



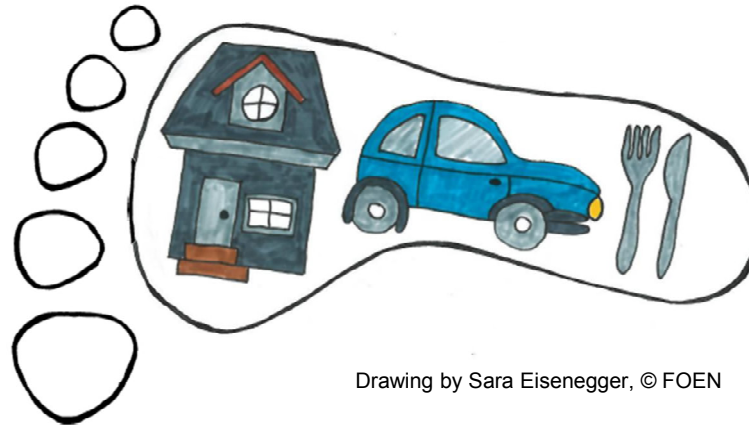
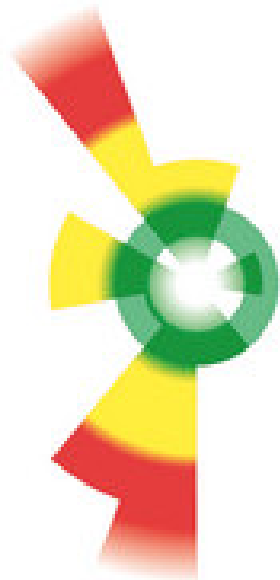
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**Federal Office for the Environment FOEN**  
Economics section

