

# **Environmental Performance Index 2024**

## **Technical Appendix**

**epi.yale.edu**

#### **Suggested Citation:**

Block, S., Emerson, J. W., Esty, D. C., de Sherbinin, A., Wendling, Z. A., *et al*. (2024). *2024 Environmental Performance Index*. New Haven, CT: Yale Center for Environmental Law & Policy. epi.yale.edu

**Last updated 2024-12-07**

#### 2024 Environmental Performance Index

#### **Technical Appendix**

This technical appendix is a companion document to the 2024 Environmental Performance Index (EPI) report. It contains additional details about the methods used in the 2024 EPI. Along with the files available online, which include all the data used in the EPI analyses, the purpose of this technical appendix is to provide all information necessary for replicating the EPI results or re-running the analysis using different choices and assumptions.

Note: Throughout this appendix, TLA is used to refer to the three letter abbreviations of the input data sources and resulting indicators, issue categories, and policy objectives.

#### **Table of Contents**



### 1. Indicator and Data Overview

Table TA-1. Organization of the 2024 EPI, with three-letter abbreviations (TLAs) and percent weights (Wt.) of overall EPI. Note that weights are rounded and may not add up to 100%. The "Weights.csv" file available for download from the EPI website contains the exact weights.



(Continues on the next page).

Table TA-1 (continuation). Organization of the 2024 EPI, with three-letter abbreviations (TLAs) and percent weights (Wt.) of overall EPI. Note that weights are rounded and may not add up to 100%. To reproduce the results exactly, use the weights in the "Weights.csv" file available for download from the EPI website.



#### 2. Data Sources

The 2024 EPI draws on data from a wide variety of sources. This section of the Technical Appendix describes the sources of data used in the EPI, using the following template.



Due to the variety of data sources, not every field is applicable to every dataset. Each entry below provides the fullest account possible.





































 $\overline{\phantom{0}}$ 



References Curtis, P.G., C.M. Slay, N.L. Harris, A. Tyukavina, M.C. Hansen. (2018). Classifying drivers of global forest loss. *Science* 361: 1108–1111. https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/science.aau3445

#### Note Prepared by Michelle Sims from Global Forest Watch, received via personal communication. Viewable online from: https://gfw.global/3abMQOe









































































J,
































URL https://data.unep-wcmc.org/datasets/7

Date received 2024-03-27

Citation UNEP-WCMC, Short FT (2021). Global distribution of seagrasses (version 7.1). Seventh update to the data layer used in Green and Short (2003). Cambridge (UK): UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre. Data DOI: https://doi.org/10.34892/x6r3-d211







































,我们也不会有什么。""我们的人,我们也不会有什么?""我们的人,我们也不会有什么?""我们的人,我们也不会有什么?""我们的人,我们也不会有什么?""我们的人



















• "Wastewater treated in independent treatment facilities"





# 3. Indicator Construction

Chapter 14 of the 2024 EPI report describes the general approach to construct indicators. Data from sources undergo several steps before they can be used as indicators, including additional calculations, standardizations, transformations, and scoring. This section describes how the data are used to construct the 58 indicators of the 2024 EPI. On the following pages, you will see each metric described according to the following template.

# TLA : Indicator / Issue Category / Policy Objective

Short description of the indicator.





#### Calculations

If any calculations were required, they are described here.

#### Imputations

If any imputation was required, it is described here.

#### Note

Any additional information that would be helpful for understanding indicator construction.

Due to the variety of data sources, not every field is applicable to every indicator. Each entry below provides the fullest account possible.

# 3.1 Air Quality

# HPE: Anthropogenic particulate matter pollution / Air Quality / Environmental Health

We measure exposure to human sources of *PM<sub>25</sub> exposure* using the population-weighted annual average concentration of the PM<sub>25</sub> pollution at ground level and multiplying that by the fraction of PM<sub>2.5</sub> pollution from human sources (and wildfires) in the country.





### Calculations



This new indicator measures the exposure to fine particulate matter pollution from anthropogenic sources, such as the burning of fossil fuels, which are easier to influence through policy than natural sources. To this end, in each country we discount the fraction of PM2.5 exposure originating from natural sources such as windblown dust, sea spray, lighting, and volcanoes.

 $HPE = PME \times FHP$ 

## HFD: Household air pollution from solid fuels / Air Quality / Environmental Health

We measure *household solid fuels* using the number of age-standardized disability-adjusted lifeyears lost per 100,000 persons (DALY rate) due to exposure to household air pollution (HAP) from the use of household solid fuels.





# OZD: Ozone / Air Quality / Environmental Health

We measure *ozone exposure* using the number of age-standardized disability-adjusted life-years lost per 100,000 persons (DALY rate) due to exposure to ground-level ozone pollution.





## NOD: NO2 Exposure / Air Quality / Environmental Health

We measure *nitrogen dioxide exposure* using the number of age-standardized disability-adjusted life-years lost per 100,000 persons (DALY rate) due to exposure to ground-level NO<sub>2</sub> pollution.





# SOE: SO2 Exposure / Air Quality / Environmental Health

We measure *sulfur dioxide exposure* using the population-weighted annual average concentration of the air pollutant at ground level.





# COE: CO Exposure / Air Quality / Environmental Health

We measure *carbon monoxide exposure* using the population-weighted annual average concentration of the air pollutant at ground level.





## VOE: VOCs Exposure / Air Quality / Environmental Health

We measure *volatile organic compound exposure* using the population-weighted annual average concentration of the air pollutant at ground level.





# 3.2 Sanitation & Drinking Water

## USD: Unsafe sanitation / Sanitation & Drinking Water / Environmental Health

We measure *unsafe sanitation* using the number of age-standardized disability-adjusted life-years lost per 100,000 persons (DALY rate) due to their exposure to inadequate sanitation facilities.





## UWD: Unsafe Drinking Water / Sanitation & Drinking Water / Environmental Health

We measure *unsafe drinking water* using the number of age-standardized disability-adjusted lifeyears lost per 100,000 persons (DALY rate) due to exposure to unsafe drinking water.





# 3.3 Heavy Metals

### LED: Lead Exposure / Heavy Metals / Environmental Health

We measure *lead exposure* using the number of age-standardized disability-adjusted life-years lost per 100,000 persons (DALY rate) due to lead contamination in the environment.





# 3.4 Waste Management

#### *Data sources and compilation*

The World Bank's What a Waste 2.0 report is the most comprehensive assessment of municipal solid waste generation and treatment in countries around the world, but uses data from 2016 or earlier. We updated the What a Waste 2.0 data set with data from the OECD, Eurostat, and UNEP/UNSD Environmental Questionnaires, whenever they were available. Eurostat data (used for Cyprus, Kosovo, Malta, Montenegro, and Serbia) only includes waste from households, while the other two sources generally include waste from both households and certain commercial activities.

The data compilation process was challenging since countries report different types of data and use different definitions of solid municipal waste and waste treatments. When the UNSD was deemed incomparable, we used data from the What a Waste 2.0 report.

None of the sources above (World Bank's What a Waste 2.0 Report, UNSD, OECD, Eurostat) include data for Taiwan. We therefore obtained municipal solid waste generation and treatment data directly from the website of Taiwan's Ministry of Environment Solid Waste Statistics (https://www.moenv.gov.tw/en/513B0B39D090DE4C). Specifically, we used data from Table 4-1 "Generation and Treatment of Municipal Waste", published on 2024-02-15.

Eritrea was the only country without any waste management data in any of our sources. In the *Controlled Solid Waste* indicator, we assigned a value of zero to Eritrea for two reasons. First, both Ethiopia and Djibouti, two of Eritrea's neighboring countries, do not report managing any of their waste in a way that mitigates environmental impacts. Second, an article from Eritrea's Ministry of Information (https://shabait.com/2020/03/07/efforts-on-waste-managment/, accessed on February 18th, 2024), mentions that waste is typically dumped in sites without any management (that is, in open dumps).

