

FREE PUBLIC FORUM

Living well on one planet: future proofing South Australia.

Hosted by Zero Waste SA and the University of South Australia.



Government
of South Australia

Zero Waste SA

Tuesday 29 July
5.00pm - 6.00pm
BH Building, level 2, theatre 9
City West campus (map)
University of South Australia
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Further information

In an era not only of peak oil but 'peak everything', how can the citizens of South Australia live better lives on fewer resources?

What do Ecological Footprint and biocapacity trends mean for South Australia's economic competitiveness?

How are other cities and regions using the Ecological Footprint to help achieve their sustainability objectives?

The Ecological Footprint is a measure of human demand on the Earth's resources. It indicates whether we're living within nature's ability to provide resources or whether we have exceeded that limit, and shows the level of change necessary to move towards sustainability. The Footprint captures the connections between a range of ecological impacts, including (but not limited to) carbon emissions.

Starting in the mid 1980s, humanity's Ecological Footprint has been bigger than what the Earth can supply. By 1996, humanity was using 15 per cent more resources in a year than the planet could supply. Today, humanity's overshoot is 30 per cent.

The average South Australian has an Ecological Footprint of 7.0 hectares per person, slightly less than the Australian average of 7.7 hectares per person, but almost four times as much as the average global Footprint of 2.2 hectares/person: [Eco Footprint brochure](#)

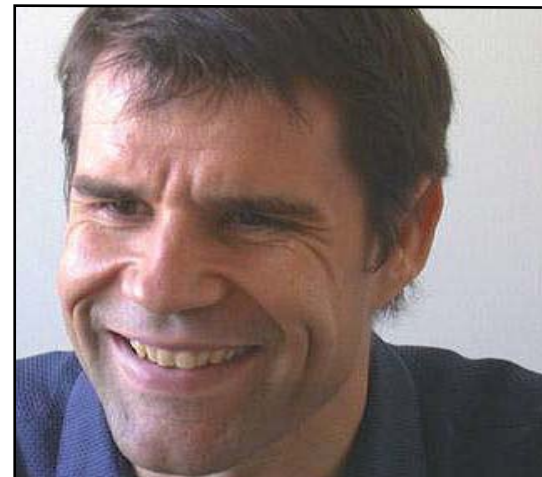
Future-proofing Adelaide and South Australia means committing to ensure its economic competitiveness and quality of life during times when resources become unavailable or are too expensive.

South Australia's future prosperity and lifestyle depends on managing our use of natural capital with the same care and accountability as we manage our financial wealth.

Dr Mathis Wackernagel

Dr Wackernagel is co-creator of the Ecological Footprint, and is a founder and Executive Director of Global Footprint Network (www.footprintnetwork.org), a charitable research organisation with headquarters in California. GFN supports the creation of a sustainable economy by advancing the scientific rigour and practical application of the Ecological Footprint as a measurement and policy tool, with the goal of making ecological limits central to decision-making everywhere.

Mathis has authored or contributed to over fifty peer-reviewed papers, numerous articles and reports, and various books on sustainability that focus on the question of embracing limits and developing metrics for sustainability, including *Our Ecological Footprint: Reducing Human Impact on the Earth*, *Sharing Nature's Interest*, and WWF International's *Living Planet Report* series.



'Dr Wackernagel has worked on sustainability issues for organisations in Europe, Latin America, North America, Asia, and Africa; and lectured at more than 100 universities around the world.'

HUMANITY'S ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT

