



Experts: Rise in Dengue Fever Outbreaks Across the Pacific Driven by the Climate Crisis

Dengue outbreaks in 2025 have hit their highest levels since 2016 across Pacific Island nations, driven by climate change, according to the Pacific Syndromic Surveillance System and WHO.

A total of 16,502 confirmed cases and 17 deaths have been reported region-wide so far. Fiji faces nearly 11,000 cases and eight deaths, Samoa has over 5,600 cases and six deaths, and Tonga more than 800 cases and three fatalities. Experts say rising temperatures, humidity, and rainfall are extending mosquito transmission seasons—even in previously low-risk areas.

Pacific nations, responsible for just 0.03% of global emissions, face acute health risks. Weak surveillance systems and reactive control measures hamper effective response, prompting several countries to declare emergencies and launch public health campaigns.



As China's Renewable Capacity Soars, Utilisation Lags, Data Show

In just the first half of 2025, China added a record-breaking 268 GW of new solar and wind capacity—almost matching the US' entire installed base of these technologies. This rapid build-out means China has already exceeded its 2030 wind and solar target of 1,200 GW, achieving the milestone six years early.

However, the surge is putting pressure on the country's grid. In the first six months of 2025, 6.6% of solar output was curtailed (up from 3.9% a year earlier), and wind curtailment rose to 5.7% from 3%. To accommodate the strain, China last year increased its allowable curtailment threshold to 10%. China's energy strategy is shifting from adding capacity to maximising renewable use.

Massive investments in advanced storage, smart grids, and ultra-high-voltage lines will carry clean power from the wind- and sun-rich west to the industrial hubs of the east. These steps aim to make the next phase of China's green transition more about efficiency.



July Was Earth's Third-Hottest on Record, EU Scientists Say

July 2025 was Earth's third-warmest July, with Turkey setting a record 50.5 °C. The Copernicus Climate Service reports the month's global average temperature was 16.68 °C, about 1.25 °C above pre-industrial levels. Though slightly cooler than the record Julys of 2023 and 2024, scientists say the heat reflects ongoing climate change.

Over the past year, global temperatures averaged 1.53 °C above 19th-century norms, briefly surpassing the Paris Agreement's 1.5 °C threshold.

16,502

16,502 confirmed dengue fever cases and 17 deaths have been reported across Pacific Island nations

268 GW

In just the first half of 2025, China added a record-breaking 268 GW of new solar and wind capacity

1.25°C

July's global average temperature was 16.68 °C, about 1.25 °C above pre-industrial levels