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Good News

[Finpublica is pleased to share that it has been named a 2023-2024 Global Inclusive Growth Spark Grantee!](#) Awarded in partnership between the [Mastercard Center for Inclusive Growth](#) and [The Aspen Institute](#), the grant fuels the work of Aspen Global Leadership Network reimagining more inclusive economic futures for all.

Environmental

[E2 has put together a user-friendly map of U.S. clean energy projects announced since the passage of the Inflation Reduction Act.](#) The interactive map, which includes 250 major clean energy projects, can be filtered by state, project type, and sector.

Regulation and Reporting

UK-based bank Barclays has been barred from the Texas bond market for its failure to address requests for information regarding its ESG policies. In an announcement by Ken Paxton, the Texas Attorney General suggested that the bank may be a 'fossil fuel boycotter,' in violation of state law. Barclays is at least the third municipal bond underwriter to face a ban from the state due to its involvement in the Net-Zero Banking Alliance. The president and CEO of the Texas Association of Business has argued that this tightening of the municipal bond market has the serious potential to harm both Texas taxpayers and the state's business environment.

A coalition of business organizations sued California in a lawsuit in an attempt to block the state's two landmark corporate climate disclosure laws. Under these two laws, large companies doing business in California would be mandated to disclose their carbon footprint and climate-related financial risks, in addition to Scope 3 emissions produced in their value chains. Led by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and American Farm Bureau Federation, the group argued that SB 253 and SB261 would pressure companies to make costly, politically sensitive disclosures regarding operations. The complaint claims that the laws violate the First Amendment by compelling speech on a purportedly controversial issue and that California is acting as a national emissions regulator. Critics of the lawsuit argue that the plaintiffs are seeking to block transparency and are afraid of public learning how corporations are fueling climate change.

Investing

The U.S. Department of Energy introduced over \$250 million in investments toward projects and technologies to decarbonize the industrial sector. The funding breakdown includes \$171 million for 49 projects focused on GHG emission reductions and \$83 million in research and development targeting hard-to-decarbonize sectors (e.g., chemicals, steel, food).

The Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) has committed \$23 billion to support a range of decarbonization projects, technologies, and lower-carbon solutions. This investment aligns with the company's Net Zero by 2045 target and includes tripling renewable energy capacity, reducing greenhouse gas intensity, enhancing its carbon management platforms, and achieving near-zero methane emissions by 2030.

[Over half of individual investors are planning to increase sustainable investments during the next year, according to a survey of over 2,800 investors published by Morgan Stanley.](#) With interest in sustainable investing continuing to climb, the survey reflects that most investors believe that strong ESG practices can yield better long-term returns. Around 77% of individuals are interested in sustainable investing, even investors who are reportedly aware that their sustainable investments underperformed in the previous year, indicating a long-term investment horizon for sustainability-focused investors.

Resources & Membership

Finpublica's [membership portal](#) is live. If you are interested in joining a community of nearly 300 finance leaders focused on sustainable finance and ways to implement initiatives inside their organizations and across the industry, we invite you to apply.

If you would prefer not to receive this newsletter, please email awasserman@finpublica.org. Finpublica is a 501(c)(3) organization located in Hastings on Hudson, NY, 10706.