

Virtual Seminar on Climate Economics



Organizing Committee:

Glenn Rudebusch (Brookings Institution)

Michael Bauer (University of Hamburg)

Stephie Fried (Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco)

Òscar Jordà (UC Davis, Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco)

Fernanda Nechio (Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco)

Toan Phan (Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond)

Institutional Investors and the Fight against Climate Change

Virtual Seminar on Climate Economics

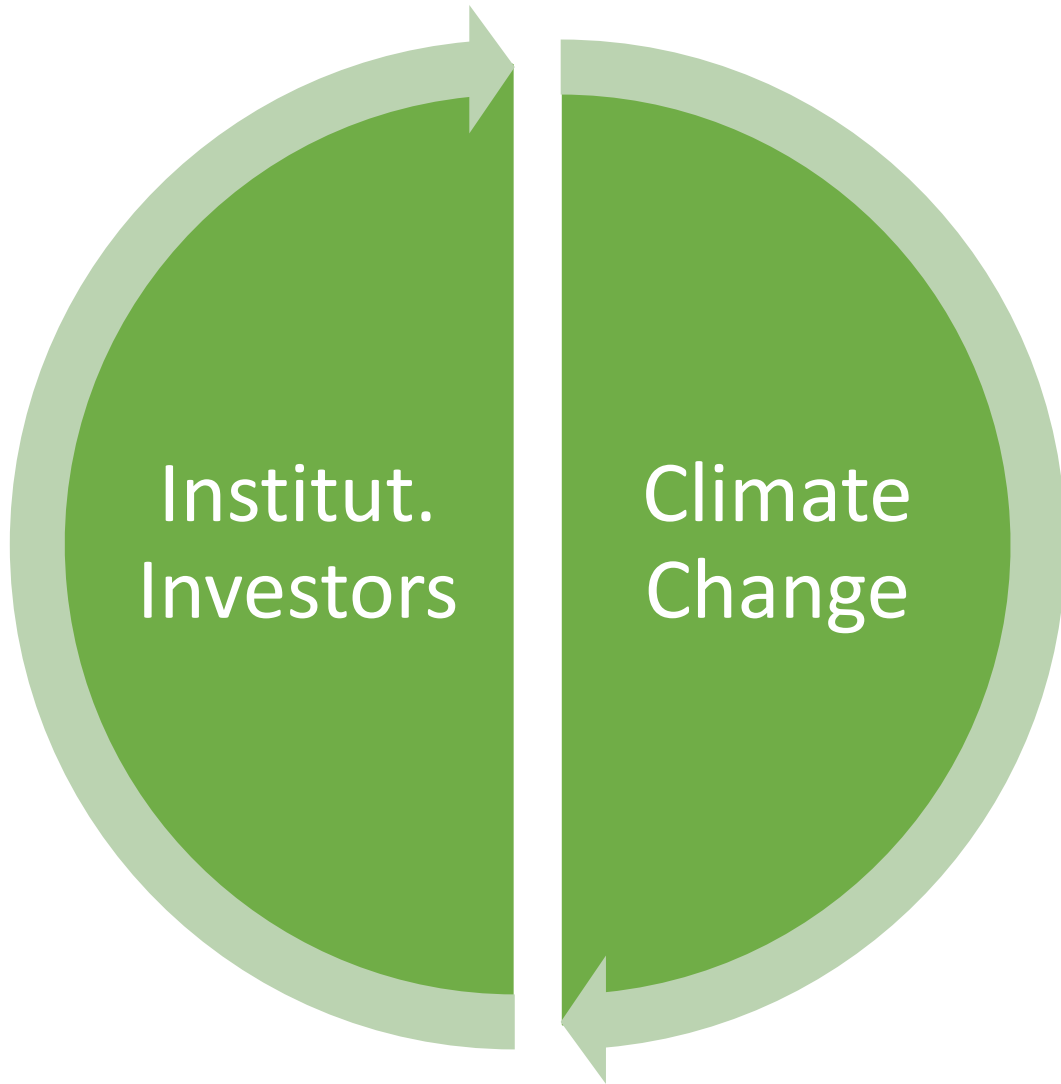
Zacharias Sautner

June 15, 2023



This Talk

- Mostly an overview talk
- Mostly informed by research findings, complemented with some speculation (where evidence is not out yet)
- Heavily biased by my own work



Climate change *will* have a major impact on institutional investors!

Institutional investors *can (will?)* have a major impact on climate change!

Agenda

1. The sky and the landscape
2. The good, the bad, and the ugly

Agenda

- 1. The sky and the landscape**
2. The good, the bad, and the ugly

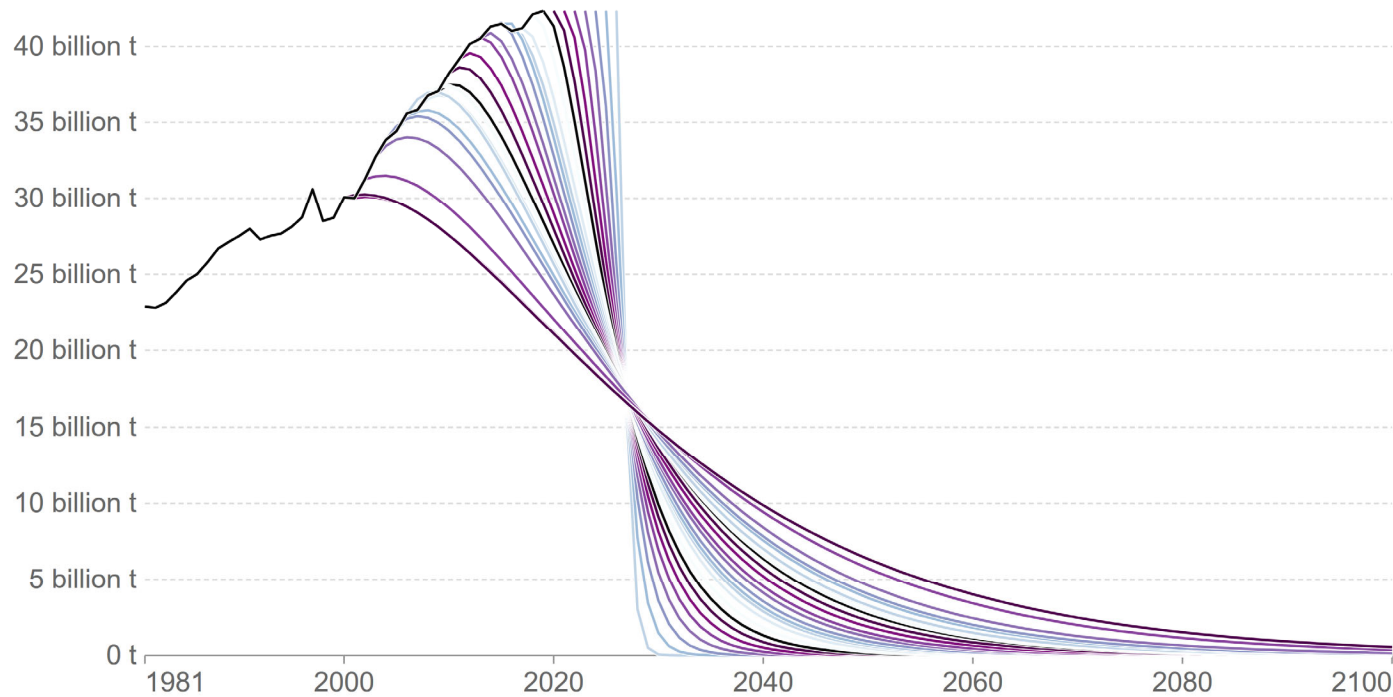


The Sky.

CO₂ reductions needed to keep global temperature rise below 1.5°C

Annual emissions of carbon dioxide under various mitigation scenarios to keep global average temperature rise below 1.5°C. Scenarios are based on the CO₂ reductions necessary if mitigation had started – with global emissions peaking and quickly reducing – in the given year.