For municipal solid waste generation data, we compared the most recent values compiled from various sources to the values in the What a Waste 2.0 report to help identify cases where countries reported data using different units, methods, and/or definitions of waste. Given that global waste generation trends have almost universally increased in recent years, we carefully examined any recent values that were less than half of the values reported in the What a Waste 2.0 report. We also examined values that were more than three times higher than those in the What a Waste 2.0 report. If we could not find an explanation for the discrepancy, we reverted to the What a Waste 2.0 data. These cases are described in the table below.

For more details and code for cleaning and merging data, see R scripts in: "~/Source/Solid Waste/".

*Countries with values of Municipal Solid Waste generated (MWG) in the UNEP/UNSD Waste Questionnaires that differed markedly from values in the What a Waste 2.0 report (WaW) and were subject to further examination.*

#### Country Explanation

*Countries with MWG values more than three times larger than in the What a Waste 2.0 report*



- Uganda UNSD/UNEP Questionnaire included only data about waste collected in 30 out of 44 municipalities. We thus reverted to using data from WaW.
- Zimbabwe UNSD/UNEP Questionnaire included data about waste collected in some municipalities, which changed through time. We thus reverted to using data from WaW.

### SMW: Controlled Solid Waste / Waste Management / Environmental Health

*Controlled solid waste* refers to the proportion of household and commercial waste generated in a country that is collected and treated in a manner that controls environmental risks. Examples of controlled disposal methods include sanitary landfills, incineration, recycling, composting, and anaerobic digestion.





#### Calculations



 $SMW = (LFU + INC + COM + INE + WRE) / MWG$ 

### WRR: Waste Recovery Rate / Waste Management / Environmental Health

*Waste recovery rate* refers to the proportion of household and commercial waste generated in a country that is collected and treated in a manner that recovers energy and/or materials and thereby contributes to a circular economy. Recycling and composting help recover valuable materials from waste, while anaerobic digestion and incineration yield energy.



#### Calculations



 $WRR = (COM + INE + WRE) / MWG$ 

#### Imputation of missing values

Data for to calculate WRR were not available for 56 countries, for which we used a model to impute the missing values. Specifically, for countries for which data were available data, we fitted a linear model to predict the natural logarithm of WRR values based on countries' EPI region (R), and their GDP per capita (GPC.

ln(WRR)= α + βGPC + γR + ε

Next, we used this model, which explained 42% of the variance in available WRR scores, to predict values for countries where WRR was missing but GPC and R were not. Since all countries are supposed to report their waste management data through the UNEP environmental questionnaires, or the reporting channels of the OECD and EUROSTAT, we applied a penalty of 25% of the predicted score to encourage countries to report their data going forward:

## $\widehat{\text{WRR}} = \exp(\widehat{\alpha} + \widehat{\beta} \text{GPC} + \widehat{\gamma} \text{R}) \times 0.75$

The 56 countries for which we imputed RCY values using this model are:



# WPC: Waste Generated *per capita* / Waste Management / Environmental Health

*Waste generated per capita* measures the how much municipal solid waste an average person produces in one year.



**Transformation**  $\ln(x)$ 



#### Calculations



WPC = MWG / POP

# 3.5 Climate Change

# CDA: CO2 intensity trend / Climate Change Mitigation / Climate Change

The *CO2 growth rate* is calculated as the average annual rate of increase or decrease in raw carbon dioxide emissions over the years 2013–2022, and then adjusting for economic trends to isolate the effect of policy from that of economic fluctuations.



The best performance target is based on the global  $CO<sub>2</sub>$  emissions growth rate required for the world to reach the year near-zero emissions by 2050 without exceeding the remaining carbon budget for a 50% chance of limiting warming to 1.5 °C (275 billion tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> from the beginning of 2024).

The worst performance target is the absolute of the best performance target. As a result, scores above 50 falling emissions, and vice versa.

### Calculations



First, we calculate Spearman's correlation coefficient between CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and GDP over a tenyear period,

$$
CDR = corr(CDO, GDP)
$$

Second, we regress logged  $CO<sub>2</sub>$  emissions over ten years to find a slope,

$$
\ln(\text{CDO}) = \alpha + \beta
$$

Third, we calculate an unadjusted average annual growth rate in  $CO<sub>2</sub>$  emissions,

 $CDB = exp(\beta) - 1$ 

Fourth, we adjust the negative growth rates by a factor of 1 – the correlation coefficient,

$$
CDA = \begin{cases} CDB \text{ if } CDB \ge 0\\ CDB \times (1 - CDR) \text{ if } CDB < 0 \end{cases}
$$

## $CDF: CO<sub>2</sub>$  intensity trend with country-specific targets/ Climate Change Mitigation

The *CO2 growth rate* is calculated exactly the same as in CDA: as the average annual rate of increase or decrease in raw carbon dioxide emissions over the years 2013–2022, and then adjusting for economic trends to isolate the effect of policy from that of economic fluctuations. However, instead of using a single "Best" and "Worst" performance target for every country, each country has specific targets. For each country, the "Best" target is the emissions growth rate at which the country could reach the year 2050 without exceeding its allocated share of the remaining carbon budget, while the "Worst" target is the growth rate at which the country would reach 2050 exceeding its allocated share of the budget by more than 10 times.



#### Calculations

We used an estimate of the  $CO<sub>2</sub>$  budget remaining after 2023 for a 50 percent chance of limiting warming to 1.5 °C, a total of 275 Gt  $CO<sub>2</sub>$  (Friedlingstein et al. 2023). To allocate this global budget to different countries, we used the blended approach proposed by Raupach et al. (2014). This method combines two common methods of allocating the global carbon budget: (1) in proportion to countries' current emission levels (the "inertia" approach), and (2) in proportion to countries' current population size (the "equal-per-capita" approach). We give equal weight to each approach, so that the fraction of the budget allocated to country *i* (*si*) is:

$$
s_i = 0.5 \times \frac{e_i}{E} + 0.5 \times \frac{p_i}{P}
$$

where  $e_i$  are the annual CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of country *i*, *E* are the world's annual CO<sub>2</sub> emissions,  $p_i$  is the population of country *i*, and *P* is the global population.

## CHA: Methane intensity trend / Climate Change Mitigation / Climate Change

The *CH4 growth rate* is calculated as the average annual rate of increase or decrease in raw methane emissions over the years 2013–2022. It is then adjusted for economic trends to isolate change due to policy rather than economic fluctuation.



The best performance target is based on the global methane emissions reduction rate needed to meet the Global Methane Pledge (reducing emissions 30% by 2030 relative to 2020 levels).

### Calculations



First, we calculate Spearman's correlation coefficient between CH<sub>4</sub> emissions and GDP over a tenyear period,

CHR = corr(CH4, GDP)

Second, we regress logged CH4 emissions over ten years to find a slope,  $ln(CH4) = \alpha + \beta$ 

Third, we calculate an unadjusted average annual growth rate in  $CH_4$  emissions,  $CHB = exp(\beta) - 1$ 

Fourth, we adjust the negative growth rates by a factor of 1 – the correlation coefficient,  $CHA = \begin{cases} CHB & \text{if } CHB \ge 0 \\ CL & \text{if } CLD \ge 0 \end{cases}$  $CHB \times (1 - CHR)$  if CHB < 0
## FGA: F-gasses intensity trend / Climate Change Mitigation / Climate Change

The *F-gas growth rate* is calculated as the average annual rate of increase or decrease in raw fluorinated gas emissions over the years 2013–2022.





