

GLOBAL FOOTPRINT NETWORK

The background of the entire image is a photograph of a sunset over a beach. The sky is a vibrant orange and yellow, with the sun as a bright, glowing orb on the right side. In the foreground and middle ground, several people are silhouetted against the bright light. They are walking along the shoreline, carrying large, dark, bowl-shaped baskets or pots balanced on their heads. The water of the ocean is visible in the lower half of the frame, with gentle waves washing onto the sandy beach.

ANNUAL REPORT

2015



A HISTORIC YEAR

In 2015, the world took remarkable steps toward imagining a new future for our planet.

The first step came in September when the United Nations adopted the Sustainable Development Goals. The goals strengthen humanity's commitment to well-being for all on this one planet, regardless of income, gender, or ethnicity. "Development" is shorthand for committing to well-being for all. "Sustainable" implies that such development needs to fit within our planet's budget.

The year then came to a historic close when nearly 200 countries agreed to keep global temperature rise below 2 degrees Celsius. The Paris Climate Agreement implies ending fossil fuel use before 2050.

The term "net carbon" in the agreement further suggests we need far more than just a transition to clean energy: Managing land to support many competing needs also will be crucial. If we move out of fossil fuel fast and furiously, demand for substitutes—for instance forest products for fuel—could place tremendous new pressures on our planet if not managed well. The agreement also references "sustainable management of forests" to absorb CO₂ and "aims to strengthen the global response to climate change...

in a manner that does not threaten food production." This combination of forces—consumption, deforestation, food production, emissions, population—underscores more than ever the value of the Ecological Footprint as a tool that accounts for all competing demands on the biosphere. The carbon Footprint is just one component of the Ecological Footprint. The more comprehensive Ecological Footprint helps countries better understand such competing needs as reforestation for carbon sequestration, food, and timber for everything from heat to furniture to paper. We will succeed when we address these competing demands on our planet's ecosystems as a whole.

The race is far from won, but it's a huge leap forward that, in 2015, scientists and national leaders agreed on the same finish line for the world to cross together. Thanks to our generous donors, we are poised to deliver on these promises in 2016 and beyond.

With warmest regards,
Mathis Wackernagel, Ph.D.
CEO and Co-founder



Global Footprint Network
Advancing the Science of Sustainability

Our mission is to help end ecological overshoot by making ecological limits central to decision-making. By promoting data, tools, and analysis linking resource constraints to economics and well-being, Global Footprint Network influences major investments and policy shifts to support global sustainability.

Our vision is that all people can live well, within the means of nature.



**SINCE OUR INCEPTION
IN 2003, WE'VE ENGAGED**

IN 69 COUNTRIES

ON 6 CONTINENTS

**TO MAKE ECOLOGICAL
LIMITS CENTRAL TO
DECISION-MAKING.**



NATIONAL POLICY & DECISION MAKING

The Ecological Footprint helps national governments understand and manage their country's natural resources.

By identifying risks associated with resource constraints and climate change, Ecological Footprint accounting helps decision-makers make confident policy decisions that safeguard resources and create a prosperous future.

The foundation of all Ecological Footprint accounting at the national level is our National Footprint Accounts, which track human demand on nature and nature's capacity to meet that demand for more than 200 countries. The National Footprint Accounts use more than 15,000 data points per country per year.



USA: The richest country?

In July 2015 we published "State of the States: A new perspective on the wealth of our nation," a report that details the Ecological Footprint and resource availability of the 50 states and the District of Columbia. We found that the population of the United States is using twice the renewable natural resources and services that can be regenerated within its borders, and resource consumption and availability varies dramatically state by state.

www.footprintnetwork.org/states

NATIONAL POLICY & DECISION MAKING

2015 BY THE NUMBERS

29 Engagements with International Organizations



Arab Forum For
Environment and
Development (AFED)
African Development Bank
Asian Development Bank
(ADB)
Association of Southeast
Asian Nations (ASEAN)
Center for Mediterranean
Integration (CMI)
Comunidad Andina de
Fomento (CAF)
European Environment
Agency
EU Directorate General –
Research

EU Parliament
Inter-American
Development Bank
International Organisation
of La Francophonie
International Union for
Conservation of Nature
(IUCN)
IPBES
Mediterranean Information
Office for Environment,
Culture and Sustainable
Development (MIO-ECSDE)
Plan Blue
Tour Du Valat

