

# ESG Newsletter

May 2025

## Your Knowledge Digest

- **Green hydrogen: A pathway to a sustainable energy future – ScienceDirect**
- **Energy security and the green transition – One or the other? Or both? – Climate Action**

## News | Regional

### Kuwait's Capital Edge injects \$1 Billion into India's NexGen Energia for green expansion

NexGen Energia, a pioneer in India's renewable energy sector, secured a significant investment of \$1 billion from Capital Edge of Kuwait. This funding is set to revolutionize the infrastructure for Compressed Bio-Gas plants, propelling India's shift to sustainable energy.



### Qatar advances circular economy, recycling practices

The Ministry of Municipality's 2024-2030 strategy aims at implementing the National Integrated Solid Waste Program, which includes designing and building a new engineering landfill, closing and planting old landfills, segregation of waste at the source, and increasing the percentage of recycled materials.



### Wind turbines factory launched in SEZAD | Oman News Agency

The facility is expected to play a key role in supporting Oman's future clean energy projects. The first phase of the facility was successfully launched, with an annual production capacity of up to 1,000 megawatts (MW). The investment for the first phase is expected to exceed \$200 million.



### Egypt, France ink \$7.68 billion green hydrogen agreement

Egypt and France have finalized a substantial EUR7 billion (\$7.68 billion) agreement aimed at developing, financing, and operating a green hydrogen production facility, as confirmed by Egypt's transportation ministry.



### Arab states to produce 8mln tons of hydrogen annually by 2030: AEO chief

Secretary General of the Arab Energy Organization (AEO) states that nine Arab states developed plans to produce low-carbon hydrogen projected at eight million tons per year by 2030. Notably, hydrogen projects in Arab states, grew four times reaching 127 ventures in 2024 compared to 34 in 2021.



### QCB issues Sustainable Finance Framework | The Peninsula Qatar

Qatar Central Bank (QCB) has launched the Sustainable Finance Framework. This framework is a proactive step to incorporate sustainable Islamic financial instruments and support the transition to a resilient and inclusive economy that balances the requirements of economic growth with environmental and social responsibility.



### Oman unveils initiatives to cut water loss to 10% by 2036

Oman's state-owned utility Nama Water Services (NWS) is advancing a portfolio of strategic water and wastewater projects valued at over \$1.4 billion, alongside a nationwide plan to reduce non-revenue water (NRW) from nearly 40% to 10% by 2036.



### Oman eyes green hydrogen leadership with strategic investments – Oman Observer

Oman is positioning itself as a global leader in the emerging green hydrogen sector, leveraging its abundant renewable energy resources to drive economic growth and energy transition. Oman's ambition is driven by strategic planning, regulatory frameworks, and large-scale investments in infrastructure.



## News | International

### ISSB Eases Scope 3 Reporting Requirements for Financial Sector - ESG Today

The IFRS Foundation's International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB) announced a series of proposed changes to its climate-related disclosure standard, aimed at easing some requirements for companies related to reporting on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, most significantly impacting requirements for financial sector companies.



### EU Commission asks EFRAG to fast-track development of simplified CSRD sustainability reporting standards - ESG Today

The European Financial Reporting Advisory Group (EFRAG) is tasked with simplifying the reporting requirements under the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD), and to develop technical advice underlying the European Sustainability Reporting Standards (ESRS) by October 31, 2025.



### EU Emissions Trading System (ETS) has reduced emissions in the sectors covered by 50% since 2005 - European Commission

Data from EU Member States as of 31 March 2025 showed a 5% reduction in emissions in 2024, compared to 2023 levels from the reporting stationary installations and aircraft operators. With this, ETS emissions are now around 50% below 2005 levels and on track to achieving the 2030 target of -62%.



### SEC approves Green Impact Exchange as first U.S. sustainability-focused stock exchange - SDG News

In a landmark decision for sustainable finance, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has approved the Green Impact Exchange (GIX) as a national securities exchange. This marks a significant step toward integrating ESG principles into the core of capital markets.



