



Natural Human Land Entitlement

earth shareholding, the Human Birthright

When a human is born, there is every reason to consider that he or she should have a natural entitlement to the wherewithal to stay alive. In modern times, enough acreage for “hunting and gathering” seems no longer practicable. Which leaves agriculture.

Conceivably, every human should have the basic human right to grow his or her own food. In the absence of this fall back option, every human is effectively forced into reliance on other humans for sources of income with which to purchase food. This might be in the form of employment or it might be in the form of charity. Either way, it is a trap from which there is little opportunity to escape.

Humans who cannot access this rightful entitlement should be compensated.

1. Global Land Area

In terms of global land area, the World Bank reported, in 2010, that about 37.7 percent of the world's total land area was considered agricultural land, while approximately 10.6 percent was considered arable.

Wikipedia reckons that of the earth's 57 million square miles (148,000,000 km²) of land, approximately 12 million square miles (31,000,000 km²) are arable. (However, it is worth noting that arable land is being lost at the rate of over 100,000 km² (38,610 square miles) per year.)

2. World Population vs World GDP

As of March 2019, according to the most recent United Nations estimates produced by Worldometers, current world population stands at 7.7 billion.

In 2014, according to the CIA's World Factbook, the global GDP stood at around US\$78.28 trillion.

3. Calculation

Taking these figures into account, the following table invites some conclusions.

World Population	World Land (km ²)	km ² / human	World Arable (km ²)	km ² / human
7,714,576,923	148,000,000	0.019	31,000,000	0.004

According to these figures, if land was divided equally among humans, the individual entitlement would be 0.019 km² (4.695 acres) of total land, or 0.004 km² (0.988 acres) of arable land.

World GDP (US\$)	per km ² Land	per km ² Arable	per Land entitlement	per Arable entitlement
78,280,000,000,000	528,918.92	2,525,161.29	10,147.02	10,147.02

Likewise, if global GDP were divided equally per km², each km² of total land would equal an annual value of \$528,918.92, whilst each km² of-arable land would equal an annual value of \$2,526,161.29.

4. Compensation

Each of these broken down to the “entitlement” land sizes indicate an annual value of **\$10,147.02**.

Where humans are deprived of the right to till their own 1 to 4 acres of the world’s land, they should be compensated, annually, by this amount.

These are crude reckonings, but hopefully illustrate the underlying principle. There may be better ways of calculating this. I’d love to hear of any.

And who should pay this compensation? Well, clearly, the humans with more than their fair share of land entitlement. Any land owned above the basic entitlement should be taxed to cover the costs of compensating those who haven’t had access to their entitlement.

5. The UK

The total land area of the UK amounts to about 240 thousand km², with about 25% (60 thousand km²) of that being arable. The current UK GDP stands at US\$2.622 trillion (2017), with the population at 66.04 million.

Applying the same calculations as above, we find:

UK Population	UK Land (km ²)	km ² / human	UK Arable (km ²)	km ² / human
66,400,000	240,000	0.004	60,000	0.001

And:

UK GDP (US\$)	per km ² Land	per km ² Arable	per Land entitlement	per Arable entitlement
2,622,000,000,000	10,925.92	43,700,000.00	39,487.95	39,487.95

Each of these broken down to the “entitlement” land sizes indicate an annual value of \$39,487.95 or **£30,114.50**.

Where UK citizens are deprived of the right to till their own 0.988 to 0.247 acres of the UK’s land, they should be compensated, annually, by this amount.

As mentioned above, these are crude reckonings, but we look forward to hearing about better ways of performing these calculations.

- Martin Strube, March 2019

