ESG Newsletter

September 2026

Your Knowledge Digest

What Mandatory Emissions Disclosure Looks Like in Practice: Lessons from Japan

Climate Transition Plans Move to the Forefront of Investment Strategy

News | Regional

Egypt advances national Sustainable Finance Taxonomy framework

Egypt is advancing its sustainable finance agenda through the development of a Sustainable Finance Taxonomy, designed to increase transparency, attract green investment, and support responsible economic growth aligned with global sustainability standards.

Abu Dhabi positioned to join global hydrogen economy race

As global hydrogen markets recalibrate, Abu Dhabi is advancing from ambition to action, building a resilient low-carbon hydrogen ecosystem that drives decarbonization, creates economic value, and strengthens the UAE's leadership in the energy transition.

Jordan and China strengthen environmental and climate cooperation

Jordan and China have signed a memorandum of understanding to strengthen collaboration on environmental protection, climate action, biodiversity conservation, waste management, and the transition to a low-carbon green economy through enhanced bilateral cooperation.

Saudi Arabia achieves 69% reduction in ozone-depleting substances

Saudi Arabia advanced its environmental commitments by achieving a 69% reduction in ozone-depleting substances in the first half of 2026, including the disposal of over 8,000 metric tons of regulated substances, reinforcing compliance with the Montreal Protocol and global climate action efforts.

Egypt and United Arab Emirates explore cooperation in renewable energy and battery storage

Egypt and the UAE explored opportunities to strengthen cooperation in renewable energy, battery storage, electricity infrastructure, and private-sector investment to support the energy transition and advance sustainable economic development objectives.

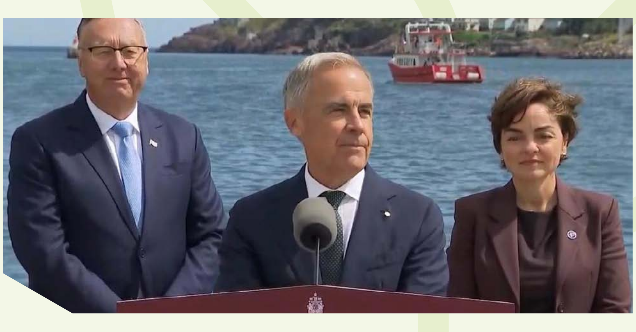
Jordan advances industrial gas network with USD 70 million project

The Abu Dhabi Fund for Development has supported a USD 70 million project to connect Jordan's industrial cities to the national natural gas network, strengthening energy infrastructure, enhancing industrial efficiency, and supporting sustainable economic growth.

News | International

Canada commits USD 50 billion to clean energy expansion

Canada has announced a USD 50 billion investment in clean energy projects, one of the largest initiatives of its kind in North America. The program aims to add 14 GW of new hydroelectric and wind power capacity while accelerating the transition to a low-carbon electricity grid.



New Zealand lawmakers pass legislation protecting companies from climate lawsuits

New Zealand has passed legislation blocking climate-related lawsuits against companies over greenhouse gas emissions, providing businesses with legal certainty while drawing criticism for limiting corporate accountability and access to climate justice.

United States calls for further reforms to European Union sustainability regulations

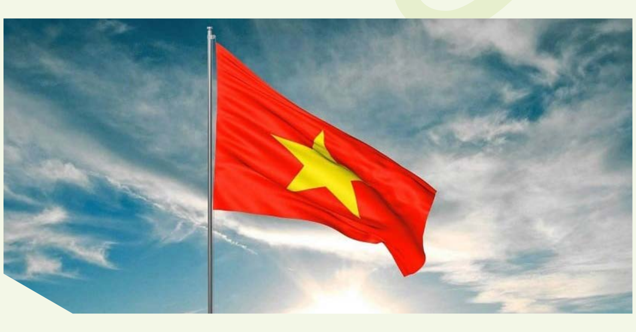
The U.S. government has advocated for greater simplification of the EU's sustainability reporting and due diligence regulations, emphasizing the need to balance sustainability objectives with regulatory efficiency, business competitiveness, and smooth transatlantic trade flows.

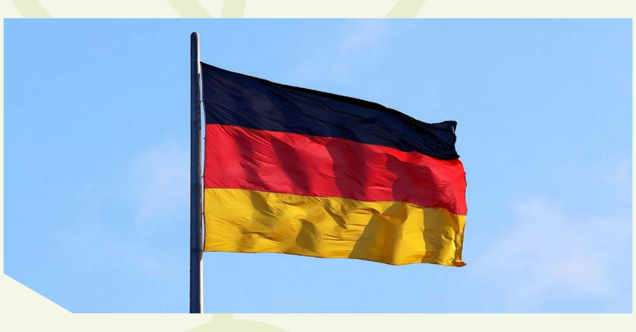
World Bank issues USD 4 billion sustainable development bond

The World Bank successfully raised USD 4 billion through a 7-year Sustainable Development Bond, attracting strong investor demand and mobilizing capital to finance social and environmental development projects that support poverty reduction and sustainable growth.

Vietnam approves Singapore carbon credit framework

Vietnam approved a bilateral carbon credit framework with Singapore under the Paris Agreement, creating a pathway for emissions reduction credits to be developed, authorized, and traded internationally, while strengthening climate cooperation and supporting investment in Vietnam's carbon market.





Germany moves to stabilize carbon prices through 2027

Germany will maintain its national carbon price at EUR 64-75 per tonne in 2027, giving businesses greater certainty over future emissions-related costs as Europe prepares to expand carbon pricing across more sectors and reduce long-term climate risks.

EU backs Greece's USD 5.5 billion Social Climate Plan

The EU has approved Greece's USD 5.5 billion Social Climate Plan to support vulnerable households, transport users and micro-enterprises, accelerating clean energy adoption while reducing emissions and mitigating the impacts of the EU's new carbon market.

NBK ESG Highlights of the Month

NBK advances SME growth through its integrated banking and financing solutions

NBK continues to support SMEs through integrated banking and financing solutions, including POS-based financing, flexible business banking packages, and relationship management, helping businesses enhance efficiency, access capital, and achieve sustainable expansion.

NBK contributes KWD 1 million to Kuwait's border crossing restoration

NBK reinforced its commitment to national development and social responsibility by contributing KWD 1 million to support the restoration and rehabilitation of Kuwait's land border crossings, strengthening critical infrastructure and enhancing national readiness.

NBK launches four new cohorts of Middle Management Program

NBK launched four new cohorts of its Middle Management Program to develop future banking leaders, equipping around 100 employees with advanced leadership, digital, AI, and people management skills to support the Bank's long-term growth and competitiveness.

NBK and Kuwait Dive Team advance coral reef protection

NBK has partnered with the Kuwait Dive Team to support the Marine Moorings Project, an environmental initiative aimed at protecting Kuwait's coral reefs and marine biodiversity. The partnership reflects NBK's commitment to environmental stewardship, biodiversity conservation, and supporting national efforts to achieve sustainable development goals.

NBK launches 0% interest financing solutions to cover treatment costs

NBK has launched a new 0% interest financing initiative, in partnership with selected healthcare providers in Kuwait, enabling customers to cover medical treatment costs with flexible repayment periods of up to five years and improving access to healthcare and supporting customer financial wellbeing.