

ESG NEWS





WORLD FEDERATION OF EXCHANGES (WFE)

Exchanges Unite for the WFE's Ring the Bell for Gender Equality

WFE announced the start of its 12th annual Ring the Bell (RTB) for Gender Equality campaign. This initiative brings together more than 110 exchanges and CCPs worldwide as they highlight the importance of advancing gender equality in financial markets around International Women's Day. This year's International Women's Day theme is "Give to Gain", alongside the UN Women theme "Rights. Justice. Action. For ALL women and girls".

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WFE Announces the 2026 WFE Women Leaders List

WFE has announced its sixth annual WFE Women Leaders List. This initiative celebrates the exceptional contributions of women across global market infrastructures, recognising their leadership and impact on the industry. The WFE remains committed to promoting diversity and inclusion within the financial sector. The Women Leaders initiative shines a spotlight on senior women from exchanges, clearing houses and market infrastructure institutions across our global membership.

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New WFE Guide Helps Issuers Access Transition Finance

WFE, the global industry group for exchanges and CCPs, has published a practical Guide "Accessing Transition Finance-A Practical Guide for Issuers," with practical direction for issuers on how to maximise their access to transition finance.

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WFE Outlines Key Policy Considerations for Developing Effective Taxonomies

WFE, the global industry group for exchanges and CCPs, has published key considerations for policymakers designing and implementing taxonomies, underscoring their critical role in strengthening financial market credibility and supporting the global transition to a more sustainable economy.

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SUSTAINABLE STOCK EXCHANGES INITIATIVES (UN SSE)

Net Zero Exchange Group to Continue Under UN SSE as NZFSPA Transitions to Sector-Focused Action

The Net Zero Financial Service Providers Alliance (NZFSPA) has announced the transition of its activities toward a more sector-focused approach to net-zero action. As part of this transition, the alliance's Exchange Group will continue as a standalone initiative under the convening of the United Nations Sustainable Stock Exchanges (UN SSE), operating as the Net Zero Exchange Group – SSE Climate Leaders.

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UN SSE, IFC, and UN Women Launch New Market Monitors on Advancing Gender Equality in Capital Markets

UN SSE initiative, in collaboration with IFC, a member of the World Bank Group, and UN Women, has released a new suite of Market Monitors providing the latest data and analysis on gender equality in global capital markets. This series of reports were prepared with IFC's support, under its Women on Boards and in Business Leadership program, implemented in partnership with the Government of Luxembourg.

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UN SSE and Nasdaq Highlight Gender Equality in Times Square for International Women's Day

To mark International Women's Day (IWD) 2026, UN SSE initiative partnered with Nasdaq to spotlight gender equality across global capital markets through a video displayed on Nasdaq's iconic Times Square tower. The video reinforced the critical role that stock exchanges, investors and listed companies play in advancing gender equality and promoting inclusive economic growth. This year's initiative also recognized the creative contribution of the graphic design team from Christian Brothers University (CBU) in Memphis, Tennessee. The project was overseen by Professor Melinda Posey and brought to life by student designers Santiago Haro and Amber Landry.

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AMMAN STOCK EXCHANGE (ASE)

Amman Stock Exchange Held Training Workshop on ESG Reporting Readiness

On 15 January 2026, the Amman Stock Exchange, in cooperation with CLENERGIZE, held a training workshop titled "ESG Reporting Readiness" for representatives of companies listed on the First Market. The workshop focused on the importance of environmental, social and governance standards as both a regulatory and strategic priority, their role in risk management, institutional performance and access to finance, as well as relevant international standards and best practices for sustainability reporting. The event formed part of ASE's broader programme to strengthen listed companies' awareness of sustainability disclosures and reinforce commitment to reporting standards.

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ASE Ranked First in the Arab Region and Thirteenth Globally, and Chaired a Sustainability Committee of the UN SSE

On 5 January 2026, the Amman Stock Exchange announced that it had finished 2025 ranked first in the Arab region and thirteenth globally in index growth, according to Bloomberg. ASEGI rose by 45.1%, ASE20 by 47.2%, and the total return index ASETR by 58.5%; market capitalisation increased to around JD 26.5 billion, while trading value rose by 80.6% to about JD 2.2 billion. ASE linked the performance to stronger macroeconomic conditions, improved listed company profitability, government measures supporting liquidity and investment activity, and continued development of the exchange's systems and market framework. The exchange also highlighted its sustainability leadership in 2025, including chairing the Sustainability Advisory Committee of the United Nations Sustainable Stock Exchanges Initiative, launching sustainability guidance for SMEs, introducing the first climate disclosure regulatory framework of its kind in the Middle East, and continuing a broad programme of sustainability and climate-related training for listed companies.

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BRASIL BOLSA BALCAO (B3)

Listed Companies Are Making Progress in Climate Efficiency, According to the New Portfolio of the Efficient Carbon Index (ICO2 B3) for 2026

B3 has released the new portfolio for the Efficient Carbon Index (ICO2) for 2026, which will now consist of 65 companies – four more than in the previous cycle. The index aims to encourage listed companies to adopt best practices in efficiency and management of their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The selection process for the new portfolio involved 94 companies. The index is composed of two dimensions. The first relates to the adoption of best practices in emissions management – ranging from reporting an assured emissions inventory to defining Net Zero targets, a climate transition plan, and oversight by the Board of Directors. The second dimension is composed of the efficiency of greenhouse gas emissions in relation to the company's revenue, both referring to the same period.

