

# Africa's Ecological Footprint

## Ecological Capital and Human Well-Being

Swiss Agency for  
Development and Cooperation

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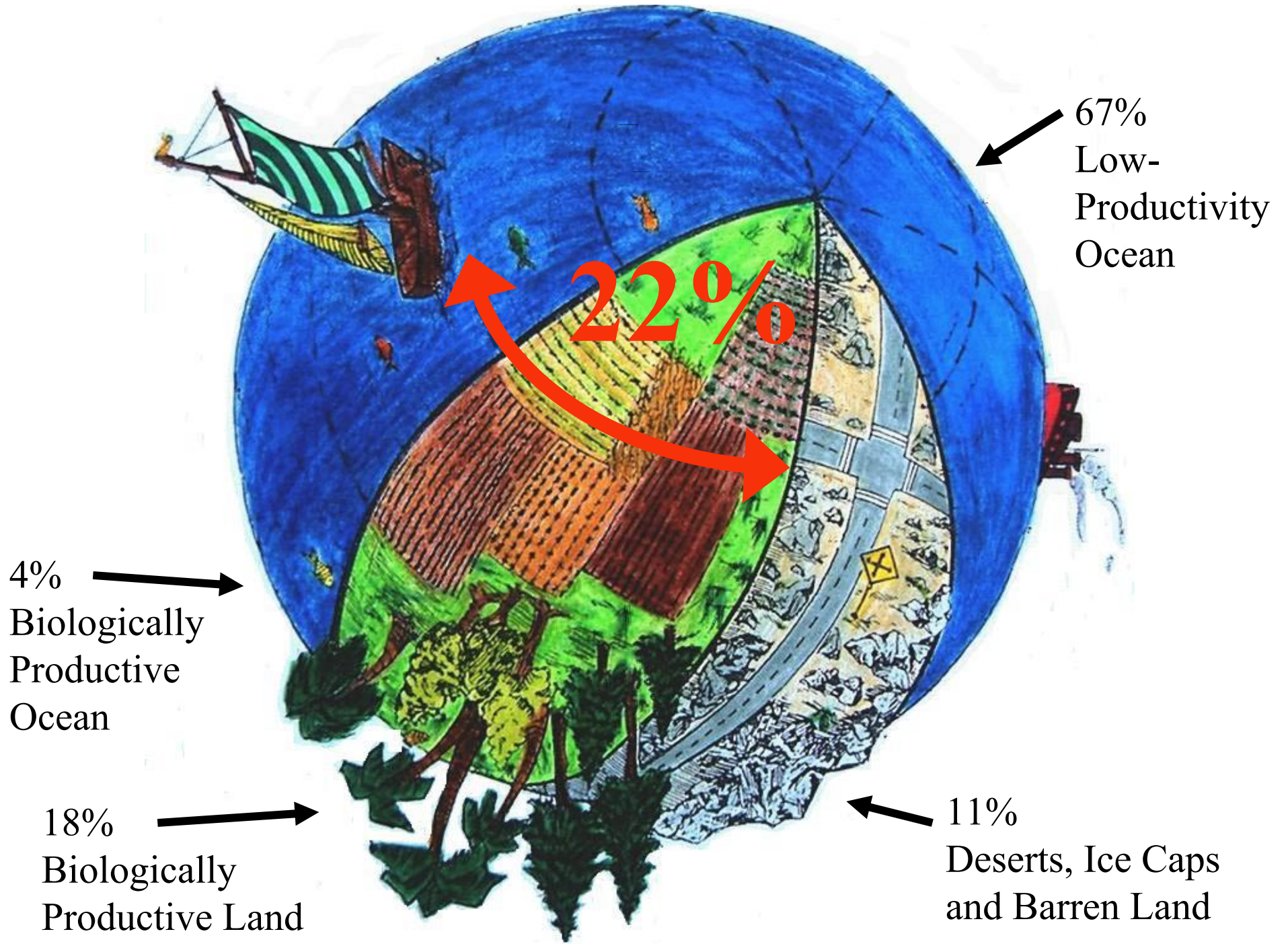
Global Footprint Network  
Advancing the Science of Sustainability



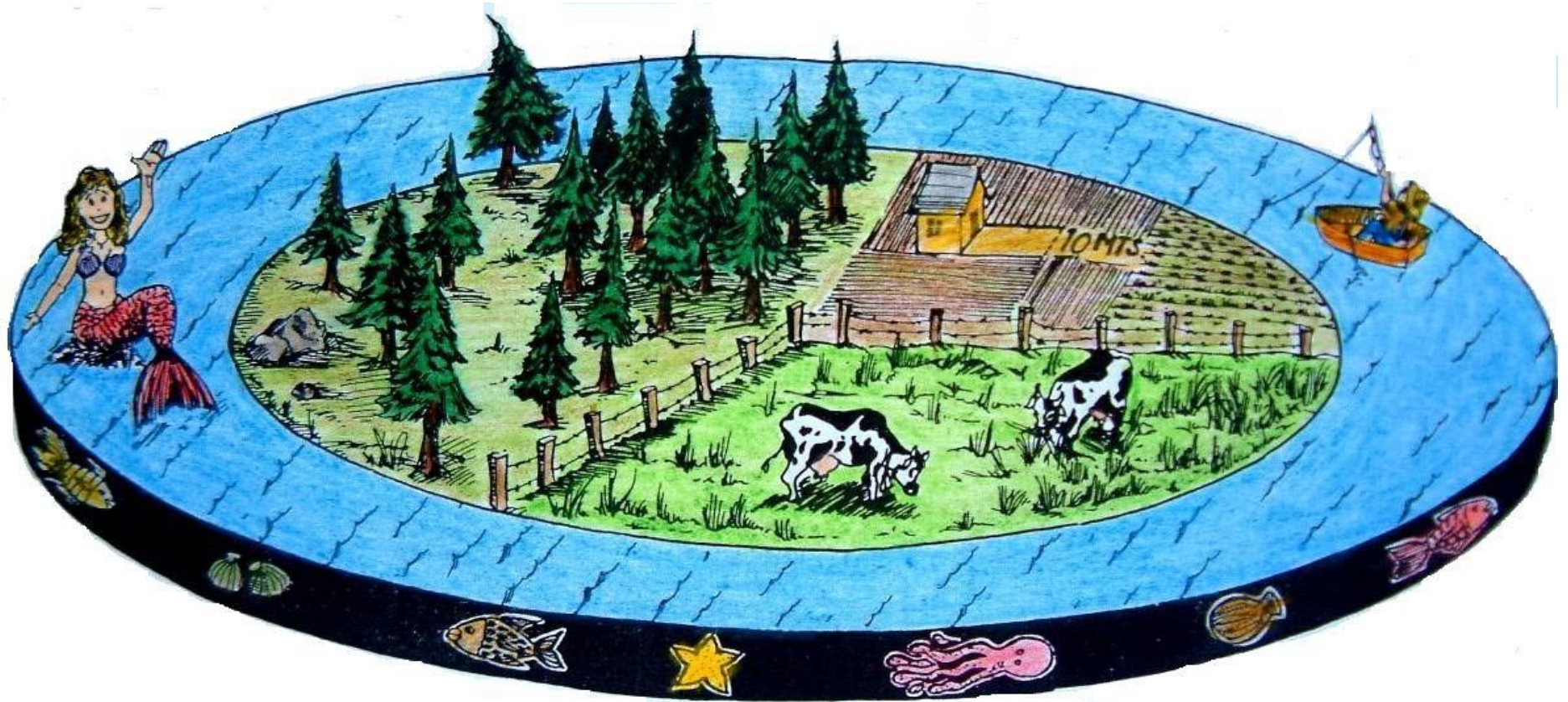
**The Footprint is not a method...  
...it is a scientific inquiry.**

