



# International Ecological Footprint Learning Lab

## Newsletter – September 2025

The International Ecological Footprint Learning Lab is pleased to share the fourth newsletter of 2025.

### Partnership Announcements

#### International Ecological Footprint Learning Lab (IEFLL) Biennial Symposium hosted by the University of Iceland

This past June (2025), members of the International Ecological Footprint Learning Lab (IEFLL) from York University traveled to Iceland to meet with IEFLL members based in Iceland. This week-long symposium was the first opportunity for York University and University of Iceland researchers, faculty, and students to meet in-person, after having virtually worked together for a couple years. This visit strengthened international networks between IEFLL partners, showcased ongoing and future research funded by the IEFLL partnership, and enhanced relationships between York University and the University of Iceland. Read the full story on our website, [link here](#).



From left to right, back row: Anne Louise Van Berkum, Peter Victor, Bumika Srikanthalingam, Petra Dimitrova Toneva, Jade Farabet, Matthew Don Reimer Dyck; front row: Brynhildur Davíðsdóttir, Andrew Reeves, Eric Miller, Beatrice Foley, Peri Dworatzek, Rakel Halldórsdóttir, Kiona Lo, and Marina Ermina. Affiliations: York University, University of Iceland



## Activities and Events

### Launch of IEFL Speaker Series

This fall, IEFL is launching a new series of events focused on showcasing diverse and insightful research done by members of the partnership. These will be a variety of online, virtual, and hybrid events hosted in Toronto and Reykjavík. The first event of the series will be hosted at York University in collaboration with the Canadian Association of the Club of Rome.

- From Country to Community – How Ecological Footprint and Biocapacity Data is being applied across Canada
  - October 3 from 12:00 to 13:30 ET, virtual
- Exploring Indicators of Human Wellbeing and Ecological Sustainability in the Nordic Countries.
  - November 13 from 10 to 11 ET, virtual

### A Better Economy is Taking Root Event in Toronto

In partnership with Doughnut Economics Collective Toronto, WEAll Canada (Wellbeing Economies), and the Canadian Purpose Economy Project, we welcome Toronto leaders to an evening of inquiry and connection. This event is on Friday October 17 from 6:30pm to 10pm at the Centre for Social Innovation – Spadina.

## Training

### A new school year has begun!

As the 2025–2026 school year has begun, a new cohort of students have joined the classes offered by the IEFL partnership at York University and the University of Iceland. In the fall students will take two courses: Ecological Economics and Applications of Ecological Footprint. These courses offer an introduction to these disciplines as necessary foundations to producing the National Ecological Footprint and Biocapacity Accounts (NEFBA).

In the winter students will take Ecological Footprint Informatics, a comprehensive course on computational techniques which are used to produce the NEFBA. All of these courses are offered at York University. Students can also take a course on Systems Dynamics Modeling offered at the University of Iceland as an introduction to STELLA and Vensim.

## Recognitions

### **Congratulations to Johanna Louise Van Berkum and Marina Ermina at the University of Iceland for completing their masters!**

Anne and Marina have both just completed the Masters in Environment and Natural Resources program at the University of Iceland, where they also conducted research with the IEFL partnership. Anne successfully defended her research titled "Developing a Satellite-Based Methodology to Estimate Built-up Biocapacity for use in the National Ecological Footprint and Biocapacity Accounts: A Comparative Study of Pléiades Neo and Sentinel-2 Imagery, Classification Algorithms, and Segmentation Approaches", and Marina successfully defended her research titled "Exploring Indicators of Human Wellbeing and Ecological Sustainability in the Nordic Countries". Additionally, Anne co-produced two editions, and Marina co-produced one edition of the NEFBA as data analysts. Both Anne and Marina will be participating in the IEFL speaker series to share their research, more information will be coming soon to sign up for these events.



## Research

### **The International Ecological Footprint Learning Lab at the International Society for Ecological Economics – Degrowth Conference.**

Several members of the International Ecological Footprint Learning Lab (IEFLL) from York University and the University of Iceland presented at the International Society for Ecological Economics (ISEE) – Degrowth Conference in Oslo, Norway this past June. Peri Dworatzek, EUC PhD student and IEFLL partnership coordinator, organized a special session called “The Past, Present, and Future of Ecological Footprinting”. Brynhildur Davíðsdóttir, Professor at the University of Iceland and IEFLL co-director, moderated the session’s three presentations. The first presentation by Kiona Lo, Senior Data Analyst at the Ecological Footprint Initiative, was on a 30-year meta-literature review of the evolution of ecological footprint and biocapacity. Peri Dworatzek presented on the research and development of the National Ecological Footprint and Biocapacity Accounts by IEFLL, and Peter Victor, EUC Professor Emeritus and Co-Director of IEFLL, presented on using ecological footprint data in modeling scenarios.



From left to right: Kiona Lo, Peri Dworatzek, Peter Victor, and Brynhildur Davíðsdóttir.

Eric Miller, Co-Director of IEFLL, organized another special session called “Ecological Economic Accounting for Post Growth Futures”. In this session, he curated a collection of presentations on various methods of accounting and modeling such as material footprint accounting and natural resources modeling. Andrew Reeves, postdoctoral researcher at York University and IEFLL, presented “Modeling insights for Degrowth using the LowGrowSFC macroeconomic model”. In this presentation, Andrew Reeves explored a Canadian stock-flow consistent macroeconomic model, LowGrow SFC, and what lessons can be drawn from it and ongoing research work for Degrowth theory and practice.



