

## UN 17 SDGs

- Each goal has several well-defined targets
  - > Each target is associated with one or more indicators that measure progress toward the target

### 1.2.3 Carrying Capacity

#### ▷ Carrying capacity

- number of people that can be supported over a long time by natural, social, human & built capital existing within an area
- originally used by ecologists
  - ▷ depends on amount of resources:
    - 1) available in ecosystem
    - 2) consumed by each individual in the ecosystem

#### ▷ Biocapacity

- represents productivity of land area, including forests, pastures, cropland & fisheries
- 2010: Earth's estimated biocapacity (total) is 1.7 ha/person

### 1.2.4 Eco Footprint

#### ▷ Eco Footprint (EF)

- measurement of current human demand on Earth's ecosystem
- provides an estimate of area of biologically productive land and sea needed to sustainably support human activities in a year

#### ▷ Ecological Deficit

- difference between total EF of population and biocapacity of area available to population

$$ED = EF - \text{biocapacity}$$

Your personal EF is the total productive land & sea area needed to provide renewable resources you are using & to absorb your waste every year!

The average person has an EF of 2.6 global ha.

▷ Earth cannot sustain us in the long run

### 1.2.5 Natural Capital

#### ▷ Natural Capital

- Land, air, water, living organisms & all formations of Earth's biosphere that provide us with ecosystem goods and services needed for survival & well-being



- Land, air, water, living organisms & all formations of Earth's biosphere that provide us with ecosystem goods and services needed for survival & well-being
- Basis for all economic activity
- Analogous to "financial capital"

most secure financial position → spend interest generated by capital investments

most secure environmental position → use natural resources such that to ensure continuing abundance (or even increased!)