



The University of Sydney

Centre for Integrated Sustainability Analysis



Issue 08/Q1

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ISA's Projects and Initiatives

The DEF Project

The Dynamic Ecological Footprint is a new model which forecasts how big the Ecological Footprint might be in the future. A blueprint of the methodology was developed by a collaboration of researchers from the University of Sydney, Stockholm Environment Institute and the University of York (see Lenzen et al. (2007), titled 'Forecasting the Ecological Footprint of Nations – a blueprint for a dynamic approach', at www.isa.org.usyd.edu.au/publications/DEF.pdf). The first blueprint analysis provides forecasts to year 2050 if business were to continue as usual. As part of a collaborative project between the University of Sydney, University of Newcastle, Global Footprint Network and several government departments in Australia, the methodology is currently being extended to incorporate alternative scenario testing capabilities. Ultimately, this will allow an assessment of the Dynamic Ecological Footprint and provide options for how to most effectively and responsibly reduce the Ecological Footprint of a jurisdiction.



About BottomLine³

[BottomLine³](#) is a software package developed by Dipolar Pty Limited and ISA. Using this software you can create a comprehensive sustainability report across the Triple Bottom Line simply by inputting your organisation's expenditure and revenue accounts.

The [BottomLine³](#) software takes your organisation's financial accounts, together with on-site impact data, as input. The outputs are powerful diagrams and tables that will form the backbone of a comprehensive sustainability report. There is no additional data collection effort. The software calculates your Triple Bottom Line account for your sustainability report directly from your organisational financial data.

For more information about the software or to download a free trial version please visit:

<http://www.bottomline3.com>

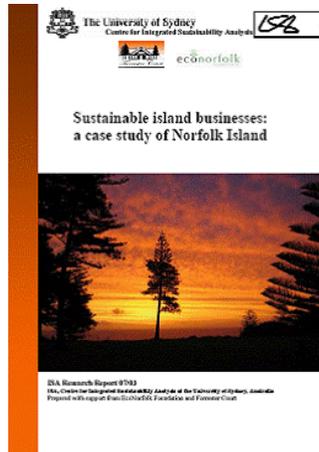
Consulting

The Centre for Integrated Sustainability Analysis is a research team at the University of Sydney, bringing

together expertise in environmental science, economics, technology, and social science.

Our aim is to continuously develop and improve in a multi- and inter-disciplinary way scientifically rigorous, quantitative, consistent and comprehensive approaches for Integrated Sustainability Analysis.

The report below is the result of one of our consulting projects:



Sustainable island businesses: a case study of Norfolk Island

Conventional measures aimed at tackling the energy and waste issues of island communities focus on technological solutions, such as the introduction of renewable energy sources. There exists a history of technology implementations on small islands that have failed because of a lack of continuing skills and financial resources needed for ongoing operation and maintenance. Despite these experiences, what has received little attention so far are measures aimed at achieving island-friendly solutions by reducing their material metabolism, for example by recycling and re-use. The two case studies presented in this work show that conservation, efficiency and reductions of the overall material metabolism of economic activity can be as effective as purely technologically-driven changes. Both case studies demonstrate exceptional sustainability performance in terms of material flow, and greenhouse gas emissions. The income growth scenarios show that – from a sustainability point of view – increasing tourist yield rather than tourist numbers is preferable for coping with price hikes and a finite resource base, and is also more likely to keep within bounds the strain on the island’s people and infrastructure.

Calculations in this report are from



Education and Training: February/March 2008

Discover your triple bottom line - Walk away with your carbon footprint

This three-day learning program will provide you with the tools and the know-how to construct your organisation’s carbon footprint and TBL account.

Who should attend? Anyone working in an organisation that wants to understand what being carbon neutral means for them. Anyone who wants to produce a TBL report not next financial year but THIS year (note: TBL includes the Footprint). This includes managers, consultants, accountants, educators, planners, policy makers and strategists in local government, business, industry, government and non-government organisations.

What do we cover?

- What’s carbon neutral and how do we know what’s to be neutralized?
- What’s a carbon footprint and how does it fit into the TBL?
- TBL case studies - successes and pitfalls
- Planning your TBL/footprint account
- Data collection
- Workplace between session activities
- Sharing experiences
- Your own hands-on project
- What the output means and how to make good use of it

What do you get?

