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<http://etfdb.com/2009/etfs-in-focus-ahead-of-g-20-summit-in-pittsburgh/>

## ETF Plays Ahead Of G-20 Summit

On Thursday and Friday, the leaders of 19 of the most powerful nations, as well as the leader of the [European Union](#), will meet in the Steel City to discuss a variety of topics ranging from economic integration to energy policy. Pittsburgh was chosen to highlight the dramatic shift in fortunes following the city's struggles in the 70s and 80s and its transition to a more diversified economy. ....

Many of the [events at the conference](#) will be held at environmentally-friendly sites, such as a LEED certified convention center and a conservatory. These backdrops should give the President a forum to address climate change and energy policies, as well as concerns about uneven world growth.

In addition to these issues, look for finance reform to be a point of discussion (and disagreement), as well as overtures from emerging countries that are looking to gain clout on the world stage. For these reasons (and many more), this summit looks to be one of the most important in recent memory; investors around the world will focus in on Pittsburgh to see if the great powers of the world will unite on key issues or emerge from the summit divided.

### Green in the Steel City

Playing off all the green venues, issues of climate change and renewable energy initiatives should be in focus at the summit. Some ETFs that could be impacted by new regulations and pacts discussed at the summit include the

... the PowerShares WilderHill Clean Energy Portfolio ([PBW](#)) and Global Clean Energy Portfolio ([PBD](#)), and ... (to see a full list of energy ETFs click [here](#)).

One of the changes being discussed by an Obama administration official in a leaked letter is [a proposal](#) that "governments end all fossil fuel subsidies that are not essential and [use] that money to provide technical assistance to non-G-20 countries taking steps to reduce similar subsidies." The EU is simultaneously proposing that the G-20 give over [100 billion euros](#) (roughly \$147 billion) a year by 2020 to help poor countries fight climate change. With a push for green energy throughout the world coming from both sides of the Atlantic, look for trading in the aforementioned "green energy ETFs" to be heavy as investors digest developments out of Pittsburgh.

... solely invests in wind power companies while PBW invests in a diversified portfolio of companies that either invest directly in clean energy or develop products that decrease energy usage. ... and PBD take a different approach, investing in global alternative energy firms including wind, solar, and hydroelectric power firms. Should any significant regulation gain traction, these ETFs could see a jump.

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