

New tools to encourage sustainable business and investment

'Caring for Climate' is a new web-based platform launched by the United Nations' Global Compact to advance business efforts on climate change and enhance the private sector's contribution to the global climate change agenda.



Credit: © Jakub Jirsák/istockphoto

The [website](#) will provide a repository for business and stakeholders to access information related to the Caring for Climate corporate climate-leadership initiative launched by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in 2007.

It is designed to make a clear business case for corporate action on climate change and provide access to an array of tools and guidance materials relevant for companies seeking to better understand how they can improve their climate performance and evaluate climate-related business risks and opportunities.

The website also seeks to increase visibility of business efforts to implement and report progress on the core commitments of Caring for Climate, including policies, practices, and public policy efforts, as well as low-carbon and climate-resilient solutions developed by nearly 400 companies who have signed the initiative's leadership statement.

The portal will provide information about opportunities activities of partner organisations, including the UN Global Compact, UN Environment Programme and UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Meanwhile, WWF has released a guide to responsible investing in 10 major commodities sectors. [The 2050 Criteria: Guide to Responsible Investment in Agricultural, Forest, and Seafood Commodities](#) is designed as a field guide for mainstream investors, in particular banks, investors, and financial analysts, to help navigate this complexity and identify responsible companies and projects in the agricultural, forest and seafood industries.

WWF says the guide provides key performance criteria for identifying responsible practice, helping to mitigate the

primary sources of environmental and social risk for investors in these sectors. It also says the guide 'connects environmental science with the sustainability practices and policies of leading firms in each sector, resulting in both credible and practical recommendations'.

Sources: UN Global Compact & WWF

From **ECOS** online <http://www.ecosmagazine.com/?paper=EC12438>