**It is designed to answer:**

- How much of the regenerative capacity of the biosphere is used by human activities?
- How much is available within a region?

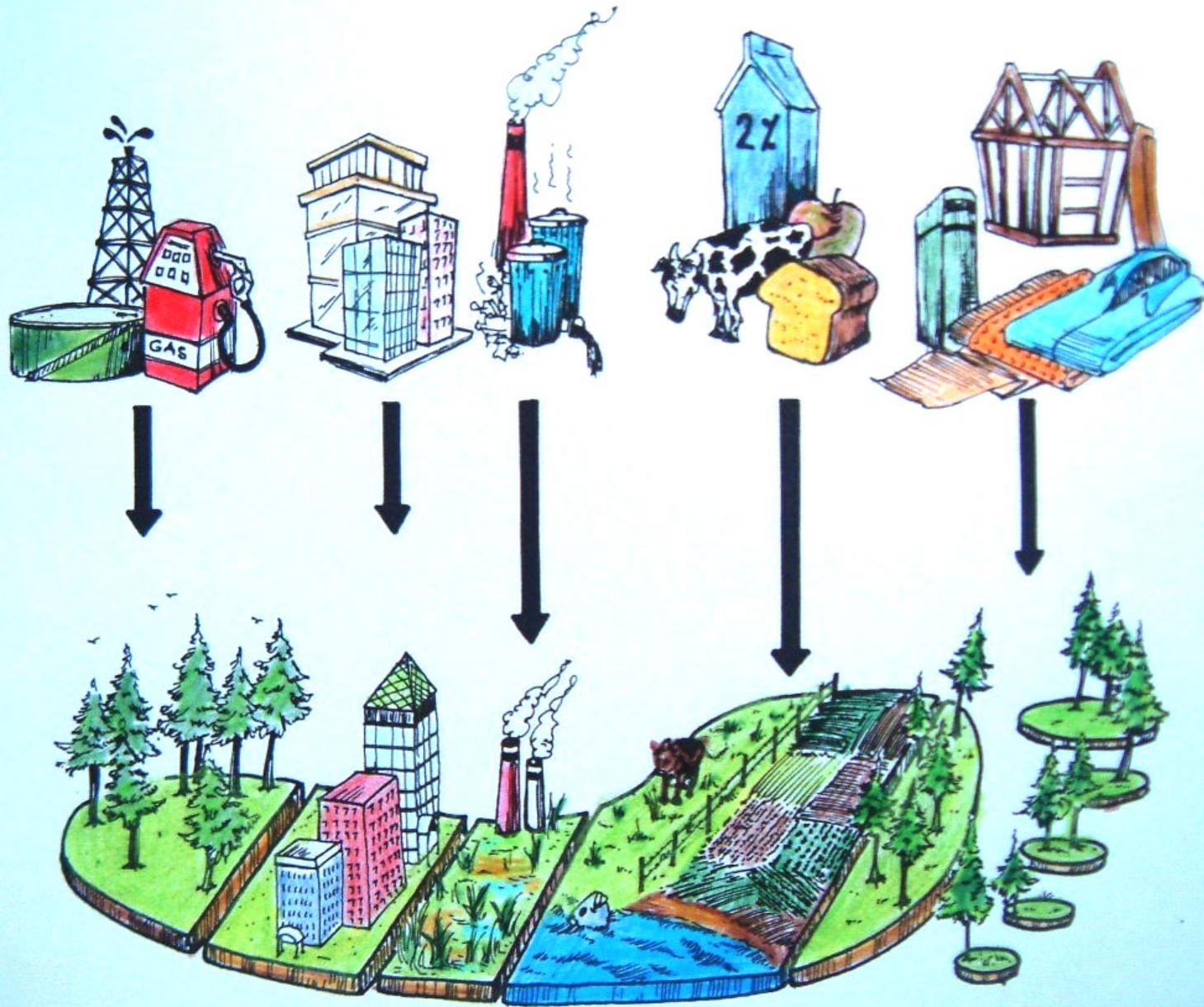






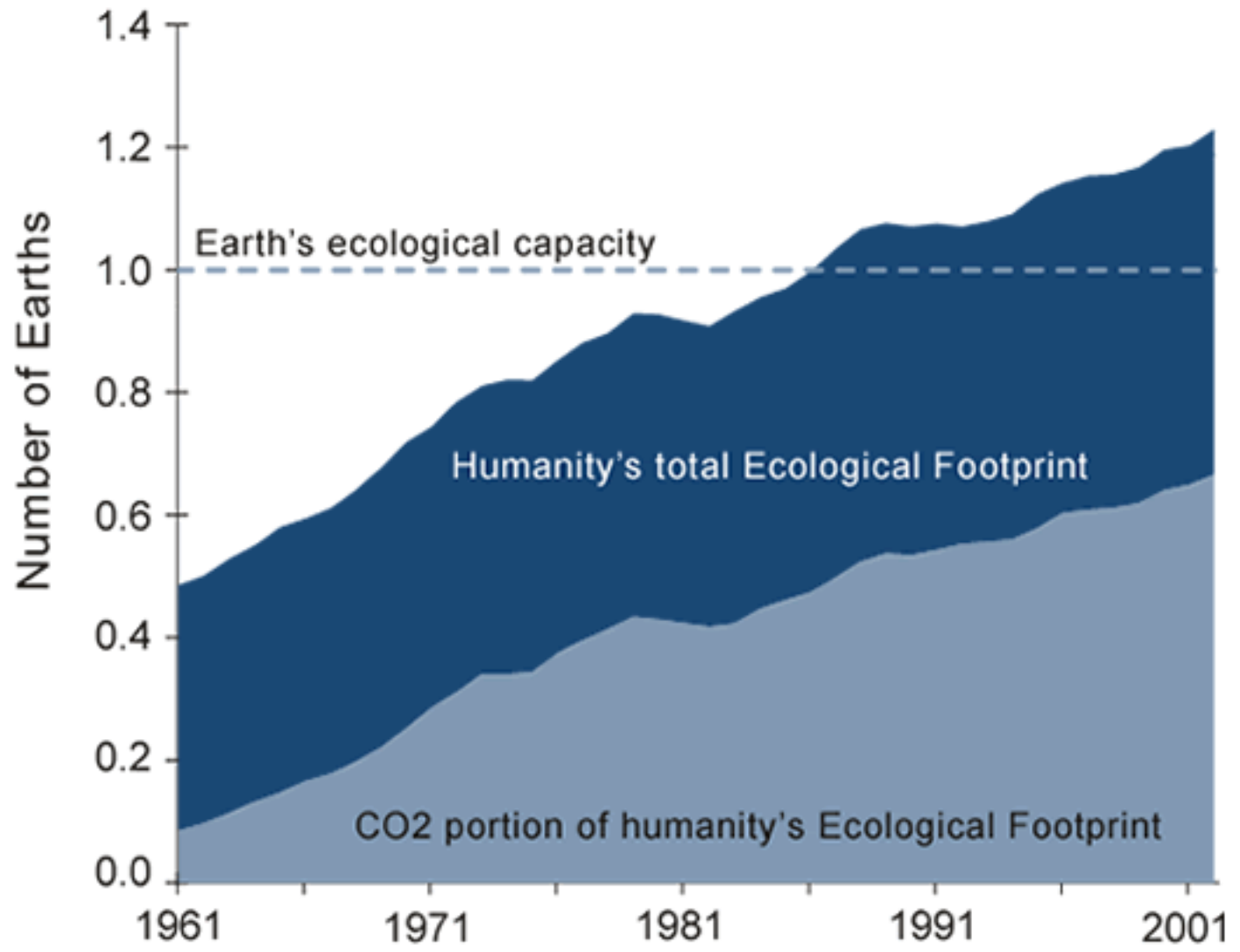
Current global average availability of  
bioproductive Land + Sea = **1.8 global  
hectares/person** (in 2002)





Fossil Fuel Built-up Waste Food Fibres  
absorption

# Humanity's Ecological Footprint Exceeds Earth's Biological Capacity



# European Environment Agency



Copenhagen · Denmark

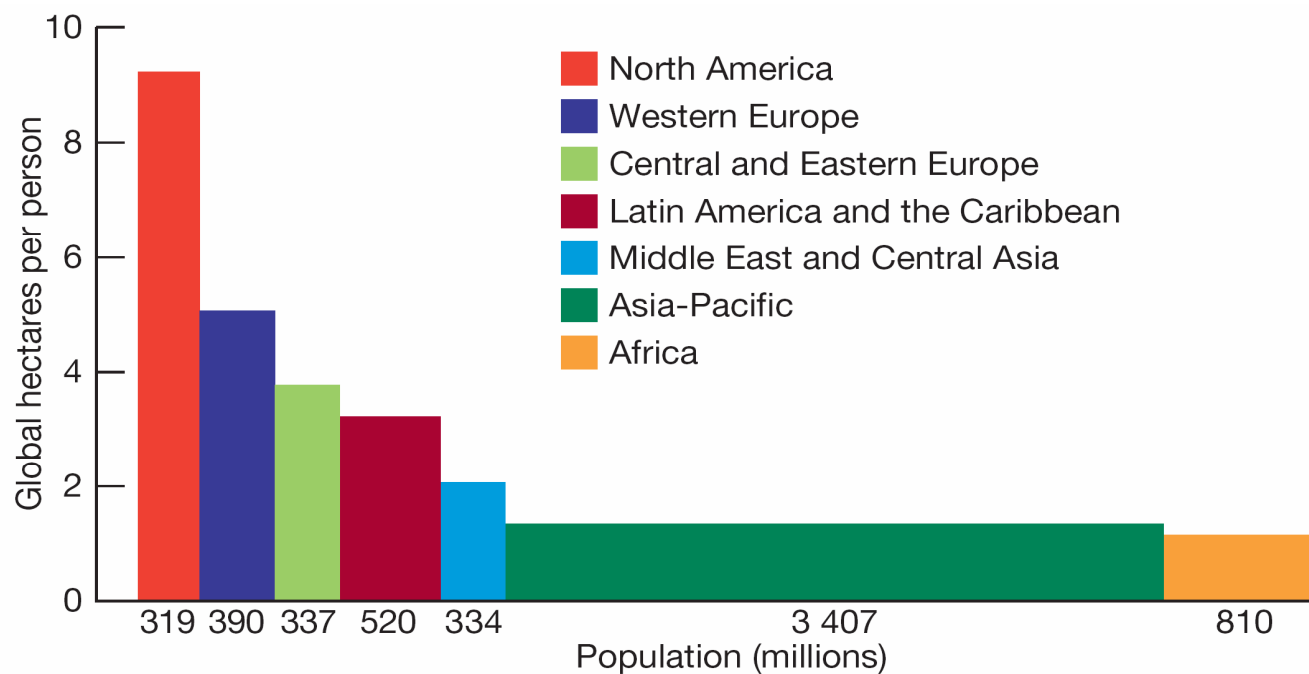
