Climate change

Hot spots - the carbon atlas

This week’s Ball meeting highlighted just how difficult it will be to secure an international agreement to reduce greenhouse gas levels by enough to save the earth from catastrophic temperature rises. This map, showing countries according to their emissions, shows why an international deal is needed – and why only one binding the big polluters can succeed.

Europe

North America

Central & South America

Africa

Middle East

Asia & Oceania

World total

These latest UN figures for climate change emissions are from 2006, but are already outdated. The UN estimates that world greenhouse gas emissions will be 30% above 1990 levels by 2010, which is already 27% above 1990 levels. UN emissions per person are usually three times as great as in China.

City emission growth of the highest 20 emitters, 1991 to 2005

The carbon list

North America

Central & South America

Europe

Middle East

Asia & Oceania

World