

Global Limits of Economic Growth

Lomonosov Moscow State University, Inter-Departmental Course, 2024-2025, Spring Fall

Course Reader:

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Go through the 1st SURVEY on sustainableoriented activities *(it's one time activity, no need to repeat it if you have done it during sessions 1 or 2)*

What do you think about sustainability?

This is the survey about your opinions on sustainability-related issues. By sustainabilityrelated issues we understand the complex of umbrella concepts like Sustainable Development, Green Economy and Circular Economy.

Please answer the questions as honestly as possible, in a way that shows what you really think or feel at the moment.

- We ask your name just for processing the results. It will be coded and used for technical purposes only. No personal data will be disclosed or shared in any way.
- 2 times survey: at the beginning of the course + at the end
- Follow the link: <u>https://forms.gle/vVYUHJSQvvFtAuANA</u>
- Put your real name!
- Up to 5-7 min. to complete the survey



Course Route



Session 2 Global Ecological Problems

26.02.2025

Aims of Session 2

- 1. To develop basic understanding how financial evaluation of ecological damages is made
- 2. To analyze Disaster Risk Management Systems and understand their basic elements
- 3. To get closer to the concept of Ecological Footprint and take this concept critically
- 4. To know specifics among different instruments of Business Environmental Responsibility (environmental standards, ecoratings, ESG ratings)

Session 2. Global Ecological Problems

- 1. Global Ecological Problems: Causes, Effects, Solutions.
- 2. Disaster Risk Management approach
- 3. Financial Evaluation of Ecological Damages
- 4. Environment Risk Management
- 5. Ecological Footprint Concept
- 6. Public Environmental Policy, International Environment Management Standards
- 7. Business Environmental Responsibility (Ecoratings, ESGratings),

Global Ecological Problems

What kind of problems can be called





GLOBAL PROBLEMS?







Global Ecological Problems

- Global problems
 - World Scale
 - Joint action needed
- Ecological problems ≈ environmental problems
 - Types: climate change, all sorts of pollution, deforestation, biodiversity loss, draughts and desertification, water scarcity, floodings, etc.
 - Interconnection between ecological problems have made them multidimensional
- Global Ecological problems → global environmental disaster...

Global Ecological Problems



World Ecological Problems



Source: World Atlas, Роскартография

	Risk Description	Global impact
Droughts and desertification	Increased frequency and severity of heatwaves and droughts and the spread of desertification	 Reduction of agricultural yields around the world Increase in economic losses Inefficient use of land resources Change in weather patterns Migration (displacement) of human populations Concentration of populations in regions with access to water
		 Competition for scarce resources Biodiversity loss
		Further damage to the environment
Air pollution		
Water Scarcity		
Nat.Cat.: Earthquake		



Natural Catastrofies: Earthquake

- Risk Description
 - A strong earthquake hits an economic centre or densely populated area such as Tokyo, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Beijing or Mumbai

Global impact

- Tremendous economic loss and loss of life
- Displacement and rehabilitation of people
- Destruction of infrastructure
- Infrastructure losses
- Investment in rebuilding the infrastructure

Environmental Risks and Their Impact

Air Pollution

. . . .

Risk Description

Global impact







Water Scarcity

Risk Description

- Global impact ..
 - ...

Evaluation of the ecological damage is composed of the following basic elements:



Other aspects can also be covered:

- 1. insurance payments
- 2. following increase of GDP (recoil effect) / Till certain scale of catastrophy/
- **Direct losses** are losses of assets
- Indirect losses are the losses that accrue while productive assets remain damaged or destroyed. (Natural Disaster Hotspots A Global Risk Analysis, WB. 2005)

For more information see "Natural Disaster Hotspots: A Global Risk Analysis", WB. 2005

Leading natural disasters, by overall economic losses, since 1980



Disaster risk management (WDR)

 Preparing for the unexpected: An integrated approach to disaster risk management in the Philippines and Colombia

Philippines

- What kind of shift did occur in DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT (DRM) system after 2010?
- What are the peculiarities of DRM system of Philippines?



Figure 5.2. Detailed View of Multihazard Areas b) Asia/Pacific



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Risk and Opportunity Managing Risk for Development (WDR)

 Preparing for the unexpected: An integrated approach to disaster risk management in the Philippines and Colombia

<u>Colombia</u>

- What are the peculiarities of DRM system of Colombia?
- What is the role of local government in Colombian DRM system?



Figure 5.2. Detailed View of Multihazard Areas a) Western Hemisphere



How to minimize the consequences of disasters

• What should be done by actors on different levels in order to minimize the consequences of disasters?