<http://www.eea.eu.int>

**26 European Member Countries**

<i>Data for 2002</i>	<i>Eco-Footprint</i> [global ha/cap]	<i>Biocapacity</i> [global ha/cap]
Australia	7.0	11.3
China	1.6	0.8
Germany	4.4	1.8
Italy	4.0	1.1
Japan	4.3	0.8
Russia	4.4	7.0
South Africa	2.4	2.0
US	9.7	4.7
<b>WORLD</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>1.8</b>

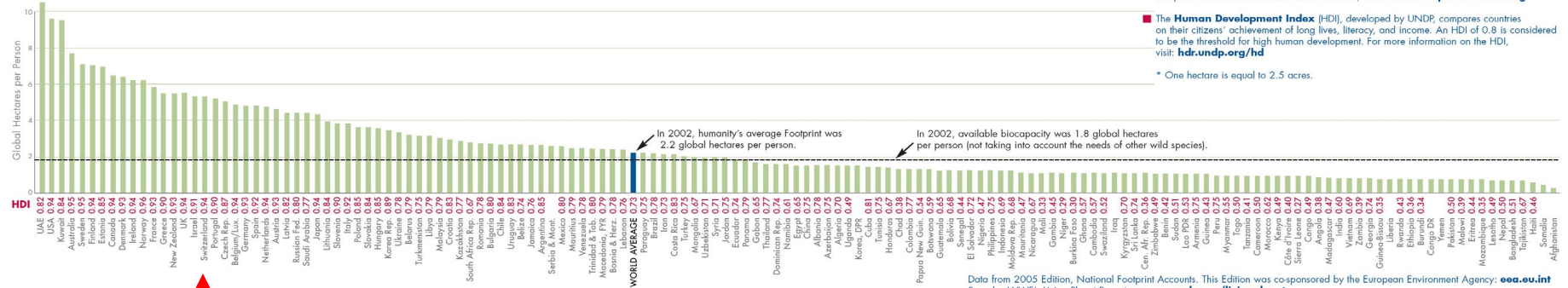


# Ecological Footprint by Regions



# Ecological Footprint and Human Development Index by Countries

ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT OF NATIONS (2002 DATA)



