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Climate & Health News

Newsletter of the JHU-UPF Public Policy Center Climate Change Working Group



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Impacts

News

Greenland is melting faster than scientists thought

Climate change is eliminating giant chunks of ice from Greenland at such a speed that the melt has already made a significant contribution to sea level rise, according to a [new study](#). With global warming, it will lose much more, threatening coastal cities around the world. – *CNN*



Photo: Pauline Askin/Reuters

Read more:

- [Forecast: more extreme wind, more extreme waves](#) – *Newsweek*
- [Climate change hitting ocean species harder than land-based species](#) – *Inside Climate News*
- [Europe at risk from insect-borne diseases](#) – *The Guardian*



Ocean warming is putting coastal fish under higher stress, particularly in the tropics. It's raising concerns for communities that rely on local fish for their food. Credit: EyesWideOpen/Getty Images

Science

[**Increase in extreme droughts forecast for Eastern Europe and Mediterranean**](#)

Droughts are among the costliest natural disasters. Examination of drought trends for Europe suggest worsening particularly in Eastern Europe and the Mediterranean. Even with strong mitigation measures, drought risk in Europe is expected to be higher than present experience. – Grillakis, *Sci Total Environ*



The European Space Agency released images from the Sentinel-2 satellite comparing a region in Denmark in July 2017 with the same spot in July 2018. Photos: EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY

Read more:

- [Climate change associated with lower educational attainment in the tropics](#) – Randell & Gray, *Proc Natl Acad Sci*
- [Heatstroke associated with permanent adverse neurological outcomes](#) – Lawton et al., *Emerg Med Australas*
- [Review: climate change migration, travel and tourism](#) – Semenza & Ebi, *J Travel Med*
- [Climate change, human health and social stability interlinkages](#) – Sellers, Ebi & Hess, *Environ Health Perspect*

Adaptation

News

Today's children will be limited to tiny carbon footprints

Children born today will have to live their lives with drastically smaller carbon footprints than their grandparents if climate change is to be controlled. The new generation will have



Young climate activists Greta Thunberg, centre, and Luisa Neubauer, left, marching against climate change in Berlin. Photograph: Carsten Koall/Getty Images

Read more:

- [Los Angeles' cool pavement expansion plans](#)– *LA Times*
- [Mozambique and the devastation of Cyclone Idai](#)– *The Nation*
- [Rockefeller 100 Resilient Cities shuts down](#)– *City Lab*
- [Cooler northern US cities are preparing for migrants from hotter, flooded cities](#)– *Reuters*

Science

[Water reuse, food production and public health: need for systems-based approaches](#)

Climate change and population growth are contributing to a growing global freshwater crisis. Increased reliance on nontraditional irrigation water sources, such as reclaimed or recycled water, is emerging as a potentially viable strategy to address water and food insecurity worldwide. This editorial introduces a special issue on the topic. – Sapkota, *Environ Res*

