

# READY OR NOT, WE ARE MORE THAN 8 BILLION PEOPLE IN THE WORLD. FUTURE ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES FOR THE WORLD AND NATIONAL STATES

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**Abstract:** Even if COVID-19 pandemic slowed down the increase in the world population, nowadays, we are 8 billion. This milestone was reached due the humanity's achievements in medicine, public health and personal hygiene. Thanks to soaring birth-rates in some areas of the world, national policies have to embrace different mechanisms, and national states have to deal with different global and local pressures. The faster developments and the increased human needs will put pressure on public institutions, which, most of the time, are not ready. According to UN Policy no. 140, low and middle-income countries' policies must have in mind the financial and environmental difficulties to which they have to answer. Taking into account this world's great challenge in our study, we intend to have a look at the areas that are most affected by it. After determining this, we will do a short review of the national interventions in the environmental policies to find out how ready those national states are to answer this. The study is built around the main research question: which are the world and nation-states' next steps in environmental public policy to tackle this? Literature and policies documents review completed with comparative studies are the main research methods used within our analysis.