



03 DECEMBER 2010 - 21H47

Climate: a million deaths a year by 2030: study

AFP - By 2030, climate change will indirectly cause nearly one million deaths a year and inflict 157 billion dollars in damage in terms of today's economy, according to estimates presented at UN talks on Friday.

The biggest misery will be heaped on more than 50 of the world's poorest countries, but the United States will pay the highest economic bill, it said.

"In less than 20 years, almost all countries in the world will realise high vulnerability to climate impact as the planet heats up," the report warned.

The study, compiled by a humanitarian research organisation and climate-vulnerable countries, assessed how 184 nations will be affected in four areas: health, weather disasters, the loss of human habitat through desertification and rising seas, and economic stress.

Those facing "acute" exposure are 54 poor or very poor countries, including India. They will suffer disproportionately to others, although they are least to blame for the man-made greenhouse gases that drive climate change, it said.

"Without corrective actions" a press release accompanying the study said, the world is "headed for nearly one million deaths every single year by 2030."

More than half of the 157 billion dollars in economic losses will take place in industrialised countries, led by the United States, Japan and Germany.

But the cost to their GDP will proportionately be far lower than for poor countries.

The peer-reviewed report was issued by DARA, a Madrid-based NGO, and by the Climate Vulnerable Forum, a coalition of island nations and other countries that are most exposed to climate change.

Saleemul Huq, a researcher at a London-based thinktank, the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), said the findings spelled out the need to start shoring up defenses against climate change now, rather than later.

"We are now entering into a highly vulnerable phase of our planet's existence and humanity's existence," Huq told a press conference.

"No amount of (greenhouse-gas) mitigation will prevent at least another 0.7 degree (Celsius, 1.26 degrees Fahrenheit) of temperature rise over the next two decades," he said.

"In the last century we have already seen a 0.7 degree (1.26 F) rise. So we are headed for 1.4 (2.5 F) almost certainly.

"If emissions carry on their current pathway then we may in the longer term be headed for three or



This photo taken on November 2010 shows smoke emitted from chimneys at a coal mine in Huo Lin Guo Le, China's north Inner Mongolia region. By 2030, climate change will indirectly cause nearly one million deaths a year and inflict 157 billion dollars in damage in terms of today's economy, according to estimates presented at UN talks on Friday.


 Watch France 24

LIVE NEWS BUSINESS WEATHER

 Watch : FRANCE 24 live : THE NEWS
Next : IN THE PAPERS NATIONAL

 Home is where the protest is:
Spain's eviction-busting
'flashmobs'


MOST READ

MOST COMMENTED


 SYRIA
Assad regime falls victim to 'weapon of mass derision'

 FRANCE
Bastille celebrations clouded by Afghanistan deaths

 FRANCE
Parliament votes to extend Libyan

four degrees (5.4-7.2 F), which is practically impossible for everybody to adapt to.

"But at the lower level, we can do a lot by adapting to the impacts of climate change, to prepare for them."

The November 29-December 10 talks in Cancun gather the 194 parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), tasked with crafting a deal to roll back global warming and its impacts after 2010.

Among the long list of problems they face is how to muster funds to tackle climate change -- and decide how much of the money should be allocated for adaptating to the threat, and how much to reduce carbon emissions.

So far, adaptation has been given far less priority than emissions mitigation, say campaigners.

[Recommend](#) Confirm [Tweet](#) 0 [Print](#) [Delicious](#) [Comment](#)



[military action](#)



LIBYA
[Libya's rebels court EU as abuse allegations emerge](#)



SYRIA
[France and USA step up pressure on Assad](#)



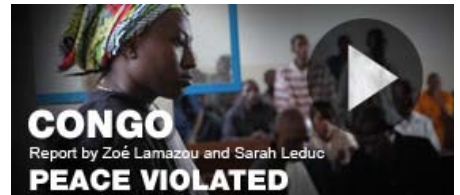
DAILY INTERNATIONAL PRESS REVIEW

IN THE PAPERS INTERNATIONAL

▶ [Murdochs in the dock](#)

IN THE PAPERS NATIONAL

▶ [Banon's mother: I slept with DSK](#)



STAY TUNED

- RSS
- Youtube
- Podcast
- Dailymotion
- Desktop Alerts
- Newsletter
- Facebook
- Twitter

France 24 - News Quiz English on Facebook

[Like](#)

You like Page · Ir

Confirm You like this. 1,81 Page · Ir

France 24 - News



Quiz English

What is the name of the space shuttle which was launched last Friday?

- A. Discovery
- B. Ariane

 Facebook social plugin

NEWS

- Top stories
- France
- Africa
- Middle East
- Americas
- Europe
- Asia and the Pacific
- Business/Tech
- Sports
- Culture
- Health
- Earth

ON TV

- FRANCE 24 Live
- TV shows
- Reports
- Press review
- Podcasts

BEYOND THE NEWS

- The Observers
- Special reports
- Blogs
- Webdocumentaries

ONLINE SERVICES

- Newsletter
- Mobile
- iPad
- RSS feeds

COMMUNITY

- Join the France 24 community
- France 24 on social media
- Facebook
- Facebook Quiz
- Twitter
- YouTube
- Foursquare
- France 24 / RFI Lab

FRANCE 24

- About FRANCE 24
- How to watch on TV?
- Press
- Press kit
- Jobs
- Help
- Contact us
- Site map
- Terms of use/Privacy policy