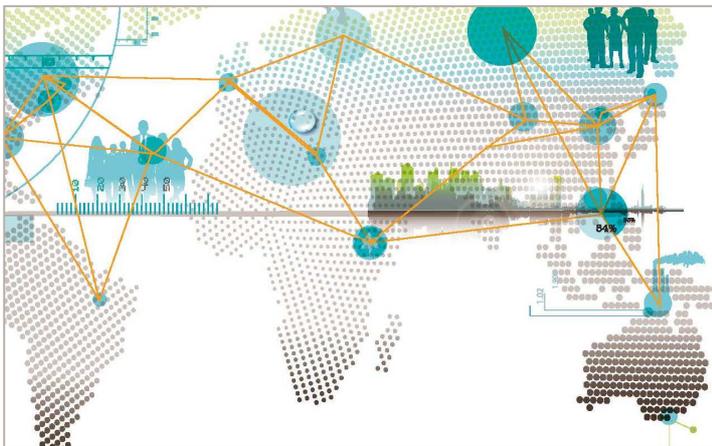


Country Sustainability Ranking Update – November 2017

Favorable Winds Blowing in the East

- Scandinavian countries defend lead
- Mixed fortunes in Central Europe
- Political dynamics—strong push and pull on ESG indicators
- Argentina and South Africa – diverging trends



Movement in the Fall country rankings came from the bottom rather than the top. While Nordic winds remain calm, currents swirl in other world regions. Major Asian emerging economies showed the biggest gains and even Russia continues to increase perceptions of stability while reducing perceptions of political risk. Meanwhile, in developed economies distrust for institutions and the rise of populist-leaning regimes threaten democratic and inclusive principles. Corruption and stagnating social conditions are to blame for declines in notable emerging economies.

About this report

This semi-annual report provides a succinct summary and analysis of the Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) profiles of 65 countries around the globe. It builds on the results of RobecoSAM’s proprietary Country Sustainability Ranking (CSR) tool which collects and analyzes ESG data from 22 developed and 43 emerging market economies via a structured and comprehensive framework to calculate an overall country score. The resulting scores offer insights into the investment risks and opportunities associated with each country and provide investors with a better frame of reference for making comparisons among countries and regions from a risk-return perspective. The summary outlined here complements findings gained from the more traditional country risk assessment and is particularly focused on integrating long-term perspectives.¹⁾ For a more detailed outline of the methodology used, please refer to our brochure “Measuring Country Intangibles.”²⁾

1) There has been no change in the set of indicators, data sources or ranking approach in this update, except for the use of rankings instead of scores for the Energy Trilemma Index (ETI) and the replacement of the United Nations Energy Statistics by the International Energy Agency as the source for the data on renewables. Comparisons with past scores are always based on re-calculated previous scores. The latter can differ from the originally published scores as they take potential changes in data sources, methodologies and/or data revisions into account.

2) “Measuring Country Intangibles,” June 2015, available on the RobecoSAM website:
<http://www.robecosam.com/en/sustainability-insights/about-sustainability/country-sustainability-ranking.jsp>

Nordics still top, progress in key Asian economies

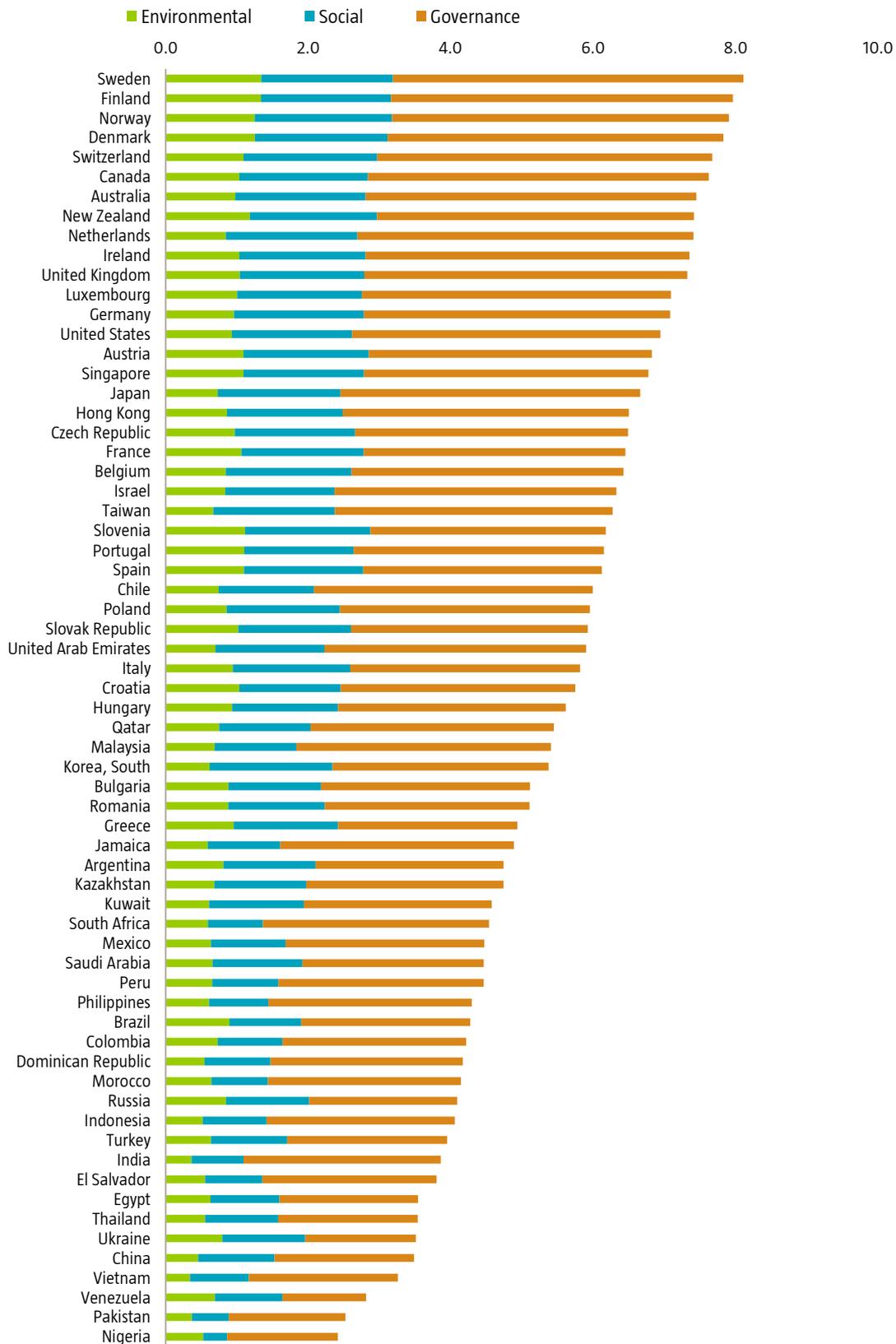
The October 2017 country sustainability Fall update did not result in major alterations in country ESG scores or rankings. As visible from **Figure 1**, the ranking is headed by Sweden, which has comfortably defended the top position despite a moderate decline in its overall score. It is followed closely by its three Nordic neighbors Finland, Norway and Denmark, whose scores remained more or less stable. In the case of Sweden, an improvement in the Political Risk score was not sufficient to compensate for the deterioration in the indicators for Aging, Competitiveness and Institutions. As for Norway and Denmark, recently released data from the World Economic Forum (WEF) show a weakening in perceptions of their institutional environments.

