Global Coal Exit List:  
Interesting Facts & Stats around the Global Coal Industry

Out of the 775 companies listed on the GCEL 218 mine coal, 214 operate coal plants, and 110 companies operate both coal mines and coal power plants. The remaining 233 are service companies carrying out other activities along the coal value chain.

437 companies on the GCEL have plans to build new coal power stations or expand coal mining.

The 4 countries with the most coal companies are China (143), India (95), the United States (92) and Australia (71).

The world’s largest coal producer is Coal India. Last year it mined 539 million tons, accounting for 7% of world coal production. Number two was China’s Shenhua with 433 million tons.

The world’s 8th largest coal producer (125 million tons) is based in Switzerland. Its name is Glencore, and one of its top executives is the chairman of the World Coal Association, the industry’s most important lobby group.

The world’s largest coal plant operator is China’s Huaneng Group with an installed coal capacity of 117,873 MW.

The company planning the largest expansion of coal power in the world is India’s NTPC with 38,372 MW of new coal capacity in the pipeline.

The 6 countries with the biggest pipeline of new coal plants are: China (280,053 MW), India (174,773 MW), Turkey (69,492 MW), Indonesia (45,870 MW), Vietnam (44,757 MW) and Japan (21,514 MW).¹

New coal plants threaten to push 14 “frontier” countries, which have no coal power as of yet, into the cycle of coal dependency. In 19 countries, plans for new coal plants would more than double installed coal-fired capacity.

AXA was the first large investor to announce a coal divestment action in 2015, and the first insurer to stop underwriting companies that base over 50% of their revenues on coal.

The two largest coal divestment actions so far – each around 4 billion € - were undertaken by the German insurance company Allianz and the Norwegian Government Pension Fund.

The bank with the most progressive overall policy on coal is France’s Natixis. Since 2015, it no longer does business with companies that base 50% of their power generation or revenues on coal.

The Dutch bank ABN Amro recently announced that it will no longer finance utilities which are planning to increase their installed coal power capacity.

Note: Facts & figures on the coal industry of selected countries can be found in a separate briefing.

¹ These numbers are based on CoalSwarm’s Global Coal Plant Tracker.