Salon Jobs Online

You're Unique. Now Your Jobs Are Too. Find The Right Job Now!

How institutional investors can alleviate climate change while boosting the global economy (/pages/elements/view.aspx?id=2928719)

(https://my.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/actions/like.aspx?type=0&id=2928719) (https://my.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/actions/favorite.aspx?type=0&id=2928719) | (http://www.facebook.com/dialog/feed?app_id=447611298704620&link=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2928719&redirect_uri=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2928719) (https://twitter.com/share?text=Check%20out%20this%20site:&url=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2928719) (https://plus.google.com/share?url=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2928719) (https://pinterest.com/pin/create/button/?url=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2928719&media=http://ensia.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/voices_funding_renewable_energy_developing_countries_main.jpg&description=<p>Institutional investors like to call themselves global investors, but when it comes to global clean energy financing that's hardly the case. Pension funds, insurance companies and other investors) (https://www.linkedin.com/shareArticle?mini=true&url=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2928719&title=How institutional investors can alleviate climate change while boosting the global economy&summary=<p>Institutional investors like to call themselves global investors, but when it comes to global clean energy financing that's hardly the case. Pension funds, insurance companies and other investors &source=Environmental magezine and event) |

(https://my.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/forms/location.aspx?id=2928719)

(https://my.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/actions/flag.aspx?id=2928719)

(https://my.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/forms/tag.aspx?id=2928719)

Institutional investors like to call themselves global investors, but when it comes to global clean energy financing that's hardly the case. Pension funds, insurance companies and other investors manage trillions of dollars, but precious few of those dollars are being invested in renewable energy projects in developing countries — a key linchpin in curbing carbon pollution to avoid catastrophic global warming.

This investment gap needs to be closed. The conditions are ripe for doing so now as developing countries step to the plate with climate commitments in advance of the COP 21 international climate talks in Paris in early December.

The urgency in countries like Brazil, Kenya and India is obvious. Carbon pollution is still increasing, and the biggest reason is proliferating pollution in fast-growing Asia, South America and Africa. Barring major changes, energy-related pollution from developing countries will be more than double that from developed countries by 2040, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

For investors, profits on investments are key, of course. But healthy investment portfolios also rely on a stable long-term global economy. And a rapidly warming planet jeopardizes economic stability. A 2014 study commissioned by Risky Business, a group that includes former Wall Street icons Hank Paulson and Robert Rubin, warns of billions of dollars in additional coastal damages every year in the U.S. due to higher sea levels and stronger storm surges. It also forecasts reduced crop yields of up to 70 percent in the Midwest and Southeast due to increased drought and flooding. And the U.S. is getting off easy. A recent study by Stanford University and the University of California, Berkeley, says that the worst effects of climate change will be seen in Africa, Asia, South America and the Middle East, and that overall, warming temperatures could reduce average global incomes roughly 23 percent by 2100 compared with a world without climate change.

“What climate change is doing is basically devaluing all the real estate south of the United States and making the whole planet less productive,” study co-author Solomon Hsiang, an economist and public policy professor at the University of California, Berkeley, told the Associated Press.

The good news on the investment front is that renewable energy is gaining traction in Africa and other emerging economies. Fueled by cheaper technology, renewable energy investments in developing countries in 2014 grew 10 times faster than equivalent investments in developed countries. Last year’s investments totaled US$131 billion, up 36 percent from 2013. Global investments totaled US$270 billion, well short of the additional $US1 trillion per year of clean energy investment that energy experts say is needed to avoid potentially catastrophic global warming.

In 2014, investments in renewable energy in the developing world almost equaled those in the developed world, but more is needed. Image from Bloomberg New Energy Finance: UNEP. [Click to enlarge]

And developing countries are working hard to do even more. In advance of the COP 21 talks, more than 145 countries, most of them developing, have declared their national climate commitments, defining what their post-2020 climate actions will be with an agreement in Paris. Ethiopia, for example, is striving to be carbon neutral even as it tries to lift 25 million people out of poverty by 2025. Chile is pushing to get 70 percent of its power from wind and other renewable energy sources by 2050. China is committed to using a cap-and-trade system to limit and price carbon pollution starting in 2017. All told, achieving the climate plans collectively would require US$13.5 trillion in low-carbon investments through 2030, according to a new IEA report.