#### Calculations



First, we regress logged F-gas emissions over ten years to find a slope,

 $ln(FOG) = \alpha + \beta$ 

Second, we calculate an unadjusted average annual growth rate in F-gas emissions,

 $FGB = exp(\beta) - 1$ 

Third, because F-gas emissions are largely uncorrelated with GDP, we simply use the unadjusted average annual emission growth rate,

 $FGA = FGB$ 

### NDA: N2O intensity trend / Climate Change Mitigation / Climate Change

The *N2O growth rate* is calculated as the average annual rate of increase or decrease in raw nitrous oxide emissions over the years 2013–2022, adjusted for economic trends to isolate change due to policy from changes due to economic fluctuation.





#### Calculations



First, we calculate Spearman's correlation coefficient between  $N_2O$  emissions and GDP over a tenyear period,

NDR = corr(NOT, GDP)

Second, we regress logged  $N_2O$  emissions over ten years to find a slope,  $ln(NOT) = \alpha + \beta$ 

Third, we calculate an unadjusted average annual growth rate in  $N_2O$  emissions,  $NDB = exp(\beta) - 1$ 

Fourth, we adjust the negative growth rates by a factor of 1 – the correlation coefficient,  $NDA = \begin{cases} NDB & \text{if } NDB \geq 0 \\ NDD & \text{if } NDD \geq 0 \end{cases}$  $NDB \times (1 - NDR)$  if  $NDB < 0$ 

### BCA: Black Carbon intensity trend / Climate Change Mitigation / Climate Change

The *black carbon growth rate* is calculated as the average annual rate of increase or decrease in black carbon over the years 2013–2022. It is then adjusted for economic trends to isolate change due to policy rather than economic fluctuation.





#### Calculations



First, we calculate Spearman's correlation coefficient between black carbon emissions and GDP over a ten-year period,

$$
BCR = corr(BLC, GDP)
$$

Second, we regress logged black carbon emissions over ten years to find a slope,

$$
\ln(\text{BLC}) = \alpha + \beta t
$$

Third, we calculate an unadjusted average annual growth rate in black carbon emissions,

$$
\mathsf{BCB} = \exp(\beta) - 1
$$

Fourth, we adjust the negative growth rates by a factor of 1 – the correlation coefficient,

$$
BCA = \begin{cases} BCB \text{ if } BCB \ge 0\\ BCB \times (1 - BCR) \text{ if } BCB < 0 \end{cases}
$$

### GHN: Projected 2050 GHG Emissions / Climate Change Mitigation / Climate Change

The *projected GHG emissions in 2050* metric is calculated by extrapolating each country's emissions trajectory over the most recent 10 years of data to 2050. Countries projected to reach low emissions by or before 2050 receive top scores.





#### Calculations



First, we calculate total greenhouse gas emissions, applying Global Warming Potentials (GWP, AR6) to convert all units to Gg of  $CO_2$ -equivalents. N.B. that F-gas emissions are already provided as  $CO_2$ eq. in the PRIMAP-hist dataset (based on AR4 GWP estimates).

$$
GHG = CDO + FOG + 273 \times NOT + 27.2 \times CH4
$$

Then, we calculate Spearman's correlation coefficient between total greenhouse gas emissions and GDP over a ten-year period,

GHR = corr(GHG, GDP)

Next, we regress GHG emissions from over 10 years to find a slope,

$$
GHG = \alpha + \beta
$$

To avoid projecting emissions that have been declining due to economic recessions, we adjust the slopes as follows:

$$
\beta' = \begin{cases} \beta \text{ if } \beta \le 0 \text{ OR } GHR < 0 \\ \beta \times (1 - GHR) \text{ if } \beta < 0 \text{ OR } GHR \ge 0 \end{cases}
$$

Using this adjusted slope, we then extrapolate emissions from the latest year's data out to 2050:

$$
ESO = GHG_t + \beta'(2050 - t)
$$

Country scores are based on logged projected emissions in 2050.

$$
GHN = E50
$$

### CBP: Projected cumulative GHG emissions to 2050 relative to carbon budget

This indicator uses countries' emissions trajectory over the most recent 10 years of data to linearly extrapolate emissions to 2050, and compares the cumulative sum of projected emissions between 2023 and 2050 to countries' allocated share of the remaining carbon budget.





### Calculations



First, we calculate total greenhouse gas emissions, applying Global Warming Potentials (GWP, AR6) to convert all units to Gq of  $CO_2$ -equivalents. N.B. that F-qas emissions are already provided as  $CO_2$ eq. in the PRIMAP-hist dataset (based on AR4 GWP estimates).

$$
GHG = CDO + FOG + 273 \times NOT + 27.2 \times CH4
$$

Then, we calculate Spearman's correlation coefficient between total greenhouse gas emissions and GDP over a ten-year period,

GHR = corr(GHG, GDP)

Next, we regress GHG emissions from over 10 years to find a slope,

$$
GHG = \alpha + \beta
$$

To avoid projecting emissions that have been declining due to economic recessions, we adjust the slopes as follows:

$$
\beta' = \begin{cases} \beta \text{ if } \beta \le 0 \text{ OR } GHR < 0 \\ \beta \times (1 - GHR) \text{ if } \beta < 0 \text{ OR } GHR \ge 0 \end{cases}
$$

Using this adjusted slope, we then extrapolate emissions from the latest year's (2022) to each year *t* between 2023 and 2050:

$$
E_t = GHG_{2022} + \beta'(t - 2022)
$$

Next, we calculate the cumulative sum of projected emissions between 2023 and 2050:

$$
E_c = \sum_{t=2023}^{2050} E_t
$$

Finally, we divide each country's cumulative projected emissions  $(E_c)$  by its allocated share of the remaining carbon budget. We used an estimate for the remaining carbon budget for a 50% likelihood of limiting warming to 1.5  $°C$  of 275 Gt CO<sub>2</sub> from the beginning of 2024 based on Friedlingstein et al. (2023). Since our emissions data only span up to 2022, we assumed that emissions in 2023 were the same as in 2022 (50.42 Gt CO<sub>2</sub>-eq.) and added this to the 275 Gt of CO<sub>2</sub> budget to get the remaining budget *from the beginning of 2023* (325.42 Gt CO<sub>2</sub>-eq.).

To allocate this global budget to each country, we follow Raupach et al.'s (2014) blended approach considering both countries' shares of the global population and of global emissions. For simplicity, we only consider countries' shares of population and GHG emissions in 2022, the latest year of data available. The fair share of the remaining carbon budget of country *i* (F*i*) was determined by the equation.

$$
F_i = 0.5 \times \left(\frac{p_i}{P}\right) + 0.5 \times \left(\frac{e_i}{E}\right)
$$

where *pi* is the population of country *i*, P is the global population, *ei* are the GHG emissions of country *i*, and E are global GHG emissions; all in year 2022.

Countries' scores in the CBP indicator are based on the ratio of countries' cumulative emissions to their fair share of the remaining carbon budget:

$$
CBP_i = \frac{E_{c,i}}{F_i \times 325.42}
$$

#### References

Friedlingstein et al. 2023. Global Carbon Budget 2023. Earth System Science Data 15, 5301 – 5369. https://doi.org/10.5194/essd-15-5301-2023

Raupach et al. 2014. Sharing a quota on cumulative carbon emissions. *Nature Climate Change* 4, 873 – 879*.*  https://doi.org/10.1038/nclimate2384

### GHP: GHG trend adjusted by per capita emissions / Climate Change Mitigation

We calculate annual *greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions per capita* for each country.





