**2016 POLICYMAKERS SUMMARY** 



# GLOBAL METRICS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

The Environmental Performance Index ranks high-priority environmental issues

## www.epi.yale.edu

Yale Center for Environmental Law and Policy, Yale University Yale Data Driven Environmental Group, Yale University Yale-NUS College Center for International Earth Science Information Network, Columbia University

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### What is the EPI?

The Environmental Performance Index (EPI) ranks countries' performance on high-priority environmental issues in two areas: protection of human health and protection of ecosystems. Within these two policy objectives the EPI scores national performance in nine issue areas comprised of more than 20 indicators. EPI indicators measure country proximity to meeting internationally established targets or, in the absence of agreed targets, how nations compare to one another.

Complete methods, data, and results are available online at **www.epi.yale.edu.** 

## Why the EPI?

Pioneering data-driven approaches to environmental policy in the last 15 years, the EPI has accelerated the global use of quantitative metrics to evaluate policy performance.

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), adopted in September 2015, have assimilated a parallel approach, defining 17 goals and 169 targets to guide the global development agenda. Aligning the EPI's indicators with the SDGs provides a baseline for evaluating national performance and shows how far countries are from reaching global targets. The EPI's value lies not only in the overall rankings, which are intended to drive productive competition, but also in the issue-by-issue metrics that provide a diagnostic tool for countries to look internally for areas of weakness and strength. A common framework and methodology allows countries to compare their performance with that of neighbors and peers, and see how their own performance has changed over time.

This Policymakers Summary provides a big-picture overview of global environmental trends. Readers are encouraged to delve deeper into the country profiles and indicator data on the website.



# GLOBAL SCORECARD The 2016 EPI covers







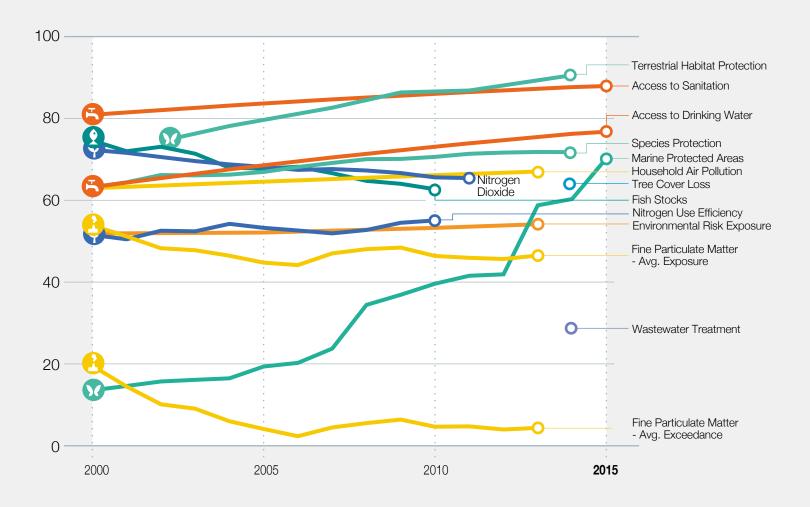


Figure: Global indicators for most of the policy issues assessed by the EPI. Some indicators, such as Tree Cover Loss, are expressed as trends that already encompass a time series. These indicators are exhibited by a dot instead of a line. Data Source: 2016 EPI.

## **KEY FINDINGS**

# ~5 times more people die globally from poor air quality than unsafe water.

In 2013, unsafe water was responsible for 2 % of global deaths (~1.24 million), while poor air quality was responsible for 10% of all global deaths (~5.52 million). Economic development leads to improvement in some environmental areas, yet it is also associated with increased environmental hazards for human health. As nations become wealthier, their governments invest in sanitation infrastructure and fewer people are exposed to unsafe water, leading to fewer deaths from waterborne illnesses. But as countries develop, increased industrial production, urbanization, and motorized transport expose human populations to dangerous air pollutants. Thus, deaths attributed to air pollution have risen steadily in the past decade.



