

Environment Matters – 2nd February 2007

Welcome to Aardvark's fortnightly environmental news briefing,

- **UK to 'double' Kyoto goal** The UK remains on course to achieve its emissions targets under the Kyoto Protocol, according to figures released this week by DEFRA. The figures exceed the Kyoto target of a 12.5% reduction by the end of the decade. Despite the Kyoto-based success, the Government's domestic 2010 aim of cutting carbon specific emissions by 20% on 1990 levels appears more difficult than expected, with predictions falling short of the target – an outcome acknowledged by the Environment Secretary. ([The Green Consumer Guide 01/02/07](#))
- **Shipwreck presents environmental headache** While looters may have stolen the headlines along with the cargo of the stricken MSC Napoli, the environmental impacts of the shipwreck could be felt well after the mainstream media loses interest. The [Environment] Agency has warned that the threat is not over and there is still a risk of further oil being spilled or chemicals leaking from cargo containers. ([EDIE 29/01/07](#))
- **Energy roadmap backs renewables** Half of the world's energy needs in 2050 could be met by renewables and improved efficiency, a study has said. It said alternative energy sources, such as wind and solar, could provide nearly 70% of the world's electricity and 65% of global heat demand. Following a "business as usual" scenario would see demand for energy double by 2050. ([BBC News 25/01/07](#))
- **Olympics green vision slammed** Plans to make the London 2012 Olympic the 'greenest Games ever' have been slammed by environmental campaign group Greenpeace. "Given that the Government is expecting all new homes to be zero carbon emitting by 2016, the ODA's woolly figure of a 50% reduction is pitiful", said Greenpeace. ([The Green Consumer Guide 26/01/07](#))
- **DEFRA announces renewal of grants to Environmental Action Fund projects to support sustainable living** Thirty four projects promoting sustainable development across England are to receive more than £2 million of funding from DEFRA's Environmental Action Fund (EAF). ([DEFRA 24/01/07](#))
- **'Building a better environment – A guide for Developers'** A new Environment Agency report provides practical advice on making sure that new development contributes to long-term environmental quality, while take account of the increasing impacts of climate change. It includes pointers for buildings sustainable, cost-effective homes, with examples of sites where relevant good practice has already been applied. ([IEMA 28/01/07](#))

Latest News from the Aardvark Team

- Following the success of the mobile reed bed project, the Exmoor National Park Authority's Sustainable Development Fund have agreed to support another Aardvark led environmental project. Working with the National Trust as well as the National Park, the 3-year project will set up a bracken harvesting/composting scheme and establish a market for the valuable end product using Exmoor's unique brand identity.
- Aardvark is looking to expand the team in 2007. For further information on current vacancies and for the latest Aardvark news log onto www.aardvarkem.co.uk.

And finally

- **Hollywood and pop to help raise value of carbon trading** Hollywood actors such as Orlando Bloom and bands such as Coldplay and Scissor Sisters are helping to front an audacious plan to step up the fight against global warming by kick-starting the market for carbon trading. ([Guardian Unlimited 29/01/07](#))