

The ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT

The Impact of our Consumption on the Natural Capital

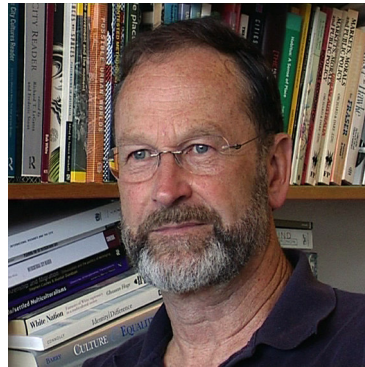
Benoît Théau - IGAPURA
Emmanuel Prinet - One Earth

present

Doctor William Rees, ecological economist, teaches in the School of Community and Regional Planning at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada.

His teaching and research emphasize the public policy and planning implications of global environmental trends and the necessary ecological conditions for sustainable socio-economic development.

Much of his work is in the realm of ecological economics and human ecology. He is best known in this field for his invention of 'Ecological Footprint analysis'.



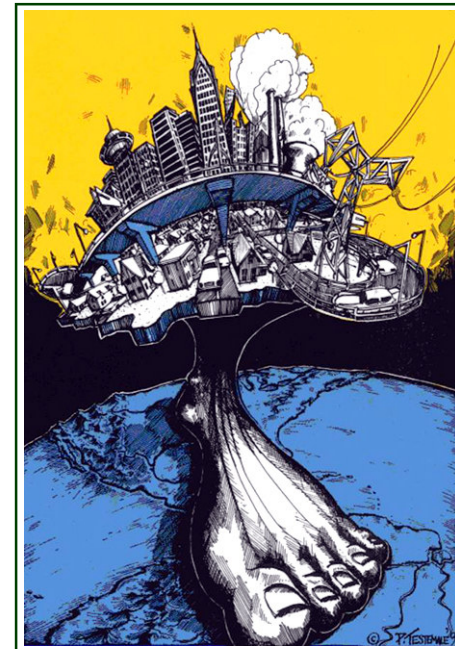
William Rees explains the benefits of using the Ecological Footprint, a tool which measures the total area of aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems necessary to support, at prevailing levels of consumption, any specified population. He presents in a very clear manner the components that make up this indicator, and highlights the importance of calculating the Footprint at all levels—from the individual to humanity as a whole. The Ecological Footprint of Canada is found to be between 5 and 6 ha per inhabitant... while the Earth can only support Footprints of 1.8 ha/capita. *“So we really do have a choice at the political level, at every level, from the communities, to cities, to the national level to the global level, to change the structure of the world economy and our behaviour.”*

William Rees invites us to think about the strategies that need to be implemented for us to reduce our individual and collective footprints. It is urgent to move beyond simple information sharing to developing the incentives that lead to real change. Each of us has a role to play in building “a programme for sustainability”, a necessary venture to protect our planet and enable future civilizations to flourish.

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Length of each video
(English or French) : 13 min.

an interview with William REES
Inventor of 'Ecological Footprint Analysis'

List of other video DVDs available : www.igapura.org

Video DVD in English and French

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