


ACTIVIST SHAREHOLDERS PAUSE FOR BREATH?

Shareholder activists are showing signs of slowing down after launching fewer campaigns than usual this year. A survey of 35 prominent U.S. activist investors [tracked by Bloomberg](#) showed that "there have been 35 new campaigns this year through July. That's down

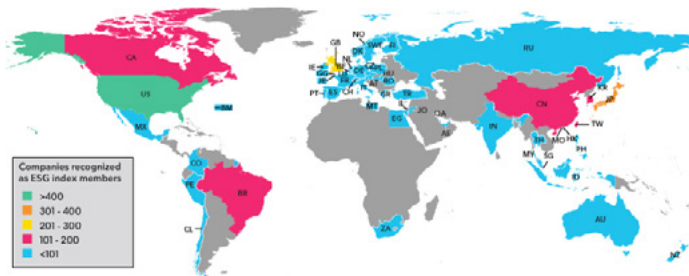
from 61 in 2015 and the lowest level since 2012." However, in Japan the activists may be starting rather than pausing. Bucking the trend of limited scrutiny, activist investors have begun to "kick the tires" at Japanese corporations and short sellers are [beginning to profit](#).

@SICMGMT TWEET OF THE WEEK

 If peak oil arrives, investors will need to get smarter <https://www.ft.com/content/060eab0a-62f5-11e6-8310-ecf0bddad227> ... via @FT

INFOGRAPHIC OF THE WEEK

ESG companies recognized: ESG index members on the rise.



Source: Bloomberg, Bloomberg Briefs.com

AND THE WINNER'S ARE...

... food and beverage companies. UK food and beverage companies dilute Government sugar plans. The Government's program will cut sugar in products by 2020, but it will only be voluntary.

EMPTYING OCEANS AROUND CHINA

China has resorted to illegally fishing in Indonesian waters. Why? Because overfishing and pollution have so depleted China's own fishery resources that in some Chinese seas there

are "virtually no fish" left." This is a scary prospect alone, even scarier when you consider that China accounted for 35 percent of the world's seafood consumption in 2015. [READ MORE](#)

THIS WEEK IN NUMBERS

438,000

people were killed by malaria in 2015

20400

is the ISO number for the first international standard for sustainable procurement from the International Organization for Standardization

100

most sustainable corporations in the world as ranked by [Corporate Knights](#)

99

percent of Polish wind turbine projects have been affected by a new regulation requiring greater distance from residential areas

77

suggestions are included in the 'Commonsense principles of corporate governance' report

68

percent of women have experienced sexist behavior in the asset management industry according to FTfm

35

US Dollars per tonne is the premium for sustainable palm oil over ordinary palm oil

2.5

million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions is the reduction target set by the Norwegian Oil & Gas Association in the decade to 2030

U.S. BOARDS BECOMING LESS DIVERSE

Shareholders have been raising the issue of board diversity more and more in recent years. High profile corporate crisis – like the e-coli outbreaks at [Chipotle](#) – raised the stakes even higher. Now, many activists are pointing to the fact that most directors are older white males. One group notes a distinct

correlation between the "position of many of Chipotle's board members — the average tenure of Chipotle's current directors is 13 years, five years more than the US average — and a "slow, superficial and unconvincing" response." [READ MORE](#) (subscription required)

DID YOU SEE...?

[Moody's](#) has assessed its first US municipal green bond. It rated a note issued by Upper Mohawk Valley Regional Water Finance Authority (the organization got the highest rating on Moody's scale). [READ MORE](#) (subscription required)

TERM OF THE WEEK

[NTDs](#). Or Neglected Tropical Diseases. They are a group of communicable diseases that are found in tropical and subtropical conditions in 149 countries and affect more than one billion people, (not to mention costing developing economies billions of dollars every year). [READ MORE](#)

COAL PRICES: RECOVERY IN AUSTRALIA?

Coal prices are recovering in Australia. Though many have written about coal's "terminal decline", it is now considered one of the hottest commodities in Australia. Goldman Sachs said this week that "restrictions on

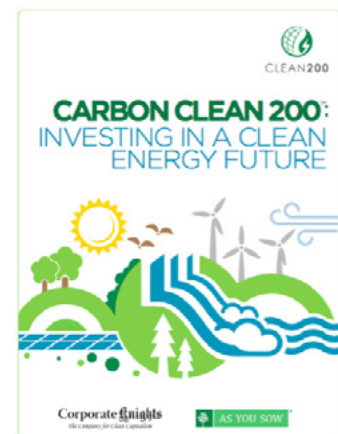
domestic production by Chinese regulators had turned coal 'into one of the [best performing commodities](#) so far this year.'" [READ MORE](#)

WHAT WE'RE WATCHING

S&P Global Indices UK (indirect subsidiary of S&P Dow Jones Indices) [buys Trucost](#) and officially enters the ESG rating agencies [market](#).

WHAT WE'RE READING

[Carbon Clean 200](#). Identifying those companies which are leaders in the clean energy economy



BELIEVE IT OR NOT

Think you're an adventurous traveler? This may soon move to the top of your list: Antarctica. Yes, a travel company is now offering "zero impact" adventure travel to Antarctica* to see penguins, snowy mountains, and glaciers. Sign us up! (*not a sponsored post!) [READ MORE](#)