



NATURAL RESOURCES ...

- are the materials provided by the Earth itself
- Replenish (are replaced) through natural processes
- used by ALL living organisms to sustain life
- used by people for economic gain as well
- Examples:
 - Air
 - Water
 - Land & soil
 - Minerals & rocks
 - Living organisms

TYPES OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Renewable

- Can be used without significantly reducing the amount available
- Replenish within months, years, or decades
- Rate of replenishment is greater than or equal to rate of use
- Examples: water, wind, oxygen, timber

Nonrenewable

- Can NOT be used without significantly reducing the amount available
- Replenishment/formation takes millions of years
- Rate of replenishment is less than rate of use
- Examples: coal, natural gas, petroleum, uranium

CARS: RENEWABLE OR NON-RENEWABLE?



RESOURCE DISTRIBUTION

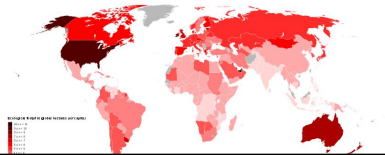
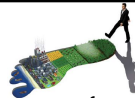
- Natural resources are found in every part of the world
- Natural distribution is NOT equal
 - Deserts lack water
 - Tundra lack trees
 - North America has few diamonds
 - Caribbean Islands have no emeralds
- Greater natural resources = wealth & power

U.S. NATURAL RESOURCES

- U.S. has many different natural resources in relatively abundant supply
 - Timber
 - Freshwater
 - Coal
- Often more resources = greater use per person = higher standard of living

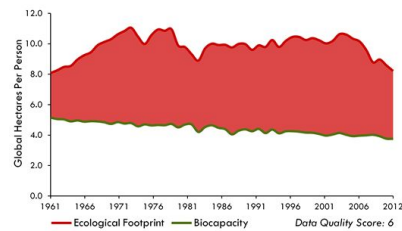
ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT

- Amount of land needed by each person for their food, water, transport, housing, and waste management
- Higher standard of living = higher resource use = bigger ecological footprint

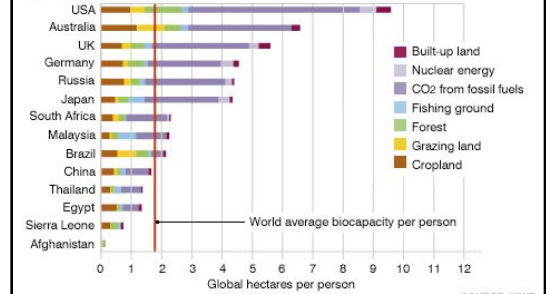


U.S. ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT

- Use ~25% of world's resources
- Have ~5% of world's population



ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT, PER PERSON BY COUNTRY, 2003



SOURCE: WWF