DATA & APPLICATIONS ONLINE

Environmental Sustainability Indicators

Overview

Efforts to develop sustainability indicators have grown since the 1980's, spurred by the recognition that environmental policy making should be data-driven, science-based, and analytically rigorous. SEDAC's Environmental Sustainability Indicators and Trends Web site provides access to sustainability indicator data produced by many different groups.

There are also links to a map gallery, an interactive map service, and featured data uses.

About the Data

- Environmental Performance Index, produced every two years, measures overall progress towards environmental sustainability; the 2018 EPI ranks 180 countries on 24 performance indicators across 10 issue categories covering environmental health and ecosystem vitality
- Compendium of Environmental Sustainability Indicator Collections—facilitates comparison/analysis of sustainability indicators by compiling 426 indicators from six collections into one database
- Anthropogenic Biomes—delineates 21 anthropogenic biomes based on population density, land use, and vegetation cover
- Indicators of Coastal Water Quality—chlorophyll-a concentrations from NASA's SeaWiFS sensor are used to analyze trends from 1998–2007 to identify near-coastal areas needing management intervention
- Last of the Wild, v3—Global Human Footprint data sets for 1993 and 2009, using updated inputs including GPWv3, GRUMPv1, and gROADSv1, as well as an adapted methodology
- Global Rural-Urban Mapping Project (GRUMP), version 1—a global point database of human settlements and an urban extent mask
- Natural Disaster Hotspots—a collection of global geospatial data of six major natural hazards and the associated risks of mortality and economic loss

Data Access

Go to http://bit.ly/1RpaYKU to download data, maps, and information.

References

Wendling, Z., D. Esty, J. Emerson, M. Levy, A. de Sherbinin, et al. 2018. The 2018 Environmental Performance Index Report. New Haven, CT: Yale Center for Environmental Law and Policy. https://epi.envirocenter.yale.edu/node/36476

Naranjo, L. 2008. Scorecard on the environment. *Sensing Our Planet: NASA Earth Science Research Features.* https://earthdata.nasa.gov/files/NASA_SOP_2008_Scorecard_on_the_environment.pdf.

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EOSDIS DAACs
SEDAC is one of twelve NASA Earth Observing System Data and Information System (EOSDIS) Distributed Active Archive Centers (DAACs)

To learn more about data and tools available from EOSDIS, go to earthdata.nasa.gov.

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