

Tribe Statement / 2 June 2017

The Paris Agreement and why the Trump Administration won't derail the movement to tackle climate change

Last night we heard that the US is pulling out of the Paris Climate Accord¹. However, political and business leaders from around the world were quick to publicly reaffirm their commitment to tackling climate change. Many US States have condemned the decision with several subsequently declaring their commitments to upholding the Paris Accord. This short-sighted approach from the US administration has only highlighted the broader American and global desire to tackle climate change and its related issues.

So let's look at some of the statistics and the global momentum.

- Last year in the US, solar jobs grew 25%, more than in the oil, gas and coal sectors combined².
- In the UK, new registrations of plug-in cars increased from 3,500 in 2013 to almost 100,000 by the end of April 2017³.
- There were at the end of 2016 \$694bn of climate-aligned bonds outstanding, an increase of \$96bn from 2015. This total is made up of approximately 3,590 bonds from 780 issuers. It includes \$118bn of labelled green bonds⁴.
- Globally, there are now \$22.89 trillion of assets being professionally managed under responsible investment strategies, an increase of 25 percent since 2014. In relative terms, responsible investment now stands at 26 percent of all professionally managed assets globally⁵. Much of this is being led by private clients and enlightened institutions.

Couple those statistics with the launch of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2016 and its subsequent adoption as the universal framework for impact investment⁶, the recent historic Exxon climate resolution vote⁷, and greater shareholder activism, and the future doesn't look so bleak.

We have at our disposal all the tools needed to drive the Paris Accord. When we harness our collective power as consumers through spending, as citizens through voting, as investors through mission, and as employees through influence, then we can and we will deliver the Paris Accord. At Tribe, our clients and the team believe in the possible and that the investable opportunity has never been greater and the need more obvious. As our Climate Fellow Mark Campanale states "It is now a question of when we will achieve the transition to a low carbon future, not if".

With that thought in mind, we can look to the future with hope and resolve.

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¹ https://unfccc.int/2860.php

² http://fortune.com/2017/02/07/us-solar-jobs-2016/

³ http://www.nextgreencar.com/electric-cars/statistics/

⁴ https://www.climatebonds.net/files/files/CBI%2OState%2Oof%2Othe%2OMarket%2O2016%2OA4.pdf

⁵ http://www.gsi-alliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/GSIR_Review2016.F.pdf

⁶ http://impactalpha.com/sustainable-development-goals-take-hold-as-a-universal-impact-investment-framework/

⁷ http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-40106278