



Media Monitoring Report

The Fourth United Nations Environment Assembly

March 2019
Nairobi, Kenya

This report presents an overview of media coverage in the lead-up and during the Fourth UN Environment Assembly in Nairobi, Kenya. Analysing the period between 1-21 March 2019, the overview covers a period including the open-ended working group of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, the Science, Policy, Business Forum and the 5 days of the Environment Assembly.

The monitoring has included keywords* in all six official UN languages, performed on Meltwater Media Monitoring system. The system also automatically translates keywords, vastly expanding search options to global scale.

Numbers at a glance

Between 1-21 March, 2019, the News and Media team has recorded coverage done by more than **6947 outlets across 167 countries** around the globe, **in 49 languages**.

At least **26,500 articles** were published during the UN Environment Assembly: a **128% increase** from the Third Session of the Environment Assembly. It should be noted that of this total number, 11,000 articles featured **both** the keywords UN Environment Assembly and Ethiopian Airlines, which may indicate either an article about the airplane crash that mentioned the Environment Assembly, or an article with the main theme being the Assembly that also mentioned the crash.

The United States (22%) and China (20%) had the most coverage of any country.

450 journalists registered to attend the Assembly. Of this number, **388 journalists from 52 countries were accredited** by the News and Media team. This number represents a spike in media attendance, up from 296 from 26 countries during the Third Assembly.

While the crash of the Ethiopian Airlines flight and the opening of the Assembly represented the largest peak in coverage, we also separately analyzed coverage for the **Global Environment Outlook, Global Chemicals Outlook, the Global Resources Outlook and the Frontiers Report**, which represented other noticeable peaks in overall media coverage.



* UNEA OR "UN Environment Assembly" OR "United Nations Environment Assembly" OR "Fourth United Nations Environment Assembly" OR "4th UN Environment Assembly" OR "4th session of the UN Environment Assembly" OR "Fourth edition of the United Nations Environment Assembly" OR "UNEA 4" OR "Environment Assembly" OR "4th UNEA" OR #SolveDifferent OR "fourth UN Environment Assembly" OR "fourth session of UNEA" OR "fourth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly" OR "world's highest-level decision-making body on the environment" OR UNEA-4

Top coverage



U.N.: Environmental threats are jeopardizing human

The Washington Post

Millions could die prematurely without 'unprecedented' action to clean air and water, a new U.N. report warns



Plastics pressure



'No tomorrow' for many unless consumption falls -

The Guardian

Surge in chemical use 'a threat to health and environment'



The 'ecological foundations of society' are in peril, a massive UN report

CHINADAILY

UN Environment assembly kicks off in Nairobi



UN calls for waste clampdown at key summit



La jefa de la ONU Medioambiente avisa del "coste de no actuar" en apoyo del planeta



