

PRESS RELEASE

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Chinese science responds to animals affected by climate change

BEIJING—In response to the effects of climate change on animals and their environments, the journal *Integrative Zoology*, based in the Chinese Academy of Sciences, has published a special edition on the 'biological consequences of global change'.

The special edition is part of a broader program of the same name, funded mostly by the Chinese Academy of Sciences. The international program involves scientists from four continents and a range of disciplines.

Localized extinction, pest invasion, oxygen-deprived fish and swarms of insects are some of the issues raised by scientists involved in the project.

This project is especially significant as it being led by the Chinese government. The effects of climate change are being acutely felt in China, and efforts are being made to reduce any effect on the country.

China is using science and technology to address climate change. Low-carbon developments, extensive solar and wind power plants, and tree planting are common throughout the country.

Climate change is a high profile topic for the government, as is the push for a greater understanding of climate change and its impacts on animals and people.

The risks and issues concerning climate change are often reported in relation to humans, especially in a country with a human population as large as China's. There is growing appreciation of the widespread impact of climate change on animals and their environments, and the effect they will have on agriculture and biodiversity.

Follow up editions will be published in 2011 and 2012.

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Notes to editors

Kexue Communications is a scientific communication company headquartered in Beijing that works with Chinese researchers, organizations, education centres and media to assist in the dissemination of science.

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The special edition of *Integrative Zoology* can be found in full for free online at www.blackwellpublishing.com/INZ