

France & China Join Forces To Study Ocean-Based Climate Change

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November 6th, 2017 by [The Beam](#)

The space agencies of China and France recently announced that they are joining forces to launch a brand new satellite into orbit to improve the understanding and prediction of ocean storms and cyclones. The China-France Oceanography Satellite (CFOSAT), the first satellite to have been constructed as a partnership between the two countries, will have two radars fitted. The French agency is developing a radar system designed to measure the wavelength and direction of ocean waves, and the Chinese agency is developing a radar to measure the direction and strength of wind.



The main goal of the satellite is to increase the accuracy of forecasts for storms, hurricanes, and cyclones that originate in the oceans. In addition to this, the data gathered will also be used to help scientists better work out how the oceans and atmosphere interact, and to improve predictions about climate change.



Given the increasing number of severe [hurricanes](#), storms, and [extreme weather events](#) that we have been witnessing in recent times, it makes the announcement of this satellite timely and prescient. There is increasing evidence that shows the link between climate change and the [intensity of hurricanes](#), even though some mainstream media sometimes [fails to mention](#) this fact.

Originally planned as a collaboration between French and European space agencies, the close working relationship between France and China that has been developing over the past ten years led the agencies to decide to form this new partnership instead. The two countries have also acknowledged that there is a political component involved. The satellite will be launched into orbit in the second half of 2018 via a rocket in China's 'Long March' program.

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About the Author

The Beam **The Beam Magazine** is a quarterly print publication that takes a modern perspective on the energy transition. From Berlin we report about the people, companies and organizations that shape our sustainable energy future around the world. The team is headed by journalist Anne-Sophie Garrigou and designer Dimitris Gkikas. The Beam works with a network of experts and contributors to cover topics from technology to art, from policy to sustainability, from VCs to cleantech start ups. Our language is energy transition and that's spoken everywhere. The Beam is already being distributed in most countries in Europe, but also in Niger, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Japan, Chile and the United States. And this is just the beginning. So stay tuned for future development and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [Medium](#).

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Steve Hanley · 13 hours ago
Gonna need more efforts like this as the #FakePresident and his evil henchmen take steps to prevent NASA from providing such critical services. Another nail in the coffin of the late, great United States which is well on its way to becoming a third world country.
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Are Hansen → **Steve Hanley** · 9 hours ago
Essentially my thoughts, though you phrase it more dramatically :-). The rest of the world reacts (gleefully) to the US's abdication from cutting edge tech, Trump strangling NASA because he doesn't like the fact that it confirms human made climate changes. Very sad, NASA was *the* major space organisation. But like in everything else, China is sailing up as Number One. The slightly surprising and interesting thing is the collaboration between France and China, pointing the way to when the US is no longer the predominant economy of the world, and not necessarily the favoured partner in tech/commerce developments
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Are Hansen → **Are Hansen** · 9 hours ago
That said Steve, I think there is a lot more resilience and balances of power in the USA to dampen/remove Trumpism than you might understandably feel at this dark moment of American history. There is still a lot of very talented skilled professionals of all kinds in your huge country. = hope!
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Stoli Cat → **Are Hansen** · 8 hours ago
All hope is not lost yet, thank you. (-: China is big and doing better than ever, but they still have a lot of serious problems. I bet most people would still rather live in the US than China
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Stoli Cat · 8 hours ago
I wish CT would stop using the George Bush era term of "climate change" which was deliberately chosen because it sounds less specific and threatening. "Global warming" people understand and it's technically more accurate.
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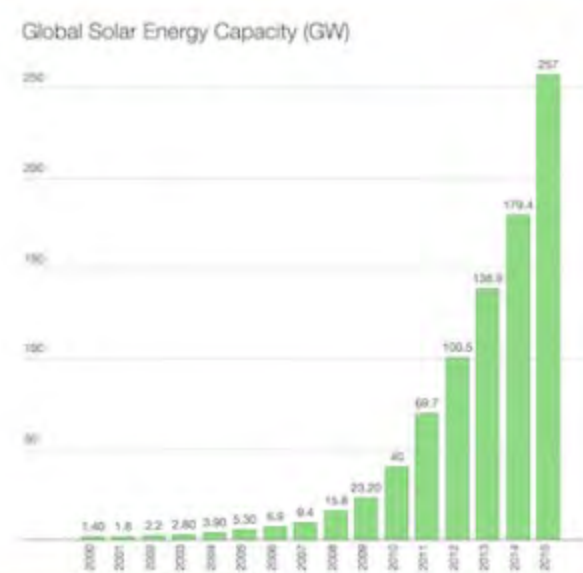


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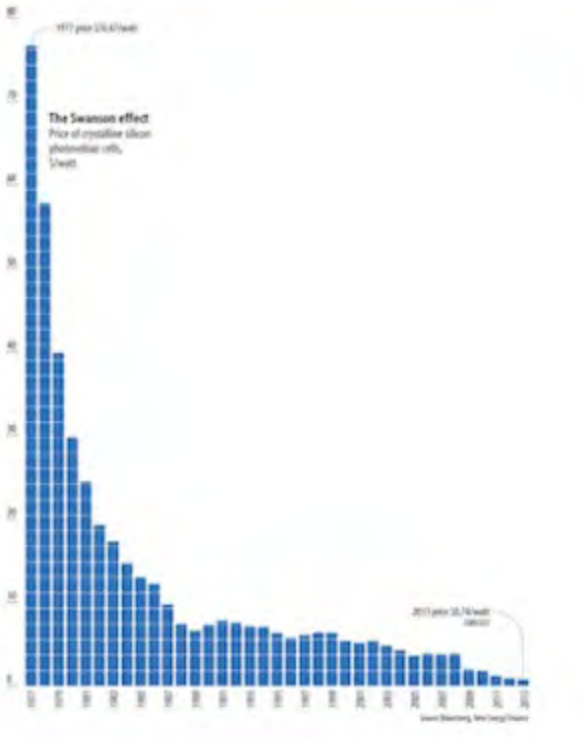
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