

INCLUSIVE GREEN GROWTH

THE PATHWAY TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The world's population is predicted to reach 9 billion people by 2050, and they will all need food, water, and energy. Our current growth patterns are highly inefficient and stand in the way of truly sustainable development. The way forward is inclusive green growth that is clean in its treatment of the environment, efficient in its use of natural resources, resilient, and meets the needs of all people.

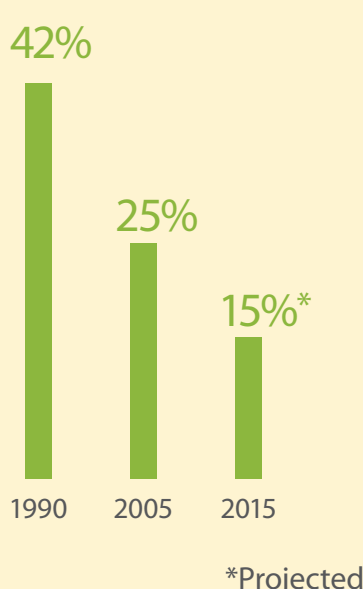


WHY GREEN GROWTH?

For the past 250 years, economic growth has come largely at the expense of the environment. The damage has reached a scale that threatens human welfare and prospects for future growth, and despite impressive gains in the last two decades, many basic needs remain unmet.

Two decades of unprecedented growth have greatly improved welfare ...

POVERTY RATE



... but not without a significant toll on the environment.



13 MILLION

Hectares of forest lost annually between 2000 and 2010, an area the size of Nicaragua lost each year.



3X



Increase in water withdrawals in last 50 years, leading to water scarcity.



550 BILLION+

Tons of CO₂ emitted globally from 1990 to 2010.



85%

Ocean fisheries fully exploited, over-exploited, or depleted.



\$1 TRILLION

Spent annually to subsidize over-exploitation of natural capital, including fossil fuels.

Meanwhile, massive basic needs remain unmet.

People without access to sanitation



2.6 BILLION

People without electricity



1.3 BILLION

People without safe, clean drinking water



900 MILLION



GREEN GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES

As countries grow and urbanize, we must design energy, transportation, and agricultural systems that facilitate commerce while limiting environmental impacts. Today's 2.6 billion urban dwellers will be 4 billion by 2030. Sustainable energy is one opportunity for green growth. There are others.

1 DENSITY

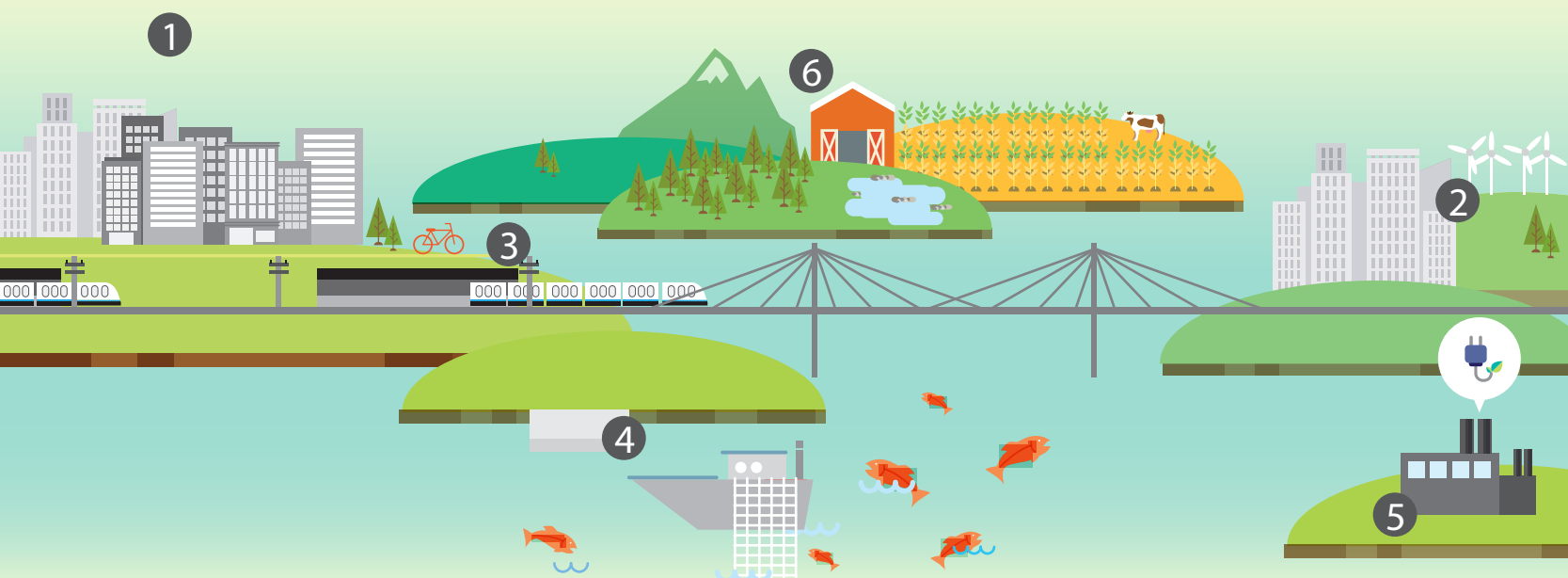
Urban density enables more efficient land use, transportation, and commerce.

