even amongst smaller groups of countries.

Climate Strategies' research has sought to inject realism, sensitivity and options for tackling the hard issues of translating diverse concepts into the international arena.

Our workshops have underlined that 'plurilateral' agreements fostering specific and more ambitious measures are a natural complement to a global architecture, as well established under the WTO; for climate, the UNFCCC similarly gives a clear legal basis. A positive economic dynamic seems possible from a well-crafted interface between carbon pricing, technology investment, and potentially tariff reductions aligned with the plurilateral Environmental Goods Agreement. We seek to continue this crucial agenda next week at the COP21 and during 2016.

Michael Grubb

Professor at the University College London, Editor-in-chief of Climate Policy, Board Member of Climate Strategies



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Two workshops were held over the past 6 months in relation to this topic:

- A workshop during the Conference 'Our Common Future under Climate Change' in Paris <http://goo.gl/tQBnqg>
- A roundtable at the Stanley Foundation 56th Strategy for Peace Conference <http://goo.gl/kCF9KB>

Also, CS is currently writing a report on **compatibility and synergy between the Networked Carbon Markets and climate clubs**. The paper will explore how key components of the World Bank's Networked Carbon Markets (NCMs) initiative could be compatible with different forms of climate clubs or club-like arrangements. Completion is expected by the end of the year.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Side event at the UNFCCC COP21: Wednesday 2nd of December, 2015 at 11.00 -12.30. Location: Room Observer (UNFCCC main site). Co-hosted by CS, NTNU, UCL and TSF.



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HIGHLIGHTS ON PROJECTS AND RECENT REPORTS

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Evaluating peace and reconciliation to address historical responsibility within international climate negotiations



This innovative project, supported primarily by the KR Foundation, builds on international experience with peace and reconciliation processes in order to develop a new approach to climate equity.



We hosted an initial scoping workshop in collaboration with the Hague Institute for Global Justice. This workshop looked beyond Paris to explore ways of managing the tension between historical responsibility and future-oriented climate action. By broadening the climate policy conversation and including peacebuilding and transitional justice experts, the meeting explored lessons learned from efforts in other policy regimes to facilitate past-oriented concerns about historical responsibility, and future-oriented solidarity and collective action.

PUBLICATIONS: Please read our new Working Paper 'Transitional Justice in Climate Context?', which explores how transitional justice mechanisms could be used in mitigation policy efforts. <http://climatestrategies.org/publication/transitional-justice-in-the-climate-context/>

UPCOMING EVENTS: Workshop in Brussels, early March 2016. Please contact us for more information or to express interest in attending on: info@climatestrategies.org

WEBPAGE: <http://tinyurl.com/q6kxylf>

Carbon emission mitigation by Consumption-based Accounting and Policy (Carbon-CAP)

This project explores the topic of consumption based –accounting (CBA) and policies. The project is now entering its third year of activities and research where it will produce a roadmap for policy implementation in various industry sectors. The 2nd stakeholder workshop was held in Geneva early October 2015. The one day event discussed the role of CBA in the context of international climate negotiations, examined potential policy instruments in key sectors, and discussed ways to overcome implementation barriers. It further explored the effect of the inclusion of consumption on supply chains and trade. In early November 2015 the team convened a stakeholder workshop in Beijing, co-hosted by The Climate Group. The event engaged Chinese stakeholders from academia,

the government and industry to discuss the opportunities and barriers for consumption-based accounting and policies. Info on both events can be found here: <http://www.carboncap.eu/index.php/events/side-events>

PUBLICATIONS: All deliverables and papers produced as part of this project (latest on consumption –based policy instruments) can be found here: <http://www.carboncap.eu/index.php/news-media/reports>

UPCOMING EVENTS: Side event at the UNFCCC COP21: Monday 30th of November, 2015 at 12.30-14.00. Location: EU Pavilion, Room Luxemburg

WEBPAGE: www.carboncap.eu

Inclusion of Consumption in Emissions Trading

This project explores whether inclusion of domestic sales of selected energy intensive commodities (e.g. steel, cement) in domestic emission trading schemes is an effective and feasible approach towards restoring the carbon price signal in these sectors without damaging competitiveness. Two workshops took place over the past six months: one was held in [Beijing](#) on the inclusion of consumption in carbon pricing drawing experience from the Chinese ETS pilot schemes. The second one was held in [Seoul](#) on the experiences with emission benchmarks for international coordination. These country consultations and stakeholder engagements have steered further research which is intended to conclude by mid-2016.