To be sure, these commitments are aspirational, and it remains to be seen if the upcoming climate negotiations will make them more binding. Still, market signals are getting stronger, and all investors should be opening their eyes to this growing opportunity.

Global companies and financial firms are already dipping their toes. Bank of America made US$12 billion in low-carbon investments last year, including US$200 million in green bonds that helped finance two wind farms in Peru with a capacity of 114 megawatts. Last month, Google announced major financial backing for a 310-megawatt wind farm in northern Kenya, which will be Africa’s largest when it opens in 2017.

“The fastest growing economies are here [in Africa], and there’s a strong need for critical power,” Google director of energy and sustainability Rick Needham told Wired.

A small number of institutional investors are venturing into the space, including PensionDanmark and the California State Teachers’ Retirement System, but they are largely the exception. An analysis of institutional investor portfolios in 2013 — with collective assets totaling more than US$92 trillion — showed that only 0.3 percent was invested in sustainable energy infrastructure. And according to a 2015 Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development report, virtually all of that capital was focused in developed countries.

Most capital flows to sustainable energy infrastructure in developed countries. Image from Bloomberg New Energy Finance: UNEP. [Click to enlarge]

The gap is largely the result of institutional investors’ fiduciary duty to earn stable returns with little or no risk. “Institutional investors will not make an investment just because it is ‘green,’ concludes the OECD report, Green Finance & Investments: Mapping Channels to Mobilise Institutional Investments in Sustainable Energy. “Their

primary concern is the risk-adjusted financial performance of the asset."

Governments and policy-makers are working hard to eliminate investor roadblocks, such as policy and regulatory barriers, political uncertainties, and financing impediments. The World Bank is organizing trips through which representatives from Africa, South America and Asia can see firsthand how Denmark is integrating renewable energy into its electric grid. The Obama administration's Power Africa program is mobilizing numerous U.S. agencies to help projects get developed, accelerate private financing and provide credit enhancements where needed. In just two years, the program has attracted more than US$20 billion in private financing for projects that will generate more than 4,100 megawatts of clean power.

Investors are also being emboldened by national successes such as South Africa's landmark Independent Power Producers Procurement Program, which has approved 92 projects to date by big-name developers such as SunEdison and Abengoa Solar. The combination of attractive returns and a well-structured program makes South Africa "one of the most important centres for clean energy investment [globally]," clean energy analyst Luke Mills at Bloomberg New Energy Finance concluded in April.

Encouraging progress, to be sure, but global clean energy financing still remains mired by parochialism — a fact that U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry noted when he told a clean energy forum last month, "Ninety percent of private climate finance is invested into projects in the same country from which the money originated."

The bottom line: Investors need to become truly global investors when it comes to solving climate change, and one of the best ways to do that is to invest in clean-energy infrastructure and production in developing countries where it's already underway — just not at the level it needs to be. Until that happens, the economic toll of a warming planet on their portfolios will only worsen.

READ MORE (http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/view.aspx?id=2928719)

Environmental magezine and event (/pages/elements/elements.aspx?author=Environmental magezine and event)

UNITED STATES (/pages/elements/elements.aspx?country=233) California (/pages/elements/elements.aspx?state=3989)

renewable energy (/pages/glossary/keyword.aspx?id=128) Climate Change (/pages/glossary/keyword.aspx?id=608)

Global Warming (/pages/glossary/keyword.aspx?id=1062) Wind Farm (/pages/glossary/keyword.aspx?id=2211)