By National Governments

- <u>Stronger regulation</u> over private individuals and firms
- <u>Optimizing their policies</u>: discouraging people to live in dangerous areas
- More prevention measures
 - insurance, education
 - land use regulation
- <u>Multistakeholder composition of DRM</u>
 <u>system</u>

By Private Companies

Companies need to operate on <u>the</u> <u>assumption that a</u> <u>disaster will strike at</u> <u>some point</u> (Murphy's law) and follow the national government's policies in DRM

DISASTERS ARE INEVITABLE, BUT THEIR CONSEQUENCES NEED NOT BE

Ecological Footprint Concept



The **ecological footprint** is a measure of human demand on the Earth's ecological capacity to regenerate.

Data Source: Global Footprint Network



Mathis Wackernagel, Ph.D. Global Footprint Network

National Research University Higher School of Economics March 24, 2017

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Data Source: Global Footprint Inquiry

Key Questions for the Inquiry

How much nature do we have? How much nature do we use?

Does it matter if we use more than what nature can renew?

How good is the answer ?

- 1. Reviewed by over 10 national government institutes
- 2. Only answers one question (not quality).
- 3. Constant improvement with better data

Ecological Footprint Accounting

The two underlying questions:

How much nature do we have? =biocapacity = SUPPLY

How much nature do we use? = Footprint or demand on biocapacity = DEMAND

A concrete, scalable answer to the planetary boundary (safe operating space) concern.





Source: The State of the World, 2010. Worldwatch Institute.

Humanity Ecological Footprint

How many Earths does it take to support humanity?



Show Page Hints



Global Hectars VS Global Hectars per Person

Show Page Hints











Ecological Creditors and Debtors (2024)

An ecological deficit occurs when the <u>Ecological Footprint</u> of a population exceeds the <u>biocapacity</u> of the area available to that population. A national ecological deficit means that the country is net-importing biocapacity through trade, liquidating national ecological assets or emitting more carbon dioxide waste into the atmosphere than its own ecosystems absorb. In contrast, an ecological reserve exists when the biocapacity of a region exceeds its population's Ecological Footprint.

100% -

150%

50% - 100% 50% - 0%

>150%

BIOCAPACITY DEBTORS FOOTPRINT GREATER THAN BIOCAPACITY

Source: https://data.footprintnetwork.org

Ecological Creditors and Debtors: dynamics 2002-2012-2024

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Ecological Debtors (2012-2024)

COUNTRIES WITH BIOCAPACITY RESERVE

PERCENTAGE THAT BIOCAPACITY EXCEEDS ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT

Eritrea	160%
Timor-Leste	150%
Congo, Democratic Republic of	90%
Congo	69%
Angola	68%
Central African Republic	68%
Mozambique	67%
Madagascar	63%
Zambia	56%
Liberia	43%
Guinea-Bissau	32%

COUNTRIES WITH BIOCAPACITY RESERVE

PERCENTAGE THAT BIOCAPACITY EXCEEDS ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT

French Guiana	4,900%
Suriname	2,160%
Guyana	1,460%
Gabon	811%
Congo	635%
Central African Republic	462%
Bahamas	447%
Uruguay	380%
Bolivia	361%
Puerto Rico	315%

South Sudan	8%
Ecuador	5%
Chad	4%
Bhutan	2%
Kazakhstan	1%
Fiji	0%
Vanuatu	0%
Panama	0%

Ecological Creditors (2012-2024)

COUNTRIES WITH BIOCAPACITY DEFICIT

PERCENTAGE THAT ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT EXCEEDS BIOCAPACITY

Laos	-1%
Seychelles	-1%
Sudan	-1%
Romania	-13%
Lithuania	-14%
Sierra Leone	-15%
Tanzania	-16%
Bulgaria	-18%
Chile	-20%
Grenada	-21%

COUNTRIES	WITH BIOCAP	ACITY DEFICIT

PERCENTAGE THAT ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT EXCEEDS BIOCAPACITY

Singapore	16,000%
Réunion	1,900%
Israel	1,700%
Cyprus	1,100%
Lebanon	1,100%
Jordan	890%
Luxembourg	840%
Korea, Republic of	740%
Japan	600%
Iraq	560%
Belgium	530%

Qatar	-1,100%
Barbados	-1,200%
Kiribati	-1,300%
Bahrain	-1,400%
United Arab Emirates	-1,500%
Israel	-1,600%
St. Kitts and Nevis	-1,800%
Reunion	-3,200%
Singapore	-6,100%
Nauru	-46,000%

Ecological Footprint of Consumption

The Ecological Footprint of consumption indicates the consumption of biocapacity by a country's inhabitants.

In order to assess the total domestic demand for resources and ecological services of a population, we use the Ecological Footprint of consumption (EF_c). EF_c accounts for both the export of national resources and ecological services for use in other countries, and the import of resources and ecological services for domestic consumption.