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B3 and HKEX Sign Agreement to Boost Sustainable Finance, Commodities and Equities Markets

B3 and Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited (HKEX) signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) aimed at joint development in sustainable finance, commodities and equities. The main objective is to explore the possibility of establishing a framework for technical and commercial collaboration, promoting dialogue on how synergies in traditional and highly connected sectors can be shared to benefit global investors. Within the ESG products pillar, collaboration is planned across several fronts, including training market participants and creating efficient and robust channels for the distribution of carbon credits, particularly those originating in Brazil. This initiative represents a significant step forward in building sustainable solutions and addressing climate change.

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B3 is Included in S&P Global's Sustainability Yearbook

B3 is included for the first time in the Sustainability Yearbook, a publication by S&P Global that annually recognizes companies with outstanding performance in corporate sustainability worldwide. With a score of 70 in the Corporate Sustainability Assessment (CSA) as of October 10, 2025, an increase of 14 points compared to the previous year, B3 ranks among the best-rated companies in the Capital Markets and Diverse Financial Services sector, reaching the top 3% among all companies that received a CSA score in this sector.



The result demonstrates the consistency of the company's strategy and the maturity of its management across all areas assessed in the questionnaire, which include, for example, governance practices, information security, business ethics, human rights, people management, diversity, climate management, and other ESG-related topics.

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BURSA MALAYSIA

Bursa Malaysia Published Sustainability Report for 2025

Bursa Malaysia published its Sustainability Report 2025, which sets out progress across its material sustainability matters and links this work to the exchange's Sustainability Roadmap 2024–2026.

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Bursa Malaysia Launched Sustainability Reporting Platform

Bursa Malaysia launched a new CSI sustainability reporting platform to assist listed companies in preparing and submitting ESG disclosures in line with Malaysia's National Sustainability Reporting Framework (NSRF) and global standards. The platform supports simplified adoption of IFRS sustainability standards and facilitates the transition to low-carbon and transparent reporting practices.

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EURONEXT

Updates on Omnibus Package and Revision of the SFDR

The European Parliament has definitively approved the Omnibus I package, which significantly reduces the scope of the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) and the Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CSDDD). The CSRD would apply to companies with more than 1,000 employees and more than €450 million in net turnover (–90% of companies currently within scope), while the CSDDD would apply to companies with more than 5,000 employees and more than €1.5 billion in net turnover (–70% of companies currently within scope). In addition, the obligation to implement climate transition plans under the CSDDD is removed. The revised CSDDD will then have to be transposed by Member States by mid-2028 and will enter into force in mid-2029. The revision of the CSRD will apply from January 2027.

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Climate Risk Management, Sustainability-related Claims and ESG Reporting

The European Banking Authority (EBA) Guidelines on ESG risks entered into force. The document, published in January 2025, sets out how banks and other financial institutions must incorporate ESG risks into their governance frameworks and business strategies. The Guidelines provide detailed indications on the type of sustainability information that institutions should request from corporate counterparties, with the aim of ensuring proper identification, measurement, management and monitoring of ESG risk exposures.

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Simplified Taxonomy, ESG Fund Naming, SME Sustainability Reporting

Key ESG regulatory developments at the start of 2026, including the simplification of the EU Taxonomy, the impact of ESMA guidelines on ESG fund naming, new sustainability reporting guidance for SMEs, the launch of China's first climate disclosure standard, and new EU guidelines on ESG stress testing. These changes aim to improve transparency, reduce reporting burdens, and strengthen the integration of ESG risks into financial markets.

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HONG KONG EXCHANGES AND CLEARING (HKEX)

HKEX Signs MOU with Brazil's B3 to Advance Sustainable Finance, Carbon Markets

HKEX has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with B3, Brazil's stock exchange operator, to promote sustainable finance and the development of carbon markets in their respective regions. The MOU underscores HKEX's commitment to supporting the global transition to a low-carbon economy, and extends the Group's sustainability partnerships to South America, a region of significant importance to global climate solutions. Under the agreement, HKEX and B3 will work together to advance carbon market development and explore opportunities in commodities in Hong Kong and Brazil, and will establish regular communication channels to deepen collaboration. The two exchanges will also explore potential for cross listings of equities in HKEX and B3, while identifying new carbon and ESG product opportunities across Asia and South America.

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HKEX Published an Insight Piece on the Next Wave of Climate Innovation and the Role of Sustainable Finance

HKEX published Driving the Next Wave of Climate Innovation, an insight article based on its accredited session at the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting 2026 in Davos. The piece argues that achieving net zero is not only a technological challenge, but also a financing one, citing an estimated US\$125 trillion of investment needed by 2050. HKEX highlights the importance of linking climate technology, innovative financing tools and sustainable finance to scale climate solutions. Among the mechanisms discussed are nature bonds, financing models that bring together stakeholders across the value chain, and tokenisation, which could broaden investor access to climate projects and improve traceability in instruments such as carbon credits and green bonds. The article also underscores that credible climate finance starts with data, with stronger standardisation, measurement frameworks and comparable datasets seen as essential to mobilising private capital at scale.

