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Title; Long term trends in environmental and economic performance nation by nation: An investigation of a win-win case.

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Abstract

This research seeks to identify those nations that have had economic growth and progress in their environmental performance, as measured by various indicators and policy frameworks, simultaneously over the recent decade in order to identify behavioural traits, patterns and other factors that have led to their win-win situation. With the use of the environmental performance trend data available from Yale University and Gross Domestic Product per capita from the World Bank database we provide insights into two main questions: Which nations have had a win-win in economic growth and environmental performance trends simultaneously between 2000-2012 and which did not? What are some of the underlying factors that can help to explain differences in performances across nations? This study predicts that a nation having a win-win case would be determined by factors such as governance effectiveness, degree of environmental regulation, initial income-level and the environmental performance level of a nation. This study is important because it highlights the consequences and the factors influencing win - loss situations for any given nation. The consequences could reflect deterioration of human health, quality of life and a further ecosystem destruction. Whereas the factors influencing these two patterns simultaneously provide relevant information to policy-makers and the public to aid them to make better choices geared towards improving the quality of life by having a win-win situation.