



The Netherlands, a sustainable society?

The Index for a Sustainable Society



ISS 2006

The Netherlands, a sustainable society?

For Joris and Fleur and all other children and grandchildren wherever they may live

A sustainable society is a society

- that meets the needs of the present generation,
 - that does not compromise the ability of future generations to meet their own needs,
 - in which each individual has the opportunity to develop himself in freedom, within a well-balanced society and in harmony with its surroundings.
-

The earth offers enough for everyone's need, not for everyone's greed.

Mahatma Gandhi

The Netherlands, a sustainable society?

The Index for a Sustainable Society
shows at a glance to what extent
society in The Netherlands and in
149 other countries is sustainable.

Geurt van de Kerk

in close cooperation with

Arthur Manuel

with a foreword by

dr. Herman Wijffels,

Executive Director of the World Bank

Abridged version of the Dutch edition



The Index for a Sustainable Society is significant for

The queen – to address in the State of the Union

The government – to use in policy development

Parliament – by using the Index and its changes over time, to check whether government policy really enhances sustainability of society

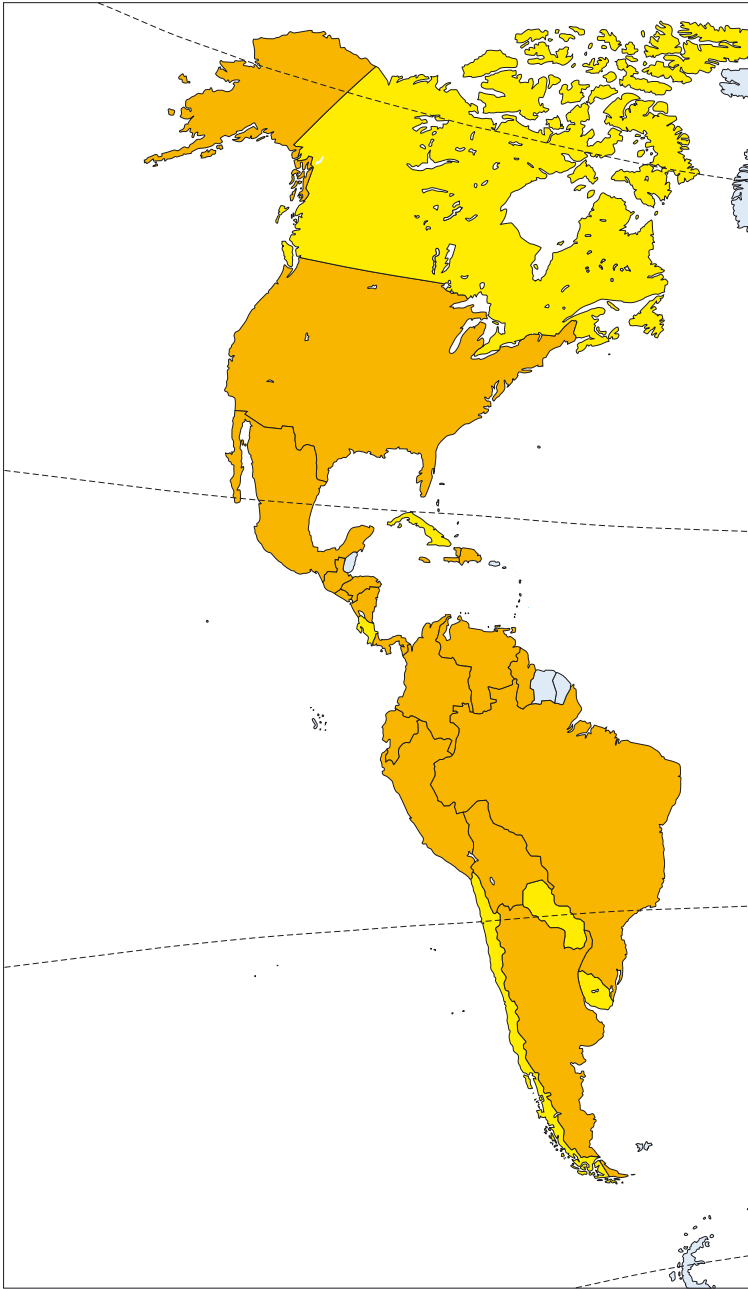
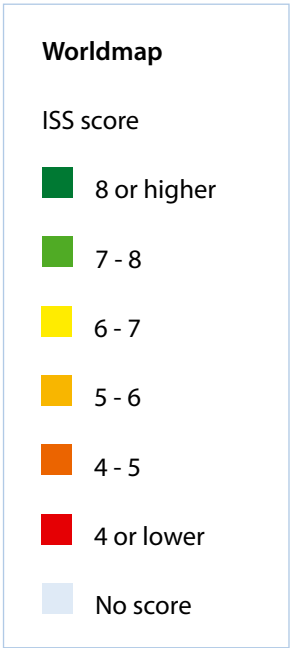
Every teacher (f/m) – to make children and youngsters aware of the importance of a sustainable society and of everyone's possibilities to do something about it

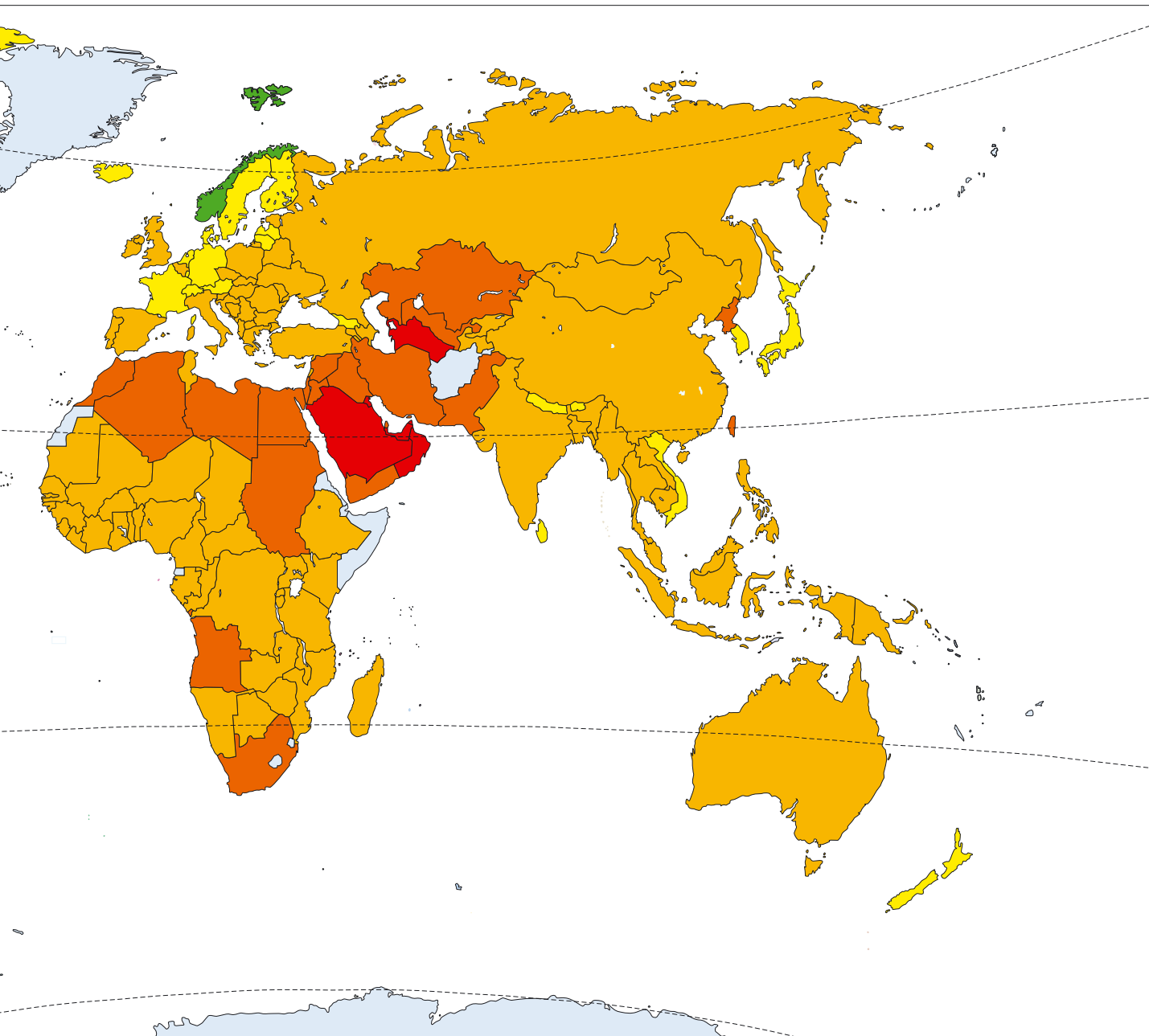
Every citizen, man and woman, girl and boy – to see how (un)sustainable her or his country is, thereby offering a stimulus for further improvements.

Contents

Worldmap with ISS scores	6
Foreword	9
Summary	10
1 The Index for a Sustainable Society	
A Sustainable Society	14
Index for a Sustainable Society	15
The design of the Index for a Sustainable Society	16
2 Results for The Netherlands	
The ISS scores for The Netherlands	20
Breakdown of the ISS for The Netherlands into the 5 categories	21
Breakdown of the ISS for The Netherlands into the 22 indicators	22
3 International comparison of the ISS scores	
Ranking of The Netherlands on the ISS list	24
Top of the ISS list	26
Distribution of the ISS scores	27
4 Is The Netherlands sustainable?	
Why is The Netherlands not number one of the ISS list?	30
Government policy and the ISS	32
Can The Netherlands become more sustainable?	34
5 Recommendations	38
6 Elucidation per category	39
7 Elucidation per indicator (only available in Dutch)	-
8 Annexes (only two in English as yet)	
List of indicators	52
Results for the 150 assessed countries	54

Worldmap
ISS scores for 150 countries





We stand at a critical moment in Earth's history, a time when humanity must choose its future. As the world becomes increasingly interdependent and fragile, the future at once holds great peril and great promise. To move forward we must recognize that in the midst of a magnificent diversity of cultures and life forms we are one human family and one Earth community with a common destiny. We must join together to bring forth a sustainable global society founded on respect for nature, universal human rights, economic justice, and a culture of peace. Towards this end, it is imperative that we, the peoples of Earth, declare our responsibility to one another, to the greater community of life, and to future generations.

Earth Charter – preamble

Foreword

Few people hold the viewpoint that a sustainable society, built on quality of life and sustainability, is not important, on the contrary. Nevertheless, a sustainable society does not come out of the blue sky. To build a sustainable society, much has to change: the manner in which we utilize scarce natural resources, the environment, our habitat, the nature around us and, last but not least, the manner in which we – particularly in a multi-cultural society – interact with each other, respect each other and leave each other adequate opportunities for personal wellbeing.

It is a misconception that a sustainable society is expensive, and that we would have to offer a significant part of our welfare to live in a sustainable manner. On the contrary. Building society in a sustainable manner, for ourselves and our children and children's children, may prove to be more advantageous.

The main effort of the 20th century was to generate prosperity and to distribute this fairly. I consider the challenge of the 21st century to create a sustainable society. This requires a turnaround in our thinking and actions, so it will not remain just hollow words, but leads to the desired changes.

The Index for a Sustainable Society is presented here for the first time. It integrates the most important aspects of quality of life and sustainability in a understandable way. The index shows where changes are necessary and possible in order to achieve a sustainable society.

This index deserves everyone's attention.

Herman Wijffels

Summary

The Index for a Sustainable Society – ISS – is a completely new index, which for the first time integrates the most important aspects of quality of life and sustainability of a national society. The ISS shows at a glance how sustainable a society is: what is going well and where bottlenecks are experienced.

The ISS, based on data from scientific institutes and international organisations, has been developed for The Netherlands and 149 other countries. The resulting ISS scores allow a quick comparison between countries and – as two-yearly updates become available – show developments over time. In this way it becomes clear which efforts are effective and which are not (yet).

The main structure of the ISS is formed by only 5 categories, which are based on just 22 indicators in total. The ISS score is calculated from the 5 categories. The Netherlands scores a 6.2. A rather meager result and way below the 10 of full sustainability.

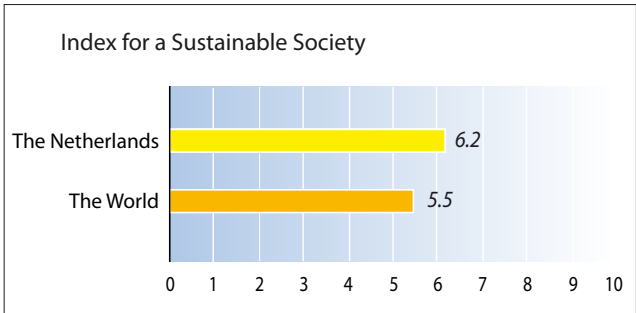
Norway is at the top of the list of the 150 countries assessed, followed by Switzerland, Sweden, Finland and New Zealand. At the bottom of the list many oil-rich countries are found, with Saudi-Arabia being last with a score of

3.4. The Netherlands takes 12th place on the ISS score list, Germany with 6.0 comes in as 27th, United Kingdom with 5.9 as 37th and Belgium with 5.8 as 48th.

The Netherlands has a high score for Personal Development (9.6), but scores just satisfactory for Clean Environment (6.0) and Well-balanced Society (6.6) and scores unsatisfactory for both Sustainable Use of Resources (5.7) and Sustainable World (4.7). The Netherlands scores significantly better with respect to quality of life than with respect to sustainability. This pattern is found for all rich western countries.