#### Calculations



First, we calculate total greenhouse gas emissions, applying Global Warming Potentials (GWP, AR6) to convert all units to Gg of  $CO_2$ -equivalents. N.B. that F-gas emissions are already provided as  $CO_2$ eq. in the PRIMAP-hist dataset (based on AR4 GWP estimates).

GHG = CDO + FOG + 273 × NOT + 27.2 × CH4

Second, we calculate GHG emissions per capita (GHP) as the GHG emissions divided by population (POP).

$$
GHP = GHG \div POP
$$

### GHI: GHG emission intensity / Climate Change Mitigation / Climate Change

The *greenhouse gas (GHG) intensity growth rate* indicator is the ratio of a country's annual GHG emissions to its GDP. As such, this metric can help track the decoupling of emissions from economic growth.





#### Calculations



First, we calculate total greenhouse gas emissions, applying Global Warming Potentials (GWP, AR6) to convert all units to Gg of  $CO_2$ -equivalents. N.B. that F-gas emissions are already provided as  $CO_2$ eq. in the PRIMAP-hist dataset (based on AR4 GWP estimates).

GHG = CDO + FOG + 273 × NOT + 27.2 × CH4

Second, we calculate the GHI, which is the quotient of GHG and GDP,

 $GHI = \frac{GHG}{GDP}$ 

### GHA: GHG emission intensity / Climate Change Mitigation / Climate Change

The *greenhouse gas (GHG) intensity growth rate* indicator is the ratio of a country's annual GHG emissions to its GDP. As such, this metric can help track the decoupling of emissions from economic growth.





#### Calculations



First, we calculate total greenhouse gas emissions, applying Global Warming Potentials (GWP, AR6) to convert all units to Gg of  $CO_2$ -equivalents. N.B. that F-gas emissions are already provided as  $CO_2$ eq. in the PRIMAP-hist dataset (based on AR4 GWP estimates).

GHG = CDO + FOG + 273 × NOT + 27.2 × CH4

Then, we calculate Spearman's correlation coefficient between total greenhouse gas emissions and GDP over a ten-year period,

GHR = corr(GHG, GDP)

Next, we regress GHG emissions from over 10 years to find a slope,  $GHB = \alpha + \beta$ 

Finally, we adjust the negative growth rates by a factor of 1 – the correlation coefficient,

$$
GHA = \begin{cases} \text{GHB if GHB} \ge 0\\ \text{GHB} \times (1 - \text{GHR}) \text{ if GHB} \le 0 \end{cases}
$$

### GTP: GHG trend adjusted by emissions per capita / Climate Change Mitigation

The indicator of *greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions trend adjusted by per capita emissions* recognizes that countries with high emissions per capita most urgently need to rapidly decarbonize, while the rate of decarbonization is likely to slow down as countries approach net-zero.





#### Calculations



Having calculated the *adjusted trend of GHG emissions* indicator (GHA), as described in the previous section, we used countries' scores on the *per capita GHG emissions* indicator (GHP) to adjust GHA scores according to the following logic:

- 1. If GHP*<sup>c</sup>* score = 100 (per capita GHG emissions in country *c* are equal to zero or *net*-zero), country *c* should get a perfect GTP score even if its GHG emission trend is neutral (GHA  $score = 50$ ).
- 2. If GHP*<sup>c</sup>* score = 0 (per capita GHG emissions in country *c* are among the highest in the world), country *c* should *not* get a perfect score no matter its recent GHG trend (i.e., even if GHA score = 100). In fact, we (arbitrarily) determined that countries with the highest *per capita* emission levels (GHP score = 0), even when their emissions were falling the fastest (GHA = 100), could get a maximum GTP score of 50, which would be equivalent to a country with a flat emission trajectory (GHA = 50), but low absolute levels of *per capita* emissions  $(GHP = 80)$ , and to a country with emissions rapidly rising  $(GHA = 0)$  from a very low level *per capita* emissions (GHP = 100).
- 3. Based on (1) and (2), we defined GHP as:

$$
GTP = \begin{cases} 50 + \left( GHA + \left( \frac{(GHP - 80)}{100} \right)^2 \div 0.04 \right) \text{ if } GHP \ge 80 \\ 50 + \left( GHA - \left( \frac{(80 - GHP)}{80} \right)^2 \div 0.04 \right) \text{ if } GHP < 80 \end{cases}
$$

GTP can also be defined as the vertical distance from the curve below. Countries falling anywhere along the solid black line get a GTP score of 50. The dotted gray lines show the combination of GHA and GHP scores that result in a given value of GTP (0, 20, 45, 65, 80, and 100). For example, both the U.S.A. and India get a GTP score of nearly 35. The United States of America has slowly falling emissions (GHA > 50) but high emissions per capita (GHP < 40). In contrast, India has rising GHG emissions (GHA < 50) but emissions per capita mucho lower than in the U.S.A. (GHP > 60).



### GTI: GHG trend adjusted by emissions intensity / Climate Change Mitigation

The indicator of *greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions trend adjusted by emissions intensity* recognizes that countries with high emissions intensity of GDP most urgently need to rapidly decarbonize, while the rate of decarbonization is likely to slow down as countries approach net-zero.





#### Calculations



Having calculated the *adjusted trend of GHG emissions* indicator (GHA), we used countries' scores on *GHG emissions intensity* (GHI) to adjust GHA scores according to the following logic:

- 1. If GHI*<sup>c</sup>* score = 100 (GHG emissions in country *c* are equal to zero or *net*-zero), country *c* should get a perfect GTI score even if its GHG emission trend is neutral (GHA score = 50).
- 2. If GHI*<sup>c</sup>* score = 0 (GHG emissions intensity in country *c* is among the highest in the world), country *c* should *not* get a perfect score no matter its recent GHG trend (i.e., even if GHA score = 100). In fact, we (arbitrarily) determined that countries with the highest emission intensity levels (GHI score = 0), even when their emissions were falling the fastest (GHA = 100), could get a maximum GTI score of 50, which would be equivalent to a country with a flat emission trajectory (GHA = 50), but low emissions intensity (GHI = 80), and to a country with emissions rapidly rising  $(GHA = 0)$  from a very low level  $(GHI = 100)$ .
- 3. Based on (1) and (2), we defined GHP as:

$$
GTI = \begin{cases} 50 + \left( GHA + \left( \frac{(GHI - 80)}{100} \right)^2 \div 0.04 \right) \text{ if } GHI \ge 80 \\ 50 + \left( GHA - \left( \frac{(80 - GHI)}{80} \right)^2 \div 0.04 \right) \text{ if } GHI < 80 \end{cases}
$$

### LFU: Net carbon fluxes from land cover change / Climate Change Mitigation

This indicator quantifies the *net* carbon fluxes (the sum of both carbon emissions and sinks) from land use, land cover change, and forestry (LULCF) over the last decade, normalized by countries' forested area in 2000.





#### Calculations



First, we calculate L10 as the sum of the last 10 years of net carbon fluxes from LULCF in a country,

$$
L10 = \sum_{i=0}^{9} LUE_{t-i}
$$

Next, we divide L10 by the area of forest in the country in 2000:

$$
LFU = \frac{L10}{TCA}
$$

# 3.6 Biodiversity & Habitat

### TBN: Terrestrial Biome Protection / Biodiversity / Ecosystem Vitality

We measure the percentage of the area of each of a country's biome types that are covered by protected areas. The indicator is based on the weighted sum of the protection percentages for all biomes within a country. Protection percentages are weighted according to the prevalence of each biome type within the country. This indicator evaluates a country's efforts to achieve 30% protection for all biomes within its borders, as per target 3 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework ("30x30" target).



