**[Supplementary Information](https://static-content.springer.com/esm/art%3A10.1038%2Fnature15743/MediaObjects/41586_2015_BFnature15743_MOESM46_ESM.pdf)**

This file documents data sources and methods used for establishing the nitrogen budget database, and statistical methods used for data analysis. It also contains the Supplementary Figures that display the historical relationship between GDP per capita and Nitrogen surplus for 113 individual countries. (PDF 11035 kb)

[**Supplementary Data 1**](https://static-content.springer.com/esm/art%3A10.1038%2Fnature15743/MediaObjects/41586_2015_BFnature15743_MOESM47_ESM.xlsx)

This file contains data of nationally aggregated Nitrogen Use Efficiency and Nitrogen surplus for all crop types. The “NUE” tab and “Nsurplus” tab include the data for Nitrogen Use Efficiency and Nitrogen surplus respectively. (XLSX 206 kb)

[**Supplementary Data 2**](https://static-content.springer.com/esm/art%3A10.1038%2Fnature15743/MediaObjects/41586_2015_BFnature15743_MOESM48_ESM.csv)

This file contains data of total Nitrogen input rate (with the unit of kg N km-2) to cropland by country and crop type for the period of 1961-2011. There are four columns in the data file, namely “country”, “crop”, “year”, “item”. The data saved under “item” is the total Nitrogen input rate for the “country”, “crop” and “year” specified in previous columns. (CSV 11707 kb)

[**Supplementary Data 3**](https://static-content.springer.com/esm/art%3A10.1038%2Fnature15743/MediaObjects/41586_2015_BFnature15743_MOESM49_ESM.csv)

This file contains data of harvested Nitrogen (with the unit of kg N km-2) by country and crop type for the period of 1961-2011. The data saved under “item” is the amount of Nitrogen harvested for the “country”, “crop” and “year” specified in previous columns. (CSV 9994 kb)