UN: Environment is deadly, worsening mess, but not



Countries look at ways to tinker with Earth's thermostat

THE STRAITS TIMES

Air pollution causes as many as 7 million premature deaths each year: UN report

Bloomberg

The Green New Deal Isn't Global Enough

SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN

U.S. Blocks U.N. Resolution on Geoengineering

LE FIGARO

À Nairobi, Macron prend de nouveaux engagements pour la planète

Highlights

MailOnline



**BUSINESS
INSIDER**

EL PAÍS



South China
Morning Post

THE TIMES OF INDIA

GULF NEWS 

El Confidencial

**The
Boston
Globe**



CHANNEL NEWSASIA



WIRED

DER SPIEGEL

DAILY  **NATION**

the japan times

Chicago Tribune

VICE



VOA
Voice of America


**YONHAP NEWS
AGENCY**

HUFFPOST

ANSA

ZEITUNG  **ONLINE**


THE HINDU


allAfrica

**Bangkok
Post**


**CNBC
AFRICA**


dailyhunt

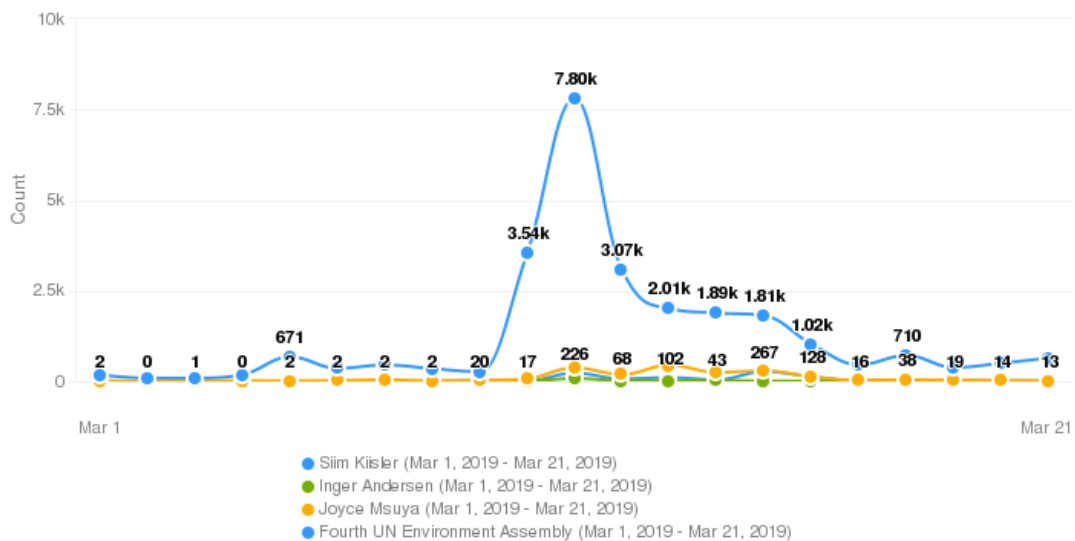
Mail & Guardian
WICK'S BEST READ


EL UNIVERSAL

Valor ECONÓMICO

Coverage analysis

Media Exposure



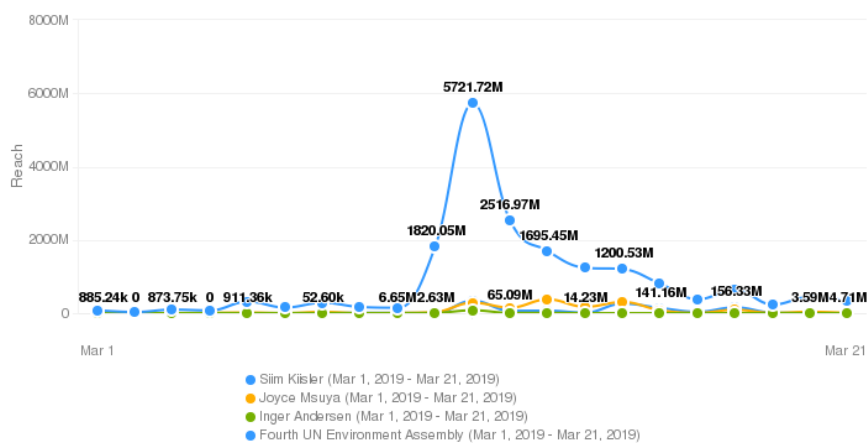
Highlights of the week included the **opening of the UN Environment Assembly** on Monday, March 11, and the launch of the **Global Environment Outlook** on Wednesday, March 13th.

Another peak in coverage can be seen around March 5, around the launch of the **Frontiers Report**.