■ The **Ecological Footprint** measures humanity's demand on nature. For more Ecological Footprint data and to learn how it is calculated, visit: [www.footprintnetwork.org](http://www.footprintnetwork.org)

■ The **Human Development Index (HDI)**, developed by UNDP, compares countries on their citizens' achievement of long lives, literacy, and income. An HDI of 0.8 is considered to be the threshold for high human development. For more information on the HDI, visit: [hdr.undp.org/hdr](http://hdr.undp.org/hdr)

\* One hectare is equal to 2.5 acres.

Switzerland

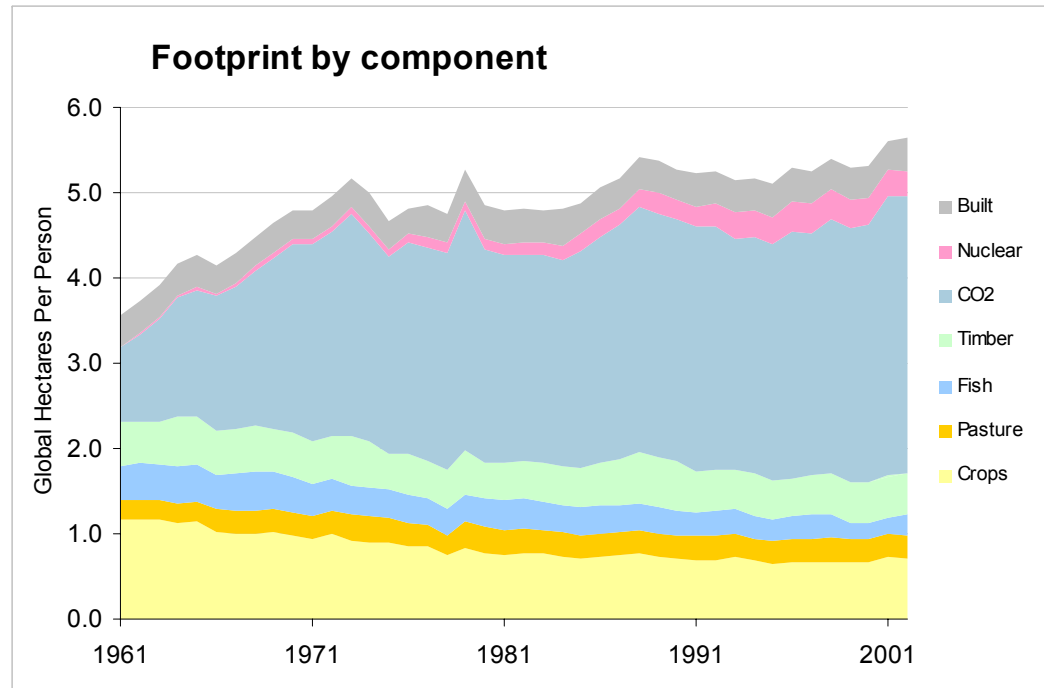
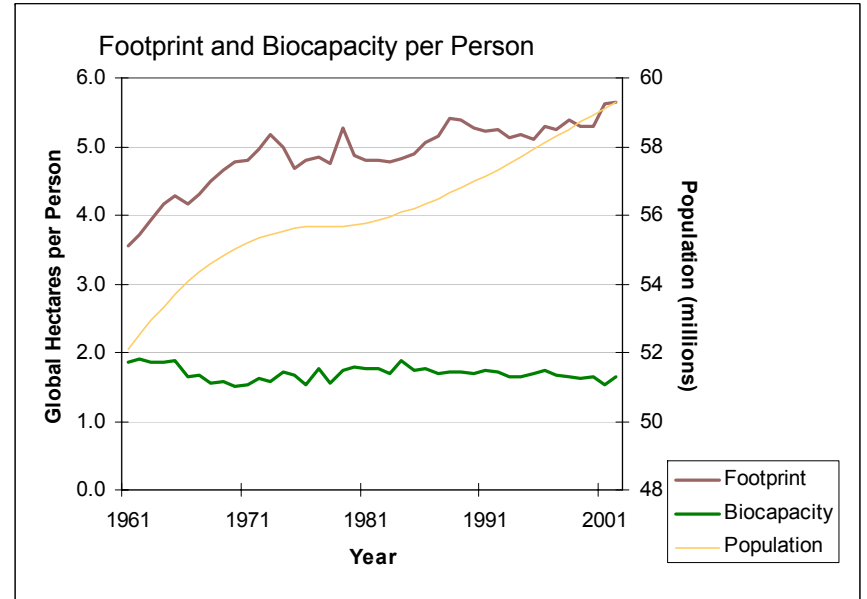
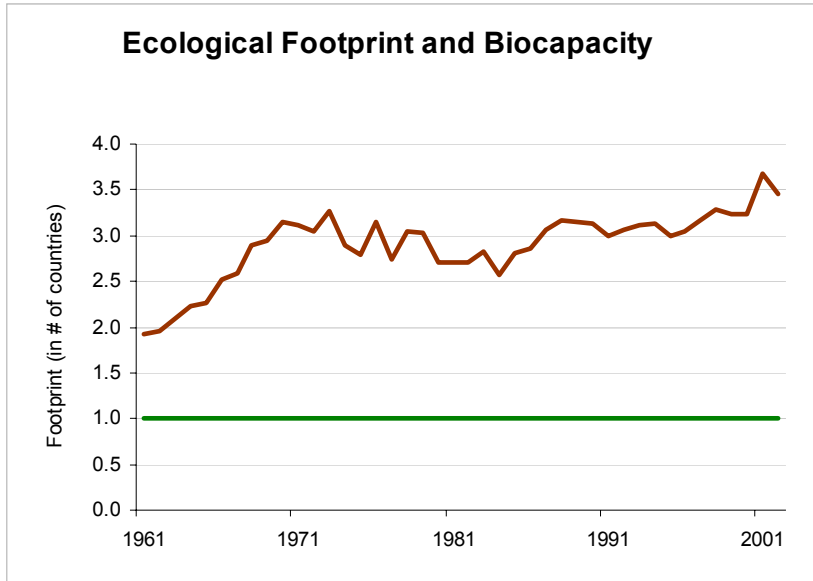
Data from 2005 Edition, National Footprint Accounts. This Edition was co-sponsored by the European Environment Agency: [eea.eu.int](http://eea.eu.int)  
See also WWF's Living Planet Report: [www.panda.org/livingplanet](http://www.panda.org/livingplanet)

