

SDG Goal 15

Life on land

SDG Target 15.4

By 2030, ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for sustainable development

SDG Indicator 15.4.2

Mountain Green Cover Index

Time series

"Mountain Green Cover" Index

1. General information on the time series

- Date of national metadata: 7 December 2022
- National data: <http://sdg-indicators.de/15-4-2/>
- Definition: The time series measures the share of the mountain area that is covered with less than 20% by settlement and can be classified as forest, grassland or cropland according to the IPCC land cover classification.
- Disaggregation: classification

2. Comparability with the global metadata

- Date of global metadata: March 2022
- Global metadata: <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/files/Metadata-15-04-02.pdf>
- The time series is compliant with the global metadata. The calculation is based on nationally available remote sensing data and geodata, and not on the Collect Earth data, as requested in the global metadata.

3. Data description

- The data is based on a special evaluation by the Federal Agency for Cartography and Geodesy (BKG). For the identification of mountain areas, data of the digital terrain model (DGM) are used. It provides information on the altitude of the entire country with a resolution of 10 meters. Information on land cover and land use categories stems from land cover model for Germany (LBM-DE). Data is a resampled vector data set resampled to a spatial resolution of 10 meters. Areas that can be classified as cropland, forest or grassland according to the IPCC land cover classification are counted as green cover.

4. Access to data source

- Not available.

5. Metadata on source data

- Digital Land Cover Model for Germany, state 2015 (LBM-DE2015) (only available in German): <https://gdz.bkg.bund.de/index.php/default/digitales-landbedeckungsmodell-fur-deutschland-stand-2015-lbm-de2015.html>
- Digital Land Cover Model for Germany, state 2018 (LBM-DE2018) (only available in German): <https://gdz.bkg.bund.de/index.php/default/digitales-landbedeckungsmodell-fur-deutschland-stand-2018-lbm-de2018.html>

6. Timeliness and frequency

- Timeliness: t + 6 months
- Frequency: Every 3 years

7. Calculation method

- Unit of measurement: Percentage
- Calculation:

$$\text{"Mountain Green Cover" Index} = \frac{\text{Mountain area covered by forest, grassland or cropland [ha]}}{\text{Total mountain area [ha]}} \cdot 100 [\%]$$