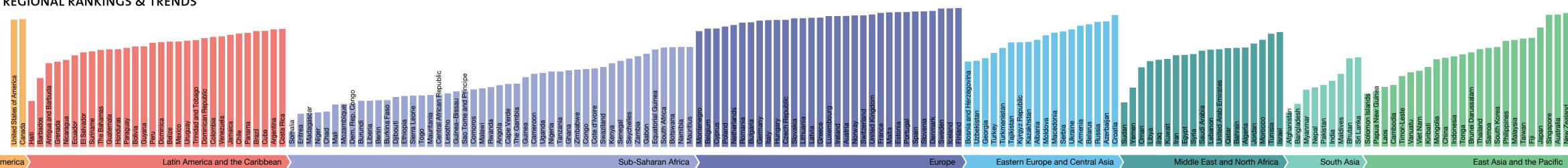
2.52 million km<sup>2</sup> of tree cover was lost in 2014 an area roughly twice the size of Peru.

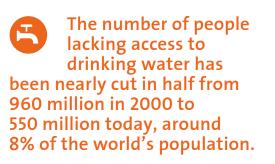
# More than 3.5 billion people – half of the world's population – are exposed to unsafe air quality.

Dangerous air pollution is a global issue. One-third (~1.3 billion) of those exposed live in the East Asia and Pacific region, where in China and South Korea more than 50% of their populations breathe unsafe air. In India and Nepal, the percentage is nearly 75%.



### **REGIONAL RANKINGS & TRENDS**







# 34% of global fish stocks are overexploited or collapsed.

The stark decline of fish stocks shows that when measurement is poor or not aligned with proper management, environmental and human health suffer. Marine fisheries are poorly monitored, as many fleets misreport or fail to report catch data, and international policy targets are ad hoc and incomplete.



# 23% of countries have no wastewater treatment.

Sustainable Development Goal 6 - to ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all - sets a target to halve the proportion of untreated wastewater by 2030. More than 80% of the world's discharged wastewater is untreated when released into the environment. Countries need to invest in wastewater treatment infrastructure to reach Goal 6.



#### Only 20% of countries Y meet targets for Nitrogen Use Efficiency.

Nitrogen use efficiency directly enhances crop productivity while decreasing nitrogen runoff and associated environmental degradation. Excess nitrogen not taken up by crops enters the environment through nitrogen leaching, ammonia volatilization, and nitrous oxide emissions. This nitrogen pollution has negative impacts on air and water quality, leads to ozone layer depletion, and exacerbates climate change.



#### 15.4% of terrestrial habitats and 8.4% of marine habitats are protected.

Nations are less than 2% away from reaching global targets on biodiversity and habitat. But, there is roughly a 3% global gap between Terrestrial Habitat Protection and Species' Habitat Protection, suggesting that nationally-designated protected areas do not always align with species preservation. Protected areas are often established on marginal lands, rather than in high-value areas where wildlife is forced out by agricultural development and human settlements.



Globally, Trends in Carbon Intensity are starting to decline slightly. The 2015 Paris Climate Agreement specifies climate change action expected from all countries, yet solid metrics to evaluate performance remain elusive. The inextricable linkage between carbon and economic growth makes disentangling performance signals from emissions difficult. As a result, the EPI's Climate and Energy indicators primarily show how countries are decarbonizing economic growth rather than whether their climate policies are having a tangible effect.



