

Goal 7

Progress at a glance

No fight against poverty can succeed if the climate, air, water, soil and biodiversity on which everyone depends are endangered. So the environment is central to all the Millennium Development Goals. It also has one of its own, Goal 7 - Ensure environmental sustainability, but progress on it has been patchy. There have been successes in increasing protected areas, in reducing emissions

of the CFCs that attack the ozone layer, and in bringing clean water - and, to a lesser extent, sanitation - to people living in towns and cities. But forests are still shrinking in most parts of the world, slums continue to fester, not enough is being done to combat global warming and people in the countryside of developing countries still lack water and sanitation.



photo: U. Aung/UNEP/Topham

TARGET 10

Reduce by half the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water

Indicator 30

Proportion of population with sustainable access to an improved water source, urban and rural

Most regions are meeting the target for providing clean water in urban areas, but the countryside is still largely neglected with only Southern Asia on track to succeed.

Indicator 31

Proportion of population with access to improved sanitation, urban and rural

Sanitation lags behind water supplies. Only Western Asia has met the target, with three other regions on track to do so, in urban areas. Nowhere is likely to meet the target in rural areas.

TARGET 11

Achieve significant improvement in lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers, by 2020

Indicator 32

Proportion of households with access to secure tenure

Northern Africa and Southeastern Asia, although the numbers of slum dwellers are rising, are the only regions on track to make sufficient improvements.

* Commonwealth of Independent States (former republics of the Soviet Union)

TARGET 9

Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes; reverse loss of environmental resources

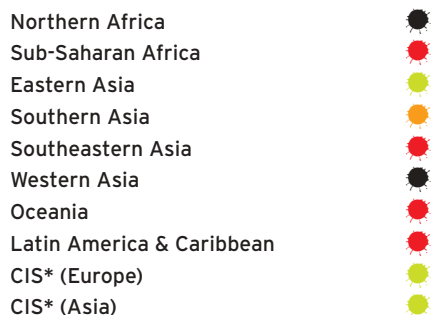
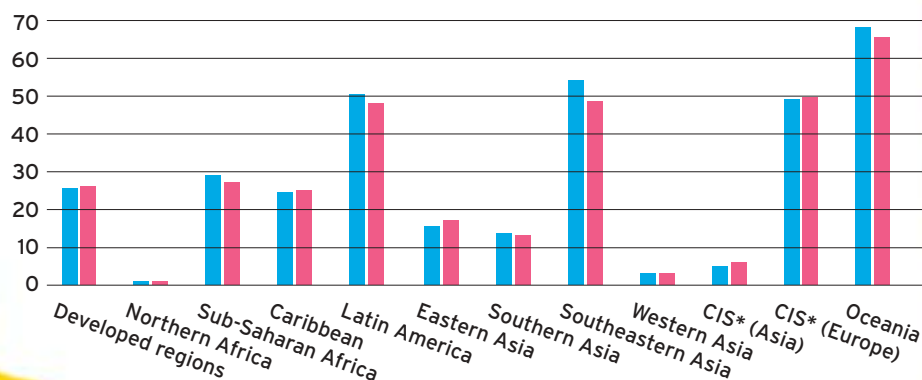
Indicator 25

Proportion of land area covered by forest

Forests are being felled faster than they grow almost everywhere with only Eastern Asia and the Commonwealth of Independent States reversing their loss of tree cover.

Land area covered by forest (per cent)

■ 1990 ■ 2000



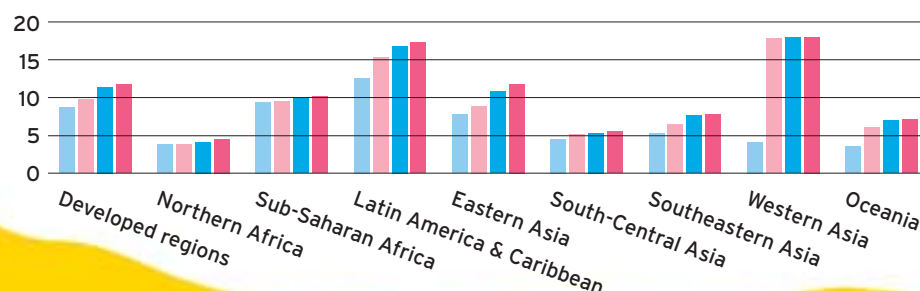
Indicator 26

Area protected to maintain biological diversity

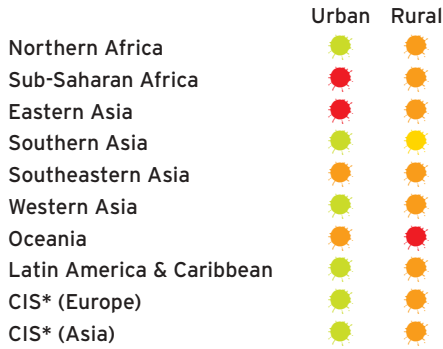
Progress everywhere: almost 13 per cent of the world's land surface is now protected, at least on paper. But only 1 per cent of the sea receives any protection.