Our World
in Data

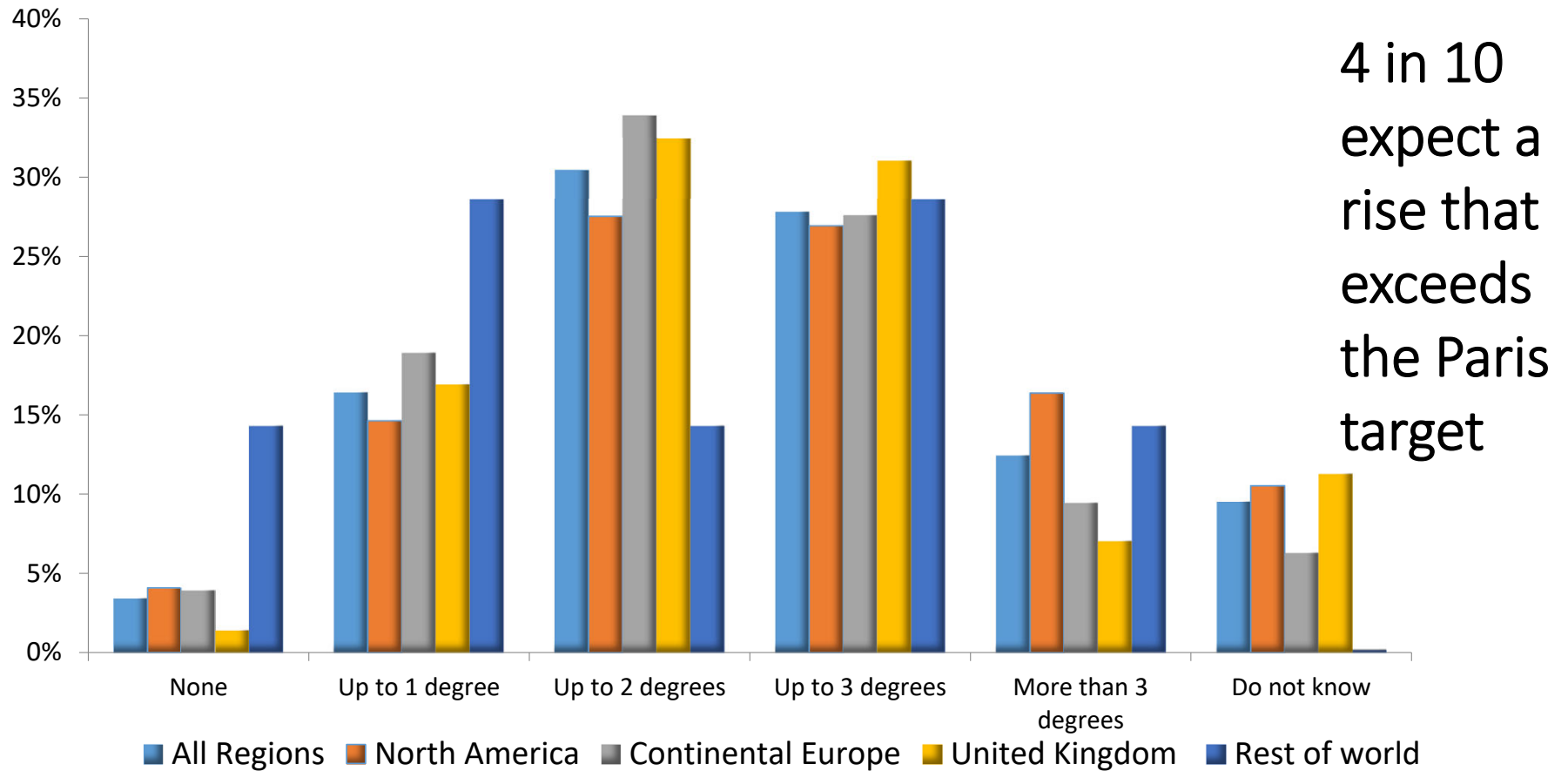


Source: Robbie Andrews (2019); based on Global Carbon Project & IPCC SR15
Note: Carbon budgets are based on a >66% chance of staying below 1.5°C from the IPCC's SR15 Report.
OurWorldInData.org/co2-and-greenhouse-gas-emissions • CC BY

Potentially huge
**REGULATORY
(TRANSITION)**
&
**PHYSICAL
RISKS**
ahead

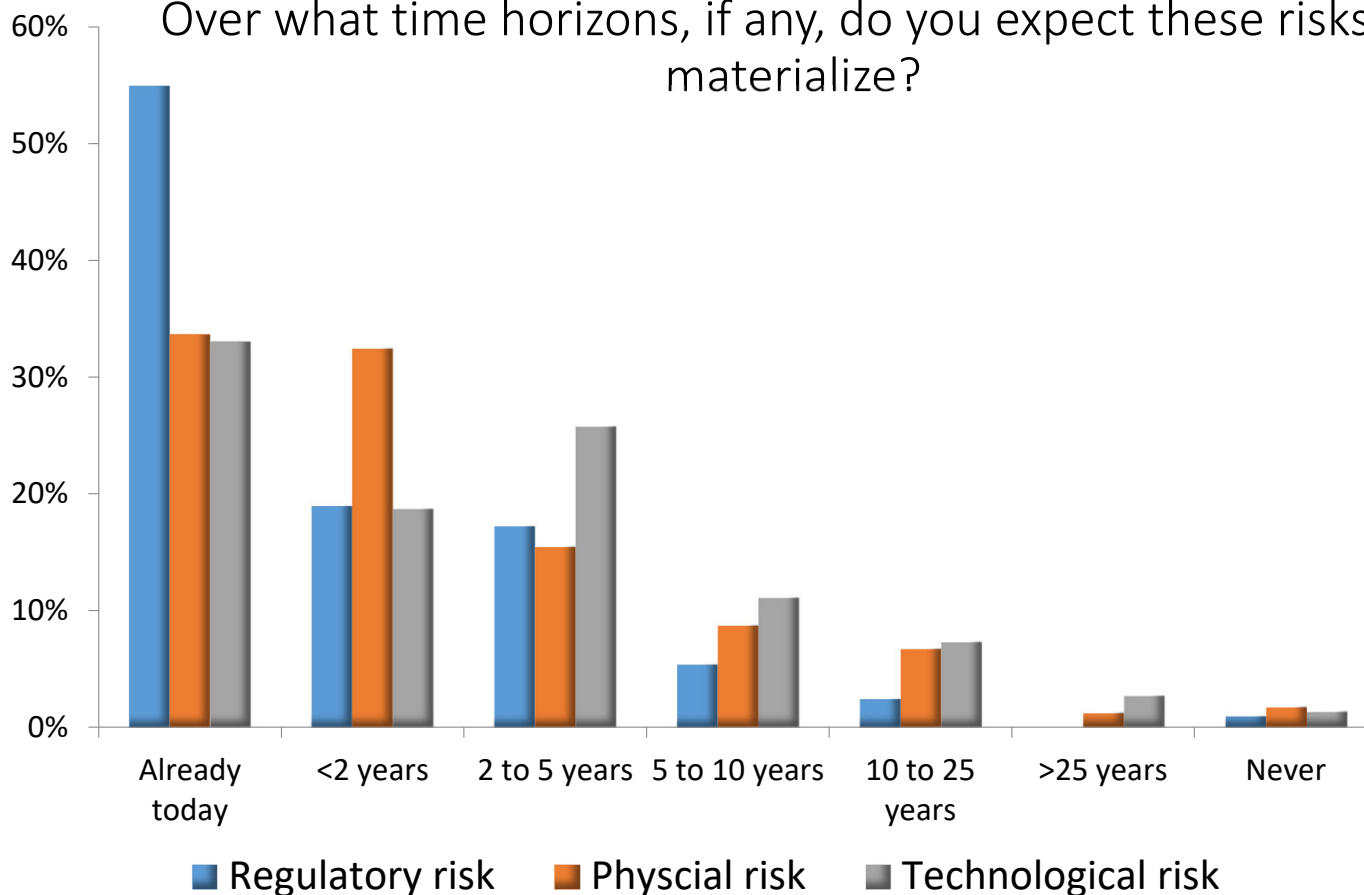


Temperature Expectations of Institutional Investors



Importance of Climate Risks for Institutional Investors

Over what time horizons, if any, do you expect these risks to materialize?



Climate risks have started materializing, especially regulatory risks

The Landscape.

Paris Agreement

Article 2

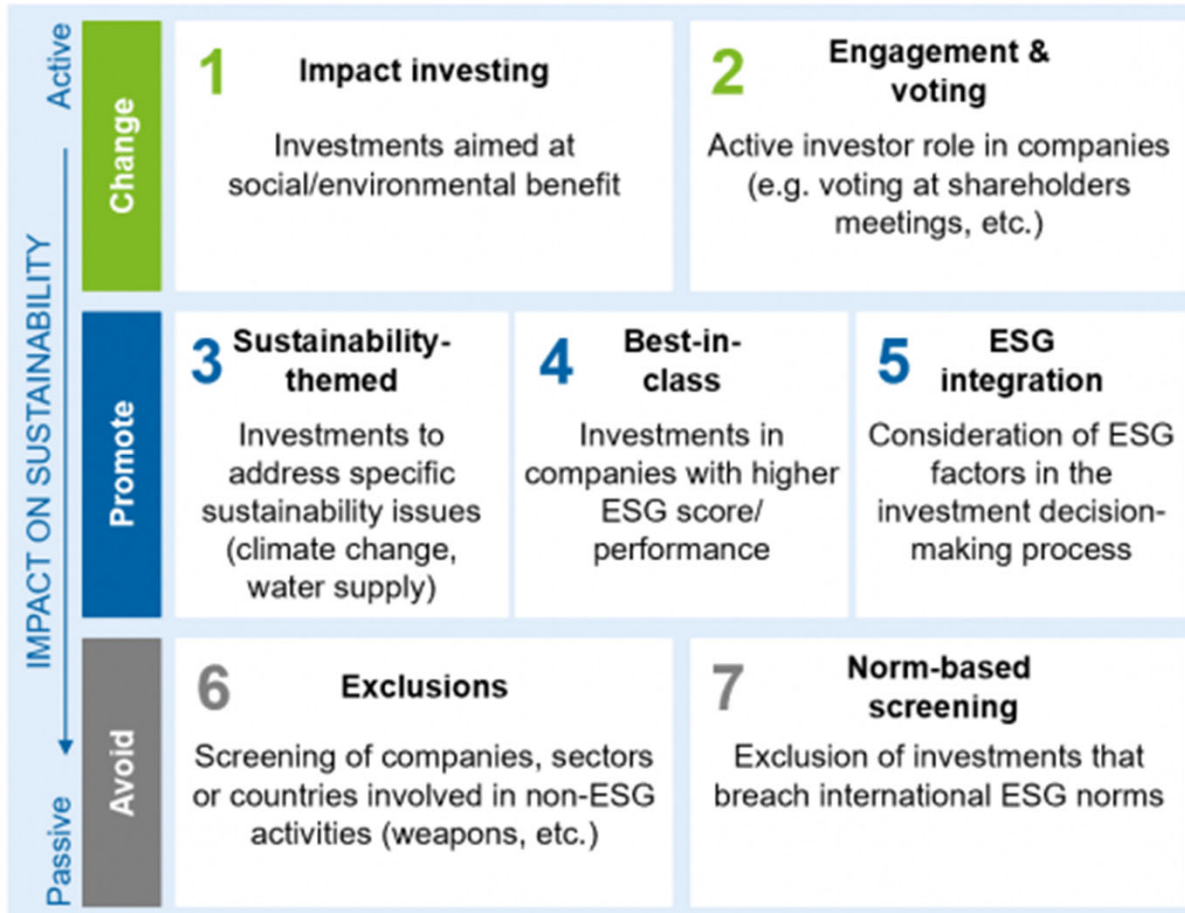
1. This Agreement, in enhancing the implementation of the Convention, including its objective, aims to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change, in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty, including by:

(a) Holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, recognizing that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change;

(b) Increasing the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development, in a manner that does not threaten food production; and

(c) Making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development.