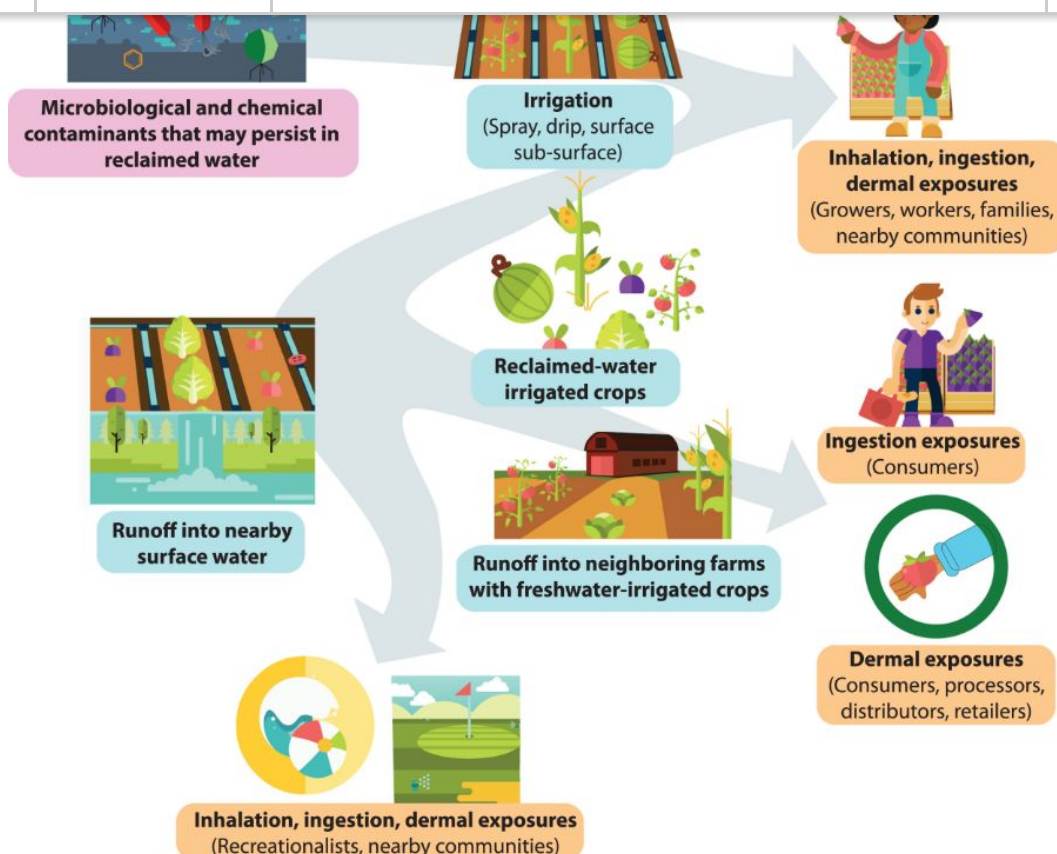


Fig. 1. Potential human exposures (highlighted in orange boxes) associated with the use of reclaimed water on food crops. Sapkota, AR, *Environmental Research*, April 2019.

Read more:

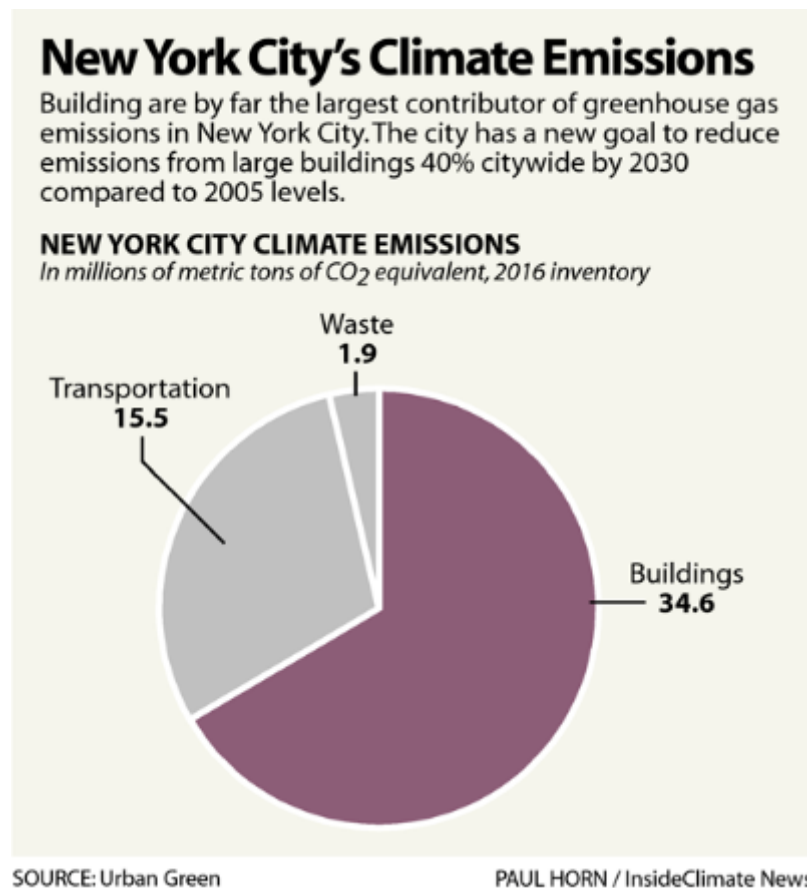
- [Flexible water infrastructure planning to meet uncertainty regarding future climate conditions](#)– Fletcher et al., *Nat Commun*
- [The potential of cool roofs on industrial and commercial urban buildings](#)– Macintyre & Heaviside, *Environ Int*
- [Heat acclimatization guidelines reduce risk of heat illness in US high school football](#)– Kerr et al. *Environ Health Perspect*
- [Strategies for coping with heat during pilgrimage to the Hajj](#)– Al Mayahi & Ali Kabbash, *Prehosp Disaster Med*