Total territorial area protected - land and sea (per cent)

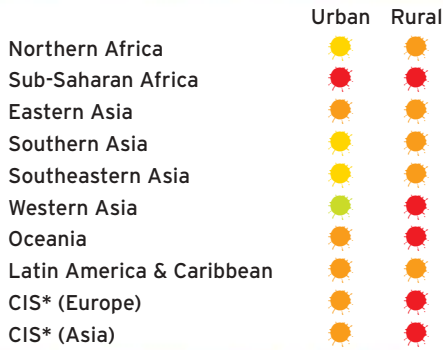
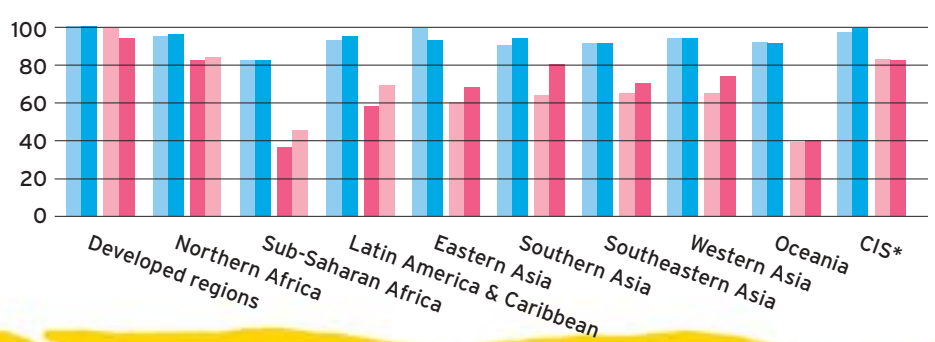
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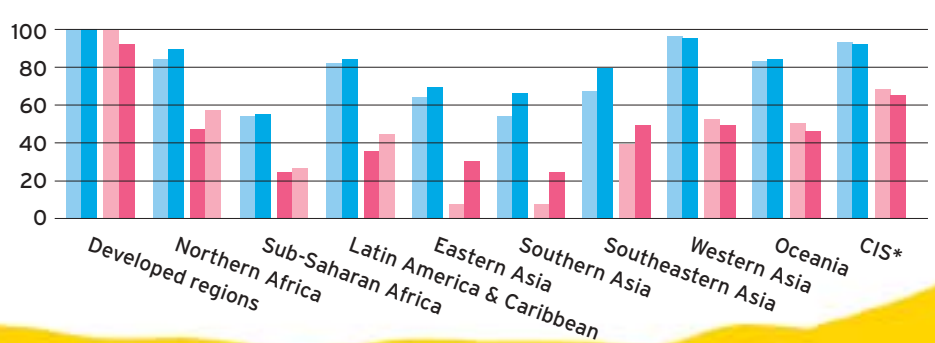
Source: The Report of the Secretary-General on the Implementation of the Millennium Declaration, 2004



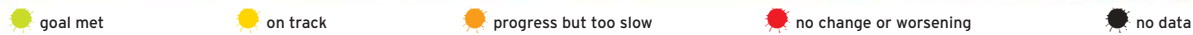
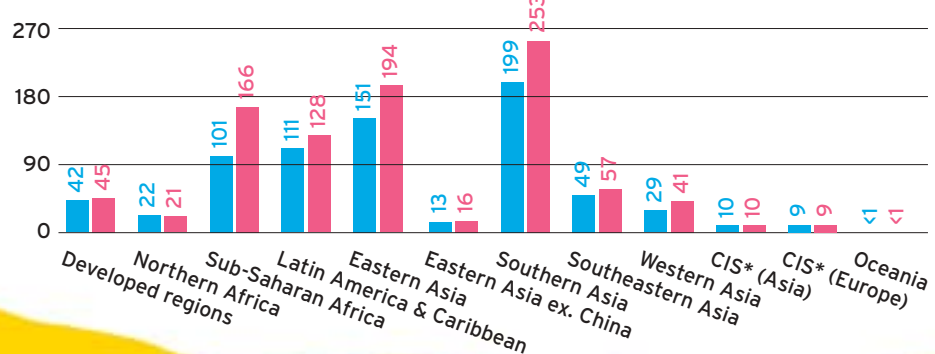
Urban and rural population with access to improved drinking water (per cent)



Urban and rural population with access to improved sanitation (per cent)



Slum populations (millions)



Indicator 28 Carbon dioxide emissions and consumption of ozone-depleting chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs)

Phasing out CFCs is a great environmental success story, but the world still has to make the big cuts needed in carbon dioxide emissions if it is to avert catastrophic climate change.

