

# Climate Change Performance Index: Global Shift Needs Further Action

**Global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions rise at lower rates, giving some reason to hope for limiting climate change | Canada and Australia worst performers of all industrialised countries**

**UNDER EMBARGO UNTIL 8th DECEMBER 2014, 10.30 IN LIMA/16.30 CET**

**Lima** (8. Dec. 2014). Global emissions have reached a new peak, but recent developments indicate a new readiness for action on climate protection. This is the message of the 10<sup>th</sup> edition of the Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI); a ranking of the climate protection performance of the 58 highest emitters worldwide published by Germanwatch and CAN Europe at the UN Climate Conference in Lima today.

*"We see global trends, indicating promising shifts in some of the most relevant sectors for climate protection", says **Jan Burck (Germanwatch), author of the Index.** "The rise of emissions has slowed down, and renewables are rapidly growing due to declining costs and massive investments."*

In some countries like **Denmark** (Rank 4), **Sweden** (Rank 5) and the **United Kingdom** (Rank 6) the result is decreasing emissions. On the other side of the globe China, the world's biggest emitter, shows improvements in the efficiency sector and massive investments in renewables. Most recent developments indicate China's decade long coal boom seems to be over, offering new hope for global climate protection.

*"Data showing declining emission growth rates together with promising political signs, suggesting that we are able to stabilize global emissions. The Paris Climate Summit in 2015, where countries will make new commitments for climate action, could be a turning point in this respect" – adds Burck.*

In Europe, the Index shows a mixed picture: *"Many EU countries ranked high this year, but others, like **Poland** (Rank 40) and **Bulgaria** (Rank 41) scored poorly because of their opposition to further steps nationally and in the EU," explains **Wendel Trio, Director of CAN Europe.***

*"Neither the current 2020 nor the new 2030 climate target are in line with the reductions needed by Europe to avert catastrophic climate change and achieve 100% renewables by 2050. To do this, Europe must meet its target to reduce energy consumption by 20% by 2020 against projections, phase out all fossil fuel subsidies immediately, and agree on a fundamental reform of its Emissions Trading Scheme before the Paris Climate Summit", **Trio** concludes.*

One of the biggest winners in the new Index is **Morocco**. It jumped into the Top Ten because of its extraordinary renewables policy. With a very good international climate policy evaluation, **Mexico** also ranks among the Top 20.

In **Canada** (Rank 58) nothing has changed and nothing is going forward at the state level. For industrialised countries, this bad performance is only beaten by **Australia** (Rank 60), where the new conservative government reversed the climate policies previously in effect. In between these two, **Kazakhstan** (Rank 59) and at the very bottom **Saudi Arabia** (Rank 61) comprise the bottom four.

### **About CCPI:**

The CCPI is a tool designed to enhance transparency in international climate politics. On the basis of standardised criteria, the Index evaluates and compares the climate protection performance of 58 countries that are together responsible for more than 90% of global energy-related CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. The first three ranks are left out because no country is acting enough to prevent dangerous climate change. (More about the methodology can be found in the brochure “The Climate Change Performance Index – Background and Methodology”).

**Climate Change Performance Index 2015:** <https://germanwatch.org/en/ccpi>

**National scorecards and a list of national expert contacts are available upon request.**

### **Contact for media:**

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**Germanwatch**, based in Bonn and Berlin (Germany), is an independent development and environmental organisation which works for sustainable global development. Germanwatch actively promotes North-South equity and the preservation of livelihoods.

Website: [www.germanwatch.org/en](http://www.germanwatch.org/en)

**Climate Action Network (CAN)** Europe is Europe's largest coalition working on climate and energy issues. With over 120 member organisations in more than 25 European countries, CAN Europe works to prevent dangerous climate change and promote sustainable energy and environment policy in Europe.

Website: [www.caneurope.org](http://www.caneurope.org)

## Annex: Press contacts

About 300 climate experts contributed to this year's edition of the Climate Change Performance Index with their evaluation of national climate policies. The following agreed to be listed as a press contact for their country:

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