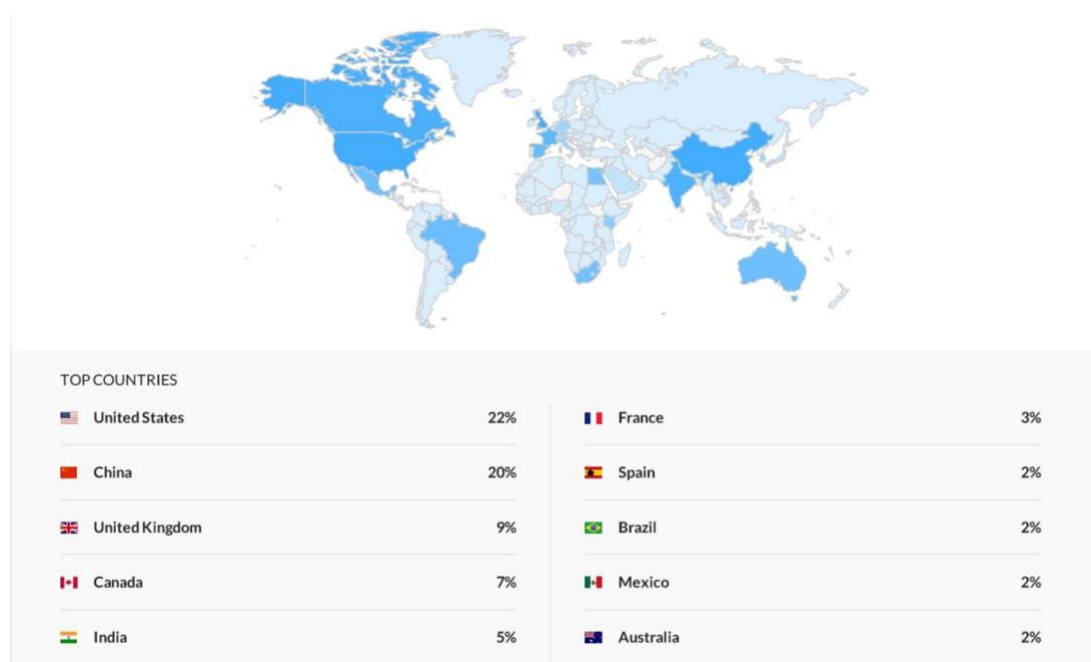
The theme of UN Environment remained solidly in the news until Saturday, March 16th, after which the coverage declines.

On Monday, the potential reach of the UN Environment Assembly **exceeded 5.7 Billion** views, as seen in the below graph.