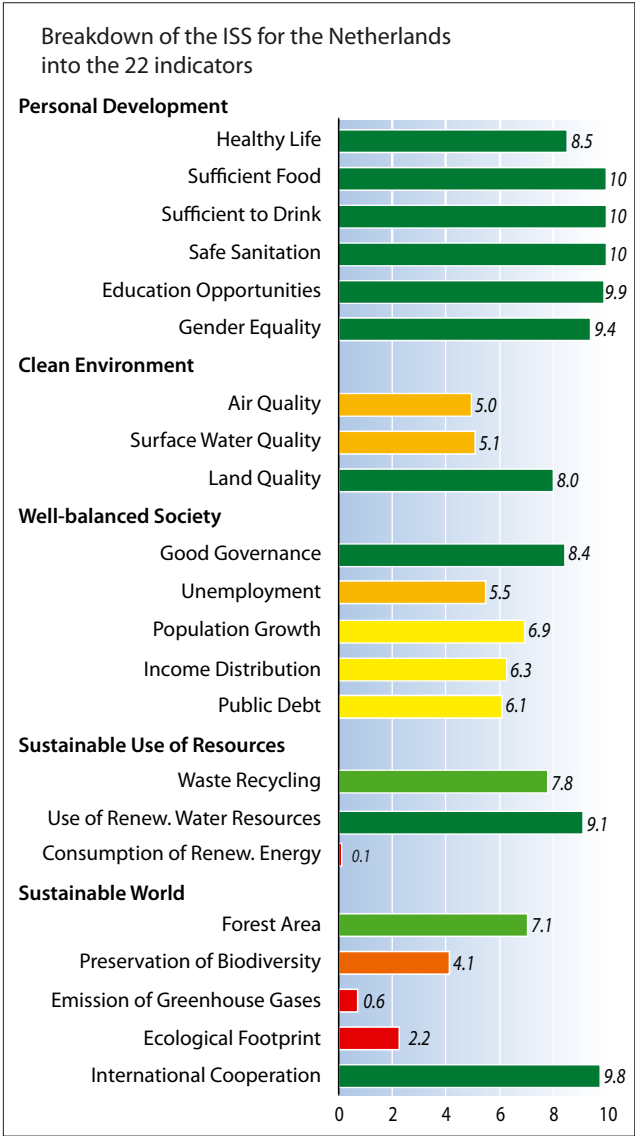
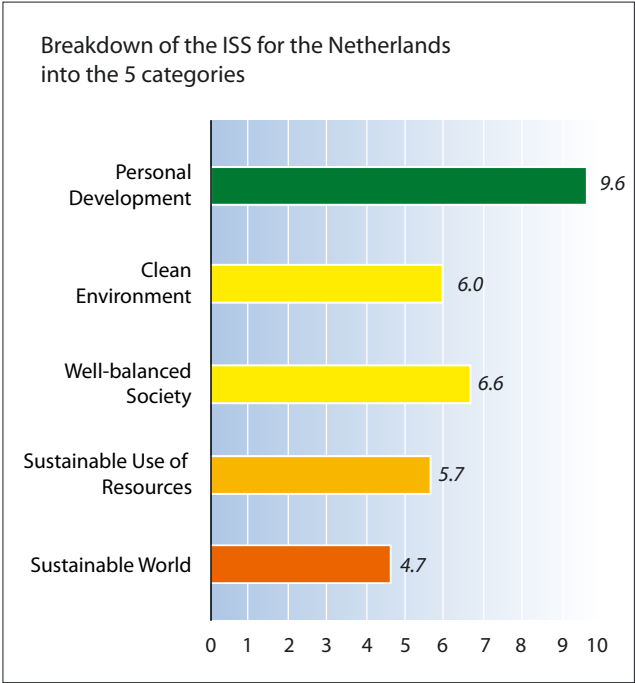
Although The Netherlands occupies 12th place on the ISS score list, many of the underlying values, both for categories and for indicators, are found somewhere half-way down the list or even near the bottom. This poses as many challenges for improvements. Particularly the indicators Consumption of Renewable Energy (0.1), Emissions of Greenhouse Gases (0.6) and Ecological Footprint (2.2) receive exceptionally low scores. Most rich countries show low scores for the latter two indicators.

Government policy strongly affects the sustainability of a society. A government could very well formulate clear objectives to achieve certain results for each of the categories and indicators of the ISS within a defined period of time.









From a nationwide survey in The Netherlands in support of the development of the ISS, it appears that no less than 96% of the respondents consider sustainable development important. The survey reveals a clear demand for basic information on the subject of sustainability. This mainly concerns two issues: people want to recognise the results of all efforts – those by themselves and those by society as a whole – and they want more information on the possibilities for individual contributions. It appears that much is to be gained with respect to these two issues.

The authors expect to publish an update of the ISS in two years time. The full results can be found on the website www.nederlandduurzaam.nl (in Dutch).



Legend

The colours used in the various graphs for the ISS, the categories and the indicators facilitate a quick assessment of the actual situation. Each colour corresponds with a score range:

-  8 or higher
-  7 to 8
-  6 to 7
-  5 to 6
-  4 to 5
-  4 or lower

For each category and indicator, the scores are shown in the graphs in successively the following manner:

- ☐ The Netherlands
- ☐ The country with the highest score
- ☐ The country with the lowest score
- ☐ The average for the EU-25 countries
- ☐ The average for all 150 countries studied
- ☐ The average of each of 7 regions

1

The Index for a Sustainable Society



A Sustainable Society

Ask two people about their understanding of what sustainable society means, and chances are that you receive two quite diverging answers, or two questioning faces. This is understandable, since it is not easy to define sustainability in a satisfactory manner. The North-American Indians used to say:

'We want to leave the earth unscathed and more beautiful to our children and grandchildren. It is the only heritage we have.'

That is what we want too, but don't do. Bear in mind the reports on pollution of the atmosphere, water and soil; think of the emission of greenhouse gases, of climate change, of poverty and unequal income distribution, and... well, everybody does know.

Of course, it was more easy for the Indians to live by their principles than it is for us. There were not so many of them compared with us, with now roughly 6.5 billion inhabitants of the earth and in the future maybe even nearly 10 billion. It is us that have appropriated a large chunk of nature, quickly deplete natural resources, pol-

lute water and air and have brought fish stocks to near extinction. That is far from sustainable. It is hard to imagine what will happen when India and China, now already with over 2.5 billion inhabitants, reach the same level of welfare as ours.

Some scholars are of the opinion that there are no real problems and that we should have trust in the future, in particular in the solutions that will be brought by technology. There are also scholars who predict that a catastrophe is unavoidable, whatever effort we make. They are of the opinion that it is too late to escape our fate.

Until now civilised society has continued to put its future at stake, assuming that technology will present a solution for whatever problem may arise.

David Fromkin, The way of the world (1998)

However, many are of the opinion that we are still (just) in time, provided that we direct all our energy and attention to strengthening sustainable development. It is therefore important that we start doing so, for the future of our children and grandchildren. Out of solidarity with our fellow human beings – near or far away, because solidarity is part and parcel of our system of values and because we are obliged to do so by international treaties that were signed by The Netherlands too.

Index for a Sustainable Society, the ISS

The ISS is based on the definition in the well-known report *Our common future* that was produced in 1987 by a UN commission chaired by Mrs. Brundtland, then prime minister of Norway. Most countries have adopted this definition, among which The Netherlands. The ISS adds an extra dimension to this definition. The Brundtland definition mostly concerns environmental aspects and conservation of raw materials, in order that enough will be left for future generations. These are predominantly sustainability aspects. Sustainable society, however, also concerns the community in which we live and the quality of life in this community. The ISS integrates quality of life and sustainability in one single index. Without quality of life sustainability makes no sense and without sustainability quality of life has no perspective. The ISS uses the following definition:

A sustainable society is a society

- that meets the needs of the present generation,
- that does not compromise the ability of future generations to meet their own needs,
- in which each individual has the opportunity to develop himself in freedom, within a well-balanced society and in harmony with its surroundings.

The ISS shows at a glance to what extent society in The Netherlands is sustainable: what is going well and where bottlenecks are experienced. And it shows the state of the art with respect to sustainability in a further 149 assessed countries.

First and foremost the ISS is a very practical instrument. Many indexes and scorecards already exist, often produced by renowned institutes, covering all possible and impossible aspects.

However, these existing indexes and scorecards often cover just a limited number of aspects and thus do not provide a comprehensive picture of the sustainability of a society. Many are very detailed, but more is not always better. The ISS is the first index to integrate quality of life and sustainability in an accessible manner and thus provides a clear picture of the sustainability of society in a country. Furthermore, the ISS distinguishes itself from other indexes by its simplicity and transparency. This has many advantages and, as always, unfortunately some disadvantages. We benefit from the advantages and take the disadvantages in our stride.

Other relevant indexes are

Commitment to Development Index
Dashboard from Rio to Johannesburg
Ecological Footprint
Environmental Performance Index
Environmental Performance Rank of OECD Nations
Environmental Sustainability Index
Human Development Index
ISEW – Index for Sustainable Economic Welfare
Millennium Development Goal Indicators
Wellbeing Index

The design of the Index for a Sustainable Society

The main structure of the Index for a Sustainable Society consists of five categories, each built up from several indicators.

I Personal Development

- 1 Healthy Life
- 2 Sufficient Food
- 3 Sufficient to Drink
- 4 Safe Sanitation
- 5 Education Opportunities
- 6 Gender Equality

II Clean Environment

- 7 Air Quality
- 8 Surface Water Quality
- 9 Land Quality

III Well-balanced Society

- 10 Good Governance
- 11 Unemployment
- 12 Population Growth
- 13 Income Distribution
- 14 Public Debt

IV Sustainable Use of Resources

- 15 Waste Recycling
- 16 Use of Renewable Water Resources
- 17 Consumption of Renewable Energy

V Sustainable World

- 18 Forest Area
- 19 Preservation of Biodiversity
- 20 Emission of Greenhouse Gases
- 21 Ecological Footprint
- 22 International Cooperation

The composition of the Index is based on the definition of Sustainable Society as presented earlier. The index shows the extent to which every human being

- is able to develop himself in a healthy manner and can obtain a proper education,
- lives in a clean environment,
- lives in a well-balanced and safe society,
- uses non-renewable resources in a responsible manner so that future generations are not left empty handed and
- contributes to a sustainable world.

The main structure of the ISS is formed by 5 categories. Each category is defined by 3 to 6 indicators. Each indicator receives a 'report mark'. By aggregating these marks, the report mark for each category is found. For all marks a scale of 0 to 10 is applied, the higher figure representing more sustainability. Further information on the manner in which the marks have been calculated is presented on the website www.nederlandduurzaam.nl (in Dutch).

Compared to many other indexes the number of 5 categories and 22 indicators is quite modest. More is not required. For example, although used in nearly all indexes, data like per capita income is not an indicator in the ISS. However, what does per capita income say about a sustainable society?

The big issue is to detach economic growth from a threatening over-exploitation of natural resources. I expect a transition to sustainable sources within 4 to 6 decennia, both for energy supply and for consumption.

Herman Wijffels

More subjects are not included in the ISS. Reserves, such as of fossil fuels, minerals or uranium ore, of which experts say the exploitable quantities will be depleted within 50 years, are kept out of the ISS. This subject is too complicated to express in a meaningful way in an indicator.

A list of the best housewives is lacking too in the ISS, even though this might be useful in respect of a clean environment. A recent survey (Procter & Gamble, April 2006) shows that Italian housewives won gold, followed by silver for the French women, leaving bronze for the German ladies.

We cannot expect everyone to agree with the design of the ISS. A lot of choices had to be made on which one may differ in opinion. A well-known criticism is that it is not allowed to add up apples and oranges. Still, that is what we do. But we show clearly how many apples and how many oranges there are. Moreover, we show how much fruit is in the basket. This is convenient to get at a glance a good idea of the sustainability of the society of a country. After this first glance one has to look immediately at the underlying figures in more detail.

Only existing data in the public domain is used in the development of the ISS. Much data has been found on the internet, or in reports like The Wellbeing of Nations. It would have been impossible to collect our own data. In The Netherlands this might be doable. Here data is regularly updated and is reasonably accessible. For many other countries, this is much more difficult and definitely impossible for nearly 200 countries.

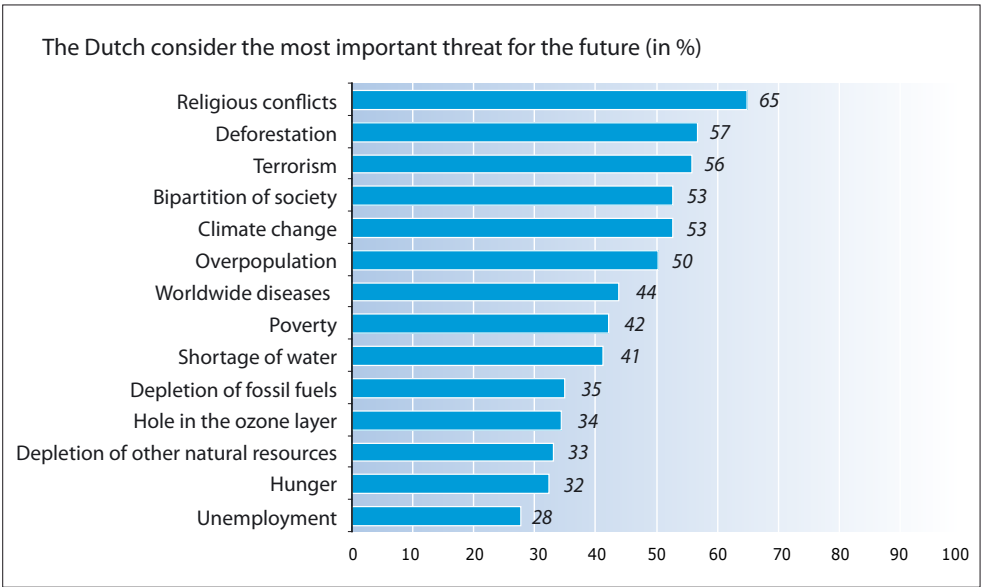
Of the 193 countries – 191 members of the United Nations (Serbia-Montenegro was still one country) plus Taiwan and Vatican City – that made up the world on

June 1, 2006, 150 are included in the ISS. 43 countries did not make it into the ISS. The condition was that data of a country should be available for at least 12 of the 22 indicators. In case data was not available for at least 12 indicators, the country could not be included. For countries with overseas territories, the ISS was calculated for the 'mother country'. Thus, The Netherlands Antilles and Aruba are not included in the ISS for The Netherlands.

You will find all basic data, the resulting indicators and the total ISS score for all 150 countries on the website www.nederlandduurzaam.nl (in Dutch).

While developing the ISS, a survey was done under the Dutch population – a representative sample under adults – of the various aspects of sustainable society. The most important question was how more awareness of the notion of sustainable society could be achieved.

