

## **Climate Bonds Taxonomy**

## A guide to climate aligned assets & projects

#### SEPTEMBER 2018

#### Introduction

A large segment of institutional investors have indicated their support for action to address climate change. However, when it comes to environmental criteria, investors currently have too few tools to help ensure that their investments are making a significant impact, particularly for debt based investments. The market needs independent, science-driven guidance on which assets and activities are consistent with a rapid transition to a low-carbon economy.

The Climate Bonds Taxonomy identifies the assets and projects needed to deliver a low carbon economy and gives GHG emissions screening criteria consistent with the 2-degree global warming target set by the COP 21 Paris Agreement. It has been developed based on the latest climate science including research from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the International Energy Agency (IEA), and has benefited from the input of hundreds of technical experts from around the world. It can be used by any entity looking to identify which assets and activities, and associated financial instruments, are compatible with a 2-degree trajectory.

First released in 2013, the Climate Bonds Taxonomy is regularly updated based on the latest climate science, emergence of new technologies and on the Climate Bonds Standard Sector Criteria.

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### **Using this document**

A traffic light system has been adopted to indicate whether identified assets and projects are considered to be automatically compatible with a 2-degree decarbonisation trajectory. Green Light is automatically compatible. Orange Light is potentially compatible, depending on whether more specific criteria are met. Red Light is incompatible. A Grey circle is used to indicate where further work is required to determine which traffic light colour is appropriate for a specific sub-set of assets or activities.

Compatible if compliant with screening indicator	
Not compatible	•
More work required	•
Climate Bonds Certification available	6
Criteria under development	

The Taxonomy is the foundation used by the Climate Bonds Initiative to screen bonds to determine whether assets or projects underlying an investment are eligible for green or climate finance. Where detailed analysis of a sector has been undertaken and specific eligibility Criteria have been developed, bonds in that sector can be Climate Bonds Certified. This is indicated via a blue 'Climate Bonds Certification tick'. Where detailed sector based Criteria for Certification are still under development, this is indicated by a yellow circle. In this case, bonds in this sector cannot yet be certified under the Climate Bonds Standard

Climate Bonds Taxonomy

ELECTRICITY &	ELECTRICITY & HEAT PRODUCTION						
	Asset type	Asset specifics	2 degree compliant	Screening indicator	Certifiable		
SOLAR	Generation facilities	Photovoltaic generation facilities (onshore)	•	Facilities shall have no more than 15% of electricity			
	(power & heat)	Concentrated solar power facilities (onshore)	•	generated from non- renewable sources			
	Supply chain facilities	Manufacturing facilities wholly dedicated to onshore solar energy development such as PV cells & components, CSP dishes, troughs & components etc	•				
		Dedicated storage, distribution, installation, wholesale and retail	•				
	Infrastructure	Dedicated transmission infrastructure	•				
		Dedicated supporting infrastructure including inverters, transformers, energy storage systems and control systems	•				
WIND	Generation facilities (power & heat)	Onshore wind farms	•	Facilities shall have no more than 15% of electricity generated from non- renewable sources			
4	Supply chain facilities	Manufacturing facilities wholly dedicated to onshore wind energy development such as wind turbines	•				
		Dedicated storage, distribution, installation, wholesale and retail	•				
	Infrastructure	Dedicated transmission infrastructure	•				
		Dedicated supporting infrastructure	•				
GEOTHERMAL	Generation facilities (power &	Electricity generation facilities	•	Direct emissions less than 100gCO <sub>2</sub> /kWh	<b>Ø</b>		
	heat)	Direct heat application such as Geothermal Heat Pump (GHP)	•				
	Supply chain facilities	Manufacturing facilities wholly dedicated to geothermal energy developments such as geothermal turbines	•				
		Dedicated storage, distribution, installation, wholesale and retail	•				
	Infrastructure	Dedicated transmission infrastructure	•				
		Dedicated supporting infrastructure	•				

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### **ELECTRICITY & HEAT PRODUCTION**