Investment Strategies



} Positive screening

} Negative screening

Table 8

Carbon emissions and stock returns. The sample period is 2005-2017 The dependent variable is *RET*. All variables are defined in Table 1. We report the results of the pooled regression with standard errors clustered at the firm and year level. All regressions include year-month fixed effects. In columns (4) through (6), we additionally include industry-fixed effects. Panel A reports the results for the natural logarithm of total firm-level emissions; Panel B reports the results for the percentage change in carbon total emissions; Panel C reports the results for carbon emission intensity. ***1% significance; **5% significance; *10% significance.

Panel A: Total emissions						
VARIABLES	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
LOG (SCOPE 1 TOT)	0.043** (0.023)			0.164*** (0.036)		
LOG (SCOPE 2 TOT)		0.098** (0.042)			0.167*** (0.048)	
LOG (SCOPE 3 TOT)			0.135** (0.046)			0.312*** (0.071)
LOGSIZE	-0.140 (0.163)	-0.184 (0.167)	-0.193 (0.165)	-0.302* (0.148)	-0.327* (0.154)	-0.410** (0.163)
B/M	0.460 (0.260)	0.469 (0.266)	0.444 (0.258)	0.656** (0.234)	0.642** (0.229)	0.562** (0.224)
....						
Year/month F.E.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Industry F.E.	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Observations	184,288	184,216	184,384	184,288	184,216	184,384
R-squared	0.203	0.204	0.204	0.206	0.206	0.206

1 STD
increase in
SCOPE 1
-> 13-bps
increase in
returns,
1.5%
annualized

A. Firm-level regressions

Dependent variable:	<i>SlopeD</i> (1)	<i>MFIS</i> (2)	<i>VRP</i> (3)
<i>log(Scope I/MV industry)</i>	0.006*** (3.85)	-0.002 (-0.70)	0.001*** (3.79)
<i>log(Assets)</i>	-0.029*** (-9.22)	-0.043*** (-8.04)	-0.005*** (-7.10)
<i>Dividends/net income</i>	0.009 (1.54)	-0.014 (-1.26)	-0.000 (-0.00)
<i>Debt/assets</i>	0.038** (2.28)	0.062** (2.00)	0.003 (0.71)
<i>EBIT/assets</i>	-0.187*** (-4.59)	-0.078 (-1.02)	-0.018 (-1.60)
<i>CapEx/assets</i>	-0.374*** (-5.13)	0.216* (1.75)	-0.060** (-2.35)
<i>Book-to-market</i>	0.077*** (8.10)	0.122*** (5.21)	0.016*** (4.30)
<i>Returns</i>	-0.018** (-2.13)	-0.054*** (-2.95)	-0.010* (-1.93)
<i>Institutional ownership</i>	-0.045* (-1.75)	-0.085 (-1.59)	-0.008 (-1.20)
<i>CAPM beta</i>	0.010 (1.42)	-0.033*** (-3.18)	-0.001 (-0.44)
<i>Volatility</i>	-0.687*** (-6.48)	1.926*** (8.27)	
<i>Oil beta</i>	-0.008 (-0.50)	-0.003 (-0.10)	-0.020*** (-2.73)
<i>Time trend</i>	-0.000 (-0.29)	0.033*** (9.93)	-0.001* (-1.67)
Model	Heckman	Heckman	Heckman
Year-by-quarter fixed effects	Yes	Yes	Yes
Level	Firm	Firm	Firm
Frequency	Monthly	Monthly	Monthly
Obs.	18,664	18,664	18,664
Adj. R^2	n/a	n/a	n/a

1 STD increase in a firm's log industry carbon intensity (2.28)
-> increases *SlopeD* by 0.014 or 10% of its SD

Investor Coalitions

- ICCR
- PRI
- CDP
- TCFD
- IIGCC
- Investor Network on Climate Risks
- Climate Action 100+
- Ceres
- Global Investor Coalition on Climate Change
- Investor Group on Climate Change



Climate Action 100+



- Investor-led initiative
- Focus on the world's largest carbon emitters
 - 167 firms in 2020, responsible for about 80% of industrial emissions
- Supported by 500+ investors, USD 50+ trillion in assets, including Blackrock and StateStreet
- Investors commit to engagement with companies, in seeking to ensure they:
 - Take action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in line with the Paris Agreement;
 - Implement a strong governance framework -> board accountability and oversight of climate change risks
 - Enhanced corporate disclosure in line with the recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD)

CDP



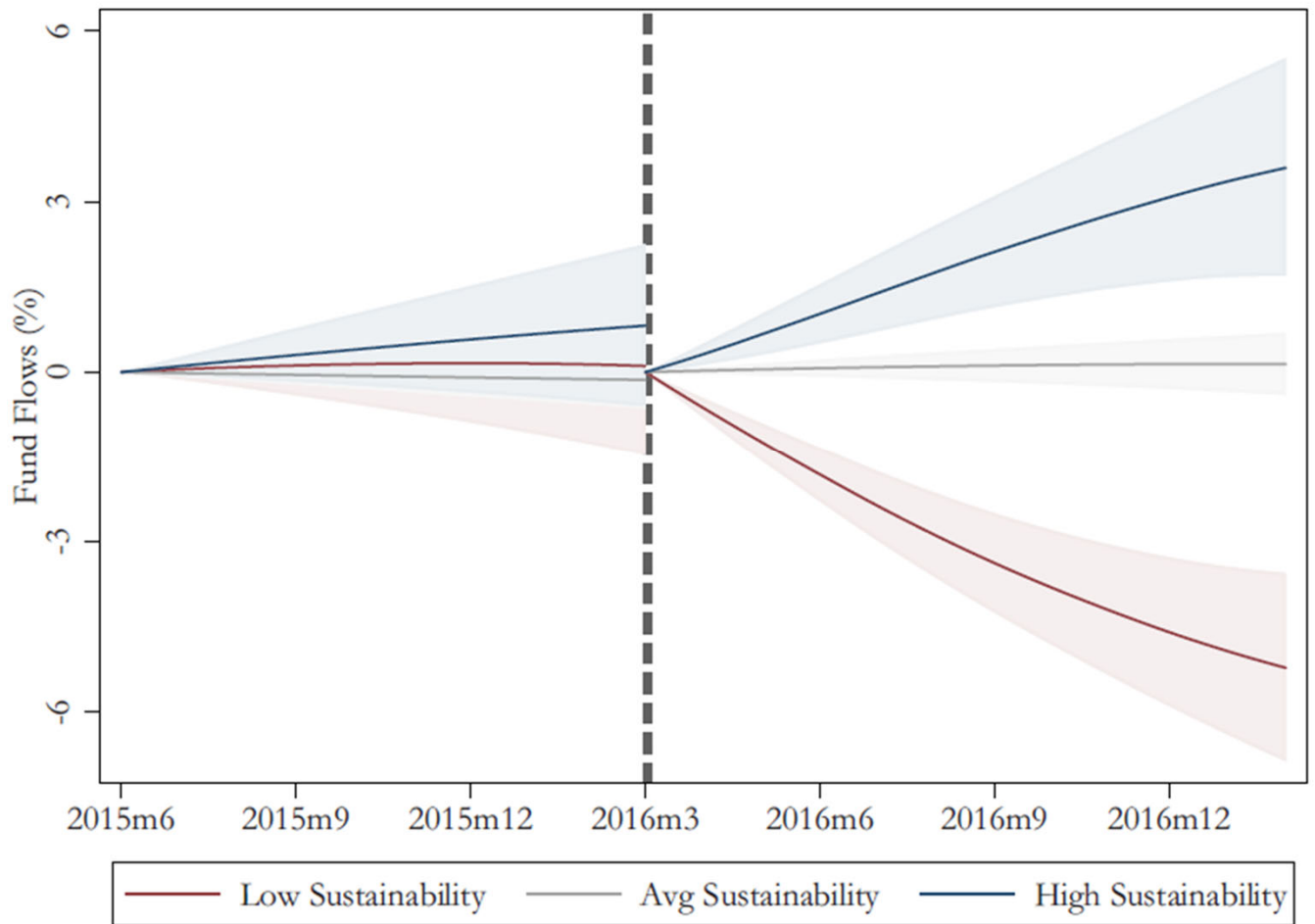
- Founded in 2000, CDP (formerly Carbon Disclosure Project) collects on behalf of investors representing \$100+ trillion in AuM climate-related information through a questionnaire
 - Carbon emissions, climate risk management, governance, risks and opportunities
- Carbon emissions data used as input for many ESG ratings
- Recently also surveys on water security and forests
- ~10,000 companies reported through CDP on climate change, water security and forests

