



# International Ecological Footprint Learning Lab

## Newsletter – February 2026

The [International Ecological Footprint Learning Lab](#) is pleased to share the first newsletter of 2026.

### Activities and Events

#### Winter / Spring IEFLL Speaker Series

ROA\$T GROWTH: Alternative Comedy for Alternative Economics in Toronto, Canada

- Friday March 20 starting at 7 pm EDT
- In person at Society Clubhouse, Toronto.

Ecological Footprint of Reykjavík: Downscaling National Accounts and Informing Municipal Policy

- Tuesday March 31 from 1 pm – 2 pm EDT = 17h – 18h GMT
- Virtual

IEFLL Research Symposium

- Tuesday April 14 starting at 8 am PDT = 11 am EDT = 15h GMT
- Virtual

Launch of the 2026 Edition of the National Ecological Footprint and Biocapacity Accounts

- Wednesday April 22 (Earth Day!) at 9 am PDT = 12 pm EDT = 16h GMT
- Virtual

### Research

#### Centre for Eco-cities at BCIT launches online tools for climate action

BCIT Centre for Ecocities launched two online tools that help BC communities take climate action.



The Consumption-based Solutions for Climate Action Guide and the CBEI and EF Archetype Tool for BC Communities are designed to help local governments, businesses, and communities adopt practical strategies to shrink their ecological footprints, share resources to promote equity and community wellbeing, and regenerate nature ([links for the tools](#)). Through a BCIT [Industry Sponsored](#) Student Project, five students from the Computer Systems Technology Diploma program created the web interface for the archetype tool. A launch webinar for the tools was held in June 2025 for BC local government leaders and climate practitioners, watch the webinar [at this link](#). This project was supported by the Real Estate Foundation of BC (REFBC). Learn more about the tools and the project on their website, [link available here](#).

### **Changing Tides – Canadian Society for Ecological Economics**

The Canadian Society of Ecological Economics (CANSEE) is hosting their annual conference in Sydney, Cape Breton Nova Scotia at the University of Cape Breton from October 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Submissions are open until April 1, 2026, [link available here](#).

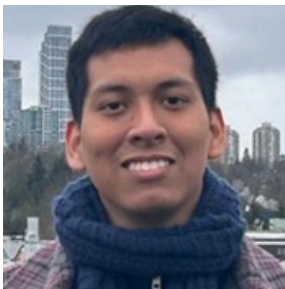
### **Joint statement by ISEE and ESEE on academic freedom and post-growth research**

The International Society for Ecological Economics (ISEE) and the European Society of Ecological Economics (ESEE) made a joint statement in response to leadership in the UK Economic and Social Research Council who argued to dismiss post-growth and degrowth research. Read the joint statement, [link available here](#).

### **BCIT Student applying Ecological Footprint Analysis to study Blue-Green Roofs**

Rodrigo Ramírez is a graduate student at the British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT) in the Masters of Building Science program. Rodrigo participated in the International Ecological Footprint Learning Lab through the BCIT Centre for Ecocities partnership to learn about the urban ecological footprint approach developed by Jennie Moore. He successfully defended his research prospectus in the 2025 fall term and is now applying an ecological footprint analysis to blue-green roof systems.

A blue-green roof system can be designed to detain and divert excess winter precipitation to tank storage for future use to help reduce the impact of localized drought conditions over summer months. The research will assess whether blue-green roofs constitute a net ecological benefit by comparing improved biocapacity productivity against the additional energy and materials required to build and operate the systems in Vancouver.



## Recognitions

### **Lina Brand Correa promoted to Associate Professor (with tenure) at York University**

Congratulations to Lina Brand Correa for receiving a promotion to Associate Professor (with tenure) in the Faculty of Environmental and Urban Change at York University in Toronto Canada. Lina is a faculty member of IEFL, her research interests focusing on ecological economics, energy, and wellbeing. Lina is also faculty lead of the Degrowth Research Circle at York University. Check out Lina's faculty profile, [link available here](#).



### **Peri Dworatzek awarded environmental statistics scholarship**

Congratulations to Peri Dworatzek for receiving the Michael Bordt Scholarship from the Faculty of Environmental and Urban Change at York University. Peri is a PhD student at York University and Partnership Coordinator of the IEFLL partnership. This scholarship supports graduate researchers who demonstrate a strong interest in applying informatics for the development and analysis of environmental statistics.



## **Training**

### **Student Testimonials from the Ecological Footprint Training Program**

Read about the experiences of students in the International Ecological Footprint Learning Lab training program. Masters' students from York University and the University of Iceland share their experiences taking ecological footprint courses and co-producing the National Ecological Footprint and Biocapacity Accounts. Check out their stories on the IEFLL website, [link available here](#).

### **BCIT course on consumption-based greenhouse gas emissions inventorying and ecological footprint analysis**

Later this year, there will be a new course in consumption-based greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventorying and ecological footprint analysis. This course offered by the British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT) will focus on quantifying energy and material flows through an integrated life cycle analysis and urban metabolism approach. This course will provide sustainability metrics training to graduate students and others looking to understand and apply ecological footprint analysis at an urban scale, following an ecocity approach.

