



Trends in ESG Investing

June 2021

Compiled by:

ESGspectrum.com

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Section 1

Analysis of ESG Investing News

During the month of June 2021, 4,000+ ESG news globally have been compiled by our research team, of which 200+ ESG Investing news are identified and analyzed in this trends report. Here, in this section, we have presented analysis as per various aspects for such global ESG Investing news.

1.1 Sub-topics with most ESG Investing news

Here, we have presented those ESG news sub-topics with most ESG Investing news globally. The below table shows that the maximum ESG Investing news worldwide during the month of June 2021 have taken place for the ESG Bonds topic (56%), followed far behind by the ESG Funds topic (20%).

News Topics	No. of News
ESG Bonds	120
ESG Funds	42
ESG ETF	18
ESG Indexes	18
ESG Climate Fund	5
ESG Clean Energy Fund	3
ESG Fund Portfolio Expansion/ Divestment	3
ESG Securities and Derivatives	2
ESG Equity Funds	1
ESG Investing Framework	1
ESG Mutual Funds	1
Grand Total	214

1.4 Market capitalization groups with most ESG Investing news

Here, we have presented those market capitalization groups with most ESG Investing news globally.

It can be seen from the table below that majority companies with ESG Investing news worldwide during the month of June 2021 were Non-Listed companies (49%), followed by LargeCap companies (42%). Only few MidCap, SmallCap and MicroCap companies reported ESG Investing news during the month of June 2021. Further, few Non-Profit Groups (6%) also reported ESG Investing news during the month of June 2021.

Market Cap Groups	No. of News
LargeCap	83
MidCap	4
SmallCap	1
MicroCap	1
Non-Listed	97
Non-Profit Groups	12
Total	198

Section 2

ESG Investing News: By Region

During the month of June 2021, 4,000+ ESG news globally have been compiled by our research team, of which 200+ ESG Investing news are identified and analyzed in this trends report. Here, in this section, we have summarized and presented such ESG Investing news worldwide, categorized under regions.

List of Regions

[Africa/Middle East \(11\)](#)
[Americas \(67\)](#)
[Asia \(45\)](#)
[Europe \(91\)](#)

Africa/Middle East

1: **Africa Renewable Energy Fund II secures EUR125 million first close with SEFA and CTF investments -**

The Africa Renewable Energy Fund II has achieved its first close at €125 million, following a joint investment of €17.5 million from The Sustainable Energy Fund for Africa and the Climate Technology Fund through the African Development Bank (www.AfDB.org). [More...](#) (Jun 18, 2021) ([African Development Bank Group](#) , [Côte d'Ivoire](#) ([www](#)) [Banks](#))

2: Uganda to benefit from sh524b AfDB renewable energy funding - Uganda is among other African countries that are to benefit from the Africa Renewable Energy Fund (AREF) II after it secured its first close at €125m (sh524.4b) to finance renewable energy projects on the continent. [More...](#) (Jun 17, 2021) ([Uganda](#))

3: **GIB Global Investment Bank Announces New Fund to Focus on Green Tech Investments in Malaysia and Singapore -**

Leading Dubai-based investment bank GIB Global Investment Bank announces the establishment of a new investment fund to address climate change. GIB Global Investment Bank's Green Investment Fund will invest in green technologies and green tech investments across Malaysia and Singapore. [More...](#) (Jun 25, 2021) ([GIB Global Investment Bank](#) , [United Arab Emirates](#) ([www](#)) [Banks](#))

4: Sudanese bank launches first green sukuk for renewable energy - A Sudanese bank launched an investment fund offering what it said was the country's first green sukuk -- or bonds compliant with Islamic banking principles -- aimed at financing renewable energy for commercial use. The 4.75 billion Sudanese pounds fund (\$11.3 million) launched by Sanabel, a subsidiary of the Bank of Khartoum, aims to finance the production of 55 megawatt hours per day, according to its prospectus, for industries such as agriculture and mining. [More...](#) (Jun 1, 2021) ([Sanabel Securities](#) , [Sudan](#) ([www](#)) [Diversified Financial Services](#))

