

The Importance of High Quality Information

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High Quality Information

- Climate change is the most challenging crisis ever faced by humanity
- In order to solve it, both governments and the private sector require high quality information which is measurable, reportable and verifiable
- Market signals must be based on information which is both accurate and material

What gets measured gets managed

- “The fact is that in modern society there is no other leadership group but managers.”
- Measurement and management is particularly important when we are faced with an economic externality such as greenhouse gas emissions
- More information is needed if we are to influence market decisions and shift to a low-carbon economy

The work of the Carbon Disclosure Project

- CDP leverages the authority of 475 institutional investors with assets of \$55 trillion, and 50 large purchasers including multinational corporations and government departments
- 82% of the world's largest 500 corporations report climate change information to CDP
- This data is fed into the marketplace and influences investment and purchasing decisions

Corporate reporting and regulation

- Government regulation of climate change reporting is increasing, and this is a good thing
- However there is a risk of fragmentation resulting in information of sub-optimal quality
- Linkage, standardisation and harmonisation are needed

Moving towards high-quality information on climate change

- We are at a transitional point but cannot stay here for long
- We need a global clearing house for comparable private sector climate change information – CDP can help!
- We need increased standardisation and integration into mainstream reporting, e.g. through the work of the Climate Disclosure Standards Board