## Knowledge Mobilization

### **Degrowing our Footprint: to thrive within Biocapacity limits**

The International Ecological Footprint Learning Lab (IEFLL) in collaboration with the Degrowth Collective of Toronto hosted an in-person learning and networking event in Toronto this past December. Eric Miller and Peri Dworatzek from IEFLL talked about the generation of ecological footprint and biocapacity data, and how this relates to goals and values of the degrowth movement. Later in the evening, the audience and hosts split into break out rooms to discuss specific topics. Eric Miller, Director of the Ecological Footprint Initiative, lead a breakout session about using ecological footprint data in the policy context. Peri Dworatzek, IEFLL partnership coordinator and PhD student lead a session on the science and methodology behind calculating the data. Vlad Bunea, founder of the degrowth collective, [essayist](#), and [video essayist](#), lead a breakout session on degrowth activism and grassroots movements. And Akhil Puri, ex-climate tech entrepreneur and [writer](#), lead a session with an introspective focus on individual action.



### **Past Patterns, Present Lessons: What Findhorn's Ecological Footprint Tells Us About Sustainable Living by Jade Emma Farabet**

In the windswept northeast of Scotland, the Findhorn ecovillage stands as one of the longest-running examples of low-impact living. Established as the Findhorn Foundation charity in 1972 (Findhorn Foundation, 2025), it features eco-houses, wind turbines, and a culture of mindful consumption that makes sustainable living ideals tangible.

A 2006 ecological footprint (EF) assessment – modest by today’s analytical standards but still striking in its findings – showed that residents’ land-use demand sat well below the UK average (Tinsley & George, 2006). Continue reading the full article on the IEFL blog, [link available here](#).

### **ClimateHero making Climate Action Personal within a Carbon Lens by Deborah King**

Environmentalists at heart, Swedish duo Anna and Robert Sabelström founded Climate Hero AB in 2018, after recognizing how significantly individual lifestyle choices contribute to global emissions. They originally launched ClimateHero’s Climate Footprint Calculator for the Swedish market, “with the ambition to scale internationally”. Continue reading the full article on the IEFL blog, [link available here](#).

### **Exploring Indicators of Human Wellbeing and Ecological Sustainability in the Nordic Countries YouTube Video**

The video recording of this research presentation is available on our YouTube channel, [link available here](#).

### **Institutional Scaling of Ecological Footprint Webinar**

The first IEFL event that took place in 2026 was a panel of speakers sharing research on scaling ecological footprint and biocapacity assessments to the level of the institution, specifically higher education institutions. The panel consisted of four speakers, all partnership members. Eric Miller, Director of the Ecological Footprint Initiative, started off the panel sharing an introduction about the importance of ecological footprint and emissions assessments for institutions. Then Kiona Lo, Senior Data Analyst at the Ecological Footprint Initiative shared results from the two assessments done for York University. Afterwards, Hemanthi Ranasinghe, Senior Professor at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, presented results from a similar study done at her university in Sri Lanka. Finally, the panel ended with Jennie Moore, who is a co-director of the IEFL partnership and recently retired from the position of Director of the Centre for Ecocities at the British Columbia Institute of Technology. Jennie shared insights from the research assessment that was done for BCIT almost two decades ago. The webinar recording is available on our YouTube Channel, [link available here](#).

## Institutional Scaling of Ecological Footprint

Hosted by the International  
Ecological Footprint Learning Lab  
(IEFLL)

January 21, 2026

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www.footprintpartnership.net



**Eric Miller,**  
Director of the  
Ecological Footprint  
Initiative



**Kiona Lo,**  
Senior Data Analyst at  
the Ecological  
Footprint Initiative



**Dr. Hemanthi  
Ranasinghe,**  
Senior Professor at the  
University of Sri  
Jayawardenapura



**Dr. Jennie Moore,**  
Director of BCIT Centre  
for Ecocities



Moderated by Peri  
Dworatzek,  
PhD Student and  
Partnership  
Coordinator for  
IEFLL



This webinar draws on  
support from the Social  
Sciences and  
Humanities Research  
Council of Canada

## Meet an IEFLL Member

### Connecting Scientific Communities about Environmental Statistics and National Accounts

As the Chief of Economic and Environment Statistics at United Nations–Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UN-ESCWA), Wafa About Hosn, has been leading the establishment of environmental statistical reporting according to global statistical standards for decades. At the UN-ESCWA Wafa leads research that coordinates the production of economic and environmental official statistics with Arab countries. Read the full profile on Wafa on the IEFLL blog , [link available here](#).



## Partner Visits

### York University Degrowth Research Circle

In February members of the IEFL partnership connected with researchers and practitioners in the Degrowth Research Circle at York University. This research circle is expanding degrowth research and building up the North America context for degrowth research. Peri Dworatzek (IEFL partnership coordinator), Eric Miller (EFI director), Andrew Reeves (IEFL postdoctoral researcher), Lina Brand Correa (IEFL partner), Bart Hawkins Kreps (former IEFL research assistant), and Elaine Howarth (footprint alumnus), were present sharing their research and activities related to degrowth. IEFL is interested in expanding footprint research that relates to quantifying degrowth perspectives.



From left-to-right: back row: Shaun Sellers, Elaine Howarth, Eric Miller, Paula Kaston, Andrew Reeves, Peri Dworatzek. Front row: Bart Hawkins Kreps, Ceileigh McAllister, Sayeh Dastgheib-Beheshti, Vlad Bunea, Lina Brand Correa, and Kelly Gingrich.

## Publications

Dyck, M., Davíðsdóttir, B., & Cook, D. (2026). A comparative analysis of the opportunities and challenges for domestic biofuel development and deployment in Iceland's fishing fleet. *Biomass and Bioenergy*, 211, 109150. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biombioe.2026.109150>



## 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)