

THE YANGTZE RIVER'S REGIONAL WATER FOOTPRINTS: AN INTERREGIONAL INPUT–OUTPUT APPROACH

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ABSTRACT

The multi-regional input–output (MRIO) method has recently been used to water footprint (WF) analysis by academics. To study regional problems, the idea of interregional input–output (R-MRIO) was created. The creation of global or international input–output (N-MRIO) tables has been the focus of research. The N-MRIO and R-MRIO approaches may be used to investigate global and regional problems, respectively. The WF is a trade indicator that is affected by commerce between countries and regions. However, whether foreign imports are segregated or integrated in an R-MRIO method varies in how they are treated. The consequences of the differences between these models are assessed, and policy implications for the Yangtze River in China are discussed. The WF estimated with the combined type model is 11% higher than the WF obtained with the separated type model. International imports, mostly domestic consumption and interregional commerce, is to blame for this disparity. We discovered that this disparity had an impact on social equality in water-rich regions.

KEYWORDS: *Multi-regional input–output approach; Social equity; Water footprint; Regional analysis; Yangtze River*

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