



International Ecological Footprint Learning Lab Newsletter – January 2025

The [International Ecological Footprint Learning Lab](#) is pleased to share the first newsletter for 2025. If you do not want to receive future newsletters, please let us know.

Upcoming Events

Workshop Series: A Deeper Dive into Methodologies of Subnational Applications of Ecological Footprint and Biocapacity

In the new year, IEFL is hosting a series of workshops that provide a deeper understanding of methodologies for generating subnational ecological footprint and biocapacity accounts. Dates and registration links are below. All workshops will begin with a presentation from our panel of experts, followed with a question-and-answer period, and an interactive activity.

These workshops are open to anyone, please share this with anyone that is interested in attending!

- [Community scaling](#): March 20 at 11 am EDT = 15:00 GMT
- [Geographic scaling](#): April 10 at 11 am EST = 15:00 GMT

Canadian Society for Ecological Economics (CANSEE) 2025 Conference, Call for Papers

[CANSEE](#) is accepting abstracts for their 2025 conference taking place in Sydney, Nova Scotia at the University of Cape Breton from July 14 to 15, 2025. The conference theme is “Changing Tides” with several subthemes related to the environment, local impacts, community, relational economies and more. They are accepting submissions until February 14, 2025. [Abstract submission link here](#).



Environmental Studies Association of Canada (ESAC) 2025 Conference, Call for Papers

ESAC is accepting abstracts for their annual conference part of the Congress for the Social Sciences and Humanities. George Brown College in Toronto, Ontario, Canada is the host institution for Congress with the ESAC conference taking place from June 1 to 3, 2025. The conference theme is “Reframing Togetherness” and reflecting ESAC’s interdisciplinarity, they are accepting abstracts from a diverse range of issues and topics. There are several special events planned, including an undergraduate research showcase, several keynote events, a joint session with the Canadian Sociological Association, and more. They are accepting submissions until February 15, 2025. [Abstract submission link here.](#)

Research

Lancet Planet Health paper cites Ecological Footprint in expert survey of sustainability research

Review by Bart Hawkins Kreps, IEFL student from York University

“Given that the world finds itself in a situation of slowing growth coupled with intensifying ecological breakdown,” the authors of a new paper write, “the emerging post-growth research described here asks important questions and offers tentative answers that can help prepare societies for an unstable future.”

Entitled “Post-growth: the science of wellbeing within planetary boundaries,” the paper offers a remarkably concise summary of many lines of research in only 13 pages (plus extensive footnotes). The nine authors are prominent in the degrowth, well-being, post-growth, steady-state and planetary boundaries currents, including Peter A. Victor, York University professor emeritus and co-director of the International Ecological Footprint Learning Lab. Degrowth advocates Giorgos Kallis and Jason Hickel, Centre for the Understanding of Sustainable Prosperity director Tim Jackson, and Doughnut Economics Action Lab co-founder Kate Raworth are also authors.

“The central idea of post-growth,” the paper states, “is to replace the goal of increasing GDP with the goal of improving human wellbeing within planetary boundaries.” One part of that task, clearly, is to define those boundaries and more accurately determine our current position in relation to those boundaries. The paper notes the ongoing efforts to account for material flows and the ecological footprint.

“Whereas science is advancing on the questions of desired pathways, provisioning systems, and policies for a post-growth economy, we still know little about the politics that could make post-growth transitions possible in reality,” the authors write.

The article provides a valuable summary not only of those social and political issues, but of the work currently being done in many countries to address these issues. And for researchers looking to take a deeper dive into any of the issues, the 201 footnotes make a superb study guide.

For further information: [Post-growth: the science of wellbeing within planetary boundaries](#), Lancet Planet Health, January 2025.

In Memoriam

It is with a heavy heart that we announce the passing of Ravichandiranesan (Ravi) Ponnudurai. Ravi was a MES student at York University in the first cohort of IEFL students. He was the first “IEFL National Ambassador” representing Sri Lanka, his country of birth. As ambassador, and as an IEFL Research Assistant, Ravi advanced partnerships within the country to advance the recognition, application, and development of data about Ecological Footprint and Biocapacity in Sri Lanka. [Read more about Ravi.](#)



Recognitions

Mojgan Chapariha appointed to Adjunct Professor at York University, Toronto, Canada

Mojgan Chapariha has recently been appointed to Adjunct Professor in the Faculty of Environmental and Urban Change at York University in Toronto, Canada. Mojgan is a member of the IEFLL partnership contributing to research on metrics and future modeling scenarios with Peter Victor, Director of IEFLL, and Andrew Reeves, Postdoctoral researcher in IEFLL.



Knowledge Mobilization

Virtual Webinar with the Institute of Environmental Professionals in Sri Lanka

On January 22, Eric Miller, Director of the Ecological Footprint Initiative, and Ravi Ponnudurai, York MES student and IEFLL National Ambassador of Sri Lanka, presented on using ecological footprint and biocapacity data. This webinar was moderated by Dr. Hemanthi Ranasinghe, a Senior Professor in Forestry and Environmental Science at University of Sri Jayewardenepura, in Sri Lanka. Dr. Ranasinghe is also a collaborator with the IEFLL partnership. This webinar had over a hundred people from Sri Lanka attend with lots of interest about future footprint research and applications.



