



### Policy Conclusions

Several policy conclusions emerge from the 2010 Environmental Performance Index and analysis of the underlying indicators:

- Environmental decisionmaking can be made more fact-based and empirical. A data-driven approach to policymaking promises to make decisionmaking more analytically rigorous and yield systematically better results.
- While the 2010 EPI demonstrates the potential for better metrics and more refined policy analysis, it also highlights the fact that significant data gaps and methodological limitations hamper movement in this direction.
- Policymakers should move to establish better data collection, methodologically consistent reporting, mechanisms for verification, and a commitment to environmental data transparency.
- Wealth correlates highly with EPI scores. In particular, wealth has a strong association with environmental health results. But at every level of development, some countries fail to keep up with their income-group peers while others achieve outstanding results. Statistical analysis suggests that in many cases good governance contributes to better environmental outcomes.
- Environmental challenges come in several forms, varying with wealth and development. Some issues arise from the resource and pollution impacts of industrialization – including greenhouse gas emissions and rising levels of waste – and largely affect developed countries. Other challenges, such as access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation, derive from poverty and under-investment in basic environmental amenities – and primarily affect developing nations. Limited endowments in water and forest resources constrain choices but need not necessarily impair performance.
- Policymakers need to set clear policy targets and shift toward more analytically rigorous environmental protection efforts at the global, regional, national, state/provincial, local, and corporate scales.
- The EPI uses the best available global datasets on environmental performance. However, the overall data quality and availability is alarmingly poor. The lack of time-series data for most countries and the absence of broadly-collected and methodologically-consistent indicators for basic concerns, such as water quality, still hamper efforts to shift environmental policy onto more empirical grounds.

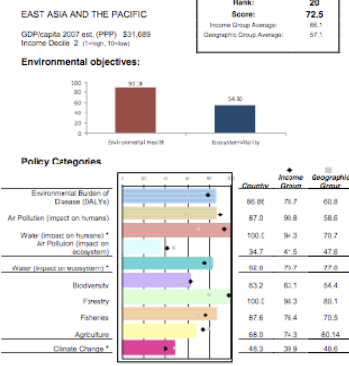
The 2010 EPI represents a "work in progress." It aims not only to inform but also to stimulate debate on defining the appropriate metrics and methodologies for evaluating environmental performance. Feedback, comments, suggestions, and criticisms are all welcome at our website, <http://epi.yale.edu>.

