



Brighter Green

Equity. Sustainability. Rights.™

Welcome to Brighter Green's April 2011 newsletter. Thanks for your interest in our work.

Food Policy and Equity Program: Policy Papers and Policy Briefs Available

Brighter Green's [comprehensive documentation](#) on the globalization of industrial animal agriculture and climate change in four countries—Brazil, China, Ethiopia, and India—is now available. The three policy papers (India will be out soon) and four policy briefs form the foundation of our [Food Policy and Equity](#) Program. The completed studies also explore additional environmental, food security, equity, livelihood, and animal welfare impacts.

Food Policy and Equity Program: Videos

We've produced four short videos exploring the main concepts of the policy papers for Brazil, China, Ethiopia, and India. Check them out [here](#). Translations to come: Portuguese and Amharic language versions of the Brazil and Ethiopia videos will be available soon.

Brighter Green in the Classroom

This semester, Mia MacDonald is teaching a senior "capstone" seminar, "Animal Product-Based Diets and Climate Change," in New York University's Environmental Studies department. Students are developing policy proposals and a public education campaign and toolkit for a New York City-wide "cool foods" initiative designed to be both practical and visionary.

The course draws on Brighter Green's research on the climate-effects of industrial animal production, as well as our participation in the [Footprint NYC Alliance](#). Brighter Green's policy paper, [Skillful Means: the Challenges of China's Encounter with Factory Farming](#) (PDF), was used by [Jane Zawadowski](#), an American teacher, in her English and environmental studies class at Xihua University in China's Sichuan province. Mia also spoke about the climate impacts of animal agriculture in January at a conference for New York public school teachers. Click



Brighter Green In China

Brighter Green Executive Director Mia MacDonald traveled to China at the end of March for a series of presentations in Beijing and Shanghai on the role of the livestock sector in climate change, the impacts of industrial animal agriculture in the U.S., and China's expanding production and consumption of animal

products.

Her first talk was at the day-long *Beijing 2011—Summit Forum on Science and Technology for a Carbon Neutral Society* at the [Chinese Academy of Social Sciences](#) (CASS), where she spoke alongside Chinese experts on low-carbon development, as well as international colleagues [Dr. Robert Goodland](#), former chief environmental advisor at the World Bank, and Gerry Wedderburn-Bishop, former principal scientist for the Queensland government in Australia. Click [here](#) for a news article about the event from a Chinese financial daily newspaper (translated).

Mia also spoke to policy-makers, academics, students, and municipal government officials at the Shanghai Academies of [Social](#) and [Environmental](#) Sciences, and at the [Beijing Institute of Technology](#). Stay tuned to Brighter Green's [website](#) and [Facebook](#) page for more news from the China trip and next steps.

Policy Research in Translation

In an effort to make its country studies on climate change and the globalization of animal agriculture more broadly accessible, Brighter Green has published an [updated Chinese translation](#) of *Skillful Means* (PDF), and a [Chinese translation of the China policy brief](#) (PDF). Mia shared these with participants at the presentations she made in China, as well as with many other Chinese institutions and individuals. We've also translated our [Brazil policy brief into Portuguese](#) (PDF) and an Amharic translation of the Ethiopia policy brief will be available soon.

East African Girls' Leadership Initiative

[here](#) for a PDF of her presentation.

Brighter Green Welcomes New Interns

Brighter Green is pleased to welcome two new interns this semester:

[Hannah Foster](#) is a senior at New York University, majoring in environmental studies with a minor in politics. Hannah writes about environmental justice, climate change, and conservation ethics, and hopes to move to Ecuador to pursue a career in environmental policy after graduation.

[Caroline Wimberly](#) is a 2007 art history major from Duke University and a graduate of the French Culinary Institute. She is interested in animal welfare, sustainable agricultural practices, and fair food pricing.

Coming soon. . .

Updates about Brighter Green's work on green energy and indigenous communities in East Africa, nature's rights, and a new video on India's cows and the climate.

We'd Welcome Your Support



We're a small non-profit, committed to low overheads and concrete outcomes. Please consider making a [tax-deductible donation](#) to support Brighter Green's work. Donations can also be made by check or money order. Our mailing address is 165 Court Street, #171, Brooklyn, NY 11201, USA. Thank you!



The 10 participating girls from Brighter Green's collaborative [Girls' Education, Leadership, and Rights Training Initiative](#) attended a human rights workshop in Arusha, Tanzania in December 2010. For a workshop summary, click [here](#). We are currently seeking funds for the girls as they prepare to enter the second term of the 2011 academic year in May. The cost of each girl's needs for the term (including tuition, school supplies, transportation, and emergency medical care) is about \$500, although we welcome donations in any amount. Our partner organization, [Tribal Link Foundation](#), has set up a [Facebook](#) page where you can easily make a [tax-deductible donation](#) to support the program. You can read about each of the 10 girls, watch video updates, and learn more about the program [here](#).



Cancun Climate Conference Review

Executive Director Mia MacDonald, and Associates Justine Simon and Sangamithra Iyer attended the 2010 [United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change](#) conference in Cancún, Mexico from November 29–December 10. Brighter Green sponsored two panels at non-governmental forums in Cancún to shed light on the global reach and impacts

of intensive animal agriculture, and [shared research and policy recommendations](#) from our Brazil, China, Ethiopia, and India papers. Click [here](#) to read Brighter Green's blogs from the conference, and Mia MacDonald's [article](#) for *The Huffington Post* on why the climate effects of animal agriculture should have been taken seriously in Cancún.

Our Hen House Interviews Mia MacDonald

In March, [Our Hen House](#) interviewed Mia MacDonald about Brighter Green's initiatives. Click [here](#) to listen to the podcast.

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