

ASIA DEMANDS A DEAL

Public Views On The Need For A New Global Climate Treaty



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This report summarizes the results of an opinion poll conducted by Synovate, one of the world's leading market research companies, and commissioned by WWF, Greenpeace and 350.org to support the global Tcktcktck campaign.

6063 people from five different countries were polled in August 2009. People in China (including Hong Kong), India, Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand were asked about their views on climate change and the international negotiations aimed at agreeing a new global climate treaty in Copenhagen this December.

Those polled were between the ages of 15 and 64 and most had either secondary education levels or graduated from a university. The share of male and female participants in the poll was almost even, varying between 47 and 53 percent per group depending on the country.

The margin of error is 3.1 percent for a sample size of 1000 people (1000 people was the average sample size per market polled) and 1.3 percent for a sample size of 6000 (the total number of people polled in developing Asia), at 95 percent confidence interval.

The Tcktcktck campaign brings together an unprecedented alliance of faith groups, NGOs, trade unions and individuals at this crucial time to call for a new international treaty that will save the planet from the dangerous effects caused by climate change. As world leaders prepare to strike a climate deal in Copenhagen in December, Tcktcktck will harness the voices of the people to demand an ambitious, fair and binding new international agreement that reflects the latest science. Time is running out. Everyone can show support by going to tcktcktck.org and joining the campaign.

tcktcktck

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Executive Summary

- 53 percent of people polled in India, Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand want US President Barack Obama to lead the global effort and take decisive actions to tackle climate change.
- Those polled believe that countries with the biggest leadership potential are also among the most difficult to get into any agreement in Copenhagen, highlighting China (43 percent), the US (38 percent) and India (33 percent).
- Japan (25 percent), Russia (24 percent), South Africa (20 percent), Brazil (18 percent), UK (17 percent), Germany (16 percent), Mexico (15 percent), France (14 percent) and Canada (10 percent) are also seen as challenging.
- Asians express a strong desire for action from all major players and ask North and South to stand united for a global solution, urging rich developed countries as well as major emerging economies to take action.
- 73 percent agree that rich developed countries must lead the world in the fight against climate change, 68 percent say that major developing countries must join the effort.
- First and foremost, however, people in the countries polled want their own governments to act, regardless of what other countries do and their historical responsibility, with 79 percent supporting this position.
- 59 percent want their governments to engage positively in Copenhagen this December, but not offer a blank check. They feel that getting a deal is important, but it must be a fair one, that safeguards their right to develop.
- 29 percent go even further and urge their governments to be flexible and compromise, while only 12 percent of Asians believe that any deal would be a bad deal, and that their governments should not sign up.
- In terms of climate impacts, Asians are most worried about water shortages (32 percent) and worsening health conditions (31 percent), followed by plant and animal extinction (20 percent) and food shortages (17 percent).
- Stopping deforestation is the top priority for Asians when it comes to reducing emissions: 39 percent say this is the main solution for a stable climate. 28 percent think actions need to be taken first within the energy sector.
- 17 percent say that changes in lifestyle and consumption patterns should take priority, and for 16 percent actions within the agricultural sector are the top solution.

1. Climate Views In Developing Asia - A Regional Overview

Asians want Barack Obama to lead ¹

Regional polling from key countries in developing Asia paints a clear picture: people in India, Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand want US President Barack Obama to lead the global effort and take decisive actions to tackle climate change. A majority (53 percent) from the aforementioned countries agrees that it all depends on Obama, with the strongest majorities saying so in Thailand and the Philippines. Over a third polled in India and Indonesia shore up this sentiment. Expectations are highest among Filipinos: 85 percent of those polled believe Obama should lead the charge against climate change.

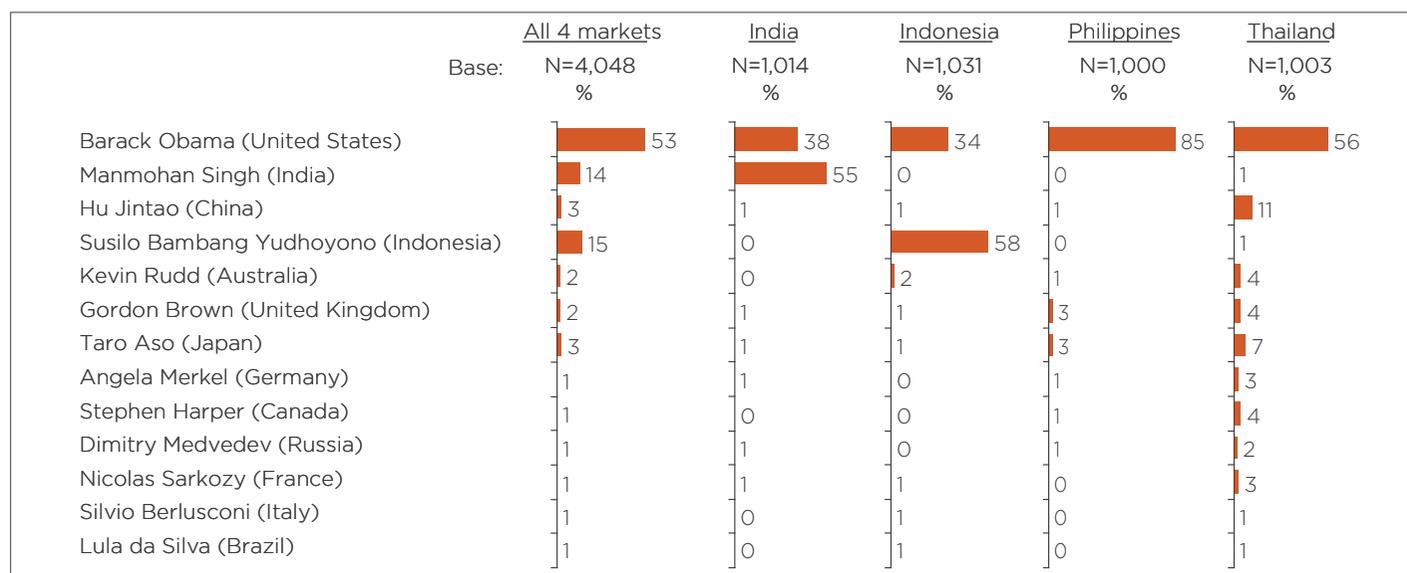
Indonesia's President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono was selected as a distant second to Obama, with 15 percent overall from India, Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand saying that he should lead the global effort and take decisive actions to tackle climate change. However, his popularity among the four countries polled can be more accurately attributed to strong support from his constituents: 58

percent in Indonesia want their President to lead, even ahead of Barack Obama (34 percent).