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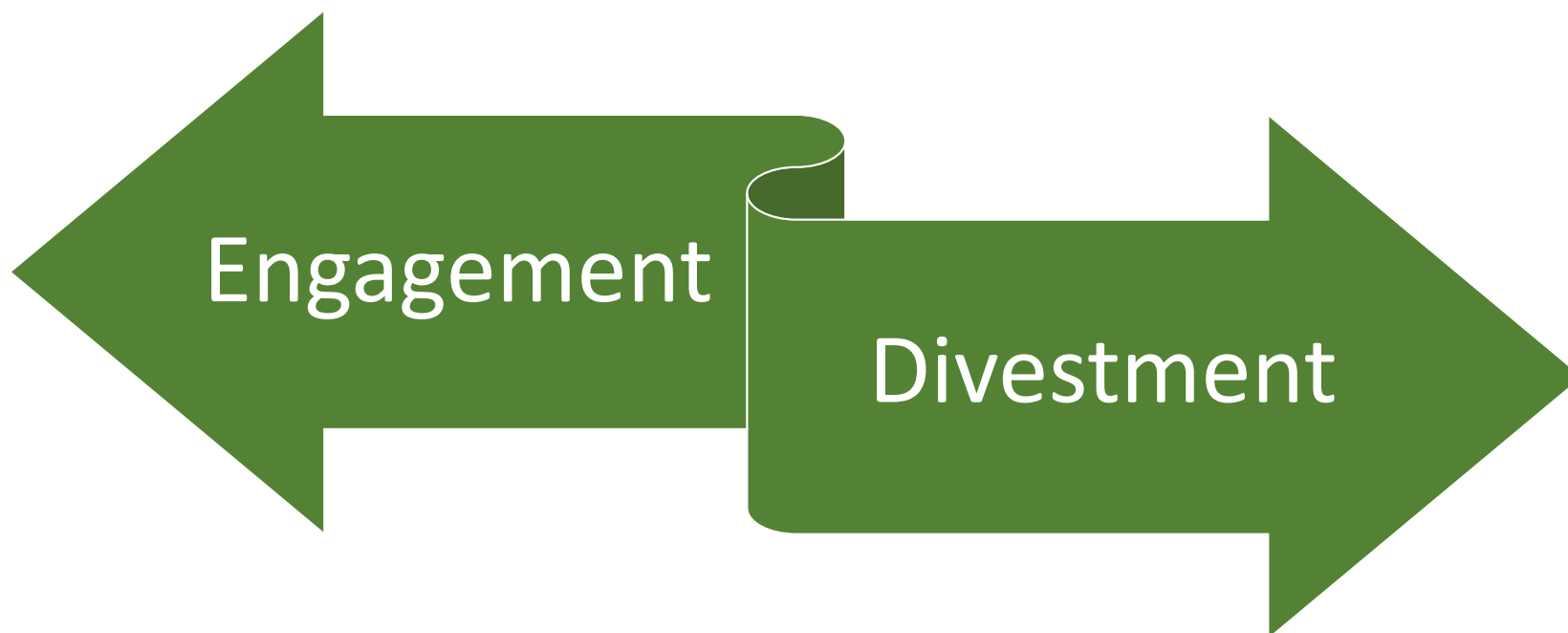


The Good.



Hartzmark and Sussman (JF, 2019); effects also for Monringstar's Low Carbon Designation, see Ceccarelli, Ramelli, Wagner (2021)

How to Fight Climate Change?



How to Fight Climate Change?

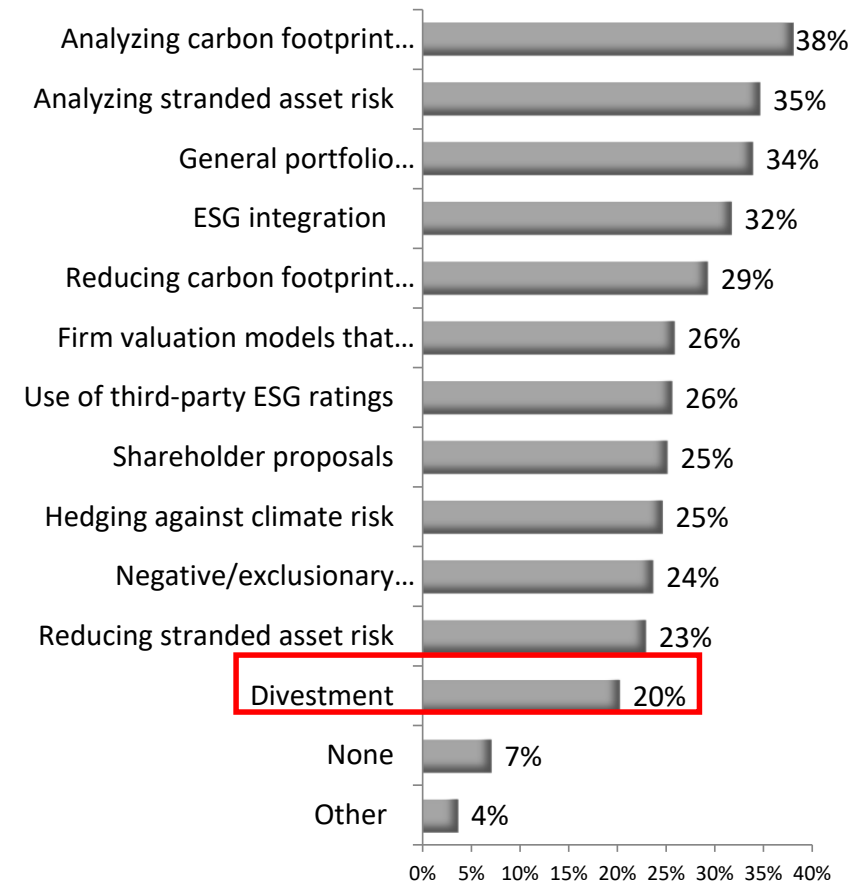


Effects of Divestment: Rare and small

	(1)
	4Good
I_{it}	-0.0010 (-0.64)
$I_{it}^{AG(Select)}$	0.0004 (0.27)
ΔI_{it}	0.0131 (1.55)
$\Delta I_{it}^{AG(Select)}$	0.0021 (0.38)
Constant	0.0098*** (2.60)
Observations	1376792
R^2	0.00

t-statistics in parentheses

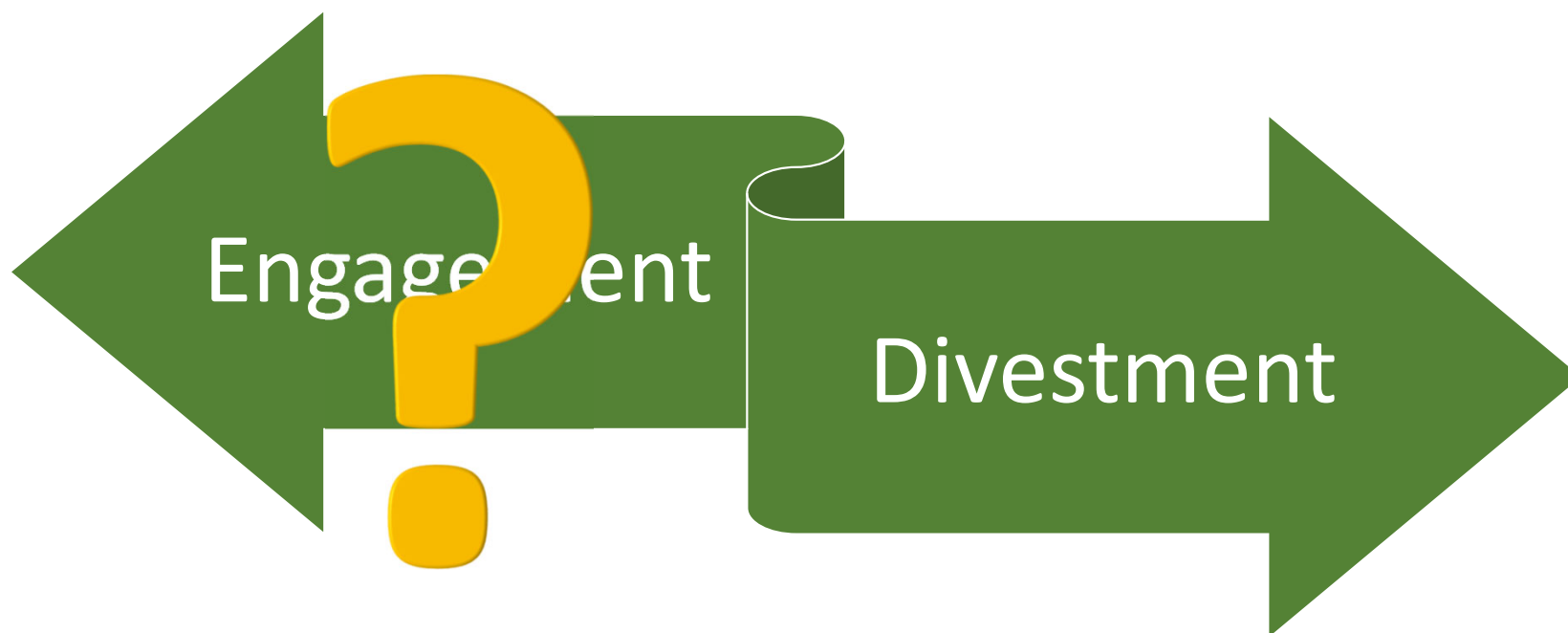
Price change of FTSE 4Good inclusion/exclusion is 0.21% only
 -> Effect of divestment by ESG investors on the cost of capital is only 40 bps



But more evidence is needed...

- Maybe need to look beyond divested/excluded firms
- Some promising evidence by Becht, Pajuste, and Toniolo (2023)
 - Divestment pledges that went viral have depressed share prices of all high carbon emitters, including those with no significant divestment
 - Divestment induces investors to decarbonize their portfolios

How to Fight Climate Change?