Potential Reach

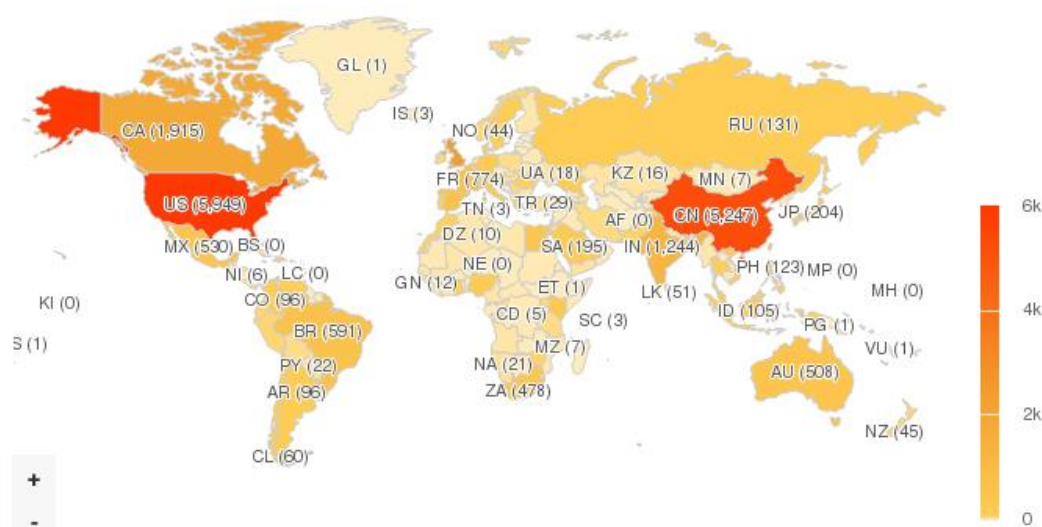


Coverage by country

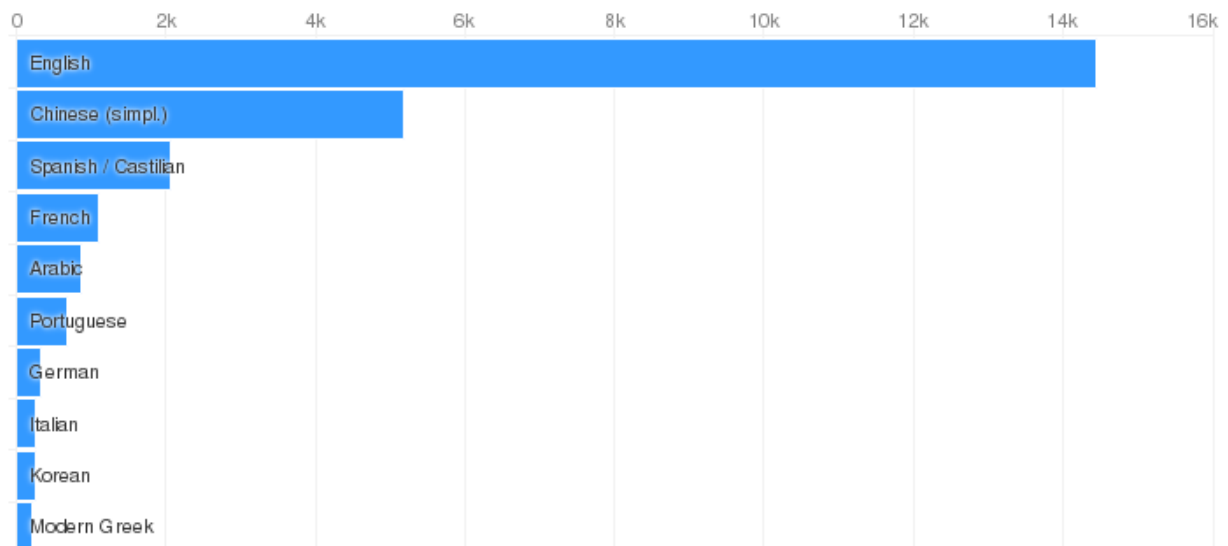


Across the globe, the **United States and China** saw the most articles, while media in at least **167 countries** reported on the Fourth UN Environment Assembly. The large volume of articles in the United States can be attributed to the coverage of several global English-language newswires that was subsequently picked up by local news outlets. Ahead of the Assembly, the **Chinese bureaus in Nairobi** had been invited and briefed, resulting in wide coverage in Chinese outlets, both in Chinese and English.

In comparison to the previous year, **coverage in the United Kingdom** has grown exponentially, in part due to the presence of journalists from the Guardian and the Daily Mail, both high-volume outlets that were represented by very active reporters. Another notable spike was seen in the coverage by the Canadian Press. A closer look shows that this is mostly attributable to the high number of Canadian deaths in the crash of flight ET302 on the eve of the Environment Assembly.



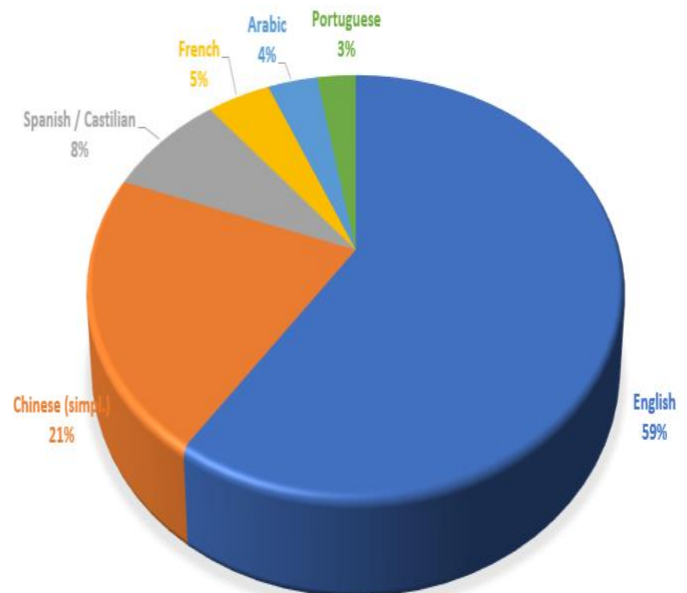
Coverage by Language



The Fourth UN Environment Assembly was covered in **49 languages**. More than 14 thousand articles on the assembly were written in English. These include both coverage from the major English-language wires as well as articles written and published in local and regional outlets.

21 % of the coverage, or 5180 articles, were produced in Chinese-language outlets. The UN official languages of Spanish (2053), French (1096) and Arabic (860) also represented significant coverage of the assembly.

The presence of Spanish-language newswire EFE, Mexican newspaper El Universal and Brazilian outlet Valor Economico contributed to a significant pickup in the Latin American and Caribbean region.



