

## Hong Kong business group urges city's private sector to help fight climate change

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**Nikki Sun** [nikki.sun@scmp.com](mailto:nikki.sun@scmp.com)

*Business Environment Council outlines a strategy as it highlights what would happen locally if temperatures and sea levels keep rising*

While world leaders are gathering in Paris to try to hold back the earth's rising temperatures, a local business group launched a strategy to help mitigate risks arising from climate change.

The Climate Resilient Roadmap, developed by the [Business Environment Council](#) [1], aimed to highlight the impacts of climate change on Hong Kong under a scenario in which the city would see a 3 to 5.5-degree temperature rise and a one-metre sea level increase if the world continued business as usual.

Speaking at a conference on the subject in Kowloon Tong on Tuesday, Eric Chong, chairman of the council's Climate Change Business Forum Advisory Group, said: "Hong Kong needs to be ready and resilient."

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"The supply chains of most companies in Hong Kong have been affected, especially the food and supermarket sector." he said, adding that heat stress experienced by outdoor workers also needed to be addressed.

Also in attendance, Christine Loh, acting secretary for the environment, said the private sector, and not just government, needed to tackle climate change. Only relying on government action, she said, was “not enough to ensure the whole city and all its activities [would] continue to function” well.

Hong Kong is on track for its warmest year in recorded history. The average temperature between January and October was 24.7 degrees, caused by one of the strongest El Nino phenomena to date as the effects of global warming accelerated.

**Topics:** Paris climate summit 2015

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[1] <http://www.bec.org.hk/>

[2] <http://www.scmp.com/news/china/policies-politics/article/1885376/paris-climate-summit-chinese-president-urges-world>