The Good: Engagement

- Improves disclosure
- Reduces ESG / climate risk
- Reduces emissions

- ... and more evidence exists

Climate Risk Disclosure: Climate-Conscious IO

1 STD increase
in *Stewardship
code IO*
-> 3pp
increase in the
propensity to
disclose
emissions
(12% of mean)

	<i>Scope 1 disclosure</i>			<i>Climate risk disclosure</i>			<i>Log(Climate disclosure score)</i>		
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
<i>Stewardship code IO</i>	0.17** (0.08)			0.64** (0.28)			1.17** (0.51)		
<i>High-norms IO</i>		0.30** (0.13)			0.63** (0.29)			1.00** (0.45)	
<i>Universal owner IO</i>			0.41*** (0.08)			0.67*** (0.20)			1.28*** (0.26)
<i>Non-stewardship code IO</i>	0.04 (0.08)			-0.21 (0.30)			-0.38 (0.44)		
<i>Low-norms IO</i>		0.01 (0.11)			-0.10 (0.35)			-0.18 (0.51)	
<i>Non-universal owner IO</i>			-0.15 (0.10)			-0.27 (0.31)			-0.62 (0.50)
Sample Years	All Firms 2010-2019			All Firms 2011-2016			All Firms 2010-2015		
Controls	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Industry x Year Fixed Effects	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Country Fixed Effects	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
N	35350	35350	31059	21312	21312	20716	21168	21168	20584
Adj. R-sq.	0.291	0.291	0.290	0.252	0.251	0.249	0.304	0.303	0.301

Climate Risk Disclosure: French Article 173

	<i>Scope 1 disclosure</i>				<i>Climate risk disclosure</i>
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
<i>Post Article 173 x High French IO</i>	0.020** (0.009)	0.021** (0.010)	0.032** (0.014)		0.078** (0.037)
<i>Post Article 173 x French IO</i>				1.379** (0.540)	
<i>High French IO</i>	0.059*** (0.012)	0.059*** (0.012)	-0.007 (0.012)		0.074 (0.052)
<i>French IO</i>				0.621 (0.445)	
Sample	All Firms	All Non-French Firms	All Firms, Balanced Panel	All Firms with French IO >3%	All Firms
Years	2013-2017	2013-2017	2013-2017	2013-2017	2013-2016
Controls	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Industry x Year Fixed Effects	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Country Fixed Effects	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Year Fixed Effects	No	No	Yes	No	No
Firm Fixed Effects	No	No	Yes	No	No
N	17878	16835	13126	1113	14294
Adj. R-sq.	0.302	0.295	0.784	0.485	0.257

ESG Engagement and Downside Risk

Dependent variable:	<i>VaR</i>				<i>LPM</i>			
	All	M2 and above	M3 and above	Below M2	All	M2 and above	M3 and above	Below M2
Engagement success:	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
<i>Target x Post</i>	-0.090 (-1.22)	-0.241** (-2.07)	-0.793** (-2.58)	-0.002 (-0.02)	-0.051 (-1.51)	-0.113** (-2.02)	-0.433** (-2.61)	-0.016 (-0.44)
<i>Target</i>	0.491*** (5.43)	0.628*** (4.51)	1.341*** (3.17)	0.436*** (4.11)	0.249*** (5.61)	0.297*** (4.37)	0.670*** (3.17)	0.237*** (4.45)
<i>Post</i>	0.196*** (3.04)	0.270*** (2.78)	-0.186 (-0.81)	0.170** (2.13)	0.108*** (3.53)	0.148*** (3.06)	-0.014 (-0.10)	0.088** (2.48)
Model	OLS	OLS	OLS	OLS	OLS	OLS	OLS	OLS
Controls	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Country fixed effects	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Industry x Year fixed effects	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Obs.	26,082	10,263	1,852	15,819	26,082	10,263	1,852	15,819
Adj. R-sq.	0.291	0.362	0.405	0.266	0.324	0.381	0.408	0.309

Results mostly originate from engagement over climate topics

Climate Engagement Topics

Climate Change Subtopics	#	%
Carbon strategy & risk management	51	28
Carbon disclosure/reporting	48	27
Carbon intensity reduction	45	25
Stranded assets	10	6
Others (methane, gas flaring)	25	14
Total	179	100

Effect of Engagement on Incidents

Dependent variable: Downside risk measure: Δ Downside Risk _{Pre vs Post} :	# E incidents				
	All	VaR		LPM	
			Large	Small	Large
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
<i>Post</i>	-0.223* (-1.87)	-0.329*** (-2.77)	0.134 (0.88)	-0.308*** (-2.59)	-0.029 (-0.21)
Model	Poisson	Poisson	Poisson	Poisson	Poisson
Controls	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Country fixed effects	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Industry x Year fixed effects	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Obs.	4,439	2,222	2,217	2,272	2,167
Ps. R-sq.	0.312	0.432	0.279	0.410	0.315

Big 3 Engagement and Emissions

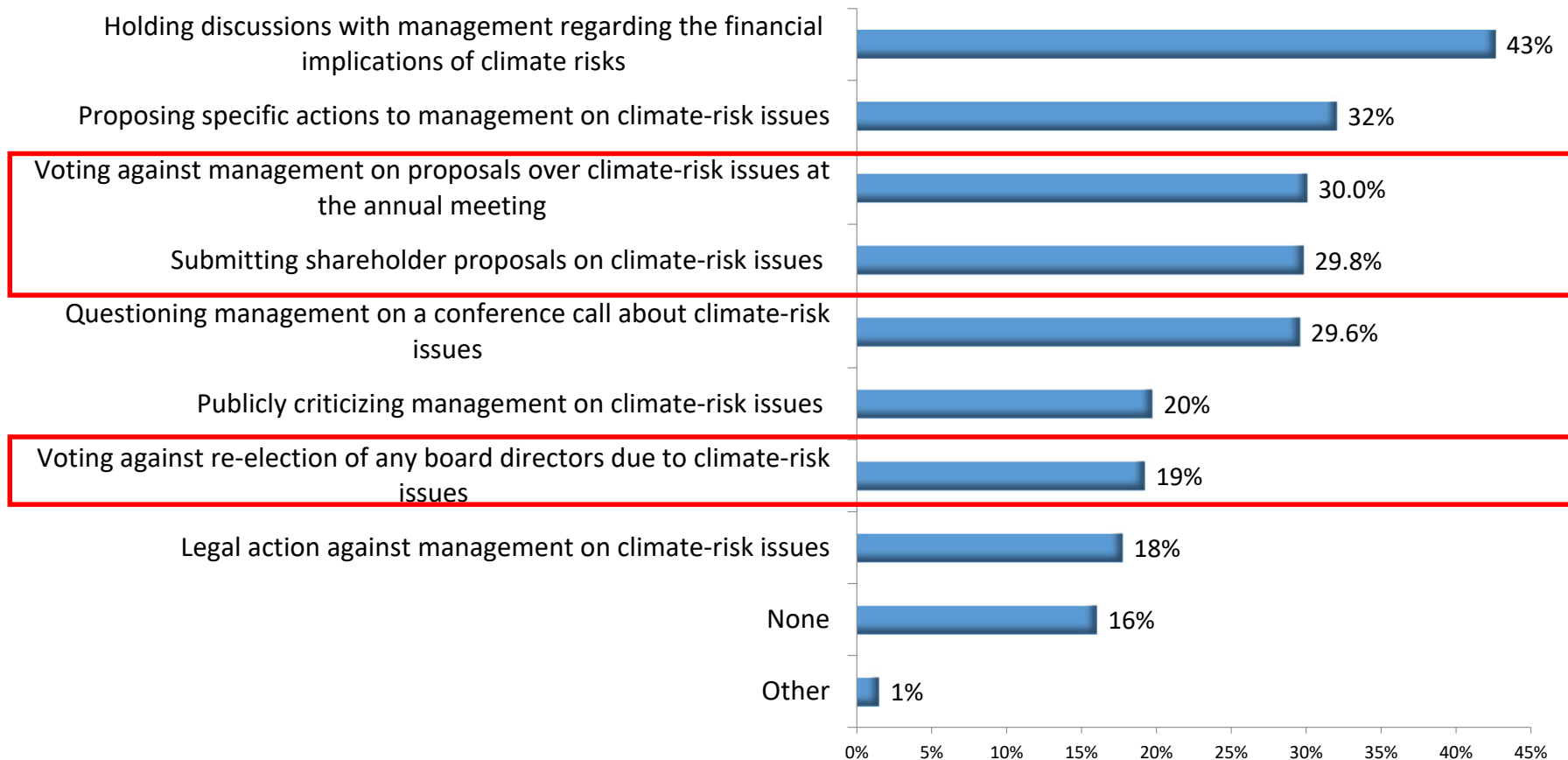
	Dependent Variable: $\text{Log}(\text{CO}_2)$					
	MSCI			Non-MSCI		
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
<i>Big3_Hldg</i>	-3.44*** (-5.76)	-1.69** (-2.27)	-1.00*** (-2.83)	-0.76 (-1.09)	0.66 (1.41)	0.46 (1.60)
<i>NonBig3_Hldg</i>	-0.04 (-0.25)	-0.12 (-0.74)	-0.07 (-0.75)	0.36*** (3.43)	0.26** (2.50)	0.18** (2.47)
<i>Controls:</i>						
<i>Size</i>	0.79*** (42.88)	0.80*** (42.21)	0.55*** (13.77)	0.81*** (50.85)	0.79*** (54.50)	0.56*** (14.96)
<i>Log(BM)</i>	0.01 (0.55)	0.01 (0.30)	-0.02** (-2.29)	-0.06*** (-3.25)	-0.06*** (-3.16)	-0.05*** (-4.36)
<i>ROA</i>	1.52*** (4.55)	1.53*** (4.65)	0.89*** (5.39)	2.95*** (14.26)	2.83*** (12.89)	0.57*** (6.30)
<i>Leverage</i>	0.03 (0.23)	0.02 (0.15)	0.05 (0.69)	0.38*** (3.03)	0.41*** (3.29)	0.17** (2.22)
<i>PPE</i>	1.27*** (8.32)	1.27*** (8.24)	-0.01 (-0.08)	1.19*** (12.01)	1.15*** (11.54)	0.51*** (4.38)
<i>Country FE</i>	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO
<i>Industry FE</i>	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO
<i>Year FE</i>	NO	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES
<i>Firm FE</i>	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	YES
R^2	0.75	0.75	0.98	0.73	0.74	0.98
# Obs.	19,224	19,224	19,134	22,969	22,969	22,468

The Bad.

The Bad

- Not enough investors engage
- There is too little action

Addressing Climate Risks



Too Little Action – Achieving Net-Zero Targets

69% of focus companies have now committed to achieve net zero emissions by 2050 across all or some of their emissions

An absence of medium-term emissions reductions targets aligned with 1.5°C.
Only 17% of focus companies have set medium-term targets which are aligned with the IEA's 1.5°C scenario and cover all material emissions.
Continued absence of Scope 3 emissions.
Just 42% of focus companies have comprehensive net zero by 2050 or sooner commitments that cover all material GHG emissions, including material Scope 3 emissions.
Alignment of capex strategies with net zero transition goals remains almost non-existent.
Only 5% of focus companies explicitly commit to align their capex plans with their long-term GHG reduction targets.
Companies are setting emissions reduction targets but don't have the strategies to deliver them.
Only 17% of focus companies have robust quantified decarbonisation strategies in place to reduce their GHG emissions.

