

Measuring Compliance with the Paris Agreement

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International climate agreements, such as the Paris Agreement, aim to tackle global warming through broad participation, ambitious targets, and high compliance rates. However, assessing their effectiveness remains a challenge. This paper examines the effectiveness of the Paris Agreement by focusing on compliance with its targets. Drawing on a novel compliance index methodology, we analyze the degree of compliance among 52 countries, covering approximately 75% of global CO₂ emissions. Our analysis reveals varying levels of compliance across countries, with policies emerging as the predominant instruments. We find higher adherence to adaptation targets compared to mitigation targets and observe that full compliance often takes on average 2 years to materialize. Additionally, we explore potential drivers of compliance, such as income levels. Our findings contribute to understanding the dynamics of international climate agreements and highlight the importance of monitoring and review mechanisms in enhancing compliance.