### Environmental Performance Index – Rankings & Scores

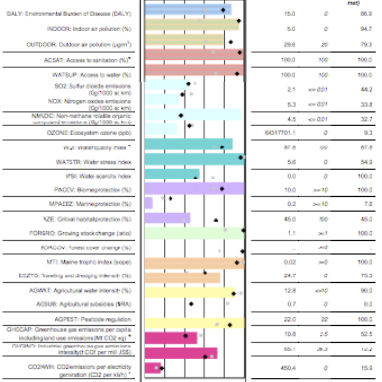
Rank	Country	Score	Rank	Country	Score	Rank	Country	Score
1	Iceland	93.5	56	Syria	64.6	111	Tajikistan	51.3
2	Netherlands	89.1	57	Ecuador	63.8	112	Mozambique	51.2
3	Costa Rica	86.2	58	San Marino	63.7	113	Kuwait	51.1
4	Sweden	86.0	59	Georgia	63.6	114	Solomon Islands	51.1
5	Norway	81.1	60	Paraguay	63.5	115	South Africa	50.8
6	Mexico	80.2	61	United States	63.1	116	Bahrain	50.5
7	France	78.2	62	Bhuti	63.4	117	Egypt	50.1
8	Austria	78.1	63	France	63.1	118	Suriname	49.9
9	Cuba	78.1	64	Venezuela	62.9	119	Uganda	49.8
10	Colombia	76.8	65	Bulgaria	62.8	120	Madagascar	49.2
11	Malta	76.3	66	Italy	62.4	121	China	49.0
12	Ireland	74.7	67	Thailand	62.2	122	Qatar	48.9
13	Switzerland	74.2	68	Egypt	62.0	123	India	48.8
14	United Kingdom	74.2	69	Russia	61.2	124	Yemen	48.3
15	New Zealand	73.4	70	Argentina	61.0	125	Pakistan	48.0
16	China	73.3	71	Chad	60.9	126	Guatemala	47.9
17	Germany	73.2	72	Burkina Faso	60.8	127	Zimbabwe	47.8
18	Italy	73.1	73	Mexico	60.6	128	Guinea Bissau	47.5
19	Portugal	73.0	74	Tunisia	60.6	129	Sudan	47.1
20	Japan	72.5	75	Dubai	60.2	130	Zambia	47.0
21	Latvia	72.5	76	Azerbaijan	60.4	131	Chad	46.9
22	China Republic	71.6	77	Turkey	60.4	132	Guinea Bissau	46.7
23	Albania	71.4	78	Iran	60.0	133	Gabon	46.7
24	Panama	71.4	79	Kyrgyzstan	59.7	134	Indonesia	46.6
25	Spain	70.2	80	Latvia	59.6	135	Peru	46.6
26	Bolivia	69.3	81	Norway	59.3	136	Guinea	46.4
27	Antigua & Barbuda	69.4	82	Guatemala	59.2	137	Russia	46.3
28	Singapore	69.2	83	Lebanon	59.1	138	Nicaragua	46.3
29	Serbia & Montenegro	68.4	84	Azerbaijan	59.1	139	Bangladesh	46.0
30	Ecuador	68.2	85	Vietnam	59.0	140	Burkina Faso	45.9
31	Yemen	68.2	86	Mexico	58.9	141	Thailand	45.1
32	Dominican Republic	68.2	87	Lebanon	58.2	142	Mongolia	45.0
33	Hungary	68.2	88	India	58.1	143	Guatemala	45.0
34	El Salvador	68.1	89	Yemen	58.0	144	Uzbekistan	45.0
35	Guinea	68.0	90	Libya	57.9	145	Japan	45.0
36	Dominican Republic	68.0	91	San Tomé & Príncipe	57.3	146	Equatorial Guinea	44.9
37	Lithuania	68.0	92	United Arab Emirates	57.3	147	North Korea	44.8
38	Nepal	68.0	93	Nicaragua	57.1	148	Cameroon	44.7
39	Burkina Faso	68.0	94	South Korea	57.0	149	Botswana	44.3
40	Brunei	68.0	95	Oman	56.6	150	Yemen	44.3
41	Luxembourg	67.8	96	Cyprus	56.3	151	Costa Rica	43.8
42	Angola	67.4	97	Japan	56.1	152	United Arab Emirates	43.7
43	Mexico	67.3	98	Republic of Congo	56.0	153	Malawi	43.6
44	Ireland	67.1	99	Saudi Arabia	55.3	154	Bahrain	43.6
45	Hongary	67.0	100	China	54.9	155	Yemen	43.6
46	Canada	66.4	101	Switzerland	54.4	156	Malawi	39.4
47	Netherlands	66.4	102	Chile	54.3	157	Turkmenistan	39.4
48	Maldives	65.3	103	Turkmenistan	54.2	158	Niger	37.6
49	Uganda	65.3	104	Guatemala	54.0	159	Spain	36.4
50	Philippines	65.2	105	Congo	54.0	160	Angola	36.3
51	Australia	65.2	106	Yemen	53.6	161	May State	35.7
52	Morocco	65.0	107	Malawi	51.4	162	Central African Republic	33.3
53	Nepal	65.0	108	Korea	51.4	163	Sierra Leone	33.2
54	Malaysia	65.0	109	Ghana	51.3			
55	Slovenia	65.0	110	Malawi	51.0			

For detailed analysis of each country.