The Ugly.

The Ugly

- Greenwashing
- Fees
- ESG Ratings

MARKETS

SEC Fines BNY Mellon Over ESG Claims

Regulator is boosting its scrutiny of funds as market grows



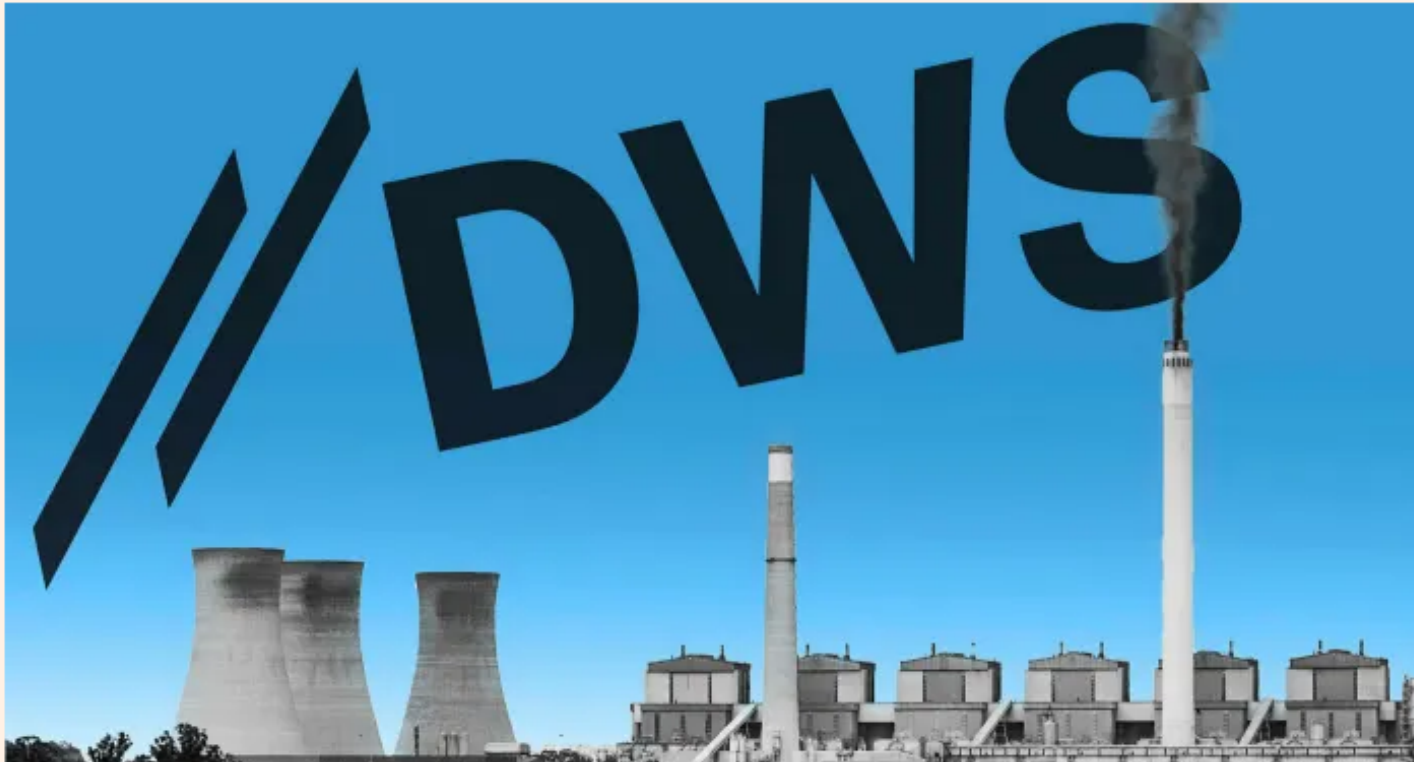
THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

**Inform
your company's
tech strategy
with trusted
facts.**

CIO Journal Newsletter

ESG's legal showdown: 'There's nothing to suggest DWS is a one off'

The boom in ESG investing is drawing regulatory scrutiny on both sides of the Atlantic



“The amount of “ESG assets” reported in its latest annual report, released in March, were 75 per cent below the €459bn it had said were “ESG integrated” a year earlier.”

“former BlackRock sustainability executive Tariq Fancy said ESG investing was little more than “marketing hype””

More systematic evidence needed

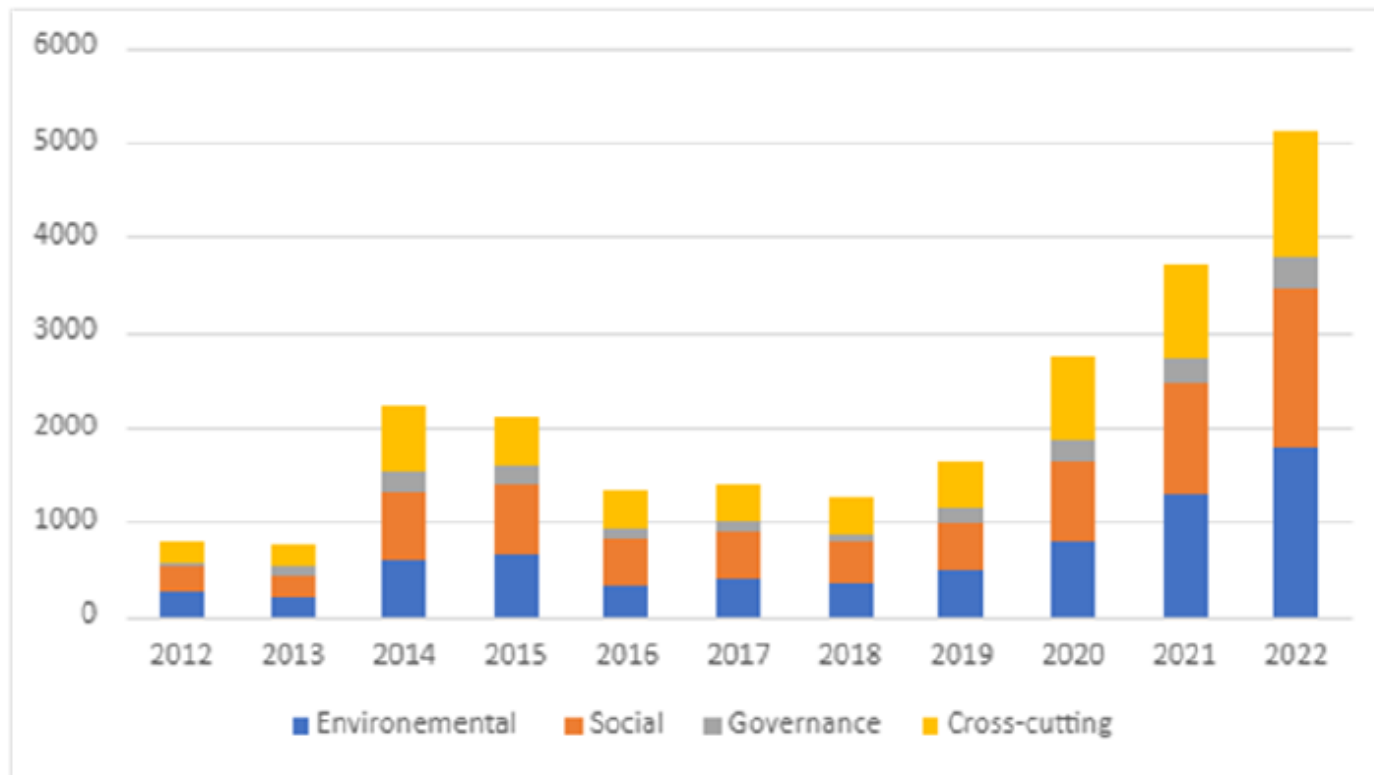
- The European Supervisory Authorities (EBA, EIOPA and ESMA) published reports on greenwashing in the financial sector
- Evidence of widespread greenwashing across the financial system
- Most prone to greenwashing: Pledges about ESG targets (56% of respondents: (very) relevant, 4% irrelevant), net-zero commitments, transition plans
- Channels: Marketing material, followed by product information and ESG ratings

EU regulators flag rising greenwashing practices by banks

European Banking Authority says there is a 'clear increase' in financial institutions overstating their climate credentials



Figure 3. Total alleged incidents of misleading communication on ESG related topics



Source: RepRisk ESG Data Science, www.reprisk.com



Elon Musk ✓
@elonmusk



Exxon is rated top ten best in world for environment, social & governance (ESG) by S&P 500, while Tesla didn't make the list!

ESG is a scam. It has been weaponized by phony social justice warriors.

5:09 pm · 18 May 2022 · Twitter for iPhone



Tesla kicked out of the S&P 500 ESG Index

Quiz: Which one is the ESG Fund?