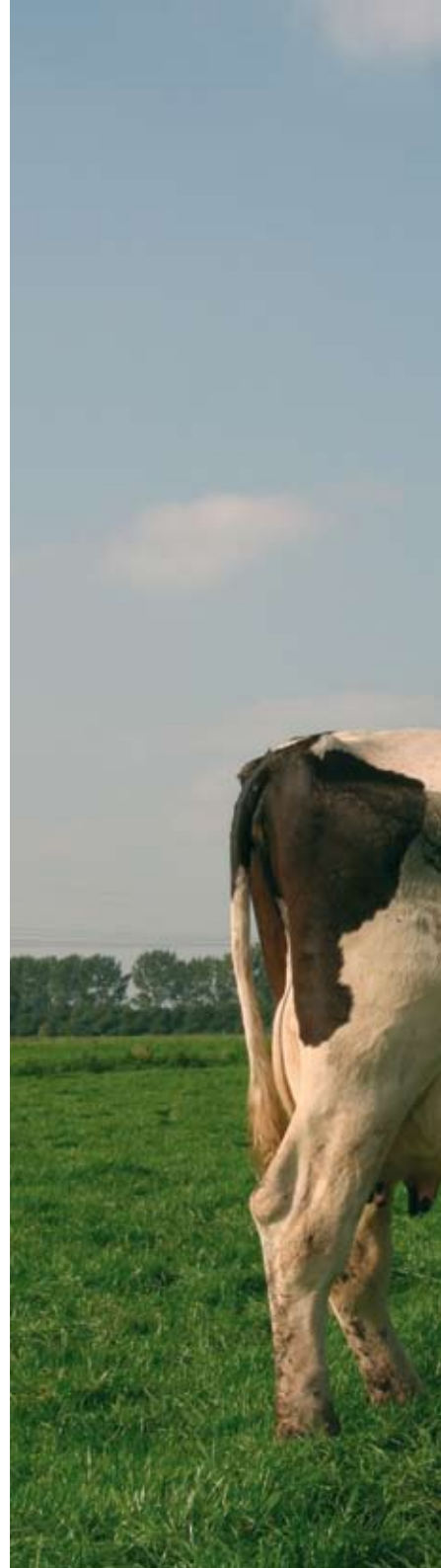
Better and more pointed information appears essential in this respect. The main results of the survey have been used in this book.



Source: Survey ISS, spring 2006

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Results for The Netherlands

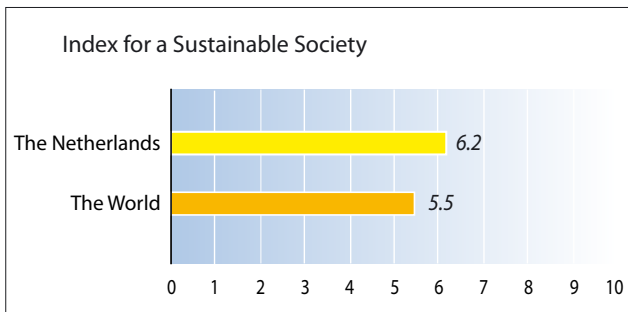


The ISS scores for The Netherlands

The Netherlands receives a 6.2 on its first ISS report. Disappointing? It is no more than a meager six. Many of us would have expected better marks.

Is a 6.2 sufficient? According to the explanation on a primary school report, the answer would be yes. However, a 6.2 also means that a sustainable society is still miles away. Therefore, it is important to have a close look on the underlying figures and see how The Netherlands got this 6.2. Then it will immediately become clear for which aspects improvements are required.

On the ISS list of the 150 assessed countries The Netherlands takes place 12. A 6.2 means that The Netherlands is doing (slightly) better than the world as a whole. The world's average is 5.5.



The Netherlands must continue to be a guiding country. We must do it more clever, more efficient and more effective.

*Pieter van Geel, State secretary of Environment,
Trouw, January 28, 2006*

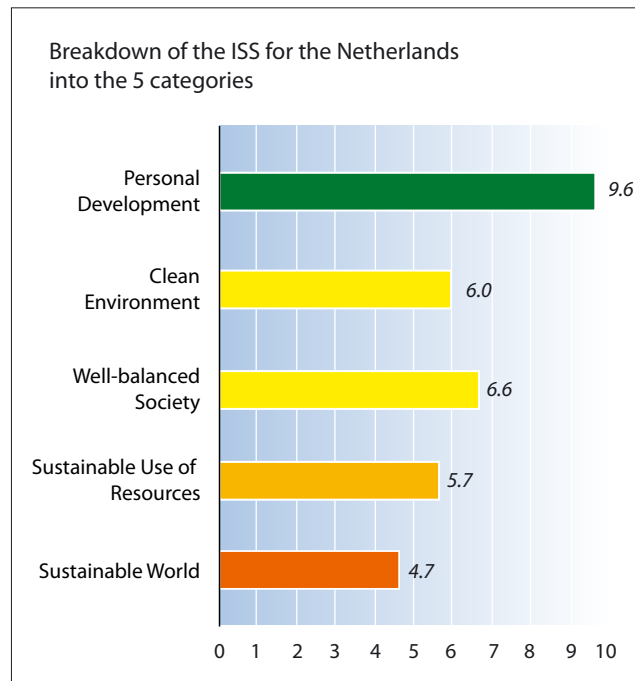
Balkenende: The Netherlands makes an important contribution to sustainable development

There is no reason for The Netherlands to feel ashamed about its efforts with respect to sustainable development. This is the message of Prime Minister Balkenende in his part in the debate on environment, sustainability and stewardship in the Second Chamber.

He announces the installation of a sub council of the Cabinet. This subcouncil will be involved with Sustainability, Spatial issues and Environment. It could replace the present Council for Spatial Planning and Environment. According to the Prime Minister, the Cabinet has done its utmost, from the very first, for sustainable development. The Cabinet will continue doing so.

Press report, September 12, 2005

Breakdown of the ISS for The Netherlands into the 5 categories



The ISS consists, as we have seen, of 5 categories.

The Netherlands scores

- High on
 - Personal Development
- Sufficient on
 - Clean Environment
 - Well-balanced Society
- Insufficient on
 - Sustainable Use of Resources
 - Sustainable World.

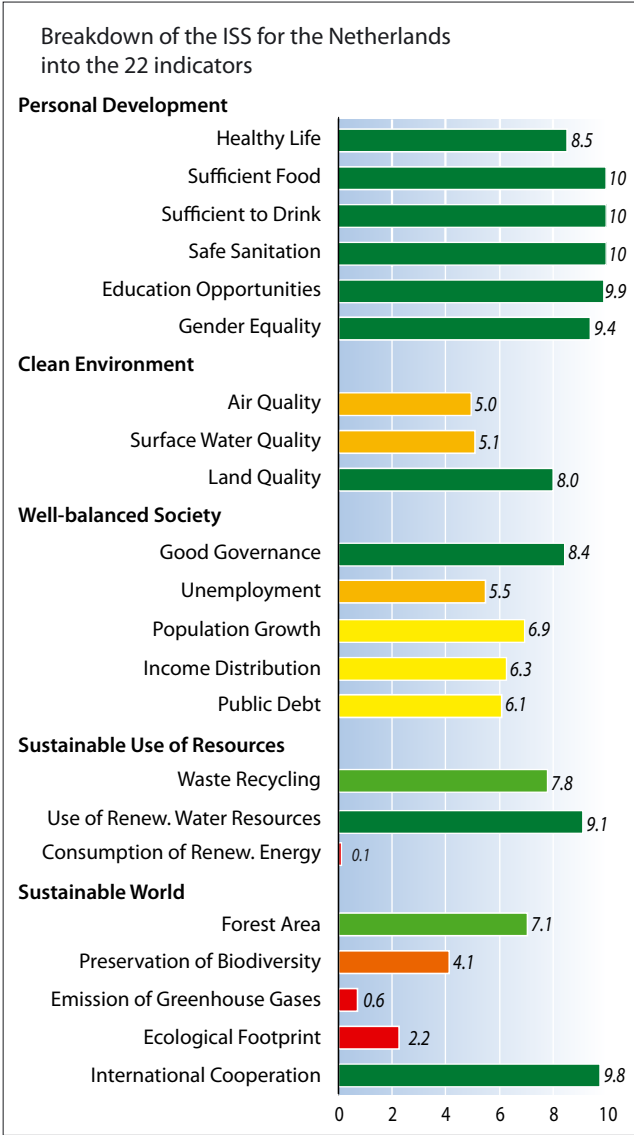
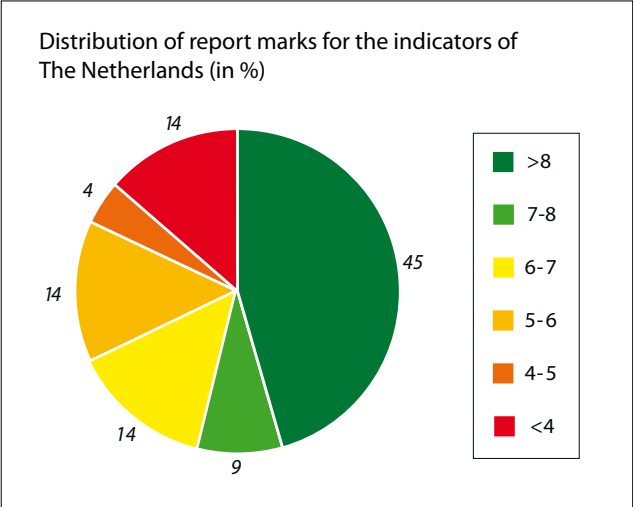
Though The Netherlands receives a 6.2 on its ISS report, marks for 3 categories appear to be less. For 2 categories The Netherlands even scores an insufficient mark. The categories which are mainly covering quality of life score sufficient to good; those which are mainly covering sustainability score insufficient. Is this surprising? Not really. There are numerous press reports that Clean Environment needs improvements on fine particulate matter and poor air quality. Just a sufficient mark for Well-balanced Society may be unexpected by many.

The insufficient mark for Sustainable Use of Resources will be no surprise for anyone, due to the minimal share of renewable energy in The Netherlands. The insufficient mark for Sustainable World is mainly due to emission of greenhouse gases being much too high and to a footprint being far too big.

All rich western countries present the same picture as The Netherlands: high marks for quality of life, (very) low marks for sustainability.

Breakdown of the ISS for The Netherlands into the 22 indicators

The Netherlands scores high, 8 or better, for 10 indicators. 15 out of 22 indicators score a sufficient mark. 7 indicators score an insufficient mark, of which three less than a 4.



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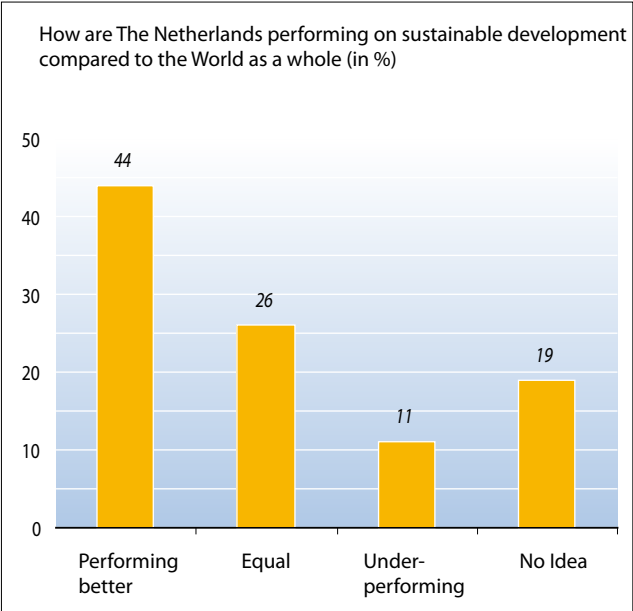
International comparison of
ISS scores



Ranking of The Netherlands on the ISS list

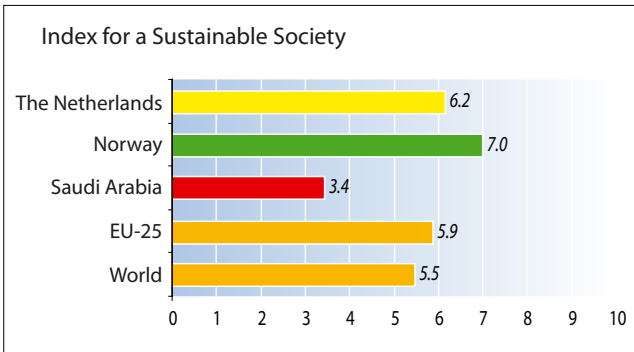
	Rank of The Netherlands
Index for a Sustainable Society	12
I Personal Development	7
1 Healthy Life	16
2 Sufficient Food	1
3 Sufficient to Drink	1
4 Safe Sanitation	1
5 Education Opportunities	9
6 Gender Equality	11
II Clean Environment	34
7 Air Quality	61
8 Surface Water Quality	68
9 Land Quality	30
III Well-balanced Society	26
10 Good Governance	9
11 Unemployment	32
12 Population Growth	41
13 Income distribution	46
14 Public Debt	90
IV Sustainable Use of Resources	43
15 Waste Recycling	8
16 Use of Renewable Water Resources	86
17 Consumption of Renewable Energy	132
V Sustainable World	128
18 Forest Area	49
19 Preservation of Biodiversity	124
20 Emission of Greenhouse Gases	130
21 Ecological Footprint	124
22 International Cooperation	7

The Netherlands are among the best of the ISS list with respect to Personal Development. Sustainable World ranks The Netherlands in the worst 20%. For the other three categories The Netherlands scores around halfway down the list. Nevertheless, the overall score, calculated from the five categories, places The Netherlands on rank 12.