#### Calculations



First, the percent of each biome present in a country that lies within a protected area is given by,

$$
PCT_{bc} = \Sigma_i TPA_{ibc}/TEW_{bc}
$$

Second, the credit given to a country for protecting any given biome is capped at 30%,

$$
ICT_{bc} = \begin{cases} PCT_{bc} \text{ if } PCT_{bc} \leq 0.30\\ 0.17 \text{ if } PCT_{bc} > 0.30 \end{cases}
$$

Third, the national weight placed on each biome is calculated by the proportion of that biome for the entire country,

$$
w_{bc} = \text{TEW}_{bc} / \sum_{b} \text{TEW}_{bc}
$$

Fourth, the metric is calculated as the weighted sum of percent protection for all biomes in a country.

$$
TBN_c = \sum_{b} [w_{bc} \times ICT_{bc}] \times 100
$$

### TKP: Terrestrial KBA Protection / Biodiversity / Ecosystem Vitality

Experts around the world have identified locations of disproportionate importance for biodiversity conservation, called Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs). This indicator measures the percentage of the total area of terrestrial KBAs in a country that is covered by protected areas.



#### Calculations



First, we merged and rasterized all protected area and KBA polygons to avoid double counting areas that are recorded under different types of protected areas in the WDPA. Next, we looked at the intersection (or overlap) between the rasterized KBA and protected area (TPA) polygons:

#### $KPA_c = KBA_c \nI$ TPA<sub>c</sub>

That is, KPA represents the pixels that are under protection and within a KBA. The indicator TKP measures the ratio between the total area of KPA and the area of KBA.

$$
TKP_c = \frac{KPA_c}{KBA_c} \times 100
$$

### PAR: Protected Areas Representativeness Index / Biodiversity & Habitat / Ecosystem Vitality

The *Protected Areas Representativeness Index* measures how well protected areas represent the full range of environmental conditions and biological diversity within a country or territory. The metric relies on remote sensing, biodiversity informatics, and global modeling of fine-scaled variation in biodiversity composition for plant, vertebrate, and invertebrate species.





### SPI: Species Protection Index / Biodiversity & Habitat / Ecosystem Vitality

*Species Protection Index (SPI)* evaluates the species-level ecological representativeness of each country's protected area network. The *SPI* metric uses remote sensing data, global biodiversity informatics, and integrative models to map suitable habitat for over 30,000 terrestrial vertebrate, invertebrate, and plant species at high resolutions. Data for this indicator come from the Map of Life.



### PHL: Land consumption in protected areas / Biodiversity & Habitat / Ecosystem Vitality

This pilot indicator measures the percentage of the total area under protection in a country that was cropland and buildings in 2022.



We used Google Earth Engine for the land use / land cover change (LULC) analysis. This online platform for spatial analysis allows easy access to the two key datasets used in the analysis: country's protected area spatial polygons from the World Database of Protected Areas and a highresolution land cover and land use classification from DynamicWorld. Based on AI-driven classification of Sentinel-2 satellite imagery, Dynamic World provides a 10-m resolution LULC classification in near real time for the entire world. For each 10-m pixel, Dynamic World calculates the probability of nine LULC classes:



In Google Earth Engine, for each large ( $>100$  km<sup>2</sup>) protected area, we accessed Dynamic World imagery from 2017 and 2022. We created annual mode-composite images by using the most frequent class for each pixel across the year's images. Next, we calculate the percentage of the pixels in the protected area classified as crops and as built area.

As a proxy for the quality and conservation value of a country's protected areas, the pilot indicator measures the percentage of all area under protection in the country classified as crops and built area in 2022. This indicator helps identify countries where an important fraction of the area counted toward targets of the Global Biodiversity Framework may be of relatively low conservation value.

### PAE: Protected area effectiveness / Biodiversity & Habitat / Ecosystem Vitality

This pilot indicator measures the percentage of protected areas in a country considered "effective". A protected area is *not* effective if the more than 0.25% of its territory was converted to cropland and built environment from 2017 to 2022.



We used Google Earth Engine for the land use / land cover change (LULC) analysis. This online platform for spatial analysis allows easy access to the two key datasets used in the analysis: country's protected area spatial polygons from the World Database of Protected Areas and a highresolution land cover and land use classification from DynamicWorld. Based on AI-driven classification of Sentinel-2 satellite imagery, Dynamic World provides a 10-m resolution LULC classification in near real time for the entire world. For each 10-m pixel, Dynamic World calculates the probability of nine LULC classes:



In Google Earth Engine, for each large ( $>100$  km<sup>2</sup>) protected area, we accessed Dynamic World imagery from 2017 and 2022. We created annual mode-composite images by using the most frequent class for each pixel across the year's images. Next, we calculate the percentage of the pixels in the protected area classified as crops and as built area.

As a proxy for the effectiveness of protected areas in a country, the pilot indicator measures the percentage of protected areas in the country where less than 0.25% of the protected area's pixels shifted to crops and built area from 2017 to 2022.

### SHI: Species Habitat Index / Biodiversity & Habitat / Ecosystem Vitality

*Species Habitat Index (SHI)* estimates potential population losses, as well as regional and global extinction risks of individual species, using habitat loss as a proxy. The *SHI* indicator measures the proportion of suitable habitat within a country that remains intact for each species in that country relative to a baseline set in the year 2001.





### RLI: Red List Index / Biodiversity & Habitat / Ecosystem Vitality

The *Red List Index* (RLI) tracks the overall extinction risk for species in a country, weighting species by the fraction of their range occurring within the country or region. A score of 100 indicates that none of the evaluated species in the country is threatened, while a score of 0 indicates a very high average extinction risk (≤5th-percentile of RLI values)





### BER: Bioclimatic Ecosystem Resilience Index / Biodiversity & Habitat

The *Bioclimatic Ecosystem Resilience Index* (BERI) measures the capacity of natural ecosystems to retain species diversity in the face of climate change, as a function of ecosystem area, connectivity and integrity. This metric is calculated by CSIRO based on land use maps and species occurrence data.





### MKP: Marine KBA Protection / Biodiversity / Ecosystem Vitality

Experts around the world have identified locations of disproportionate importance for biodiversity conservation, called Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs). This indicator measures the percentage of the total area of KBAs in a country's Exclusive Economic Zone(s) that is covered by marine protected areas.





#### Calculations



First, we merged and rasterized all marine protected area and marine KBA polygons to avoid double counting areas that are recorded under different types of protected areas in the WDPA. Next, we looked at the intersection (or overlap) between the rasterized KBA and marine protected area (TPA) polygons:

$$
KPA_c = KBA_c \cap TPA_c
$$

That is, KPA represents the pixels that are under protection and within a KBA. The indicator MKP measures the ratio between the total area of KPA and the area of KBA.

$$
MKP_c = \frac{KPA_c}{KBA_c} \times 100
$$

### MHP: Marine Habitat Protection / Biodiversity / Ecosystem Vitality

This indicator measures the percentage of the area of important marine and coastal habitats under official protection within a country's Exclusive Economic Zone(s). Important habitats, with a disproportionate contribution to sustaining marine biodiversity and providing ecosystem services, include mangroves, sea grass meadows, salt marshes, coral reefs, cold-water corals, seamounts, and knolls.



Worst 0.0 0.0

#### Calculations



As with the marine KBA protection indicator, we started by merging and rasterizing all marine protected areas. Some protected areas in the WDPA are available only as points. For such MPAs, we created circular polygons with an area equal to the area reported in the WDPA, centered at the

point's coordinates. Similarly, we merged and rasterized the polygons of each of the six types of important marine and coastal habitats.

Next, for each habitat type, we intersected the habitat raster with the MPA raster to obtain a raster representing the area of a particular habitat *within* MPAs in each area of interest (i.e., the union of a country's land and its EEZ to ensure that coastlines did not clip the extent of coastal habitats like mangroves and saltmarshes).

