**The Ecological Footprint**

The Ecological Footprint created by William Rees (1992) e ecological footprint concept and calculation method was developed as the PhD dissertation of [Mathis Wackernagel](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mathis_Wackernagel), under Rees' supervision at the [University of British Columbia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_of_British_Columbia) in Vancouver, Canada, from 1990–1994. Originally, Wackernagel and Rees called the concept "appropriated carrying capacity”

Surface of the planet 51 billion hectares, 71% is ocean, not all area is biologically productive

1/4 of the surface of the earth surface is able to produce

On average 1.8 hectares per person globally, if nothing is set aside for other bio-systems.

The question emerges how much space should be places aside for biological space. Biological rich planet. This would mean 0.9 hectares per person.

Demand is outstretching supply by about 20%(overshoot)

**Ecological deficit:** An **ecological deficit** occurs when the **footprint** of a population exceeds the biocapacity of the area available to that population. Conversely, an **ecological** reserve exists when the biocapacity of a region exceeds its population's **footprint**.

**Why is the Footprint so good?**

The ecological footprint allows for an accurate picture as to how bad the situation is and allows actions to be. It al

**The Pattern**

High Income countries

Middle Income Countries

Low Income Countries

**Living Planet Report (WWF)** (Strong Link to Climate Change )

The Living Planet Report, WWF’s flagship publication released every two years, is a comprehensive study of trends in global biodiversity and the health of the planet. The Living Planet Report 2018 is the twelfth edition of the report and provides the scientific evidence to what nature has been telling us repeatedly: unsustainable human activity is pushing the planet’s natural systems that support life on Earth to the edge.

**Urban Environments Link**

**Sustainable cites**

Chalestown Square in Australia used the calculations of the footprint to come to the decision to have no air condition within their shopping center to reduce the footprint.

Ken Livingstone (City Limits) London a report to take action to reduce the footprint of London