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<http://www.edf.org/blog/2015/05/05/4-tips-help-you-invest-low-carbon-economy>

## 4 tips to help you invest in the low-carbon economy

Global capital markets are waking up to the clean energy investment opportunity. But you don't have to be [Citigroup](#) to put your money on cleantech or renewable power.

The industry's rapid growth also presents an interesting diversity of long-term opportunities for individuals like you and me who may want to participate in the [low-carbon economy](#). Here are four financial instruments that allow individual investors to join in:

### **1. Climate Bonds and Green Bonds**

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These bonds have been a success story over the past two years, increasing from about \$5 billion in 2012 to \$15 billion in 2013, and then to \$38 billion in 2014, according to Bloomberg New Energy Finance.

BNEF expects this trend to continue and the volume of green bonds to double again to a whopping \$80 billion in 2015.

### **2. Equities**

Equities are a riskier option than a bond because if the company in which an investor bought stock decreases in value, the investor loses money. ....

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### **3. Index Funds**

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These index funds enable investors who want to get behind an industry, but lack confidence in their abilities to identify specific winning companies, to bet on the industry at large. Two examples of clean energy index funds:

- PowerShares Global Clean Energy Portfolio: This ETF is based on the [Wilder Hill New Energy Global Innovation Index](#), which includes 107 companies focused on a broad spectrum of clean technologies.

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### **4. Yieldcos**

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