Indian leader Manmohan Singh rounds out the top three picks. 14 percent want him to lead the charge against climate change. However, this is - similar to the results in Indonesia - largely because over half polled in India believe Singh has a critical role to play, also putting him ahead of Obama in the Indian poll (38 percent). Meanwhile just 1 percent or less in the other countries polled believe that Yudhoyono or Singh have an important role to play.

Leaders from other major G8 or G5 countries don't have much relevance in the eyes of developing Asia. Among those polled in India, Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines, only 2 percent see leaders like Gordon Brown (UK) or Kevin Rudd (Australia) as critical. Others are seen as even less influential when it comes to striking a new global climate deal, for example Angela Merkel (Germany), Stephen Harper (Canada), Dmitry Medvedev (Russia) or Nicolas Sarkozy (France) with 1 percent each.

State leader who should lead the global effort and take decisive actions to tackle climate change



¹ For legal reasons, this specific question was not part of the opinion poll in China. While all the other questions were included in the questionnaires for all countries polled (i.e. China, India, Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand), this specific question was only included in the questionnaires used in India, Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand.

US and China the most difficult countries

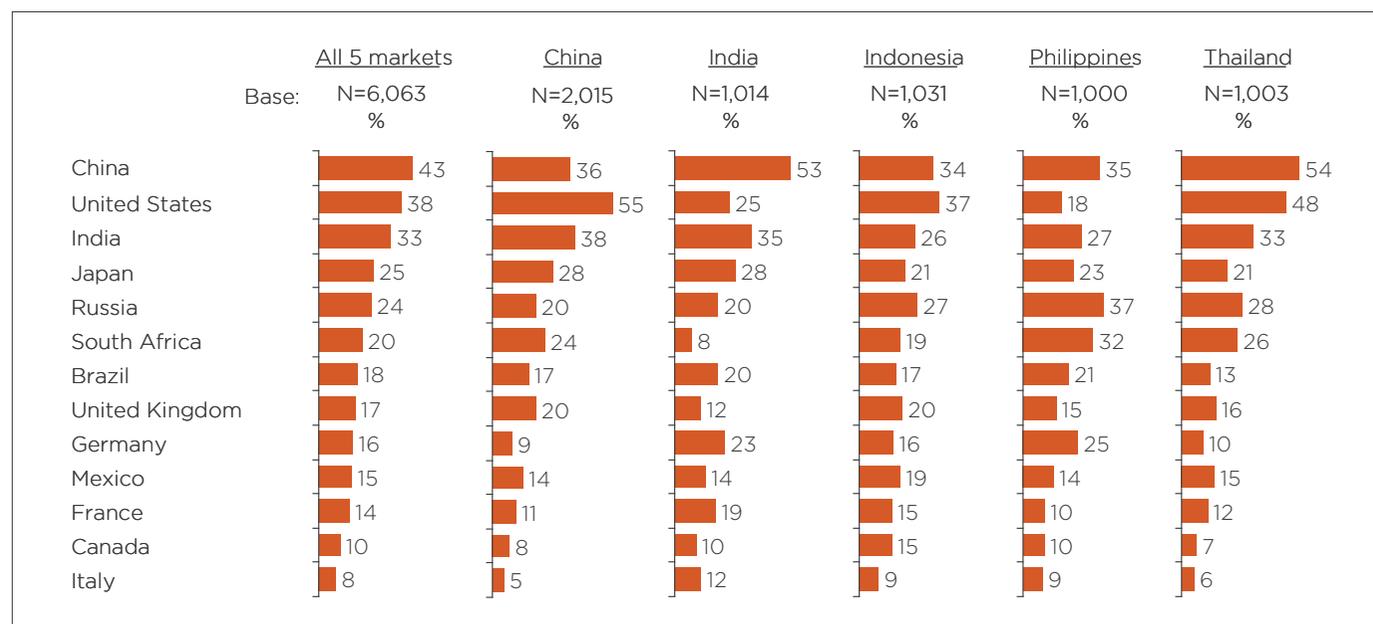
Some of the same countries whose leaders were picked to head up global efforts to tackle climate change are also seen as the biggest stumbling blocks to reaching an agreement at the Copenhagen Climate Summit this December. Taken together, just over 80 percent believe China and the United States will be the most difficult countries to get into a climate change agreement. Over 40 percent say China is likely to cause problems, followed by the US (38 percent), India (33 percent), Japan (25 percent), Russia (24 percent), South Africa (20 percent), Brazil (18 percent), UK (17 percent), Germany (16 percent), Mexico (15 percent), France (14 percent), Canada (10 percent) and Italy (8 percent).

Majorities in Thailand and India, and over a third polled in Indonesia and the Philippines believe China will present the greatest difficulties in reaching an agreement,

whereas the majority of Chinese believe coming to an agreement in Copenhagen with the US will be the biggest hurdle. This stands in sharp contrast to polling results from the Philippines, where less than 20 percent say it will be difficult to get the US into a climate change agreement.

The high numbers for China are striking in the light of China's role as member of the G77. In the international climate negotiations, China often speaks as part of this group of developing countries. The consensus among China and G77 is that developed countries must take the lead in tackling climate change due to their historic responsibilities and carbon emissions over the past 150 years. The numbers seem to indicate that China may be seen as blocking, while it is often pushing for a better deal for developing countries and stronger developed country commitments.

Most difficult countries to get into an agreement at Copenhagen



Asians want all to act, foremost their own countries

Those polled were informed that climate change is mainly a result of greenhouse gas emissions that have accrued over the past 150 years via the industrial growth of developed countries, but that emission levels in developing countries are also on the rise and quickly catching up. Under this scenario, people were asked who should be leading the world in the fight against climate change: rich developed countries, major developing countries or their own countries. Those polled were given the opportunity to cite all answers that apply.