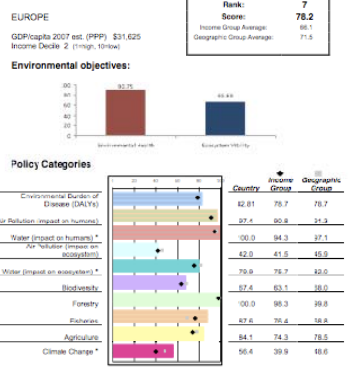
### Japan



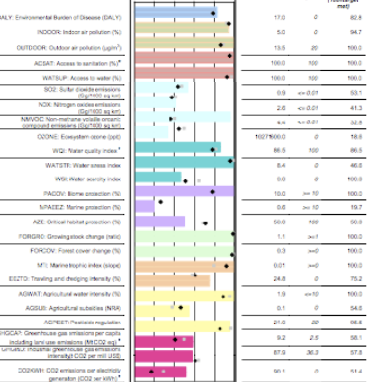
### Indicators

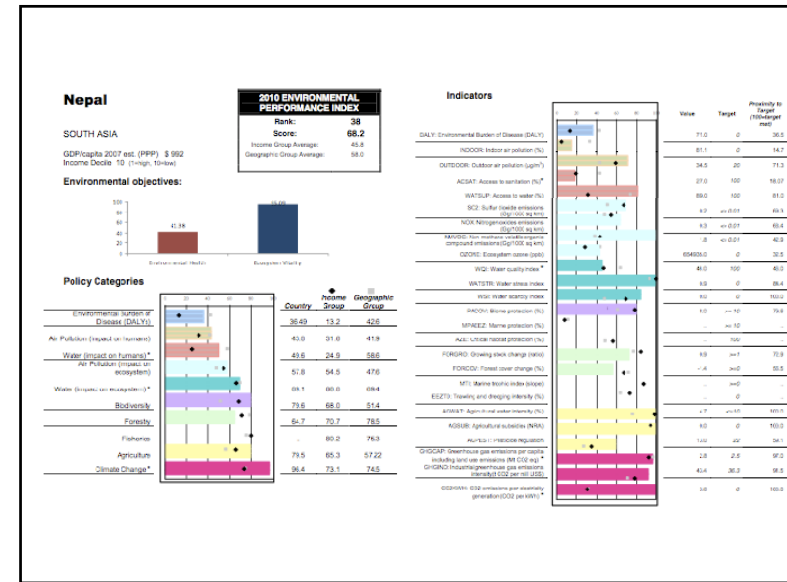
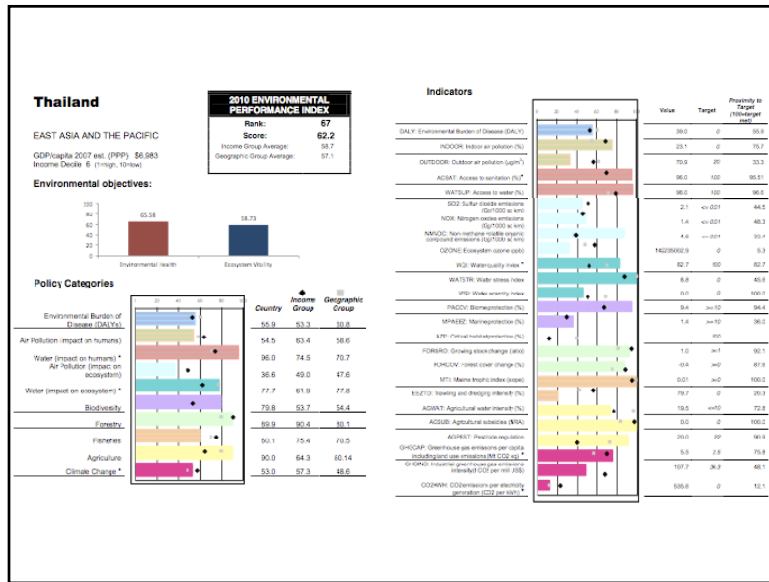
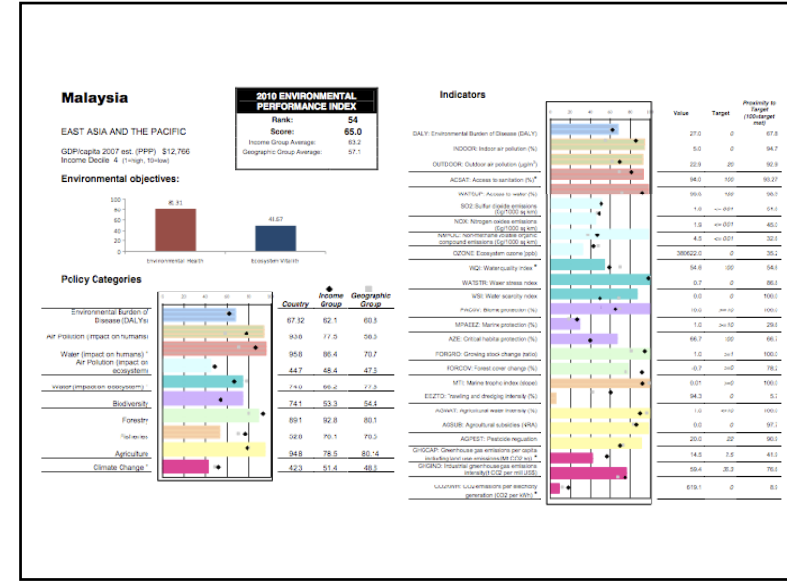
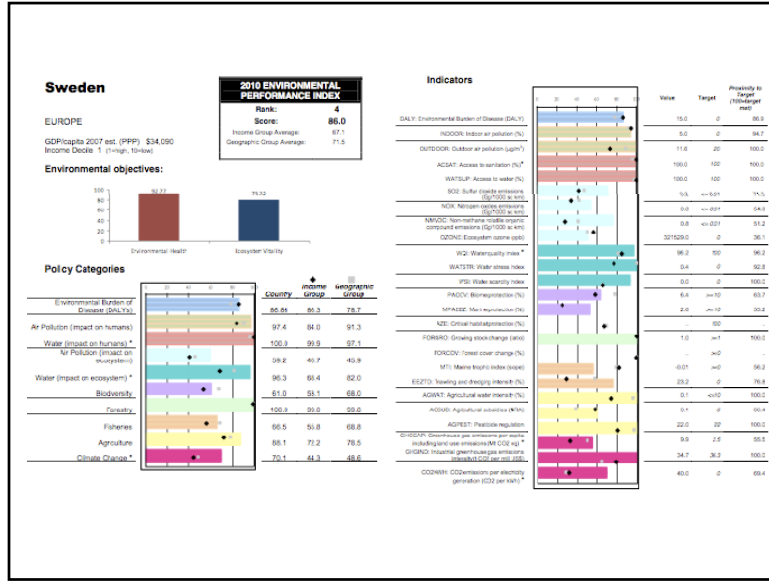