### UK launches integrity principles to strengthen carbon and nature credit markets - ESG News

Under the right conditions, the UK estimates these markets could reach \$319 billion in value by 2050. To address credibility gaps, the six proposed integrity principles cover expectations for credit suppliers, corporate buyers, and market participants.



### Net Zero Banking Alliance (NZBA) drops requirement to align financing with 1.5°C - ESG Today

NZBA announced a series of significant changes to its framework and principles, including eliminating a mandatory requirement for banks to align lending and capital markets activities with the goal of limiting global warming to 1.5°C. This follows a series of departures from the alliance over the past few months.



### Sustainability and due diligence: MEPs agree to delay application of new rules | News | European Parliament

The one-year extension will also apply to EU companies with over 5,000 employees and net turnover higher than €1.5 billion, and non-EU companies with a turnover above this threshold in the EU.



### EU to set Ecodesign plan prioritizing circular standards for apparel, steel, furniture - ESG News

The Commission has adopted a 5-year work plan under the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation (ESPR) and Energy Labelling Regulation, setting the stage for sweeping sustainability rules across key product sectors in the EU to improve consumer transparency.



### IFRS - European Financial Reporting Advisory Group (EFRAG) public consultation on ESRS

EFRAG (EFRAG) launched a public consultation on potential ESRS revisions. EFRAG is seeking input on mandatory data points, provisions, consistency recommendations, ESG materiality, and how ESRS disclosure requirements could potentially be simplified to allow for faster and smoother market adoption.



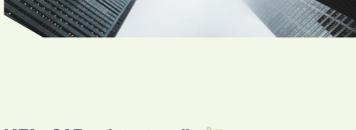
### New York proposes mandatory GHG reporting for large emitting sectors - ESG Today

The new proposal forms part of the DEC's mandate to advance a mandatory GHG reporting program by 2027 as part of a new planned cap-and-invest system requiring large emitters to purchase allowances to cover their emissions.



### Xi commits China to tougher climate targets as US retreats - CNBC TV18

The nation, which accounted for about 30% of total global emissions in 2023, will set out new goals for cuts by 2035 "covering the entire scope of the economy, including all greenhouse gases," ahead of the COP30 summit in November.



### IATA - SAF registry goes live

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) has launched the Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) Registry. The SAF Registry is a global system to record SAF transactions in a standardized and transparent way. It ensures that the environmental benefits of SAF can be tracked as they move across the SAF value chain.

## NBK ESG Highlights of the Month



### NBK-Egypt joins Chapter Zero

Chapter Zero Egypt is part of the global Climate Governance Initiative (CGI). It aims to promote effective climate governance practices among businesses and financial institutions in Egypt. The organization provides a platform for dialogue, knowledge-sharing, and collaboration among business leaders to drive sustainable growth.



### NBK-Egypt releases 2024 Carbon Footprint Report

NBK-E has formally launched the 4th edition of its annual Carbon Footprint report, strengthening its commitment towards environmental stewardship while supporting Group efforts in advancing its strategic sustainability agenda and progressing against carbon neutrality targets.



### NBK is the most valuable & strongest banking brand in Kuwait

The Bank's brand value surged by 22%, reaching US\$1.738 billion, up from US\$1.428 billion in 2024, placing it tenth among the most valuable banking brands in the Middle East. Its Brand Strength Index (BSI) also improved to 83.3 points, up from 81.2 points in 2024.

## Disclaimer

The details provided in this monthly ESG newsletter are for general information purposes only. It does not constitute an offer or an agreement, or a solicitation of an offer or an agreement, to enter into any transaction (including for the provision of any services).

Information in this monthly ESG newsletter is obtained from external sources and has not been independently verified by NBK. NBK does not make any representation or warranty as to the quality, completeness, accuracy, fitness for purpose or non-infringement of the information obtained from these external sources.

While all reasonable care has been taken in the preparation of this report, no guarantees can be provided regarding the accuracy, validity, reliability, availability, or completeness of information included. Readers of this monthly ESG newsletter should not act on any information it contains without seeking professional advice.