Wind Farm (/pages/glossary/keyword.aspx?id=4971) sustainability (/pages/glossary/keyword.aspx?id=138)

drought (/pages/glossary/keyword.aspx?id=180) Mapping (/pages/glossary/keyword.aspx?id=259)

Carbon Neutral (/pages/glossary/keyword.aspx?id=2272) Energy Information Administration (/pages/glossary/keyword.aspx?id=3245)

Energy information (/pages/glossary/keyword.aspx?id=3280) Energy source (/pages/glossary/keyword.aspx?id=3293)

Independent power producer (/pages/glossary/keyword.aspx?id=3357)

Published:11/11/2015

« (/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2928557) » (/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2928787)

Comments

Post

There are no comments

Popular Bids (/pages/elements/views/top.aspx?&catid=35&topicid=3&type=10)

There are no Bid Opportunity popular in this category

Popular Jobs (/pages/elements/top.aspx?&catid=35&topicid=3&type=11)

(14) Energy Policy & Planning Analyst, Expert (/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2919444)

(10) Communications / Marketing Director - Climate Change, Greenhouse Gas (/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2921123)

Popular Events (/pages/elements/top.aspx?&catid=35&topicid=3&type=16)

There are no Events popular in this category

Sponsors

LANGUAGE

Select Language ▼

Recent Natural and Built Environments (/pages/elements/elements.aspx?&sortby=DateAdded&sortorder=DESC)

- Indonesian haze: no oil palms on peat Revoke PT PEAK's license NOW (/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2937069)
- Sr. Manager, MDU Sales - Direct Energy - Houston, TX (/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2937066)
- Manager - Finance Transformation - Direct Energy - Houston, TX (/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2937065)
- Stormwater Management – Project Engineer/Scientist at Bristol Bay Native (Lorton, VA) (/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2937064)
- Product Manager Stormwater / Flood at Cardno (Oregon) (/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2937063)

Popular News (/pages/elements/top.aspx?&catid=35&topicid=3&type=4)

- (59) Climate change could result in 100 million poor (/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2917983)
- (55) COP 21 Paris Preview (/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2921196)
- (55) Climate change could erase years of global anti-poverty efforts, study finds (/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2917982)
- (53) Obama launches Facebook page (/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2921130)
- (51) Volkswagen Emissions Update (/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2918086)

Popular

(106) 3 Ways to Jumpstart a Community-Grounded Economy (/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2920027)

(87) Siemens to present cost-reducing new products and grid technology at EWEA 2015 (/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2920501)

(77) Millennials Will Be Key Drivers of Sustainability in Small and Medium Businesses (/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2918395)

(74) Certified Energy Commissioning Agent / Project Manager / Engineer / Energy Auditor (/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2918654)

(73) UPDATE 1-OPECs Badri says oil market to be more balanced in 2016 (/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2919702)

(/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2860477)

WHO: Reducing Short-lived Climate Pollutants Can

(https://my.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/actions/like.aspx?type=0&id=2860477) ★

(https://my.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/actions/favorite.aspx?type=0&id=2860477) | (http://www.facebook.com/dialog/feed?app_id=447611298704620&link=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2860477&redirect_uri=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2860477) (https://twitter.com/share?text=Check%20out%20this%20site:&url=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2860477) (https://plus.google.com/share?url=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2860477) (https://pinterest.com/pin/create/button/?url=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2860477&media=http://gdb.voanews.com/B54B776C-DBC4-4F78-8752-D74748F5D65A_cx0_cy10_cw0_w800_h450.jpg&description=The World Health Organization says millions of premature deaths can be prevented each year by reducing short lived climate pollutants. A WHO report recommends cutting emissions of black carbon, ozone) (https://www.linkedin.com/shareArticle?mini=true&url=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2860477&title=WHO: Reducing Short-lived Climate Pollutants Can Save Lives&summary=The World Health Organization says millions of premature deaths can be prevented each year by reducing short lived climate pollutants. A WHO report recommends cutting emissions of black carbon, ozone &source=Voice of America)

(/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=1891787)

