**Useful web-sites**

* **Gapminder** provides social, economic, and environmental data at local, national, and global levels. Users can make graphs or view illuminating videos to see how various indicators relate to sustainable development. [http://www.gapminder.org](http://www.gapminder.org/)
* **Population Institute** displays a population clock showing an up-to-the-minute tally of the world population. This organization promotes family planning and provides information to policymakers and the public regarding population. [http://www.populationinstitute.org](http://www.populationinstitute.org/)
* **Population Reference Bureau** provides a wealth of information, data, and charts regarding the human population, health, and environment. Data can be searched by nation or region. [http://www.prb.org](http://www.prb.org/)
* **Ecosystem Marketplace** provides news and data on markets and payments for ecosystem services, particularly for water, carbon, and biodiversity. [http://www.ecosystemmarketplace.com](http://www.ecosystemmarketplace.com/)
* **Ecosystem Valuation** provides explanations and examples of economic valuation of ecosystem services for non-economists. [http://www.ecosystemvaluation.org](http://www.ecosystemvaluation.org/)
* **Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MEA)** is a global assessment of status and trends in ecosystem services. The MEA website provides free access to all MEA reports. <http://www.unep.org/maweb>
* **Natural Capital Project** is developing modeling tools such as InVEST (Integrated Valuation of Ecosystem Services and Tradeoffs) that incorporate the economic valuation of multiple ecosystem services into environmental decision making. [http://www.naturalcapitalproject.org](http://www.naturalcapitalproject.org/)
* **The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB)** is a global evaluation of the costs of biodiversity loss and ecosystem service decline. <http://www.teebweb.org/>
* **IUCN Global Protected Areas Program** provides definitions of protected area categories and a wealth of information regarding protected area planning, management, and assessment. <http://www.iucn.org/about/work/programmes/gpap_home/>
* **Land Trust Alliance (LTA)** provides information on how U.S. land trusts are formed and what they do. Also available are data from the LTA National Land Trust Census, which is performed every five years. <http://www.landtrustalliance.org/>
* **Millennium Development Goals Indicators** is the official United Nations site providing national level data relevant to the eight Millennium Development Goals. [http://mdgs.un.org](http://mdgs.un.org/)
* **PADDDtracker** is a searchable database and visualization tool documenting the patterns, trends, causes, and consequences of protected area downgrading, downsizing, and degazettement (PADDD). <http://www.padddtracker.org/>
* **World Resource Institute's Earthtrends** supports a searchable interface that provides easy access to WDPA data on the number and extent of protected areas. Data are also available as a percent of total land area. [http://www.earthtrends.wri.org](http://www.earthtrends.wri.org/)
* **The World Bank** provides a wide range of data related to national evelopment. The full list of indicators is available at <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator>. The extent of terrestrial protected areas as a percentage of each nation's land area can be found at <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/ER.LND.PTLD.ZS>.
* **Conservation Gateway** is The Nature Conservancy's (TNC) online, public library. The site provides access to data, maps, and other documents posted by TNC staff and external participants. [http://www.conservationgateway.org](http://www.conservationgateway.org/)
* **Environmental Performance Measurement Project** provides a national Environmental Sustainability Index and the underlying socioeconomic and environmental indicators. <http://www.yale.edu/esi>
* **Gap Analysis Program**, housed within the USGS, examines the spatial overlap of biodiversity and protected areas to identify gaps in protection. [http://gapanalysis.usgs.gov](http://gapanalysis.usgs.gov/)
* **Compass Resource Management** offers examples and practical guidance for how to use structured decision making in conservation.  <http://www.structureddecisionmaking.org/>
* **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Endangered Species Program** offers electronic access to all recovery plans that have been finalized or revised since 1989. <http://www.fws.gov/endangered/species/recovery-plans.html>
