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
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.
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
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)
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
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
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.

“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 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. - CO₂ CERO
EcoRes
Ecossistemas 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
Pontificia 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
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- 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
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Yoshihiko Wada
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Louis de Montpellier, Global Head, Official Institutions Group, State Street Global Advisors
Terry Vogt, Managing Director, Terra Global Capital
Mathis Wackernagel, Co-creator of the Ecological Footprint, Co-Founder and CEO, Global Footprint Network

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Herman Daly, Intellectual father of Ecological Economics
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Eric Garcetti, Mayor, Los Angeles
Stephen Groff, Vice President, Asia Development Bank, Southeast Asia/Pacific
Tom Lovejoy, H. John Heinz III Center
Julia Marton-Lefèvre, Former Director-General for IUCN
Manfred Max-Neef, Economist, recipient of Right Livelihood Award
Michael Meacher, Former Minister of Environment, Member of Parliament, UK
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 Robèrt, 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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Michael Borucke
Sandra Browne
Helena Brykarz
Susan Burns
Amanda Diep
Derek Eaton
Leticia Figueroa
Melissa Fondakowski
Phillip Fullon
Alessandro Galli, Ph.D.
Michel Gressot
Nicole Grunewald
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Laurel Hanscom
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Annabel Hertz
Krina Huang
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Kamila Kennedy
Elias Lazarus
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David Lin, Ph.D.
Drew Lisac
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Jon Martindill
Chris Nelder
Jason Ortego
Giacomo Pascolini
Sophia Perez
Pati Poblete
Loredana Serban
Diane Stark
Frank Thompson
Mimi Torres
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Robert Williams
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Interns
Benjamin Bellman
Katelin Breck
Mahsa Fatemi
Jeanette Hardiman
Shiyu Huang
Calvin Kuang
Zhouyi Liao
Serena Mancini
Fatime-Zahra Medouar
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Louisa Pitney
Hye Soo Choo
Octavia Sun

Affiliates
Muhamed Catic
Gemma Cranston, Ph.D.
Steven Goldfinger, Ph.D.
Martin Kärcher
Justin Kitzes, Ph.D.
Robert Kljijn
Joy Larson
Dan Moran, Ph.D.
Bonnie McBain, Ph.D.
Alfonso Peña
Yoshihiko Wada
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)

**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

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS
- Cornell University
- Princeton University
- University of Heidelberg
- University of Liechtenstein

CONTRIBUTORS
- AM Creative Inc.
- Anomi Studio
- Youness Befqin
- Bob Dinetz Design
- Bullfrog Films
- Cosmetto
- Earth Economics
- Free Range Studios
- Mark Harvey
- Leena Launay Iyengar
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- 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.