

# FIN-MIPS Household Study – Fruitfull Collaboration between NGO and Universities

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Conservation

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# The Finnish Association for Nature Conservation

- Biggest Finnish environmental NGO
- 34 000 members
- 76 corporate members
- 15 regional organisations, 209 local societies
- Appr. 30 employees
- Participating actively in political discussion and preparation of legislation
- Biodiversity, municipal planning , EU, Baltic Sea, energy and climate change, sustainable resource use, sustainable lifestyles, waste prevention, ...



# FIN-MIPS Household – What Was Done

Assessing the amount of natural resources consumed by Finnish households, using the MIPS-tool

1. MIPS studies covering different consumption sectors 2006-2007
  - pre-study on existing data, interviews in Middle Europe
  - 6 master's theses on MIPS data
2. Household Application in 2007
  - 27 households monitoring their consumption
  - piloting and assessing the usefulness of MIPS
  - 2 master's thesis, 2 bachelor's thesis
3. Illustration and conclusions
  - suggestions and conclusions
  - popularisation of results, communication materials
  - [www.onedidit.com](http://www.onedidit.com)

# The Research Group



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**Dorothee Dutter**



**Hanna Ruohonen**



**Kaisa Merilahti**



**Jenni Heikkinen**



**Samu Piha**

# FIN-MIPS Household - Promoting Sustainable Consumption: co-operation



Also involved:

- Ministry of trade and industry
- Kesko corp.
- City of Lahti and several other municipal organisations
- Sustainable consumption network of Finnish NGOs
- Helsinki Metropolitan Area Reuse Centre
- Wuppertal institute, CSCP, SERI

# Sub-Reports (in Finnish)



# Cooperation with Universities and Research Institutes

-The University Departments involved through the master's and bachelors thesis:

- Department of Regional Studies, Tampere University
- Department of Geography, Oulu University
- Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences, Department of Economics and Management, Department of Home Economics, Helsinki University
- Department of system analysis, Helsinki University of Technology
- Troyes University

-Input from prestigious national and international research institutes: National Consumer Research Centre, Thule Institute, Wuppertal Institute, CSCP, SERI

- Different ministries involved through funding, the advisory board and 5 sub-reports were published in the publications series of the ministries

# Lessons Learned from Cooperation with Research

- The research expertise of the universities was brought to the project through the master's and bachelors thesis.
- A truly **interdisciplinary** approach (environmental science, environmental economics, environmental policy, regional studies, technology...)
- Also beneficial for **dissemination**, information about the project spread to many universities and research institutes
- Valuable advice from research institutes to **methodology** issues
- Many **new enthusiastic people** were brought to the SCP agenda (5 people from the project now employed in the field)
- Rewarding but also quite a lot of work for the students.
- A **cost-effective** way to implement a research project (the students did receive a grant for their work)
- Also some potential risks involved (i.e. the **quality** of work produced by students)

→ A much better result than the CSO could achieve alone!

# The Final Results!

- The final report is available both in Finnish and English
- English version of the final report can be downloaded from <http://www.ymparisto.fi/default.asp?contentid=316115&lan=en>





Thank you!

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