Editorials

The News and Media team placed a total of **18 op-eds** in the first two weeks of March. Four op-eds have been accepted and are currently still pending placement.

By Joyce Msuya

- Daily Nation, *Kenya*: [Africa offers hope for a safer planet](#)
- Mail and Guardian, *South Africa*: [We desperately need to change course](#)
- Media Indonesia, *Indonesia*: [Bumi semakin Panas. Dampak Lingkungan dan Kesehatan](#)
- El Mercurio, *Chile*: [El planeta, en un punto de inflexión](#)
- La República, *Costa Rica*: [El planeta, en un punto de inflexión](#)
- La Prensa Gráfica, *El Salvador*: [El planeta, en un punto de inflexión](#)
- El Universal, *México*: [El planeta, en un punto de inflexión](#)
- Diario HOY, *R.Dominicana*: [Hoy Digital - El planeta, en un punto de inflexión](#)
- El Nuevo Diario, *Nicaragua*: [El planeta, en un punto de inflexión](#)
- Prensa Libre, *Guatemala*: [El planeta, en un punto de inflexión](#)
- El Tiempo, *Colombia*: [El planeta, en un punto de inflexión](#)
- Xinhua News 新华社: [让人类赖以生存的地球回归健康](#)
- The Paper 澎湃新闻: [联合国“地球体检报告”：人类 2017 年就耗了九百亿吨资源](#)
- Sina News [联合国“地球体检报告”：人类 2017 年就耗了九百亿吨资源](#)

By other authors

- Susan Gardner: [Green collar jobs: A bright hope for the planet?](#)
- Leyla Acaroglu: [The Rising Trend of Zero Waste Lifestyles](#)
- Solitaire Townsend: [Will 'People Power', or Powerful People, Change the World?](#)
- Steven Stone: [New and green and fair? Feeling our way towards greener and more inclusive economies](#)



Special Events

In the lead-up to the assembly, the News and Media Team organized **4 media trips** targeted to visiting international and national media. These included; a visit to an insect farm; a geothermal plant and solar-powered clinic; a day trip around the harmful practices of sand harvesting and sustainable alternatives; and a visit to a water recycling facility in Kibera.



In Nairobi there was also an [ice hockey game](#) featuring Kenya's national team and Russian ice hockey legend Slava Fetisov, drawing attention to the realities of climate change.

A press trip around the visit of Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohamed to the Nairobi National Park and David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust was organized on Friday, 15 March. The DSG was joined by Chinese Goodwill Ambassador Wang Junkai.

[Citizen Media](#) and [Xinhua](#) went along to cover the events.



Editors Dinner

On March 6th, Joyce Msuya and Siim Kiisler, President of the Fourth UN Environment Assembly, were joined by Kipkoech Tanui, Deputy Editorial Director at [Standard Media Group](#), Paul Ilado, Head of Content at [RadioAfrica Group](#) and Fred Njiiri, Managing Editor at [Mediamax Network](#) at the Villa Rosa Kempinski in Nairobi for an in-depth discussion of the upcoming Assembly.

The FlipFlopi at the Assembly



After completing its maiden journey down the East African coast from Lamu to Zanzibar, the Flopflopi made its way to Nairobi to be put upon display during the Environment Assembly.

The exhibition created extra media attention for the Clean Seas campaign and the FlipFlopi expedition, especially when the boat received a visit from Uhuru Kenyatta, President of Kenya.

Report launches and press releases at the Assembly



Press Releases

- March 4: [It is time to fix the broken nitrogen cycle says UN Environment Frontiers Report](#)
- March 6: [UN Environment Acting Executive Director issues forceful appeal ahead of UN Environment Assembly](#)
- March 09: [Beijing air improvements provide model for other cities](#)
- March 11: [Cutting-edge technologies unveiled at Sustainable Innovation Expo in Nairobi](#)
- March 11: [World leaders gather at UN's top environmental body to ramp up solutions for sustainable economies](#)
- March 11: [UN report: Urgent action needed to tackle chemical pollution as global production is set to double by 2030](#)
- March 12: [UN calls for urgent rethink as resource use skyrockets](#)
- March 12: [Research highlights true impacts of plastics on our planet, ecosystems, people](#)
- March 13: [SWITCH to Green initiatives show how to build sustainable societies](#)
- March 13: [Human health in dire straits if urgent actions are not made to protect the environment, warns landmark UN report.](#)
- March 13: [Temperature rise is 'locked-in' for coming decades in the Arctic](#)
- March 14: [UN Alliance For Sustainable Fashion addresses damage of 'fast fashion'](#)
- March 15: [World pledges to protect polluted, degraded planet as it adopts blueprint for more sustainable future](#)