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HKEX Foundation Launches Care for Caregivers Programme

On 9 March 2026, HKEX Foundation launched the Care for Caregivers Programme, focused on caregiver wellbeing in Hong Kong. The programme includes community support teams, new community facilities, support for an intelligent accident detection pilot for at least 300 high-risk households, and outreach to businesses on caregiver-friendly workplaces.

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INTERCONTINENTAL EXCHANGE (ICE)

ICE's Environmental Market Trading Reaches Record Highs in 2025

A record 20.9 million environmental futures and options contracts traded on ICE in 2025, up approximately 4% vs the previous record year in 2024, with record participation and record physical delivery of carbon allowances totalling \$117 billion. ICE's environmental markets span the globe and include ICE EU Carbon Allowance (EUA) futures and options, which represent the world's most liquid carbon derivatives market, as well as CORSIA, the first pan-sector carbon credit program for international aviation. 2025 saw the first delivery of ICE CORSIA (CP1) futures as market participants utilize the airline emissions reduction program. ICE's North American environmental markets traded a record 6.2 million contracts in 2025 with ICE's California Carbon Allowance (CCA) markets trading a record 4.2 million contracts and ICE's Renewable Energy Certificate (RECs) futures and options trading a record 1.3 million contracts.

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ICE Reported Record Activity in Carbon Allowance Derivatives as Part of Broader Trading Growth

ICE announced its strongest trading month in history, with a notable increase in activity across environmental markets. In particular, 708,000 EU carbon allowance options were traded in January 2026, reflecting continued growth in demand for carbon-related hedging instruments and reinforcing ICE's position as a key infrastructure provider for emissions trading markets.

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JAPAN EXCHANGE GROUP (JPX)

TSE Publishes "KENKO Investment for Health Stocks 2026"

Tokyo Stock Exchange (TSE), in collaboration with the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), has selected and published "KENKO Investment for Health Stocks 2026." "KENKO investment for health" means thinking about employee health and productivity as a management issue and implementing it as part of strategy, based on the belief that efforts to maintain and promote the health of employees and others are an investment that will have benefits such as increasing profitability in the future.

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JPX Shows its Support for Ring the Bell for Gender Equality 2026

Japan Exchange Group, Inc. (JPX) held a bell-ringing ceremony alongside the event's supporting organizations: the International Finance Corporation (IFC), UN Global Compact, UN Women, and Women in ETFs.

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LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE GROUP (LSEG)

LSEG Highlighted Key Sustainable Investment Trends Shaping Global Markets in 2026

LSEG published its outlook on sustainable investment trends, identifying key themes such as physical climate risk, the energy transition and the growing importance of sectors including AI, healthcare and food systems. The analysis underscores the continued integration of sustainability considerations into investment strategies and the evolving role of ESG data in identifying long-term risks and opportunities.

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LSEG Noted a Shift Towards More Disciplined and Data-driven Sustainable Investing

LSEG highlighted that sustainable investment is entering a more mature phase, with increasing emphasis on materiality, robust data and transparency. The analysis notes that investors are becoming more selective, focusing on measurable outcomes and higher-quality ESG information.

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Diverging Regional Dynamics in Sustainable Investment

FTSE Russell published insights from its Eighth Annual Sustainable Investment Asset Owner Survey, covering 415 asset owners across 24 countries. The findings indicate that Asia is gaining momentum in sustainable investing, while Europe has become more cautious and North America remains selective. The survey reflects changing regional priorities and a more nuanced approach to ESG integration.

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Introducing the LSEG ESG Scores

This report describes how LSEG is responding to these dynamic challenges through a comprehensive, research-driven redesign of its ESG Scores. Drawing on 25 years of sustainable finance innovation, the new scores are the culmination of a multi-year research programme – including the publication of peer-reviewed studies on ESG score construction.

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LUXEMBOURG STOCK EXCHANGE (LUXSE)

LuxSE acquires ESG data analytics unit from Tetrao

LuxSE) today announced the acquisition of a business line from Tetrao International, specialised in the extraction of large amounts of sustainable bond data points from a wide range of sources.

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BANFONDESA brings Dominican Republic's first sustainability bond to LuxSE

Banco de Ahorro y Crédito FONDESA and the Luxembourg Stock Exchange mark a milestone with the display of the Dominican Republic's inaugural sustainability bond on the Luxembourg Green Exchange.

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SHANGHAI STOCK EXCHANGE (SSE)

SSE Releases Three Annexes to the Guide on Sustainability Reporting to Promote High-Quality Disclosure by Listed Companies

Under the guidance of China Securities Regulatory Commission (CSRC), Shanghai Stock Exchange (SSE) recently released three annexes to the guide on compilation of sustainability reports, covering topics of pollutant emission, energy utilization, and water utilization.

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