## 2016 EPI RANKINGS

Rank	Country	Score	Peer Comp.*	Rank
1	Finland	90.68	1	61
2	Iceland	90.51	1	62
3	Sweden	90.43	1	63
4	Denmark	89.21	1	64
5	Slovenia	88.98	Ť	65
6	Spain	88.91	1	66
7	Portugal	88.63	1	67
8	Estonia	88.59	1	68
9	Malta	88.48	1	69
10	France	88.2	1	70
11	New Zealand	88	1	71
12	United Kingdom	87.38	1	72
13	Australia	87.22	1	73
14	Singapore	87.04	1	74
15	Croatia	86.98	1	75
16	Switzerland	86.93	1	76
17	Norway	86.9	1	77
18	Austria	86.64	1	78
19	Ireland	86.6	<b>†</b>	79
20	Luxembourg	86.58	1	80
21	Greece	85.81	+	81
22	Latvia	85.71	+	82
23	Lithuania	85.49	+	83
24	Slovakia	85.42	+	84
25	Canada	85.06	Ť	85
26	United States of America	84.72	4	86 87
27	Czech Republic	84.67	4	88
28	Hungary	84.6	4	89
29	Italy	84.48	+	90
30	Germany	84.26	4	90
31	Azerbaijan	83.78	Ť	
32	Russia	83.52	1	92
33	Bulgaria	83.4	4	93
34	Romania	83.24	+	94
35	Belarus	82.3	1	95
36	Netherlands	82.03	4	96
37	Armenia	81.6	1	97
38	Poland	81.26	4	98
39	Japan	80.59	1	99
40	Cyprus	80.24	4	100
41	Belgium	80.15	4	101
42	Costa Rica	80.03	1	102
43	Argentina	79.84	1	103
44	Ukraine	79.69	1	104
45	Cuba	79.04	1	105
46	Brazil	78.9	1	106
47	Montenegro	78.89	4	107
48	Serbia	78.67	1	108
49	Israel	78.14	Ť	109
50	Macedonia	78.02	1	110
51	Panama	78	1	111
52	Chile	77.67	<b>↑</b>	112
53	Tunisia	77.28	1	113
54	Jamaica	77.02	<b>↑</b>	114
55	Moldova	76.69	1	115
56	Venezuela	76.23	<b>↑</b>	116
57	Colombia	75.93	<b>↑</b>	117
58	Dominican Republic	75.32	<b>↑</b>	118 119
59	Fiji	75.29	<b>↑</b>	119
60	Taiwan	74.88	1	120

Rank	Country	Score	Peer Comp.*	
61	Albania	74.38	÷	
62	Trinidad a. Tobago	74.34	<b>^</b>	
63	Malaysia	74.23	1	
64	Morocco	74.18	Ť	
65	Uruguay	73.98	1	
66	Philippines	73.7	1	
67	Mexico	73.59	1	
68	Belize	73.55	1	
69	Kazakhstan	73.29	4	
70	Dominica	73.25	<b>↑</b>	
71	Kyrgyz Republic	73.13	4	
72	Tajikistan	73.05	+	
73	Peru	72.95	<b>↑</b>	
74	Jordan	72.24	1	
75	Guyana	71.14	1	
76	Bolivia	71.09	1	
77	Mauritius	70.85	1	
78	Namibia	70.84	1	
79	Botswana	70.72	1	
80	South Korea	70.61	1	
81	South Africa	70.52	Ť	
82	Paraguay	70.36	+	
83	Algeria	70.28	1	
84	Turkmenistan	70.24	+	
85	Samoa	70.2	1	
86	Bahrain	70.07	1	
87	Qatar	69.94	1	
88	Honduras	69.64	•	
89	Guatemala	69.64	•	
90	Equatorial Guinea	69.59	<b>^</b>	
91	Thailand	69.54	1	
92	United Arab Emirates	69.35	1	
93	The Bahamas	69.34	4	
94	Lebanon	69.14	1	
95	Saudi Arabia	68.63	1	
96	Suriname	68.58	+	
97	El Salvador	68.07	+	
98	Brunei Darussalam	67.86	<b>↑</b>	
99	Turkey	67.68	4	
100	Gabon	67.37	<b>↑</b>	
101	Syria	66.91	<b>•</b>	
102	Tonga	66.86	4	
103	Ecuador	66.58	4	
104	Egypt	66.45	4	
105	Iran	66.32	4	
106	Zambia	66.06	Ť	
107	Indonesia	65.85	4	
108	Sri Lanka	65.55	Ť	
109	China	65.1	4	
110	Bhutan	64.99	Ť	
111	Georgia	64.96	4	
112	Seychelles	64.92	1	
113	Kuwait	64.41	+	
114	Mongolia	64.39	+	
115	Nicaragua	64.19	+	
116	Iraq	63.97	+	
117	Senegal	63.73	Ť	
118	Uzbekistan	63.67	+	
119	Libya	63.29	4	
120	Grenada	63.28	+	

