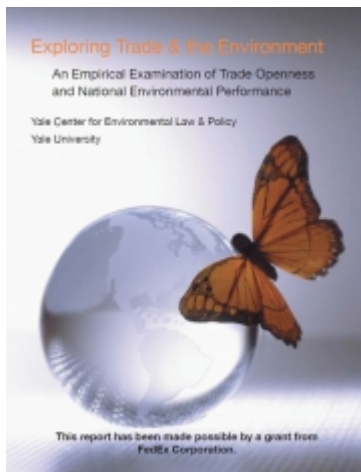


PUBLICATION

Report
Global Environment
Trade

Exploring Trade & the Environment

AN EMPIRICAL EXAMINATION OF TRADE OPENNESS AND NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE



[1]




This study investigates the prevailing theories about the effect of trade openness on environmental quality and resource management, providing new insights and empirical support to refute some of these theories. It builds on data collected through the Yale-Columbia 2010 Environmental Performance Index (EPI), which covers 163 countries and an extensive database of trade-related measures from academic and international sources. Senior fellow Tanja Srebotnjak contributed statistical analyses to the study. It is available for download.

[The study](#) [2] [pdf, 750 kB, English] shows that decision-making needs to move beyond the broad definitions of trade-openness and environmental performance and instead recognize the importance of a more refined interplay between international trade flows, liberalization policies, good governance and disaggregated environmental factors such as environmental health, ecosystem degradation and climate change. It finds evidence that trade

openness and economic growth can have both positive and negative empirical environmental associations.

[The project](#) [3] was funded by the [FedEx](#) [4] Company and conducted under the leadership of researchers from the [Center for Environmental Law & Policy](#) [5] and the Statistics Department at Yale University.

Attachments

-  Exploring Trade & the Environment: An Empirical Examination of Trade Openness and National Environmental Performance
-  Exploring Trade & the Environment, Executive Summary
-  Beta Version of the Data

Main Link

An Empirical Examination of Trade Openness and National Environmental Performance
[pdf, 736 KB, English]

Ecologic Related Articles

- The New Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP): A Focus on the Environment
- Trade and Environment

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