Media advisories

- 13 February: [World to zero in on solutions for the future at 4th UN Environment Assembly.](#)

Selected clippings

Interviews

Joyce Msuya

- **National Geographic:** <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/2019/03/un-environment-plastic-pollution-negotiations/>
- **Times of India:** https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/environment/pollution/india-taking-lead-in-setting-timeline-to-eliminate-single-use-plastic-un-environment-acting-head/articleshow/68502522.cms?utm_campaign=andapp&utm_medium=referral&utm_source=native_share_tray
- **BBC Africa:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UmCScltox1Q&t=681s>
- **Mwananchi (Tanzania):** <https://mobile.mwananchi.co.tz/Habari/Huyu-ndiye-Joyce-Msuya-bosi-wa-UNEP/1597580-5039304-format-xhtml-qrce3y/index.html>
- **EFE:** <https://www.efeverde.com/noticias/jefa-onu-medioambiente-avisa-coste-no-actuar-apoyo-planeta/>
- **Xinhua News:** http://www.xinhuanet.com/world/2019-03/09/c_1210077012.htm
- **People's Daily:** <http://world.people.com.cn/n1/2019/0309/c1002-30966595.html>
- **China Daily:** http://cn.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201903/10/WS5c8472f5a31010568bdce831_1.html
- **CRI:** <http://news.cri.cn/chinanews/20190308/2897ac6e-1cd6-5d8e-553f-435d3a0d5637.html?chinaNewsType=app&menuId=aa92d8a0b63c40ebaef25e90d6d78232&languageId=ZH>



Inger Andersen, Executive Director Designate

- **EFE:** <https://www.efeverde.com/noticias/mujeres-piden-sitio-onu-3-200-millones-soluciones/>
- **Prensa Latina:** <https://www.prensa-latina.cu/index.php?o=rn&id=260532&SEO=asiste-ecuador-a-iv-asamblea-general-de-onu-para-medio-ambiente>
- **Xinhua:** http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-03/13/c_137890663.htm
- **Ov Vietnam:** http://ovietnam.vn/news/iucn-launches-toolkit-to-boost-gender-integration-in-coastal-resource-management_303892.html
- **MaskinBladet:** <http://www.maskinbladet.dk/artikel/danmark-fornyer-bidraget-fns-miljoprogram>

Satya Tripathi

- **BBC:** <https://www.bbc.com/news/live/business-47493631>
- **Al Jazeera:** <https://youtu.be/3dQr88YIULY>
- **Deutsche Welle:** <https://share.ard-zdf-box.de/s/TzjLE47XRb26NMb>
- **UN HQ press conference:** <http://webtv.un.org/media/press-conferences/watch/press-conference-satya-s.-tripathi-un-environment-program-on-the-opening-of-the-un-environment-assembly/6012640590001/?term=&page=48>
- **Radio France Internationale:** <http://m.en.rfi.fr/africa/20190312-UN-calls-waste-clampdown-nairobi-one-planet-summit-macron-kenyatta-environment>



Amina Mohamed

- **Citizen TV:** [One on one with the U.N's second in command, Amina J. Mohammed](#)
- **Xinhua:** http://www.xinhuanet.com/world/2019-03/17/c_1124244613.htm
- **Weibo:** <http://video.weibo.com/show?fid=1034:4350470429599700>

Flagship reports:

Global Environment Outlook (GEO-6)