Answers reveal that majorities feel all parties need to step up to the plate and that no one is exempt from leading the fight against climate change. 79 percent think that their own government should lead the world in the fight against climate change, supporting the statement: “Regardless of what other countries do and their historical responsibility, I want my government to take action and show leadership to reduce the risk from climate change for my country”.

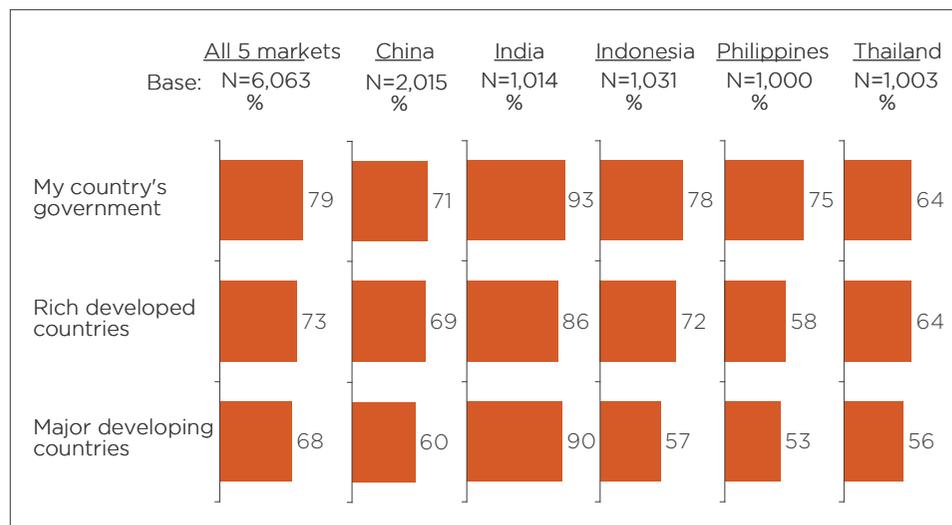
73 percent think rich developed countries need to show leadership, “because they are historically responsible for most greenhouse gas emissions and at the same time most capable of reducing them”. 68 percent also urged major developing countries to take action, “because their rapidly increasing emissions are adding more to the current state of pollution and they must switch from a dirty to a clean development model”.

It is striking that overall the largest majorities feel that – regardless of what other countries do and their historical responsibilities – their own governments should take action and show leadership to reduce the risk from climate change for their individual country. While nearly 80 percent agree with this statement across the region, the highest numbers come from India (93 percent) and Indonesia (78 percent).

However, developing Asia is not ready to let developed countries off the hook. Not surprisingly, substantial majorities in all countries polled feel that it is the duty of rich countries to deal with climate change, based on responsibility and capability to act. Overall, 73 percent are in agreement with this statement, with India (86 percent) and China (69 percent) feeling most strongly to this end.

According to people in Asia, major developing countries also have a role to play in leading the fight against climate change. Nearly 70 percent across the region say these countries need to take the lead because of their rapidly increasing emissions.

Countries which should lead the world in the fight against climate change



Engage positively, but don't offer a blank check!

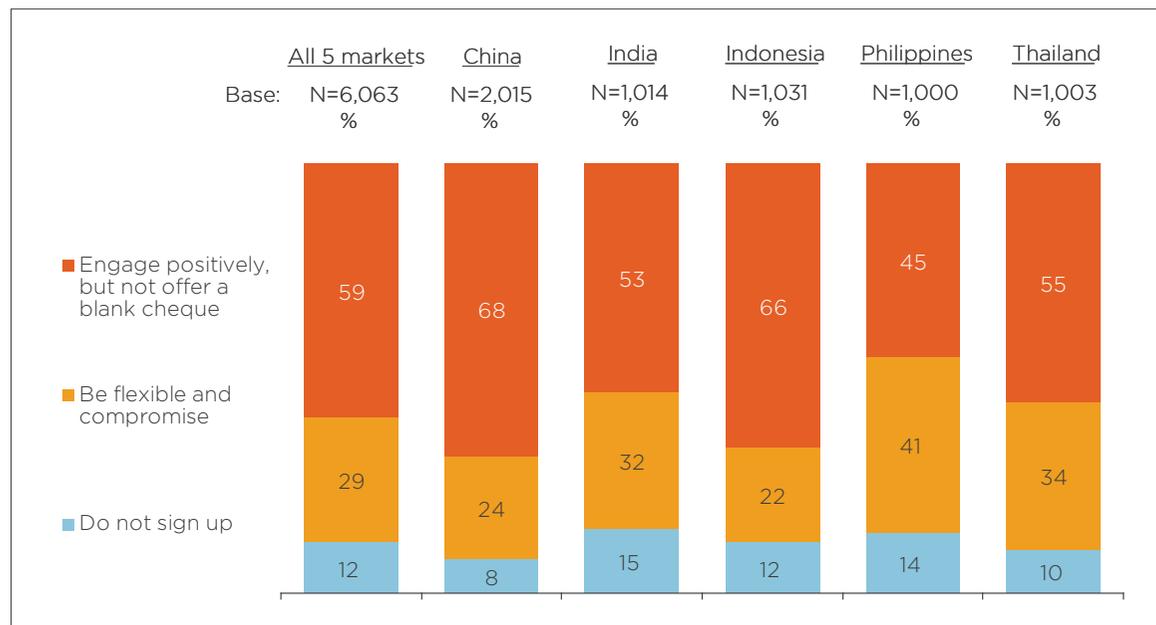
When asked what position their countries should take at the Copenhagen Climate Summit this December, 59 percent said they want their governments to engage positively, but not offer a blank check. They feel that getting a deal is important, but it must be a fair one that safeguards their individual country's right to develop. China (68 percent) and Indonesia (66 percent) agree most strongly with this middle-road stance. Only the Philippines is without a majority supporting this view (45 percent agree).