EFc is most amenable to change by individuals through changes in their consumption behavior.

Ecological Footprint of Production

The Ecological Footprint of production indicates the consumption of biocapacity resulting from production processes within a given geographic area, such as a country or region.

It is the sum of all the bioproductive areas within a country necessary for supporting the actual harvest of primary products (cropland, grazing land, forestland and fishing grounds), the country's built-up area (roads, factories, cities), and the area needed to absorb all fossil fuel carbon emissions generated within the country.

This measure mirrors the gross domestic product (GDP), which represents the sum of the values of all goods and services produced within a country's borders.

Net Ecological Footprint of Trade

EF

The Ecological Footprint of imports and exports indicate the use of biocapacity within international trade.

Embedded in trade between countries is a use of biocapacity, the net Ecological Footprint of trade (the Ecological Footprint of imports minus the Ecological Footprint of exports). If the Ecological Footprint embodied in exports is higher than that of imports, then a country is a net exporter of renewable resources and ecological services.

Conversely, a country whose Footprint of imports is higher than that embodied in exports depends on the renewable resources and ecological services generated by ecological assets from outside its geographical boundaries.

Comparing national footprints: Russia, India, China, Egypt

Data Sources: <u>National Footprint and Biocapacity Accounts2023 edition (Data Year 2019);</u> GDP, International Financial Statistics (IFS); Population, U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization

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Worldwide ecological footprint

- Territory size shows the proportion of the worldwide ecological footprint which is made there.
- This includes the consumption of food, fuel, wood, and fibres. Pollution, such as carbon dioxide emissions, is also counted as part of the footprint

Source: http://www.worldmapper.org/

Worldwide ecological footprint VS Population

Source: http://www.worldmapper.org/

True OR False

• Ecological Footprint: is it a SCIENTIFIC CONCEPT or PSEUDO-CONCEPT?

- The clue is in its methodology
- For more information see: https://journals.plos.org/plosbiology/article?id=10
 .1371/journal.pbio.1001700

PLOS BIOLOGY

The Ecological Footprint Remains a Misleading Metric of Global Sustainability

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The Formal Comment by Rees and Wackernagel [1] raises our concern that this exchange will confuse readers. For this reason, we aim to emphasize a few key points that we believe cannot be disputed. First, the entire global ecological overshoot (footprint of consumption in excess of biocapacity) results from carbon dioxide emissions reframed as the hypothetical forest area needed to offset these emissions. Plantations of fast-growing trees would, by-the-numbers, eliminate the global overshoot. Second, the ecological footprint's (EF) assessments for cropland, grazing land, and builtup land are unable to capture degradation or unsustainable use of any kind. Finally, we conclude from the above and the points made in our original paper [2] that we would be better off discussing greenhouse gas emissions directly in terms of tons of CO2-equivalent (and thus focus on solutions to emissions), and developing a more ecological and ecosystem process framework to capture the impacts humans currently have on the planet's natural systems. The appropriate scale for these indicators will, in many cases, be local and regional. At this level, the EF is a measure of net exports or imports of biomass and carbon-absorptive capacity [3]. Any city, for example, would show a deficit, as it relies on food and materials from outside. That in itself, as Robert Costanza has

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noted, "tells us little if anything about the sustainability of this input [from outside the region] over time" [4].

Author Contributions

The author(s) have made the following declarations about their contributions: Wrote the paper: PK LB EE BB TN MS.

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Ecological Footprint Calculations

YOUR LIVING HABITS MAKE UP YOUR FOOTPRINT

We calculate your footprint score using the answers you provide to our 5 minute questionnaire

- 1. Your results in comparison with the country's average
- 2. Spheres of life mostly contributing to the CO2 footprint
- 3. What else could be included into CO2 footprint calculators?
- 4. Ways of minimazing CO2 footprint

Your results in comparison with the country's average

Welcome House Flights Car Motorbike Bus & Rail Secondary Results

Welcome to the web's leading carbon footprint calculator

- <u>http://www.carbonfootprint.com/calculator.aspx</u>
- Your footprint is _____ tonnes per year
- The average footprint for people in Russian Federation is
- The average footprint for people in China is
- The average footprint for people in India is
- he average footprint for people in Egypt is
- The average for the European Union is about
- The average worldwide carbon footprint is about

Google Environmental Insights Explorer

- Calculating a city's carbon footprint
- The Environmental Insights Explorer calculates emissions from buildings, car trips, and public transport to illustrate how a city's sustainability efforts are faring.

Explore estimated carbon emissions from transportation and buildings, rooftop solar energy potential, and NASA climate forecasts, derived from Google's proprietary data and leading data sources.