- **National geographic:** [U.N.: Environmental threats are jeopardizing human health](#)
- **Washington Post:** https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2019/03/13/millions-could-die-prematurely-without-unprecedented-action-clean-air-water-new-un-report-warns/?noredirect=on&utm_term=.4eb6e0e87437
- **CNN:** <https://edition.cnn.com/2019/03/13/health/un-global-environment-outlook-report/index.html>
- **USA Today:** <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2019/03/13/un-environment-report-warns-human-health-increasingly-threatened/3150519002/>
- **El Pais:** https://elpais.com/sociedad/2019/03/12/actualidad/1552409167_549272.html
- **NY Post:** <https://nypost.com/2019/03/13/dire-un-climate-change-report-reveals-its-not-too-late-to-save-planet/>
- **AFP:** <https://www.afp.com/en/news/15/environment-damage-behind-1-4-global-deaths-disease-un-doc-1ej2bo1>
- **Reuters:** <https://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFL3N2103OC>
- **Le Figaro:** <http://www.lefigaro.fr/sciences/2019/03/14/01008-20190314ARTFIG00184-les-atteintes-a-l-environnement-responsables-d-un-quart-des-morts-et-maladies.php>
- **Der Spiegel:** <http://www.spiegel.de/gesundheit/diagnose/uno-bericht-forscher-kalkulieren-folgen-der-globalen-umweltzerstoerung-a-1257674.html>
- **Associated Press:** <https://www.apnews.com/36804b092691442ebffff6ed0ba516f>
- **Bangkok Post:** <https://www.bangkokpost.com/news/world/1643996/eco-damage-behind-1-in-4-premature-deaths-disease-un>
- **Trouw:** <https://www.trouw.nl/groen/-patient-aarde-maakt-de-mens-ziek--a69e3a49d/>
- **Notimex:** <http://www.notimex.gob.mx/ntxnotaLibre/676476/ciencia-y-tecnolog%C3%ADa-indispensables-para-evitar-da%C3%B1os-al-medio-ambiente-onu>



Global Resources outlook:

- **The Guardian:** <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2019/mar/12/resource-extraction-carbon-emissions-biodiversity-loss>
- **Economic Times**
<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/environment/pollution/use-of-naturalresources-tripled-since-1970-un-environment-report/articleshow/68373620.cms>
- **Liberation:** https://www.liberation.fr/planete/2019/03/21/en-cinquante-ans-l-extraction-de-ressources-a-plus-que-triple-dans-le-monde_1716359
- **Channel News Asia:** <https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/world/raw-materials-behind-half-of-global-emissions--un-11336404>
- **AllAfrica:** <https://allafrica.com/stories/201903130003.html>
- **Reuters:** <https://af.reuters.com/article/commoditiesNews/idAFL3N20Z2V8>
- **Al Arabiya:** <https://english.alarabiya.net/en/features/2019/03/12/Raw-materials-behind-half-of-global-emissions-UN.html>
- **Deccan Herald:** <https://www.deccanherald.com/international/raw-materials-behind-half-of-global-emissions-un-722814.html>
- **Standard media:**
<https://www.standardmedia.co.ke/article/2001316528/sustainability-alarm-over-soaring-extraction-of-resources>



Global Chemicals Outlook

- **The Guardian:** <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2019/mar/12/surge-in-chemical-use-a-threat-to-health-and-environment>
- **China Daily:** http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/global/2019-03/14/content_37447770.htm
- **El Confidencial:** https://www.elconfidencial.com/ultima-hora-en-vivo/2019-03-11/asia-y-africa-las-mas-afectadas-por-el-impacto-del-uso-de-quimicos_2049686/
- **Daily Nation:** <https://www.nation.co.ke/news/UN-lags-in-chemical-waste-reduction-goal/1056-5021624-xj71aoz/index.html>
- **China.org:** http://www.china.org.cn/world/Off_the_Wire/2019-03/11/content_74558997.htm
- **RFI:** <http://en.rfi.fr/africa/20190312-UN-calls-waste-clampdown-nairobi-one-planet-summit-macron-kenyatta-environment>
- **BusinessGreen:** <https://www.businessgreen.com/bg/news/3072394/un-world-must-urgently-address-chemical-pollution-amid-soaring-production>
- **Xinhua:** http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-03/11/c_137886702.htm
- **EFE:** <https://www.efe.com/efe/english/world/un-experts-asia-africa-bear-brunt-of-damage-from-chemicals/50000262-3921545>

