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Sustainable Growth or Right Livelihood?

A Buddhist Approach to Economic Development

"Sustainability in Crisis" conference
Faraday Institute, University of Cambridge
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Ecological footprint of Western countries in 2007

Country	Ecological footprint in global hectares per person	Ecological overshoot as % of the sustainable level
USA	8,00	444 %
Holland	6,19	344 %
Norway	5,56	309 %
Germany	5,08	282 %
France	5,01	278 %
Italy	4,99	277 %
United Kingdom	4,89	272 %

**Materialistic value-orientation
undermines well-being**

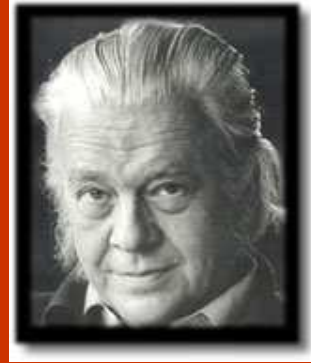


Live simply. Meditate more.



Buddhist Economics

The central values of Buddhist economics are **simplicity** and **non-violence**. It seeks the appropriate path of development, the **Right Livelihood** for people.



E.F. Schumacher

Right Livelihood

- living within **ecological limits**
- developing of **human capabilities**

Western economics versus Buddhist economics

Western development strategy	Buddhist development strategy
maximize human desire	minimize human desire
maximize self-interest	minimize self-interest
maximize profit	minimize suffering
maximize market	minimize violence
maximize instrumental use	minimize instrumental use
"more is more"	"less is more"
"bigger is better"	"small is beautiful"

Bhutan, a Buddhist Kingdom