5: QSE to launch its sustainability benchmark index by October - The Qatar Stock Exchange (QSE) will launch its sustainability benchmark index for the listed companies by October this year as Doha seeks to be a niche ESG (environment social governance) market in the region. [More...](#) (Jun 9, 2021) ([The Qatar Stock Exchange](#) , [Qatar](#) ([www](#)) [Diversified Financial Services](#))

6: CIB Egypt to become country's first private bank to issue green bonds - Egyptian Commercial International Bank (CIB) obtained preliminary approval from the Financial Supervisory Authority, to be the first private bank in the country to issue green bonds, with a value of \$100 million for a period of five years. [More...](#) (Jun 30, 2021) ([Commercial International Bank \(Egypt\) S.A.E.](#) , [Egypt](#) ([www](#)) (Ticker: [CIBEG](#)) , [LargeCap](#))

7: SA treasury considers issuing green bonds - South Africa is said to be considering which areas of the current budget could be financed by the issuance of green bonds. Green bonds are fixed-income financial instruments that have positive environmental and/or climate benefits, and have attracted the South African treasury, said its director-general Dondo Mogajane. [More...](#) (Jun 18, 2021) ([South Africa](#))

8: AfDB Launches \$463.9m Kangaroo Social Bond - The African Development Bank (AfDB) has launched a A\$600 million (US\$463.9 million) 5.5-year Kangaroo bond, marking its return to the Australian dollar bond market. [More...](#) (Jun 15, 2021) ([African Development Bank Group](#) , [Côte d'Ivoire](#) ([www](#)) [Banks](#))

9: Bank Windhoek pioneers on sustainability bonds - BANK Windhoek has launched Namibia's first ever sustainability bond, and raised about N\$277 million privately. [More...](#) (Jun 7, 2021) ([Bank Windhoek](#) , [Namibia](#) ([www](#)) [Banks](#))

10: First Abu Dhabi Bank issues 150 million yuan in green bonds - First Abu Dhabi Bank (FAB), the biggest lender in the United Arab Emirates, said it had issued 150 million yuan (\$23 million) in green bonds. [More...](#) (Jun 7, 2021) ([First Abu Dhabi Bank](#) , [United Arab Emirates](#) ([www](#)) [Banks](#))

11: Utico to issue region's first utilities Sustainability Sukuk - Utico, the Middle East's leading full-service utility and the only private water and power company in the UAE, stated that it has achieved an international sustainability rating for its benchmark sized Sukuk from DNV UK. [More...](#) (Jun 5, 2021) ([Utico FZC](#) , [United Arab Emirates](#) ([www](#)) [Oil, Gas & Power](#))

Americas

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12: Mirabaud targets transition sweet spot with climate bond fund launch - Mirabaud Asset Management is targeting the gap between pure green bond issuance and opportunities created by companies in transition, with the launch of a global climate bond fund. [More...](#) (Jun 28, 2021) ([Mirabaud Asset Management](#) , [United States](#) ([www](#)) [Diversified Financial Services](#))

13: Mirova Global Sustainable Equity Fund Surpasses \$1 Billion in Assets Under Management - Natixis Investment Managers (Natixis) and Mirova announced that the Mirova Global Sustainable Equity Fund (ESGYX) has surpassed \$1 billion in assets under management. The fund is managed by Mirova US LLC an affiliate of Natixis Investment Managers. Mirova is a certified B Corporation dedicated to sustainable investment, and one of only 20 asset managers selected by the Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) organization to the PRI Leaders Group 2020. [More...](#) (Jun 24, 2021) ([Natixis Global Asset Management](#) , [United States](#) ([www](#)) [Diversified Financial Services](#))

14: Purpose Investments Inc. Launches Europe's First Carbon Offsetting ETF in Partnership with HANetf - Purpose Investments Inc. is thrilled to launch the HANetf S&P Global Clean Energy Select HANzero UCITS ETF, Europe's first exchange traded fund that incorporates carbon offsetting. [More...](#) (Jun 30, 2021) ([Purpose Investments Inc.](#) , [Canada](#) ([www](#)) [Diversified Financial Services](#))