Suffering from a deterioration in its score by 0.10 to 7.35 and losing two ranks, Ireland has managed to maintain its position within the top 10 (see **Figure 2**). This comes after an impressive recovery from the financial crisis over the past couple of years. The decline in its overall grade results from a worsening in its scores for Competitiveness and Institutions as well as in five of the six World Governance Indicators – most notably with regards to Rule of Law, Regulatory Quality and Government Effectiveness. Declines in Governance scores have occurred as a result of increased pressure from the EU and the US over Ireland's favorable but controversial corporate tax regime and considerable uncertainty about the potential impact of Brexit.

Ireland has also been displaced by the Netherlands from its 2nd position in the ranking of EM member states. The Netherlands has benefitted from higher scores for Competitiveness and Institutions as well as increases in five of the six World Governance Indicators, with a marked improvement above all in Regulatory Quality (see **Figure 3**). Some advances can also be observed in major emerging markets in Asia – South Korea, Indonesia, India and China, all of which have been able to increase their overall ESG score as described in more details later.

Figure 1: Country sustainability ranking – October 2017

Dimension & Total Sustainability Scores

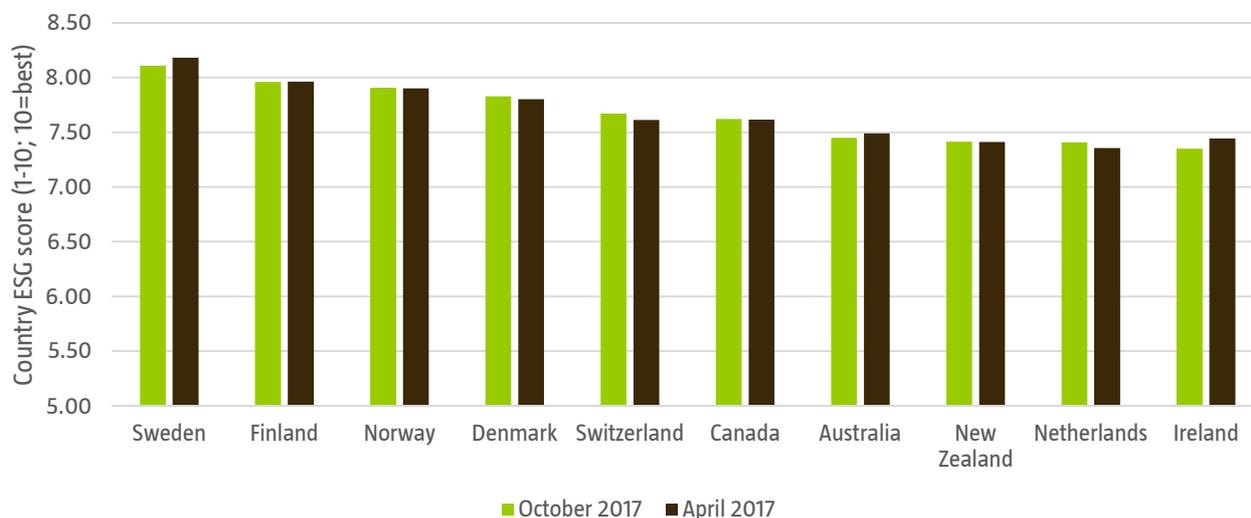


Source: RobecoSAM

Returning to ESG scores overall, fifth-ranked Switzerland kept its top position in the WEF’s 2017-18 Global Competitiveness ranking resulting in slight increases in the Competitiveness and Institutions indicators and permitting a moderate increase in its overall score by 0.06 to 7.67. The country held two important votes on ESG-relevant topics in recent months with mixed outcomes. In May, 58.2% of voters supported a new energy plan to overhaul the country’s energy system by gradually replacing the power from its ageing nuclear power plants with renewable energy sources. The plan aims at reducing energy consumption 16% per person per year by 2020 and by 43% by 2035.

In September, 52.7% of voters rejected a reform of the pension system. The controversial “Pensions 2020” was a reform package aimed at securing funding for old age pensions as demographic pressures mount and included as key measures increasing the VAT and raising the retirement age for women from 64 to 65. This was the third failed reform attempt in almost 20 years, indicating the difficulty of adapting a welfare regime to an ageing population and has intensified pressure for a renewed reform proposal.

Figure 2: Top 10 country ESG scores



Source: RobecoSAM

Figure 3: ESG scores for European Monetary Union (EMU) countries



Source: RobecoSAM

Key Asian emerging economies among the winners

Figure 4 displays Argentina and South Africa as the two countries exhibiting the most pronounced changes albeit in opposite directions (+0.14 and -0.15, respectively). A more detailed review of developments in the two countries follows shortly. Evident from a look at **Figure 2** is that all major Asian emerging markets are among the winners: South Korea (+0.11), China (+0.10) and Indonesia (+0.09). Moreover, India continues its path of gradual improvement, though gains in its scores compared to April (+0.05) were not sufficient for it to join the ranks of countries with the biggest score increases. All of these emerging market economies enjoyed increases in almost all World Governance Indicators, with the most notable advances in Regulatory Quality (China, India and Indonesia), Rule of Law (China and South Korea), Control of Corruption (China, India and Indonesia) and Government Effectiveness (Indonesia and South Korea). These countries furthermore benefitted from improved perceptions of Political Risk with the exception of Indonesia whose scores in the Fragile States Index as well as for the Competitiveness and Institutions indicators were still low.

An improved score in the Political Risk Services (PRS) Group’s Political Risk score (79.0, up 3.5 from April 2017) is also the key driver behind South Korea’s higher ESG assessment. The election of Moon Jae-in as new president in May appears to have contributed to a calming of the domestic political environment, but the key foreign policy challenge – dealing with unpredictable North Korea – has not disappeared.