	Asset type	Asset specifics	2 degree compliant	Screening indicator	Certifiable
BIOENERGY	Facilities producing biofuel, biomass,	Facilities producing liquid biofuel, solid and gaseous biomass for heating and cogeneration	•	(i) 80% GHG emission reduction compared to fossil fuel baseline	
	biogas including fuel preparation process facilities, pretreatment facilities and biorefinery facilities	Facilities producing liquid biofuel, solid and gaseous biomass for electricity production	•	AND  (ii) Biofuel must be sourced from a sustainable feedstock	
	(if ≥50% biomass based products produced for energy use)	Facilities producing biofuel for transport	•		
	Generation facilities (power, heat & cooling)	Electricity generation facilities such as biomass power station	•	(i) Emissions of electricity generated must be lower than 100gCO <sub>2</sub> /kWh  AND  (ii) Biofuel must be sourced from a sustainable feedstock	
		Heating facilities	•	(i) Emissions of biomass or biofuel used must be 80% lower than fossil fuel baseline	
		Cooling facilities	•		
		Combined Heat & Power facilities	•	and the energy efficiency achieved must be at least 80%  AND  (ii) Biofuel must be sourced from a sustainable feedstock	
	Supply chain facilities	Manufacturing facilities wholly dedicated to bioenergy development	•		
		Dedicated storage, distribution, installation, wholesale and retail	•		
		Blending facilities	•		
	Infrastructure	Dedicated transmission infrastructure	•		
		Dedicated supporting infrastructure	•		

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#### **ELECTRICITY & HEAT PRODUCTION** 2 degree Certifiable Asset type **Asset specifics Screening indicator** compliant **HYDROPOWER** Generation Run of river Proposed: power density facilities > 5W/m<sup>2</sup>; or emissions Impoundment of electricity generated < 100gCO<sub>2</sub>e/kWh Pumped storage AND Must perform an assessment, based on recognised best practice guidelines, of environmental and social risks and incorporate measures to address risks Only for pumped storage: facility will not be charged with carbon intensive energy OR facility is contributing to a grid which has at least 20% share of intermittent renewables Supply chain Manufacturing facilities wholly facilities dedicated to hydropower development such as hydro turbines and components Dedicated storage, distribution, installation and wholesale and retail Infrastructure Dedicated transmission infrastructure **Dedicated supporting** infrastructure MARINE Generation Offshore wind farms Fossil fuel back up can only **RENEWABLES** facilities be used for restart capability Offshore solar farms (power, heat and monitoring, operating & cooling) or resilience measures in Tidal and wave energy the event of no power in the generation facilities system Other marine electricity generation facilities using ocean thermals, salinity, gradients, etc Heating or cooling facilities using Must achieve an 80% ocean thermals reduction in gCO<sub>2</sub>e/kWh compared to fossil fuel alternative Supply chain Manufacturing facilities wholly facilities dedicated to marine renewable energy development such as wind turbines and platforms, vertical and horizontal axis turbines, instream generators, etc Dedicated storage, distribution,

installation and wholesale and retail

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### **ELECTRICITY & HEAT PRODUCTION**

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	Asset type	Asset specifics	2 degree compliant	Screening indicator	Certifiable
MARINE RENEWABLES	Infrastructure	Dedicated transmission infrastructure	•		
		Dedicated supporting facilities, such as transmission terminus and transformers, grid connections, dedicated facilities for supporting vessels, equipment storage and onshore assembly	•		
FOSSIL FUELS	Generation facilities	Coal or oil power without carbon capture and storage (CCS)	•		
		Coal or oil with carbon capture & storage (CCS)	•	CCS must capture 100% of GHG emissions	
		Coal or oil powered combine heat and power (CHP)	•		
		Waste heat recovery from coal or oil fuelled power generation	•		
		Gas power without carbon capture & storage (CCS)	•		
		Gas power with carbon capture & storage (CCS)	•		
		Gas powered combine heat and power (CHP)	•		
		Waste heat recovery from gas fuelled power generation	•		
	Mining and extraction	Coal mining or oil extraction, refining, processing or production and associated supply chain infrastructure	•		
		Gas extraction, refining, processing or production and associated supply chain infrastructure	•		
NUCLEAR	Generation	Power plants	•		
	facilities	Dedicated supporting infrastructure	•		
	Mining facilities	Uranium mining	•		
OTHER	Generation facilities (heat)	Heat pumps using soil or air gradients	•		
	Advanced alternative	Alternative fuel power plants	•		
	fuel power plants	Supporting infrastructure	•		

