

World map: Climate Change Performance Index 2008

The world map shows that the countries at the forefront of climate protection are still mainly located in Europe, although by now also emerging nations such as Mexico, Brazil and India belong to the leading group of countries. However, not even these countries deserve the classification "Very Good", since their current level of performance would not ensure the prevention of dangerous climate change, even if it was adopted by the remaining part of the world.

The Index only takes energy-related emissions into account. Thus, all countries with an emission share from land-use change higher than 10% (hatched countries in the map) have a special responsibility to additionally reduce their emissions in this sector. Especially Brazil (share of 80%) and Indonesia (share of 45%) have to be supported in their efforts.

The map clearly shows that in large parts of the world, including e.g. Australia, Canada, the U.S.A. and Russia, appropriate climate protection has not been exercised yet. Particularly Australia's climate policy has more and more deviated from the necessary reduction targets as stated in the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change after the last eleven years of John Howard's presidency.

Australia increased its energy related emissions by 42 percent between 1990 and 2005. The country will only upgrade its position in the index if the newly elected president Kevin Rudd will keep his promises and realise a serious climate protection agenda.