An improvement in the overall ESG scores has also been observed for the US and Russia. In the US, the controversial leadership of President Trump has resulted in declines in the Fragile States Index, Political Risk and Political Stability scores. These have been compensated by strong gains in the scores for Competitiveness and Institutions, with the latter reflecting the country’s still functioning system of “checks and balances”, its judicial independence and its strong tradition of property rights protection. In Russia, President Putin has been able to further enhance his control over state institutions, marginalize the opposition, and keeping approval ratings up. While Putin’s strong foothold has helped to strengthen the scores for Political Risk and the Fragile States Index, it came along with more authoritarianism, reflected in a deterioration in other ESG features, above all in the Accountability and the Rule of Law indicators.

Figure 4: Main changes in country ESG scores – Oct 2017 vs Apr 2017



Source: RobecoSAM

Political dynamics remain a key sustainability feature

Even though prominent European populists, above all the Netherland's Geert Wilders and France's Marine Le Pen, failed to win power in their elections earlier this year, recent polls in Germany, Austria and the Czech Republic have shown that this nationalism/populism trend is far from over. Elections in Germany resulted in substantial losses for the coalition parties, the first-ever entry of the far-right AfD (Alternative for Germany) into parliament, and a more fragmented political landscape. After the most recent collapse of talks to form a so-called "Jamaica" coalition government, the country is facing a period of political uncertainty and a return to the polls in the new year appears as a likely option at this point in time.

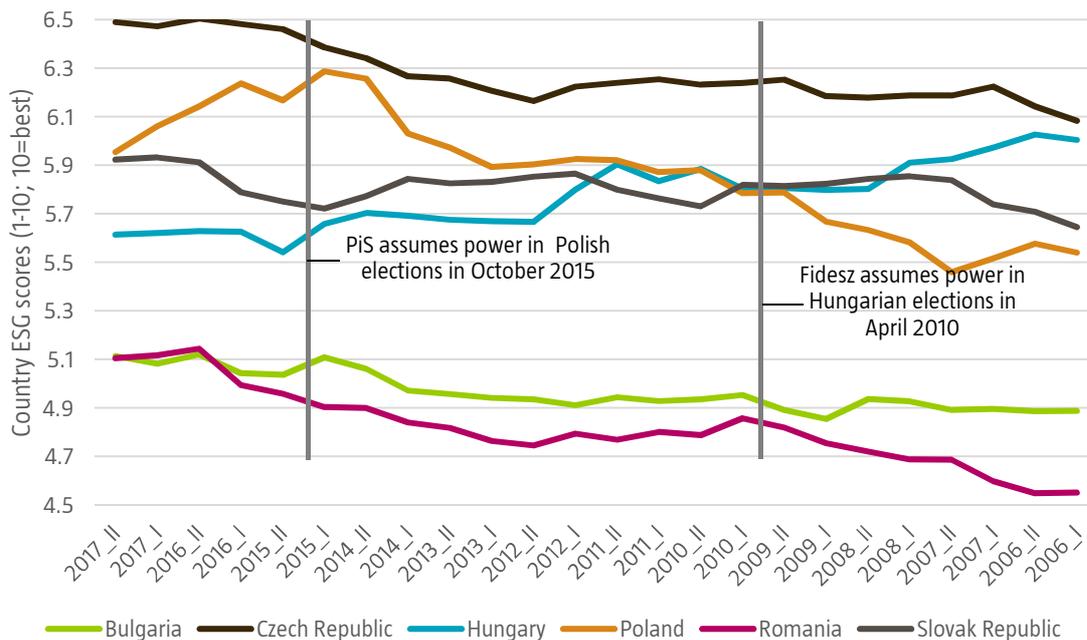
Austria took a turn to the right with the conservative People's Party (ÖVP) emerging as the winner and the nationalist Freedom Party (FPÖ) finishing third in the legislative elections of mid-October. Meanwhile, Sebastian Kurz, ÖVP leader and the country's prospective future chancellor, has already started formal coalition talks with the far-right FPÖ. Meanwhile, in the most recent Czech parliamentary election, support for mainstream parties all but collapsed, whereas anti-establishment and populist movements gained a substantial share of the vote as outlined in more detail further down.

In Italy, final approval of the controversial electoral law by the Senate in October paves the way for general elections, probably by March next year. The new law introduces a mixed and proportional system and will require parties to win huge majorities to be able to govern. It therefore favors coalitions and has thus faced strong opposition from the Five Star Movement (M5S). On the other hand, it could benefit the euro-sceptic Lega Nord, which is experiencing some political tailwind as the wealthy northern regions of Veneto and Lombardy overwhelmingly voted in favor of greater autonomy in the referendums of October. In Spain, Madrid and Catalonia remain in standoff over independence, creating ongoing and heightened political uncertainty. Following the declaration of independence by the Catalan parliament, the Spanish government has initiated the process of taking direct control of the region of Catalonia, dissolving its parliament, and announced new regional elections to be held on December 21. According to the latest polls from early November, pro-Catalan independence parties will together win the election but the failure of the two leading pro-independence parties to agree on a united ticket could harm the separatist camp's chances of securing the majority of parliamentary seats needed to revive the secession campaign.

Mixed fortunes in Central Europe

The ESG score developments of the six EU member states in Central Europe over the past decade reveals a diverging trend, with Hungary and Poland taking one path and the other four countries another. As is visible from **Figure 5**, Hungary's as well as Poland's sustainability performance have begun to wane with the assumption of power by rightwing-nationalist governments – Fidez-KDNP in Hungary and PiS in Poland. Both governments are pursuing a worrying policy of polarization and a nationalist agenda that has resulted in a weakening of state institutions, a removal of democratic checks and balances, and recurrent friction with the EU.