From left to right: Carey King, Eric Miller, Lasare Samartzidis, Kirsten Wiebe, and Alaitz Aritzta.

## International Network for Democratic Economic Planning First Conference

Andrew Reeves, Postdoctoral research at York University presented at the International Network for Democratic Economic Planning this summer. This is a newly founded international network aiming to advance a post-capitalist economic system. Andrew’s presentation is titled “Lessons for Democratic Economic Planning from Ecological Macroeconomics”, you can access his slides [at this link](#). And find the recording of Andrew’s presentation, [at this link](#).





Andrew Reeves presenting at the Democratic Economic Planning conference

## Knowledge Mobilization

### **New Five-Part Podcast Series, “Going Steady with Herman Daly: How to Unbreak the Economy (and the Planet)”**

A new podcast series by Cities 1.5 is being published on Herman Daly’s ideas, work, and personal life. Three episodes have been released so far and two more to be published soon, available on Spotify or Apple podcasts. The podcast is hosted by David Miller, editor of the Journal for Climate Change, Economy, and Policy. Link for the [Apple Podcast](#) and [Spotify](#). Peter Victor, IEFL co-director is a special guest in this series.

### **Leading the way: How the Welsh Government uses the Ecological Footprint to shape sustainable policies written by Marina Ermina**

The Welsh Government recognises the importance of reducing environmental impact at all levels – global, national, and individual aiming to achieve net-zero carbon emissions, one-planet resource use, and zero waste by 2050. The concept of the ecological footprint (EF) has played a key role in shaping Wales’ early sustainable development policies and has been incorporated into 2009 “One Wales: One Planet” scheme. This plan committed to reduce Wales’ EF to the global average resource availability per person within a generation leading to the development of the Well-being of Future Generations. Continue reading about the impact Wales is making on our blog, [link here](#).

## **Does the moon care? A dialogue between Tim Jackson and Kate Raworth written by Bart Hawkins Kreps**

"Sometimes when I've talked about prosperity, people have said 'that sounds like getting rich'," Kate Raworth remarked to Tim Jackson in a recent dialogue. "Tell us why you have an affection for the word 'prosperity'."

Indeed, prosperity is at the heart of Jackson's work. The British ecological economist titled one of his books *Prosperity Without Growth*, and he is a co-director of the Centre for the Understanding of Sustainable Prosperity (CUSP), a partner of the International Ecological Footprint Learning Lab. Read more about this discussion between Kate Raworth and Tim Jackson on our blog, [link here](#).

### **Meet an IEFL Member**



Hemanthi Ranasinghe is a Senior Professor at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura in Sri Lanka, in the department of Forestry and Environmental Science. She is also a research collaborator with the IEFL partnership and has long standing relationships with York University, where she was an Adjunct Professor from 2014 to 2016. In more recent years, Hemanthi has focused her research on climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies, including conducting collaborative research with national and international organizations such as the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services.

Hemanthi and a student at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura are beginning research on assessing the ecological footprint and scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions of the university. This research is building upon the established methodology that was used to calculate ecological footprint and scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions for York University. Hemanthi and others from the IEFL partnership will be speaking about this research at the virtual event “Institutional Scaling of Ecological Footprint and Biocapacity Accounting” on January 21, [register here](#).

Hemanthi visited Toronto, Canada in September 2025, meeting with IEFL partners at York University. Hemanthi, Eric, Kiona, and other data analysts discussed details about data and methodologies of the ongoing research Hemanthi is conducting.



From left to right: Neha Basnet, Kiona Lo, Eric Miller, Hemanthi Ranasinghe, and Peri Dworatzek



## Partner Visits

### Strengthening international networks with IEFL partners in Iceland

During the IEFL Biennial Symposium, members from York University and the University of Iceland visited the operations of non-academic Icelandic IEFL partners. These site visits were opportunities for academic and non-academic partners to exchange information, learn more about the work each other is doing, and consider how to better align the ecological footprint data and IEFL research agenda with their partners. Read more about the site visits on our website, [link here](#).



York University and University of Iceland IEFL researchers and guests visiting the Icelandic Ocean Cluster innovation hub. Researchers are pointing at a sign on the wall that says, "Zero footprint vessel", a goal that the Ocean Cluster is trying to reach. From left to right, back row: Shanta Varma, Bumika Srikanthalingam, Eric Miller, Beatice Foley, Anne Louise Van Berkum, Brynhildur Davíðsdóttir, Matthew Don Reimer Dyck, Marina Ermina, Jade Farabet, Maria Victor, Peter Victor, Kiona Lo, Peri Dworatzek, Andrew Reeves, and Petra Dimitrova Toneva.



## Publications

Reeves, A. M. M., and Starr, J. (September 2025). Household Income versus Carbon Footprint. Chapter Two. Vocabulary for Sustainable Consumption and Lifestyles: A Language for Our Common Future. [Vocabulary for Sustainable Consumption and Lifestyles: A Language for](#)

## 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. If you have any questions or comments, please email: [info@footprintpartnership.net](mailto:info@footprintpartnership.net)