Fund 1 - Top 10 Holdings

AAPL	<i>Apple, Inc</i>
AXP	<i>American Express</i>
BLK	<i>Blackrock</i>
FB	<i>Facebook</i>
GOOG	<i>Alphabet, Inc.</i>
HD	<i>Home Depot</i>
MMM	<i>3M</i>
MSFT	<i>Microsoft Corp.</i>
NVDA	<i>Nvidia, Inc.</i>
TSLA	<i>Tesla, Inc.</i>

Fund 2 - Top 10 Holdings

AAPL	<i>Apple, Inc.</i>
AMZN	<i>Amazon.com</i>
BRK.B	<i>Berkshire Hathaway</i>
FB	<i>Facebook</i>
GOOG	<i>Alphabet, Inc.</i>
JNJ	<i>Johnson & Johnson</i>
JPM	<i>JP Morgan</i>
MSFT	<i>Microsoft Corp.</i>
NVDA	<i>Nvidia, Inc.</i>
TSLA	<i>Tesla, Inc.</i>

SUSA - Blackrock Ishares USA ESG Select

SPY - SPDR S&P 500 ETF Trust

ESG Fund

Standard Fund

Fund 1 - Top 10 Holdings

AAPL	<i>Apple, Inc</i>
AXP	<i>American Express</i>
BLK	<i>Blackrock</i>
FB	<i>Facebook</i>
GOOG	<i>Alphabet, Inc.</i>
HD	<i>Home Depot</i>
MMM	<i>3M</i>
MSFT	<i>Microsoft Corp.</i>
NVDA	<i>Nvidia, Inc.</i>
TSLA	<i>Tesla, Inc.</i>

Fund 2 - Top 10 Holdings

AAPL	<i>Apple, Inc.</i>
AMZN	<i>Amazon.com</i>
BRK.B	<i>Berkshire Hathaway</i>
FB	<i>Facebook</i>
GOOG	<i>Alphabet, Inc.</i>
JNJ	<i>Johnson & Johnson</i>
JPM	<i>JP Morgan</i>
MSFT	<i>Microsoft Corp.</i>
NVDA	<i>Nvidia, Inc.</i>
TSLA	<i>Tesla, Inc.</i>

SUSA - Blackrock Ishares USA ESG Select
Expense Ratio: 0.25%

SPY - SPDR S&P 500 ETF Trust
Expense Ratio: 0.09%

Fund 1 - Top 10 Holdings

<i>AAPL</i>	<i>Apple, Inc</i>
<i>AXP</i>	<i>American Express</i>
<i>BLK</i>	<i>Blackrock</i>
<i>FB</i>	<i>Facebook</i>
<i>GOOG</i>	<i>Alphabet, Inc.</i>
<i>HD</i>	<i>Home Depot</i>
<i>MMM</i>	<i>3M</i>
<i>MSFT</i>	<i>Microsoft Corp.</i>
<i>NVDA</i>	<i>Nvidia, Inc.</i>
<i>TSLA</i>	<i>Tesla, Inc.</i>

ESG Fund

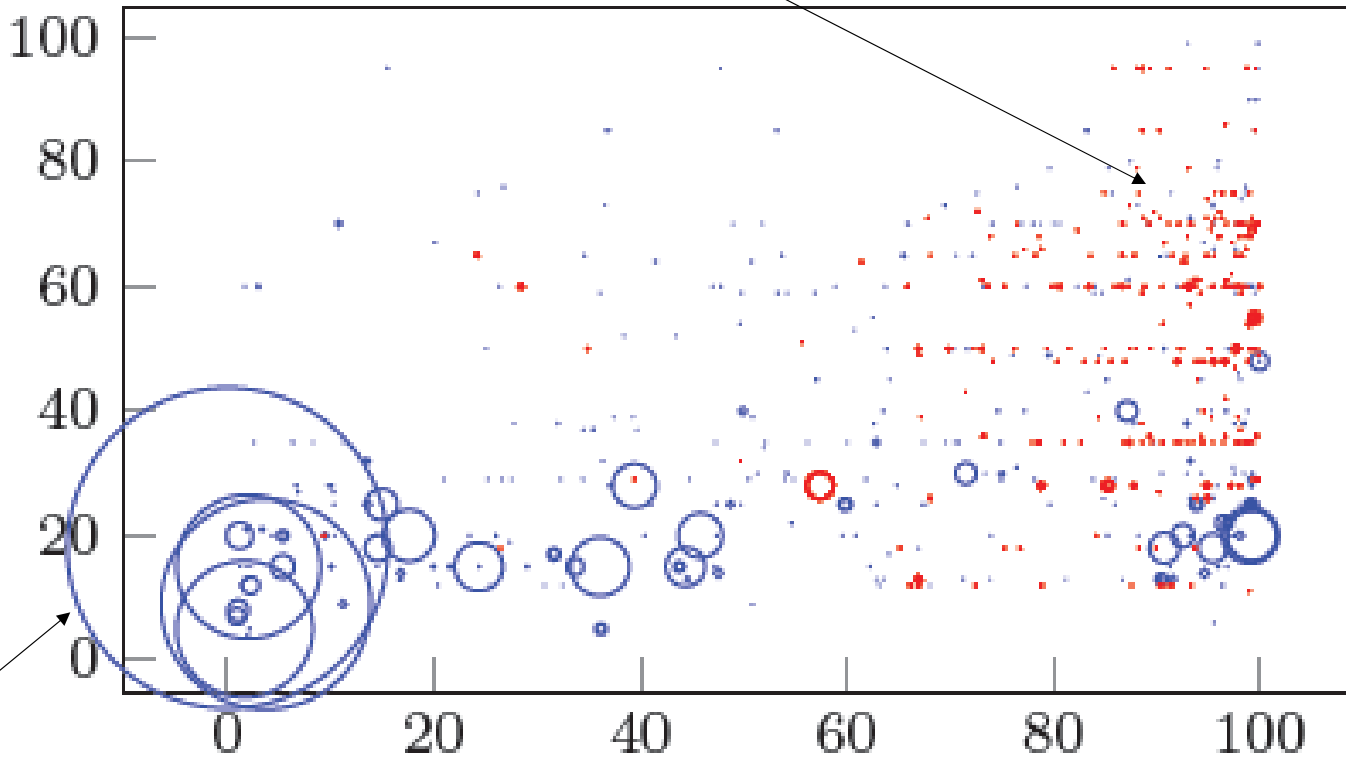
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<i>BRK.B</i>	<i>Berkshire Hathaway</i>
<i>FB</i>	<i>Facebook</i>
<i>GOOG</i>	<i>Alphabet, Inc.</i>
<i>JNJ</i>	<i>Johnson & Johnson</i>
<i>JPM</i>	<i>JP Morgan</i>
<i>MSFT</i>	<i>Microsoft Corp.</i>
<i>NVDA</i>	<i>Nvidia, Inc.</i>
<i>TSLA</i>	<i>Tesla, Inc.</i>

Standard Fund

Red: Specialized ETS (e.g., ESG)

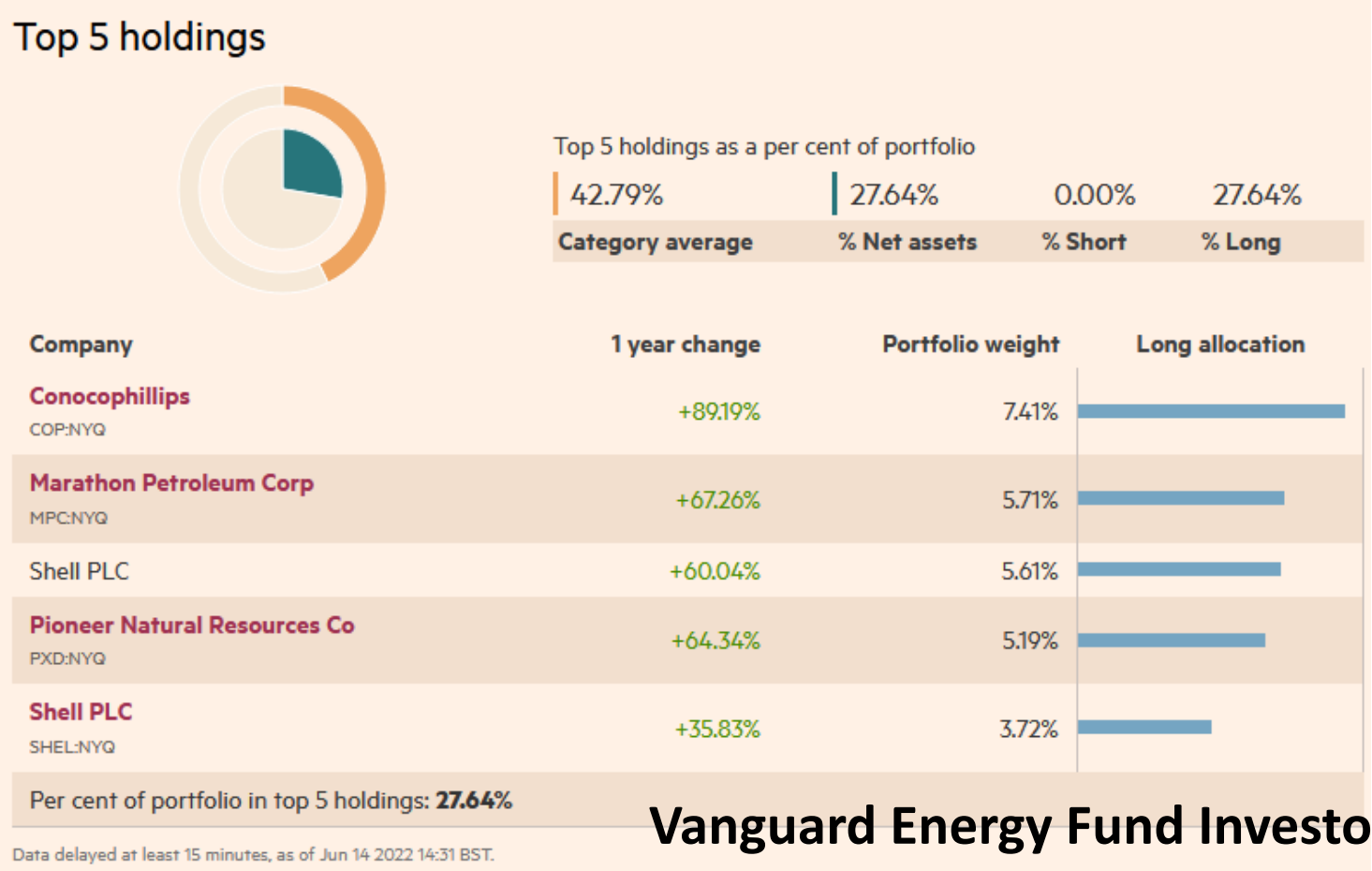
Fees (basis points)



Blue: Broad ETFs (e.g., S&P1500)

Product Differentiation

Quiz: Is this maybe the “Ideal” ESG Fund?



