Estonia

	17,425	1.2 million	4:28:68	0.861 Very high	5.13	4.71	
Flag	GDP per capita	Population	Industry structure (1st2nd:3rd)	HDI	Sustainable social index	Sustainable env. index	Geographic location



- Estonia's eco-innovation capacity, supporting environment and activity are high. However, eco-innovation performance is low.
- Country's General Innovation Capacity (indicator no. 1.2), Implementation of Environment Regulations (indicator no. 2.2) and Firm's Participation on Environmental Management System (indicator no. 3.2) of Estonia are higher than the average score of the same development state countries.
- Awareness of Sustainability Management (indicator no. 1.5), CO2 Emission Intensity (indicator no. 4.2) and Country's Energy Sustainability Level (indicator no. 4.3) of Estonia are lower than the average score of the same development state countries.

National plan and strategy	Sustainability	Sustainable Estonia 21 (2005)				
		National Environmental Action Plan of Estonia 2007-2013				
		Estonia 2020 (Competitiveness Plan) (2011)				
	Eco- innovation	■ the R&D and Innovation Strategy 2014-2020				
		■ the Entrepreneurship Growth Strategy 2014-2020				
		Estonian Environmental Strategy 2030 (2007)				
		Development Plan for Enhancing the Use of Biomass and Bio energy				
Programme and actions	National	Green ICT program(funded by the Norwegian and EEA Grants)				
		National Development Plan for Energy Sector until 2020 (2009)				
		Energy Conservation Program for Estonia 2007-2013				
	International					
Legislation		Estonian Development Fund, 2013				
Finance		the Industrial Emissions Act, 2013				
Information		Year of Innovation in Estonia in 2009				
		■ Estonian R&D strategy Knowledge-based Estonia for the				
		years 2007-2013				

Table 35 Eco-innovation Policy instruments of Estonia

Estonia shows changes in the following three fields. Firstly, the Estonian government enacted the new Research Development Innovation Strategy 2014-2020⁹⁷. The Ministry of Education Research was authorized as the leader of the nation's research development policies and each department's research development sector leader. These strategies are expected to produce innovation in new areas. Secondly, Estonia established a Smart Specialization Strategy in 2013. This strategy emphasizes information communication technology, health technology and resource efficiency, which are three areas with high growth potential. These three fields are also compatible with active eco-innovation fields (ICT, material technology, energy etc.). In addition, the 2014-2020 strategy emphasizes the fields that are associated with important socio-economic issues such as environment, energy, security and health management. In comparison to the average of the EU, Estonia has low resource efficiency due to its investment on those with low production level of material, water, and energy, and the usage of the outdated technology. Estonia is trying to optimize environmentally friendly technologies through development of processes and new products; however, the investment expenditures related to ecological progress and high prices of environmentally friendly products make it difficult to promote execution of innovation strategy. The supportive funds from the EU are driving factors for promoting eco-innovation in each committee (EIO, 2013c).

⁹⁷ R&DI Strategy (Research, Development and Innovation Strategy) for 2014-2020