

Chapter 1 : Which Are The Best Performing Green Investments? - Alternative Investment Coach

Often conflated with socially responsible investing (SRI), green investments are essentially investment activities that focus on companies or projects that are committed to the conservation of.

However, this business-as-usual investment will not lead to a stable future unless it achieves environmental and sustainability goals. This can be achieved by re-evaluating investment priorities, shifting incentives, building capacity, investment-grade policies and improving governance. In other sectors, incremental investment needs are unknown and more work is needed to understand these. Current green investment flows have been summarized from different sources for climate-specific investment, notably renewable energy, energy efficiency, transport vehicles, forestry and climate change adaptation. In other sectors, such as transport infrastructure roads and airports, buildings, industry, water and agriculture, flow estimates are lacking but business-as-usual spending predictions can be used as a proxy. In , Southern-originating flows for clean-energy asset financing are set to exceed those originating from the North. Looking through the lens of climate-specific investment, financial flows still fail to close the cost gap. There is significant regional and technological bias in investment patterns. Investment is disproportionately focussed in the North and emerging markets, for wind and solar technologies in particular. Investment in energy efficiency and sustainable transport are also lagging. Financing for climate-specific investment was split about 1: Part 2 of this report elaborates on the strong potential for increased private sector participation. Defining the scope and methodology Scope of the report In order to measure, monitor and scale up progress in green investment, it is first necessary to define its scope. Efforts to date have focused on measuring and tracking investments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions mitigation and to reduce the risks and impacts of climate change adaptation. Global spending on infrastructure has generally been tracked separately. The diagram below presents a conceptual framework for greening investment with the scope of assessment for this edition of this report. There is no comprehensive assessment of investment in the various sectors. Data gaps have been identified for current investment flows and future investment requirements in non-energy related sectors. Future editions of this report will aim to offer strategies to close these gaps, with a longer-term aim of obtaining a clearer picture of green-growth spending. Conceptual assessment framework and scope of this report The frame of the assessment, which can be expanded in later editions, includes a synthesis of investment requirements from different sources detailed in Appendix 1 to support growth under current projections. This subset, however, has not been quantified in this edition of the report. This is assessed for transport vehicles, power, industry, buildings and forestry, but is unknown for other sectors, such as agriculture and water. The assessment of sectors in this edition of the report is not exhaustive and is based on data availability. Future editions will aim to expand the number of sectors assessed and the scope of that assessment. Defining green growth and green investment Various definitions of green growth exist. The High Level Panel sets out a vision for growth that eradicates poverty and reduces inequality, while combating climate change and respecting a range of other planetary boundaries. In this context, an inclusive green-growth strategy is an important driver for innovation and creating sustainable wealth. Investment requirements in a business-as-usual scenario, under current policies. Current known and historical investment flows. These are limited to climate-specific investments: Business-as-usual investment data was collated from the sectors outlined above and is presented below. Climate-change adaptation investment requirements were not aggregated and are presented separately. Collated data was not altered in any way, apart from converting United States dollar amounts to their rate for ease of comparison. All data sources, assumptions and calculations are provided in Appendix 1. It should be noted that the investment gaps presented in this report should be taken as indicative, and as a lower-range estimate, because further work is required to include other sectors and incremental costs to strengthen the scope of the analysis. Furthermore, caution should be taken in interpreting the investment requirements presented in this report where different sources are used, as the underlying assumptions of the different data sets may not be identical. A subset of climate-specific public and private investment is studied in more depth. Of this investment, new-build asset finance for clean energy comprising about half of the total investment is

presented in directional flows between countries and domestic sources of finance.

Chapter 2 : Eco-investing - Wikipedia

Green Century has been helping people save for their futures without compromising their values or the planet for over 25 years. Our mission is to help investors make an impact through their investments.