Daily Digest: Bullets fly as Denver gang tensions

(https://my.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/actions/like.aspx?type=0&id=1891787) ★

(https://my.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/actions/favorite.aspx?type=0&id=1891787) |

(http://www.facebook.com/dialog/feed?
app_id=447611298704620&link=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?
id=1891787&redirect_uri=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=1891787)

(https://twitter.com/share?
text=Check%20out%20this%20site:&url=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=1891787)

(https://plus.google.com/share?url=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=1891787)

(https://pinterest.com/pin/create/button/?url=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?
id=1891787&media=http://extras.mnginteractive.com/live/media/site36/2015/0225/20150225__20150226_A1_CDXXGANGS~p1.jpg&description=Your daily resource for late-breaking news, upcoming events, the Denver weather forecast, Denver traffic information, and the stories that will be talked about on Thursday, Feb.

)

(https://www.linkedin.com/shareArticle?
mini=true&url=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=1891787&title=Daily Digest: Bullets fly as Denver gang tensions flare, and 9 other stories&summary=Your daily resource for late-breaking news, upcoming events, the Denver weather forecast, Denver traffic information, and the stories that will be talked about on Thursday, Feb.

&source=Denver Post)

(/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2885206)

Global Energy News Roundup: October 29

(https://my.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/actions/like.aspx?type=0&id=2885206) ★ (https://my.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/actions/favorite.aspx?type=0&id=2885206) | (http://www.facebook.com/dialog/feed?app_id=447611298704620&link=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2885206&redirect_uri=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2885206) (https://twitter.com/share?text=Check%20out%20this%20site:&url=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2885206) (https://plus.google.com/share?url=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2885206) (https://pinterest.com/pin/create/button/?url=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2885206&media=http://forumonenergy.com/wp-content/uploads/iStock_000006101657_Large-275x184.jpg&description=The Forum on Energy weekly news roundup brings together a mix of global energy stories from around the web. It is published every Thursday morning on Forum on Energy and is available on Twitter via) (https://www.linkedin.com/shareArticle?mini=true&url=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2885206&title=Global Energy News Roundup: October 29&summary=The Forum on Energy weekly news roundup brings together a mix of global energy stories from around the web. It is published every Thursday morning on Forum on Energy and is available on Twitter via &source=Forum on Energy)

(/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=1631307)

New Research Shows Coffee-Farming Communities

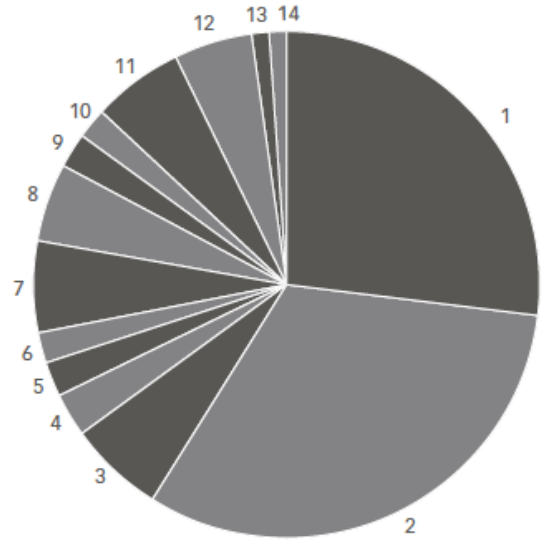
(https://my.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/actions/like.aspx?type=0&id=1631307) ★ (https://my.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/actions/favorite.aspx?type=0&id=1631307) | (http://www.facebook.com/dialog/feed?app_id=447611298704620&link=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=1631307&redirect_uri=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=1631307) (https://twitter.com/share?text=Check%20out%20this%20site:&url=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=1631307) (https://plus.google.com/share?url=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=1631307) (https://pinterest.com/pin/create/button/?url=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=1631307&media=http://www.sustainablebrands.com/sites/default/files/imagecache/635x300/article_images/coffee-farmer-ciat.jpg&description=Keurig Green Mountain has announced the results of a 2013 scientific study, Thin Months Revisited. Conducted in partnership with the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) and the) (https://www.linkedin.com/shareArticle?mini=true&url=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=1631307&title=New Research Shows Coffee-Farming Communities Experiencing Fewer Thin Months&summary=Keurig Green Mountain has announced the results of a 2013 scientific study, Thin Months Revisited. Conducted in partnership with the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) and the &source=Sustainable Brands)

