

# China starts long-awaited carbon trading scheme

## Nation eyes carbon neutrality by 2060

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

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China introduced its long-awaited emissions trading system on Friday, a key tool in its quest to drive down climate change-causing greenhouse gases and go carbon neutral by 2060.

The scheme was unveiled with China, the world's biggest carbon emitter, seeking to take a global leadership role on the climate crisis in the lead up to a crucial UN summit in November.

China has hailed it as laying the foundations for what would become the world's biggest carbon trading market, forcing thousands of Chinese companies to cut their pollution or face deep

economic hits.

Analysts and experts say much more needs to be done if China is to meet its environmental targets, which includes reaching peak emissions by 2030.

### Pollution caps

The scheme will set pollution caps for big-power businesses for the first time, and allows firms to buy the right to pollute from others with a lower carbon footprint.

The market will initially cover 2,162 big power producers that generate about a seventh of the global carbon emissions from burning fossil-fuels, according to data from the International Energy Agency.