

Science Supports Low Carbon Development

June 2013 witnessed two milestones in China's low-carbon development endeavor. On June 14, the State Council announced a suite of strict measures aimed at cutting air pollution by 30% in heavy-polluting industries within five years' time. Four days later, on June 18, China rolled out its pilot scheme for carbon trading in seven cities and provinces, a big move toward curbing carbon dioxide emissions and mitigating climate change. Tough as the battle against carbon-intensive growth mode may be, China has fired the first salvo and shown its determination to shoulder due responsibility for a greener globe.

To better understand carbon-related scientific issues and help the government develop a low-carbon roadmap, the Chinese Academy of Sciences has launched two "strategic priority research programs" to investigate China's carbon budget and particulate air pollution problems in 2011 and 2012, respectively. In this issue of *BCAS*, we'll present you with the latest development of these two programs. We will also bring you other research highlights in carbon science, technology and policy scored at CAS, as well as the insights offered by world leading carbon scientists during the 9th International Carbon Dioxide Conference in Beijing.



Industrial pollution (Credit © Gregory Heath, CSIRO, via Global Carbon Project website)