29 percent overall go even further and say they want their countries to be flexible and compromise, asking their governments to lead and to give a bit more. These people also support the statement that getting a deal is important, and that now

is not the time to be obstructionist. Filipinos support this position most strongly, with 41 percent in agreement. China (24 percent) and Indonesia (22 percent) are least supportive of being flexible and compromising.

12 percent across the region say their countries should not sign any agreement. This minority believes any deal will be a bad deal, and doubts that the conference can result in an agreement that protects their country and the world from climate change. Chinese are least supportive of this position on the international climate negotiations, with just 8 percent saying their country should not sign any deal.

Preferred position for your government to take in the fight against climate change



Stopping deforestation seen as top solution

Those polled were told that scientists say there is an urgent need for quick and deep emissions reductions to stabilize the climate, and they were asked to choose which actions should be taken first, those within:

- the energy sector (e.g. increase the uptake of renewable energy, implement energy efficiency standards and shift to less polluting modes of transport),
- the forest sector (e.g. end net deforestation worldwide through forest protection, ensure responsible forest management, reduce the impacts from agriculture, and halt negative subsidies, policies and practices),
- the agricultural sector (e.g. introduce farming methods that are less chemical intensive, ensure better fertiliser use, reduce burning of biomass, and improve rice management),
- or the area of changes to lifestyles and consumption patterns (e.g. adopt climate-friendly diets, limit transport demand, and reduce the use of unnecessary electronic appliances).

Nearly 40 percent in developing Asia say ending deforestation should be the first action taken to stabilize the climate. Curbing deforestation is the top choice for all countries polled but China.

28 percent think actions need to be taken first within the energy sector. Meanwhile just 16 and 17 percent, respectively, think actions within the agricultural sector and personal living habits should take priority.

The majority in India, where forests cover a little over one fifth of its geographic area, feels most strongly about ending deforestation to address climate change, with over half (54 percent) saying it should be the first action taken. Indonesian results closely follow those in India. Indonesia has the fastest deforestation rate of any country in the world, and with deforestation taken into account Indonesia could be considered the world's third-largest emitter of greenhouse gases, according to a World Bank report. Polling results reflect this: 45 percent of Indonesians say that an end to deforestation is the top priority when it comes to tackling climate change.

Chinese are the least concerned with deforestation. Just about a quarter (24 percent) says it should be seen as the top solution. Chinese are the most intent upon actions being first taken within the energy sector, nearly half (45 percent) agree. This could be because the bulk of China's emissions stem from energy production.

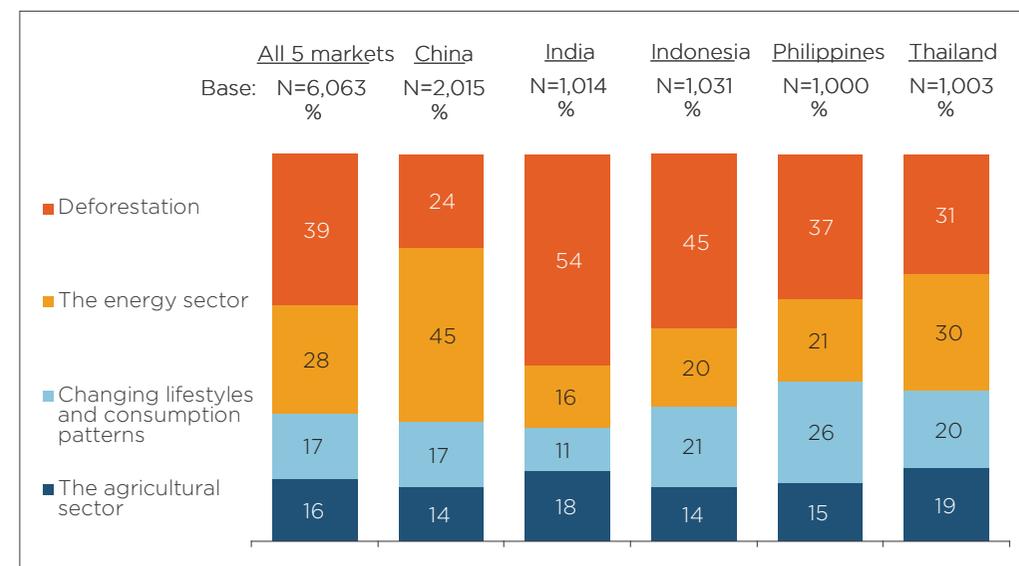
Actions within the energy sector are the second choice to deforestation for all but India, with Thailand at 30 percent, the Philippines at 21 percent and Indonesia at 20 percent.

Changing lifestyle and consumption patterns and changes in the agricultural sector are closely tied in the overall poll results. The former just slightly beats out the latter as the top priority when it comes to climate solutions (17 versus 16 percent).

However, from country to country there is quite a big discrepancy among numbers on lifestyle and consumption changes, with a spread between 11 and 26 percent (whereas results from the agricultural sector were all between 14 and 19 percent). While 26 percent in the Philippines say personal actions to address climate change should be taken, other countries vary between 11 (India) and 20 percent (Thailand).

In Thailand, more people than in any other country want actions to first be taken in the agricultural sector (19 percent), but this is still only the third choice for Thais. India lags just slightly behind Thailand: 18 percent in India want to see actions taken in agriculture, their second choice after ending deforestation. About 15 percent in the remaining countries chose the agricultural sector.

Prioritisation of actions to cut emissions



Asians fear illness and water shortages

Those polled were asked what worries them most about climate change, according to the following range of effects surmised by the IPCC, a United Nations panel of the world's leading climate scientists:

- Water shortage: Over the coming decades, melt-water supplies stored in glaciers and snow cover in major mountain ranges are projected to decline, causing water shortages for more than 1 billion people.
- Plant and animal extinction: About 20 to 30 percent of all species assessed so far are likely to face an increased risk of extinction if global average temperatures rise more than 1.5 - 2.5°C against pre-industrial levels.
- Food shortage: In some places, even small local temperature rise of between 1 and 2°C can increase the risk of hunger due to diminished crop productivity and increased frequency of droughts and floods.
- Worsening health conditions: millions of people around the world will be harmed by increases in malnutrition and by severe impacts from heat waves, floods, storms, fires, droughts and diseases.