15: Franklin Templeton Canada Lists ETFs from Boutique Investment Managers with Proven Sustainability Expertise - Franklin Templeton Canada is listing Franklin Brandywine Global Sustainable Income Optimiser Active ETF (FBGO), Franklin ClearBridge Sustainable Global Infrastructure Income Active ETF (FCII) and Franklin ClearBridge Sustainable International Growth Active ETF (FCSI) on the Toronto Stock Exchange. [More...](#) (Jun 29, 2021) ([Franklin Templeton Canada](#) , [Canada](#) ([www](#)) [Diversified Financial Services](#))

16: Franklin Templeton launches 3 sustainability ETFs - Franklin Templeton Canada has added to its ETF platform with three new funds that leverage sustainability expertise. [More...](#) (Jun 29, 2021) ([Franklin Templeton Investments](#) , [Canada](#) ([www](#)) [Diversified Financial Services](#))

17: NTAM launches company wide ESG Vector Score - Northern Trust Asset Management (NTAM), with USD1.1 trillion under management and owners of USD18.5 billion FlexShares and issuers in the recent launch of two climate-focused ETFs in the EMEA region, has introduced the Northern Trust ESG Vector Score, a measurement that assesses publicly traded companies in the context of financially relevant ESG criteria that could impact their operating performance. [More...](#) (Jun 25, 2021) ([Northern Trust Asset Management](#) , [United States](#) ([www](#)) [Diversified Financial Services](#))

18: BlackRock signals global ESG intent with double ETF launch in Australia - BlackRock has thrown down the gauntlet to its rivals in Australia with the launch of two ESG ETFs. The iShares Core MSCI Australia ESG Leaders ETF (IESG) and the iShares Core MSCI World Ex Australia ESG Leaders ETF (IWLD) are listed on the ASX with a total expense ratio (TER) 0.09%, the cheapest ESG ETFs available in Australia. [More...](#) (Jun 22, 2021) ([BlackRock, Inc.](#) , [United States](#) ([www](#)) ([Ticker: BLK](#)) [Diversified Financial Services](#) , [LargeCap](#))

19: Engine No. 1 Reaches Beyond Exxon With New ETF - Activist investor Engine No.1 will soon launch its first exchange-traded fund (ETF) as it extends its efforts to improve the environmental and social impacts of large U.S. corporations beyond supermajor ExxonMobil. The ETF VOTE will invest in a market-cap weighted index of

the 500 largest U.S. stocks and will seek to track the Morningstar U.S. Large Cap Select Index. Rather than excluding or re-weighting stocks, VOTE will seek to improve the environmental and social impacts of the companies through strategically holding companies and leadership teams accountable while focusing on environmental, social, and governance (ESG) issues that create value. [More...](#) (Jun 22, 2021) (*Exxon Mobil Corporation* , *United States* ([www](#)) (Ticker: XOM) *Oil, Gas & Power* , *LargeCap*)

20: Franklin Templeton Canada Continues to Expand Investment Capabilities and Proven Sustainability Expertise with New Funds and ETFs - Franklin Templeton Canada announced the expansion of its investment capabilities and sustainability line-up from its specialist investment managers Brandywine Global, ClearBridge Investments, Martin Currie and Royce Investment Partners, with the launch of five funds and five ETFs. [More...](#) (Jun 17, 2021) (*Franklin Templeton Canada* , *Canada* ([www](#)) *Diversified Financial Services*)

21: As ESG Grows, Go Global with Invesco's 'GBLD' - Developed or emerging, markets around the globe are adopting environmental, social, and governance (ESG) initiatives. The Invesco MSCI Green Building ETF (GBLD) builds on this growing popularity. [More...](#) (Jun 10, 2021) (*Invesco Ltd* , *United States* ([www](#)) (Ticker: IVZ) *Diversified Financial Services* , *LargeCap*)