2 EFFICIENCY

Energy-efficiency technologies can reduce energy consumption in new buildings by up to 30 percent.

3 TRANSPORT

City residents and businesses benefit from efficient and accessible public transit and no-fuel options.



4 OCEANS

Better management could increase the wealth of global fisheries from \$120 billion to \$900 billion.

5 INDUSTRY

Every \$1 invested in energy efficiency saves at least \$2 in energy expenses.

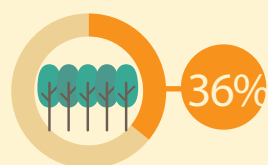
6 LANDSCAPES

Sound forest and watershed management boosts household incomes and, along with climate-smart agriculture, bolsters resilience.



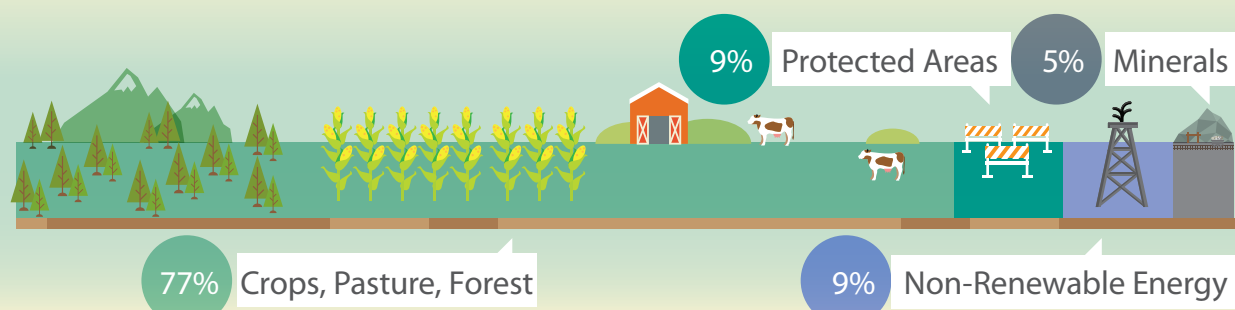
MEASURING GREEN GROWTH

A country can increase its GDP by exploiting natural capital, but overuse of those resources will reduce national wealth. Natural capital accounting enables smarter planning and decision-making.



Share of low-income countries' wealth that comes from natural capital.

Composition of natural capital in developing countries.



Non-Exploitation: A Value Proposition

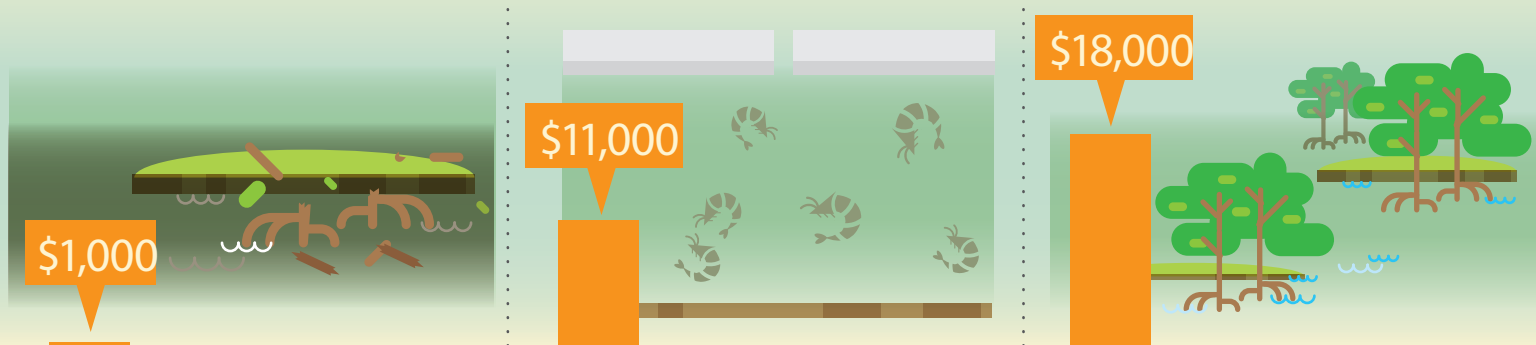
When a country accounts for natural capital, it may find the most valuable choice is conservation.

Value of a hectare of mangrove

Chopped down for wood

Removed for shrimp farming

Conserved as a storm barrier



Green growth strategies will vary across countries, reflecting local contexts and preferences—but all countries, rich and poor, have opportunities to make their growth greener and more inclusive.