Overall, most people in developing Asia fear water shortages and worsening health conditions stemming from climate change impacts, with 32 and 31 percent, respectively, saying so. Fewer are concerned by plant and animal extinction (20 percent) and food shortages (17 percent).

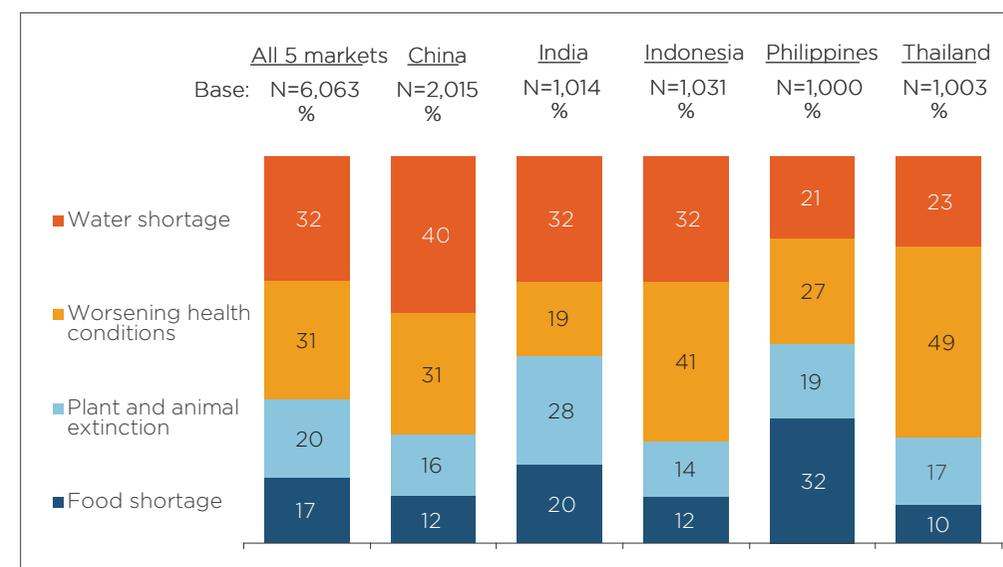
China is the most concerned of all countries polled about water shortages (40 percent), and indeed China is headed towards a severe water crisis. If present trends are not reversed, the World Bank forecasts that by 2020 there will be 30 million environmental refugees in China due to water stress. Meanwhile, the Philippines (21 percent) and Thailand (23 percent) are the least concerned by water stress. 32 percent in both India and Indonesia worry about water shortages – both countries currently suffer from lack of fresh water supplies. India's Ganges River, which provides water to 500 million people, could potentially dry up by 2035 because of loss of glaciers caused by climate change.

Nearly half (49 percent) of Thais polled are worried about worsening health impacts due to climate change, the most of any country. Indonesians are the second most concerned about health impacts (41 percent). Indians are the least concerned of any country about worsening health impacts – just 19 percent say it is a worry.

People in India, home to some of the world's most biodiverse regions as well as large numbers of threatened species, are the most concerned among those polled when it comes to plant and animal extinction resulting from climate change (28 percent). Indonesians are the least concerned (14 percent), despite the thousands of plants and animals facing extinction in Indonesia's disappearing rainforests.

Food shortages resulting from climate change are the top concern of Filipinos. 32 percent expressed this concern, 11 percent more than the number of Filipinos who are worried about water stress. The second biggest numbers come from India, with 20 percent saying they are worried about food shortages. Other countries remain less concerned (no more than 12 percent).

Most worrisome effect from greenhouse gas emissions



2. Climate Views In Developing Asia - Country Case Studies

China



55 percent of Chinese polled believe the US will be the most difficult country to get into a climate change agreement at the Copenhagen Climate Summit in December. India and China were the second most populous picks, with 38 percent saying that India will be the biggest stumbling block to an agreement, and 36 percent saying China itself will.

This is mainly because people in Hong Kong believe the Chinese government will be difficult to get into any agreement. When answers from Hong Kong are separated from mainland China's poll results, it is clear that more people in Hong Kong than in mainland China expect difficulties, 56 percent versus 29 percent.

Like majorities in other countries polled, the Chinese believe striking a deal in Copenhagen will have to be a joint effort between developed and developing countries. However, they see their own country as playing a particularly important role in forging an agreement. Most Chinese (71 percent) want their own country to lead the world in the fight against climate change, regardless of what other countries do and their historic responsibility.

Nearly just as many in China (69 percent) think rich developed countries should take a leading role due to their historic responsibilities and capability to act. Over half (60 percent) think that major developing countries should lead the way, primarily because of their rapidly increasing emissions.

Separated Hong Kong results show a slightly different picture, with just 64 percent agreeing that their own country should play a major role in reaching a climate change agreement. Hong Kongers see the main responsibility to lead lying with the rich developed countries (76 percent).

In terms of reaching an agreement in Copenhagen, 68 percent in China - more than in any other country, but in line with overall results - say that their country should engage positively, but not offer a blank check. They believe getting a deal is important, but it must also be a fair one that safeguards China's right to develop.

Just 24 percent, less than in any other country polled but Indonesia, say China should go even further and be flexible and compromise. Even fewer think so when

Hong Kong results are taken out, just 19 percent. However, only 8 percent of Chinese, the smallest percentage of all countries polled, say their country should not sign any agreement reached in Copenhagen.

Unlike other countries polled, where most think ending deforestation is the first action that should be taken to stabilize the climate, 45 percent of Chinese - more than any other country polled - think the first actions to be taken to stabilize the climate should come from the energy sector, in the form of increased uptake of renewable energy, implementation of energy efficiency standards, and a shift to less polluting modes of transport. Curbing deforestation to mitigate climate change is the second most popular action chosen, but lags far behind changes in the energy sector.