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### **Transmission, distribution & storage**

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	Asset type	Asset specifics	2 degree compliant	Screening indicator	Certifiable			
TRANSMISSION & DISTRIBUTION	Infrastructure	Construction or upgrading of overground transmission and distribution lines	•	Infrastructure supports the integration of renewable energy or energy efficiency systems and their loadbalancing				
A		Undergrounding of lines where exposed to climate risks	•					
		Construction or upgrading of sub-stations, buildings, fences and busbars	•					
	Distributed assets	Fuses, circuit breakers, disconnectors, reactors, capacitors, transformers, voltage, regulators and switchgear	•	Required for construction or upgrading of transmission & distribution infrastructure to reduce the curtailment of renewable energy into the grid				
	ICT / smart grid applications	Controls, computers, automation, sensors, smart meters, ICT platforms and technology that is dedicated to smart systems	•					
STORAGE	Storage assets	Batteries, capacitors, compressed air storage and flywheels	•	Reduce GHG emissions by enabling the connection of renewable energy, reducing				
	Facilities	Large scale energy storage facilities	•	the curtailment of renewable energy, or facilitating lower carbon sources of electricity				
		Manufacture facilities dedicated to any of the above	•	generation during charging/ storage compared to fossil fuel options				

## **Transport**

#### Passenger, freight & supporting infrastructure 2 degree Certifiable **Asset type Asset specifics Screening indicator** compliant PRIVATE Vehicles Electric passenger & freight **TRANSPORT** vehicles Hydrogen passenger & freight vehicles Other passenger vehicles, e.g. Vehicle meets universal hybrid vehicles gCO<sub>2</sub>/p-km (passenger per kilometre) threshold based on IEA Mobility Model data Other freight vehicles, e.g. hybrid Vehicle meets universal vehicles gCO<sub>2</sub>/t-km (tonne per kilometre) threshold based on IEA Mobility Model data Supply chain Dedicated manufacturing facilities facilities for vehicles and key components, such as batteries, being used in eligible vehicles Infrastructure Dedicated charging and alternative fuel infrastructure (when separate from fossil fuel filling stations and garages) New roads, road bridges, road upgrades, parking facilities, fossil fuel filling stations, etc **PUBLIC** Rolling stock and vehicles for **Trains PASSENGER** electrified public transport, **TRANSPORT** such as electrified rail, trams, trolleybuses and cable cars Fossil fuel or hybrid vehicles or Passenger transport system rolling stock meets universal gCO<sub>2</sub>/pkm (passenger-kilometre) threshold Buses with no direct emissions Buses (electric or hydrogen) Fossil fuel or hybrid vehicles Vehicle meets universal gCO<sub>2</sub>/ p-km (passenger-kilometre) threshold Supply chain Dedicated manufacturing facilities facilities for rolling stock, buses or key components such as batteries, being used in eligible vehicles Infrastructure Dedicated infrastructure for electrified public transport Dedicated product or supporting Eligible if the transport mode infrastructure for fossil fuel or supported is eligible hybrid vehicles or rolling stock according to one of the above Dedicated charging and alternative fuel infrastructure

(when separate from fossil fuel filling stations and garages)