* **Centre for Evidence-Based Conservation** produces and disseminates systematic reviews on the effectiveness of management and policy interventions. [http://www.cebc.bangor.ac.uk](http://www.cebc.bangor.ac.uk/)
* **The Cochrane Collaboration** is a pioneering supporter of evidence-based medicine. Their website provides access to systematic reviews for a huge variety of healthcare interventions. [http://www.cochrane.org](http://www.cochrane.org/)
* **Collaboration for Environmental Evidence** provides guidelines for systematic reviews and hosts a library of completed reviews.  [http://www.environmentalevidence.org](http://www.environmentalevidence.org/)
* **Foundations of Success** is a non-profit organization that promotes and teaches adaptive management principles to conservation practitioners. [http://www.fosonline.org](http://www.fosonline.org/)
* **The Global Environment Facility** is an international organization that funds projects in developing nations with the goal of addressing global environmental issues. It is the funding mechanism for the Convention on Biological Diversity and other international treaties related to the environment. [www.thegef.org](http://www.thegef.org/)
* **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Forestry** is the division of the United Nations tasked with tracking global forest resources and providing resources for sustainable forest management. Their website provides the "State of the World's Forests" reports and software to support forest monitoring and assessment. <http://www.fao.org/forestry/en/>
* **Forest Stewardship Council** has developed international standards for responsible forest management and accredits organizations to certify forest managers and producers of forest products who meet FSC standards.<https://us.fsc.org/>
* **Forest Trends** is a non-profit organization that promotes sustainable forest management and conservation. It does this by helping to accelerate the development of economic systems in which commerce sustains ecosystem services and companies that manage forest ecosystems in a sustainable fashion receive market recognition. [http://www.forest-trends.org](http://www.forest-trends.org/)
* **LANDFIRE** is a USGS portal providing data and detailed maps of U.S. vegetation and fire regimes. [http://landfire.cr.usgs.gov](http://landfire.cr.usgs.gov/)
* **Sustainable Forestry Initiative** is the largest certifier of sustainable forest products in North America. [http://www.sfiprogram.org](http://www.sfiprogram.org/)
* **EcoagriculturePartners** provides case studies, as well as tools and publications, to promote more sustainable agricultural systems that enhance rural livelihoods while conserving biodiversity and ecosystem services. [http://www.ecoagriculture.org](http://www.ecoagriculture.org/)
* **FAOSTAT** is a product of the United Nations. Through this site, users can access time-series data for variables relevant to agriculture and food for over 200 nations. <http://faostat.fao.org/default.aspx>
* **HNP Stats** is the World Bank's health, nutrition, and population database, providing access to more than 100 indicators for countries and country groups. In many instances, time-series of indicators are available. Data and maps can be downloaded directly. <http://data.worldbank.org/data-catalog/health-nutrition-and-population-statistics>
* **National Agricultural Statistics Service** of the United States Department of Agriculture provides data regarding the use of chemical pesticides, available by year, crop species, location, and active ingredient. Search results can be obtained in web format and as downloadable Excel files. Graphs or maps of use statistics can also be generated. <http://www.pestmanagement.info/nass>
* **ProtectedPlanet** is the online interface for the World Database on Protected Areas, which is the most comprehensive global dataset on marine and terrestrial protected areas. The site includes a searchable visualization tool and links for downloading the entire protected areas database. <http://www.protectedplanet.net/>
* **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Geodata Portal** hosts maps and databases used by the UNEP in the production of environmental assessment reports. Over 450 variables are available for download in several formats including maps, graphs, and tables. Data are available at national, subregional, regional, and global scales. Search the term 'agriculture' to find datasets related to fertilizer production and use, irrigation, agricultural area, pastureland, and much more. [http://geodata.grid.unep.ch](http://geodata.grid.unep.ch/)
* **World Bank** provides a wide range of data related to national development. The full list of indicators is available at <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator>.