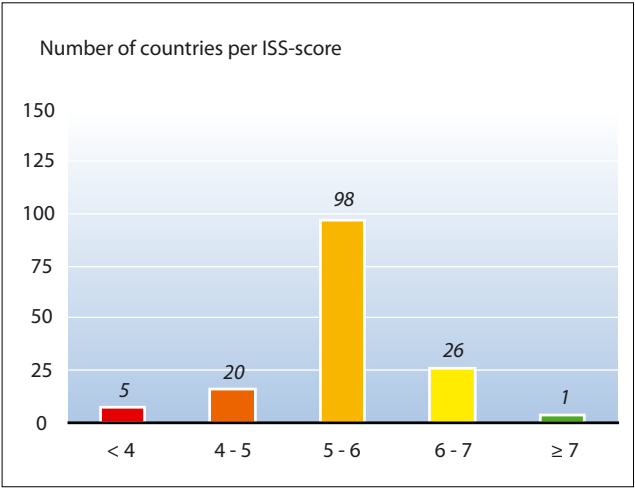
Source: Survey ISS, spring 2006

Top of the ISS list



The top-30 countries on the ISS list		
rank		ISS
1	Norway	7.0
2	Switzerland	6.9
3	Sweden	6.8
4	Finland	6.7
5	New Zealand	6.7
6	Austria	6.7
7	Iceland	6.7
8	Vietnam	6.4
9	Georgia	6.3
10	Japan	6.3
11	Uruguay	6.3
12	Netherlands	6.2
13	Canada	6.1
14	Bhutan	6.1
15	Denmark	6.1
16	Latvia	6.1
17	France	6.1
18	Paraguay	6.1
19	Korea. South	6.1
20	Nepal	6.1
21	Lithuania	6.1
22	Cuba	6.0
23	Costa Rica	6.0
24	Chile	6.0
25	Luxembourg	6.0
26	Sri Lanka	6.0
27	Germany	6.0
28	Cote d'Ivoire	5.9
29	Colombia	5.9
30	Mozambique	5.9

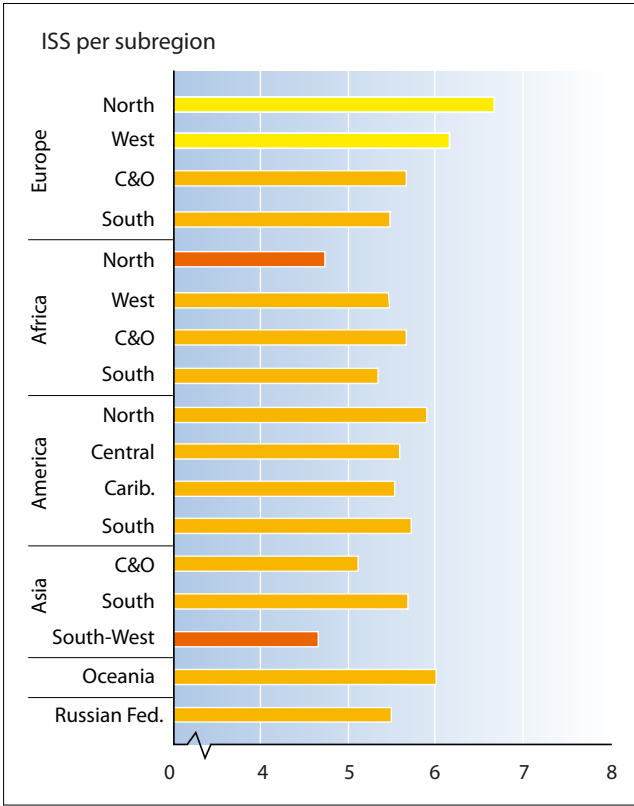
Distribution of the ISS scores



Most of the assessed countries score between 5.0 and 6.0. Distribution over the 150 countries shows that

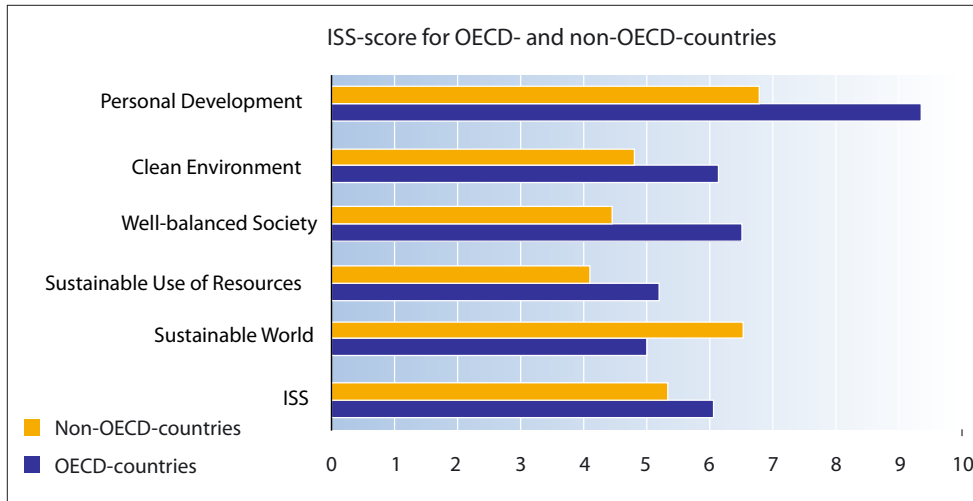
- 1/6 – scores 6 or higher,
- 4/6 – scores between 5 and 6,
- 1/6 – scores 5 or lower.

No country scores an 8 or higher. If these were the results of pupils of a school, the school administration would immediately take stringent measures. At least that is what it should do.



Like so often, the level of sustainability of a society is distributed very unequally. The ISS scores range from 6.7 (Northern Europe) to 4.7 (Northern Africa) and 4.6 (South West Asia).

If we take a closer look at the OECD-countries, the rich countries in the world, it appears that these score significantly higher for all categories than the non-OECD-countries, apart from the category Sustainable World. The overall score for the ISS is also higher for rich countries than for the poor ones.



For many of us it is no surprise that the rich OECD-countries score better than poor countries on the first three categories:

- Personal Development is still far below standard in poor countries,
- Poor countries mostly have little money to spend on Clean Environment,
- The development of a Well-balanced Society is in many countries still in its infancy.

deforestation in many countries. Often the economy of these countries depends largely on the export of wood.

The low score for poor countries on Sustainable Use of Resources is mainly due to the fact that, while in many developing countries there is an extensive informal network occupying itself with recycling, this network is not accounted for in the official statistics. Therefore, many of these countries wrongly score low on this category.

Only for Sustainable World poor countries do better than the rich ones. This is notably due to low emissions of greenhouse gases, in spite of a sometimes dramatic

4

Is The Netherlands sustainable?



Why is The Netherlands not number one of the ISS list?

A 12th place for The Netherlands on the ISS list is certainly a position among the best. However, it brings no gold medal. If we have a look at various other indexes (which contrary to the ISS do not include all aspects of sustainability), The Netherlands is not placed number one of those either; on the contrary. On the ISS list The Netherlands scores relatively high.

Nearly always we find three Scandinavian countries, Norway, Sweden and Finland, number one. Apparently they perform well, at least better than other countries.

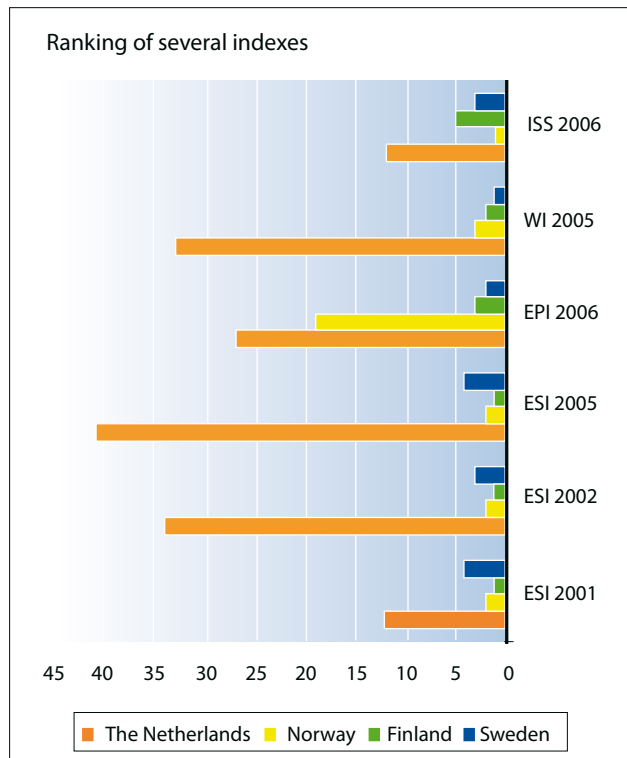
Often three reasons are given why it is hard for The Netherlands to reach the very top with respect to Sustainable Society:

- High population density,
- Situated in a delta where rivers bring polluted water from abroad,
- A small country where polluted air from abroad severely influences the air quality.

High population density

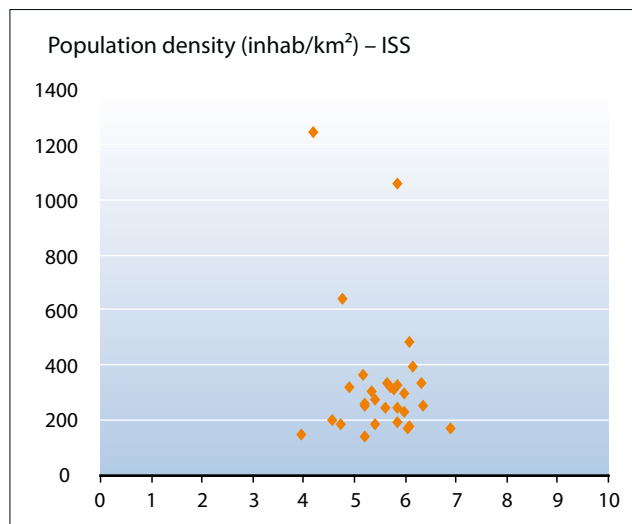
Mid 2005 the Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency published the Environmental Balance 2005. This caused headlines in the papers like 'Full Holland faces problems to meet environmental goals' (NRC, May 10, 2005). It suggests that the high population density of our country produces difficulties to meet the environmental goals.

Focusing on the ten assessed countries with the highest population densities, it appears that Lebanon has a lower score, whereas Japan scores better than The Netherlands and even more densely populated South Korea scores hardly lower. Apparently population density is not a convincing explanation for a low score on the ISS list.



Population density - ISS		
	Inhab/km ²	ISS
Malta	1242	4,2
Bangladesh	1060	5,8
Taiwan	639	4,8
South Korea	485	6,1
The Netherlands	393	6,2
Lebanon	362	5,2
Japan	339	6,3
India	334	5,7
Rwanda	327	5,9
El Salvador	319	5,7

Drawing a graph of the 30 most densely populated countries (more than 150 inhabitants per km² land and water area) and the ISS score teaches us that there is no definite relation between population density and ISS.



Position in a delta

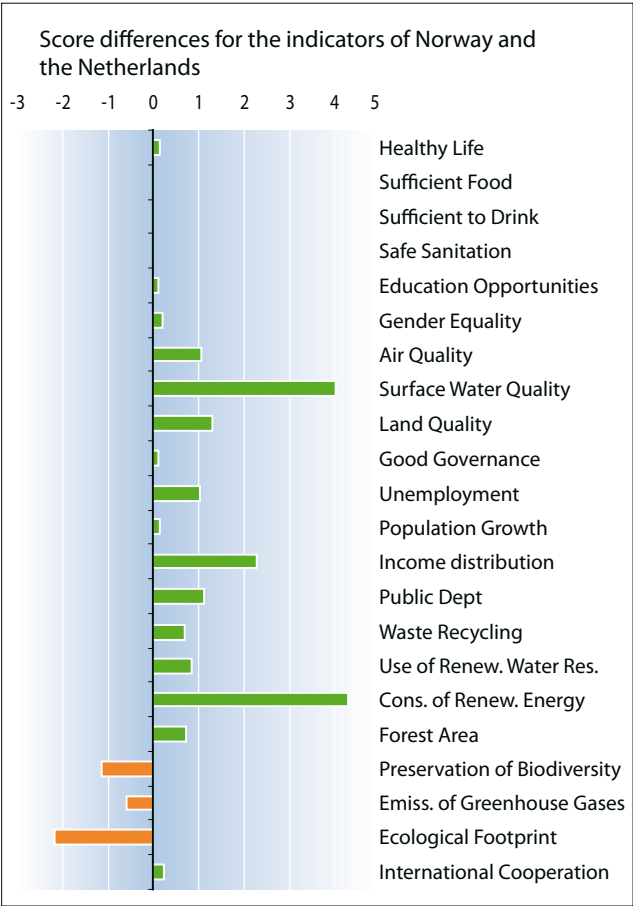
There is little we can do about this. Rivers keep entering our country across the German and Belgian borders, with polluted water. However, these waters are much cleaner than some decennia ago, thanks to measures which have been taken abroad. Apart from this disadvantage, a delta has some advantages as well: it is a flat area, with plenty of fertile ground and good water transport facilities.

A small country

A legendary Dutch Minister of Foreign Affairs used to say: 'We undoubtedly are a small country but we have a very large area abroad.' And so relatively, a lot of polluted air enters our country from abroad. We just have to accept this.

In short, it really is not too easy for The Netherlands to score high on the ISS list. However, this does not mean there is less urgency to do so.

Government policy and the ISS



Geographical conditions influence, as we have seen, the ISS score of a country. Beside this, research done by Columbia University and Yale University, USA, proved that the score on an index is highly dependent on the government's policy of a country. Results of the ISS give an excellent opportunity for a comparison between countries.

Comparing Norway – The Netherlands

Norway is highest on the ISS list, scoring a 7.0.

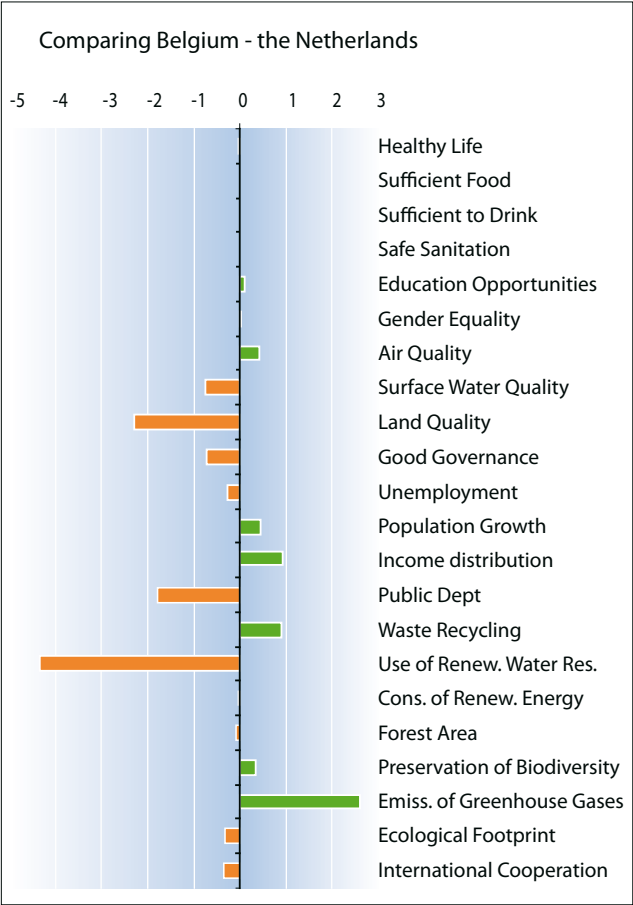
The graph shows clearly that Norway is doing better than The Netherlands on nearly the whole range of indicators. Especially with respect to Surface Water Quality and Consumption of Renewable Energy, Norway scores definitely better than The Netherlands. On three indicators, Biodiversity, Emission of Greenhouse Gases and Ecological Footprint, The Netherlands scores higher than Norway.