Mitigation

News

[New York City regulates energy use in large buildings](#)

New York City has set an ambitious new standard for combating greenhouse gas emissions, approving a package of climate policies designed to slash energy use in big buildings. The new measures represent a path to one of the largest emissions cuts of any city worldwide, and offer a policy template other cities can follow. – *Inside Climate News*



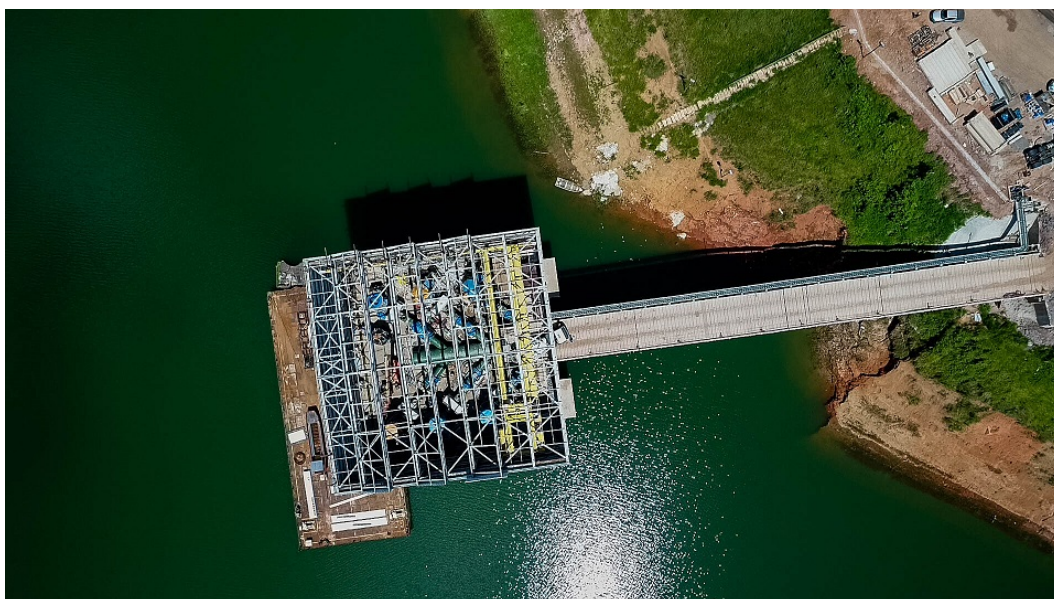
Read more:

- [New study says carbon-free energy is the cheaper solution globally](#)– DW
 - [How to cut emissions from plastics](#)– *Inside Climate News*
-

Science

[The Paris Accord pledges and the energy-water-land 'nexus'](#)

Researchers modeled system-wide interactions among energy, water, land and mitigation policies, focusing on Brazil, Mexico, Argentina and Colombia. Increased water demands



Water in Latin America: Countries are Spending Billions to Improve Supply and Management. Photo: RAFAEL ARBEX/Agência Estado.