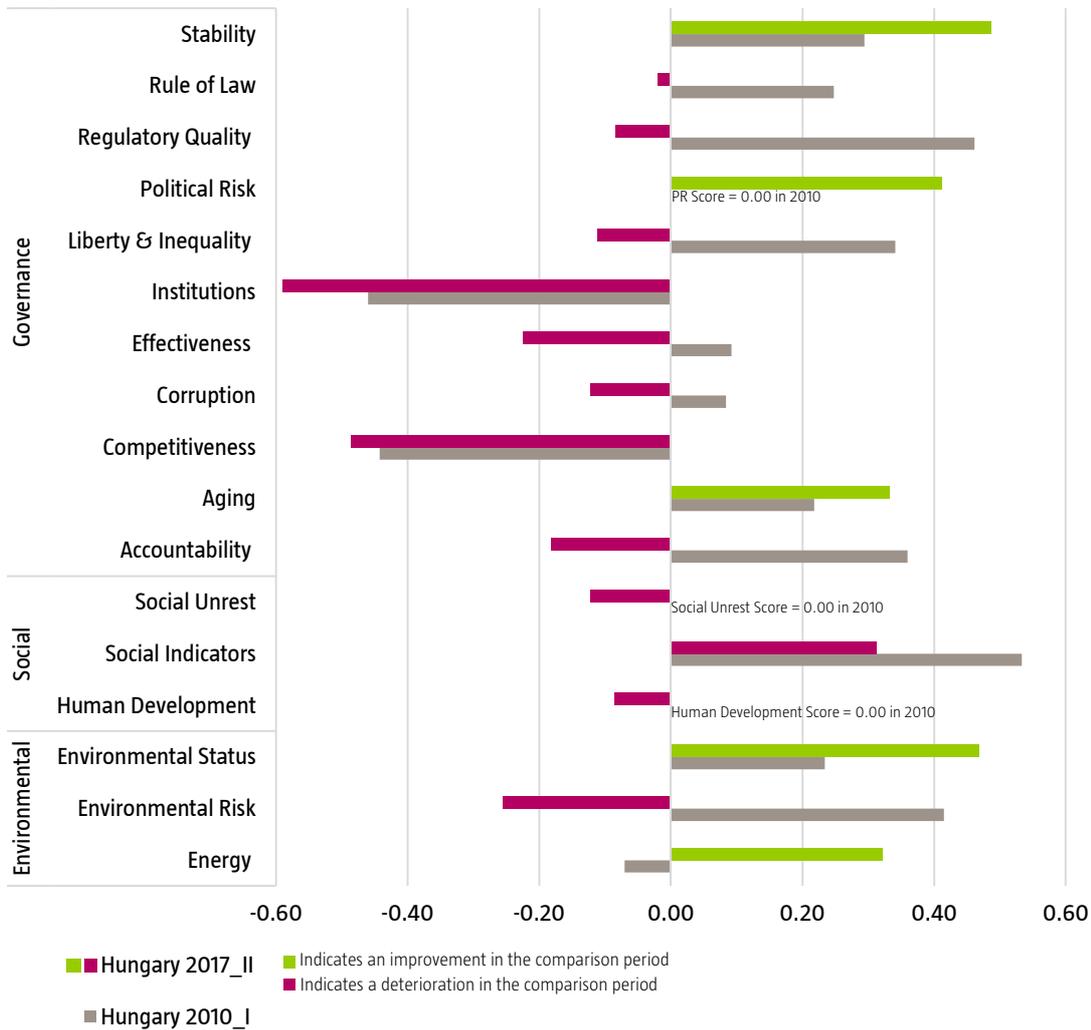
Figure 5: Diverging trends in country sustainability in Central Europe, 2006-17



Source: RobecoSAM

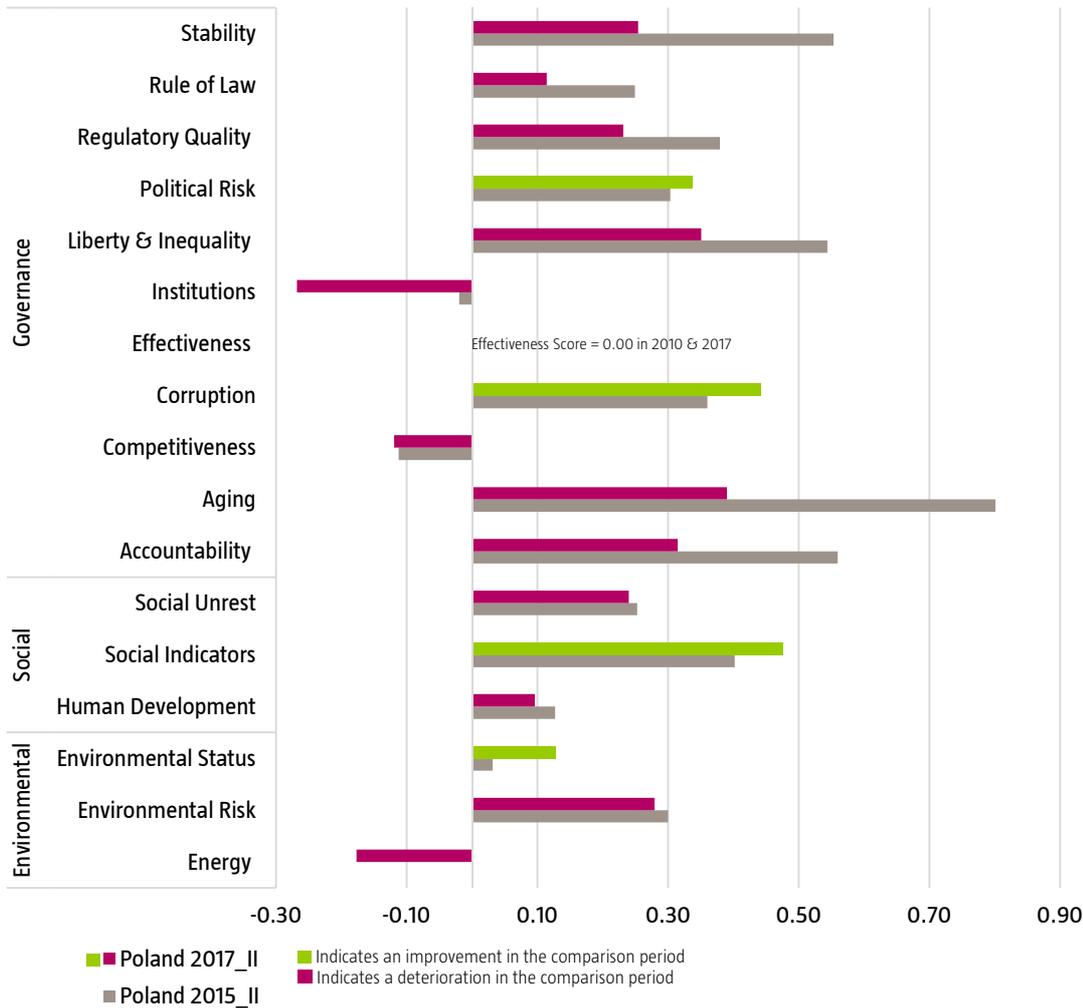
It appears as if both countries are reversing, at least in part, the transformation achieved to fulfil the necessary democratic, economic, legal and political prerequisites for EU accession. **Figures 6 and 7** provide an overview of individual indicator scores for October 2017 and the dates when the Fidez (Hungary) and PiS (Poland) parties gained power in each country, October 2015 and April 2010, respectively. From this comparison, it is obvious that the tenure of these governments has been accompanied by worsening performance in most areas that make up our country ESG profiles, but in particular in the governance sphere.

Figure 6: Hungary — Weakening sustainability performance



Source: RobecoSAM

Figure 7: Poland—Weakening sustainability performance



Source: RobecoSAM

The Czech Republic made a turn to the right as a result of the victory in recent parliamentary polls of the centrist and anti-establishment ANO party and the strong performance of the far-right Freedom & Democratic Party (SPD). The outcome has raised fears that the country might follow the lead of Hungary’s Victor Orban and Poland’s Jaroslaw Kaczynski and take a illiberal, partially-democratic detour, further ostracizing itself from the EU.