For each habitat, we then calculated the percentage of habitat pixels falling within MPAs in each country. Our MHP indicator is a simple average of the percentage of protection of the six habitats types, and is exactly the same as the *Local Proportion of Habitats Protected Index* developed by Kumagai et al. (2022). We refer the interested reader to Kumagai et al.'s (2022) paper for further methodological details.

### MPE: Marine Protection Effectiveness / Biodiversity / Ecosystem Vitality

This indicator serves as a proxy for the effectiveness or stringency of countries' marine protection by measuring annual industrial fishing effort intensity (fishing hours per km<sup>2</sup>) within marine protected areas relative to country's entire Exclusive Economic Zone(s).





#### Calculations



We started by processing CSV files of daily fishing effort downloaded from Global Fishing Watch. For each year from 2012 to 2020, we added daily fishing effort values at each location (0.01º grid cells). In calculating these sums, we excluded fishing effort with gear types "pole\_and\_line" and "pots\_and\_traps", as the ecological impact of one hour of fishing with these smaller scale gears is not comparable to one hour fishing with other industrial-scale gears.

$$
AFE = \sum_{d=1}^{365 \text{ (or } 366)} GFE_d
$$

Next, for each country and year, we computed the total fishing effort intensity (fishing hours per km<sup>2</sup>) within marine protected areas (MPAs) as well as across the country's entire EEZ(s).

$$
AFI_{MPA, c} = \frac{AFE_{MPA, c}}{MPA_c}
$$

$$
AFI_{EEZ, c} = \frac{AFE_{EEZ, c}}{EEZ_c}
$$

The ratio of fishing intensity within MPAs to fishing intensity across the entire EEZ (including both protected and unprotected regions) yields the raw values of the Marine Protection Effectiveness indicator. When calculating this ratio, we added a constant value of 0.00001 to both the numerator and denominator to deal with cases where fishing intensity across the EEZ(s) was zero.

> $MPE = \frac{\Delta FI_{MPA} + 0.00001}{\Delta FI_{MPA} + 0.000001}$ AFI <sub>EEZ</sub> + 0.00001

# 3.7 Forests

### PFL: Primary Forest Loss / Forests / Ecosystem Vitality

Humid tropical primary forests are the most biodiverse terrestrial ecosystems on the planet and provide irreplaceable ecosystem services. We quantify losses of primary forest by constructing a five-year moving average of the proportion of primary forest lost relative to their extent in 2001. We define a forest as areas with over 30% canopy cover.





### Calculations



First, we calculated PF5 by adding the last 5 years of primary forest loss for each country,

$$
\mathsf{PFS} = \sum_{i=0}^4 \mathsf{PFC}_{t-i}
$$

Next, we calculate PFL by dividing PF5 by five times the area of primary forest in the reference year of 2001 (PFA),

$$
PFL = \frac{PF5}{5 \times PFA}
$$

## IFL: Primary Forest Loss / Forests / Ecosystem Vitality

Intact forest landscapes are large expanses of forest and treeless ecosystems that play a disproportionate role providing habitat for biodiversity and storing carbon. We quantify losses of these highly valuable landscapes by constructing a five-year moving average of the proportion of intact forest landscape lost relative to their extent in the year 2000. We define a forest as areas with over 30% canopy cover.





### Calculations



First, we calculated IF5 by adding the last 5 years of intact forest landscape loss for each country,

$$
IF5 = \sum_{i=0}^{4} IFC_{t-i}
$$

Next, we calculated IFL by dividing IF5 by five times the area of intact forest landscape in the reference year of 2000 (IFA),

$$
IFL = \frac{IF5}{5 \times IFA}
$$

### FCL: Tree Cover Loss weighted by permanency / Forests / Ecosystem Vitality

Different drivers of deforestation have different ecological consequences. This indicator measures forest losses weighted by the likely permanency of loss given the dominant driver of deforestation in different regions. As with other forest loss indicators in this issue category, we first measure by constructing a five-year moving average of the proportion forest lost relative to the total forest extent in the year 2000. We define a forest as areas with over 30% canopy cover.





### Calculations



First, we calculated TC5 by adding the last 5 years of forest loss for each country,

$$
TC5 = \sum_{i=0}^{4} \text{IFC}_{t-i}
$$

Next, we calculated TCL by dividing TC5 by five times the area of forest in the reference year of 2000 (TCA),

$$
TCL = \frac{TC5}{5 \times TCA}
$$

Then, based on the fraction of forest loss each year in areas with different dominant drivers of deforestation (FLD), we calculated an average weight – or adjusting factor – to multiply average values of forest loss (TCL). Specifically, we used the values in the table below to adjust forest loss in areas with different dominant deforestation drivers:



While these weights were selected arbitrarily, they are meant to correspond to the likely permanency of forest loss due to different drivers, as well as the degree of policy control over different drivers.

$$
\overline{w} = (1 \times \frac{\text{FLD}_{\text{Commodity}}}{\text{TCC}}) + (1 \times \frac{\text{FLD}_{\text{Untransition}}}{\text{TCC}}) + (0.75 \times \frac{\text{FLD}_{\text{Shift.Ag}}}{\text{TCC}}) + (0.5 \times \frac{\text{FLD}_{\text{forestry}}}{\text{TCC}}) + (0.25 \times \frac{\text{FLD}_{\text{Fire}}}{\text{TCC}}) + (0.25 \times \frac{\text{FLD}_{\text{Time}}}{\text{TCC}}) + (0.25 \times \frac{\text{FLD}_{\text{Value}}}{\text{TCC}}) + (
$$

Finally, we multiplied average forest loss values over the last 5 years by the average adjustment weight to obtain the FCL indicator:

 $FCL = TCL \times \overline{w}$ 

### TCG: Net forest cover gain / Forests / Ecosystem Vitality

This indicator measures the net change in forest cover from 2000 to 2020. In contrast to the forest loss indicators in this issue category, the underlying forest cover data is defined based on tree height data instead of tree canopy data.



### Calculations



We calculated the net change in forest cover between 2000 and 2020 (TCG) by dividing the net change in cover by the original forest cover in 2000, given by the sum of the area of stable forest, disturbed forest, and forest losses:

$$
TCG = \frac{TCH_{net change}}{TCH_{stable} + TCH_{disturbed} + TCH_{loss}} \times 100
$$

## FLI: Forest Landscape Integrity / Forests / Ecosystem Vitality

Going beyond measuring changes in tree cover, this indicator estimates the integrity of forest landscapes based on observed and inferred human disturbances and losses of forest connectivity. Country scores represent the average forest integrity index value across the country's territory multiplied by 100.





# 3.8 Fisheries

## FSS: Fish Stock Status / Fisheries / Ecosystem Vitality

*Fish stock status* evaluates the percentage of the total catch that comes from collapsed stocks, considering all fish stocks within a country's EEZs. Because continued and increased stock exploitation leads to smaller catches, this indicator sheds light on the impact of a country's fishing practices.





#### Calculations



The metric is calculated as an average percentage weighted by catch and summed across classes of concern.

$$
\mathsf{FSS} = \frac{\sum_{e} [\mathsf{FSC}_{k=1,e} \times \mathsf{CTH}_{e}]}{\sum_{e} \mathsf{CTH}_{e}}
$$

### FCD: Fish Catch Discarded / Fisheries / Ecosystem Vitality

The proportion of a country's total catch that is discarded at sea instead of landed and utilized. This metric serves as a proxy for rates of bycatch and of wasteful and indiscriminate fishing practices.