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# **Transport**

	Asset type	Asset specifics	2 degree compliant	Screening indicator	Certifiable
PUBLIC PASSENGER FRANSPORT	Infrastructure	Public walking and cycling infrastructure and cycling schemes	•		
		Bus rapid transit systems	•		
FREIGHT	Trains	Rolling stock for electrified freight rail	•	Fossil fuel freight must not be more than 50% of the freight transported (in tonne/km)	
		Rolling stock for non-electrified freight rail	•	(i) Fossil fuel freight must not be more than 50% of the freight transported (in tonne/ km)	
				(ii) Transport meets universal gCO <sub>2</sub> /t-km (tonne-kilometre) threshold	
	Infrastructure	All infrastructure for electrified freight rail	•		
		All infrastructure for non- electrified freight rail	•	Eligible if the associated rail is eligible	
CROSS CUTTING		ICT that improves asset utilisation, flow and modal shift, regardless of transport mode (public transport information, car-sharing schemes, smart cards, road charging systems, etc)	•	Must deliver substantial GHG emissions savings on either a passenger/km or a tonne/ km basis	
		Intermodal freight facilities	•		
		Terminals to improve journey times			
		Smart freight logistics	•		
		Multi-modal logistics hubs	•		
		Integration of transport and urban development planning	•		
AVIATION	Aircraft	Passenger aircraft	•	Use of low GHG fuel (e.g. solar, electric, high % of biofuel) and delivering substantial	
		Cargo aircraft	•	reduction in gCO <sub>2</sub> e/passenger or tonne/km	
	Infrastructure	Dedicated manufacture	•		
		Supporting infrastructure	•		
		Supporting buildings		See Buildings (pg.11)	

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## **Transport**

#### Passenger, freight & supporting infrastructure **Asset specifics** Certifiable Asset type 2 degree **Screening indicator** compliant WATER-BORNE Vessels Cargo ships Use of low GHG fuel (e.g. hydrogen, ammonia, electric, high % of biofuel), delivering substantial reduction in gCO<sub>2</sub>e/tonne/km Use of low GHG fuel (e.g. Passenger ships e.g. cruise ships or ferries hydrogen, ammonia, electric, high % of biofuel), delivering substantial reduction in gCO<sub>2</sub>e/passenger/km Oil tankers or vessels solely transporting coal or oil Infrastructure Supporting infrastructure, e.g. ports or manufacture

## Water

#### Supply management & water treatment **Asset specifics Screening indicator** Certifiable Asset type 2 degree compliant WATER Smart networks, early warning Water **INFRASTRUCTURE** monitoring systems for storms, droughts, floods or dam failure, water quality or quantity monitoring processes Water Rainwater harvesting systems, No net GHG emissions are storage storm water management expected, and the issuer systems, water distribution discloses the justification for systems, infiltration ponds, this decision with supporting aquifer storage, groundwater documentation recharge systems, sewer OR systems, pumps, sand dams Water Drinking water treatment, Negative net GHG emissions desalination plants, water treatment are expected, and the issuer recycling systems, wastewater has estimated and delivered treatment facilities, manure the GHG mitigation impact and slurry treatment facilities that will be delivered over the operational lifetime of the Water Rainwater harvesting systems, project or asset distribution gravity fed canal systems, pumped canal or water distribution systems, terracing systems, drip, flood and pivot irrigation systems Flood Surge barriers, pumping defences stations, levees, gates Nature based No net GHG emissions are Water storage from aquatic solutions ecosystems, aquifer storage, expected, and the issuer snowpack runoff, groundwater discloses the justification for this decision with supporting recharge systems, riparian wetlands documentation Flood defences by ecological retention, restoration of riparian wetlands, relocation Negative net GHG emissions of assets are expected, and the issuer has estimated and delivered Drought defences by aquifer the GHG mitigation impact storage, recharge zone that will be delivered over the management, wetland operational lifetime of the management, project or asset Water treatment by natural filtration systems, forest and fire management Stormwater management by permeable surfaces, erosion control systems, evapotranspiration systems