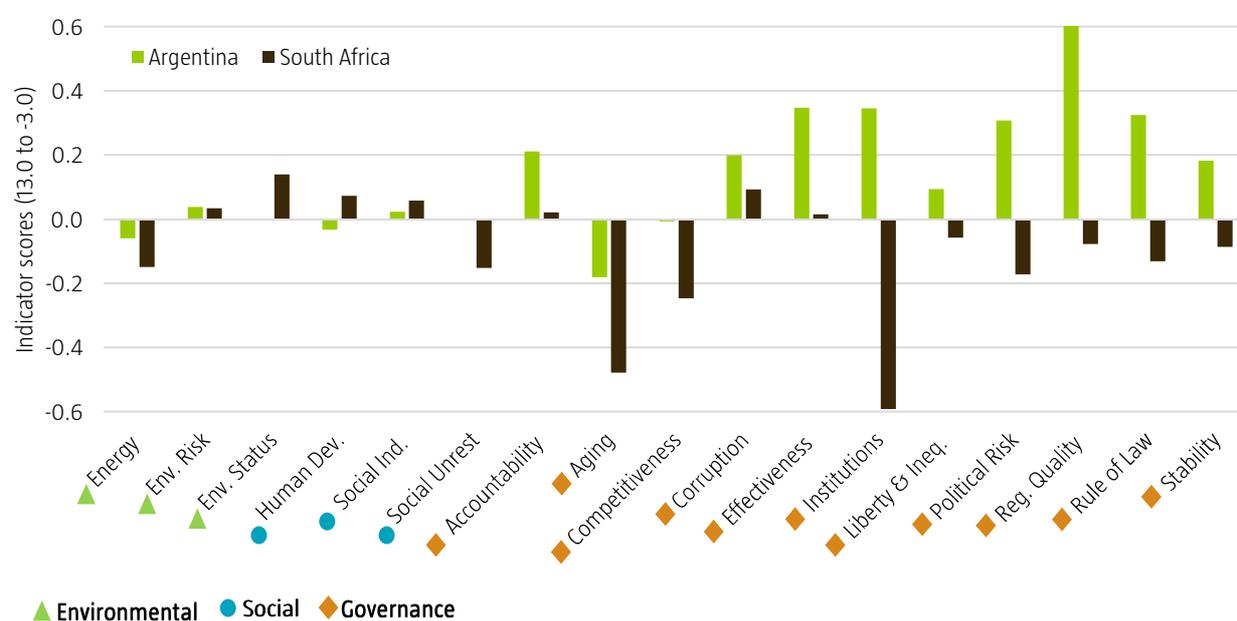
This is a particular danger if the ANO party, led by populist billionaire Andrej Babis, were to join forces with the euro-sceptic and extremist SPD—a possible scenario given most other parties have refused to join a coalition with ANO so far. Babis, who had pledged to fight corruption, faces fraud charges himself and is perceived as a major ongoing problem. While there is currently a good dose of uncertainty about the future policy course, the rise of populist parties could pose a risk to the country’s ESG profile which has strengthened steadily over the past decade. The Czech Republic has gradually moved to the upper third of the ranking from #26 in 2006 to #19 in October 2017.

Argentina and South Africa: Moving in opposite directions

As already mentioned above, Argentina (+0.14) and South Africa (-0.15) are the two countries with the most pronounced changes in their ESG scores from April to October. The two have exchanged positions in the ranks as the positive/negative trends observed over the past two years continue. Whereas Argentina moved up by three ranks to #41, South Africa descended 2 notches to #44. Since taking office in December 2015, President Macri has implemented important structural reforms with positive implications for political and social stability, the economy, and hence the country's overall ESG performance. Compared with April, Argentina has registered further important advances in the scores for Political Risk and Institutions, as well as across all six World Governance Indicators (see **Figure 8**).

Figure 8: Argentina & South Africa on opposite ESG trends

Changes in individual indicator scores 2015-2017



Source: RobecoSAM

Although Macri's decision to expand social programs has not helped to reduce fiscal deficits, it has prevented social conditions from deteriorating and ensured him sufficient popular support. Indeed, Macri's centre-right government has won a sweeping victory in recent congressional mid-term elections, winning 41% of the votes for national deputies and 13 of the 24 provinces, including the city of Buenos Aires. Therefore, the Cambiemos administration can start its third year of office in a strengthened position, which will facilitate Macri's task to move ahead with his structural reform agenda.

South Africa, on the other hand, has suffered deterioration in its position in the Fragile States Index and, in particular, a decline in its institutional environment and competitiveness, where it dropped 14 positions to #61, according to the WEF's latest ranking. Under the dismal presidency of Jacob Zuma, the country remains plagued by considerable poverty, inequalities, crime, corruption, unemployment, infrastructure shortages as well as persistent political and societal tensions, all of which are hurting the business climate.

In the latest 2017 Ease of Doing Business index, South Africa is ranked 74th out of 190, compared with 43rd in 2015. Still, several recent local level leadership changes have increased the chances of a victory by Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa over his rival Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, the preferred successor of President Zuma, at the ruling African National Congress' (ANC's) December elective conference. However even in the event of a Ramaphosa win, optimism surrounding the prospects of fundamental reforms should be tempered given the deep divisions within the ANC.

India continues its rise – Venezuela continues its decline

India's ESG score has continued its gradual ascent since October 2014, but this improvement has not enabled it to escape the bottom 10 as its sustainability profile continues to reveal major shortcomings across all three ESG dimensions (see **Figure 9**). Grave environmental degradation and poor air quality in urban areas indicate an urgent need for environmental protection, the more so, as the country is very vulnerable to natural disasters. In the social sphere, strong growth has raised incomes and reduced poverty, but significant disparities remain among regions in terms of income distribution, living standards and social conditions. More gender-focused efforts are necessary to increase the extremely low female labor participation that will help to achieve India's economic growth potential.