### France



### Indicators







## The Economics of Ecosystem & Biodiversity

### 5 Suggestion for National and International Policy Makers



#### 1. Reward benefits through payments and markets.

Payments for ecosystem services (PES schemes) can be local up to global. Product certification, green public procurement, standards, labelling and voluntary actions provide additional options for greening the supply chain and reducing impacts on natural capital.

#### 2. Reform environmentally harmful subsidies.

Global subsidies amount to almost US\$ 1 trillion per year for agriculture, fisheries, energy, transport and other sectors combined. Up to a third of these are subsidies supporting the production and consumption of fossil fuels. Reforming subsidies that are inefficient, outdated or harmful makes double sense during a time of economic and ecological crisis.

#### 3. Address losses through regulation and pricing.

Many threats to biodiversity and ecosystem services can be tackled through robust regulatory frameworks that establish environmental standards and liability regimes. These are already tried and tested and can perform even better when linked to pricing and compensation mechanisms based on the 'polluter pays' and 'full cost recovery' principles – to alter the status quo which often leaves society to pay the price.

#### 4. Add value through protected areas.

The global protected area network covers around 13.9% of the Earth's land surface, 5.9% of territorial seas and only 0.5% of the high seas: nearly a sixth of the world's population depend on protected areas for a significant percentage of their livelihoods. Increasing coverage and funding, including through payment for ecosystem services (PES) schemes, would leverage their potential to maintain biodiversity and expand the flow of ecosystem services for local, national and global benefit.

#### 5. Invest in ecological infrastructures.

This can provide cost-effective opportunities to meet policy objectives, e.g. increased resilience to climate change, reduced risk from natural hazards, improved food and water security as a contribution to poverty alleviation. Up-front investments in maintenance and conservation are almost always cheaper than trying to restore damaged ecosystems. Nevertheless, the social benefits that flow from restoration can be several times higher than the costs.