Read more:

- [Effects of fossil fuel emissions removal on public health](#)– Lelieveld et al., *Proc Natl Acad Sci*
- [Review: negative emissions technologies](#)– Pires, *Sci Total Environ*
- [Methane emissions from irrigation in Spain](#)– Aguilera et al., *Environ Sci Technol*
- [Maximizing health and climate through optimal protein consumption](#)– Gardner et al., *Nutr Rev*

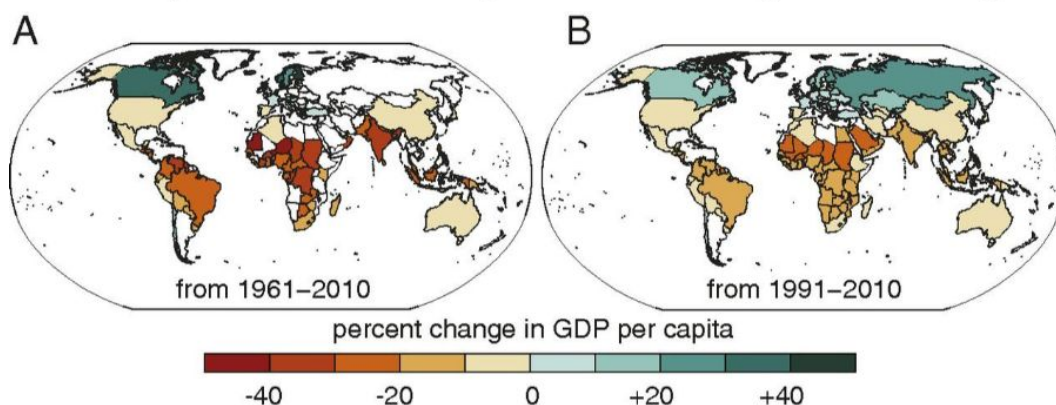
Economics & Finance

News

[Climate change has increased world inequality](#)

A [new study](#) from Stanford University says global warming has increased the wealth gap between the world's countries by enriching cooler, wealthier countries and dragging down

Country-level economic impact of historical global warming



The map shows changes in GDP per capita by country, with increases in cooler countries and decreases in warmer countries, from 1961 to 2010 (left) and 1991–2010 (right).

Read more:

- [California electricity bills increasing due to wildfires](#)– *Pacific Standard*
- [Litigation in the courts – a newly emerging climate strategy](#)– *The Washington Post*

Science

Countries with more climate-sensitive health sectors do not receive more adaptation aid

Researchers examined whether climate-sensitive developing countries are more likely to receive public health adaptation support from international donors. Findings show adaptation aid follows development aid generally, suggesting potential need for a different allocation mechanism for adaptation aid. – Weiler, *Int J Environ Res Public Health*



Stranded locals look on during floods after Cyclone Idai, in Buzi district, outside Beira, Mozambique, March 21, 2019. Photo: Reuters / Sipiwe Sibeko

Read more:

- [Decentralizing climate funds](#)– Beauchamp et al., *Disasters*
-

Communication

News

Russia serious about tackling climate change

Russian President Vladimir Putin has said that his country takes the threat of climate change seriously, and announced Russia is planning to ratify the Paris Agreement at a recent plenary session of the International Arctic Forum. – *Newsweek*



Russian President Vladimir Putin speaks during the International Arctic Forum in Saint Petersburg, Russia on April 9. At a plenary session of the forum on Tuesday, Putin said, "We are currently planning to ratify [the Paris Agreement]." OLGA MALTSEVA/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Read more:

- [Maps show how climate change has already transformed Earth](#)– *BuzzFeed*
 - [The uncanny power of Greta Thunberg's climate rhetoric](#)– *The New Yorker*
 - [Climate change protests around the world](#)– *The Atlantic*
 - [A look at cumulative greenhouse emissions](#)– *Vox*
 - [Weather Channel climate simulations designed "to make you give a damn"](#)– *Wired*
-

Science

Review: evaluating risk communication during extreme weather

Researchers reviewed risk communication for extreme weather and climate change to inform local public health messaging. Risk communication during short-term extreme weather events appear more effective than those for climate change, highlighting the opportunity for public health to more actively employ extreme weather communication strategies. – MacIntyre et al., *Health Promot Chronic Dis Prev Can*



Flooding in the Brickell neighborhood as Hurricane Irma passes Miami, Florida, U.S. September 10, 2017.
Photo: REUTERS/Stephen Yang

Read more:

- [Risk perception of extreme heat is often low among the most vulnerable](#)—Howe et al., *Proc Natl Acad Sci*
- [Experiments in better communicating climate change](#)—Bruine de Bruin & Morgan, *Proc Natl Acad Sci*



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