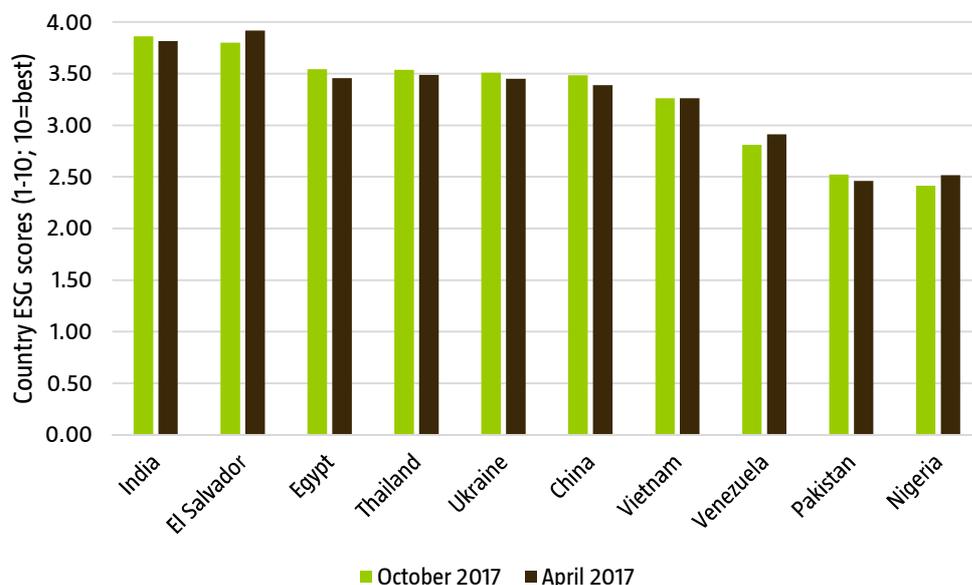
Moreover, additional labor market reforms could increase productivity and job creation and enable India to benefit from the demographic dividend provided by the relatively young population as reflected in the solid score for aging. Some progress has also been made to improve the business climate, but the increase in the Ease of Doing Business index from 50.34 in 2014 to 55.27 in 2017 still isn't enough to pull the country higher in the overall ranking (India occupies position 130 out of 190 countries). The impressive showing of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in state elections in the spring of this year has further strengthened Modi's position and should bode well for a continuation of reforms and thus, the overall positive ESG trend.

In Brazil, President Michel Temer has managed to maintain his power, despite being implicated in recent corruption scandals, increasing his chances to stay in office until the general elections in October 2018. With the elections looming, prospects for key structural reforms, such as the pension reform, look rather dim. One year ahead, the presidential race still suffers from considerable uncertainty. According to a mid-October survey, former president Lula da Silva leads in the polls. A Silva victory would heighten risks across a number of key political, social and economic measures given his penchant for unorthodox policies. However, after his July conviction on corruption charges, his political future remains uncertain and further judicial proceedings may prevent him from running.

Venezuela's continuous downturn since 2006 has been well-known and widely documented. The country has recorded additional losses even since the Spring update with respect to its scores on Fragile States Index, Political Risk, Stability and Competitiveness. These declines helped lead to an overall reduction of its ESG score by 0.10 to 2.81. President Maduro has until now been able to cling to power, further aggravating the already precarious economic, humanitarian, political and social conditions which prevent a turn for the better.

Recent state elections proved to be once again fraudulent and as the country's problems are getting worse by the day, there is an increasing possibility of a sudden regime change or even civil war. A new round of financial sanctions imposed by the US in August this year has added to financing pressure. Results of a suddenly convened meeting with creditors on November 14th were inconclusive after Venezuela missed its first interest payments on international bonds. S&P has subsequently declared Venezuela in selective default (SD). In view of its long-lasting downward trend in overall sustainability and, in particular, governance performance, this outcome comes as no real surprise and is a good illustration of how a proper ESG assessment can provide valuable insights and early warning signals to investors.

Figure 9: Bottom 10 country ESG scores



Source: RobecoSAM

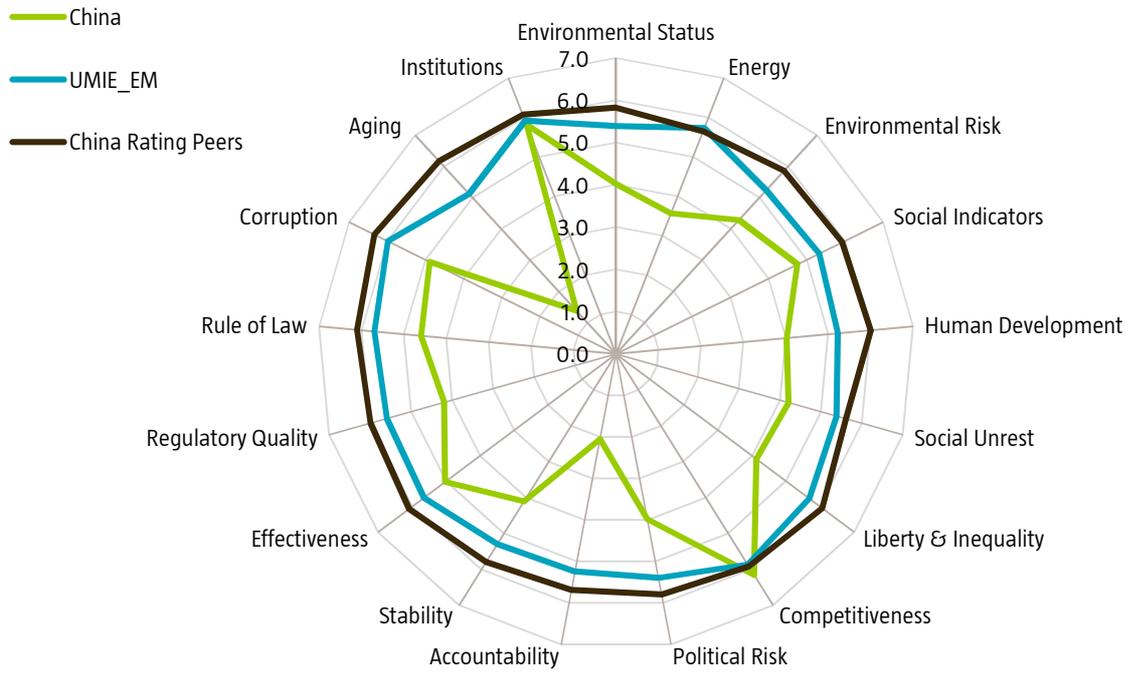
China's sustainability performance: gaining ground but still behind

Thanks to improvements in Political Risk, Institutions and in five of the six World Governance Indicators – in particular in Regulatory Quality, Rule of Law and Control of Corruption - China has enjoyed another increase (0.10) moving its overall ESG score to 3.48, the third gain in a row. However, at 61, China still belongs to the bottom 10 and is struggling to move up in the ranking. Indeed, its sustainability profile displays significant shortcomings affecting all three ESG dimensions. Heavy pollution, huge regional disparities, income inequality, widespread corruption, a rapidly ageing population, and a rigid political system are all potential sources of social discontent that will shape overall ESG developments in the foreseeable future.