22: Tesla Booted from Sustainability ETF Over Environmental, Labour Failures - It appears that the headaches for Tesla continue to pile up: a major Australian fund manager, BetaShares, has officially eliminated the EV maker from its exchange-traded fund, citing environmental and labour concerns. [More...](#) (Jun 10, 2021) (*Tesla, Inc.* , *United States* ([www](#)) (Ticker: TSLA) *Automotive* , *LargeCap*)

23: SSGA rolls out ESG-screened Dividend Aristocrats ETFs in Europe - State Street Global Advisors (SSGA) has unveiled a new suite of income-focused ETFs in Europe that seek to combine sustainable dividends with socially responsible exclusion criteria. [More...](#) (Jun 8, 2021) (*State Street Global Advisors* , *United States* ([www](#)) *Diversified Financial Services*)

24: BREA to be Renamed as Brompton Sustainable Real Assets Dividend ETF - Brompton Funds Limited is pleased to announce that Brompton Global Real Assets Dividend ETF ("BREA") will change its name to Brompton Sustainable Real Assets Dividend ETF, and the investment strategy will be amended to explicitly include ESG considerations, effective on or about Wednesday June 16, 2021. [More...](#) (Jun 7, 2021) (*Brompton Funds Limited* , *Canada* ([www](#)) *Diversified Financial Services*)

25: Launch of LGBTQ ETF comes from its community - The great and the good have come out to support the launch of LGBTQ Loyalty Holdings' first ETF targeted at the LGBTQ community, with Martina Navratilova on the board, saying: "I am thrilled that the launch of the LGBTQ + ESG100 ETF has arrived. [More...](#) (Jun 7, 2021) (*LGBTQ Loyalty Holdings Inc.* , *United States* ([www](#)) (Ticker: LFAP) *Diversified Financial Services* , *MicroCap*)

26: From renewables to carbon capture, Calgary's ARC Financial expands mandate with net-zero economy in mind - ARC Financial Corp., stalwart funder of Canada's oil patch, is expanding its investment strategy to include companies gearing up for the transition to a net-zero economy. The Calgary-based private-equity firm has secured the approval of its investors to seek out companies in a range of fields, from carbon capture, utilization and storage (CCUS) to biofuels, renewables and providers of construction and maintenance services for the sector. [More...](#) (Jun 17, 2021) (*ARC Financial Corp* , *Canada* ([www](#)) *Diversified Financial Services*)

27: BlackRock boosts ESG credentials of DC fund range - BlackRock has updated the indices for five funds within its authorised contractual scheme (ACS) range introducing ESG screened equivalents ahead of new reporting requirements for schemes. The investment manager today (30 June) said applying ESG screens across the five regional equity strategies - which are heavily invested in by UK defined contribution (DC) schemes - will improve the sustainability profile of each fund. [More...](#) (Jun 30, 2021) (*BlackRock, Inc* , *United States* ([www](#)) (Ticker: BLK) *Diversified Financial Services* , *LargeCap*)

28: Enviva Forest Conservation Fund Awards 2021 Grants - The Enviva Forest Conservation Fund (the Fund) announced the recipients of its 2021 grants. The projects funded will help conserve more than 4,000 acres and protect ecologically sensitive bottomland forests in the coastal regions of Virginia and North Carolina. [More...](#) (Jun 30, 2021) (*Enviva Partners LP* , *United States* ([www](#)) (Ticker: EVA) *Paper & Wood* , *LargeCap*)

29: JP Morgan launches three sustainability funds - JP Morgan Asset Management (JPMAM) has launched three sustainability-focussed OEICs in what is its first UK thematic offering. The firm's Climate Change Solutions fund will invest in forward-thinking companies which are focusing on solutions to climate change, including those

producing clean energy or investing in less carbon-intensive forms of agriculture or construction. [More...](#) (Jun 30, 2021) ([JP Morgan Asset Management](#) , [United States](#) ([www](#)) [Diversified Financial Services](#))

30: Rock Region Metro eyes zero emissions; \$4.9M grant to buy first electric buses - Rock Region Metro has been awarded \$4.9 million in federal funds to purchase five electric buses and charging infrastructure, which will make it the first in the state to operate zero-emission public transit. [More...](#) (Jun 29, 2021) ([Rock Region Metro](#) , [United States](#) ([www](#)) [Road & Rail](#))