Union for the
Mediterranean (UfM)
UN Development
Programme (UNDP)
UN Environment
Programme (UNEP)
UNEP Convention on
Biological Diversity
UNEP Department of Early
Warning and Assessment
UNEP Finance Initiative
(UNEP FI)
UNEP Green Economy
UNEP Mediterranean
Action Plan

UNEP Mediterranean
Action Plan, Regional
Activity Center on
Sustainable Consumption
and Production (SCP/RAC)
UNEP The Economics of
Ecosystems and
Biodiversity (TEEB)
UNEP World Conservation
Monitoring Centre -
Biodiversity Indicators
Partnership (BIP)
UNESCO Venice Office
UN Statistics Division -
System of Environmental-
Economic Accounting
(SEEA)

METRICS FOR CITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Global Footprint Network supports local and regional leaders in making budget-friendly public project and policy decisions for a sustainable and prosperous future. Cities that make investments to improve the well-being of their citizens while maintaining or even expanding their natural resources will be more resilient amid growing resource constraints and climate change. Communities and city planners around the globe use our tools to guide land use and budget decisions, track sustainability progress, and support better sustainability policy and actions.



Managing Mediterranean Resources

In many Mediterranean countries, one or two major urban centers are major contributors to the national Ecological Footprint. The Footprint of Athens constitutes nearly 40 percent of Greece's Footprint. In fact, the demand for renewable resources in Athens exceeds the entire nation of Greece's supply of resources by 22 percent, although the city's population comprises about a third of the nation's population. Cities thus offer a major opportunity for the Mediterranean region to manage its natural resources sustainably.

www.footprintnetwork.org/med

FINANCE FOR CHANGE

Our Finance for Change Initiative seeks to transform the financial system so that resource constraints and climate change are better integrated by investors exposed to country-level risk. Through groundbreaking research and collaborations, we aim to influence credit rating agencies and encourage a robust policy response on the part of national governments who want to protect their economies from negative economic impacts.

We are a leading voice on the links between environmental risk and the economic risk of countries, helping financial institutions quantify and integrate resource scarcity and climate change into their investments, credit ratings, and country risk analysis.



Our Cutting-Edge Research



Food Price Shocks

How does the gap between rising demand for food and our limited ability to provide it lead to food price shocks? How will these shocks impact the credit worthiness of countries?



Stranded Assets

Are carbon-intense economies more vulnerable to the rising risk of stranded assets? How will this impact their credit ratings?

www.footprintfinance.org

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

Global Footprint Network created the Sustainable Development Return on Investment (SDROI)

methodology to measure community livelihood and ecological sustainability in a world facing climate change and ecological constraints.

Our SDROI framework has been tested with partners IDE-India, Gram Vikas, and Fundación Escuela Nueva in ten villages in Odisha, India, to measure progress toward development and sustainability goals and demonstrate donor agencies' ability to generate a high sustainable development return on their investment.



It Takes a Village

As part of our pilot project, we calculated the Ecological Footprint, biocapacity, and Human Development Index (HDI) of villages in India and shared the results through community workshops, educational games, and videos. In the village of Biraguda (above), a woman adds her handprint to the public mural depicting the community's plan to meet its sustainable development needs through terraced irrigation to increase agricultural productivity and a schoolhouse with electricity.

ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT CALCULATOR

Students in China, educators in Australia, and others around the world are among the more than 2 million people who used our online Ecological Footprint Calculator in 12 languages in 2015. Our Footprint Calculator lets users measure their impact on our planet's resources and then offers simple lifestyle changes to reduce their Footprint.

**2 million users
of the Footprint
Calculator**



**in 222
countries**

"As a student I knew just the general aspects of the Ecological Footprint, but after learning more detail in the calculator, I was alarmed! It's quite amazing to learn about my personal Footprint. Surely we need a collective conscious society to help preserve our planet. Thank you for the Footprint calculator, it really made this whole analysis much clearer."

— Loveridge Kwenda, Zimbabwe

"The calculator helps my students understand the relevance of sustainability and global ecological overshoot to their own lives and careers, making them realize that sustainability and climate change is their problem too—and not something to leave to 'someone else'."

