Explanatory Notes on Main Statistical Indicators

Surface Area is a country total area including land area and inland water bodies, but excluding offshore territorial waters.

Land Area is a country's total area, excluding area under inland water bodies, national claims to continental shelf, and exclusive economic zones. In most cases the definition of inland water bodies includes major rivers and lakes.

Population Density is number of persons in the total population for a given year per square kilometre of total surface area.

Arable Area includes land defined by the FAO as land under temporary crops (double-cropped areas are counted once), temporary meadows for mowing or for pasture, land under market or kitchen gardens, and land temporarily fallow. Land abandoned as a result of shifting cultivation is excluded. Data for "Arable land" are not meant to indicate the amount of land that is potentially cultivable.

Forest Area is land under natural or planted stands of trees, whether productive or not.

Renewable Internal Freshwater Resources Flows refer to internal renewable resources (internal river flows and groundwater from rainfall) in the country.

National Protected Areas are totally or partially protected areas of at least 1,000 hectares that are designated as scientific reserves with limited public access, national parks, natural monuments, nature reserves or wildlife sanctuaries, protected landscapes, and areas managed mainly for sustainable use. Marine areas, unclassified areas, and littoral (intertidal) areas are excluded. The data also do not include sites protected under local or provincial law.

Threatened Species are the number of species classified by the IUCN as endangered, vulnerable, rare, indeterminate, out of danger, or insufficiently known.

Higher Plants are native vascular plant species (flowering plants only).