ESG Newsletter

November 2026

Your Knowledge Digest

82% of Investors Expect Climate Risks to Impact Asset Prices Over Next Decade

Over 80% of Institutional Investors Plan to Increase Allocations to Sustainable Investments

News | Regional

Kuwait Economic Society workshop explores embedding sustainability in economy

The Kuwait Economic Society convened Gulf sustainability and economic leaders to discuss how embedding ESG considerations into business and financial decision-making can reduce risk, unlock new opportunities, enhance long-term value creation and resilience, and support sustainable economic growth.





Kuwait Fund supports renewable energy project in Turkey

The Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development has supported the inauguration of a solar power project in Turkey through a USD 10 million grant program, helping provide renewable energy for refugee-support facilities while reducing carbon emissions and strengthening community resilience.

Saudi Arabia formalizes headquarters agreement for Middle East Green Initiative

The Government of Saudi Arabia signed a headquarters agreement with the Middle East Green Initiative Secretariat in Riyadh, reinforcing regional and international collaboration to advance sustainability objectives and support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).





GCC retains leadership in emerging-market ESG debt issuance

Fitch reports that the GCC accounted for nearly 40% of emerging-market US dollar ESG debt issuance, with regional banks playing a pivotal role in advancing sustainable finance, fostering capital market innovation, and supporting the region's long-term sustainability and economic diversification goals.

News | International

South Korea launches USD 750 billion green transition strategy to drive decarbonization

South Korea has launched its Korean Green Transformation Strategy, committing USD 750 billion over the next decade to drive industrial decarbonization, expand renewable energy capacity, and accelerate the adoption of zero-emission transportation.





Investor groups oppose weaker sustainability reporting rules for non-EU companies

Sustainable finance and investor groups are calling for robust and consistent sustainability reporting requirements for non-EU companies, emphasizing the importance of transparency, comparability, and decision-useful disclosures for global financial markets.

ISSB releases proposed nature-related reporting requirements

The International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB) has released proposed nature-related disclosure requirements designed to help companies provide investors with consistent and comparable information on nature-related risks and opportunities, while strengthening transparency around biodiversity, ecosystems, and business resilience.



ESMA sets sustainability reporting enforcement priorities for 2026

The European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA) will prioritize oversight of companies' sustainability disclosures in 2026, with a particular focus on materiality assessments, sustainability impacts, risks and opportunities, targets, and the quality and consistency of reported ESG information.



Fixed income investors increasingly factor climate risks into investment decisions

NatWest survey findings indicate that physical climate risks are becoming an increasingly important consideration for fixed income investors, with growing attention being placed on climate adaptation and resilience strategies as investors seek to better assess long-term risks, strengthen portfolio performance, and identify investment opportunities.





UK launches GBP 2 billion Energy Wealth Fund to accelerate clean energy investment

The UK has launched a GBP 2 billion Energy Wealth Fund, directing revenues from North Sea oil and gas production into renewable and low-carbon energy investments to support the country's net-zero transition, energy security, and sustainable economic growth.

EU lawmakers push to delay methane emissions rules by three years

The European Parliament voted to delay methane monitoring and reporting requirements for oil, gas, and coal importers until 2031, citing energy security and supply concerns, while maintaining the EU's broader commitment to reducing methane emissions and achieving its climate objectives.





EU invests EUR 3.4 billion in more than 75 net-zero technology projects

The European Commission awarded EUR 3.4 billion through the Innovation Fund to 77 net-zero technology projects across 23 countries, supporting industrial decarbonization, renewable energy, clean mobility, and advanced nuclear technologies, with projected emissions reductions of 290 million tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO2e) over their first decade of operation.

Stakeholders oppose inclusion of oil and gas in Canada's Sustainable Finance Taxonomy

Stakeholders have expressed strong opposition to proposals to include oil and gas-related activities under an "abatement" category in Canada's Sustainable Finance Taxonomy, citing concerns over fossil fuel lock-in, stranded asset risks, and alignment with global sustainable finance standards, while broadly supporting the taxonomy's proposed green and transition categories.





EU launches climate resilience framework to strengthen adaptation efforts

The European Commission has launched a new Climate Resilience Framework aimed at strengthening the EU's ability to anticipate and manage climate risks, while supporting investment in adaptation solutions, resilient infrastructure, and long-term economic competitiveness.

NBK ESG Highlights of the Month



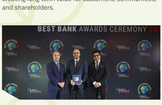
NBK launches FoundHER program to advance women's entrepreneurship and economic inclusion

NBK's new FoundHER program aims to accelerate the growth of women-led businesses by providing entrepreneurs with tailored training, mentorship, and access to resources that support long-term business success and economic participation, while fostering innovation, financial inclusion, and sustainable economic growth.

NBK joins MSCI's ESG Leaders with AA rating upgrade

MSCI's upgrade of NBK's ESG Rating from A to AA positions the Bank among global ESG leaders, recognizing its sustained progress in sustainable finance, climate risk management, governance excellence, transparency, and its commitment to creating long-term value for customers, communities, and shareholders.





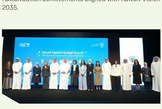
NBK named Kuwait's Best Bank for 2026 by Global Finance

Global Finance recognized NBK as Kuwait's Best Bank for 2026, highlighting the Bank's strong financial performance, digital innovation, efforts to expand financial inclusion, and continued growth in sustainable finance, with sustainable assets reaching USD 5.9 billion as of year-end 2025.

NBK reinforces its leadership in attracting national talent at Watheefti 2026

Participation in Watheefti 2026 highlighted the Bank's commitment to developing Kuwaiti talent, advancing workforce diversity, and supporting sustainable human capital growth through career development opportunities, leadership programs, and strong Kuwaitization achievements aligned with Kuwait Vision 2035.



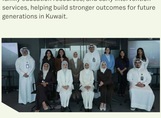


NBK launches "National Initiative for Early Childhood" in partnership with the Ministry of Health

Developed in partnership with the Ministry of Health, NBK's National Initiative for Early Childhood aims to support children's healthy development from birth to age five through developmental screening, family education resources, and early intervention services, helping build stronger outcomes for future generations in Kuwait.

NBK and KOC advance talent development through knowledge exchange

NBK hosted a specialized knowledge-sharing session with Kuwait Oil Company to exchange best practices in learning and development, highlighting innovative approaches to workforce upskilling, leadership development, and continuous learning while supporting the growth of national talent and long-term organizational sustainability.



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