

GLOBAL INEQUALITY: BELIEVE IT OR NOT, IT'S DECLINING

A new [study](#) from the [World Bank](#) finds that extreme poverty across the world continues to fall despite a slow global economy. According to the study, nearly 800 million people lived on less than USD 1.90 a day in 2013. That is approximately 100 million fewer people living in

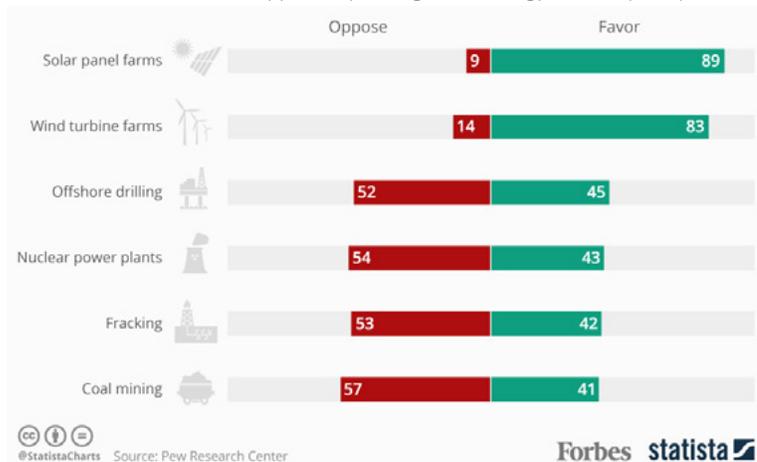
extreme poverty than in 2012. Furthermore, in 60 out of the 83 countries covered by the study, average incomes went up for people living in the bottom 40 percent of their countries between 2008 and 2013.

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INFOGRAPHIC OF THE WEEK

Fossil Fuels Are Falling Out of Favor In The U.S.

% of U.S. adults who favor / oppose expanding these energy sources (2016)



Source: [Forbes](#)

PARIS AGREEMENT GOES FROM RATIFICATION TO ENFORCEMENT

The global Paris Agreement on climate change – which outlines a shift away from fossil fuels this century – is set to be [ratified](#) by signatory nations this week. India approved it on Sunday, bringing the support up to [62 countries](#) responsible for 52 percent of emissions.

However, "the key question will be implementing the agreement. There's no legal enforcement of pledges," said Robert Watson, a British-American scientist and former head of the U.N.'s panel of climate experts.

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THIS WEEK IN NUMBERS

328,000

children attend schools in London where NO₂ concentrations exceed the legal and healthy limit, representing nearly 25% of all pupils in London

115,000

years ago the temperature of our planet reached the present high level

2020

is the date by which McDonald's Corp. plans to buy all of its coffee from sustainable sources

800

million people lived on less than US \$ 1.90 a day in 2013 according to the World Bank

200

days is the average holding period for a US share

90

percent of more than 200 Dutch pension funds surveyed have put in place a green investing policy, according to the Dutch regulator the DNB

30

percent of the world's fisheries are already overexploited or depleted, according to Conservation International

12

percent of executive positions for Europe's largest 620 companies are held by women

JAPAN FIGHTS FOR SHARE OF GREEN BOND MARKET

The Japanese government may introduce green bond guidelines. It appears a working group within the country's Ministry of the Environment will spend six months developing official guidelines for the green bonds. The

development fits into the context of a broader push into environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues in the country. [READ MORE](#) (subscription required)

FISHY NEWS OF THE WEEK

British scientists are looking into whether or not Cod fish have vocalizations with "regional dialects". Really. Why does this matter? Because if they are forced to migrate due to climate change, it may affect how they reproduce.

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QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“...Sustainable economic growth requires addressing climate change. Over the past five years, the notion of a trade-off between increasing growth and reducing emissions has been put to rest. America has cut energy-sector emissions by 6%, even as our economy has grown by 11%”

– Read President Obama's [open letter](#) in The Economist

WE'VE BEEN READING

Ratings agency Moody's has released a report saying [sustainability](#) is a way for asset managers to “stand out”. Report is available to [subscribers](#).

DID YOU SEE...?

The international aviation representatives agreed to a [CO₂ emissions reduction plan](#).

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR CLEAN INFRASTRUCTURE

The world is expected to invest USD 90 trillion on infrastructure in the next 15 years which is more than the present value of all existing infrastructure combined, according to a [report](#) from the Global Commission on the Economy and Climate. “We can invest the \$90 trillion

in the dirty unsustainable infrastructure of the past or leap forward into the clean and efficient infrastructure of the future,” the former president of Mexico, Felipe Calderon said

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BELIEVE IT OR NOT

The most likely predictor of having a solar panel is.... having a neighbor who has installed one. Income came in second, its predictive power only half as strong.

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