A higher score for Surface Water Quality for Norway is easily understood given the geographical conditions in Norway. The same applies to Consumption of Renewable Energy: 40% of Norwegian energy is produced by hydropower. Beside this, Norway produces another 5% renewable energy, where this figure in The Netherlands is only 0.1% (2001).

For most of the indicators there seems to be no serious constraint to perform on the same level as Norway, or even better, provided the government's policy is focused on sustainable development. A possible exception should be made for Air Quality, Land Quality and Use of Renewable Water Resources.

Comparing Belgium – The Netherlands

The Netherlands and Belgium are in many ways comparable countries. Nevertheless, considerable differences with respect to the ISS score are found.



The main difference, on Use of Renewable Water Resources, is mainly due to geographical conditions. Belgium must do without the river Rhine, the main supply of water to The Netherlands (where rain is second best). Other differences may reflect a difference in government policy

in The Netherlands and in Belgium. It appears that Belgium is doing better on Air Quality, Population Growth, Income Distribution, Waste Recycling and especially Emission of Greenhouse Gases. The Netherlands score higher on Surface Water Quality, Land Quality, Good Governance and Public Debt.

Fewer cars on Flemish highways.

Flemish measures to promote public transport appear to be successful. The Flemish use their cars less and more often take a bus or a train. The Flemish Minister of Transport assumes the greater use of public transport is due to extreme discounts for trains and busses.

de Volkskrant, March 9, 2004

Belgium includes Sustainable Development in its Constitution

July 13, 2006 the Belgium Parliament decided to anchor Sustainable Development in the Constitution. 'While exercising their respective competencies the Federal State of Belgium, the Communities and the Regions strive at achieving the goals of a sustainable development in its social, economic and ecological aspects, taking into account the solidarity between generations.

De Standaard, July 14, 2006

Can The Netherlands become more sustainable?

Results of the ISS show that there are many possibilities to strengthen the sustainability of the Dutch society. In particular, this applies to Consumption of Renewable Energy, Emission of Greenhouse Gases and Ecological Footprint. But for many other indicators opportunities for improvements can easily be found as well, until each indicator reaches a sustainable 10. This is elaborated in the following elucidation of the 5 categories and 22 indicators.

The ISS survey among a representative sample of Dutch adults, carried out in the spring of 2006, shows considerable willingness of people to make greater efforts to achieve a sustainable society. They consider sustainable development to be important. Although youngsters are hardly familiar with the notion of sustainable development, upon being explained the notion, 96% of the respondents consider sustainable development important.

Why do you think sustainable development is (very) important? (in %)	
I think we should see to it that future generations will also have a good life	81
I think that we should avoid and solve environmental problems	50
I am worried about the controversy between poor and rich	33
I am worried about climate change	22

The low score for climate change is remarkable since more than half of the interviewees consider it a serious threat for the future.

Some 'open' answers to the question in the ISS survey why sustainable development is considered important:

We are destroying our planet and are exhausting it.
The continuous hardening of our society.
Provide everybody opportunities in life.
I am worried about increasing polarisation.
We should leave this world in good condition for our great-great-grandchildren.

Are you of the opinion that institutions and governments sufficiently promote sustainable development? (in %)			
	Yes	No	No comment
International organisations	39	42	19
National Government	33	52	15
Provincial Government	21	57	22
Local Government	22	20	58

Government

Respondents do not shift the responsibility for sustainability to the government. Two-thirds accept that in first instance they themselves are responsible. Only one-third indicates the government as the responsible party: a government that many think does not sufficiently promote sustainable development. It is remarkable that respondents have a lower opinion of governmental bodies closer to them. More than half the respondents is uncertain about what their local government really does to promote sustainable development.

Citizens

There are equal numbers of people that claim they contribute sufficiently to sustainable development compared with those that say they do not. Ten percent would like to do more, but indicates not being able to pay for it. Obviously, people are not yet aware that sustainability does not necessarily mean higher costs.

Better information is essential to increase awareness of sustainable development of the population.

Information

To increase awareness of sustainable development of the population in the first place better information is required.

Very practical, concrete information is useful to stimulate people in 'do it yourself' actions. Two-thirds of the respondents indicate this is important. Also better product information on each product, indicating the consequences for sustainable development, is useful: more than half the respondents identify this requirement. For the most part, these are the same people who are of the opinion that the price we pay for products should include all costs. This means also the costs now paid from taxes such as for the removal of pesticides and nitrates from the environment, the costs caused by swine fever and bird's flu and the removal of all kinds of hazardous chemicals that end up in the environment through various products. Consequently, allocating these costs to the relevant products will make traditionally produced products more expensive and thus sustainable products (relatively) cheaper.

What is required to increase awareness of sustainable development under citizens? (in %)	
More and better information on anticipated problems	63
More information on the situation in The Netherlands with respect to this subject	59
Include it in the curriculum of secondary education	46
Provide more government subsidies for required measures	39
It will not be possible at all to increase awareness for sustainable development	5

Individual contributions to sustainable society

Much can still be gained concerning own efforts of people. The ISS survey shows for example that from the respondents

- more than 40% have taken no or few measures to save energy,
- slightly less than half use green energy at home,
- less than 10% buys biological products as much as possible; more than one-third never,
- less than 10% buys Fair Trade products as much as possible; more than half never,
- nearly 20% never checks sustainability aspects, such as the FSC-label or a EKO-label, when buying products; slightly less than half only occasionally.

There is much willingness to contribute to sustainable development. Only 15% indicates not to be willing to make any sacrifice, neither money nor any luxury. However, 85% of the people is prepared to do so.

For many only small steps are needed to encourage individuals to act, such as:

- practical information,
- evidence that the government – at all levels – is actively promoting a sustainable society in The Netherlands (and abroad) and
- seeing the results of such efforts.

I do not plead for limiting economic growth. But we will get into problems if the whole world continues to develop in the traditional manner. This will lead to disasters, so we have to re-invent welfare in a manner that preserves nature.

*Wolfgang Sachs, member of the Club of Rome,
Milieuzorg, April 2006*

5

Recommendations



No Recommendations

No, no recommendations. It is not that there are none. Many can be identified while reading this publication. And even more for those who are interested to read the elucidation of the categories and indicators (as yet only available in Dutch). Even considering that The Netherlands scores (just) sufficient on its ISS report, just to sit back is no option. There is still a big gap between the score of 6.2 and a real sustainable 10 for all subjects.

The various categories and indicators offer more than enough opportunities to do much more in order to achieve a real sustainable society in The Netherlands and in the world as a whole. A list of recommendations is not fitting for this presentation of the Index for a Sustainable Society. We leave that to each reader.

With the ISS we have tried to present a clear picture of the situation in The Netherlands and elsewhere with respect to the sustainability of society. In two years time we expect to present an update of the ISS.

From the window of the Space Shuttle, I looked at the earth and realised: this should be conserved, we should be very careful with the earth. The earth is breathtakingly beautiful but also very vulnerable.

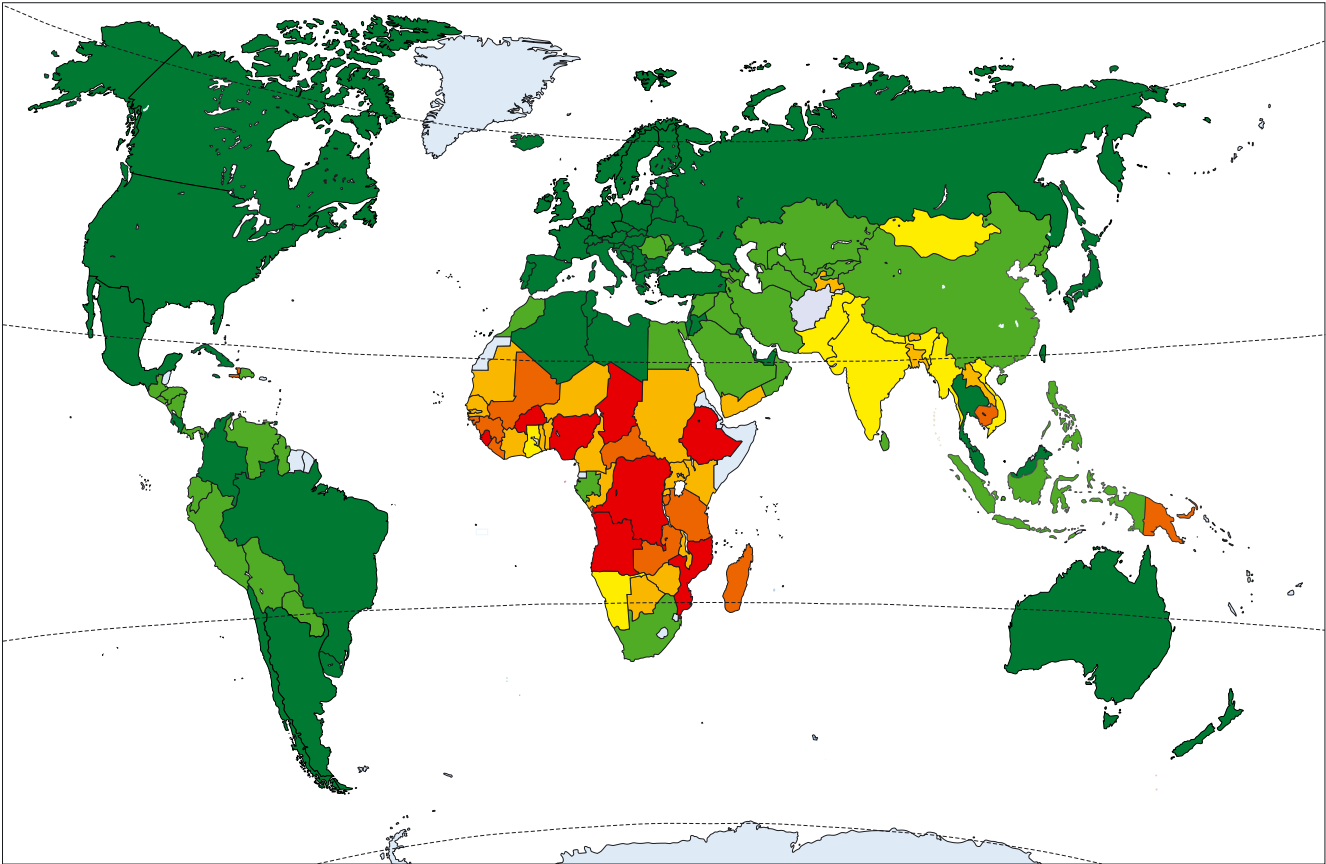
Wubbo Ockels

6

Elucidation per category



Worldmap
ISS scores for category I



Category I

Personal Development

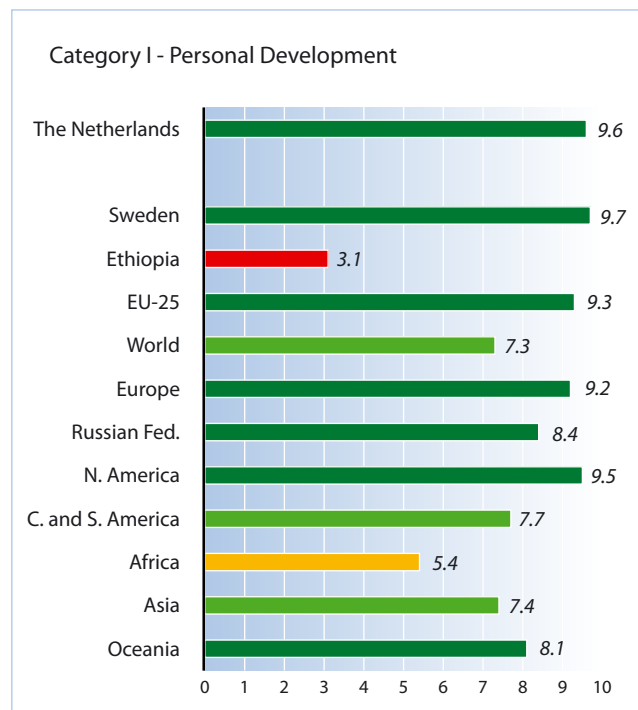


The category Personal Development is based on 6 indicators, together giving a picture of the opportunities for personal development of each individual: Healthy Life, Sufficient Food, Sufficient to Drink, Safe Sanitation, Education Opportunities and Gender Equality.

The Netherlands scores a 9.6 for this category. This places The Netherlands as 7th of the 150 countries assessed, behind Sweden, Australia, Norway, Iceland, Belgium and Finland. Also compared to the EU average, The Netherlands' score is relatively high.

Worldwide large differences are found in Personal Development. Out of 30 countries with the lowest scores no less than 25 are found in Africa.