Meanwhile, more in China favor personal actions to tackle climate change than changes to agricultural practices, but neither route is very popular (17 versus 14 percent). Interestingly, when Hong Kong answers are separated the inverse is true in mainland China - more favor changes to agricultural practices, 17 percent in China versus just 9 percent in Hong Kong. On the flip-side, Hong Kongers are much more keen to make lifestyle changes to cope with climate change than mainland Chinese - a quarter polled in Hong Kong prefer this route, versus 14 percent in mainland China.

Nearly half of the Chinese polled (40 percent) are worried about water shortages on the back of unfolding climate change impacts. Meanwhile, close to a third (31 percent) fear worsening health conditions. Hong Kongers feel slightly different than mainland Chinese in this respect, and are a bit more worried about health impacts, 35 percent versus 29 percent. They are also less worried about water stress, with just 31 percent expressing this concern, versus 43 percent of mainland Chinese.

Plant and animal extinction and, even less so, food shortages don't worry the Chinese as much as the aforementioned issues. Interestingly, when Hong Kong answers are separated from those of mainland Chinese within these two categories, worries spike inversely. 17 percent of mainland Chinese polled worry about plant and animal extinction (versus 15 percent in Hong Kong). And strikingly, nearly 20 percent in Hong Kong fear food shortages, versus just 10 percent in mainland China.

India

The majority of Indians (55 percent) want their own leader – Prime Minister Manmohan Singh – to lead the global effort and take decisive actions to tackle climate change. However, nearly 40 percent are still in favor of Barack Obama taking a stand – other world leaders barely factored in, with no one garnering more than 1 percent in favor.

Similar to others polled, nearly 30 percent of Indians say Japan will be a difficult to get into any agreement in Copenhagen, while a quarter say that the US will be challenging. India and China must also play constructive roles towards getting a deal, with 53 percent of Indians saying a lot depends on China, and 35 percent highlighting the importance of India's role in the negotiations.

Interestingly, between 19 and 32 percent polled in other countries say South Africa will be difficult to get into a climate change agreement, but South Africa was the least likely to be named as a challenger by Indians. Just 8 percent believe that South Africa will pose difficulties to reaching an agreement.

Fewer in India than anywhere else polled think the UK will present difficulties, with just 12 percent saying so, versus the regional average of 17 percent. Aside from Filipinos, Indians were most apt to say Germany would be a problem. 23 percent expressed this concern, whereas just 16 percent regionally think Germany will be a problem.

Of all Asians polled, Indians show the strongest support for all parties to show decisive leadership in order to get a new global deal. 93 percent place the onus for climate action on their own country. Nearly 90% demand leadership from rich developed countries, and a similar amount agree that major developing countries also have a role to play.

When asked what position they would like to see their government take in Copenhagen, responses in India mirrored those in other countries. The majority (53 percent) agrees with the moderate statement that their government should engage positively, but not agree to anything that will inhibit the country's economic development. However, 32 percent asked their country to do more, urging the government to be flexible and to compromise – compared to just 22 percent in Indonesia, and 24 percent in China. Only 15 percent say their country should not sign up for any deal offered because it is bound to be ineffectual.

The majority in India, where forests cover a little over one-fifth of the country's geographic area, favours enhanced action on afforestation as a major action to address climate change (54 percent). Conservation of forest resources is rooted within the socio-cultural ethos of the people and it is not surprising that a majority of the Indian respondents felt the importance of afforestation in creating sinks for India's emission.

Other actions were less favoured. Second to deforestation, Indians feel that present agricultural practices should be changed to curb climate change – 18 percent supported agricultural reforms to be a key strategy. Energy sector reforms to address climate change concerns are supported by 16 percent of the respondents who believe that increased share and production of renewable energy, implementation of energy efficiency standards, shift to less polluting methods of transport should be the first steps towards stabilizing the climate. Since several of these initiatives are already being undertaken by the Indian government, there seems to be a recognition among the Indian respondents of the measures underway and that they could be effective in stabilizing emissions.

Indians are the least likely of any nation polled to agree that changing lifestyle and consumption patterns are the first actions that should be taken to stabilize the climate. Just 11 percent say this course of action should be taken, whereas 17 percent think so regionally.

Like those polled in other countries, Indians are most worried about water shortages resulting from climate change. 32 percent say this is a top concern, which is exactly in line with the regional average. India suffers from frequent droughts, and the Ganges River, which provides water to 500 million people, could potentially dry up by 2035 because of loss of glaciers caused by climate change.

Second to water shortages, Indians fear plant and animal extinction. 28 percent polled – nearly 10 percent more than in any other country – worry about plant and animal extinction ahead of any other climate change impact. India is home to some of the world's most biodiverse regions as well as large numbers of threatened species.

Indians are equally concerned about food shortages and worsening health conditions resulting from climate change, with 20 percent and 19 percent, respectively, expressing this as their top concern. But Indians are the least worried of any others polled about worsening health conditions, with a result 12 percent below the regional average.

Indonesia



For Indonesians it's all about their President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, with 58 percent saying that he should lead the global effort and take decisive actions to tackle climate change. Similar to people in India, Indonesians put all their hopes on their own leader and the American President (34 percent). World leaders from other countries get a maximum of 2 percent, so they are apparently not seen as relevant, whether they are called Angela Merkel or Hu Jintao.

Most Indonesians say the US and China will be the biggest stumbling blocks to reaching a climate change agreement in Copenhagen, which reflects regional polling results. 37 percent say the United States will be the biggest problem, while 34 percent believe China will (9 percent less than the regional average).

Nearly the same number of people polled believes India and Russia will present a problem to reaching a climate change agreement in Copenhagen (26 versus 27 percent, respectively). Fewer Indonesians believe India will be problematic than think so regionally (7 percent less).

Compared to the rest of developing Asia, more in Indonesia believe that Mexico, France and Canada will be major stumbling blocks to reaching a climate change agreement in Copenhagen. Nearly 20 percent polled in Indonesia say Mexico will be a problem, more than in any other country polled.

Majorities in Indonesia say that all parties – rich developed countries, major developing countries, and their own country – should act as leaders in the fight against climate change, which is in line with regional polling results. Most Indonesians (78 percent) want their own government to lead, and they are the second most likely country among those polled to say that rich developed countries should take the lead (72 percent). The least number polled (but still a majority at 57 percent) think major developing countries should be the ones to step up to the plate.