**Products** 

Water saving technologies

# **Buildings**

Commercial, resid	lential & energy ef	necessy			
	Asset type	Asset specifics	2 degree compliant	Screening indicator	Certifiable
BUILDINGS	Commercial buildings	Including offices, hotels, retail buildings, public buildings, educational buildings, healthcare buildings etc.	•	An emissions footprint in the top 15% of emissions performance in the local market OR	
	Residential	Private dwellings	•	A substantial reduction in gCO <sub>2</sub> /	
	buildings	Multifamily residential buildings	•	m <sup>2</sup> because of upgrade or retrofit	
	Other	Data centres	•	See ICT (pg. 16)	
	building types	Stations and related buildings for eligible transport	•	See Transport (pg.7)	
		Industrial buildings	•	See Industry (pg.14)	
PRODUCTS AND SYSTEMS FOR BUILDING	Energy efficiency	Products and systems that increase overall energy efficiency	•	See Industry (pg.14)	
EFFICIENCY	Low carbon building materials	Low carbon and alternative building materials such as alternatives to cement and concrete	•		
Urban development					
BUILT ENVIRONMENT	Urban or semi-urban areas	Such as neighbourhood level works, upgrades and retrofits such as street lighting	•	The built environment or specific programme must improve its emissions performance (gCO <sub>2</sub> /m²) substantially	
URBAN PLANNING	Infrastructure	District heating for residential and commercial applications	•	Fed primarily by renewable energy	
		Building, maintaining or upgrading utility tunnels for cables or pipelines	•	Significant resource and energy efficiency improvements	
	Other	Urban policies and regulations directed to climate change	•	Significant impact on urban emissions	

mitigation e.g. car-free areas

# **Land use & marine resources**

	Asset type	Asset specifics	2 degree compliant	Screening indicator	Certifiable
AGRICULTURE (INCLUDING MIXED USE PRODUCTIVE SYSTEMS)	Agricultural production	Agricultural land - including land used for the production of crops, agroforestry and silvopastoral systems, land used to rear livestock	•	Demonstration of significant carbon sequestration, reduction in emissions or compatibility with 'low carbon agriculture' targets	
П		Livestock	•		
මැ		Agricultural production on peatland	•		
	Infrastructure	Machinery and equipment to manage and cultivate eligible land or livestock	•	Eligible if the agricultural production adheres with the above	
		Associated management, information systems and other technologies	•		
		Drip, flood and pivot irrigation systems	•	See Water (pg.10)	<b>Ø</b>
COMMERCIAL	Forests & timber production	Plantations and natural forests	•	No conversion from natural landscape and health of the forest is well managed	
本		Timber production on peatland	•		
	Infrastructure	Machinery and equipment to manage and cultivate eligible forested land	•	Eligible if the forest and timber production adheres with the above	
		Associated management, information systems and other technologies	•		
	Pulp & paper	Production facilities incorporating efficient pulping process, biorefineries, use of recyclates	•		
NATURAL COSYSTEM	Land	Land remediation and clean up	•	Habitat is appropriate for the location and is maintained in	
PROTECTION  RESTORATION		Natural ecosystem land (managed and unmanaged)	•	good health	
	Infrastructure	Machinery and equipment to manage eligible ecosystems	•	Eligible if the related land is in compliance with the above	
		Associated management and information systems and other technologies	•		

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# Land use & marine resources

Agriculture, husb	andry, aquaculture	& seafood			
	Asset type	Asset specifics	2 degree compliant	Screening indicator	Certifiable
FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE	Fisheries	Wild fisheries and farmed fish	•	Must hold certification for sustainable management	
	Infrastructure	Machinery and equipment to manage and harvest in fisheries and fish farms e.g. fishing vessels	•	Eligible if the fishery or aquaculture operation adheres with the above	
		On shore and off shore fish processing and storage facilities connected to eligible fisheries and fish farms	•		
		Associated management, information systems and other technologies	•		
SUPPLY CHAIN ASSETS MANAGEMENT	Supply chain	Input supply systems for seed production, distribution and access	•	Facility is sustainable managed and certified as such	
		Primary processing and storage facilities for eligible agricultural produce	•	Eligible if agricultural produce complies with relevant Criteria	
		Primary processing and storage facilities for eligible forestry produce	•	Eligible if forest produce complies with relevant Criteria	
		Primary processing facilities and storage for eligible fisheries and aquaculture activities	•	Eligible if fish produce complies with relevant Criteria	