#### Calculations

We calculate the metric by dividing the catch discarded by the total catch (both reported in tonnes):

> $FCD = \frac{Fish\ catch\ discarded}{Tath\ the\ the\ the\$ Total catch
## RMS: Regional Marine Trophic Index / Fisheries / Ecosystem Vitality

The *Marine Trophic Index* (MTI), computed by Sea Around Us, describes the degree to which a country is depleting species at higher trophic levels and "fishing down the food web." The metric describes the average trophic level of a country's catch, while accounting for the geographic expansion of fishing operations. Our indicator is based on the slope of a line fitted to MTI values over one decade.





#### Calculations



First, for each EEZ, we regress logged MTI values over ten years to find a slope,

$$
ln(MTI) = \alpha + \beta
$$

Second, we calculate the average annual growth rate in MTI values,

$$
MTB = exp(\beta) - 1
$$

Finally, we calculated the average MTB value across all the EEZs of a country, weighting values by the proportion of a country's total catch coming from each EEZ:

$$
\text{RMS} = \frac{\Sigma_{\text{e}}[\text{MTB}_{\text{e}} \times \text{CTH}_{\text{e}}]}{\Sigma_{\text{e}} \text{CTH}_{\text{e}}}
$$

# BTZ: Domestic Bottom Trawling and Dredging / Fisheries / Ecosystem Vitality

*Fish caught by trawling* measures the fraction of the entire catch in a country's EEZ(s) captured with bottom trawling, where a fishing net is pulled along the seafloor behind a boat, or dredging, where the seafloor is scraped in search bottom-dwelling species. These practices are indiscriminate and wasteful and can severely damage marine ecosystems.





#### Calculations



g An index of gear types: {1 = bottom trawling, 2 = dredging, 3 = pelagic trawling,  $4 =$  gillnets,  $5 =$  longline,  $6 =$  other $3$ 

$$
BTZ = \frac{\sum_{g=1}^{2} \sum_{e} FTD_{eg}}{\sum_{e} CTH_{e}}
$$

# BTO: Bottom Trawling in the Global Ocean / Fisheries / Ecosystem Vitality

*Fish caught by trawling* measures the fraction of the entire catch of a country's fleet across the global ocean captured with bottom trawling or dredging.





### Calculations



$$
BTO = \frac{\sum_{g=1}^{2} FTD_g}{Total catch}
$$

# 3.9 Air Pollution

### SDA: SO2 intensity trend / Air Pollution / Ecosystem Vitality

The SO<sub>2</sub> growth rate is calculated as the average annual rate of increase or decrease in SO<sub>2</sub> over the last ten years of data. It is then adjusted for economic trends to isolate change due to policy rather than economic fluctuation.





#### Calculations



First, we calculate Spearman's correlation coefficient between  $SO_2$  emissions and GDP over a tenyear period,

SDR = corr(SO2, GDP)

Second, we regress logged  $SO<sub>2</sub>$  emissions over ten years to find a slope,  $ln(SO2) = \alpha + \beta t$ 

Third, we calculate an unadjusted average annual growth rate in  $SO<sub>2</sub>$  emissions,  $SDB = exp(\beta) - 1$ 

Fourth, we adjust the negative growth rates by a factor of 1 – the correlation coefficient,  $SDA = \begin{cases} SDB \text{ if } SDB \ge 0 \\ SDB \times (1 - SDR) \text{ if } SDB < 0 \end{cases}$ 

## NXA: NOx intensity trend / Air Pollution / Ecosystem Vitality

The *NO<sub>X</sub>* growth rate is calculated as the average annual rate of increase or decrease in NO<sub>X</sub> over the last ten years of data. It is then adjusted for economic trends to isolate change due to policy rather than economic fluctuation.





#### Calculations



First, we calculate Spearman's correlation coefficient between  $NO<sub>x</sub>$  emissions and GDP over a tenyear period,

NXR = corr(NOX, GDP)

Second, we regress logged  $NO<sub>x</sub>$  emissions over ten years to find a slope,  $ln(NOX) = \alpha + \beta t$ 

Third, we calculate an unadjusted average annual growth rate in  $NO<sub>x</sub>$  emissions,  $NXB = exp(\beta) - 1$ 

Fourth, we adjust the negative growth rates by a factor of 1 – the correlation coefficient,  $NXA = \begin{cases} NXB if NXB \ge 0 \\ NYQ Y (1, NYQ) if NYQ \end{cases}$  $NXB \times (1 - NXR)$  if  $NXB < 0$ 

# OEB: Ozone exposure in Key Biodiversity Areas / Air Pollution / Ecosystem Vitality

The *Ozone exposure in Key Biodiversity Areas* is calculated as the average concentration of groundlevel ozone across a country's Key Biodiversity Areas.





# OEC: Ozone exposure croplands / Air Pollution / Ecosystem Vitality

The *Ozone exposure in croplands* is calculated as the average concentration of ground-level ozone across a country's croplands.





# 3.10 Agriculture

### SNM: Sustainable Nitrogen Management Index / Agriculture / Ecosystem Vitality

The *Sustainable Nitrogen Management Index (SNMI)* seeks to balance efficient application of nitrogen fertilizer with maximum crop yields as a measure of the environmental performance of agricultural production. The 2024 EPI uses the *SNMI* as a proxy for agricultural drivers of environmental damage.



#### Calculations



First, we calculate nitrogen use efficiency as the ratio of nitrogen removed by crops (i.e., nitrogen yield) to total nitrogen inputs:

$$
NUE = \frac{NCR}{NTI}
$$

Second, we normalize NUE relative to an optimal reference value of 1. NUE below 1 means that some nitrogen inputs are not being recovered in crops, while NUE values above 1 indicate that nitrogen inputs are insufficient and the soil is progressively losing fertility:

$$
NUE_{norm} = \begin{cases} NUE & if NUE \le 1 \\ 1 - (NUE - 1) & if (1 < NUE \le 2) \\ 0 & if NUE > 2 \end{cases}
$$

Third, we normalize nitrogen crop removal relative to a reference value of 90 kg/ha, which is the average global yield required to meet food demand in 2050 (Zhang et al. 2022):

$$
NCR_{norm} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } NCR > 90 \\ \frac{NCR}{90} & \text{if } NCR \le 90 \end{cases}
$$

The Sustainable Nitrogen Management Index is given by the Euclidean distance to an optimal point in which both NCR<sub>norm</sub> and NUE<sub>norm</sub> are equal to 1:

$$
SNM = \sqrt{(1 - NCR_{norm})^2 + (1 - NUE_{norm})^2}
$$

Finally, we calculate a 5-year moving average to smooth over noise in annual time series of fertilizer use data:

$$
SNM = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^{4} SNM_{t-i}}{5}
$$

#### Reference

Zhang X., Wang Y., Schulte-Uebbing L., De Vries W., Zou T., and Davidson E.A. (2022). Sustainable Nitrogen Management Index: Definition, Global Assessment, and Potential Improvements. *Front. Agr. Sci. Eng.* 9 (3): 356-365. doi: 10.15302/J-FASE-2022458

### PSU: Phosphorus surplus / Agriculture / Ecosystem Vitality

Defined as the difference between phosphorus fertilizer inputs and phosphorus recovered in harvested crops, the *Phosphorus Surplus* indicator serves as a proxy for potential pollution of water bodies due to excessive phosphorus fertilizer use.





#### Calculations



Since the indicator is a simple proxy for potential pollution due to excessive fertilizer use, we disregard negative values. Negative values indicate soil mining, which is only problematic in certain contexts (Zou et al. 2022):

$$
PSU = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if PCR} > PT1 \\ PCR - PT1 & \text{if PCR} \le PT1 \end{cases}
$$

Finally, we calculate a 5-year moving average to smooth over noise in annual time series of fertilizer use data:

$$
PSU = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^{4} PSU_{t-i}}{5}
$$

#### Reference

Zou T., Zhang X., and Davidson E.A. (2022). Global trends of cropland phosphorus use and sustainability challenges. *Nature* 611: 81-87. doi: 10.1038/s41586-022-05220-z

## PRS: Pesticide Pollution Risk / Agriculture / Ecosystem Vitality

The *Pesticide Pollution Risk* indicator summarize the risk to biodiversity from pesticide pollution and is calculated as the geometric mean of a country's pesticide risk scores (Tang et al. 2021).





