More than 650 million media impressions – that was the unexpectedly large impact that the EU Ecological Footprint report, produced in partnership with WWF and published on the eve of the EU’s Overshoot Day, May 10, generated as the campaign for the European elections was in full swing. May 10, 2019, marked the date by which humanity would have exhausted nature’s annual budget if all people lived like EU residents. This means that 2.8 Earths would be needed to provide for this level of consumption. AND we can make our economies one-planet compatible. In fact, the report calls for this transformation. READ THE REPORT
City Footprint Calculators are launching in Portugal

Portugal’s Cities Footprint project, now in its second year, reached a landmark this month as the Footprint Calculators of six cities were unveiled to the public. They are calibrated with the specific data collected from their respective municipality during the first year of the project. Residents can use their city’s Calculator to assess their household’s use of natural resources and compare it with the city average. The first public event was organized in Guimarães with a 3-hour workshop so citizens could learn how to use the tool and to disseminate it as widely as possible throughout the local community. READ MORE

National Footprint & Biocapacity Accounts 2019 are out!

Here’s the highlights and a short 2’33” video recap. All the detailed country results are available on our Footprint Explorer. You can also download the Public Data Package, which contains various sortable sheets with over 10,000 data points. Note this is the first edition of the National Footprint and Biocapacity Accounts produced in collaboration with York University. Finally, in order to celebrate the launch of our new data edition, on April 24, it was our honor to bring together four outstanding sustainability leaders from the public and private sectors, as well as civil society, to discuss SOLUTIONS to #MoveTheDate. We cut the YouTube Livestream in bitesize segments so you can easily browse through their conversation with moderator Laurel Hanscom, Global Footprint Network CEO. WATCH VIDEO
IPBES adopts Ecological Footprint as a Core Indicator

You may have heard of the biodiversity report just released by IPBES warning about one million species at risk of extinction. The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), an independent intergovernmental body established in 2012, has added Ecological Footprint and biocapacity metrics to its list of Core Indicators. Its recent reports for Europe and Central Asia, Asia and the Pacific, Africa, and the Americas, all include Ecological Footprint and biocapacity trends in both the full document and the summary for policy makers. Using Footprint data, IPBES recognizes as a scientifically “well established” trend that countries with an ecological deficit put tremendous pressure on resource security and biodiversity outside of their borders.

What is the Ecological Footprint of my summer vacation?

This question may become commonplace if the Desti-MED initiative in 13 protected areas in the Mediterranean region grows into the new standard for assessing tourism options. After all, more and more vacationers care about reducing their Footprint while enjoying a destination. A summary of the first pilot tests, featuring ecotourism packages in Spain, Italy, Croatia, and Greece that implemented recommendations generated from Ecological Footprint insights, is now available. CHECK IT OUT!
Can countries escape the biological resource trap? An Ecological Footprint perspective

Resource security enables lasting human development. Yet current development is eroding this very resource base. As explained in our new research paper published in the journal Sustainability, the pervasive depletion of the biosphere is barely registering financially for high-income urbanites. Those communities and their decision makers lack meaningful feedback loops that could help correct the situation. Meanwhile, low-income countries with biocapacity deficits are caught in the “ecological poverty trap:” not only do they lack the natural resources but they also do not have the purchasing power to buy additional resources. For poverty eradication and SDGs to succeed, resource security needs primary attention. The paper shows how this is possible and why it is beneficial. READ MORE

Pre-order the new Ecological Footprint Book by Mathis Wackernagel and Bert Beyers

Resource accounting is essential in order to avoid ecological bankruptcy. Explore why it is necessary – and how – to become one-planet compatible in the upcoming Ecological Footprint book. The book is based on the newest data from the 2019 edition of the National Footprint and Biocapacity Accounts and is packed with accessible explanations and examples. Like the first book, published 25 years ago, this one is illustrated by Phil Testemale.
Can you read German? A six-page interview with Global Footprint Network’s own founder and President is one of the main feature articles in this month’s issue of Austria’s glamorous lifestyle magazine. Don’t believe us? Just click here to see who graces the cover then scroll down to page 80 to find the full article.

Last but not least...
Austria’s OOOM Magazine features Mathis Wackernagel

Can you read German? A six-page interview with Global Footprint Network’s own founder and President is one of the main feature articles in this month’s issue of Austria’s glamorous lifestyle magazine. Don’t believe us? Just click here to see who graces the cover then scroll down to page 80 to find the full article.
About Global Footprint Network
Global Footprint Network bridges science, policy, and economics to change how the world manages its natural resources and create a sustainable future.