The National Petroleum Council, a U. A shortfall could be a windfall for companies that can supply cheaper alternatives to fossil fuels. Already, the European Union has instituted a quota for carbon emissions in response to the Kyoto Protocol, a global treaty that went into effect in In addition, Congress passed an energy bill in that offers subsidies for various new energy technologies, and it is considering another bill this year. Clearly, these trends will produce stock-market winners and losers, but not all of them are obvious. Makers of wind turbines and biofuels will surely benefit. But so will makers of rail cars and auto-emissions controls. Our picks vary widely in size, and four are based overseas. Some of the stocks may be expensive, and shares of some of the smaller companies may be volatile. But we think all will do well over the long term. ABB One obvious solution to the global energy crunch is simply to use less energy. Companies that can help us become more energy-efficient will find their products and services in great demand. The rules now also apply to businesses as varied as commercial real estate developers, biotechnology firms, utilities, railroads and even schools which may store potentially hazardous materials on campus. AIG , the giant insurer, has been writing policies that protect businesses against environmental claims since the early s. But as efforts to curb greenhouse gases grow, businesses will need protection against new types of liabilities that will surely arise. AIG is also a leader in writing insurance that protects participants in the nascent global market for trading carbon credits. American Standard spun off its vehicle-control division this summer and will finalize the sale of its bath-and-kitchen business this fall. That will allow the Piscataway, N. Selling principally under the Trane brand, American Standard is a leader in energy-efficient air-conditioning and climate-control systems. This will be a hot industry because buildings account for one-third of global energy demand. Any solution to greenhouse-gas emissions must include drastic reductions in energy demand from office buildings, residential towers and other large structures. Then it applied that prowess to make equipment used to manufacture LCD flat-panel displays, a process that requires similar technology. Now, Applied , based in Santa Clara, Cal. As railroads burnish their environmental credentials, Burlington Northern Santa Fe should benefit the most. It also hauls more grain products than any other railroad, including both the corn used to make ethanol and the ethanol itself. COVANTA An alternative approach to power generation that is already commercially viable is to get it from garbage, and the leader in waste-to-energy facilities is Covanta. The company operates 32 plants that burn trash and municipal waste to make steam and heat for power generation. Trash haulers pay the Fairfield, N. This form of renewable energy is especially competitive in places such as New England, where landfill space comes at a premium. Surging fossil-fuel prices make nuclear energy highly competitive. Emissions are low compared with those from power plants that burn coal or oil. In the future, a system of carbon-emission credits and licenses is likely to develop in the U. His favorite utility is Exelon , of Chicago, the largest operator of nuclear power plants in the U. In the future, if government regulations further cap the amount of pollutants that power plants may emit, the Juno Beach, Fla. More important, as the government requires other utilities to add more power from renewable sources to their mix, FPL will have a lot of power-hungry customers for its wholesale business, which can charge whatever the market will bear. The giant conglomerate is a major producer of wind turbines and clean-coal technology, not to mention energy-efficient locomotives, jet engines, home appliances and light bulbs. That means the Japanese firm will benefit from tighter U. The Civic Hybrid, for example, gets up to 45 miles per gallon. International Rectifier makes the semiconductor power-conversion devices, called ballast controllers, for both types of lighting. The El Segundo, Cal. Because so much manufacturing has moved abroad, International Rectifier books three-fourths of its sales overseas. IR is investigating accounting irregularities at one of its foreign units. A federal law requires utilities to look into ways to spread out electricity demand and reduce the need for new generating stations by charging more for power used during peak hours. A key player in this market is Itron , the leading U. Shares of the Liberty Lake, Wash. As the leading worldwide supplier of temperature controls to

the heating, ventilation and air-conditioning industry, Johnson is still at work making buildings more energy-efficient. The solution is to clean up the coal. So McDermott stands to gain as environmental regulations mandate retrofits and upgrades to existing coal-fired plants. This Houston-based engineering-and-construction company is also a leading supplier to the nuclear industry. This hard-to-make substance is the same material used for making semiconductors. But while the chip industry seeks smaller and smaller products, the solar-power industry wants large panels that cover rooftops. Not a bad business. The technology uses hot water and steam from deep underground to turn a turbine and generate electricity. Ormat Technologies is the third-largest geothermal firm in the U. Its shares are pricey, but the Reno, Nev. Jens Peers, lead manager of Calvert Global Alternative Energy, says Philips is making an aggressive bid to capture the premier position in new, energy-efficient lighting, such as LED and compact fluorescent bulbs. In pursuit of this goal, Philips has been acquiring lighting companies with advanced technology, such as Color Kinetics, an LED fixture maker in Boston. Shaw Group , an engineering-and-construction firm headquartered in Baton Rouge, La. The question is whose technology will prevail in the youthful industry. One company that may nevertheless pay off is Suntech Power Holdings. It is the leading supplier in China and Europe, and it is number two in the U. The Lake Forest, Ill. Demand for covered hopper cars, which carry grain, as well as for coal cars and tank cars for hauling ethanol, contributed to a record order backlog of almost 34, cars at the end of the second quarter. The Dallas-based manufacturer is also a backdoor play on wind power, as it is a leading maker of towers for wind-powered turbines. Its Otis elevator and Carrier heating and air-conditioning units are developing more energy-efficient systems. ZOLTEK These are boom times for makers of carbon fiber, a strong, lightweight material used to make aircraft parts as well as the 70-foot-long blades that turn wind turbines. Zoltek supplies both markets, and its stock has more than doubled in the past year as demand from both sources has soared. But this may be only the beginning. Zoltek chief executive Zsolt Rummy thinks carbon fiber will soon be used to make lightweight, fuel-efficient cars; precast-concrete structures; and ultra-deep-sea oil-drilling equipment.