Building emissions 1,210,000 Total 1002e/yr

Rooftop solar potential

Transportation emissions

669,000

https://insights.sustainability. google/

- Kyoto Protocol
 - the 1st international legislation on emissions cut
- EU
 - environment legislation has a strong public participation component
- UK
 - the Climate Change Act 2008 makes it the first country in the world to have a legally binding long-term framework to cut carbon emissions.
- Russia
 - Climate Doctrine, Dec. 2009

GENERAL INSTRUMENTS

• **Market reforms**: market liberalization, energy efficiency programs, trade and price liberalization

SPECIFIC INSTRUMENTS

- Strategic policy: national strategic plans and programs, doctrines
- **Tax policy**: immunity from taxation, emission taxes, subsidies
- Emission trade, green certificates
- Adjusting mechanisms: obligatory standards, systems of certification, verification and monitoring
- Voluntary agreements: "strong" and "soft"
- **Research**: research programs with demonstrational effect
- Informational instruments: marking programs, informational campaigns

International Environment Management Standards

 ISO* 14001:2015 is a universal environmental management standard (EMS).

Международная организация по стандартизации

- specifies a set of environmental management requirements (systemic, policy, planning, operational, checking) that the organization identifies as those which it can control and those which it can influence
- is applicable to any organization that wishes to implement and improve an EMS
- does not itself state specific environmental performance criteria

https://youtu.be/hCAa7OWdjfo

- EMAS (Environmental Management Audit System) is a specialized environmental standard
 - Is obligatory for certain types of industries such as processing industries, electricity, gas and water supply, waste disposal

Example. ISO 13065:2015. Sustainability criteria for bioenergy

Who will benefit?

- ISO 13065 provides a harmonized approach on sustainability criteria rather than providing threshold values. It can be adopted by several users in different ways:
 - Businesses by providing a standard framework that allows business to speak the same language when describing aspects of sustainability
 - Purchasers by comparing sustainability information from suppliers to help identify bioenergy processes and products that meet their requirements
 - Other standards, certification initiatives and government agencies by serving as a source of information on sustainability, and a transparent basis for all market actors to comply with legal requirements
- ISO 13065 can be applied to the whole supply chain, parts of the supply chain or a single process in the supply chain. It also applies to all forms of bioenergy, regardless of raw material, geographical location, technology or end use.
- ISO 13065 will not replace national legislation nor certification systems on sustainability.
- VIDEO on ISO 9001:2015:

http://www.iso.org/iso/ru/home/news_index/news_archive/news.htm?refid=Ref2002 (0:00 – 3:00)

Business Environmental Responsibility

- Business Environmental Responsibility (ER)
 - doesn't depend on the size of environmental issues relevant to its operation
 - represents new conditions for global competition

ER of commodity producers
 Ecological and energy efficiency of products
 Formation of environmentally sensitive markets
 International environmental standards
 Best available technologies

 Environmental policy is the way to improve the competitiveness of the national economy as well as of the separate company

Mandatory Standards + Voluntary Standards

How voluntary standards can help shift whole markets to a higher level of sustainability

- Environmental management system
 - Ecoratings (voluntary)
 - Environmental management standards (ISO* 14001:2015)

- ESG-ratings

Ecoratings: Levels of Ecological Responsibility

Ecoratings (Environmental Ranking)

- Ecorating should be:
 - Complex & Full covering
 - Independent, Objective
 - Voluntary
- Are ecoratings important for companies?

Ecoratings of Companies: Goals and Objectives

- Why ecoratings are important for companies?
 - Independent source of a company current environmental status
 - Objective comparison of companies by a set of ecological indicators
 - Monitoring dynamics of companies indicators
 - Acknowledgement of serious environment initiatives for business partners
 - Effective way to attract product consumers
 - New mechanism of information and feedback between industry and the society
 - Reducing environmental impacts through improved policies and practices and increasing transparency

Market Reaction to Publication of Ecoratings

Source: ANO "NERA, "http://www.biodat.ru/nera3.htm

Positive (high) ecorating position correlates well with the capitalization of a company

- Methodology is discussed with all the participants and is updated every year
- Calculations are made by independent rating agency using only the officially published data
- After preliminary results are obtained companies can reveal missing information
- All major industry players are covered by their industry ecorating each year
- Ecorating assessment goes through all the stages of industrial process

Most popular ESG standards, rankings and ratings

The 8 ratings included in this brief are used by many leading investors, asset managers, analysts, and other financial experts

1

V.B

PART OF Moody's ESG Solutions Member of Dow Jones Sustainability Indices Powered by the S&P Global CSA

Why companies should manage risks when it comes to environmental responsibility?

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