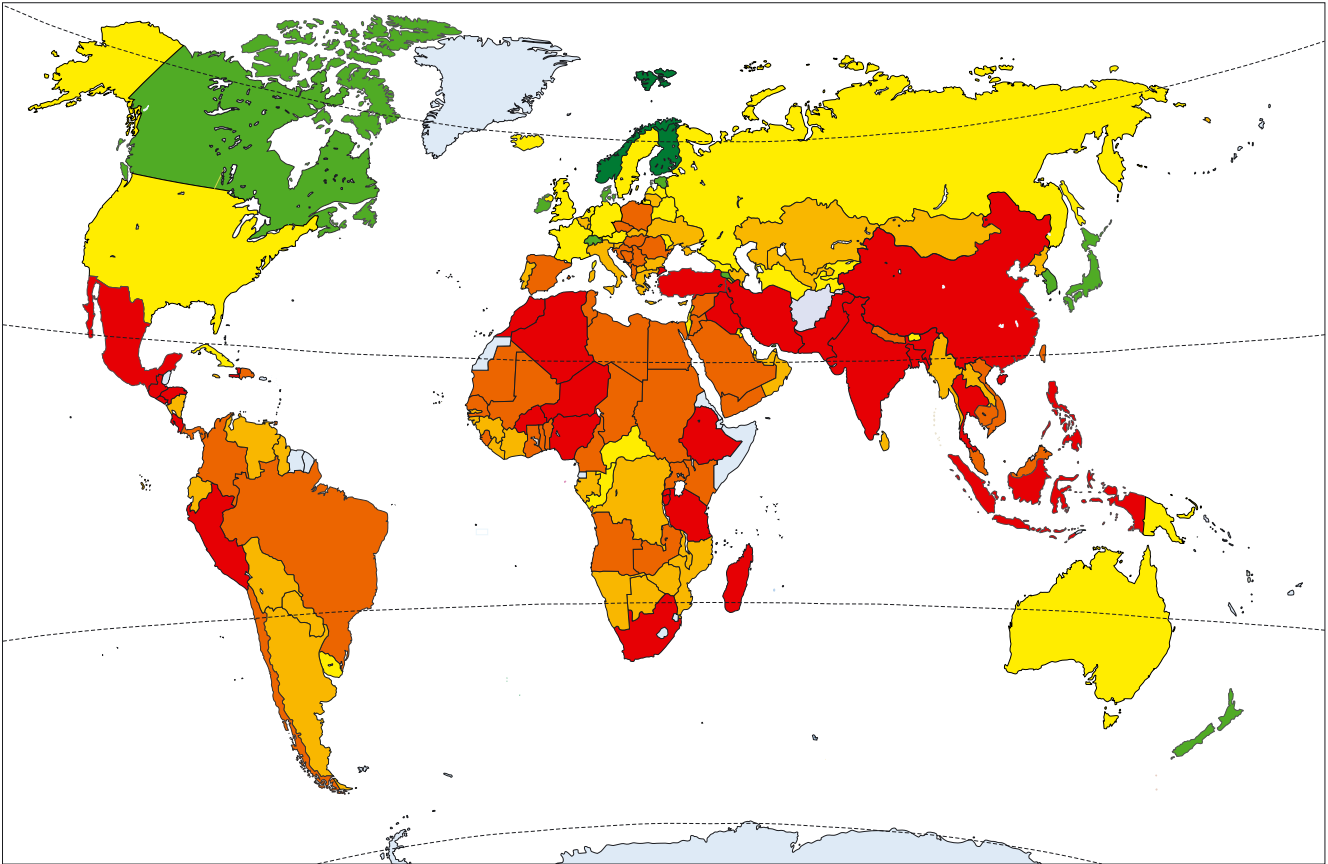
The Human Development Index (HDI), annually published by the UNDP, shows developments over time. Since 1975, the first year the HDI was calculated, The Netherlands has kept the same place until 1995; thereafter The Netherlands has lost several places. Apparently, other countries were more successful with respect to Human Development. It should be noted that the HDI only covers part of the indicators used in the ISS. Thus the comparison is not completely valid.



Worldwide many people love to discuss the soccer World Championship. Were it only true that that the world's citizens were actively pondering the opportunities for their country to achieve a higher score for the Human Development Index – the measure for the level of development.

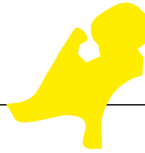
Kofi Annan, NRC, June 13, 2006

Worldmap
ISS scores for category II



Category II

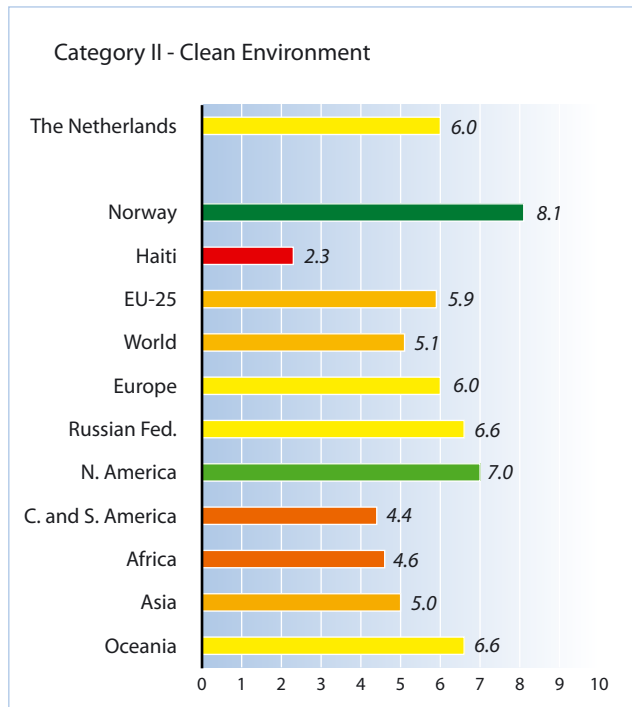
Clean Environment



The category Clean Environment comprises 3 indicators: Air Quality, Surface Water Quality and Land Quality. This provides an overall picture of the quality of the surroundings in which we live.

With 6.0 The Netherlands scores just sufficient for this category. Notwithstanding the fact that geographical conditions are disadvantageous for the Netherlands, the score is not only sufficient but also (slightly) higher than the average of the EU and of the 150 countries studied.

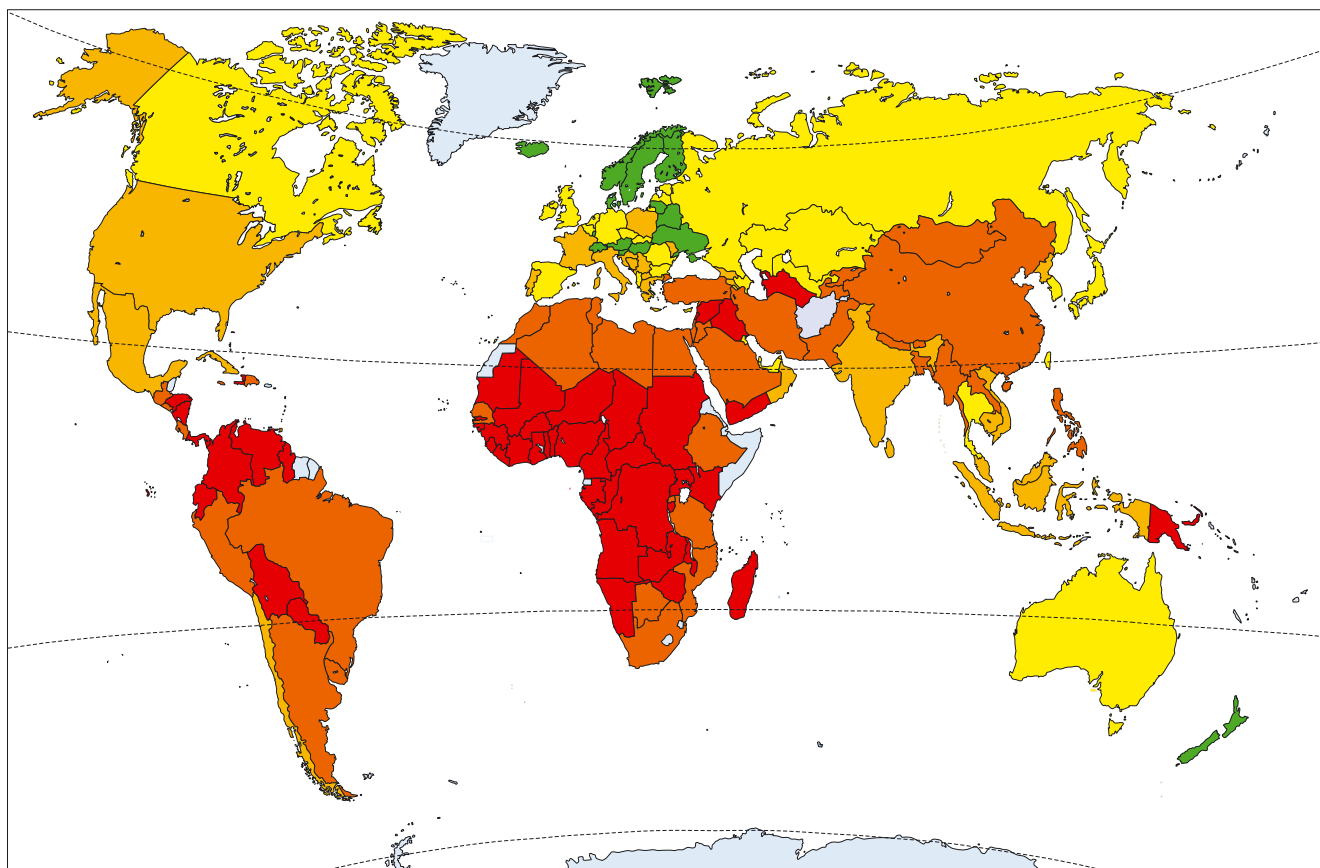
Norway leads the pack, while The Netherlands at 34th place just does not make it to the top-thirty. In the latter group we find many western countries but for example also two African countries: Congo and the Central African Republic. The 30 lowest scoring countries do – surprisingly? – not comprise a single western country. China is third from the bottom, just above Pakistan and Haiti, which brings up the rear.



Not long ago natural processes took care of industrial pollution. There was no need to worry about this issue, since nature took care of it. But at a certain time during the industrial revolution this proved no longer possible. Human activities became too predominant; the environment could no longer handle the radical effects.

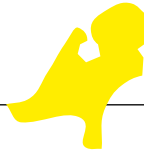
David Fromkin, The Way of the World

Worldmap ISS scores for category III



Category III

Well-balanced Society

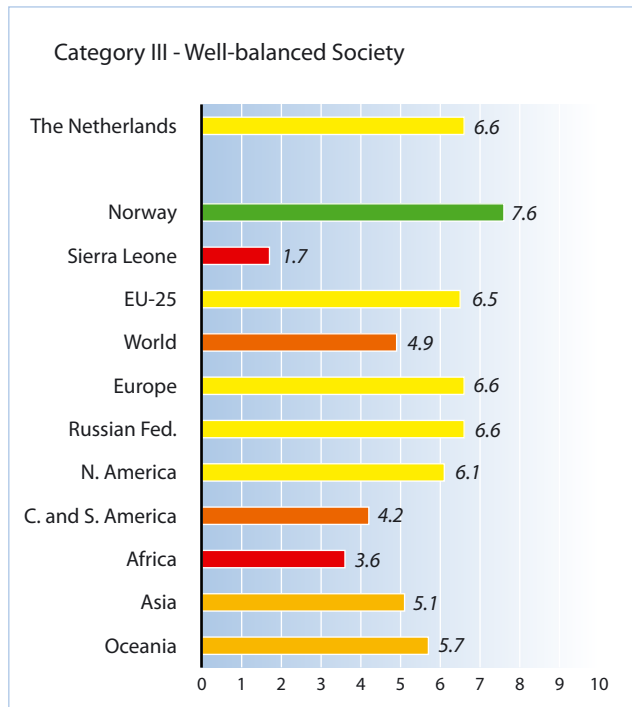


The category Well-balanced Society is made up of 5 indicators: Good Governance, Unemployment, Population Growth, Income Distribution and Public Debt.

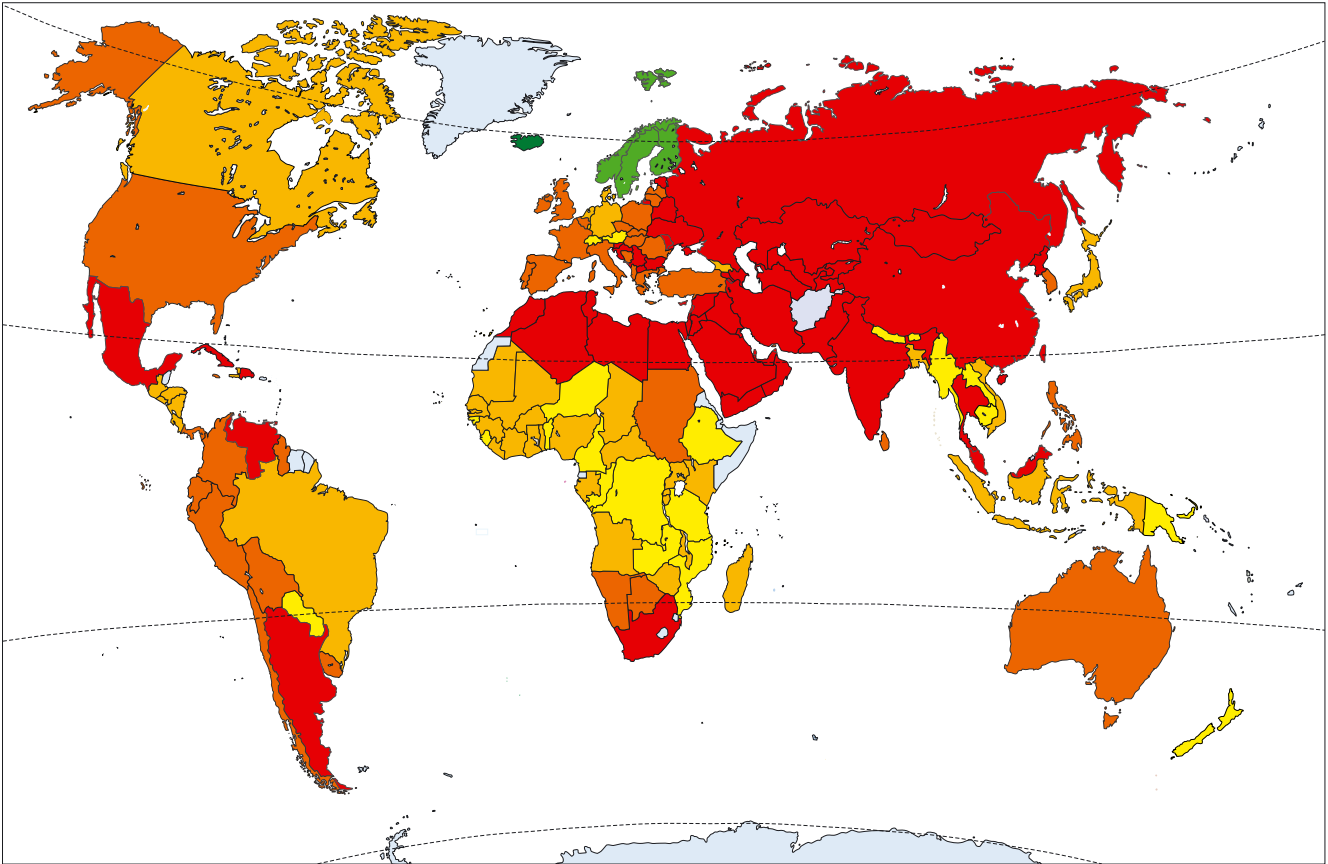
Relatively speaking, a score of 6.6 is not bad for Well-balanced Society for The Netherlands, though many might have expected a better score, or at least would have hoped for it.

Norway leads the pack for this category too. Among the top-thirty we also find Belarus. This last remaining European dictatorship takes 7th place, the dramatically low score for indicator 10 (Good Governance) notwithstanding.

The final 30 places are all occupied by non-western countries, among which the oil-rich countries Nigeria, Venezuela and Iraq. The rear is brought up by Sierra Leone, partly because of very high unemployment and extremely unequal income distribution.