**Does biocapacity matter for well-being?**

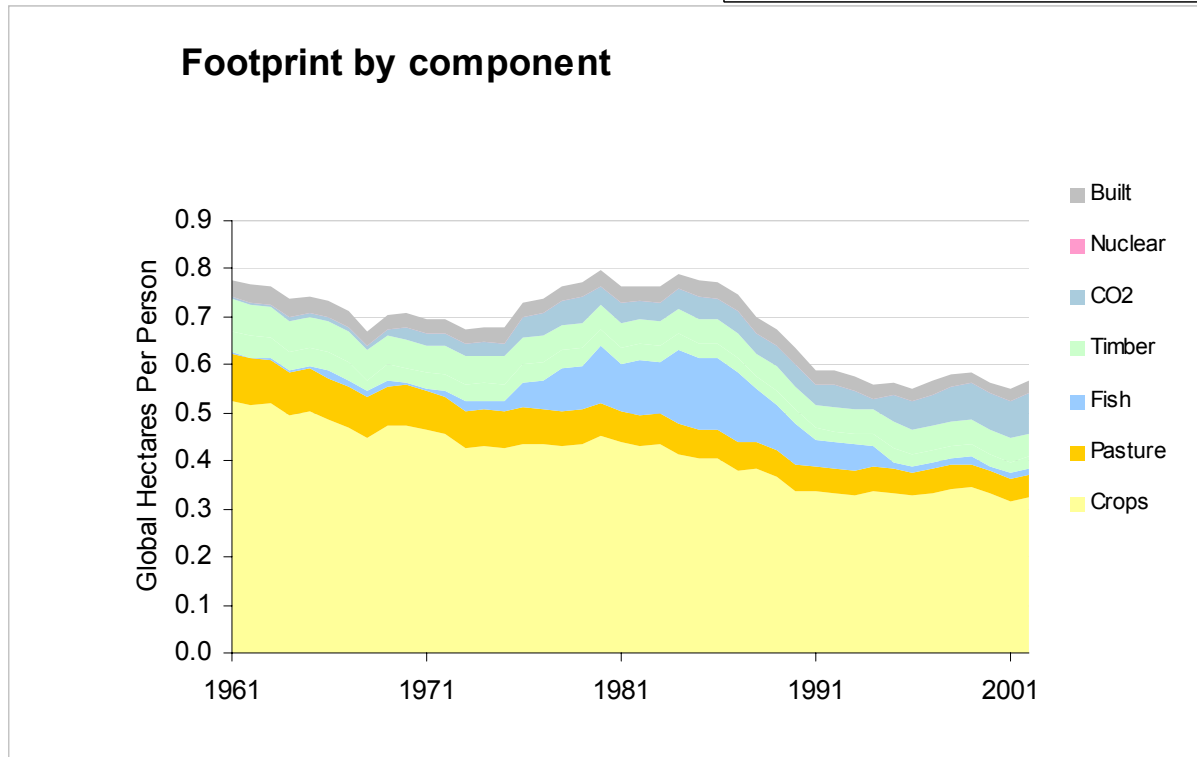
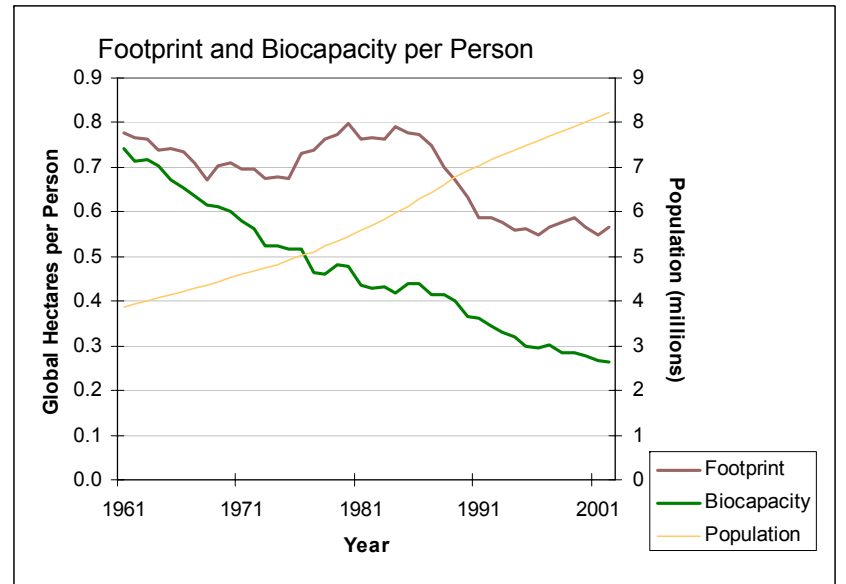
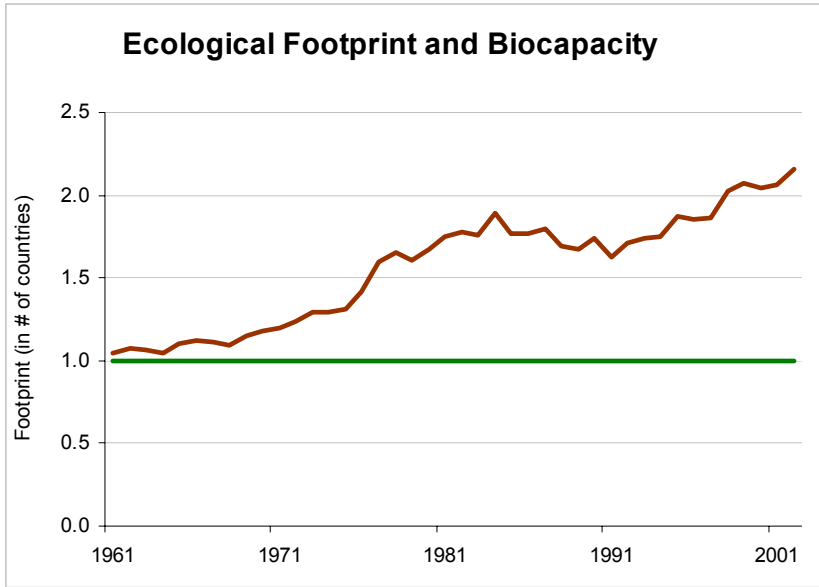
**5 country examples**