— Kirsten Balding, RMIT University, Australia

www.footprintcalculator.org



EARTH OVERSHOOT DAY

Earth Overshoot Day marks the date when humanity has exhausted the planet's ecological budget for the whole year.

Every year since 2006, Global Footprint Network has been leading an Earth Overshoot Day campaign that attracts coverage in hundreds of media outlets around the world.

In 2015, Overshoot Day fell on August 13, and for the first time, Global Footprint Network coordinated our efforts with dozens more partners to amplify our message through social media.

www.overshootday.org



600+

**webpage mentions
in 46 countries**



29,000+

YouTube video views



38

**partner
organizations**

2015 BY THE NUMBERS

2

Awards

Mathis Wackernagel,
Co-Founder and CEO, was awarded:



International Association for Impact Assessment's (IAIA) Global Environment Award

RECYCLAPOLIS National Sustainability Award, Chile

2,997



Data licenses

10



Journal articles



78 PARTNERS IN 26 COUNTRIES

WORKING TO ACHIEVE LARGE-SCALE CHANGE

Government Agencies

Abu Dhabi Global
Environmental Data
Initiative
City of Calgary
ICLEI Local Governments
for Sustainability
Palawan Council for
Sustainable Development
Welsh Assembly
Government
Zero Waste SA
(South Australia)

Consultancies

Agenda 21 Consulting
Best Foot Forward
Centro Nacional de
Consultoría
DANDELION
Environmental Consulting
and Service Ltd.
ECOLOGIC S.A.S. -
CO₂CERO
EcoRes
Ecosistemas Design
Ecológico
EcoSTEPS
Estudio MC
Footprint Consult E.U.
Info Grafik Inc.
Iniciativa Verde
IDEA Consultants Inc.
Libélula
Natural Logic, Inc.
Punto 3 Srl
RECYCLA Chile
Sustentator
Sustento
The Footprint Company

Educational Institutions

Agrocampus Ouest
Cardiff University -
The Centre for
Business Relationships,
Accountability,
Sustainability and Society
(BRASS)
British Columbia Institute
of Technology - School
of Construction and
Environment
Charles University
Environment Center
Corvinus University of
Budapest
Ecole Nationale Supérieure
des Mines de Saint-Étienne
Gujarat Institute for
Development Research
Instituto Nacional de
Tecnología Industrial
Maastricht University
National State Tax
University of Ukraine
Pontifical Catholic University
of Peru
University of Genoa -
Department for the Study
of Territory and its Resources
University of Siena -
Ecodynamics Group

Corporations

Bank Sarasin
Barilla
Pictet Group
Portfolio 21 Investments, Inc.

NGOs

ALISOS - Alianzas para la
Sostenibilidad
Australian Earth Laws
Alliance
BioRegional Development
Group
Clean Up & Recycle for
Environment
Confederation of Indian
Industry (CII)
Dutch Footprint Group -
Werkgroep Voetafdruk
Nederland
Earth Day Network
Ecological Footprint Japan
Eco-Norfolk Foundation
Emirates Environmental
Group
Emirates Wildlife Society /
WWF
Fundación Amigos de la
Naturaleza
Fundación Neotrópica
Globexs

Innovation for Sustainable
Development Association
Instituto Jatobás
Instituto Ricerche Economiche
e Sociali del Piemonte
Korea Institute Center for
Sustainable Development
KÖVET Association for
Sustainable Economies
Millennium Institute
My Drop in the Oceans
New Economics
Foundation (nef)
One Earth Initiative
Plattform Footprint
Population Matters
Pronatura Mexico
Sentido Verde
Sustainable Europe
Research Institute (SERI)
The Natural Step
International
The Sustainable Scale
Project
The Web of Hope
Utah Population and
Environment Coalition
Water Footprint Network
WWF - International
WWF - Japan

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS

RECEIVED JANUARY 1, 2015 – DECEMBER 31, 2015

Foundations

Barr Foundation
Dudley Foundation
Flora Family Foundation
Lawrence Foundation
MAVA - Fondation
pour la Protection de
la Nature
Mental Insight
Foundation
Overlook International
Foundation
Pittsburgh Foundation
Rockefeller Foundation
Roberto Marinho
Foundation
Stiftung Drittes
Millennium
Tellus Mater
Foundation
V. Kann Rasmussen
Foundation
Winslow Foundation