# Planetary Boundaries and the Green Economy: Switzerland



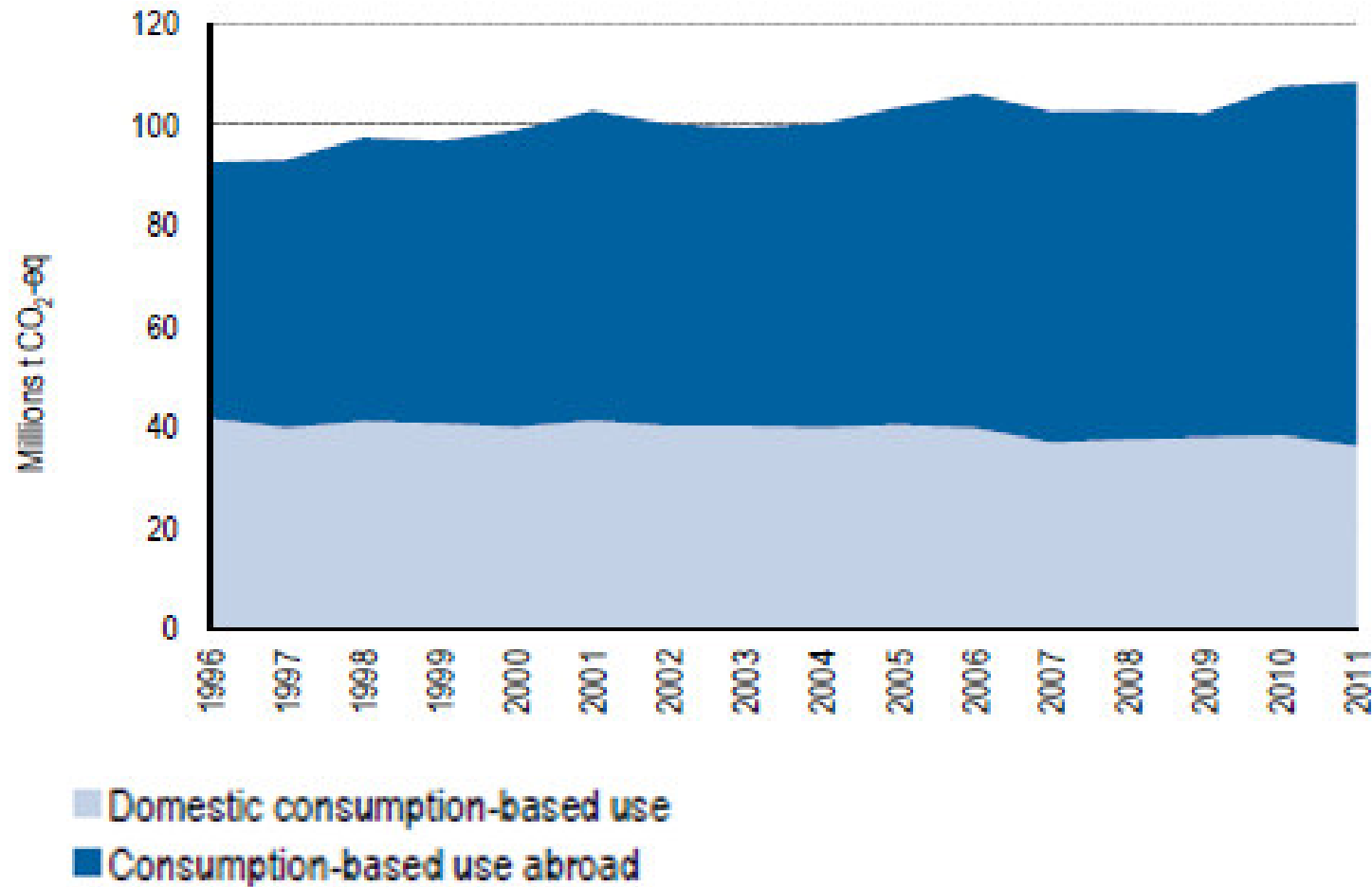
Drawing by Sara Eisenegger, © FOEN

***Making the Planetary Boundaries Concept Work, 24./25.4.2017, Berlin***  
***Swiss FOEN, Dr. Loa Buchli, Andreas Hauser***



# Policy relevance of consumption footprints in a globalized world

Greenhouse gas footprint



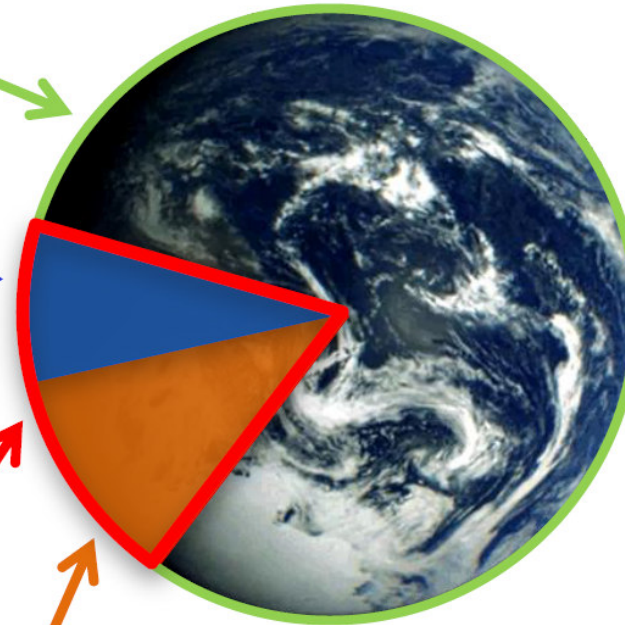


# Assessing footprints by applying the Planetary Boundaries

(boundaries translated to yearly footprints)  
**Global limit**



Swiss share of the  
global limit



**Swiss footprint**

**Overshoot !**

➡ **Priorities ?**

Dao et al (2015), further developing on Nykvist et al. (2014)