A rapidly ageing population is by far the weakest ESG feature and raises concerns about the sustainability of the fragile social security network and the shrinking pool of cheap labor. Managing the aging process will be a formidable challenge, although some progress has been made in providing a safety net for the poorest as is visible in rising social security spending. China also scores below its peers within the same income category (i.e. Upper middle-income emerging market economies/UMIE_EM), as well as among countries with similar sovereign credit ratings (see **Figure 10**).

Remarkable economic growth has helped to preserve political and social stability. However, while the Chinese leadership has successfully liberalized the economy, it has made little effort to liberalize the political system which remains largely authoritarian. This is reflected in poor scores for certain governance features in particular, such as Accountability and Political Rights & Civil Liberties. The lack of openness of the political system could become a stability risk should the economy falter. The recent 19th National Congress of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) would have provided an opportune platform for launching a new political liberalization process. But instead, President Xi Jinping, who now looks like the most powerful leader since Mao, has made it clear that he intends to further extend the influence of the CCP who will continue to rely on an authoritarian leadership model. Further reforms in the governance sphere can be expected primarily in areas related to administration and bureaucracy but not with regards to civil liberties or political/human rights.

Figure 10: China's ESG profile in comparison with peers

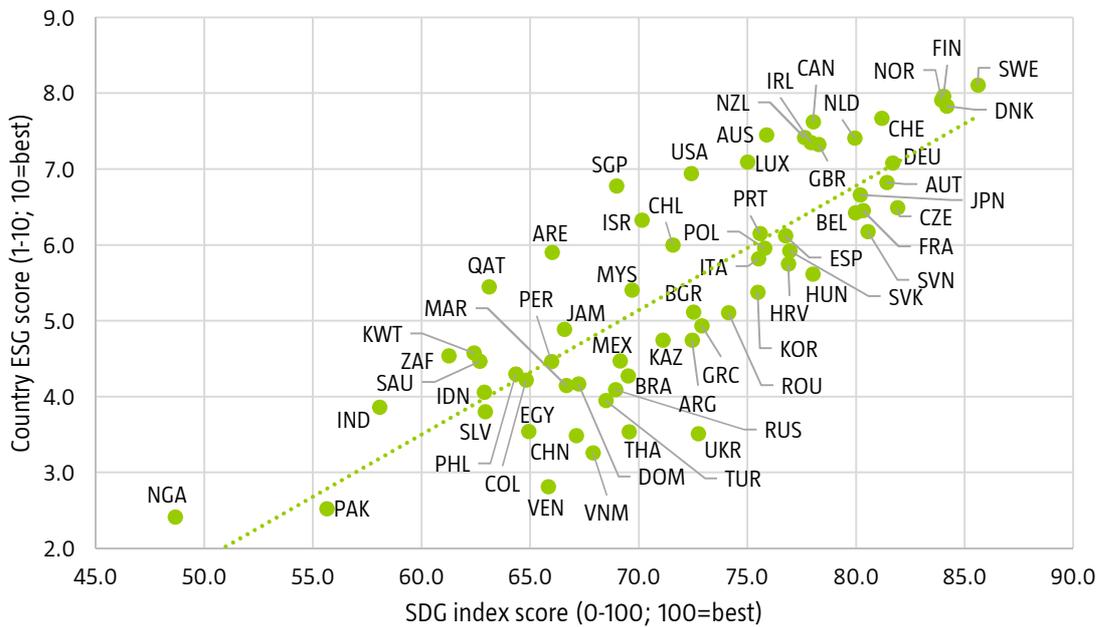


Source: RobecoSAM

ESG country ranking well reflected in the 2017 SDG index...

The newest country ESG ranking (see **Figure 1**) is also closely correlated to the 2017 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) index (see **Figure 11**). The SDG index was created by the Bertelsmann Stiftung and the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network in response to the 17 SDGs created by the UN in 2015 and serves as a tool to help countries identify national priorities and track SDG achievements.¹ The 2017 SDG index shows that of 157 countries covered, the Scandinavian region produced the leading performers with Sweden, Norway, Finland and Denmark in positions 1-4. In contrast, Pakistan and Nigeria are among the worst performers. The outcomes of the SDG Index and Country ESG score/rankings in **Figure 11** suggest that there are no inherent conflicts or trade-offs between the three dimensions of environmental viability, social well-being and economic welfare. On the contrary, there are positive synergies that flow from one to another as progress is achieved within each. As a country begins to fulfill its potential across these broad SDG spheres, its country sustainability ranking improves as well.²

Figure 11: RobecoSAM Country ESG score & the SDG index in comparison



Source: Bertelsmann Stiftung & UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), RobecoSAM

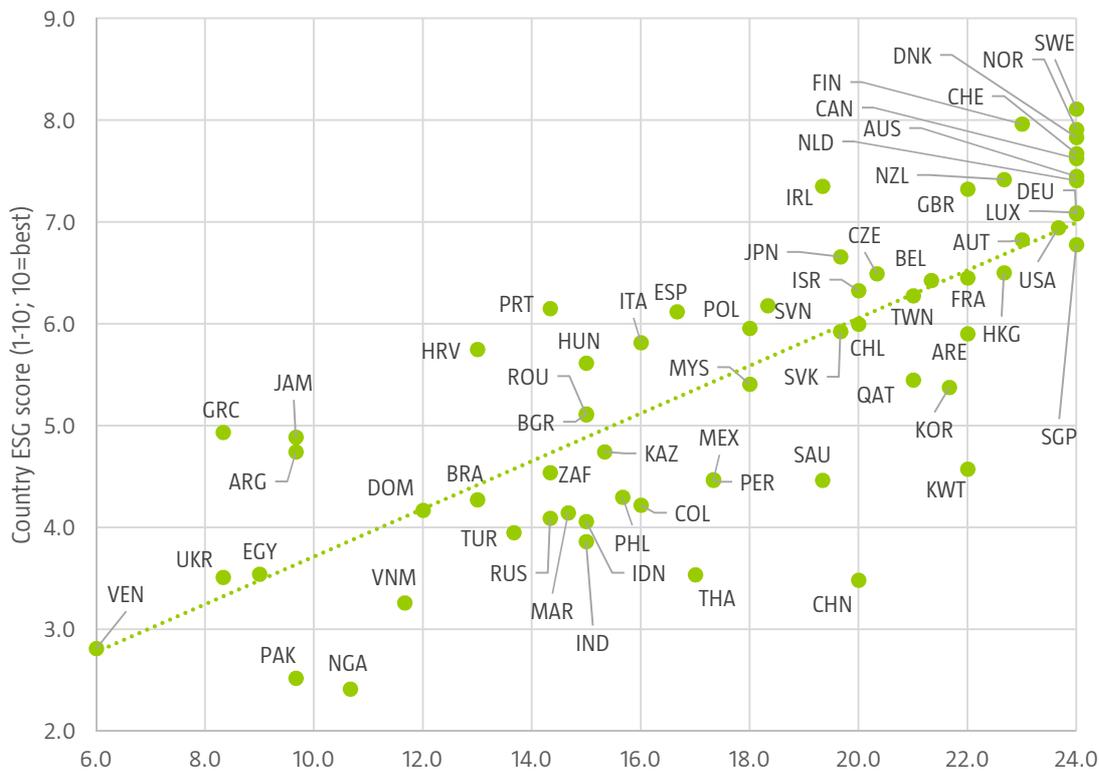
¹ Bertelsmann Stiftung / UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network: "SDG Index and Dashboards Report 2017 – Global Responsibilities", July 2017