* **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations**  [http://www.fao.org/](http://www.fao.org/fishery)
* **Ocean Health Index** is a quantitative assessment of the ocean's ability to deliver key ecosystem services such as food provision, carbon storage, and coastal protection. Data are available for the Exclusive Economic Zone of each coastal nation and for regions of the high seas. <http://www.oceanhealthindex.org/>
* **AQUASTAT** is the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) database on water resources, water uses, and agricultural water management. <http://www.fao.org/nr/water/aquastat/main/index.stm>
* **Aqueduct** hosted by the World Resources Institute is a rich resource providing maps and data quantifying the risks to freshwater around the globe. <http://www.wri.org/our-work/project/aqueduct>
* **Environment Canada's National Water Research Institute**collects, collates, and distributes data from monitoring efforts that are designed to detect ecosystem change. <http://www.ec.gc.ca/inre-nwri>
* **National Inventory of Dams** provides locations, general information, and hazard ratings for all dams in the United States that exceed certain minimum size or hazard criteria. [http://nid.usace.army.mil](http://nid.usace.army.mil/)
* **Ramsar Convention on Wetlands** website provides background on the Ramsar Convention, a library of related technical reports, and the list of Ramsar sites.[http://www.ramsar.org](http://www.ramsar.org/)
* **Urban Water Blueprint** is a database and visualization tool hosted by The Nature Conservancy. Click any city on the map to learn the city's sources of water, risks and conservation solutions.<http://water.nature.org/waterblueprint/>
* **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Wetlands** website provides information about the value and protection of wetlands in the U.S. <http://www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands>
* **U.S. National Park Service** provides information and photos from the Elwha River Restoration project. <http://www.nps.gov/olym/naturescience/elwha-ecosystem-restoration.htm>
* **U.S. National Wild and Scenic Rivers System** provides information about the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and a list of designated rivers searchable by state or by river. <http://www.rivers.gov/>
* **Water Footprint Network** provides data concerning the water footprints of different nations and a personal water footprint calculator. [http://www.waterfootprint.org](http://www.waterfootprint.org/)
* **Clean Development Mechanism** is a United Nations website that describes how industries in developed nations can increase their allowance for carbon emissions by investing in projects in developing nations that either reduce emissions of or increase sequestration of greenhouse gases. [http://cdm.unfccc.int](http://cdm.unfccc.int/)
* **Climate Adaptation Knowledge Exchange** is an online forum for the exchange of climate adaptation information and strategies. [www.cakex.org](http://www.cakex.org/)
* **Climate.gov** is the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) portal for timely and authoritative scientific data and information about climate. The site offers up-to-date news, maps and data, and resources for instructors. [www.climate.gov](http://www.climate.gov/)
* **ClimateWizard**is a web-based tool for viewing the past 50 years of climate change, as well as projections 50 or 100 years into the future for any state or country in the world (and for different seasons).[http://www.climatewizard.org](http://www.climatewizard.org/)
* **Climate Central** is a group of scientists and communicators who seek to create a bridge between the scientific community and the public, providing clear and up-to-date information about climate and energy. This website provides videos, graphics, news stories and interpretation of the latest climate science. [http://www.climatecentral.org](http://www.climatecentral.org/)
* **Clouds: The Wild Card of Climate Change** is a National Science Foundation special report that includes videos and animations explaining the complex interactions between clouds and climate.<http://www.nsf.gov/news/special_reports/clouds/index.jsp>
* **Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change** makes its Assessment Reports available for download at this site. [http://www.ipcc.ch](http://www.ipcc.ch/)
* **National Climate Assessment** summarizes the impacts of climate change on the United States, now and in the future. A team of more than 300 experts guided by a 60-member Federal Advisory Committee produced the report, which was extensively reviewed by the public and experts, including federal agencies and a panel of the National Academy of Sciences. <http://nca2014.globalchange.gov/>
* **Natural Resources Defense Council** offers information and a short documentary explaining the impacts of ocean acidification. <http://www.nrdc.org/oceans/acidification>
* **U.S. Climate Resilience Toolkit** provides the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's step-by-step guide to increase resilience to climate change. A visualization tool called Climate Explorer offers maps of climate stressors and impacts <http://toolkit.climate.gov/>
* **UN-REDD Programme** provides the latest news and publications from the United Nations program established to help developing nations prepare for participation in a future REDD mechanism. [http://www.un-redd.org](http://www.un-redd.org/)
* **United Nations Climate Change Newsroom** provides up-to-date information on international negotiations to address climate change. <http://newsroom.unfccc.int/>
* **United States Climate Action Partnership** is a group of businesses and environmental organizations that is calling upon the U.S. government to reduce national greenhouse gas emissions [http://www.us-cap.org](http://www.us-cap.org/)
* **United States Global Change Research Program** is an inter-agency research group that has characterized and assessed several aspects of greenhouse gases and their influence on global climate change. The organization offers computer model outputs of climate scenarios through several publications available online. [http://www.globalchange.gov](http://www.globalchange.gov/)