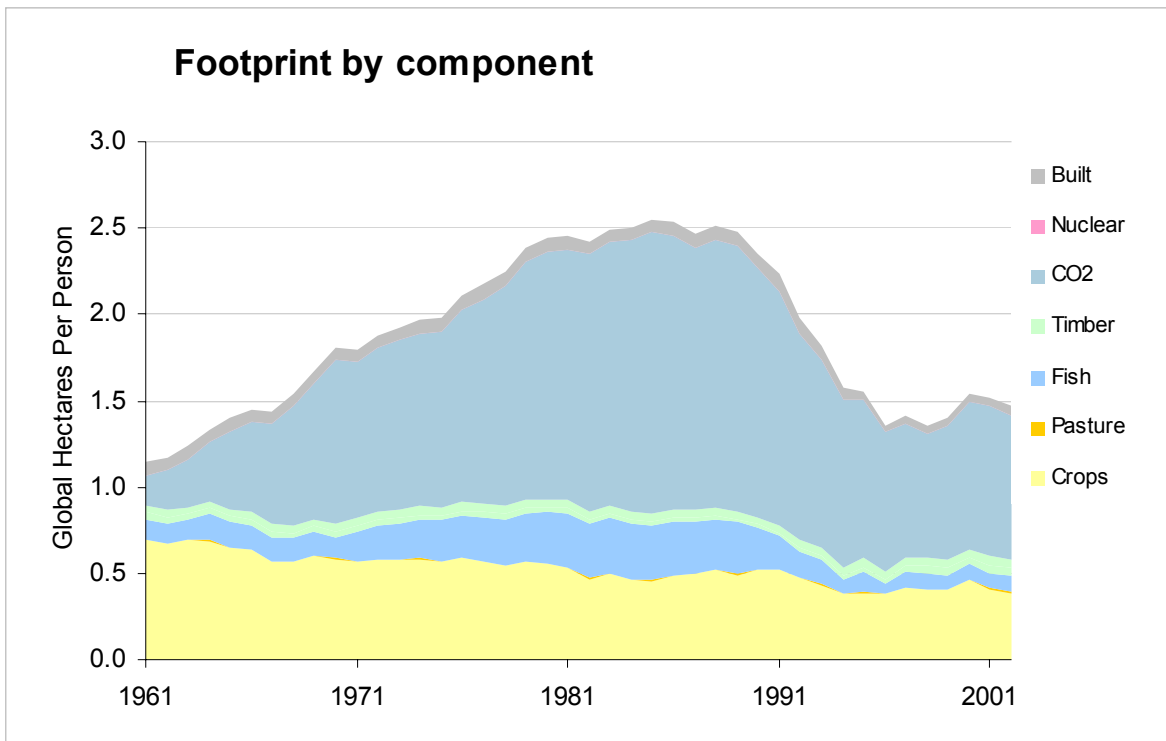
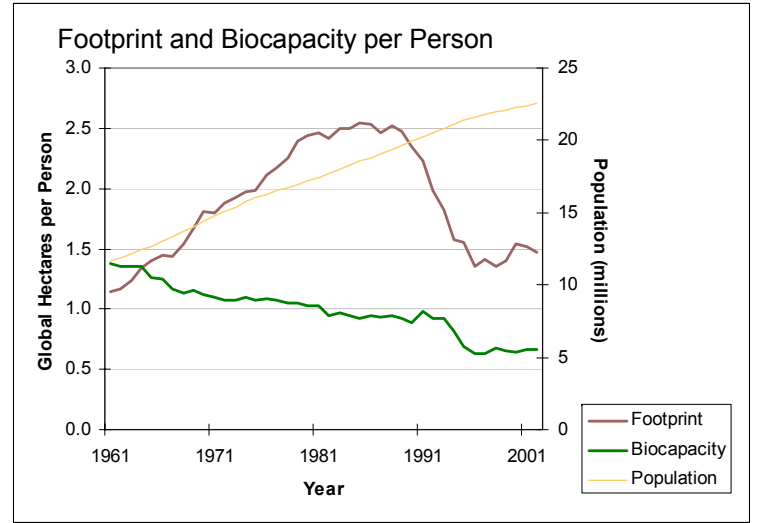
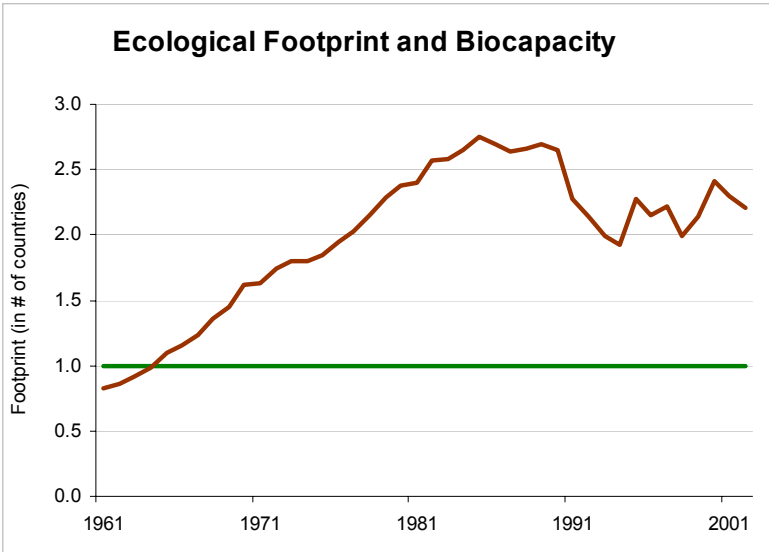
# UK 1961-2002



