









16 March 2021

Dear Fellow Educators,

We are sending this invitation because you previously indicated interest or have already participated in the <u>International Student Carbon Footprint Challenge</u> (ISCFC). We invite your classes and others at your school to participate in the **April 2021 ISCFC**, an Inquiry to Student Environmental Action (<u>I2SEA</u>) program that in this session will coincide with Earth Day (Apr 22). We know the challenges that teachers and students are confronting during the global pandemic, and I2SEA remains committed to offering freely-accessible, scientifically-valid virtual activities to students worldwide.

When students in the ISCFC calculate their footprints, they are given an opportunity to register and save their data, as more than 125,000 students have done to date, representing what is likely the largest global database on student environmental behaviors that exists.

You and your classes are invited to explore our student-focused <u>International Carbon Footprint Calculators</u>: a *basic version* tailored to middle school (ages ~10-13) and the *advanced version* for secondary school and beyond. Both are fully mobile compatible, and available in Spanish and English, with language support on demand.

After completing their calculations, students can then discuss the results of this activity and their perspectives regarding climate change and related environmental concerns on the ISCFC discussion site with other ISCFC students around the world. Our improved <u>discussion platform</u> has better support for images and video, and the ability to follow posts (something that can be useful for teachers trying to follow their students' conversations). Please provide feedback on this updated tool and how it works with your students in this session.

We are also using our <u>new teacher registration interface</u>, so when you register for this session, you will be able to ensure that your school is located correctly on our world map. Furthermore, your new schools will now instantly appear in the database once you submit your registration, which means that your students can select your school when they calculate their footprints that very day. This will also relieve Jason of having to enter school registrations and locations into our database manually:)

Please <u>let Jason know</u> if you encounter any problems using the new teacher registration interface.

Since the inception of the ISCFC in September 2011 twenty-eight sessions of the program have included teachers and hundreds of thousands of students from over 60 countries, on every continent except Antarctica! **The next session of the ISCFC will begin on April 12**, and if this date (and the schedule outlined below) coordinates well with your curriculum, we invite you and perhaps your entire school to join us according to the following <u>participation steps for the April 2021 ISCFC</u>:

- March 2021: prospective partner teachers explore the ISCFC website, test the <u>calculators</u>, explore ISCFC teacher resources, and become acquainted with the student <u>discussion forum site</u>.
- **By Apr 5: complete the <u>registration form</u>** to enroll your class(es) if you have not already done so in the past 4 months,
- By Apr 27: students <u>calculate their personal carbon footprint</u>
- By Apr 29: send <u>Jason</u> your class data using our <u>Excel spreadsheet</u>

 Students can see data posted on our <u>ISCFC World Map</u> of participating schools.

 After completing their footprint calculations you and your students can use the beta version of the <u>ISCFC CODAP database</u> to explore questions that have been generated through calculator use.
- Apr 12 30: students join and participate in the <u>collaboration/discussion forum on the ISCFC</u> <u>website</u>, following their discoveries and class discussions.

Discussions may also continue past this date if student participation warrants.

- After the session: teachers and students complete the required online survey in order to help us evaluate and improve our ISCFC project.
- **Certificates for participation** will be awarded after you notify us that the above steps are completed.

On behalf of Prof. David Epel, Prof. Roger Säljö, Dr. Jason Hodin, and Dr. Sam Dupont, the co-directors of the I2SEA team, and Geraldine Fauville, we invite you, your class(es) and your colleagues to be a part of the ISCFC.

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