



HIGHLIGHTS

LIVING PLANET REPORT 2012

*Nature is
the basis of
our well-
being and
our
prosperity*

- Biodiversity has declined globally by around 30 per cent between 1970 and 2008; by 60 per cent in the tropics.
- Demand on natural resources has doubled since 1966 and we are currently using the equivalent of 1.5 planets to support our activities.
- The top 10 countries with the biggest Ecological Footprint – the demand placed on natural capital – per person are: Qatar, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates, Denmark, United States of America, Belgium, Australia, Canada, Netherlands and Ireland.
- High-income countries have a footprint five times greater than that of low-income countries.
- Areas of high biodiversity provide important ecosystem services such as carbon storage, fuel wood, freshwater flow and marine fish stocks.
- “Business as usual” projections estimate that we will need the equivalent of two planets by 2030 to meet our annual demands.
- Natural capital – biodiversity, ecosystems and ecosystem services – must be preserved and, where necessary, restored as the foundation of human economies and societies. Placing greater economic value on the goods and services provided by nature will help secure long-term economic and ecosystem health.
- WWF’s one planet perspective proposes how to manage, govern and share natural capital within the earth’s ecological limits.
- We can reduce our footprint by producing more with less, and consuming better, wiser and less.

Canada’s Footprint

Canada has the 8th largest ecological footprint per capita, 2.5 times the global average. Canadians are using approximately 3.5 times our equitable share of annual bio-productivity – if everyone on Earth lived as the typical Canadian does, we’d need 3.5 planets to support our demand. More than half of Canada’s total footprint is a result of its carbon footprint, derived predominately from fossil fuel use.



Why we are here.

We are creating solutions to the most serious conservation challenges facing our planet, helping people and nature thrive.

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About the Living Planet Report

WWF's *Living Planet Report* has been published every two years since 1998 and has become accepted as a leading statement on the planet's health. It describes the changing state of global biodiversity and the pressure on the planet arising from human consumption of natural resources.

It is built around two indicators:

- The Living Planet Index, which reflects the health of the planet's ecosystems
- The Ecological Footprint, which shows the extent of human demand on these ecosystems and the state of the planet's ability to provide biological goods and services

These measures are tracked over several decades to reveal past trends and provide insight into what might lie ahead. The *Living Planet Report* is produced with the Zoological Society of London and the Global Footprint Network. Visit www.wwf.ca/lpr for more information and the complete report.



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