Worldmap
ISS scores for category IV



Category IV

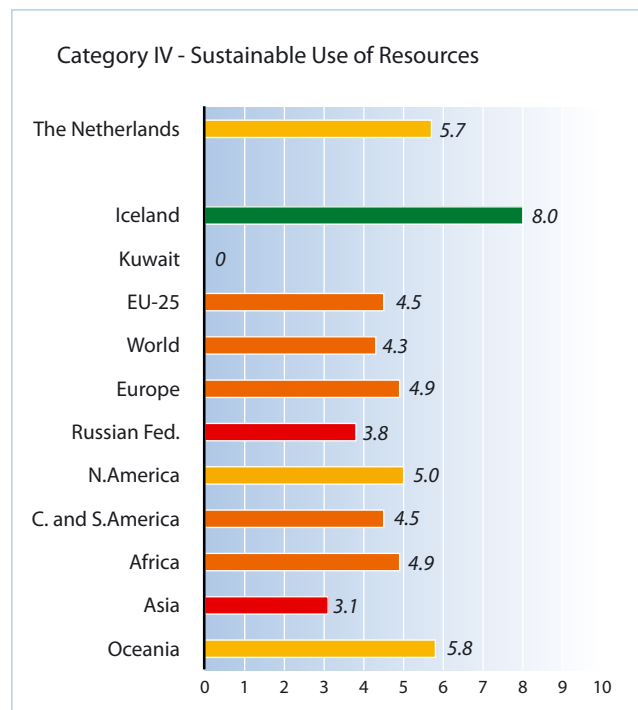
Sustainable Use of Resources



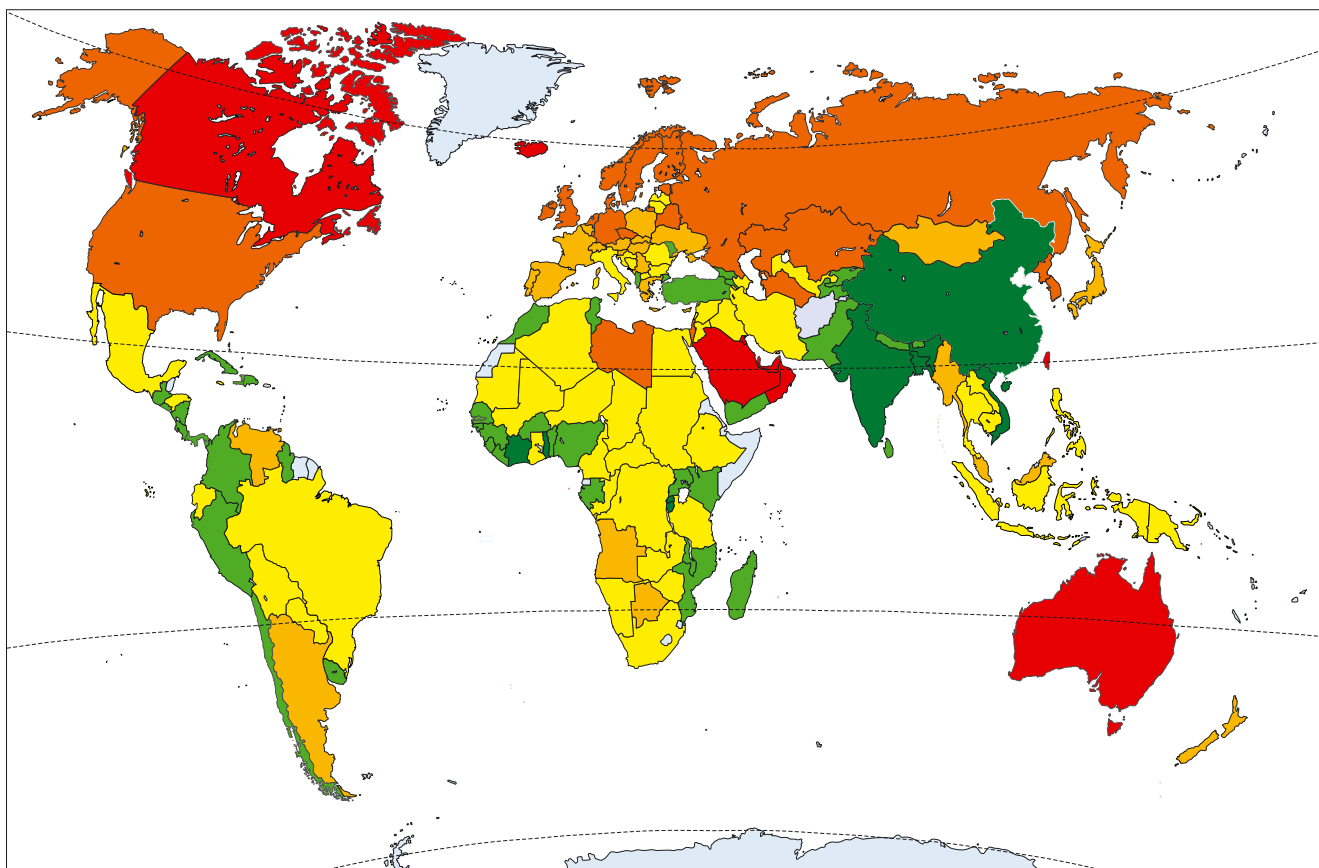
The category Sustainable Use of Resources comprises 3 indicators: Waste Recycling, Use of Renewable Water Resources and Consumption of Renewable Energy.

The Netherlands scores insufficient, a 5.7, for this category. This is mostly due to the minimal share of sustainable energy. Iceland comes out best, thanks to a high score for both Use of Renewable Water Resources and Consumption of Renewable Energy. (Iceland mostly uses hydropower and geothermal energy as energy sources.) Kuwait takes solid last place with a score of a round zero.

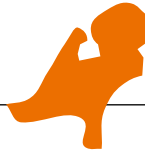
Worldwide, the use of resources is all but sustainable. The result of the 25 EU countries is hardly better in this respect than all 150 countries together. The Middle-East, the countries around the Caspian Sea and countries in North Africa receive the lowest scores, often due to very low scores for all three indicators.



Worldmap
ISS scores for category V



Category V Sustainable World



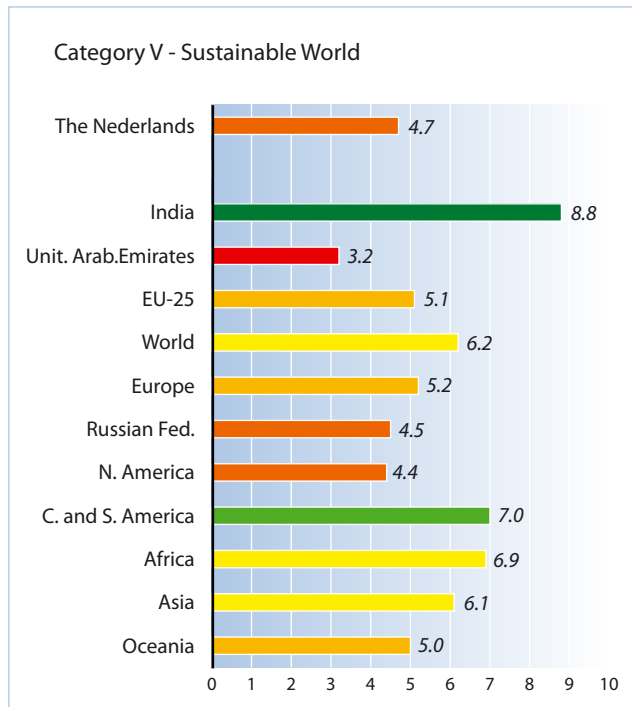
The category Sustainable World consists of 5 indicators: Forest Area, Preservation of Biodiversity, Emission of Greenhouse Gases, Ecological Footprint and International Cooperation.

The Netherlands receive a serious insufficient (4.7) for its contribution to a sustainable world, just below the EU average and well below the average of the 150 countries.

On top of the list we find – quite surprisingly – India, followed by Vietnam and China. According to the available data all three have extended their forest area, emit little CO₂ per capita and have a small footprint. With their rapidly growing economies particularly India and China cannot be expected to be able to maintain their top.

The rich OECD-countries score badly with respect to Sustainable World. The highest scoring OECD-country, Turkey, can be found on 32nd place, and the next on the list, Italy, only on place 83. The Netherlands comes in as 128th. At the bottom of the list we find three oil-rich countries, followed by Australia, its low position due to deforestation, high CO₂-emissions and a large footprint.

Countries with a large forestry industry like Brazil and Indonesia – despite a zero for the indicator Forest Area – still score sufficient for this category due to the high score for the remaining 4 indicators.



The Nobel Peace Prize for 2004 has been awarded to Wangari Maathai from Kenya for her contribution to sustainable development, democracy and peace.

Peace on earth depends on our ability to secure our living environment. Maathai stands at the front of the fight to promote ecologically viable social, economic and cultural development in Kenya and in Africa. She has taken a holistic approach to sustainable development that embraces democracy, human rights and women's rights in particular. She thinks globally and acts locally.

Press Report Nobel Peace Prize Committee, October 8, 2004



List of indicators

1. HEALTHY LIFE

Description: life expectation at birth in number of healthy life years – Hale

Source: WHO

Year: 2002

2. SUFFICIENT FOOD

Description: number of undernourished people as percentage of the total population

Source: FAO

Year: 2000 - 2002

3. SUFFICIENT TO DRINK

Description: number of people with sustainable access to an improved water source as percentage of the total population

Source: WHO

Year: 2002

4. SAFE SANITATION

Description: number of people with sustainable access to improved sanitation as percentage of the total population

Source: WHO

Year: 2002

5. EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

Description: combined gross enrolment ratio for primary, secondary and tertiary schools

Source: Unesco

Year: 2002 / 2003

6. GENDER EQUALITY

Description: Gender Related Development Index

Source: UNDP

Year: 2003

7. AIR QUALITY

Description: air quality with respect to concentration of NO₂, SO₂, fine particulate matter and indoor air pollution from solid fuel use

Source: ESI

Year: 1993 - 2004

8. SURFACE WATER QUALITY

Description: Surface Water Quality based on dissolved oxygen concentration, electrical conductivity, phosphorus concentration and concentration of suspended solids

Source: ESI

Year: 1993 - 2003

9. LAND QUALITY

Description: degraded land as percentage of cultivated and modified land, the LQ-score

Source: HWI

Year: about 1997

10. GOOD GOVERNANCE

Description: the average of the values of the 6 Governance Indicators of the Worldbank

Source: Worldbank

Year: 2004

11. UNEMPLOYMENT

Description: employment as percentage of total labor force

Source: World Factbook 2006

Year: 2000-2004

12. POPULATION GROWTH

Description: average population growth in the period 2000 – 2005

Source: WRI

Year: 2002

13. INCOME DISTRIBUTION

Description: income of the richest 10% to the poorest 10% of the people in a country

Source: HDR

Year: 1989 – 2003, The Netherlands 1999

14. PUBLIC DEBT

Description: the level of public debt – and if this figure is lacking, the foreign debt – of a country as percentage of Gross Domestic Product

Source: IMF

Year: 2005

15. WASTE RECYCLING

Description: amount of recycled solid waste as percentage of the total amount of solid waste

Source: ESI

Year: 1996 - 2003

16. USE OF RENEWABLE WATER RESOURCES

Description: water consumption per year as percentage of the total available renewable water resources

Source: WRI

Year: 2004

17. CONSUMPTION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY

Description: consumption of renewable energy as percentage of total energy consumption

Source: WRI

Year: 2001

18. FOREST AREA

Description: change in forest area of a country as percentage of world forest area in the period 1990 – 2000

Source: WRI

Year: 2000

19. PRESERVATION OF BIODIVERSITY

Description: National Biodiversity Index

Source: Global Biodiversity Outlook

Year: 2001

20. EMISSION OF GREENHOUSE GASES

Description: CO₂ emission per capita

Source: CDIAC

Year: 2002

21. ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT

Description: the ecological footprint in hectares per capita

Source: WWF, Living Planet Report 2004

Year: 2001

22. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Description: participation in 14 international treaties and agreements with respect to human rights, nature and environment

Source: HDR and ESI

Year: 2004, 2005

Results for the 150 assessed countries

	ISS	Rank
Albania	5.8	41
Algeria	4.7	131
Angola	4.9	126
Argentina	5.3	102
Armenia	5.7	58
Australia	5.7	62
Austria	6.7	6
Azerbaijan	5.2	113
Bangladesh	5.8	42
Belarus	5.6	74
Belgium	5.8	48
Benin	5.8	44
Bhutan	6.1	14
Bolivia	5.4	95
Bosnia-Herzegovina	5.4	90
Botswana	5.2	106
Brazil	5.7	52
Bulgaria	5.4	93
Burkina Faso	5.3	100
Burundi	5.2	110
Cambodia	5.7	54
Cameroon	5.6	67
Canada	6.1	13

	ISS	Rank
Central African Republic	5.6	66
Chad	5.1	118
Chile	6.0	24
China	5.5	86
Colombia	5.9	29
Congo	5.9	35
Congo, Democratic Republic	5.4	97
Costa Rica	6.0	23
Cote d'Ivoire	5.9	28
Croatia	5.5	79
Cuba	6.0	22
Cyprus	5.3	104
Czech Republic	5.4	96
Denmark	6.1	15
Dominican Republic	5.4	94
Ecuador	5.6	75
Egypt	4.5	139
El Salvador	5.7	57
Estonia	5.5	85
Ethiopia	5.3	105
Finland	6.7	4
France	6.1	17
Gabon	5.9	33
Gambia	5.9	34
Georgia	6.3	9
Germany	6.0	27
Ghana	5.7	63
Greece	5.5	87
Guatemala	5.6	73
Guinea	5.7	55
Guinea-Bissau	5.5	78
Guyana	5.8	50
Haiti	5.4	98
Honduras	5.0	123
Hungary	5.9	32

	ISS	Rank
Iceland	6.6	7
India	5.7	64
Indonesia	5.7	51
Iran	4.5	138
Iraq	4.0	143
Ireland	5.8	46
Israel	4.9	128
Italy	5.8	40
Jamaica	5.6	70
Japan	6.3	10
Jordan	4.4	140
Kazakhstan	4.9	129
Kenya	5.8	39
Korea. North	4.7	132
Korea. South	6.1	19
Kuwait	3.9	146
Kyrgyz Republic	5.5	81
Laos	5.7	53
Latvia	6.1	16
Lebanon	5.2	114
Liberia	5.4	92
Libya	4.0	145
Lithuania	6.1	21
Luxembourg	6.0	25
Macedonia	5.5	84
Madagascar	5.5	80
Malawi	5.7	56
Malaysia	5.2	117
Mali	5.2	111
Malta	4.2	141
Mauritania	5.2	108
Mexico	5.2	116
Moldova	5.6	76
Mongolia	5.0	124
Morocco	4.9	127