# **Industry**

### Industrial & energy intensive processes

	Asset type	Asset specifics	2 degree compliant	Screening indicator	Certifiable
PRIMARY RESOURCES	Cement production facilities	Production facilities, incorporating dry processes, reduced clinker content	•		
7	Steel, iron & aluminium production facilities	Extraction facilities and equipment, incorporating electric arc furnace, smelting reduction, efficient casting processes	•		
	Chemical production	Production facilities incorporating lower carbon ammonia feedstocks, catalyst intensification	•		
	Glass production facilities	Production facilities incorporating efficient process heating, use of recyclates	•		
	Other primary production facilities	Various	•		
FUEL PRODUCTION	Biofuel production facilities	See Bioenergy (pg.3)	•	See Bioenergy (pg.3)	
	Hydrogen fuel production facilities		•		
CLEAN UP	Carbon Scrubber	Facilities and products for clean- up, such as treatment of exhaust gases from industrial plants	•		
		Products dedicated to clean-up or efficiency of fossil fuel energy	•		
	Carbon Capture & Storage (CCS)	Facilities and products dedicated to CCS	•	CCS has the ability to capture 100% of GHG emissions	
OTHER INDUSTRY & MANUFACTURING	Secondary processing & manufacturing	Various	•		
SUPPLY CHAIN	Manufactur- ing facilities	Facilities dedicated to manufacturing key components for eligible facilities	•	Eligible if dedicated to an eligible asset type e.g. solar panel or wind turbine manufacture	
		Facilities dedicated to manufacturing energy efficient appliances and equipment e.g. fridges, cookers etc	•	Energy efficiency rating amongst top performers in the market	
	Other supply chain	Facilities dedicated to the storage, distribution or retail of eligible industrial or manufactured products	•	Eligible if dedicated to an eligible asset type e.g. all electric rail supply chain	

# Waste

	Asset type	Asset specifics	2 degree	Screening indicator	Certifiable
	Assertype	Asset Specifies	compliant	Serecining maleutor	Certifiable
PREPARATION	Facilities for collection, sorting and material	Facilities and assets with high recovery rates of reusable or recyclable material	•		
رح	recovery	Collection of waste that is going to landfill	•		
REUSE	Facilities for the re-use of materials	Facilities refurbishing or repairing products or cleaning components or products for reuse in their original function	•		
RECYCLING	Facilities for the recycling of materials	Facilities for recycling or metals, plastics, glass (except aggregate) and paper	•		
BIOLOGICAL TREATMENT FACILITIES	Anaerobic digestion facilities	Facilities for the production of biogas from organic waste	•		
	Composting facilities	Facilities for the production of compost from organic waste	•		
WASTE TO ENERGY	Waste to energy plants (e.g. incineration, gasification, pyrolysis and plasma)	Facilities for solid waste treatment with production of electricity or heat as a byproduct	•	Waste to energy conversion is at minimum 25%	<b>()</b>
LANDFILL	Landfill with gas capture	Projects to add gas capture to existing, closed landfill facilities	•	Gas capture of at least 75% and the gas must be used to generate electricity	
	Land fill without gas capture		•		
RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT	Nuclear waste treatment		•		
	Nuclear waste disposal		•		
WASTEWATER	Water treatment		•	See Water (pg.10)	

## **Information & communications technology**

Networks, management & communication tools					
	Asset type	Asset specifics	2 degree compliant	Climate compatible indicator	Certifiable
BROADBAND NETWORKS	Broadband networks	Fibre optic and cable networks	•		
	Supporting infrastructure	Such as internet exchange points	•		
IT SOLUTIONS	Connectivity	Teleconferencing and telecommuting software and service	•		
	Data hubs	Including data storage centres	•		
	Supporting infrastructure	Such as hardware and manufacture of hardware	•		
POWER MANAGEMENT	Infra- structure, software and hardware for remote power man- agement	Remote solutions for appliance power management, and loadbalancing of renewables	•		
	In situ power management	Including automatic switching, energy monitoring & data systems	•		

### **Revisions and updates to the Climate Bonds Taxonomy**

The Climate Bonds Taxonomy is a working document. It will be revised and updated periodically as developments are made in the Climate Bonds Standard Sector Criteria and in international green bond policies. It will also be revised when low carbon trajectories from prominent research institutions are released and updated.

Climate Bonds Initiative has an active role in developing international green bond policy and keeps up-to-date with the latest climate science and low carbon development trajectories through its Technical Working Groups and through external engagement and research.

Updates will be announced on the Climate Bonds Blog.

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