

Referències, diferències entre petjada hídrica i petjada d'aigua

Petjada hídrica de productes,
serveis i organitzacions



**GENERALITAT
VALENCIANA**

Conselleria de Medi Ambient,
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DIFERÈNCIES I COMPATIBILITAT ENTRE LA PETJADA HÍDRICA I LA PETJADA D'AIGUA

La petjada hídrica i la petjada d'aigua són termes relacionats, però diferents.

Es calculen a través de dues metodologies diferents. Per al càlcul i la gestió de la petjada hídrica, s'empra la metodologia de la **Water Footprint Network**; en canvi, per al càlcul i l'avaluació de la petjada d'aigua s'utilitza la norma **ISO 14046**.

La petjada hídrica se centra en la quantificació de l'**aigua consumida**, mentre que la petjada d'aigua, de manera addicional, avalua també els **impactes ambientals associats**, amb un enfocament d'anàlisi del cicle de vida.

Concretament, la petjada hídrica és un indicador de l'ús de l'aigua dolça que mesura els volums d'aigua consumits per origen i els volums d'aigua contaminats per tipus de contaminació, i es dividix en tres components o tipus de consum:

- **Petjada hídrica blava o aigua blava:** l'aigua superficial i subterrània evaporada, incorporada en el procés o producte, retornada a una altra conca o abocada al mar.
- **Petjada hídrica verda o aigua verda:** l'aigua de pluja que s'evapora i evapotranspira per les plantes i que, per tant, no es convertix en escolament.
- **Petjada hídrica grisa o aigua grisa:** l'aigua necessària per a diluir la contaminació generada per una activitat.

D'altra banda, la petjada d'aigua es basa en la recopilació i avaluació de les entrades, les eixides i els impactes ambientals potencials relacionats amb l'aigua associats a una organització, un producte o un procés.

En els dos estudis es tenen en compte els **fluxos directes i indirectes** d'aigua.

La petjada hídrica s'expressa en termes de **volum d'aigua per unitat de temps**. Si es vol referir a un producte, la petjada hídrica s'expressa en forma de **volum d'aigua per unitat de producte**. Per contra, la unitat de mesura de la petjada d'aigua **varia en funció de les categories d'impacte i els indicadors seleccionats**, encara que també es referix sempre a la unitat funcional seleccionada.

ENTITATS RELACIONADES AMB LA PETJADA HÍDRICA

Comunitat de la Water Footprint Network

Fundada com una xarxa de múltiples parts interessades sense fins de lucre, la **Water Footprint Network** té com a objectiu ajudar els socis a iniciar activitats, compartir millors pràctiques i desenvolupar eines i materials que ajuden a assolir la missió establida per la comunitat:

“Utilitzar el concepte de petjada hídrica per a promoure la transició cap a un ús sostenible, just i eficient dels recursos d’aigua dolça a tot el món”.

Altres entitats d’interés

Xarxa EsAgua: xarxa pionera a Espanya d’entitats compromeses amb la reducció de la seua petjada hídrica. Esta iniciativa sorgix de la necessitat de les organitzacions de disposar d’informació relativa a l’ús sostenible de l’aigua dolça i de l’ús d’indicadors de sostenibilitat com ara la petjada hídrica i la petjada d’aigua. Les seues activitats principals són:

- Promoure el coneixement del concepte de petjada hídrica i conscienciar sobre la importància el teixit empresarial, les entitats públiques i la societat en general.
- Fomentar la reducció de l’impacte i la gestió de la petjada hídrica i la petjada d’aigua de les entitats adherides, facilitant l’intercanvi d’experiències i bones pràctiques en esta matèria.
- Posicionar les entitats espanyoles com a referents en petjada hídrica i en l’àmbit de la sostenibilitat en l’ús d’aigua.

Promoguda per la Water Footprint Network i DNV, la Xarxa EsAgua compta amb empreses espanyoles pioneres en l’interés per la petjada hídrica.

AENOR: Associació Espanyola de Normalització i Certificació (AENOR). El gener de 2017 comença la seua naturalesa com a empresa, i se separa jurídicament en dues parts independents:

- L’Associació Espanyola de Normalització (UNE), que és l’entitat designada per Espanya per a realitzar les activitats de normalització al país (normes UNE) i també participa en la normalització en l’àmbit internacional (normes EN i ISO).
- La nova AENOR Internacional, SAU, encarregada de realitzar les activitats d’avaluació de la conformitat (certificació) i altres activitats auxiliars.

Cal ressaltar que AENOR ha llançat el nou Manual d’avaluació de la petjada hídrica traduït al castellà i elaborat per Water Footprint Network, amb el qual es pretén millorar la metodologia de càlcul de la petjada hídrica per a servir millor els diferents objectius que plantegen els diferents sectors de la societat, al mateix temps que s’esforcen per aconseguir la coherència, la consistència i el rigor científic.

Al seu torn, la norma ISO 14046:2014 ha sigut elaborada pel comitè tècnic AEN/CTN 150 Gestió ambiental, la secretaria del qual exercix AENOR.

D’altra banda, AENOR com a organisme de certificació, entre altres entitats, realitza verificacions tant d’estudis de petjada hídrica com de petjada d’aigua.

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Principalment hi ha dues normes i metodologies de gran reconeixement internacional per a calcular la petjada hídrica i la petjada d'aigua:

- **Water Footprint Network:** en 2002, Arjen Hoekstra, des de l'Institut UNESCO-IHE per a l'Educació sobre l'Aigua, va crear la petjada hídrica com una mètrica per a mesurar la quantitat d'aigua consumida i contaminada per a produir béns i serveis al llarg de tota la seua cadena de subministrament. Arran de l'interés creixent, funda la plataforma Water Footprint Network, de col·laboració entre empreses, organitzacions i individus per a resoldre les crisis mundials de l'aigua promovent-ne un ús just i intel·ligent. D'esta iniciativa, sorgix **el Manual d'avaluació de la petjada hídrica**, elaborat per Arjen Y. Hoekstra, Ashok K. Chapagain, Maite M. Aldaya i Mesfin M. Mekonnen, en el qual s'establix l'estàndard mundial en matèria de petjada hídrica.
- **UNE-ISO 14046:2014:** el naixement del concepte de petjada hídrica va continuar desenvolupant-se i va donar lloc a altres metodologies com la de la norma ISO 14046. En la norma s'especifiquen els principis, els requisits i les directrius relacionats amb l'avaluació de la petjada d'aigua. ISO 14046 utilitza el terme de petjada d'aigua en la traducció al valencià, i es referix als impactes ambientals sobre el recurs aigua al llarg del cicle de vida de productes.

Al seu torn, les dues normes estan molt relacionades amb la metodologia de l'anàlisi de cicle de vida, estandarditzada per les normes **UNE-EN ISO 14040** i **UNE-EN ISO 14044**. Estes normes estableixen els requisits, les directrius, els principis i el marc de referència de tota anàlisi de cicle de vida.

Hi ha multitud de publicacions relacionades amb la petjada hídrica. A continuació se'n presenten algunes:

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