	ISS	Rank
Mozambique	5.9	30
Myanmar	5.8	47
Namibia	5.3	103
Nepal	6.1	20
Netherlands	6.2	12
New Zealand	6.7	5
Nicaragua	5.8	43
Niger	5.0	125
Nigeria	5.2	112
Norway	7.0	1
Oman	3.7	149
Pakistan	4.6	135
Panama	5.7	65
Papua New Guinea	5.6	72
Paraguay	6.1	18
Peru	5.6	68
Philippines	5.4	91
Poland	5.6	69
Portugal	5.9	31
Qatar	4.0	144
Romania	5.5	82
Russia	5.5	88
Rwanda	5.9	38
Saudi Arabia	3.4	150
Senegal	5.5	83
Serbia and Montenegro	5.2	115
Sierra Leone	5.3	99
Slovak Republic	5.9	36
Slovenia	5.6	71
South Africa	4.7	133
Spain	5.8	45
Sri Lanka	6.0	26
Sudan	4.7	134
Sweden	6.8	3
Switzerland	6.9	2

	ISS	Rank
Syria	4.5	137
Taiwan	4.7	130
Tajikistan	5.0	122
Tanzania	5.7	59
Thailand	5.1	119
Togo	5.7	60
Trinidad and Tobago	5.2	109
Tunisia	5.1	121
Turkey	5.8	49
Turkmenistan	3.8	148
Uganda	5.6	77

	ISS	Rank
Ukraine	5.5	89
United Arab Emirates	3.9	147
United Kingdom	5.9	37
United States	5.7	61
Uruguay	6.3	11
Uzbekistan	4.5	136
Venezuela	5.1	120
Vietnam	6.4	8
Yemen	4.1	142
Zambia	5.3	101
Zimbabwe	5.2	107

	ISS	Personal Development	Clean Environment	Well-balanced Society	Sustainable Use of Resources	Sustainable World	Rank
Norway	7.0	9.7	8.1	7.6	7.6	4.2	1
Switzerland	6.9	9.6	7.0	7.1	6.7	5.5	2
Sweden	6.8	9.7	6.7	7.3	7.1	4.9	3
Finland	6.7	9.7	8.1	7.3	7.0	4.1	4
New Zealand	6.7	9.6	7.4	7.0	6.4	5.0	5
Austria	6.7	9.5	6.3	7.0	6.8	5.1	6
Iceland	6.6	9.7	6.1	7.1	8.0	3.7	7
Vietnam	6.4	6.6	4.1	5.7	5.6	8.4	8
Georgia	6.3	7.4	6.3	5.3	5.0	7.7	9
Japan	6.3	9.5	7.3	6.6	5.3	5.0	10
Uruguay	6.3	8.9	6.8	4.2	4.7	7.3	11
Netherlands	6.2	9.6	6.0	6.6	5.7	4.7	12
Canada	6.1	9.6	7.8	6.5	5.6	3.9	13
Bhutan	6.1	5.7	6.4	4.1	6.0	7.4	14
Denmark	6.1	9.6	7.2	7.1	5.0	4.4	15
Latvia	6.1	8.7	6.1	6.9	4.5	6.0	16
France	6.1	9.5	6.6	5.9	4.7	5.6	17
Paraguay	6.1	7.7	5.4	3.4	6.8	6.2	18

	ISS	Personal Development	Clean Environment	Well-balanced Society	Sustainable Use of Resources	Sustainable World	Rank
Korea. South	6.1	9.2	7.3	6.9	4.7	4.9	19
Nepal	6.1	6.0	4.9	4.0	6.6	7.2	20
Lithuania	6.1	8.9	5.9	7.0	4.3	6.0	21
Cuba	6.0	8.6	6.0	5.2	3.4	7.9	22
Costa Rica	6.0	8.6	3.2	4.8	5.1	7.7	23
Chile	6.0	8.8	4.6	5.4	4.4	7.3	24
Luxembourg	6.0	9.5	5.9	7.5	5.2	4.4	25
Sri Lanka	6.0	7.7	5.1	5.3	4.3	7.6	26
Germany	6.0	9.5	6.1	6.5	5.2	4.8	27
Cote d'Ivoire	5.9	5.4	5.3	3.7	5.6	8.0	28
Colombia	5.9	8.1	4.7	3.7	4.6	7.9	29
Mozambique	5.9	3.8	5.7	4.7	6.6	7.1	30
Portugal	5.9	9.4	5.7	5.8	4.5	5.8	31
Hungary	5.9	9.0	4.8	7.1	4.4	5.9	32
Gabon	5.9	7.1	5.7	3.6	5.6	7.0	33
Gambia	5.9	5.9	5.4	2.6	5.8	7.9	34
Congo	5.9	4.3	6.3	2.6	6.5	7.5	35
Slovak Republic	5.9	8.9	5.5	6.6	4.3	5.7	36
United Kingdom	5.9	9.6	6.8	6.5	4.5	4.5	37
Rwanda	5.9	5.1	3.7	4.5	5.7	8.1	38
Kenya	5.8	5.3	4.4	3.7	5.9	7.9	39
Italy	5.8	9.5	5.5	5.5	4.1	6.2	40
Albania	5.8	8.3	4.1	6.0	4.0	7.2	41
Bangladesh	5.8	5.9	3.3	4.5	5.5	8.1	42
Nicaragua	5.8	7.1	5.1	3.9	5.4	7.0	43
Benin	5.8	5.4	4.6	3.5	6.5	7.1	44
Spain	5.8	9.6	4.9	6.2	4.2	5.8	45
Ireland	5.8	9.5	7.2	6.9	4.5	4.0	46
Myanmar	5.8	6.5	5.4	4.6	6.3	5.7	47
Belgium	5.8	9.7	5.1	6.4	4.5	5.2	48
Turkey	5.8	8.1	3.9	4.7	4.5	7.3	49
Guyana	5.8	7.5	5.2	3.9	4.7	7.1	50
Indonesia	5.7	7.0	3.7	5.3	5.4	6.7	51

	ISS	Personal Development	Clean Environment	Well-balanced Society	Sustainable Use of Resources	Sustainable World	Rank
Brazil	5.7	8.2	4.5	4.1	5.2	6.5	52
Laos	5.7	5.1	5.4	4.5	6.0	6.6	53
Cambodia	5.7	4.6	4.3	5.8	6.3	6.4	54
Guinea	5.7	4.4	5.4	3.6	5.9	7.4	55
Malawi	5.7	5.3	5.6	2.5	5.8	7.6	56
El Salvador	5.7	7.3	2.9	4.4	5.0	7.7	57
Armenia	5.7	7.6	7.2	5.0	2.5	7.5	58
Tanzania	5.7	4.9	3.9	4.9	6.4	6.6	59
Togo	5.7	5.3	4.0	2.8	5.8	8.0	60
United States	5.7	9.5	6.1	5.8	4.3	4.8	61
Australia	5.7	9.7	6.4	6.7	4.9	3.5	62
Ghana	5.7	6.2	4.7	3.8	5.7	6.8	63
India	5.7	6.2	2.9	5.2	3.9	8.8	64
Panama	5.7	7.9	4.3	3.7	4.0	7.8	65
Central African Republic	5.6	4.4	6.3	3.5	5.8	6.9	66
Cameroon	5.6	5.4	4.8	3.5	6.4	6.5	67
Peru	5.6	7.7	3.5	4.1	4.6	7.5	68
Poland	5.6	8.9	4.9	5.7	4.5	5.4	69
Jamaica	5.6	8.1	5.4	4.2	4.3	6.5	70
Slovenia	5.6	9.4	5.5	7.3	3.1	5.4	71
Papua New Guinea	5.6	4.9	6.0	3.3	6.0	6.4	72
Guatemala	5.6	7.0	2.6	4.0	5.3	7.5	73
Belarus	5.6	8.5	6.9	7.2	3.3	4.9	74
Ecuador	5.6	7.8	5.4	3.9	4.4	6.6	75
Moldova	5.6	7.4	6.0	5.4	2.9	7.2	76
Uganda	5.6	5.7	4.2	3.2	5.9	7.1	77
Guinea-Bissau	5.5	4.4	5.6	2.0	6.0	7.4	78
Croatia	5.5	8.5	4.5	5.9	3.6	6.3	79
Madagascar	5.5	4.8	3.7	3.0	5.8	7.7	80
Kyrgyz Republic	5.5	7.3	6.5	4.1	3.2	7.1	81
Romania	5.5	7.2	4.3	6.7	4.0	6.2	82
Senegal	5.5	5.5	4.5	4.0	5.0	7.2	83
Macedonia	5.5	8.2	5.1	5.3	3.8	6.2	84

	ISS	Personal Development	Clean Environment	Well-balanced Society	Sustainable Use of Resources	Sustainable World	Rank
Estonia	5.5	8.8	7.6	6.7	3.7	4.0	85
China	5.5	7.1	2.5	4.9	3.5	8.4	86
Greece	5.5	9.1	5.0	5.4	4.3	5.1	87
Russia	5.5	8.4	6.6	6.6	3.8	4.5	88
Ukraine	5.5	8.7	5.5	7.3	2.7	5.7	89
Bosnia-Herzegovina	5.4	8.4	4.3	5.3	4.0	6.1	90
Philippines	5.4	7.7	3.4	4.0	4.6	6.8	91
Liberia	5.4	4.5	5.9	1.7	5.8	7.1	92
Bulgaria	5.4	8.7	5.0	6.1	2.6	6.4	93
Dominican Republic	5.4	7.3	4.7	4.1	3.7	7.1	94
Bolivia	5.4	7.0	5.3	3.9	4.1	6.7	95
Czech Republic	5.4	8.8	4.8	6.9	4.1	4.5	96
Congo, Dem. Rep.	5.4	3.3	5.4	2.0	6.7	6.6	97
Haiti	5.4	4.8	2.3	3.6	5.7	7.7	98
Sierra Leone	5.3	3.9	4.8	1.7	6.0	7.5	99
Burkina Faso	5.3	3.8	3.4	3.3	5.9	7.5	100
Zambia	5.3	4.4	4.6	2.8	6.5	6.2	101
Argentina	5.3	8.8	5.7	4.1	3.6	5.7	102
Namibia	5.3	6.0	5.4	3.7	4.3	6.7	103
Cyprus	5.3	9.0	5.4	6.4	3.0	5.1	104
Ethiopia	5.3	3.1	3.5	4.6	6.3	6.6	105
Botswana	5.2	5.9	5.9	4.6	4.5	5.7	106
Zimbabwe	5.2	5.4	5.5	3.7	5.1	6.0	107
Mauritania	5.2	5.3	4.0	3.1	5.2	6.8	108
Trinidad and Tobago	5.2	8.2	4.2	5.4	3.8	5.6	109
Burundi	5.2	4.1	2.7	2.0	5.7	8.1	110
Mali	5.2	4.3	4.4	3.6	5.5	6.6	111
Nigeria	5.2	5.5	3.5	3.5	6.0	6.0	112
Azerbaijan	5.2	7.0	5.9	6.6	1.6	6.9	113
Lebanon	5.2	8.6	6.0	3.9	2.5	6.4	114
Serbia and Montenegro	5.2	8.4	4.6	5.0	3.2	5.9	115
Mexico	5.2	8.2	3.7	5.0	3.5	6.1	116
Malaysia	5.2	8.5	4.9	5.2	3.8	5.0	117

	ISS	Personal Development	Clean Environment	Well-balanced Society	Sustainable Use of Resources	Sustainable World	Rank
Chad	5.1	3.5	4.7	3.2	5.8	6.4	118
Thailand	5.1	8.0	3.0	6.2	3.2	6.0	119
Venezuela	5.1	7.6	5.1	3.4	3.9	5.9	120
Tunisia	5.1	8.0	4.2	4.7	2.0	7.3	121
Tajikistan	5.0	5.8	6.3	4.6	2.2	7.1	122
Honduras	5.0	7.2	2.9	2.8	5.1	6.1	123
Mongolia	5.0	6.6	5.9	4.5	3.4	5.6	124
Niger	5.0	3.3	3.5	2.5	5.7	7.0	125
Angola	4.9	3.9	4.3	3.0	5.8	5.9	126
Morocco	4.9	7.0	3.9	4.6	1.9	7.5	127
Israel	4.9	9.5	6.7	4.6	2.0	4.8	128
Kazakhstan	4.9	7.8	5.3	6.5	2.5	4.7	129
Taiwan	4.7	9.6	4.5	6.7	3.0	3.3	130
Algeria	4.7	8.1	3.4	4.8	1.6	6.8	131
Korea. North	4.7	7.6	5.6	5.0	3.4	4.0	132
South Africa	4.7	7.1	3.8	4.2	2.9	6.1	133
Sudan	4.7	5.2	4.3	2.9	4.0	6.0	134
Pakistan	4.6	6.1	2.5	4.9	2.2	7.1	135
Uzbekistan	4.5	7.2	5.0	6.5	0.2	6.4	136
Syria	4.5	7.6	4.2	3.6	1.3	6.9	137
Iran	4.5	7.9	2.9	4.6	1.8	6.1	138
Egypt	4.5	7.9	4.5	4.7	0.2	6.9	139
Jordan	4.4	8.3	4.1	4.4	0.0	6.9	140
Malta	4.2	8.4	4.8	5.0	0.2	5.3	141
Yemen	4.1	5.2	4.6	3.9	0.2	7.2	142
Iraq	4.0	7.5	3.1	2.7	1.3	6.2	143
Qatar	4.0	8.7	6.1	6.4	0.2	3.2	144
Libya	4.0	8.5	4.0	4.7	0.7	4.6	145
Kuwait	3.9	8.3	6.3	6.1	0.0	3.4	146
United Arab Emirates	3.9	8.4	5.6	6.7	0.2	3.2	147
Turkmenistan	3.8	7.2	6.2	3.8	0.2	4.7	148
Oman	3.7	7.8	5.0	5.4	0.2	3.7	149
Saudi Arabia	3.4	7.7	4.3	4.3	0.2	3.8	150

Abridged version of the Dutch edition

Further information: www.nederlandduurzaam.nl

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