

# Russia's fires cause "brown cloud," may hit Arctic

Reuters

OSLO (Reuters) - Smoke from forest fires smothering Moscow adds to health problems of "brown clouds" from Asia to the Amazon and Russian soot may stoke global warming by hastening a thaw of Arctic ice, environmental experts say.

"Health effects of such clouds are huge," said Veerabhadran Ramanathan, chair of a U.N. Environment Programme (UNEP) study of "brown clouds" blamed for dimming sunlight in cities such as Beijing or New Delhi and hitting crop growth in Asia.

[SOURCE](#) [1]

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<http://www.chem.info/news/2010/08/russias-fires-cause-brown-cloud-may-hit-arctic>

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[1] <http://feeds.reuters.com/~r/reuters/environment/~3/-iecdhfrk-Y/idUSTRE6792IW20100810>