



WWF

SUMMARY

HK

2014

HONG KONG ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT

2014 UPDATE

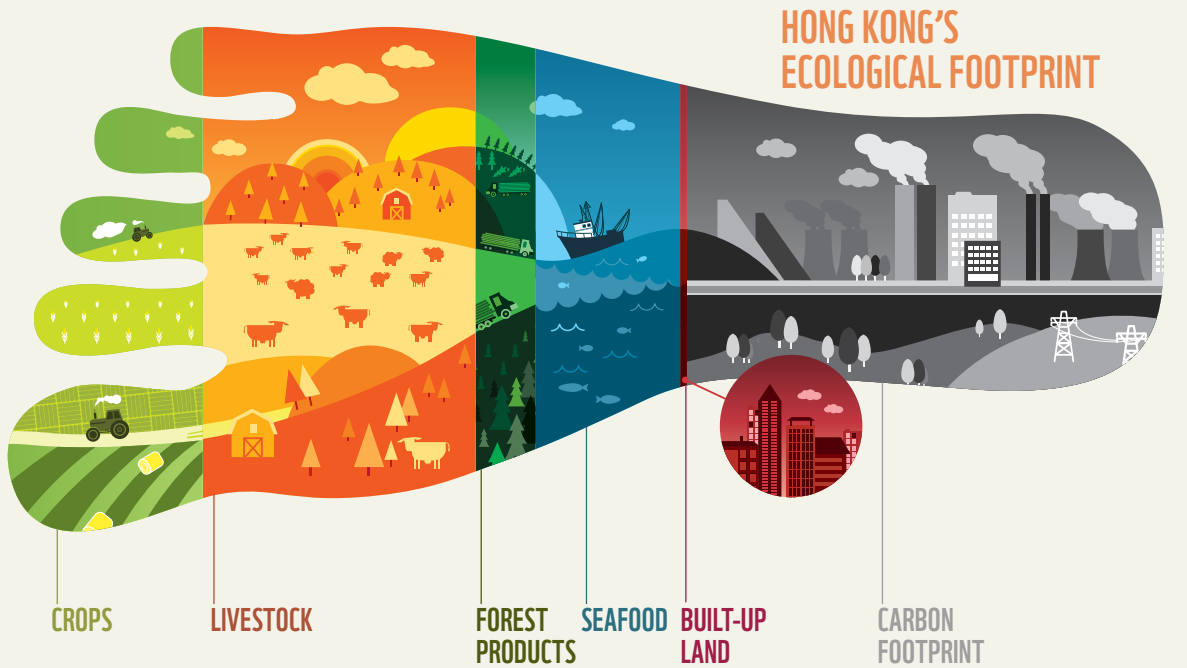


Are our feet too big for our shoes?

Hong Kong people are using 540 times more resources than the territory can provide. It's time to wake up from the dream that the Earth can give us everything we want.

What Is the Ecological Footprint?


The Ecological Footprint is an accounting tool used to measure the land and water areas mankind uses to provide all that we take from nature. The Footprint is determined by adding up all land and sea areas needed to provide the natural resources we consume. These surfaces, also known as biocapacity, produce goods such as crops, livestock, seafood, timber and paper; they are used to build our infrastructure or used to absorb CO₂. The Ecological Footprint is measured in global hectares (gha). The calculations in this report are based on 2010 data unless otherwise specified – the year for which the most recent data is available.



HOW MANY EARTHS DOES IT TAKE TO SUPPORT HONG KONG'S LIFESTYLE?




Humanity is over-consuming nature's resources! At the global level, we are using the equivalent of 1.5 Earths to support our lifestyles. But in Hong Kong we use even more: if everyone in the world lived the lifestyle we lead, we would need 3.1 Earths to fulfil our resource needs!

14% 
ENERGY

12% 
CLOTHING

23% 
FOOD

12% 
TRANSPORTATION

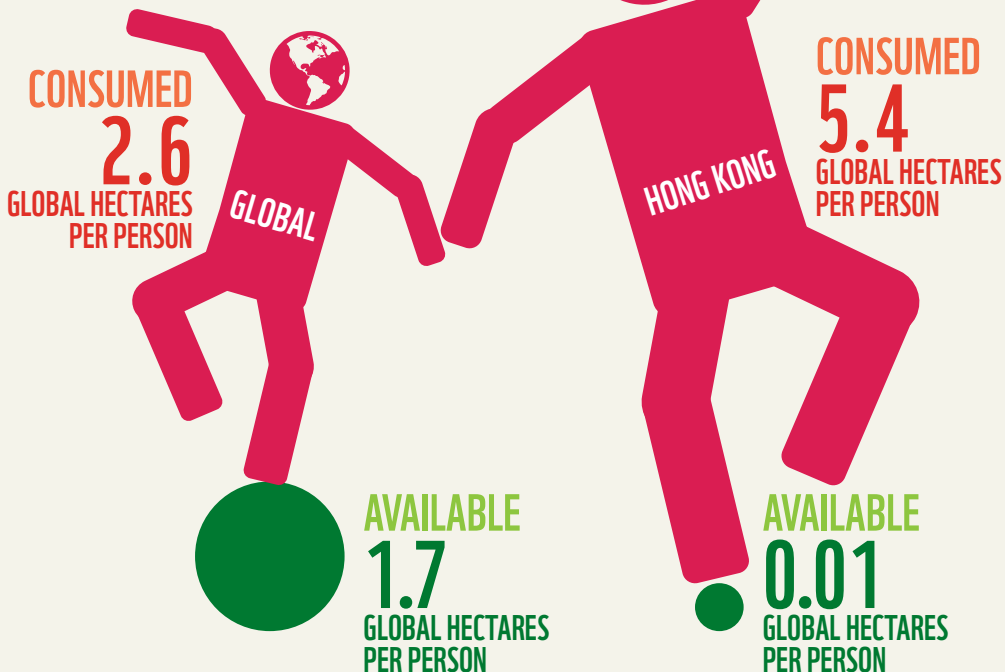
OUR DAILY CONSUMPTION CREATES A HUGE IMPACT

Daily consumption, whether it is at the individual, family or company level, accounts for 78% of Hong Kong's Ecological Footprint in 2008. Four categories including food, energy, transportation and clothing are responsible for 61% of this daily consumption.

HONG KONG'S ECOLOGICAL DEFICIT

540_x

How bad are we? Among countries or territories with populations larger than one million, Hong Kong's per capita Ecological Footprint (5.4 gha) ranks 15th in the world. But if we look closer at the demands we place on the natural world, compared with what Hong Kong's productive surfaces can provide, we are over-consuming to a huge degree: we have an Ecological Deficit of 540 times! Within Asia, we are number one.



TO LEARN MORE



Hong Kong Ecological Footprint

5.4 GHA/PERSON

The average Ecological Footprint of the Hong Kong resident.

18 MONTHS

Time it takes for the planet to renew what humanity consumes in 12 months.



3.1 EARTHS

The number of planets required if everybody in the world consumed resources at the same rate as Hong Kong.

15

Compared with other countries, the size of Hong Kong's Ecological Footprint per person would make it the 15th largest in the world.



Why we are here

To stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature.

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