

## Notes for interpreting GHG-Energy Calc results

- 1. GHG-Energy Calc estimates 75-80% of domestic greenhouse gas emissions -** those from household consumption of:
  - Air transport
  - Car transport
  - Other public transport
  - Electricity use
  - Other fuel use
  - Food and water
  - Housing
  - Possessions

These are the emissions sources that you can most directly influence through your consumption choices.
- 2. GHG-Energy Calc does not include emissions from activities that consumers have little or no direct control over, such as:**
  - Services such as health, education, aged car and financial services.
  - Hydro fluorocarbon emissions from chemical industries and refrigerant leaks. They comprise a negligible portion of the emissions from most households.
- 3. The ‘Australian domestic average’ of 13 tonnes** cited in blue at the bottom of the Calculator refers to **greenhouse gas emissions of an average Australian as estimated by GHG-Energy Calc.** The figure includes embodied emissions of cars and road infrastructure and the non-Kyoto listed ozone and contrails from air travel.
- 4.** The Australian Bureau of Statistics (2000) estimates that 56% of Australia's energy-related, Kyoto-listed greenhouse gases were emitted in the production and consumption of goods and services for the purpose of household final consumption. In other words 15.7 tonnes of an average 28 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e per head are from domestic activities.
- 5. Under ‘Air and Sea Travel’ there is an option to include contrails (high ice clouds) and ozone-forming nitrogen oxides from jet aircraft.** These have a significant regional but short-lived global warming effect. They are **not** ‘Kyoto listed’ i.e. not included in national emissions estimates, or carbon cap and trade schemes. The Calculator provides options for calculating ‘CO<sub>2</sub> only’ or ‘all gases’ or ‘fuel plus embodied’. If you only want to show Kyoto listed greenhouse gases in your result, select ‘CO<sub>2</sub> only’.
- 6. Sustainable world average emissions.** The figure of ‘about 2 tonnes /person/ year’ has been estimated by dividing the quantity of Kyoto-listed man-made emissions that the Earth can assimilate with no increase in atmospheric concentrations (IPCC), by world population. This figure is decreasing as population increases.