31: National Bank Investments Launches Three Sustainable Funds and the Global Balanced Growth Fund - National Bank Investments Inc. (NBI) announced the launch of four new funds (NBI Funds), including three sustainable funds and the NBI Global Balanced Growth Fund. [More...](#) (Jun 28, 2021) ([National Bank Investments Inc.](#) , [Canada](#) ([www](#)) [Banks](#))

32: Leucadia Asset Management Announces Launch of Solanas ESG Sustainability UCITS Fund - Leucadia Asset Management announced the launch of the Solanas ESG Sustainability UCITS Fund ("the Fund"), a UCITS version of the Solanas ESG Sustainability Fund which pursues a strategy focused on Environmental, Social and Governance ("ESG") considerations. Solanas Capital, a division of LAM, is led by Portfolio Manager Diego Kuschnir, who has been investing in energy and sustainable resources sub-sectors for over 12 years. The Manager of the UCITS Fund is Waystone Fund Management (IE) Ltd., a company regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland. [More...](#) (Jun 28, 2021) ([Leucadia Asset Management LLC](#) , [United States](#) ([www](#)) [Diversified Financial Services](#))

33: BlackRock adds healthcare and future consumer funds to thematic range - BlackRock has launched two new active thematic funds within its BlackRock Global Funds (BGF) range - the BGF Next Generation Health Care fund and the BGF Future Consumer fund. The two new funds will invest in themes positioned to benefit from long-term global trends and both will incorporate ESG and sustainability criteria into their investment processes. [More...](#) (Jun 24, 2021) ([BlackRock, Inc](#) , [United States](#) ([www](#)) ([Ticker: BLK](#)) [Diversified Financial Services](#) , [LargeCap](#))

34: Circulate Capital raises funds to help disruptive European and US plastic recyclers expand into Asia - Singapore-based investment firm Circulate Capital has closed the first phase of its new fund that will bring disruptive plastic recycling technologies from Europe and US to Asia. CCD will invest in select, high growth investment opportunities across the waste management and recycling value chain in South and South East Asia that prevent plastic pollution and advance the circular economy. [More...](#) (Jun 23, 2021) ([Circulate Capital](#) , [United States](#) ([www](#)) [Diversified Financial Services](#))

35: Hydro-Québec and Transmission Developers Announce \$40 Million Green Economy Fund - Hydro-Québec and Transmission Developers announced details of their joint Green Economy Fund (GEF), a \$40 million green jobs training fund designed to support residents living in disadvantaged and frontline communities by providing them with new job training opportunities that will help them take advantage of New York's transition to a green economy. The fund is expected to start providing funding in 2021. [More...](#) (Jun 22, 2021) ([Hydro-Québec](#) , [Canada](#) ([www](#)) [Oil, Gas & Power](#))

36: XACT OMXS30 – sustainability orientation and name change - We are changing the fund rules for XACT OMXS30 , an exchange-traded fund. You do not need to take any action as a result of the changes, which will enter into force on July 1, 2021. The fund will be switching to an index with sustainability criteria for the companies included in the index. This does not lead to any significant change in the fund's investment focus or risk level, nor does it result in any costs for you as an investor. [More...](#) (Jun 16, 2021) ([XACT OMXS30](#) , [United States](#) [Diversified Financial Services](#))

37: Dynamic Funds launches renewable energy and emerging markets Active ETFs - Dynamic Funds announced the launch of two new solutions in its comprehensive Active ETF line-up – Dynamic Active Energy Evolution ETF and Dynamic Active Emerging Markets ETF. "Dynamic Funds remains committed to providing timely and innovative ETFs," says Mark Brisley, Managing Director, Dynamic Funds. "This is why we are pleased to launch new Active ETFs in two exciting areas of the market – one invests in companies supporting the transition to renewable energy and the other in the evolving emerging markets space – where clients don't typically have much exposure." [More...](#) (Jun 15, 2021) ([Dynamic Funds](#) , [Canada](#) ([www](#)) [Diversified Financial Services](#))

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