

## Objectives

- Preservation and efficient management of natural resources – the prerequisites for human survival and economic production
- Establishment of a system that allows tracing, measuring and handling the overall exploitation of natural resources
- Systematically trace and redesign our consumption and production habits to make them resource efficient and sustainable
- Conservation and further development of an uniform data basis available to everyone on national as well as international level
- Viable design and control of value chains and markets in a sustainable, eco-efficient and innovative way
- Support of resource efficient product and lifestyle innovations and their distribution

[www.materialfootprint.org](http://www.materialfootprint.org)

## Background

The consumption of natural resources

- Raw materials
- Water
- Soil
- Air

by human beings exceeds by far the ability of ecosystems to regenerate and thus poses a threat to our prosperity and to ourselves.

We are about to destroy the prerequisites for our survival.

This requires rethinking our production, consumption and the whole economy.

Considering the world's growing population, natural resources have to be used more efficiently and wisely in order to sustainably maintain the current level of prosperity.

## Vision

It is our vision that economy and society become more sustainable, use fewer resources, and enforce a common focus on intelligent management of both ecology and society. This is aimed at reducing the current use of resources by **factor 10**, while maintaining our level of prosperity.

We want to positively and actively contribute to establishing an ecologically and socially sensitive economy by using our competences and knowledge. In this context, the wellbeing of nature and society are of our utmost concern.

## Open Network

The network is designed for all who share our goals and spheres of action, so that we can connect with each other on a global scale. We want to contribute with our know-how to develop synergies arising from mutual support.

The initiators are SERI (Austria), Wuppertal Institute and Trifolium (both Germany), and D-mat (Finland).

## Spheres of action

Our network aims at contributing decisively to the further development of theoretical background of the MIPS concept (material input per service unit) as well as other life-cycle-based methods. The founders of this network have extensive experience in assessing the lifecycles of materials, goods and activities in various areas. At the same time, we seek to include the information in indicator systems for sustainability on a larger scale, and implement the introduction of systems and instruments managing this information.

These methods may be applied with companies, locations, technologies, products, services, value networks, households and lifestyles. In the process of identifying optimisation potentials, it is essential to establish coherent and consistent methods of measurement. Thus, partial redesign as well as redesign from scratch are facilitated.

The Material Footprint Network supplies a database that is based on proven methods for calculating resource consumption. It is constantly being improved and extended by supplying more internal and external input.

## Contact

Material Footprint Network

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# Material Footprint Network

Cooperation for the efficient management  
of natural resources

[www.materialfootprint.org](http://www.materialfootprint.org)