121Bosnia and Herzegovina63.28I122Antigua and Barbuda62.55I123Kenya60.63I124Swaziland60.63I125Kiribati60.48I126Oman60.13I127Cote d'Ivoire59.89I128Congo59.25I129Zimbabwe59.25I130Ghana58.89I131Viet Nam58.51I132Tanzania58.41I133Nigeria57.74I134Vanuatu57.74I135Uganda57.56I136Cameroon57.13I137Maldives57.11I138Timor-Leste55.79I139Guinea53.58I140Barbaclos54.96I141India53.58I142The Gambia51.22I143Angola51.32I144Pakistan51.42I145Angola51.24I146Cambodia51.24I157Malawi49.69I158Solomon Islands46.21I159Saorome and Republic48.28I150Yenen49.29I153Solomon Islands46.21I154Solomon Islands46.21I <td< th=""><th>Rank</th><th>Country</th><th>Score</th><th>Peer Comp.*</th></td<>	Rank	Country	Score	Peer Comp.*
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128     Corgo     59.56     1       129     Zimbabwe     59.25     1       130     Ghana     58.89     1       131     Viet Nam     58.51     1       132     Tanzania     58.34     1       133     Nigeria     58.27     1       134     Vanuatu     57.74     1       135     Uganda     57.56     1       136     Cameroon     57.11     1       138     Timor-Leste     55.79     1       139     Guinea     51.42     1       140     Barbados     54.96     1       141     India     53.58     1       142     The Gambia     52.09     1       143     Cape Verde     51.38     1       144     Pakistan     51.42     1       145     Angola     50.21     1       144     Pakistan     50.21     1       145     Angola     50.21     1	126	Oman	60.13	+
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157     Lesotho     47.17     ↓       158     Solomon Islands     46.92     ↓       159     Central African Republic     46.46     ↓       160     Mauritania     46.31     ↓       161     Togo     46.1     ↓       162     Sierra Leone     45.98     ↓       163     Ethiopia     45.29     ↓       165     Burkina Faso     43.71     ↓       166     Benin     43.66     ↓       165     Burundi     43.37     ↓       168     Burundi     43.37     ↓       169     Haiti     43.28     ↓       170     Sudan     42.25     ↓       171     Dem. Rep. Congo     42.05     ↓       172     Mozambique     41.82     ↓       173     Bangladesh     41.77     ↓       174     Mali     41.48     ↓       175     Chad     37.83     ↓       175     Chad     37.48	155	Guinea-Bissau	48.2	4
158     Solomon Islands     46.92     Image:	156	Papua New Guinea	48.02	+
159     Central African Republic     46.46       160     Mauritania     46.31       161     Togo     46.1       162     Sierra Leone     45.98       163     Ethiopia     45.83       164     Djibouti     45.29       165     Burkina Faso     43.71       166     Benin     43.66       167     Liberia     43.37       168     Burundi     43.37       169     Haiti     43.28       170     Sudan     42.25       171     Dem. Rep. Congo     42.05       172     Mozambique     41.82       173     Bangladesh     41.77       174     Mali     41.48       175     Chad     37.83       176     Afghanistan     37.5       177     Niger     37.48       178     Madagascar     37.1       179     Eritrea     36.73	157	Lesotho	47.17	4
159     Republic     40.40     •       160     Mauritania     46.31     ↓       161     Togo     46.1     ↓       162     Sierra Leone     45.98     ↓       163     Ethiopia     45.83     ↓       164     Djibouti     45.29     ↓       165     Burkina Faso     43.71     ↓       166     Benin     43.66     ↓       167     Liberia     43.42     ↓       168     Burundi     43.37     ↓       169     Haiti     43.28     ↓       170     Sudan     42.25     ↓       171     Dem. Rep. Congo     42.05     ↓       172     Mozambique     41.82     ↓       173     Bangladesh     41.77     ↓       174     Mali     41.48     ↓       175     Chad     37.83     ↓       175     Chad     37.48     ↓       175     Niger     37.48     ↓	158	Solomon Islands	46.92	+
