



## Center for International Earth Science Information Network

CIESIN, the Center for International Earth Science Information Network, is a data and research center of Columbia University's Earth Institute that addresses human interactions in the environment. Our focus is on the impacts of human activities and institutional arrangements on the environment, and, in turn, how environmental change affects society.

We manage a number of Web sites that contain data, information, and interactive applications useful to researchers, policymakers, educators, and students.

CIESIN is located at the Lamont-Doherty Campus of Columbia University in Palisades, N.Y. Its international staff have advanced training in a range of fields, including geography, demography, political science, history, economics, natural resource management, geophysics, information management, library science, geospatial technologies, software engineering and computer science. For more information, please visit the CIESIN Web site at [www.ciesin.columbia.edu](http://www.ciesin.columbia.edu)

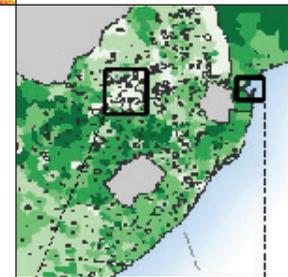
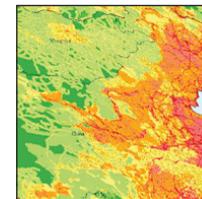
Contact Information:  
P.O. Box 1000, 61 Route 9W  
Palisades, NY 10964 USA  
Tel: +1(845) 365-8988  
Fax: +1(845) 365-8922  
E-mail: [ciesin.info@ciesin.columbia.edu](mailto:ciesin.info@ciesin.columbia.edu)

## Data and Information Resources

Center for International Earth Science Information Network (CIESIN)



The Earth Institute at Columbia University is the world's leading academic center for the integrated study of Earth, its environment and society. The Earth Institute builds upon excellence in the core disciplines—Earth sciences, biological sciences, engineering sciences, social sciences and health sciences—and stresses cross-disciplinary approaches to complex problems. Through research, training and global partnerships, the Earth Institute mobilizes science and technology to advance sustainable development, while placing special emphasis on the needs of the world's poor. [www.earth.columbia.edu](http://www.earth.columbia.edu)



## Global Environmental Change

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### **Pilot 2006 EPI (Environmental Performance Index):**

The EPI employs a “proximity to target” approach for measuring progress towards environmental sustainability for 133 countries. The Web site offers the EPI report and underlying data.

[sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/es/epi/](http://sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/es/epi/)

### **ESI (2005 Environmental Sustainability Index):**

This is the fourth edition of this widely acclaimed internationally comparative index. The 2005 ESI assesses the relative sustainability of 146 countries across multiple dimensions.

[sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/es/esi/](http://sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/es/esi/)

### **Global Geographical Distribution of Vulnerability to Climate Change:**

A report, global distribution maps, and data, available for download. Developed with outside scientists and researchers, the assessment seeks to advance the understanding of the nature of climate change risks and vulnerabilities.

<http://ciesin.columbia.edu/data/climate/>

**Thematic Guides:** Online guides to research and data in thematic areas related to the human dimensions of global environmental change. The guides are complemented by a searchable bibliographic catalog totaling more than 4,700 references.

[sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/tg/](http://sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/tg/)

### **IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) Socioeconomic Data Distribution Centre:**

A Web site providing access to baseline and scenario data related to population, economic development, technology, and natural resources for use in climate impact assessments.

[sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/data/ddc/](http://sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/data/ddc/)

### **Assessment of Impacts and Adaptations to Climate Change:**

A resource for researchers on climate change impacts, adaptation, and vulnerability across different sectors.

[sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/aiacc/](http://sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/aiacc/)

## Environmental Governance

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### **ENTRI (Environmental Treaties & Resource Indicators):**

Permits online search and retrieval of treaty texts by signatory, date, and thematic area. Also provides country summaries of treaty participation along with

EarthTrends and ESI environmental profiles.

[sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/entri/](http://sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/entri/)

**Ramsar Wetlands Data Gateway:** Provides information on wetlands of international importance through database query and Web mapping tools.

[sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/ramsardg/](http://sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/ramsardg/)

## Population and the Environment

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**Gridded Population of the World v.3:** A flagship CIESIN data product, GPW provides population size and density in a gridded format (2.5 arc-minutes) that can easily be combined with Earth science data.

[sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/plue/gpw/](http://sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/plue/gpw/)

**Global Rural-Urban Mapping Project:** This new spatial data collection includes a global point database of human settlements (cities and towns of 1,000 persons or more), an urban extent mask of settlements of 5,000 persons or more, and a 1km population grid.

[sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/plue/gpw/](http://sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/plue/gpw/)

**U.S. Census Grids:** These gridded data sets transform irregularly shaped census block and block group boundaries into a regular surface for faster and easier analysis. They include population and housing counts and a wide variety of socioeconomic characteristics. Data sets are now available for the year 2000; 1990 are forthcoming.

[beta.sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/usgrid/](http://beta.sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/usgrid/)

### **Population Environment Research Network:**

This online resource includes an eLibrary, regular cyber-seminars and a membership database.

[www.populationenvironmentresearch.org](http://www.populationenvironmentresearch.org)

**Population, Landscape, and Climate Estimates:** This tabular dataset provides national-level aggregates of territorial extent and population size by biome, climate zone, coastal proximity and elevation.

[sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/plue/nagd/](http://sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/plue/nagd/)

**Human Footprint and Last of the Wild:** Geographic Information System (GIS) datasets that map the intensity and extent of human land use and the remaining “wild” places.

[www.ciesin.columbia.edu/wild\\_areas/](http://www.ciesin.columbia.edu/wild_areas/)

**National Human Development Report Catalog:** Catalog of data tables published in the national HDRs.

[sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/hdr](http://sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/hdr)

## Poverty, Health, and Hazards

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**Global Poverty Mapping Project:** Downloadable maps, spatial data, and tabular data representing subnational measurements of poverty. Global coverage available for infant mortality and malnutrition, and higher-resolution national coverage for consumption and basic needs in 28 countries.

[www.ciesin.columbia.edu/povmap](http://www.ciesin.columbia.edu/povmap)

**Natural Disaster Hotspots: A Global Risk Analysis:** Developed with the World Bank and others, a downloadable set of global geospatial data on six major natural hazards and associated risks of mortality and economic loss.

[www.ideo.columbia.edu/chrr/research/hotspots/coredata.html](http://www.ideo.columbia.edu/chrr/research/hotspots/coredata.html)

**Health Effects and Geochemistry of Arsenic and Manganese:** Online resources for a major biomedical and geosciences research project.

[superfund.ciesin.columbia.edu](http://superfund.ciesin.columbia.edu)

**Tsunami 2004:** Data, maps, and reports on the population affected by the December 26, 2004 Southeast Asia tsunami; links to articles and editorials by CIESIN staff.

[www.ciesin.columbia.edu/tsunami2004.html](http://www.ciesin.columbia.edu/tsunami2004.html)

**Hurricanes Katrina and Rita:** Data and maps showing pre-disaster characteristics of the populations affected by these hurricanes.

[sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/hurricane2005.html](http://sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/hurricane2005.html)

## Remote Sensing and Geospatial Data

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**TerraViva! SEDAC Viewer:** A free global spatial data visualization and analysis software application (Windows-only) that aids examination of SEDAC collections of sustainability and socioeconomic variables and maps.

[sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/terraVivaUserWeb/](http://sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/terraVivaUserWeb/)

**Remote Sensing (RS) Resources:** Links to RS resources for environmental treaties; urban RS; Thematic Guide to Social Science Applications of RS; and others.

[sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/rs\\_resources.html](http://sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/rs_resources.html)

**Managing and Preserving Geospatial Electronic Records:** Investigation of and recommendations for long-term management of electronic records with significant geospatial components.

[www.ciesin.columbia.edu/ger](http://www.ciesin.columbia.edu/ger)

