

# One Planet Living... the future we want



This leaflet answers the questions posed by the Bureau about the scope of the Outcome Document in the Guidance Note for the 2nd second Rio+20 intersessional in New York. It is based on the practical experience and November zero draft proposal of BioRegional and thirteen other civil society partners who have been implementing sustainable communities and businesses around the world using an action plan and roadmap approach and ten guiding sustainable development goals and principles.

## A vision the whole world can understand and take action on

**Question 1: Outcomes** to secure renewed political commitment, assess progress to date, address remaining gaps in implementation and new and emerging challenges would, in our view, be:

### A brief, clear acknowledgement of the challenge and the need for action:

- Environmental limits and planetary boundaries in a world with a large, growing human population (Figure 1)
- Social inequity and a lack of a basic level of human needs for 20% of people
- Financial crisis and the need to restructure towards a green economy.

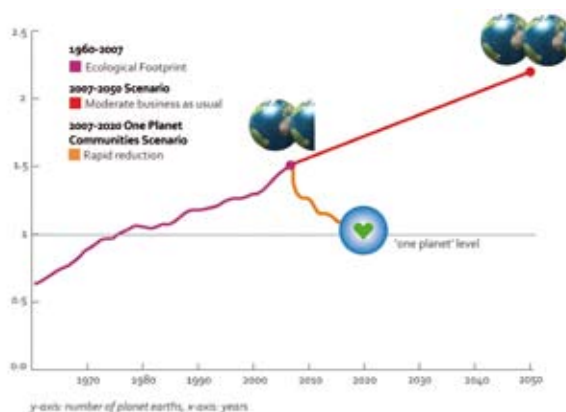


Figure 1

### Adoption of a vision of a better world and Sustainable Development Goals

We suggest: *One planet living - a world in which people can live happy, healthy lives within their fair share of the world's resources, wherever we live in the world, leaving sufficient space for wildlife and wilderness" and a set of simple Sustainable Development Goals which relate to the lives of everyday people such as the ten one planet living principles (Figure 3).*

**Showcasing of the many real-life examples of sustainability in action** at all levels of society and in all countries of the world. In this way the progress can be celebrated and the Vision can also be made real.

**Public commitment by member states to act and a call to action for civil society** to work together to deliver the vision of one planet living and a fair and green economy within the timeframe that science and morality tell us is necessary.

## Questions 2, 3, 4, 5: What policies and instruments are needed to bridge the implementation gaps, scale up

Based on our practical experience in the one planet living initiative we propose:

**Roadmaps with Action Plans at a global, national and civil society level** which include the following elements:

- **Vision** as adopted by the Conference
- **Guiding Shared Values and Principles** drawn from existing international agreements, we suggest Principles for a Green Economy published by BioRegional, Earth Charter and Stakeholder Forum.
- **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Indicators.** We propose that the SDGs and indicators be based on *Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP)*, on *Clean Production on what citizens need* for a good quality of life and *contraction and convergence of resource consumption* based on ecological and carbon footprint (Figure 2) and *scientific advice* of Intergovernmental Panels including planetary boundaries. One planet living is the same goal for all – for some it means becoming more resource efficient, for others it means growing in a sustainable way. This also supports the Millennium Consumption Goals proposal. SDGs could take a similar approach to the ten one planet living principles (Figure 3) and include:

1. sustainable energy – including zero carbon emissions from building energy use
2. sustainable transport and reducing the need for transport
3. zero waste to landfill through circular economies
4. sustainable materials
5. food security – sustainable and humane agriculture and fisheries
6. sustainable water
7. biodiversity and land use
8. culture and community
9. Green Economy – equity, fair trade and the local economy
10. health and happiness



Figure 3: The ten principles of One Planet Living

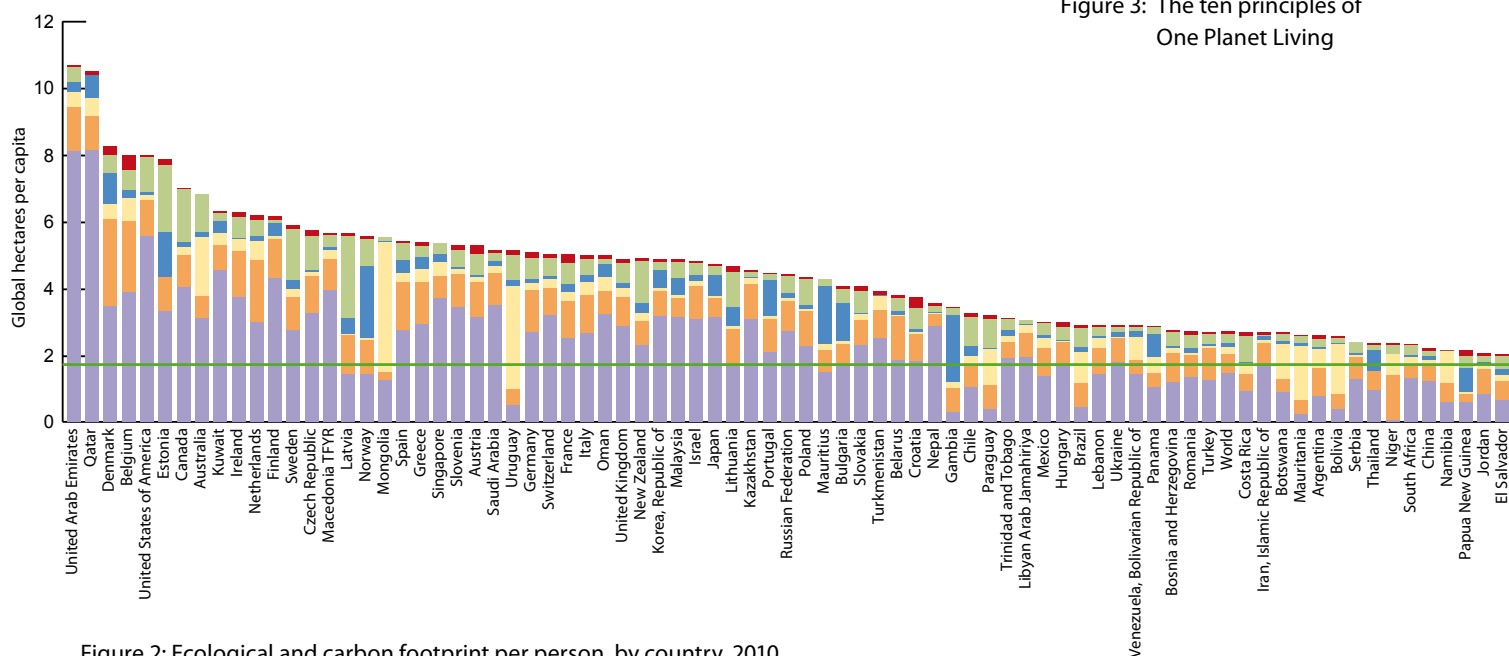


Figure 2: Ecological and carbon footprint per person, by country, 2010

© Global Footprint Network Ecological Footprint Atlas 2010

## o successful practices, address critical areas and measure progress towards sustainable development?

### Sectoral proposals relevant to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals

Partners in the one planet living initiative find that there are some sectoral issues at a multilateral level which stop us from implementing sustainability and need to be addressed at a national or multilateral level:

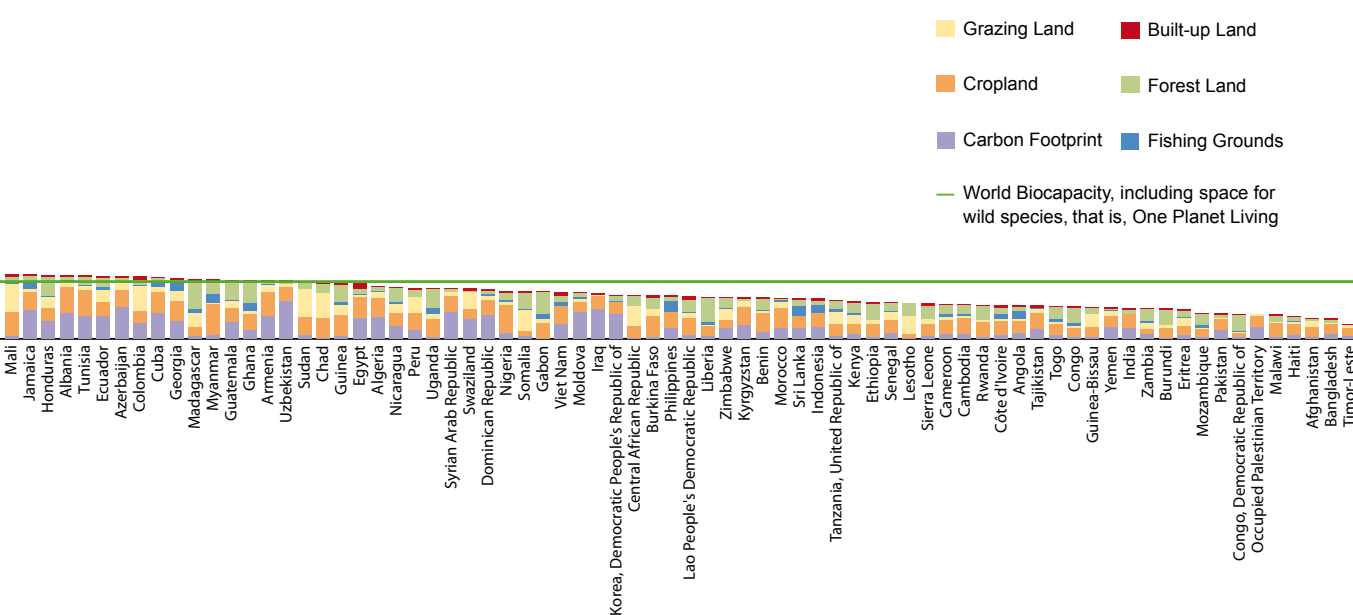
**Renewable energy** – fossil fuels used for energy account for half of our ecological footprint. Our experience is that national regulations make introducing renewable energy difficult in many countries. Suggested measures, based on our experience are:

- enable new renewable energy to connect to the national electricity grid
- enable more diverse and local ownership of energy companies
- introduce an actuarial-based carbon price
- remove subsidies for fossil fuels, if necessary adjust fiscal policies to avoid fuel poverty
- Feed in Tariffs to incentivise uptake of renewable energy;

**Human settlement and urbanisation** – planning policies to promote walkable and cycling-friendly cities;

**Circular economies** – incentives towards circular resource efficient and zero waste economies;

**Biodiversity and natural capital** – agreements and financial and regulatory mechanisms to enable net zero deforestation and protection of peat bogs.



## Question 6: What actions can build capacity, transfer technology and provide finance?

**Education and training based around the implementation of the Vision and SDGs** for decision-makers in the UN, nations and civil society. This could be linked to the adoption of the Ten Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (10YFP on SCP), which we would like the UN to ratify at Rio+20. One Planet Partners will launch training at Rio+20.

### Resources which could include:

- i. *"Intergovernmental Panel(s) on Resources"* to provide advice to decision-makers based on scientific evidence of resource availability, resource consumption and safe planetary boundaries. The IPCC and the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) could be expanded to include all Resources such as minerals.
- ii. A *"Solutions Bank"* of peer reviewed solutions for sustainability, measured against the SDGs, with clear explanations of the solution, how to implement it, progress, measured results and impacts. This could begin with case studies showcased at Rio+20.

**Economic and Monetary Policies** – Sustainable development and the eradication of poverty is threatened by the failure of markets and restricted flows of capital as in recent and continuing global economic crises. There is a need for regulatory frameworks and reporting mechanisms to ensure monetary transparency and avoid over-exploitation of both natural and economic capital. We propose an expert UN Economic and Monetary Panel; supranational reporting and enforcement mechanisms under the IMF; greater democratic representation on the IMF; treaties to avoid liquidity and capital flow crises and local currencies.

## Question 7: What are the best options for the Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development?

We support proposals to strengthen this in particular: a Council on Sustainable Development; the elevation of UNEP as a specialised agency; Framework Conventions on Corporate Social Responsibility and on Access to Information, Participation and Decision-Making Process; and for the Ombudsperson for Future Generations.

[www.bioregional.com/oneplanetliving](http://www.bioregional.com/oneplanetliving)

**"BioRegional are pioneers in reinventing our economy"**

**Achim Steiner**

Executive Director  
United Nations Environment Programme

BioRegional is an award-winning international social enterprise which works with partners around the world to demonstrate that a sustainable future is attractive, affordable and achievable. We have sister organisations with representatives in North America, China, South Africa, Greece, and Mexico.

Contacts: **Sue Riddlestone**

[sr@bioregional.com](mailto:sr@bioregional.com)  
+44(0)7949 265442

**Freya Seath**

[freya.seath@bioregional.com](mailto:freya.seath@bioregional.com)

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Published by BioRegional, BEDZED Centre, 24 Helios Road, Wallington, Surrey, SM6 7BZ, UK  
Tel: +44 (0)20 8404 4880 • [www.bioregional.com](http://www.bioregional.com) • Registered charity no 1041486