#### Notes

The 2024 EPI's *Pesticide Pollution Risk* indicator is derived from updated pesticide risk scores computed with the methods described in Tang et al. (2021) but based on a new version of the PESTCHEMGRIDS dataset which incorporates more recent data on pesticide application rates, more pesticide active ingredients, and is available at a finer spatial resolution (Maggi and Tang, 2024).

#### References

Maggi F. and Tang F.H.M. (2024). PESTCHEMGRIDS v2.01 (beta version). Figshare. Dataset. doi: 10.6084/m9.figshare.25854769.v2

Tang F.H.M., Lenzen M., McBratney A., and Maggi F. (2021). Risk of pollution risk at the global scale. *Nature Geoscience* 14: 206-210. doi: 10.1038/s41561-021-00712-5

## RCY: Relative Crop Yield / Agriculture / Ecosystem Vitality

The *Relative Crop Yield* indicator measures the average yield of 17 major crops relative to countryspecific maximum attainable yields. It serves as a proxy for the land use efficiency of agriculture the productivity of countries' croplands.





### Calculations



Mueller et al. (2012) provide country-specific estimates of the maximum attainable yield of 17 major crops (barley, cassava, cotton, groundnut, maize, millet, oil palm, potato, rapeseed, rice, rye, sorghum, soybean, sugar beet, sugarcane, sunflower, and wheat) based on historical yield data.

For each crop, we divided the average yield by the maximum attainable yield in the country:

$$
CYG_c = \frac{CRY_c}{ATT_c}
$$

Next, we average the relative yield of all crops in a country, weighting by the area harvested of each crop:

$$
RCY = \sum_{c=1}^{17} CYG_c \times \frac{CAH_c}{\sum_{c=1}^{17}CAH_c}
$$

Since Mueller et al.'s (2012) maximum attainable yields are defined as the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile of observed yields in a particular climate zone, some actual yields may be higher than the maximum attainable yield. To deal with such cases, we capped the RCY values at 1.

#### Materiality filter

We only calculated the RCY indicator for the 130 countries in which the 17 major crops represented at least 5% of the total area harvested in the country, to ensure that the yield gaps of these crops were representative of the agricultural productivity of the country.

#### Imputation of missing values

For the other 50 countries and territories included in the EPI for which data about maximum attainable yields was not available, we used a model to impute missing values. Specifically, for countries with available data, we fitted a linear model to predict RCY values based on countries' EPI region (R), their GDP per capita (GPC), and their nitrogen relative yield (NRY).

$$
\mathsf{RCY} = \alpha + \beta \mathsf{GPC} + \gamma \mathsf{NRY} + \delta \mathsf{R} + \epsilon
$$

Next, we used this model, which explained 51% of the variance in available RCY scores, to predict values for countries where RCY is missing but GPC, NRY, and R are not.

#### $\widehat{RCY} = \widehat{\alpha} + \widehat{\beta}GPC + \widehat{\gamma}NRY + \widehat{\delta}R$

The 50 countries for which we imputed RCY values using this model are:



#### References

Mueller N.D., Gerber J.S., Johnston M., Ray D.K., Ramankutty N., and Foley J.A. (2012). Closing yield gaps through nutrient and water management. *Nature* 490: 254 – 257. doi: 10.1038/nature11420

# 3.11 Water Resources

## WWG: Wastewater generated per capita / Water Resources / Ecosystem Vitality

The total volume of municipal wastewater generated divided by a country's population.





## WWC: Wastewater collected / Water Resources / Ecosystem Vitality

Proportion of wastewater collected for treatment. Sometimes measured as the percentage of the population connected to urban or independent wastewater treatment facilities.





# WWT: Wastewater treated / Water Resources / Ecosystem Vitality

Proportion of municipal wastewater that undergoes at least primary treatment.





# WWR: Wastewater reused / Water Resources / Ecosystem Vitality

Proportion of wastewater reused after treatment, either for irrigation in agriculture or, when clean enough, in industry or as drinking water.





# 4. Country Coverage

The EPI seeks to cover as many countries as possible. When selecting datasets for our calculations, the EPI team gathers information on all territories that data providers have to offer. After the team has finalized the list of indicators used in the EPI, a survey of country data coverage determines which countries have sufficient information to be included in rankings. Unfortunately, some countries do not have sufficient data to support the calculation of an overall EPI score. Whether or not a country is included is not a reflection of the environmental performance of those countries; rather, data sparseness makes it impossible to say something meaningful. Another set of countries is excluded because government instability skews available information. As we discuss in Chapter 14 the 2024 EPI Report, we also identify certain territories for which data may be reported separately but should be considered as under the control or protection of a sovereign government. In these cases, we aggregate data on the territories with the sovereign country.

#### 4.1 Countries in the 2024 EPI



# Countries in the 2024 EPI (continues from previous page)



## 4.2 Countries excluded from the 2024 EPI



## 4.3 Territories within sovereign countries

Table TA-2. Territories found in gathered data sets and their sovereign countries.



# 5. Temporal Coverage



Table TA-3. Temporal coverage for indicators used in the 2024 EPI. Variables marked with an asterisk (\*) have very different temporal coverage for different countries.

<b>TLA</b>	95			00				05				10				15				20				
FSS																								
FCD																								
<b>BTZ</b>																								
<b>BTO</b>																								
<b>RMS</b>																								
OEB																								
$\hbox{OEC}$																								
<b>NXA</b>																								
SDA																								
SNM																								
PSU																								
PRS																								
<b>RCY</b>																								
WWG*																								
WWC*																								
WWT*																								
<b>WWR</b>																								
GDP																								
POP																								

Table TA-3 (cont.). Temporal coverage for indicators used in the 2024 EPI. Variables marked with an asterisk (\*) have very different temporal coverage for different countries.



Table TA-4. Designations of years supporting the current and baseline scores for each indicator.

(Continues on the next page).

Table TA-4 (continuation). Designations of years supporting the current and baseline scores for each indicator.



# 6. Data File Guide

The data underlying the 2024 EPI report's analyses is available for download from https://epi.yale.edu/downloads. These include both raw data and indicator data. Raw data files contain the data in their original units. Section 2 of this appendix describes the sources for these data. Indicator data contain the scores for the 58 metrics on a 0 to 100 scale. Section 3 of this appendix describes how the raw data are converted into indicator data.

Raw data files are named according to three-letter abbreviations (TLAs) unique to each variable. Within these files, columns are labeled *TLA.raw.YYYY*, where *YYYY* is the year. Higher level aggregations, i.e., issue categories and policy objectives, do not have raw data files.

We provide two versions of each raw data file, with and without missing data codes. For all raw data files that are named *TLA\_raw.csv*, missing values are noted with the following codes:



For all raw data files that are named *TLA\_raw\_na.csv*, missing values are noted simply as NA.

Indicator file columns are formatted as *TLA.ind.YYYY*. The years covered in each indicator file are not necessarily the same as the underlying raw data files for two reasons. First, the EPI team resizes every file to begin in 1995 and end in 2024. Second, the EPI data processing pipeline uses linear interpolation to fill in missing data years between observations and hold values constant to extend to beginning and ending years. For example, if a data series ends in the year 2019, we hold that value constant over the years 2020 to 2024. Table TA-3 illustrates the actual temporal coverage of raw data between 1995 and 2024.