(/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=1864159)

The manufacturing conundrum

(https://my.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/actions/like.aspx?type=0&id=1864159) ★ (https://my.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/actions/favorite.aspx?type=0&id=1864159) | (http://www.facebook.com/dialog/feed?app_id=447611298704620&link=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=1864159&redirect_uri=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=1864159) (https://twitter.com/share?text=Check%20out%20this%20site:&url=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=1864159) (https://plus.google.com/share?url=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=1864159) (https://pinterest.com/pin/create/button/?url=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=1864159&media=https://blogs.worldbank.org/jobs/files/jobs/2007252916_7b8166ecc6_z.jpg&description=Governments of late industrializing countries face a serious problem. Manufacturing jobs matter - all countries that are rich today have enjoyed high manufacturing employment shares in the past.) (https://www.linkedin.com/shareArticle?mini=true&url=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=1864159&title=The manufacturing conundrum&summary=Governments of late industrializing countries face a serious problem. Manufacturing jobs matter - all countries that are rich today have enjoyed high manufacturing employment shares in the past.&source=World Bank)

Figure 8: ICS cyber incidents reported to ICS-CERT, 2014
Source: US Department of Homeland Security, 'ICS-CERT Year In Review'



	Sector	%		Sector	%
1	Critical manufacturing	27	8	Transportation	5
2	Energy	32	9	Nuclear	2
3	Communications	6	10	Information technology	2
4	Commercial facilities	3	11	Healthcare	6
5	Chemical	2	12	Government facilities	5
6	Unknown	2	13	Finance	1
7	Water	6	14	Agriculture	1

(/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2421739)

Cyberattack on US Power Plants Could Cause $1T in

(https://my.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/actions/like.aspx?type=0&id=2421739) ★

(https://my.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/actions/favorite.aspx?type=0&id=2421739) |

(http://www.facebook.com/dialog/feed?
app_id=447611298704620&link=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?
id=2421739&redirect_uri=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2421739)

(https://twitter.com/share?
text=Check%20out%20this%20site:&url=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2421739)

(https://plus.google.com/share?url=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2421739)

(https://pinterest.com/pin/create/button/?url=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?
id=2421739&media=http://www.greentechmedia.com//content/images/articles/Lloyds_ICS-CERTreports_XL.png&description=
Let's imagine an "improbable, but not impossible" cyberassault on the U.S. power grid. A shadowy group of skilled and
malicious actors spend years implanting a piece of malware,)

(https://www.linkedin.com/shareArticle?
mini=true&url=http://www.environmentguru.com/pages/elements/element.aspx?id=2421739&title=Cyberattack on US Power
Plants Could Cause $1T in Economic Damage&summary= Let's imagine an "improbable, but not impossible" cyberassault on
the U.S. power grid. A shadowy group of skilled and malicious actors spend years implanting a piece of malware,
&source=Green Tech Media)

About EnvironmentGuru

EnvironmentGuru.com is the largest online Social Network that offers a place for environmental professionals around the world to collaborate, find, and distribute environmental information. Collaboration for the future from social, news, universities, government agencies, and you.

Find Out More → (/pages/about/aboutus.aspx)

About (/pages/about/aboutus.aspx) Terms (/pages/about/terms.aspx) Privacy (/pages/about/privacy.aspx)
Copyright (/pages/about/copyright.aspx)

©2004-2015 Environment Guru.com All rights reserved.

(/system/security/trap.aspx)