# Haiti 1961-2002

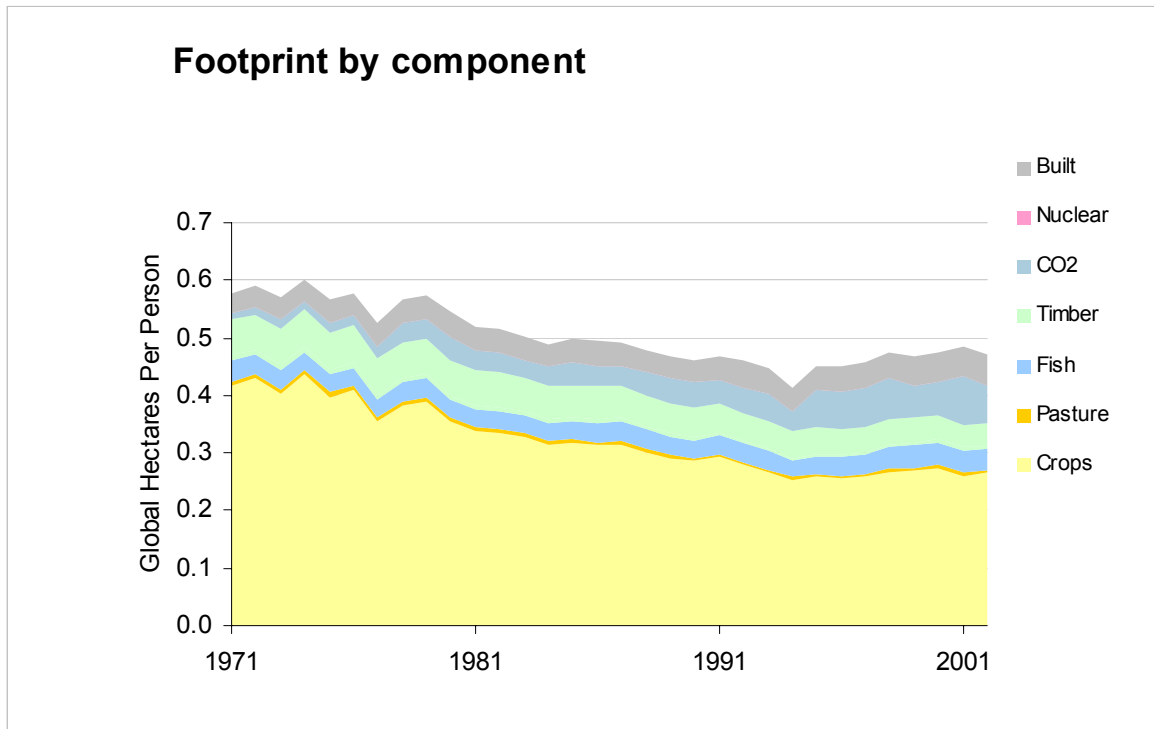
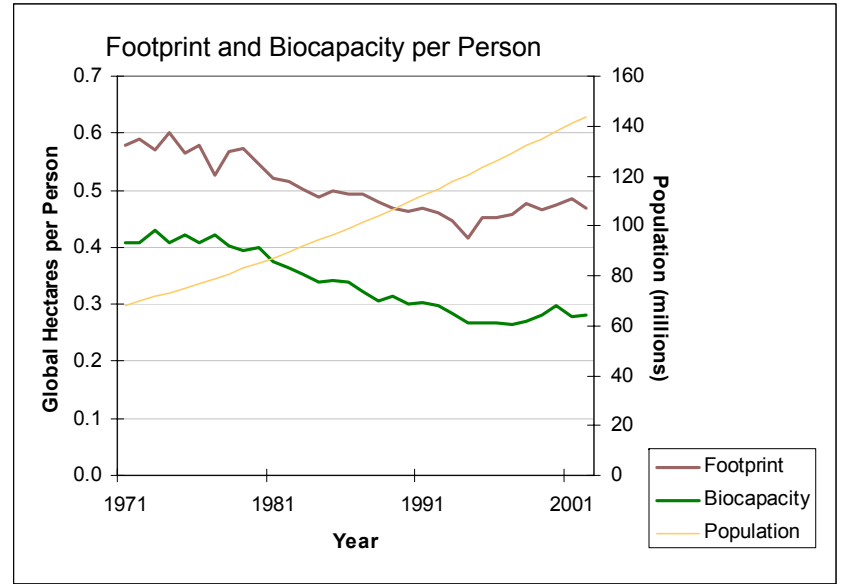
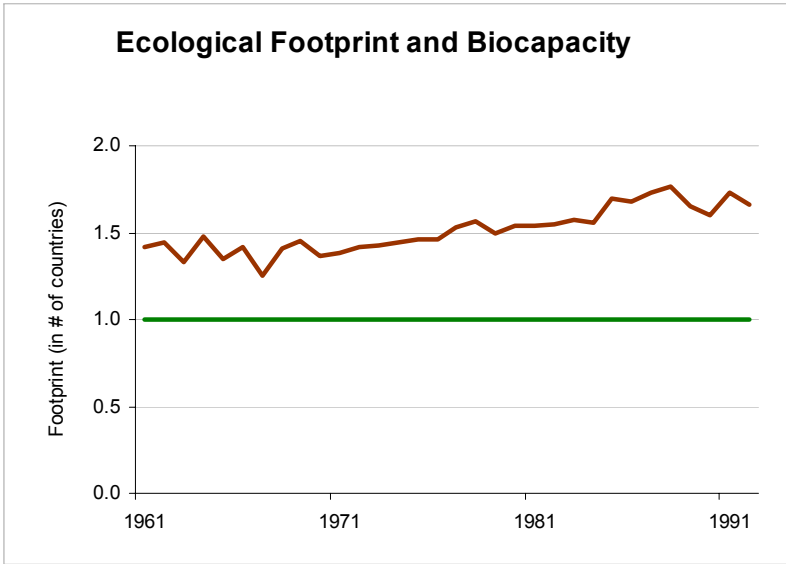


# North Korea 1961-2002

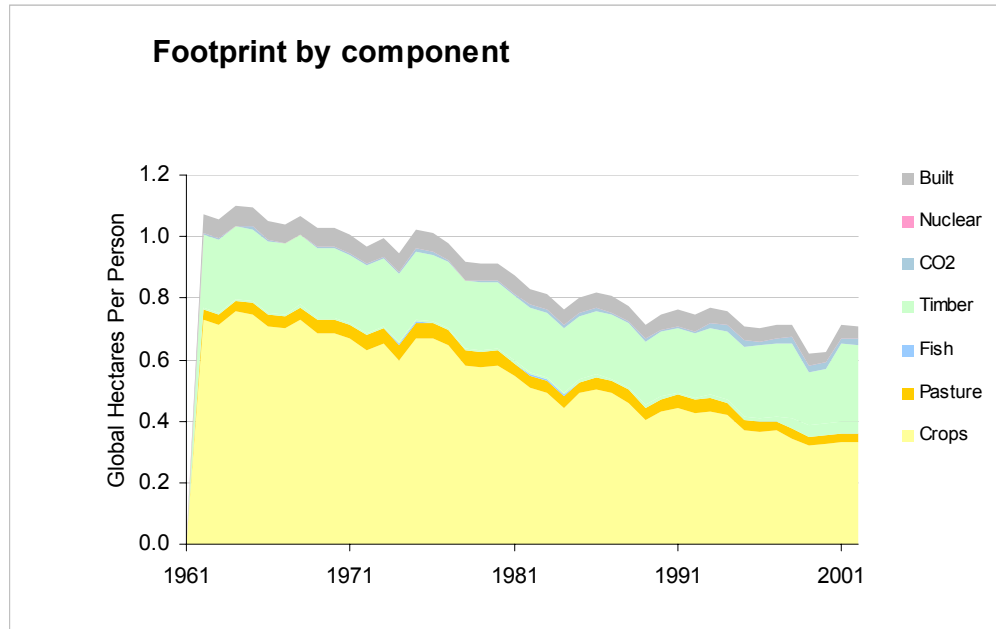
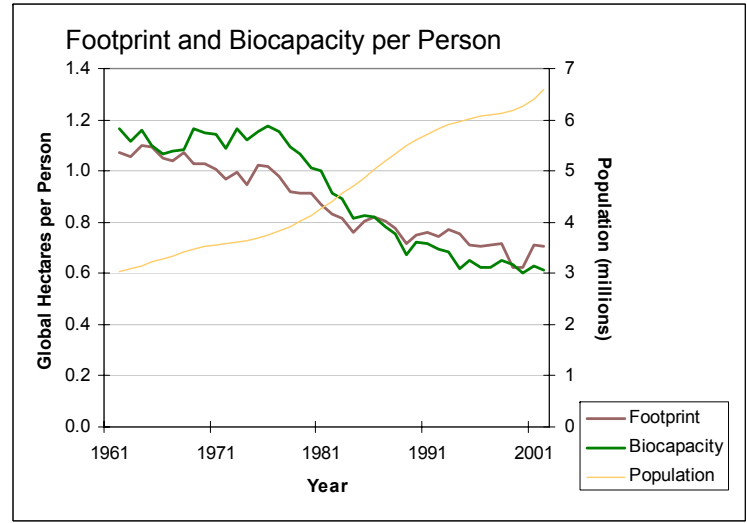
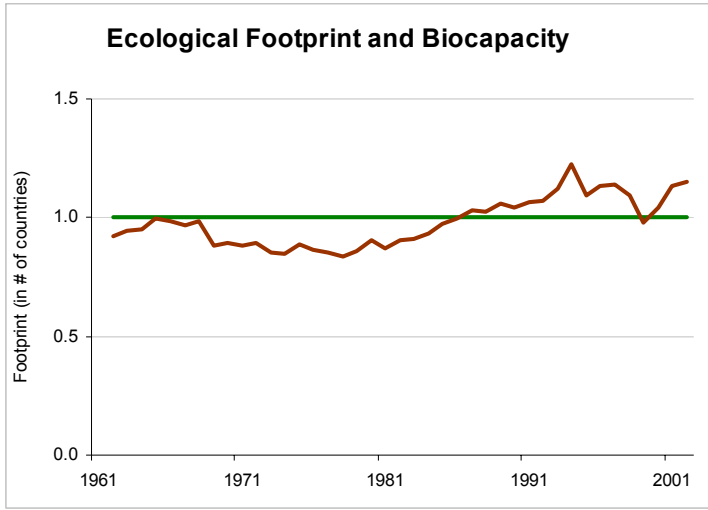