² For a more detailed presentation of the various interlinkages between the SDG index and the RobecoSAM country sustainability ranking please refer to the article: RobecoSAM: "RobecoSAM's country sustainability ranking: A Yardstick for SDG progress", available at the RobecoSAM website: http://www.robecosam.com/images/RobecoSAM_Country_Ranking_SDG_Special.pdf

... as well as in sovereign credit risk ratings

The pursuit of SDG targets impacts an individual country's ESG variables, its overall sustainability profile, and its macroeconomic performance, all of which link to its long-term creditworthiness. As already stated in our previous analyses, traditional sovereign risk ratings do not sufficiently consider or incorporate ESG risk features. ESG aspects provide a useful complement to the more classical country risk analysis and thus provide investment managers a more comprehensive view on sovereign creditworthiness. Indeed, as illustrated in **Figure 12**, a comparison of RobecoSAM's country ESG scores and sovereign credit ratings displays a positive correlation (correlation coefficient $r = 0.80$). This finding demonstrates that, in general, countries with a better sustainability performance also benefit from stronger sovereign risk assessments. However, the chart also shows that the degree of alignment between a country's ESG score and its sovereign credit rating varies from country to country. Whereas in the case of Germany, for example, the country's strong sovereign rating is well aligned with its solid ESG profile, Greece's sovereign credit standing appears somewhat undervalued relative to its sustainability score. China, on the other hand, is a straggler in ESG terms. While it enjoys a fairly high sovereign rating, its ESG profile is among the weakest in our universe, which is also evident from a comparison with its rating and income peers (see **Figure 10**).

Figure 12: Country ESG scores & Sovereign credit risk ratings* in comparison





Max Schieler
Senior Country Risk Specialist

“A proper country sustainability assessment provides additional information and valuable insights into a country’s underlying risk drivers that we believe are critical to making balanced investment decisions”.

Appendix

Data sources

Environmental Status	Yale; Environmental Performance Index http://epi.yale.edu/
Energy	World Energy Council/Oliver Wyman; Energy Trilemma Index https://trilemma.worldenergy.org/ International Energy Agency; World Energy Balances 2017 http://www.iea.org/bookshop/753-World_Energy_Balances_2017
Environmental Risk	Bündnis Entwicklung Hilft; World Risk Report http://www.entwicklung-hilft.de/home.html Germanwatch; Global Climate Risk Index https://germanwatch.org/en/crisis
Social Indicators	Social Progress Imperative; Social Progress Index http://www.socialprogressimperative.org/ UNDP; Gender Inequality Index http://hdr.undp.org/en/data UNICEF; Child Labour https://data.unicef.org/ World Bank; World Development Indicators – GINI Index http://databank.worldbank.org/data/ OECD; Income Distribution Database http://www.oecd.org/social/income-distribution-database.htm
Human Development	UNDP; Human Development Report http://hdr.undp.org/en
Social Unrest	Fund for Peace; Fragile States Index http://fsi.fundforpeace.org/
Liberty & Inequality	Freedom House; Political Rights & Civil Liberties https://freedomhouse.org/reports
Competitiveness	World Economic Forum; The Global Competitiveness Report 2016-2017, WEF, Switzerland, 2016 https://www.weforum.org/reports/the-global-competitiveness-report-2016-2017-1/
Political Risk	PRS Group; Political Risk Services (PRS) http://www.prsgroup.com/
Accountability	World Bank; Worldwide Governance Indicators http://info.worldbank.org/governance/wgi/index.aspx#home
Stability	World Bank; Worldwide Governance Indicators http://info.worldbank.org/governance/wgi/index.aspx#home
Effectiveness	World Bank; Worldwide Governance Indicators http://info.worldbank.org/governance/wgi/index.aspx#home
Regulatory Quality	World Bank; Worldwide Governance Indicators http://info.worldbank.org/governance/wgi/index.aspx#home
Rule of Law	World Bank; Worldwide Governance Indicators http://info.worldbank.org/governance/wgi/index.aspx#home
Corruption	World Bank; Worldwide Governance Indicators http://info.worldbank.org/governance/wgi/index.aspx#home
Aging	IMF - Fiscal Monitor; NPV of Pension & Health Care Spending Change 2015-50 http://www.imf.org/external/ UN – Population Division; Old Dependency Ratio & Old Dependency Ratio 2050 https://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp/ World Bank – Women, Business and the Law; Retirement Age http://wbl.worldbank.org/
Institutions	World Economic Forum; The Global Competitiveness Report 2016-2017, WEF, Switzerland, 2016 https://www.weforum.org/reports/the-global-competitiveness-report-2016-2017-1/

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About RobecoSAM

Founded in 1995, RobecoSAM is an investment specialist focused exclusively on Sustainability Investing. It offers asset management, indices, impact analysis and investing, sustainability assessments, and benchmarking services. The company's asset management capabilities cater to institutional asset owners and financial intermediaries and cover a range of ESG-integrated investments, featuring a strong track record in resource efficiency-themed strategies. Together with S&P Dow Jones Indices, RobecoSAM publishes the globally recognized Dow Jones Sustainability Indices (DJSI) as well as the S&P ESG Factor Weighted Index series, the first index family to treat ESG as a standalone performance factor using the RobecoSAM Smart ESG methodology. Based on its Corporate Sustainability Assessment (CSA), an annual ESG analysis of over 3,900 listed companies, RobecoSAM has compiled one of the world's most comprehensive databases of financially material sustainability information. The CSA data is also included in USD 104 billion of assets under management by the subsidiaries of the Robeco Group.

RobecoSAM is a sister company of Robeco, the Dutch investment management firm founded in 1929. Both entities are subsidiaries of the Robeco Group, whose shareholder is ORIX Corporation. As a reflection of its own commitment to advancing sustainable investment practices, RobecoSAM is a signatory of the PRI and UN Global Compact, a member of Eurosif, Swiss Sustainable Finance, Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP), and Portfolio Decarbonization Coalition (PDC). As of June 30, 2017, RobecoSAM had client assets under management, advice and/or license of approximately USD 19.3 billion.