Chapter 3 : Five Great Green Funds

As with any peer group, express your personal goals and concerns, as well as your new found green investing expertise, to either start a green investment club, or to encourage the members of your.

Top Green Investing Tips Choose a Green Investing Sector Green investing sectors include renewable energy, organic and natural foods, and pollution controls and environmental cleanup. Each of these sectors is further broken into subgroups and sub-subgroups, according to Jeff Siegel of Green Chip Stocks. Choose the sector s which best aligns with your environmental and personal interests and scout for the best financial growth opportunities within your chosen category of interest. Although we would like to believe that all green securities are good investments, remember that there is risk when investing in any new technology sector or in any new company. Remember that diversification is key to any successful investment strategy. You can protect your funds and bolster multiple environmental sectors, through diversifying your portfolio by investing in a variety of green sectors. Screen for Green Create guidelines and boundaries for yourself when choosing which types of environmentally focused companies to invest in. For example, some green-minded mutual funds screen out things like tobacco and military products, but not nuclear power and clean coal technology. In addition, when investing in mutual funds decide whether you want to go with a fund that uses a positive screen or a negative screen when selecting which companies to back [see the "Getting Techie" section for more details on positive and negative screening]. Beware of Greenwashing Greenwashing is an important concept to keep in mind when evaluating all investment opportunities, but is particularly pertinent when deciding whether or not to financially back a specific company. Determine what is really involved in the technology they are developing or the claims they are making, and filter by how these answers line up with your personal values. Planet Green and TreeHugger outline a few tips on how to spot greenwashing when scouting for products and companies. Create A Green Investment Strategy As with traditional investing, personal green investment strategies are diverse and can be difficult to navigate. As an individual, you are faced with innumerable options when looking for new investment opportunities. Fortunately there are a plethora of resources available for you to help search out the best opportunities. Ask Questions - Look into how your potential company deals with problems, how they relate with the community, and whether their environmental policies are green or just greenwashing. Consult with a Green Investment Analyst - Many investment analysts are beginning to specialize in green and socially responsible stock options. For those with the means, this route can offer you a personally tailored experience when delving into green stock options. See the "Where to Get It" section of this guide for further suggestions on resources. Become a "Stakeholder" Buying green stocks has become a sound decision for both the planet and for your pocket book. In , the Dow Jones Sustainability Index rose by As more and more shareholders continue to opt for green stocks, the growing trend has not only become an indicator of increased value in these green companies, but has finally solidified a place for green industries within the market as a whole. What better time to become a shareholder in one of these future forward sustainable enterprises , helping the company, their environmental efforts, and your finances to grow! Stakeholder - Rather than simply holding shares in a company, take a vested interest in your investments as a stakeholder. Whether you own stock in a company that already has a strong positive environmental record, or in a company that desperately needs environmental reform, voicing your green opinions can push the buck for stronger environmental reform. Exercise your Voting Rights - As a holder of common stock in a company, you are eligible to vote and propose changes within that company. As an individual, unless you are the holder of a great deal of shares in a company, your vote may seem quite small. You may, however, be able to reach out to other likeminded shareholders to forming a larger voting body, in order to fight for sustainable reform within the company. Mutual Funds Mutual funds are managed by money managers who use a pool of funds collected from many investors to invest collectively in a diversified portfolio of securities such as stocks, bonds, and other assets. When selecting which socially or environmentally responsible investment fund to entrust your green to follow these cues: Screening - Determine what their green guidelines are and whether or not they use positive or negative screening. Voting - Key to note is that the managers of these funds are

