



FINPUBLICA

ESG NEWS YOU CAN USE

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Environmental

[The state of California is suing several major oil companies for allegedly covering up the correlation between fossil fuel production and climate change.](#) The state hopes to win an abatement fund that will pay for recovery efforts from future damage caused by man-made climate change.

Regulation and Reporting

The Taskforce on Nature-Related Financial Disclosures (TNFD) has issued its final reporting framework, which focuses on helping companies identify and mitigate their impact on nature. The TNFD views nature risk as a financial risk, with approximately \$44 trillion of global economic value moderately or highly dependent on natural systems. The TNFD recommendations are currently voluntary but can assist companies as regulations increasingly focus on nature and biodiversity. You can download a copy of the final recommendations **here.**

California Gov. Gavin Newsom announced plans to sign two major climate disclosure bills. The first bill, CA SB253, would require companies earning at least \$1 billion per year and doing business in the state to disclose their Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions. The second, CA SB261, would require companies with \$500 million in revenues who do business in California to communicate their climate-related financial risks.

The SEC adopted amendments to the Fund Names Rule, which will require mutual funds to ensure that at least 80% of their assets are consistent with their name. This expands the current rule to include funds incorporating one or more ESG factors.

The U.S. Treasury published nine voluntary principles that aim to establish a set of best practices and promote consistency and credibility for financial institutions as they make and pursue net zero commitments. The publication focuses on Scope 3 financed and facilitated greenhouse gas emissions, which comprise most financial firms' carbon footprints. Principles include focusing on limiting the increase in temperature to 1.5 °C, considering transition finance, establishing credible metrics, assessing client and portfolio company alignment, and aligning engagement practices to firms' commitments.

U.K. Prime Minister Rishi Sunak announced a delay on the ban on the sale of new gasoline and diesel cars from 2030 to 2035, citing high costs to average households. The delay has been criticized for creating uncertainty for the automotive industry.

Investing

[A Trump-appointed federal judge in Texas dismissed a case by certain red state attorney generals trying to overturn the Department of Labor's ESG rule](#), which allows retirement plan fiduciaries “to consider climate change and other environmental, social and governance factors when they select retirement investments and exercise shareholder rights, such as proxy voting.” In upholding the rule, the court noted that the DOL has long found that ESG factors may directly impact a retirement plan's value.

[HSBC Holdings announced plans to allocate \\$1 billion in financing to support climate-tech startup companies around the world](#). The bank plans to support a variety of sectors, including sustainable food and agriculture, carbon removal, EV charging, and battery storage.

[A McKinsey survey of chief investment officers found that investors are looking for companies to better explain how their ESG initiatives will impact performance and intrinsic value](#). More than 80% of the CIOs surveyed would be willing to pay a premium for companies that show a clear connection between their ESG efforts and financial performance.

Opportunities & Membership

Opportunity Finance Network (OFN), the leading national network of CDFIs, is looking to hire a Chief Investment Officer to lead its investment services business units and help build new partnerships, products, and investment approaches. To learn more click **[here](#)**.

Finpublica's **[membership portal](#)** is live. If you are interested in joining a community more than 200 finance leaders focused on sustainable finance and ways to implement initiatives inside their organizations and across the industry, we invite you to apply.

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