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DOT EARTH

Nine Billion People. One Planet.



October 29, 2008, 9:05 am

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Bio Jet Fuel and Energy Productivity

By [The New York Times](#)

From our friends at Green Inc.:

Kate Galbraith reports that Europe planning to cap greenhouse gas emissions from planes, air carriers will have extra motivation to find [alternate sources for fuel](#).

Last month Boeing, the Natural Resources Defense Council and others in the airline industry announced the creation of a group to study the prospects for biofuel jets, citing the oil-price volatility that has rocked the aviation industry, as well as efforts to cut carbon.

[Read the full post.](#)

James Kanter asks whether the financial crisis and reduced investment in transformational green technologies put [energy efficiency back in vogue](#). Writing about a new report from [McKinsey Global Institute](#), he writes:

In the report, “Fueling Sustainable Development: The Energy Productivity Solution,” to be published Wednesday, the institute says the uncertain economic outlook and the recent period of record-high oil prices could push governments and businesses to invest more in energy productivity.

In the developed world, that could mean more money for energy-saving equipment in manufacturing and energy-saving devices when buildings are remodeled, like improved insulation and lower-energy-consuming lighting.

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About Dot Earth



By 2050 or so, the world population is expected to reach nine billion, essentially adding two Chinas to the number of people alive today. Those billions will be seeking food, water and other resources on a planet where, scientists say, humans are already shaping climate and the web of life. In Dot Earth, reporter Andrew C. Revkin examines efforts to balance human affairs with the planet's limits. Supported in part by a John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship, Mr. Revkin tracks relevant news from suburbia to Siberia, and conducts an interactive exploration of trends and ideas with readers and experts.

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Energy

New Options Needed



Access to cheap energy underpins modern societies. Finding enough to fuel industrialized economies and pull developing countries out of poverty without overheating the climate is a central challenge of the 21st century.

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The Arctic in Transition



Enshrined in history as an untouchable frontier, the Arctic is being transformed by significant warming, a rising thirst for oil and gas, and international tussles over shipping routes and seabed resources.

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Slow Drips, Hard Knocks



Human advancement can be aided by curbing everyday losses like the millions of avoidable deaths from indoor smoke and tainted water, and by increasing resilience in the face of predictable calamities like earthquakes and drought.

- [Times Topics: Disasters](#)
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Life, Wild and Managed



Earth's venter of millions of plant and animal species is a vital resource that will need careful tending as human populations and their demands for land, protein and fuels grow.

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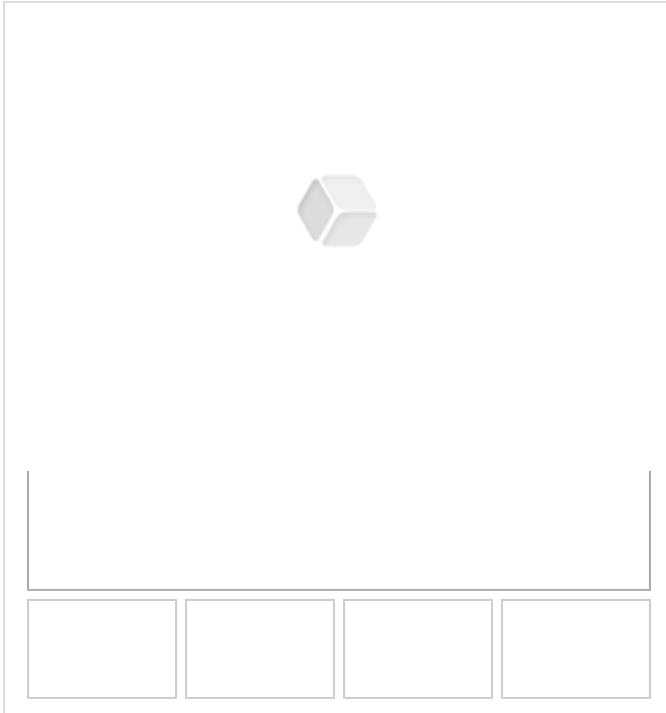


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Andrew C. Revkin began exploring the human impact on the environment nearly 30 years ago. An early stop was Papeete, Tahiti. This narrated slide show describes his extensive travels.

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Video



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- [POLITICS](#) 64
- [ENVIRONMENTALISM](#) 55
- [ENVIRONMENT](#) 53
- [MEDIA](#) 46
- [POVERTY](#) 41
- [ARCTIC](#) 40
- [GLOBAL](#) 38
- [DISASTERS](#) 36

- [OCEANS](#) 36
- [BUSH](#) 36
- [CHINA](#) 34
- [COAL](#) 31
- [OIL](#) 30
- [ECONOMICS](#) 26
- [POPULATION](#) 24
- [RESILIENCE](#) 23
- [TECHNOLOGY](#) 22
- [FOSSIL FUELS](#) 21
- [ENDANGERED SPECIES](#) 20
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