Recording of sub-national applications webinar is now available

An edited recording of our past webinar was just [posted here on our video channel](#). Featuring **Brynhildur Davíðsdóttir** at University of Iceland, **Eric Miller** and **Kiona Lo** and **Peri Dworatzek** and **Peter Victor** at York University, **Jennie Moore** at British Columbia Institute of Technology, and **Danielle Letang** at Rural Ontario Institute.

Anne's experience at COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan

In November 2024, **Anne van Berkum** attended COP29 as an observer, through the University of Iceland where she is a master's student while also being an IEFL Research Fellow. Anne shared her experience with students in the course Ecological Footprint Applications. You can also [read Anne's reflection here](#).

Become and IEFL National Ambassador!

The IEFL partnership is seeking applications from partnership members to become national ambassadors to represent the IEFL partnership around the world. National ambassadors will foster connections, propose new research opportunities, and lay the groundwork for future collaborations around the world! If you have strong connections in a certain country (not Canada or Iceland), this could be a great opportunity to strengthen your networking skills and represent the partnership. National Ambassadors will be profiled in our newsletter, recognized on our website, and have opportunities to present data and research. Please apply using our application form, [accessible here](#). If you have any questions, please contact dworatzp@yorku.ca

Two Book Reviews by Bart Hawkins Kreps

IEFL research assistant and master's student at York University, Bart Hawkins Kreps, wrote two detailed book reviews published online in Resilience. One titled "The urgent necessity of asset stranding" reviews the book, *Overshoot: How the World Surrendered to Climate Breakdown* by Andreas Malm and Wim Carton.

The second one reviews the book, Power Metal: the race for the resources that will shape the future by Vince Beiser. Both were originally published on Bart's blog, [An Outside Chance](#).

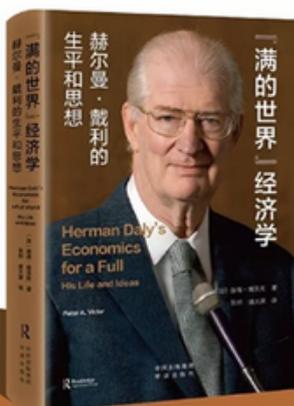
Kreps, B.H. 2025. "The urgent necessity of asset stranding". Book review of Overshoot: How the World Surrendered to Climate Breakdown. [The urgent necessity of asset stranding - resilience](#)

Kreps, B.H. 2025. "Critical metals and the side effects of electrification". Book review of Power Metal: the race for the resources that will shape the future. [Critical metals and the side effects of electrification - resilience](#)

Peter Victor's book, Herman Daly's Economics for a Full World translated into Mandarin

Soon to be released is the translated version of **Peter Victor's** renowned book, Herman Daly's Economics for a Full World. The translation was called for by a group of ecological economist academics in China.

从小儿麻痹症幸存者到世界银行的资深经济学家



写给每一个关心
可持续发展的
人

生态经济学奠基人、稳态经济提出者
赫尔曼·戴利教授的生平与思想传记

Meet an IEFL Member



Anne van Berkum, MSc student at the University of Iceland and researcher with the IEFL partnership, is completing inspiring research to improve the methodology of the national ecological footprint and biocapacity accounts. The current methodology assumes that built-up land biocapacity has the same yield factor as cropland biocapacity since built land is built on top of what is presumed to be cropland. Theoretically, this has major limitations but using geomatics data Anne is on her way to creating a proof-of-concept design to assess biocapacity in urban green spaces for the Hague. Read her full profile on the [IEFL website](#).

Partner Visits

Footprint Student Social: Meet an Alumnus

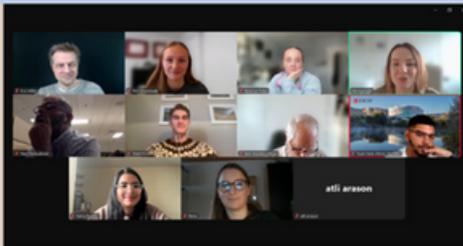
In December, IEFL hosted a virtual student social event where an alumnus of the footprint program was invited back to speak about her experience after graduation. **Sıla Baştürk Açıroğlu** co-produced the 2023 edition of the National Ecological Footprint and Biocapacity Accounts and completed her master's research on the evaluation of green bonds.

Sila now works at Rally Assets, an impact investing firm in Toronto as a Senior Associate. Current IEFLL students had great questions for Sila about the connections of her current position and her masters research, transferable skills she's learned from the footprint program, and insights into working in the finance sector. Thanks for joining us, Sila, it was great to have you back!

IEFLL Partnership Footprint Social



with Sila Baştürk Ağiroğlu,
Senior Associate at Rally Assets,
graduate of the Master's in Environmental
Studies (MES) program at York University and
co-producer of the 2023 edition of the National
Ecological Footprint and Biocapacity Accounts



Submit to the IEFLL Newsletter

Have something you want to share? [Fill out this online form](#) to share announcements, publications, and events in our next newsletter.

Explore our website: <https://www.footprintpartnership.net/>

The International Ecological Footprint Learning Lab partnership newsletter is edited by **Peri Dworatzek**, Partnership Coordinator of IEFLL. If you have any questions or comments, please email: iefll@footprintpartnership.net