PUBLICATIONS: Please visit the [project webpage](#) where you can download the [introductory report](#), and the first [Policy Paper](#) on the inclusion of consumption of carbon intensive commodities in carbon pricing mechanisms.

WEBPAGE: <http://climatestrategies.org/projects/inclusion-of-consumption-in-emissions-trading/>

The EU 2030 Framework for Climate Change Policy

The objective of this project is to provide robust policy analysis to support the development and implementation of various elements of the European Union's 2030 climate and energy package.

PUBLICATIONS: In late August 2015 we published a new report: ['The Role of the EU ETS](#)



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[and Complementary Tools for Power Market Decarbonisation](#). It discusses the emerging contradiction at the heart of decarbonisation policy in the EU power sector: while, there is increasing recognition that as the share of renewable and low-carbon electricity generation becomes larger, the existing wholesale electricity market design in many EU countries will struggle to drive the necessary investments in the power sector during the low-carbon transition; alternatively, a number of EU institutions, including the EU Council and the Commission, have continued to assert the central role of the ETS. A [launch event](#) was held in Brussels on the 17th of September 2015.

The last component of the project that explores the issue of governance will be completed in the first quarter of 2016.

WEBPAGE: <http://climatestrategies.org/projects/the-eu-2030-framework-for-climate-and-energy-policies/>

The EU2020 Strategy: Building the Energy Union

This project is looking at regional cooperation, EU governance, and investment in renewables. In June 2015, CS co-hosted a conference to encourage a discussion around this topic also allowing numerous innovative research ideas to be presented. Following this exchange, the most outstanding contributions from the [project's conference](#) will be published in a Special Issue of the [Climate Policy](#) journal in 2016.

To foster more stakeholder engagement, Climate Strategies, together with IPPR and the EC Representation in London, have organised a large event in November 2015 to discuss the concept of an Energy Union just a few days before the EC roadmap update of the State of the Energy Union (a framework adopted to bring about the transition to a low-carbon, secure and competitive economy).

WEBPAGE: <http://climatestrategies.org/projects/the-2020-strategy/>

Mobilizing and transferring knowledge on post-2012 climate policy (POLIMP)

In the lead up to Paris the project is publishing the series: 'Paris COP21 Briefing Notes'. These are short publications exploring topics relevant to the COP 21. Follow [this link](#) to read the 3rd series featuring Climate Strategies' work on Low Carbon Clubs: <http://goo.gl/g24g2E>.

Furthermore, for general information on topics related to climate and energy policy please visit our online knowledge platform [POLIMP Climate Policy Info Hub](#).

[The 4th POLIMP Stakeholder Workshop](#) was held in September 2015 in Berlin and focused on the challenges for low carbon technology support in Europe and lessons learnt from existing policies. The workshop discussed the challenges of low carbon-transition, the policy recommendations, and public perception of low carbon technology.

UPCOMING EVENTS: Side event at the UNFCCC COP21: Tuesday 1st of December, 2015 at 12.15-13.00. Location: EU Pavilion, Room Luxemburg

WEBPAGE: www.polimp.eu

Climate Strategies Policy Briefs Series

This new series presents interesting and important climate policy research outputs by [Climate Strategies members](#). So far we have published two briefs:

● CS Policy Brief 1: Finance for the Paris Climate Compact

Published in June 2015, this brief discusses how earmarked (sub-) national contributions to support developing countries could be part of the 'Paris Climate Compact' to mobilise climate finance.

● CS Policy Brief 2: Strengthening Accountability under the 2015 Climate Change Agreement

Published in November 2015, this brief emphasises the need for action by governments and other actors for an effective 2015 climate agreement requiring a mix of steps at the domestic and international level that are aimed to strengthen accountability.

Methods for Evaluating the performance of Emission Trading Schemes

In November 2015 Climate Strategies published a discussion paper "Methods for Evaluating the performance of Emission Trading Schemes" which is part of a larger project funded by ClFF and executed by the Tsinghua University. Please visit our website for future updates and publications related to this project.

WEBPAGE: <http://climatestrategies.org/publication/methods-for-evaluating-the-performance-of-emission-trading-schemes/>