

International Climate Action

News from the UK Government on international action to tackle climate change



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UK AND INTERNATIONAL NEWS

DECC Ministers participate in productive Pre-Cop climate change meeting in Korea

23rd October

DECC Secretary of State Ed Davey and Minister of State Greg Barker attended 'Pre-Cop' climate change ministerial meeting in Korea

The three-day conference, jointly hosted by Korea and Qatar brought together 250 participants, including a team from Qatar and Ministers from 50 countries presented an important platform to set the groundwork for the full COP18 conference which takes place in Doha from November 26 to December 7.



Speaking at the conference, Christina Figures Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) said:

“Significant political issues remain to be resolved, and I do not underestimate the challenge. But COP18 can become the COP that unequivocally launches immediate implementation of what you already have, while at the same time taking the first steps to design what you want for the future,”

Greg Barker speaking after the talks, praised Korea's leadership on green issues and the productive outcome of the talks. He said:

"Korea was an excellent venue for this meeting given the strong leadership it has been showing on low carbon issues, and we've had a series of productive discussions over the last couple of days which put us in a good position for a positive outcome at the COP18 meeting in Doha next month."

Greg Barker was also in Korea to announce that the UK has been selected Vice President of the Korean-based Global Green Growth Institute. Read more on his visit on the [UK in Korea Website](#)

DECC Secretary of State Edward Davey speaks at Chatham House's annual climate change conference

15th October

Secretary of State Edward Davey spoke at Chatham House's annual climate change conference, this year themed 'security, resilience and diplomacy'.

The conference considered the threats posed by climate change, including for countries' wider economic and security interests, looking at how to limit adverse impacts and how to adapt to those that could not be avoided.



Mr Davey underlined the threats posed to the security and prosperity of the UK and the wider world. But he also highlighted the significant opportunities for investment and growth in moving to a low-carbon economy.

The Secretary of State also set out the UK's position leading into November's COP 18 climate summit in Doha at which he will be attending to seek progress on the balanced package agreed last year in South Africa.

Canadian Environment Minister Peter Kent, European Commissioner Connie Hedegaard and Executive Secretary to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change Christiana Figueres also spoke at the conference.

A full transcript of the speech can be found on the [DECC Website](#)

Greg Barker leads low carbon trade delegation to East Africa

1st-5th October



Minister Gregory Barker led the largest ever green growth trade mission to Africa from 1 – 5 October, visiting Tanzania, Kenya and Ethiopia with the aim of promoting UK businesses as the partner of choice in East Africa

and to open doors to more trade and investment opportunities for the UK's low carbon goods and financial services industries.

The mission comprised over 30 delegates from 20 green British companies spanning the low carbon supply chain. There were representatives from wind, hydro, solar and geothermal developers; green financiers and insurance brokers; and world class engineers.

Sub-Saharan Africa is one of the world's fastest growing regions. The UK's annual exports to Africa are around £15 billion and growing. This is nearly double the equivalent figure for UK exports to China. The visit was successful in enhancing showcasing and sharing UK strengths and expertise within this sector.

Speaking on the visit Greg Barker said:

"East Africa, has huge potential for new renewable energy projects, including wind, solar and geothermal making the region a potentially lucrative destination for international investment."

Howard Johns, chief executive of Southern Solar, one of the delegate companies, said the drive for green growth in the three countries visited was "really inspirational". "What comes across really clearly is there is a huge vision for low carbon growth. They are really setting out to make green the key strand of their development."

David Watson, chief executive of sustainable investment firm Temporis Capital, added that while there were some challenges, the trade mission had "accelerated our business in Africa by light years".

Read more on the delegation's visit to [Kenya](#)

Read more on the delegation's visit to [Ethiopia](#)

Read more on the delegation's visit to [Tanzania](#)

EU Commission launch climate campaign 12th October

The European Commission launched their new communication campaign on climate action '[A world you like. With a climate you like](#)' in London.

The campaign aims to show solutions and best practices applied by citizens, businesses and authorities across the European Union. It covers five areas: travel and transport; production and innovation; building and living; shopping and eating; and re-use and recycling.

Speaking at the launch DECC SoS Ed Davey said:

"The EU is a powerful voice when it comes to making the case for action to tackle climate change. By working closely together, the EU and UK form a formidable partnership, that can bring about real change. "

Read more on the [DECC Website](#)

Read more on '[A world you like. With a climate you like](#)'



a world you like
with a climate you like

The Energy Challenge

As a nation we need to decide how the UK is going to power itself. DECC has produced a short animation that

sets out the challenge: to cut greenhouse gas emissions while meeting demand and supporting economic growth.

Watch [‘The Energy Challenge’](#) Animation

To consider the options for yourself, have a look at the [2050 Pathways Analysis](#)



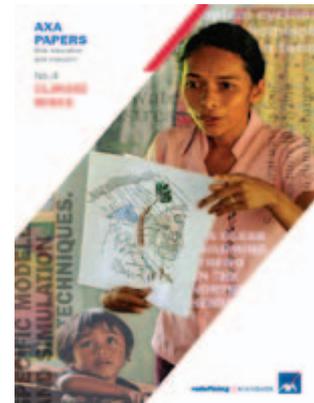
ALSO IN THE NEWS

Global consensus on climate risks

An [Ipsos MORI poll](#) of 13,000 adults in 13 countries shows considerable consensus on the need for collective action to reduce climate risks. Commissioned by insurance company AXA, the research in Europe, Asia and America provides new insights into global public attitudes to climate change.

90% of respondents thought that the climate had changed significantly over the past 20 years, with 73% observing climate changes such as higher average temperatures and increased frequency of severe weather events where they live.

See the full [climate risks survey](#)



BEST OF BLOGS

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Blog by John Preece from the Science Innovation Network British Embassy Toronto

[UK set to ride the wave of ocean energy](#)

Blog by David Carey Chief Science Adviser based in London

[The viability of wind](#)

Blog by Bernie Bulkin Chair of the Office for Renewable Energy Deployment at DECC.

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