When asked what position they would like to see their government take in Copenhagen, responses in Indonesia reflected those of other countries. The majority (66 percent) agrees that their government should engage positively, but not sign anything that will inhibit the country's economic development. 22 percent are in favor of going a step further; supporting the statement that Indonesia should be flexible and compromise in order to reach an agreement. Still this percentage is fewer than in any other country but China. 12 percent in Indonesia want no deal at all to be signed.

Indonesia has the fastest deforestation rate of any country in the world, and with deforestation taken into account Indonesia could be considered the world's third-largest emitter of greenhouse gases, according to a World Bank report. Polling results reflect this. 45 percent of Indonesians, a larger percentage than anywhere but India, say ending deforestation is the first action that should be taken to tackle climate change.

Interestingly, Indonesia is the only other country besides the Philippines in which changing lifestyles and consumption patterns is the second most popular pick of the various priority actions. 21 percent of Indonesians polled are in favor of taking personal actions to address climate change. Although almost nearly as many (20 percent) chose reforms to the energy sector, this is 8 percent less than the regional average. Only 14 percent want actions within the agricultural sector to be prioritized in the fight against climate change.

Like those polled in other countries, Indonesians are most worried about health problems and water shortages resulting from climate change. 32 percent say the latter is a top concern, which is exactly in line with the regional average. 41 percent are worried about worsening health impacts on the back of climate change, more than anywhere else but Thailand, and 10 percent above the regional average. The fewest polled in Indonesia are concerned about food shortages and plant and animal extinction resulting from climate change. Indonesians are the least concerned (14 percent) by plant and animal extinction of all Asians polled, despite the thousands of plants and animals facing extinction in Indonesia's disappearing rainforests.

Philippines



85 percent of Filipinos polled believe US President Barack Obama should lead the charge against climate change, more than in any other country polled, and 32 percent above the regional average. No other government leader gets more than a 3 percent vote.

Unlike any other country polled, the largest percent of Filipinos polled (37 percent) say Russia will be the most difficult country to get into a climate change agreement in Copenhagen. This is 13 percent more than the regional average. The second largest number of Filipinos (35 percent) says China will be the most difficult country, 8 percent less than say so regionally.

Interestingly, just 18 percent of Filipinos polled think the US will be an obstacle to reaching an agreement, less than any other country by a significant percentage and 20 percent less than the regional average.

Filipinos are more apt than anyone else polled to say South Africa will be the most difficult country to get into a climate change agreement – 32 percent believe this to be the case, versus a regional average of 20 percent. Filipinos are also more likely to believe Germany will be a problem, 9 percent more than the regional average of 16 percent.

Majorities in the Philippines say that all parties – rich developed countries, major developing countries and their own country – should be leaders in the fight against climate change. 75 percent of Filipinos polled say their own country should lead the way, while 58 percent want rich developed countries to take charge, and 53 percent urge major developing countries to step up the plate. Far fewer Filipinos are in support of rich developed countries and major developing countries leading the fight against climate change than in other countries polled.

When asked what position they would like to see their government take in Copenhagen, similar to other countries, a near majority of Filipinos (45 percent) say they want their government to engage positively but not agree to anything that will inhibit their country's economic development. But much unlike other countries, where only small percentages want their countries to go a step further and take a more progressive position based on flexibility and compromise, 41 percent of Filipinos polled are in favor of such a stance, 12 percent more than the regional average.

Interestingly, despite the large percentage of Filipinos in favor of flexibility and compromise, more Filipinos also say no deal should be signed at all than in any other country but India. 14 percent of Filipinos polled say they don't want their country to sign because any deal will be bad.

Nearly 40 percent of Filipinos polled say ending deforestation should be the first action taken to stabilize climate change, making it the most popular pick. Strikingly, the second most popular pick among actions to end climate change in the Philippines is changing lifestyle and consumption patterns. 26 percent of Filipinos polled, more than in any other country, are in favor of taking personal actions to stabilize the climate.

21 percent want changes in the energy sector, such as increased uptake of renewable energy, implementation of energy efficiency standards and a shift to less polluting methods of transport as a first step towards stabilizing the climate, which is 7 percent less than the regional average. 15 percent would like to see changes made to the agricultural sector (just 1 percent less than the regional average).

32 percent of those polled in the Philippines are concerned about food shortages, more than in any other country, and 15 percent above the regional average. Meanwhile 27 percent of Filipinos fear worsening health conditions stemming from climate change. Just 21 percent are worried about water shortages, fewer than in any other country polled, whereas 19 percent of Filipinos polled fear plant and animal extinction on the back of climate change, which is more than in any other country but India.

Thailand



The majority of Thais polled (56 percent) want US President Barack Obama to lead the global effort and take decisive action to tackle climate change. Hu Jintao comes in a distant second, with 11 percent saying the Chinese leader should head up the fight against climate change.

Thailand is the only country that factors in other Western leaders in the fight against climate change, if just by a small percent; for example Prime Minister Gordon Brown of the UK, Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd or Prime Minister Stephen Harper of Canada (each 4 percent).

Similar to regional results, the vast majority of Thais polled say China and the US will be the most difficult countries to get into a climate change agreement in Copenhagen. A majority of Thais (54 percent), more than in any other country polled, say China will present the greatest difficulties, and a near majority (48 percent) says the US will.

As is the case with other countries polled, majorities in Thailand say that all parties – rich developed countries, major developing countries and their own country – should be leaders in the fight against climate change. 64 percent of Thais polled think both their own country and rich developed countries should take the lead. Thais are the least likely of all polled to put their own country first, with a tally that is 15 percent less than the regional average. 56 percent in Thailand think major developing countries should be leaders in the fight against climate change, far below the regional average of 68 percent.

When asked what position they would like to see their government take in Copenhagen, similar to other countries, the majority of Thais (55 percent) say they want their government to engage positively, but not agree to anything that will inhibit their country's economic development. 34 percent of Thais polled say they want their government to do more, by being flexible and compromising (5 percent above the regional average). 10 percent don't want their government to sign any deal, less than in any other country but China.