Inspont     46.31     46.31       160     Mauritania     46.31     40       161     Togo     46.1     40       162     Sierra Leone     45.98     40       163     Ethiopia     45.83     40       163     Ethiopia     45.29     40       164     Djibouti     45.29     40       165     Burkina Faso     43.71     40       166     Benin     43.66     40       167     Liberia     43.42     40       168     Burundi     43.37     40       169     Haiti     43.28     40       170     Sudan     42.25     40       171     Dem. Rep. Congo     42.05     40       172     Mozambique     41.82     40       173     Bangladesh     41.77     40       174     Mali     41.48     40       175     Chad     37.83     40       175     Chad     37.48     40	159	Central African	46 46	de
161     Togo     46.1     I       162     Sierra Leone     45.98     I       163     Ethiopia     45.83     I       164     Djibouti     45.83     I       165     Burkina Faso     43.71     I       166     Benin     43.66     I       167     Liberia     43.42     I       168     Burundi     43.37     I       169     Haiti     43.28     I       169     Haiti     43.28     I       170     Sudan     42.25     I       171     Dem. Rep. Congo     42.05     I       172     Mozambique     41.82     I       173     Bangladesh     41.77     I       174     Mali     41.48     I       175     Chad     37.83     I       176     Afghanistan     37.5     I       175     Niger     37.48     I       176     Madagascar     37.1     I				
162   Sierra Leone   45.98   ↓     163   Ethiopia   45.83   ↓     164   Djibouti   45.29   ↓     165   Burkina Faso   43.71   ↓     166   Benin   43.66   ↓     167   Liberia   43.42   ↓     168   Burundi   43.37   ↓     169   Haiti   43.28   ↓     170   Sudan   42.25   ↓     171   Dem. Rep. Congo   42.05   ↓     172   Mozambique   41.82   ↓     173   Bangladesh   41.77   ↓     174   Mali   41.48   ↓     175   Chad   37.83   ↓     176   Afghanistan   37.5   ↓     177   Niger   37.48   ↓     178   Madagascar   37.1   ↓     179   Eritrea   36.73   ↓				
163   Ethiopia   45.83   4.     164   Djibouti   45.29   4.     165   Burkina Faso   43.71   4.     166   Benin   43.66   4.     167   Liberia   43.42   4.     168   Burundi   43.37   4.     169   Haiti   43.28   4.     170   Sudan   42.25   4.     171   Dem. Rep. Congo   42.05   4.     172   Mozambique   41.82   4.     173   Bangladesh   41.77   4.     174   Mali   41.48   4.     175   Chad   37.83   4.     175   Chad   37.83   4.     176   Afghanistan   37.5   4.     177   Niger   37.48   4.     178   Madagascar   37.1   4.     179   Eritrea   36.73   4.		-		
164     Djibouti     45.29     ↓       165     Burkina Faso     43.71     ↓       166     Benin     43.66     ↓       167     Liberia     43.42     ↓       168     Burundi     43.37     ↓       169     Haiti     43.28     ↓       170     Sudan     42.25     ↓       171     Dem.Rep.Congo     42.05     ↓       172     Mozambique     41.82     ↓       173     Bangladesh     41.77     ↓       174     Mali     41.48     ↓       175     Chad     37.83     ↓       176     Afghanistan     37.5     ↓       177     Niger     37.48     ↓       178     Madagascar     37.1     ↓       179     Eritrea     36.73     ↓				