allowed to vote on stakeholder issues--make sure their voting record, just as with their portfolio, is in line with your social and environmental concerns. Investment Clubs Individuals come together to form investment clubs when they want to maintain more control over which companies they want to invest in than when investing in mutual funds, but lack the personal funds to be able to set up a separately managed account. By pooling their money in an investment club they can make larger financial investments and in theory larger profits while still maintaining a high degree of personal control. As with any peer group, express your personal goals and concerns, as well as your new found green investing expertise, to either start a green investment club, or to encourage the members of your current club to make green through investing in green. Community investment opportunities span the globe, from using your time as a form of investing by helping to green the spending of a local organization to investing in a community halfway around the world, via Microfinance lending. Microfinance, a form of banking, serves low-income individuals or groups who need a loan in order to start or grow their business. The goal of these loans is to give these people an opportunity to become financially self-sufficient and ultimately to boost economic growth within the communities they are a part of. Microfinance is often linked with sustainable micro-lending, giving you the opportunity to engage not only your social but also your environmental investment goals. Venture Capitalism VC For those of you with a little more cash--several thousand to upwards of a million dollars--available, and also an interest in really putting your money where your mouth is, consider backing a venture capitalism firm or becoming a venture capitalist yourself! Green VC firms Environmental Capital Partners and GreenSource Partners , for example are few, but they are gaining ground by focusing on areas such as: Retirement and Pension Funds Both publicly and privately controlled retirement funds invest your money over the course of your entire working life. Collectively, pension funds world-wide are the largest single investor category, ahead of mutual funds, hedge funds and insurance companies, and therefore have huge potential impact on social and green industry sectors, according to The Economist. Investigate the investing strategy and policies of your current fund. Look at their plan to determine whether they have a social or green investing strategy in place. The bad news is that if you find your pension fund is investing in companies that do not fit your green criteria, you may have limited ability to switch your plan. In this circumstance, its best to explore alternative options offered by your company and determine which if any will better suit your goals. When presented with self-guided options, determine which of the presented options most aligns with your personal, financial, and environmental goals. The amount of money currently invested in socially responsible investment funds. One out of every 10 dollars: The amount of money currently invested in socially responsible funds. Socially screened mutual funds in the U. Mutual funds are the fastest growing option of socially responsible investing. SRI funds available in the U. Number of shareholder proposed environmental and social resolutions in Of those, of the proposals went to a vote. The amount by which the green energy sector grew, in global sales, in Community investing is the fastest growing area of socially responsible investing.

Chapter 4 : Properties - Florida Green Investments

Eco-investing or green investing, is a form of socially responsible investing where investments are made in companies that support or provide environmentally friendly products and practices.

Here are the best. The trick is to be a green investor and match, much less beat, the stock market. Over the past ten years, the average socially screened stock fund has returned an average of about one percentage point per year less than the typical stock fund. Socially conscious funds, by definition, restrict the stocks in which they invest. Thus, for example, social funds of a liberal bent tend to invest less in smokestack industries than other funds. Socially responsible funds come in all stripes, but the overwhelming majority of them approach their mission from the left side of the political spectrum -- so this article is concerned with them. Liberal funds tend to exclude companies involved with alcohol, tobacco and weapons companies -- as well as those that pollute. Many of the funds charge too much. The average socially conscious stock fund charges 0. One reason for this is that green funds are small, and fixed costs tend to represent a higher percentage of small funds. But even Calvert, the biggest player in the socially screened fund arena, suffers from high expense ratios -- and mediocre performance. To be a first-rate fund manager, I think you have to be passionate about investing. The global fund actually has an okay record, but I tried and failed repeatedly in a lengthy interview to get two of the co-managers to discuss how they pick stocks. There are just a few funds worth considering. Lead manager Arthur Moretti has been at helm since -- and he and his two co-managers also run flagship Neuberger Berman Guardian. Indeed, the only difference between the two funds is that the three managers exclude a few "socially irresponsible" companies from the portfolio. The large-blend fund tries to invest in companies with rising earnings whose shares sell at reasonable prices. Expenses are just 0. Rather than altogether avoiding dirty industries such as energy and manufacturing, Neuberger hunts for the "best in class" in those industries. Relying on the KLD Broad Market Social Index for its list of acceptable companies, the fund seeks to replicate the performance of the broad-based Russell index. But long-term returns have been terrific. Unlike the other funds, which seek merely to avoid bad companies, Winslow invests almost exclusively in companies that offer solutions to environmental problems. Finding a socially screened fund that invests overseas presents a challenge. Like Winslow, New Alternatives looks for companies trying to cure environmental ills. The problem is that means two-thirds of assets are invested in industrial materials and utilities -- so the fund will rise and fall with those industries. Note, too, that the fund levies a front-end sales charge of 4. The no-load fund lost 8. Goldberg bio is an investment adviser and freelance writer.

Chapter 5 : Green Investments and Private Equity

Richard Body is an energy pioneer. The IT consultant is a director of the Torrs Hydro scheme in New Mills, Derbyshire, which was one of the first community-owned hydroelectric schemes to launch.

Chapter 6 : Green Investment Day

The Green Investment Group Limited was created to invest in green projects on commercial terms and mobilise other private sector capital into the UK's green economy.

Chapter 7 : How to Go Green: Investing | TreeHugger

Green America is pleased to partner with our Green Business Network member, Natural Investments LLC, a leader in socially and environmentally responsible investing, to bring you the mutual fund Heart Rating.

Chapter 8 : Green Investment Fund | The Treasury New Zealand

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25 Stocks to Invest in a Cleaner World. "It's a green company in disguise," says Todd Ahlsten, manager of Parnassus Equity Income fund, who holds Rohm & Haas in his fund.

Chapter 9 : Green Century Funds – Invest in a Green Future

RMHI will help with all steps of the process, so your investments can become aligned with your values. Contact Us to get started. Brad Pappas proves that green portfolios can stay well in the black in a Collective 2 podcast.