Vanguard Energy Fund Investor Shares

BP PLC

History 5 Years

Currency GBP

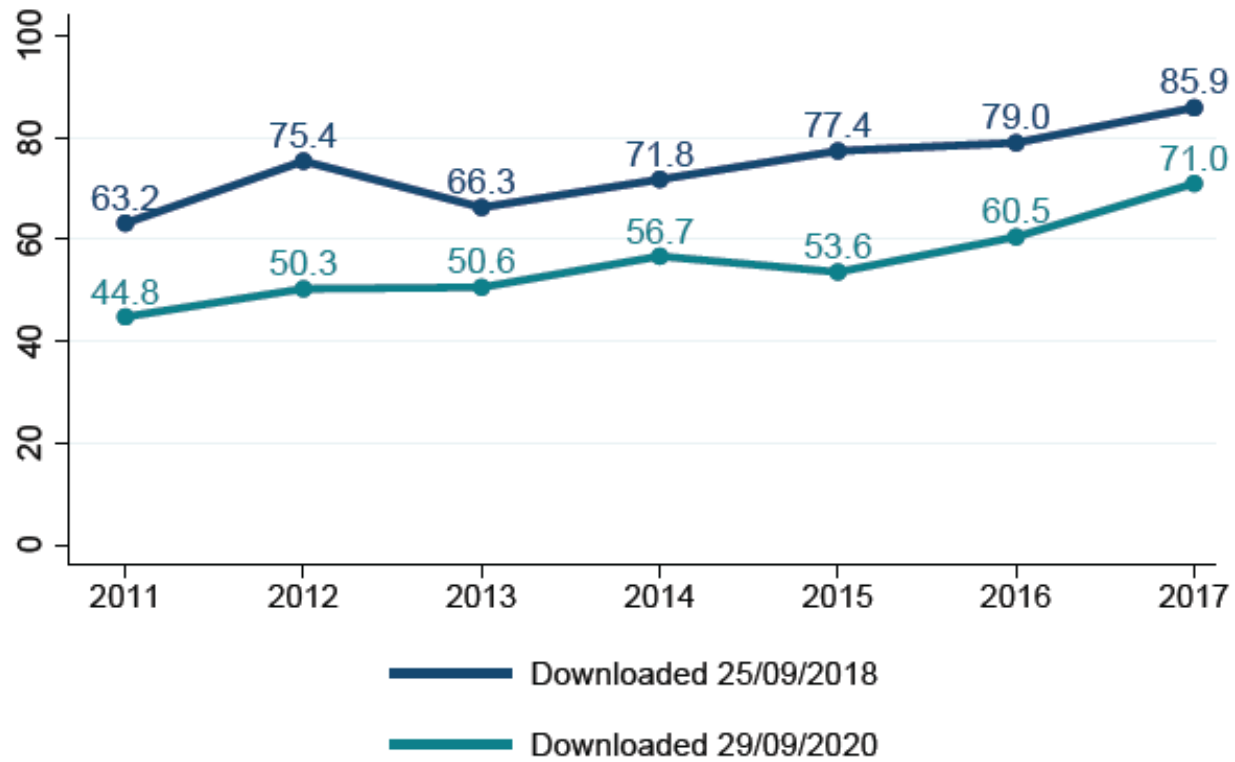
Summary	vs History	vs Peers
Environmental	Better	Better
Social	Better	Better
Governance	Better	Worse

97) ESG Scores | RV ESG »

RobecoSAM Rank	61	ISS QualityScore	1
Sustainalytics Rank	75.6	CDP Climate Score	6
Bloomberg ESG Disclosure	68		

Metrics	98) Analyze Peers vs History			vs Peers					
	Current	History	Change	Low	Range	High	Median	Difference	History
1) Environmental									
11) GHG/Revenue	415.3		127.7 W	365.8		897.3	651.5	-236.2 B	
12) GHG/MBOE	46.9		-9 B	21.7		194.2	81.8	-34.9 B	
13) Carbon Reserves	7280.3		313.8 W	119.7		5280	1424.6	5855.7 W	
14) Oil in Total Prod %	59.7		24.9 W	35.2		92.2	50.5	9.2 W	
15) Energy/MBOE	175.6		-42 B	100.8		727	281.6	-106 B	
2) Social									
21) Women Empls Mgmt Ratio	0.67		0.07 B	0.18		0.92	0.61	0.05 B	
22) Women Employees %	33		3 B	23		41	30.5	2.5 B	
23) Employee Turnover %	16		3 W	4		13	10.8	5.2 W	
24) Employees Unionized %	--		--	68.9		89	78.3	--	
25) Lost Time Incident Rate	0.05		-0.03 B	0.05		0.33	0.12	-0.07 B	
3) Governance									
31) Independent Directors %	78.6		5.2 B	26.3		90	61.1	17.5 B	
32) Percent of Board Members...	23.1		23.1 B	10.5		50	20	3.1 B	
33) Director Avg Age	62		3 W	58		62	60	3 W	
34) Director Meeting Attd %	98		3.6 B	88.4		99.4	94.5	3.5 B	
35) Board Size	13		-2 B	8		19	12	2 W	

ESG Ratings – Data Rewriting by Refinitiv

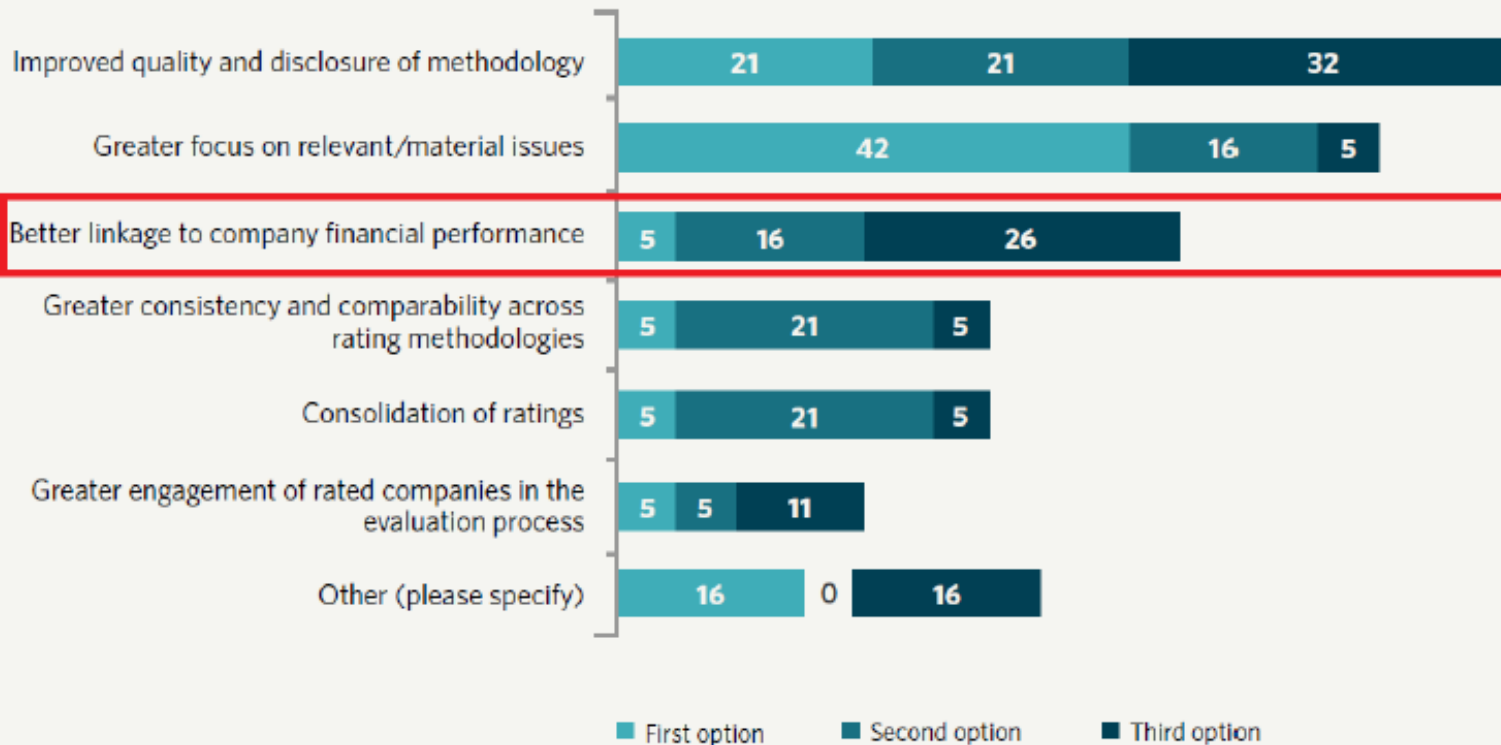


ESG Ratings - Rewriting and Stock Returns

Data version	09/2018	09/2020	03/2021	09/2018	09/2020	03/2021
Dependent variable	<i>Future Ret.</i>	<i>Future Ret.</i>	<i>Future Ret.</i>	<i>Future Ret.</i>	<i>Future Ret.</i>	<i>Future Ret.</i>
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
<i>E&S Score</i>	0.001 (0.06)	0.031** (2.43)	0.030** (2.31)			
<i>E&S Score Top 25%</i>				0.892 (1.56)	1.170** (2.09)	1.332** (2.33)
Observations	20,874	20,874	20,874	20,874	20,874	20,874
Control variables	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Year Fixed Effects	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Industry Fixed Effects	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Country Fixed Effects	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Adj. R-squared	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12

ESG Data Providers - Incentives

Preferred changes and solutions in next five years



What's the problem?

May undermine trust in the financial system (again)

Distrust in ESG products may lead to large ESG fund outflows, which can have large real effects on green firms

=> Capital reallocation required for the green transition will be impeded

Many important issues to address

- Measuring greenwashing
- Understanding the incentive structure of the ESG industry
- Understanding firm adaption policies (physical, insurance)
- Climate risks in the insurance sector (both sides of the balance sheet)
- Climate change mitigation and the housing sector

Danke