Instruction     Instruction       165     Burkina Faso     43.71       166     Benin     43.66       167     Liberia     43.42       168     Burundi     43.37       169     Haiti     43.28       170     Sudan     42.25       171     Dem. Rep. Congo     42.05       172     Mozambique     41.82       173     Bangladesh     41.77       174     Mali     41.48       175     Chad     37.83       176     Afghanistan     37.5       177     Niger     37.48       178     Madagascar     37.1       179     Eritrea     36.73				
166     Benin     43.66     Image: Ima				
167     Liberia     43.42     4       168     Burundi     43.37     4       169     Haiti     43.28     4       170     Sudan     42.25     4       171     Dem. Rep. Congo     42.05     4       172     Mozambique     41.82     4       173     Bangladesh     41.77     4       174     Mali     41.48     4       175     Chad     37.83     4       176     Afghanistan     37.5     4       177     Niger     37.48     4       178     Madagascar     37.1     4       179     Eritrea     36.73     4				
168   Burundi   43.37   ↓     169   Haiti   43.28   ↓     170   Sudan   42.25   ↓     171   Dem. Rep. Congo   42.05   ↓     172   Mozambique   41.82   ↓     173   Bangladesh   41.77   ↓     174   Mali   41.48   ↓     175   Chad   37.83   ↓     176   Afghanistan   37.5   ↓     177   Niger   37.48   ↓     178   Madagascar   37.1   ↓     179   Eritrea   36.73   ↓				
169   Haiti   43.28   4     170   Sudan   42.25   4     171   Dem. Rep. Congo   42.05   4     172   Mozambique   41.82   4     173   Bangladesh   41.77   4     174   Mali   41.48   4     175   Chad   37.83   4     176   Afghanistan   37.5   4     177   Niger   37.48   4     178   Madagascar   37.1   4     179   Eritrea   36.73   4				
170 Sudan 42.25 ↓   171 Dem. Rep. Congo 42.05 ↓   172 Mozambique 41.82 ↓   173 Bangladesh 41.77 ↓   174 Mali 41.48 ↓   175 Chad 37.83 ↓   176 Afghanistan 37.5 ↓   177 Niger 37.48 ↓   178 Madagascar 37.1 ↓   179 Eritrea 36.73 ↓				
171   Dem. Rep. Congo   42.05   ↓     172   Mozambique   41.82   ↓     173   Bangladesh   41.77   ↓     174   Mali   41.48   ↓     175   Chad   37.83   ↓     176   Afghanistan   37.5   ↓     177   Niger   37.48   ↓     178   Madagascar   37.1   ↓     179   Eritrea   36.73   ↓				
172     Mozambique     41.82     ↓       173     Bangladesh     41.77     ↓       174     Mali     ↓     ↓       175     Chad     37.83     ↓       176     Afghanistan     37.5     ↓       177     Niger     37.48     ↓       178     Madagascar     37.1     ↓       179     Eritrea     36.73     ↓				
173   Bangladesh   41.77   ↓     174   Mali   41.48   ↓     175   Chad   37.83   ↓     176   Afghanistan   37.5   ↓     177   Niger   37.48   ↓     178   Madagascar   37.1   ↓     179   Eritrea   36.73   ↓				
174 Mai 41.48 ↓   175 Chad 37.83 ↓   176 Afghanistan 37.5 ↓   177 Niger 37.48 ↓   178 Madagascar 37.1 ↓   179 Eritrea 36.73 ↓				
175 Chad 37.83 ↓   176 Afghanistan 37.5 ↓   177 Niger 37.48 ↓   178 Madagascar 37.1 ↓   179 Eritrea 36.73 ↓		0		
176     Afghanistan     37.5     ↓       177     Niger     37.48     ↓       178     Madagascar     37.1     ↓       179     Eritrea     36.73     ↓				
177     Niger     37.48     ↓       178     Madagascar     37.1     ↓       179     Eritrea     36.73     ↓				
178     Madagascar     37.1     ↓       179     Eritrea     36.73     ↓		°		
179 Eritrea 36.73 🔸		U U		
		e e		
180   Somalia   <b>27.66</b>   +				
	180	Somalia	27.66	4

\* The Peer Comparison column identifies whether a country performs better or worse than countries in its region.