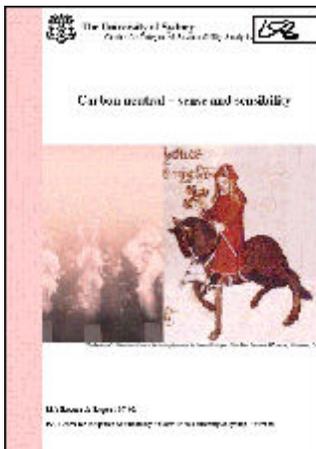
- Walk away with a working model of your own TBL or Carbon Footprint project

- Development of your own TBL or Footprint project
- License to use the full registered BL³ software for one project for one month
- Unlimited trial version of software
- Resources
- Support materials

Our 2008 [training schedule](#) will be available early February.

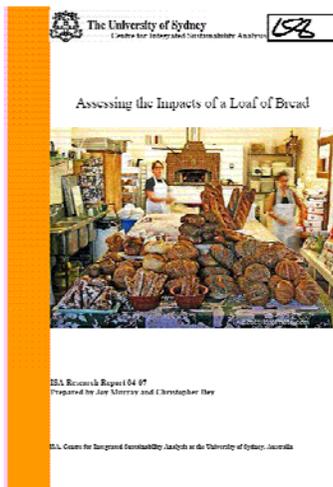
Alternatively, the Centre for Integrated Sustainability Analysis offers on-site and/or customised courses. For more information please contact the ISA team on +61 2 9036 9365

Publications



Carbon neutral – sense and sensibility

Businesses offering to make you or your company carbon neutral are proliferating on the internet. The term carbon neutral is being defined by common usage. There are no standard ways of measuring your carbon emissions. This report examines eleven websites offering carbon neutrality. It compares online calculators, their results and the costs of offsetting calculated on the strength of those results. It traces two offset projects from the online carbon offset retailer to the actual project on the ground in order to compare the online rhetoric with the time consuming and difficult work of developing community based projects in Third World countries. The report offers a definition of carbon neutral based on the ways in which the term is being used. It also uncovers a range of issues for further discussion.



Assessing the impacts of a loaf of bread

This paper provides detailed information about on-site and supply chain 'costs' of producing a loaf of bread, in terms of indicators across the social, economic and environmental bottom lines. Both on-site and supply-chain viewpoints help to tell a story. Both are necessary components of 'the true cost of a loaf of bread'. But the real decision about what to do with this information ultimately rests with people. What an integrated sustainability analysis of bread can offer are metrics and results, underpinned by a transparent philosophy, that can lay bare the intricacies of an interdependent and infinite supply chain.

You can download these and other publications by visiting:
<http://www.isa.org.usyd.edu.au/publications/index.shtml>

ISA activity around the Globe

ADAS and ISA-UK agree collaboration



More and more organisations and businesses are looking to carbon footprinting as a means of measuring their environmental performance, reducing bills for energy, resources and waste and standing out from competitors. Building on its track record in the development and use of carbon footprinting (primarily in the land-based sector), ADAS is looking to take this form of analysis to new levels, joining in partnership with sustainability specialists ISA^{UK} Research & Consulting. ADAS is using Bottomline³, the integrated footprinting tool, for measuring not only carbon but all kinds of emissions and environmental impacts suitable for use by any business regardless of type or size. "Having examined many of the carbon footprinting tools currently available, we decided that most were crude and somewhat inaccurate, mainly looking only at direct carbon emissions. None seemed to provide the detailed and robust analysis that we had in mind," says Carol Somper, sustainable development manager with ADAS. With a team of eighteen staff, trained in the use of Bottomline³, ADAS are in an excellent position to offer carbon footprint, Ecological Footprint and triple bottom line analyses for tailoring business solutions to meet client needs.

To find out more about ADAS' services please contact Mr Ben Leonello:
Ben.Leonello@adas.co.uk.

International Partners

For a list of ISA local and global partners [click here](#)

The Centre for Integrated Sustainability Analysis Team

Find out more about the ISA team by reading the [team's profile](#).

You can contact us by calling: +61 2 9036 9365

or

Emailing us at: isa@physics.usyd.edu.au

Please visit our website for the latest developments:

<http://www.isa.org.usyd.edu.au>



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