31 percent of Thais polled say that ending deforestation should be the first action taken to stabilize the climate. This is the most popular pick of priority actions to be taken among Thais. However, fewer Thais than in any other country but China agree that ending deforestation should be the first course of action. Nearly just as many Thais (30 percent) want actions to be taken in the energy sector, such as

increased uptake of renewable energy, implementation of energy efficiency standards and a shift to less polluting methods of transport.

Almost the same percentages of Thais are in favor of changing lifestyle and consumption patterns to curb climate change as are in favor of making changes to the agricultural sector. 20 percent of Thais polled say personal actions should take priority, while 19 percent say changes to the agricultural sector should.

Nearly half of all Thais polled (49 percent), and more than in any other country, are most worried about worsening health conditions as a result of climate change. 23 percent of Thais fear water shortages, less than in any other country polled but the Philippines, and 9 percent below the regional average. 17 percent of Thais fear plant and animal extinction stemming from climate change. Interestingly, just 10 percent, a smaller percentage than in any other country polled, say food shortages are their number one concern.

Appendix

Questionnaire as used in the Synovate AsiaBUS

Introduction: We would like to ask you some questions on climate change and would like to get your opinion on the matter.

(ASK ALL) (M/C) (Read out)

- 1) Climate change is mainly a result of greenhouse gas emissions made by developed countries over the past 150 years. However, developing countries are catching up quickly and see their levels of emissions rise.

In your opinion, who should be leading the world in the fight against climate change? Select all that apply. (Interviewer note: Record 1st mention, then others) (ROTATE STATEMENTS)

- a) Rich developed countries: Because they are historically responsible for most greenhouse gas emissions and at the same time most capable of reducing them.
- b) Major developing countries: Because their rapidly increasing emissions are adding more to the current state of pollution and they must switch from a dirty to a clean development model.
- c) My country's government: Regardless of what other countries do and their historical responsibility, I want my government to take action and show leadership to reduce the risk from climate change for my country.
- d) None of the above (Do not prompt)
- e) Don't know/Refused (Do not prompt)

(ASK ALL) (S/C) (Read out)

- 2) The United Nations will have a major conference in Copenhagen this December to agree a new global treaty to stop climate change.

Which of the following positions do you want your government to take at the conference? (Single choice) (ROTATE STATEMENTS)

- a) Be flexible and compromise: Getting a deal is important, so this is not the time to be obstructionist. I really want my country to be a leader and think we can afford to give a bit more.

- b) Engage positively, but not offer a blank cheque: Because getting a deal is important, but it must also be a fair one, in that it safeguards my country's right to develop.
- c) Do not sign up: Because any deal will be a bad deal. I doubt that the conference can result in an agreement that protects my country and the world from climate change.
- d) None of the above (Do not prompt)
- e) Don't know/Refused (Do not prompt)

(ASK ALL) (S/C) (Read out)

- 3) Scientists say there is an urgent need for quick and deep emission reductions to stabilize the climate. In your opinion, which of the following actions to cut emission should be taken first? (single choice).

- a) The energy sector: E.g. increase the uptake of renewable energy, implement energy efficiency standards and shift to less polluting modes of transport.
- b) Deforestation: E.g. end net deforestation worldwide through forest protection, ensure responsible forest management, reduce the impacts from agriculture, and halt negative subsidies, policies and practices.
- c) The agricultural sector: E.g. introduce farming methods that are less chemical intensive, ensure better fertiliser use, reduce burning of biomass, and improve rice management.
- d) Changing lifestyles and consumption patterns: E.g. adopt climate-friendly diets, limit transport demand, and reduce the use of unnecessary electronic appliances.
- e) None of the above (Do not prompt)
- f) Don't know/Refused (Do not prompt)

(ASK ALL) (M/C) (Read out)

- 4) In your opinion, which of the following countries will be the most difficult to get into an agreement at the conference in Copenhagen? Please select 3 countries. (ROTATE STATEMENTS)

- b) Brazil
- c) Canada
- d) China

- e) France
- f) Germany
- g) India
- h) Italy
- i) Japan
- j) Mexico
- k) Russia
- l) South Africa
- m) United Kingdom
- n) United States
- o) Others (not specified)
- p) None of the above (Do not prompt)
- q) Don't know/Refused (Do not prompt)

(ASK ALL) (S/C) (Read out)

5) A United Nations panel of the world's leading climate scientists - the IPCC - analyzed the range of effects expected as a result of greenhouse gas emissions. Which one of these effects worries you the most? (single choice) (ROTATE STATEMENTS)

- a) Water shortage: Over the coming decades, melt-water supplies stored in glaciers and snow cover in major mountain ranges are projected to decline, causing water shortages for more than 1 billion people.
- b) Plant and animal extinction: About 20 to 30% of all species assessed so far are likely to face an increased risk of extinction if global average temperatures rise more than 1.5 - 2.5°C against pre-industrial levels.
- c) Food shortage: In some places, even small local temperature rise of between 1 and 2°C can increase the risk of hunger due to diminished crop productivity and increased frequency of droughts and floods.
- d) Worsening health conditions: millions of people around the world will be harmed by increases in malnutrition and by severe impacts from heat waves, floods, storms, fires, droughts and diseases.
- e) None of the above (Do not prompt)
- f) Don't know?Refused (Do not prompt)

(ASK ALL) (S/C) (Read out)

6) In your opinion, which state leader should lead the global effort and take decisive actions to tackle climate change? (Single choice) (ROTATE STATEMENTS)

- a) Barack Obama (United States)
- b) Hu Jintao (China)
- c) Manmohan Singh (India)
- d) Angela Merkel (Germany)
- e) Taro Aso (Japan)
- f) Gordon Brown (United Kingdom)
- g) Dimitry Medvedev (Russia)
- h) Nicolas Sarkozy (France)
- i) Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono (Indonesia)
- j) Kevin Rudd (Australia)
- k) Silvio Berlusconi (Italy)
- l) Stephen Harper (Canada)
- m) Lula da Silva (Brazil)
- n) Others (not specified)
- o) None of the above (Do not prompt)
- p) Don't know/Refused (Do not prompt)