

FINANCIALS TO HELP DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ASSESS AND ACCESS CLIMATE CHANGE PROTECTION

Insurers and banks pledge to help

The Insurance Development Forum (IDF) aims to help V20 countries (see below) understand and assess the risks they face, while increasing their access to insurance.

Meanwhile, nine banks, including Citigroup, UBS and the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China, have agreed to use a tool in their lending portfolios to account for how the management of natural resources could affect business operations. [READ MORE](#)

@SICMGMT TWEET OF THE WEEK

How do you tell if your asset manager is taking ESG seriously? Has ESG morphed into a box-ticking exercise? [Http://www.investmentweek.co.uk/2462437](http://www.investmentweek.co.uk/2462437)

INFOGRAPHIC OF THE WEEK

The original vulnerable 20 or "V20" is a group of Finance Ministers from countries most vulnerable to climate change. Currently the group has 43 members.



Source: v-20.org

WILL G20 PHASE OUT FOSSIL FUEL SUBSIDIES?

Energy ministers from the G20 have come under pressure to agree on a deadline to phase out subsidies on fossil fuels. The G20 is being attacked from all sides. Over 200 NGOs are putting pressure on the group, urging the

G20 to "end years of fruitless talks and follow the lead of the Group of Seven industrialized nations by setting a date for the end of subsidies on coal, gas and oil."

[READ MORE](#)

The above research materials are for informational purposes only. They are not an offer or solicitation for any security or investment product managed by SICM and should not be construed as investment advice. Investment strategies implemented by SICM on behalf of its clients may or may not trade or hold positions in the securities referred to above. Further, investment accounts managed by SICM may or may not employ strategies based on or related to the above research.

THIS WEEK IN NUMBERS

218

billion US Dollars is spent on growing, processing, transporting and disposing of foods which are left uneaten

100

million US Dollars were directed to political lobbying by US coal-mining companies in the decade before bankruptcy

87

percent of CEOs say the UN SDGs are an opportunity to rethink sustainable strategies

72

million MW of US power in April was generated from coal-fired plants, the lowest monthly total since 1978

50

percent of their energy from clean sources by 2025 is planned by Canada, Mexico and the US

15.3

billion US Dollars is the deal signed between VW and US prosecutors, although approval by a federal judge is still required

11.6

million Congolese are to be vaccinated against yellow fever from 20 July

4.5

million premature deaths from outdoor air pollution are forecasted by 2040, according to the IEA

BOARD DIVERSITY DISCLOSURES MAY BE SET FOR CHANGE

The SEC has released a draft ruling which would require firms to reveal [board diversity](#). SEC Chairwoman Mary Jo White has not specified what information the SEC would require but said that “the low level of board diversity in the United States is unacceptable.”

We [noted](#) last month that new research has found that there actually hasn't been

much progress on diversity at the board and executive levels.

Meanwhile, the SEC also approved a rule requiring companies to state publicly starting in 2018 how much they [pay governments](#) in taxes, royalties and other types of fees for exploration, extraction and other activities.

WHAT WE'RE WATCHING...

EU pensions funds will have to consider ESG factors where relevant. Under the Institutions for Occupational Retirement Provision (IORP), pension funds in the European Union will have to assess climate change and social risks under a revision to the existing directive. [READ MORE](#)

STUDY FINDS A DECOUPLING OF ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE AND EMISSION OUTPUT

A new [report](#) is demonstrating the decoupling of economic performance and emissions output – meaning that companies are growing their businesses while managing their emissions at the same time. Tim Nixon,

managing editor of sustainability for Thomson Reuters, noted “Organizations recognize sustainable business growth is central to mitigating risk and driving top and bottom line performance.” [READ MORE](#)

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

A 3,000-passenger cruise ship produces 21,000 gallons of sewage waste a day. Sometimes it's treated before being pumped into the sea.. but still...

[READ MORE](#)

DID YOU SEE...?

In 2013 new regulations that required enhanced disclosure in remuneration reports were enacted in the UK. Are they working? A new [paper](#) examines the subsequent effect of mandated disclosure on executive remuneration and firm performance.

WHAT WE'RE READING

(A double issue for the long weekend)



[Investing in Conservation: An assessment of an Emerging Market to Help Save the Planet](#)
June 2016



[Oxfam's survey of Hang Seng Index constituents' ESG disclosures](#)
June 2016