Sustainability Bulletin

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China's CO2 Emissions Haven't Risen for 18 Months

China’s carbon emissions were flat year-on-year in the third quarter of 2025, marking 18 months of zero growth. The plateau, which began in early 2024, suggests emissions could even fall this year if winter demand stays moderate. Despite a 6% rise in electricity use, almost 90% of new generation came from wind, solar, hydro, and nuclear sources.

The trend highlights the growing impact of China’s clean-energy rollout and efficiency gains across industries. Transport emissions dropped about 5% amid strong electric-vehicle uptake, while record renewable installations helped offset heavier output from the chemicals sector, but growth in the chemical industry kept overall emissions from falling.

Plastic production grew 12% on the year in January-September, driven by surging domestic demand. China aims to cap emissions by 2030 and cut them up to 10% by 2035. Analysts view the prolonged plateau as a sign of real progress toward low-carbon growth, though sustained gains will depend on reducing industrial demand and expanding clean power further.

Mobilising Trillions: Brazil’s COP30 Finance Push

As host of COP30 in Belém, Brazil has launched an ambitious “Baku-to-Belém Roadmap” to mobilise US$1.3 trillion annually for climate action in developing countries. The plan focuses on expanding grant-based finance, improving access to private capital, and reforming multilateral banks to take on greater risk, aiming to bridge the widening divide between climate ambition and funding capacity.

The roadmap has been praised as a practical move to restore trust in global climate cooperation. It underscores the urgency of unlocking affordable finance for renewable energy, resilient infrastructure, and nature-based solutions. If delivered effectively, experts say it could reshape climate funding flows and accelerate progress toward Paris Agreement goals.

However, the roadmap’s success hinges on concrete action from wealthier nations and global lenders.

Brazil stands as both host and catalyst, urging a fairer financial framework to ensure no country is left behind in the energy transition.

World Oil and Gas Demand Could Grow Until 2050

Global oil and gas demand could keep increasing until 2050, the International Energy Agency warns, threatening climate targets. Under current policies, oil use may reach 113 million barrels per day, 13% above 2024 levels, defying expectations of a fossil-fuel peak.

Global energy demand is projected to rise 15% by 2035, driven by industrial growth and expanding LNG capacity. The IEA warns that all scenarios point to the world overshooting the Paris Agreement’s 1.5 °C limit, underscoring the need for faster renewable deployment and stronger policy action.

90%

In China, nearly 90% of new power came from wind, solar, hydro, and nuclear sources.

$1.3 trillion

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113 million bpd

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