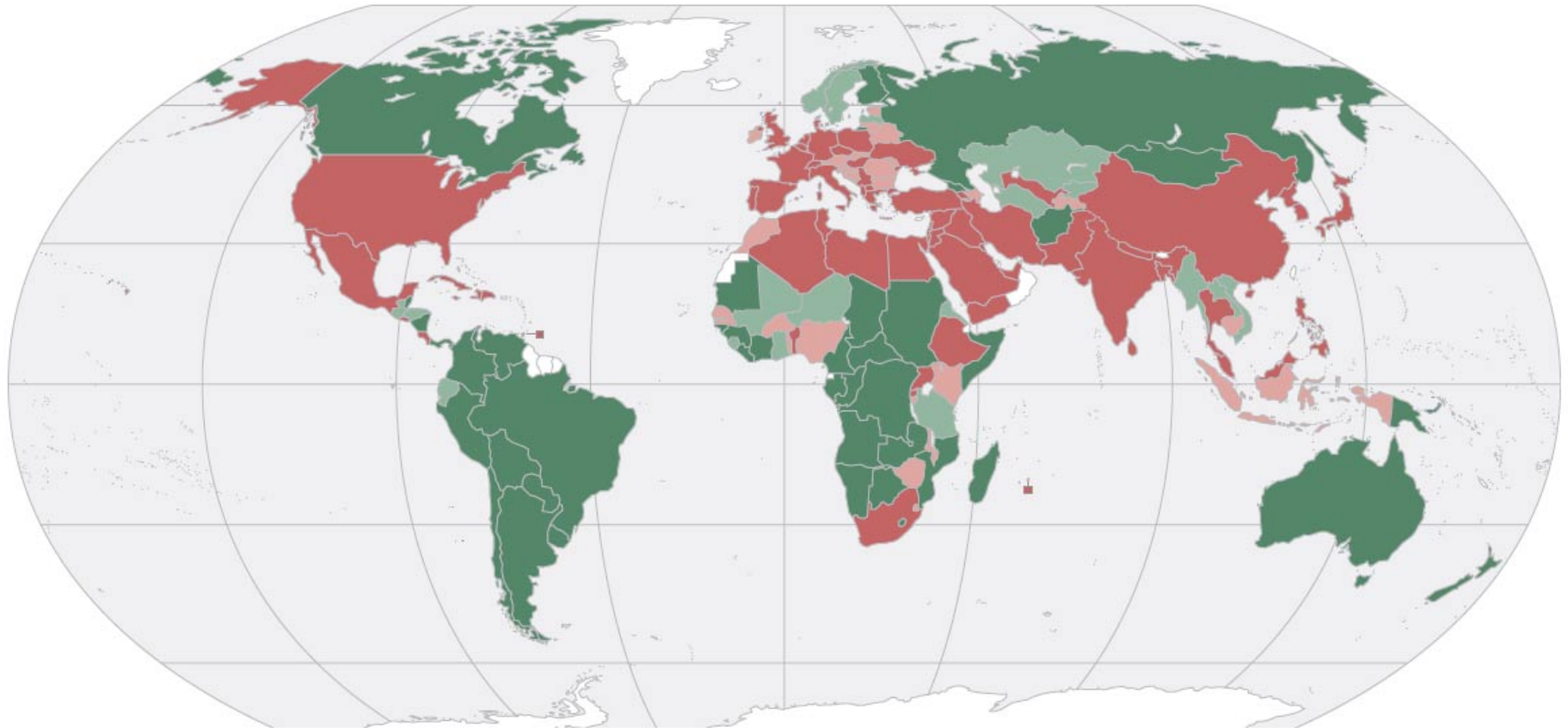
# Bangladesh 1961-2002



# Burundi 1961-2002



# Ecological Creditors and Ecological Debtors





# Assumptions and Goals

- Life-supporting ecological capital forms the material basis for any society and its economy, whether in Africa, Europe, or anywhere else in the world.
- A development debate informed by ecological realities could lead to more realistic and successful strategic insights.
- Building human wellbeing strategies in the context of availability and use of ecological capital, in addition to conventional assessments of human-made capital and financial assets, will strengthen development plans anywhere.

# Approach

- Phase 1: Creation of Initial Factbook
- Phase 2: Partner Workshops
  - Nairobi
  - Dakar
  - Pretoria
- Phase 3: Final Brochure
- Phase 4: Launch and Dissemination

# Call for Collaboration

- We are looking for experts in the field of sustainable development from Africa
- Contact us at:  
[www.footprintnetwork.org](http://www.footprintnetwork.org)  
[martin@footprintnetwork.org](mailto:martin@footprintnetwork.org)

