

INSIGHTS

For the Mainstream Investor

WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 13, 2017 EDITION 215



GREEN BOND MARCH

\$135bn this year?

To date, over US\$ 96 billion of **green** bonds have been issued this year, according to Bloomberg New Energy Finance (**BNEF**). BNEF forecasts another \$39 billion will be issued by the year-end. If accurate, this would be a 36% climb in issuance over 2016. The single largest issuer to date is Southern Company's (SO) Power subsidiary with \$3 billion issuance to date.

Companies are required to **guarantee** to allocate the proceeds to renewable energy generation projects. The use-of-proceed green bonds remain by far the most popular type of green bond but asset-level bond volumes are rising.

FEEDING THE WORLD

Global calories deficit by 2027

The **FAO** has publicized recent famines, caused by conflict, notably in Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan and Yemen. But what of the long-term picture as the global population continues to rise?

A **report** for the World Economic Forum proposes that by 2027 the world will be facing a significant calories deficit. The report encourages forecasters to look at the nutritional value of food rather than mass.

There are stark differences in the ability of **countries** to feed themselves. The USA was always top of the list, but has been surpassed by the Republic of Ireland, Austria and France. Bottom of the list are the Democratic Republic of Congo, Burundi and Madagascar.

THIS WEEK IN NUMBERS

3,400

single-use bottles are produced by Coca-Cola every second, according to Greenpeace

100

million plus US\$ has been spent by P&G to stop an appointment to its Board, claims Nelson Peltz

37

percent of Norway's car market comprises electric vehicles

36

flood-related disasters occurred in 24 states of the US in 2016

12

million people have been displaced in Syria, 7.7 million in Columbia and 4.7 million in Afghanistan

9.8

million people were employed in renewable energy around the world, says IRENA

5

million US\$ is to be paid to female executives at State Street Corp to settle allegations of gender pay discrimination

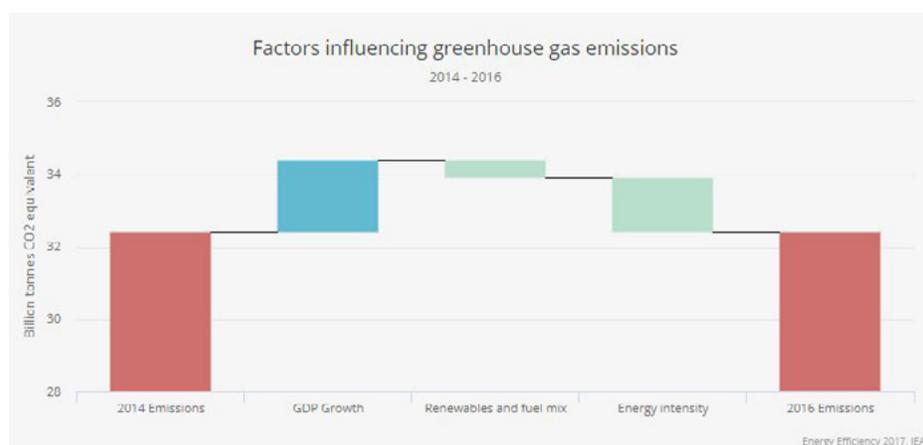
1.7

percent was the decline in US energy-related CO2 emissions in 2016, recorded the US EIA

1

glacier remains in Venezuela and this is expected to melt within 20 years

INFOGRAPHIC OF THE WEEK



Source: IEA, Energy Efficiency 2017

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OCEAN'S OXYGEN DECLINE

Alarming trend evident

A measure of the oceans' health is dissolved oxygen. [Analysis](#) by Georgia Institute of Technology demonstrates that this has been declining since the 1980s. It is well understood that rising water temperatures lead to lower oxygen levels – as warmer water is capable of holding less dissolved gas than colder water – but the data suggests that ocean oxygen is falling more rapidly than the rise in water temperature.

As oxygen levels decline, marine organisms can be affected leading to 'hypoxic events' whereby marine organisms are killed or displaced.

WE'RE WATCHING

Do you wish to see whether the meat you purchase was reared on [antibiotics](#)? In San Francisco, this may soon be possible as a city ordinance is likely to become law later this month. It will make antibiotic use in meat and poultry mandatory, via a city website.

GOOD NEWS

China has reaffirmed its [commitment](#) to meet its carbon intensity target that it agreed at the Paris Agreement. China's Chief Negotiator at the Agreement noted that the country may surpass its 40 to 45% carbon reduction target by 2020 and that China has already reduced its carbon intensity by 39% while maintaining economic growth.

GENDER PAY

Narrowing but persistent

In 2015, women earned 83% of what men earned, according to analysis by the [Pew Research Center](#). This is not dissimilar from the US Census [Bureau](#) which cites a female-to-male earnings ratio of 0.8 in 2015. Encouraging news is that the gender pay gap is narrowing among younger workers (25-34 years) showing a wage gap of 90. So why does the gap persist, despite employment legislation?

An analysis by Korn Ferry, a consultancy, shows that women earn 98% as much as men who do the same job for the same employer. So is it down to [women](#) holding less senior roles (e.g. senior executives) and women being concentrated in lower pay occupations? But some [countries](#), notably the Nordics, are dealing with this.

DID YOU SEE?

The European Parliament 'calls on governments and public and private financial institutions... to make an [ambitious commitment](#) to aligning lending and investment practices with the global average temperature target of well below 2 degrees C...and divesting from fossil fuels'. (Clause 33)

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

The winners of the [Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy](#) (2017).

READING LIST

MSCI



Bloomberg

Out of Whack: US CEO pay and long-term investment returns – MSCI

The Lawyer Who Beat Big Tobacco Takes On the Opioid Industry - Bloomberg

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

An international horse show in Finland is to be powered by burning horse manure. Now that's self sufficiency. [READ MORE](#)

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