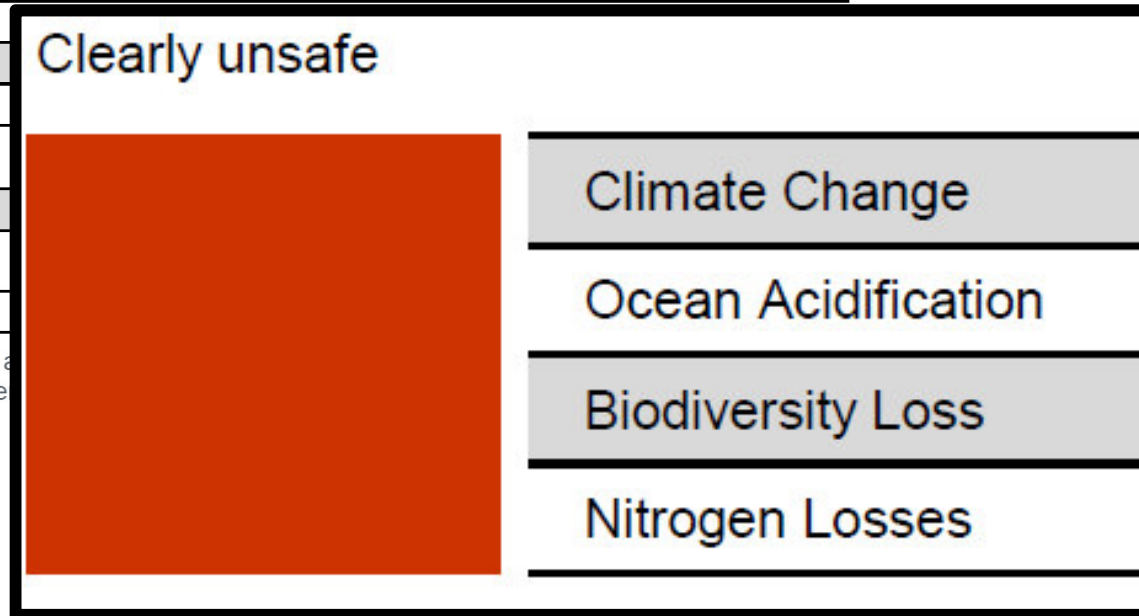
<http://pb.grid.unep.ch/>



# Assessing Swiss footprints based on Planetary Boundaries: Results for Switzerland

Performance	Planetary Boundary concerns	Units	Limit for sustainable footprint	Current footprint	Footprint trend	Reliability
Clearly unsafe	Climate Change	MtCO <sub>2</sub> eq	4.8	109	rapidly deteriorating	high
	Ocean Acidification					
	Biodiversity Loss					
	Nitrogen Losses					
Unsafe	Land Cover Anthropisation					
Data unavailable	Phosphorus Losses					

Table: Switzerland's performance, limits and current footprint  
 \*For the biodiversity footprint, the biodiversity footprint is not available



## World's regions

UNEP-GRID's World-wide assessment (40 regions/countries):

<http://bluedot.world>

# Critical footprints, relevant areas

<b>Clearly unsafe</b>	<b>Climate Change</b>	<b>Ocean Acidification</b>	<b>Biodiversity Loss</b>	<b>Nitrogen Losses</b>
<b>Relevant areas of consumption</b>	Nutrition Housing Mobility	Housing Mobility (Nutrition)	Nutrition (Housing)	Nutrition (incl. animal feed)
<b>Relevant economic Sectors</b> (tentative)	<b>Construction services, Chemical products, Wholesale and retail trade, Energy sector</b>		<b>Agriculture and food industry</b>	<b>Agriculture</b>
	Cross: information technology, financial services, commodity trading			
<b>Relevant product groups</b>	<b>Imported electricity</b>		<b>Animal food, coffee, cocoa, buildings, palm oil, etc.</b>	<b>Animal foods, hotels, restaurants</b>

Attention: «Relevance» is not to be confused with «lagging behind».



# Green Economy in Switzerland since 2010

- Swiss measures for a resource-conserving, future-proof Switzerland => within the planetary boundaries!
- The measures focus on the core areas of consumption and production; waste and raw materials (circular economy), and crosscutting issues such as sustainable finance, innovation and research, international engagement and dialogue.





# Further policy implementation in Switzerland

## Constitutional Amendment

- Swiss popular initiative "For a sustainable and resource-efficient economy (green economy)" tried to anchor the planetary boundary thinking in the constitution ("footprint one Earth till 2050").
- Rejected by the population in 2016 (64% No-share)

## Sustainable Development Strategy 2016-2019

- Planetary boundaries as well as low environmental impacts along the value chain **anchored** in the strategy

## Food security

- Parliament in 2017 **proposes** an amendment of the Constitution on food security, acknowledging the need for sustainability in consumption and trade



## Ways forward for policy, for example

1. **Asses** national / Europe's **footprints** against **planetary boundaries** and so demonstrate the urgency for action
2. Stimulate the **debate** on the **responsibility of countries** to reduce their greenhouse gas footprint, biodiversity footprint etc.
3. Develop a **vision** for critical systems (sustainable food, housing and transportation) to align with planetary boundaries
4. Provide analysis that facilitates target setting on the **business level** (one planet approaches for companies)







# Thank you!



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