Government Agencies

Environment Agency –
Abu Dhabi
Ministry of Sustainable
Development and
Tourism of
Montenegro

Educational Institutions

Hawai'i Preparatory
Academy
New Zealand
Centre for Ecological
Economics

Corporations

Generation Investment
Management LLP
INFRAS
Stein Design

NGOs

Arastadero Preserve
Project
Club of Rome
Ecological Footprint
Japan
Emirates Wildlife
Society / WWF
Population Matters
Roundtable on
Sustainable
Biomaterials

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS

RECEIVED JANUARY 1, 2015 – DECEMBER 31, 2015

Individuals

Geoff & Beverly Ainscow	Nona Dennis	Gerald Hagenmaier	Peter Maddock	Daniela Schlettwein-Gsell	Tobias Wackernagel
Nicholas Allen	Nancy Deren	Zac & Pat Hanscom	Peter Martin	Julien Schoenlaub	Yoshihiko Wada
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Rhodri Morgan, Former First Minister for Wales

Norman Myers, Leading environmental scientist

Daniel Pauly, Leading marine ecologist

Jorgen Randers, Professor of Climate Strategy, Norwegian School of Management

Peter Raven, Former President, Missouri Botanical Gardens, leading botanist

William E. Rees, Co-creator of the Ecological Footprint

Karl-Henrik Robørt, Founder, The Natural Step

Emil Salim, Former Indonesian Minister of State

James Gustave Speth, Founder of World Resources Institute, leading environmental advocate

Will Steffen, Former Director, Australian National University's Climate Change Institute

David Suzuki, Award-winning scientist and broadcaster

M.S. Swaminathan, India's leading scientist on sustainable food security

Ernst Ulrich von Weizsäcker, Co-President, Club of Rome

Dominique Voynet, Former Environment Minister, France, and Former Mayor, Montreuil

E.O. Wilson, Distinguished biologist, Harvard University

Our Team

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WHO WE ARE

CLIENTS

Government agencies

Agence Française de
Développement
Asian Development Bank
City of Santa Monica
Deutsche Gesellschaft für
Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
European Environment
Agency (EEA)
Federal Office for the
Environment (BAFU)
Kanton Basel-Stadt
Ministry of Climate Change
and Environment
(formerly Ministry of
Environment and Water),
UAE
Ministry of Environment,
Ecuador
Ministry of Natural
Resources and Forestry,
Ontario
Museu do Amanhã
Nord Rhein Westphalen
United Nations Environment
Programme (UNEP)

Educational institutions

Cornell University
Princeton University
University of Heidelberg
University of Liechtenstein

Consultancies

IDEA Consultants
Prima Vista

NGOs

Emirates Wildlife Society –
WWF
WWF – China
WWF – International
WWF – Japan
WWF – Korea
WWF – Russia

Corporations

Tetra Pak North America

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Sean McGuire
Pathwise Leadership
Charles F. Porcari
Evelyne Rottiers
Mary Jane Ryan
Schaffer & Combs
Brian Shira
Techsoup
Tink Tank Studio
Tobi Designs
The Tom Agency
Triple Pundit
Patricia Wintroath, CPA

Donated goods and services

Cooley LLP
Daniel Goldscheider
Google Inc.
Sarosh D. Kumana
Taproot Foundation
Terry Vogt

FINANCIALS

INCOME | JANUARY 1, 2015 – DECEMBER 31, 2015

All values shown in U.S. dollars



Foundations	2,431,884
Fee for Service	563,675
Individual Contributions	328,767
In-kind Contributions	211,597
License Fees	51,066
Speaking Honoraria	23,813
Royalties	162
Interest, Dividends, Unrealized Loss	-6,084

Total Income **\$3,604,880**

Consolidated across Swiss, U.S., and Belgian entities.

FINANCIALS

EXPENSES | JANUARY 1, 2015 – DECEMBER 31, 2015

All values shown in U.S. dollars



Payroll & Personnel Expenses	2,042,205
Professional Fees	705,365
Operations	471,893
Program Expenses	175,058
Travel	124,641
Computer-Related Expenses	39,159

Total Expenses **\$3,558,321**

Consolidated across Swiss, U.S., and Belgian entities.



Global Footprint Network®
Advancing the Science of Sustainability

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