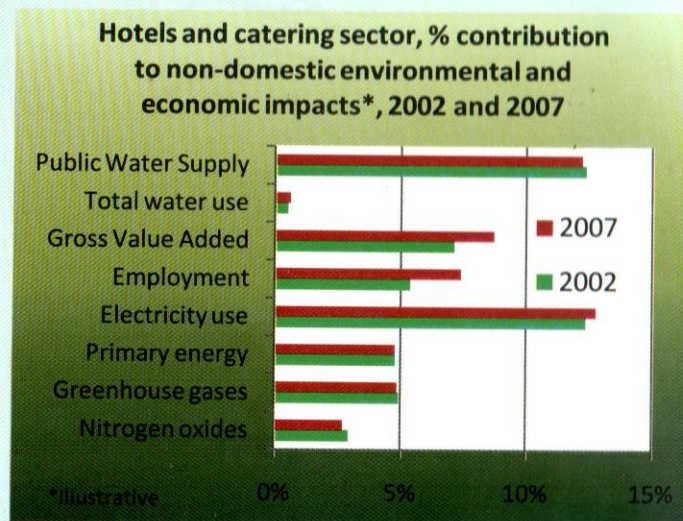


## Focus on hotels and catering

Sustainable tourism is a major issue for Mauritius, and it follows that the contribution that the hotels and catering sectors make to the economy, and the environmental impact and use of resources of the two sectors, are of particular concern.



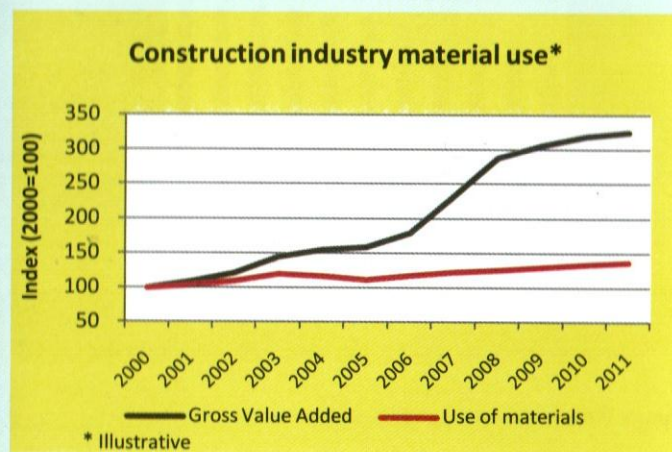
This chart shows how

- The hotel and catering sectors make a significant contribution to the Mauritian economy, accounting for 7% of GDP and 5% of employment in 2002 as compared to 9% and 7% respectively in 2007
- However, they are major users of the Public Water Supply and the electricity supply
- Nevertheless the sectors have a relatively small share of overall resource use and impacts in terms of energy, water, greenhouse gases and nitrogen oxide emissions (an atmospheric pollutant damaging to health).

## Other materials

What evidence is there that we are decoupling production and resource use in Mauritius? Another way of answering this

question is by reference to the use of construction materials by the construction industry.



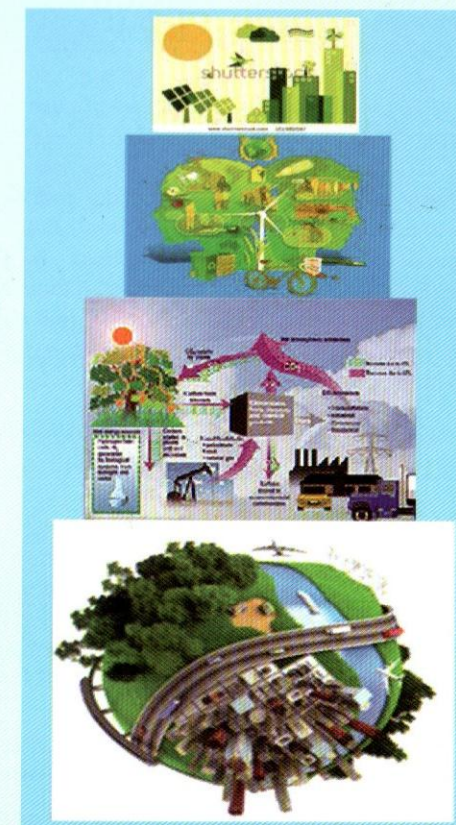
The above analysis is based on some initial results from the Material Flows Account, which sets out how the mass of materials entering the economy from the environment has changed over time. It should be treated as largely illustrative, but can be interpreted as showing that the use of aggregates for construction has increased at a much slower pace than the construction industry output.

## Current position, future developments

So far high level accounts have been compiled for most of the period 1997 to 2011 for energy use, water use and material flows, while detailed accounts for 2002 and 2007 have been completed for energy, atmospheric emissions (covering carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide, methane, nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, non-methane volatile organic compounds and sulphur dioxide) and water use.

It is planned to establish further detailed accounts in the near future with complete time series, using new questions introduced into the 2013 Census of Economic Activity questionnaires. This means that it will be possible to explore options for calculating estimates for inter-Census years, in order to create the time-series.

## Understanding Statistics



## Environmental-Economic Accounts for Mauritius

## STATISTICS MAURITIUS

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<http://statsmauritius.gov.mu>

November 2012



# Environmental-Economic Accounts for Mauritius

*Are current production and consumption patterns sustainable? How can we increase the productivity of our use of natural materials? Who is responsible for consuming our water and energy resources?*

While a wealth of economic statistics on production and consumption is available within Mauritius, these data alone are unable to provide the answers to these questions. By developing Environmental-Economic Accounts for Mauritius, Statistics Mauritius and the Ministry on Environment and Sustainable Development have established a framework for the development of an information system which can begin to address some of these issues.

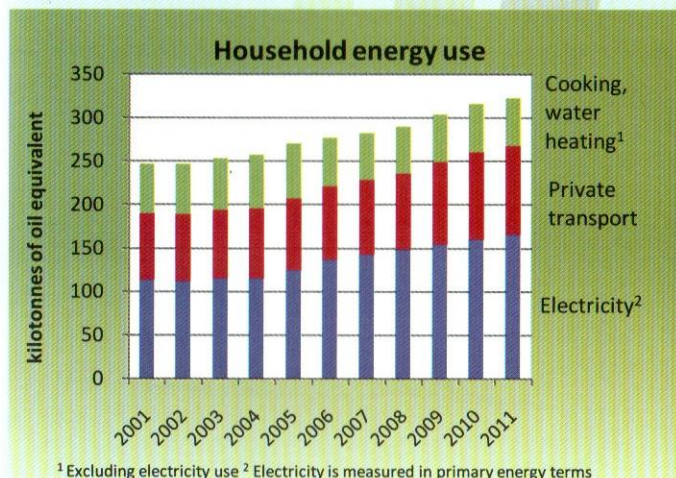
## Policy context – Ile durable

As the world economy struggles with the economic downturn, we in Mauritius need to focus our efforts on making the best use of the resources we have. The Government has recently launched an initiative to improve the sustainability of our consumption patterns, while the report on Energy Policy published a few years ago emphasises the need to improve the energy efficiency of our local industries and households.

## Consumption Impacts

But what impacts are household consumers having on our use of natural resources? And what difference does it make if we can change our behaviours? The Environmental-Economic Accounts provide some of the answers:

- The accounts show that in primary energy terms, energy use by households in Mauritius has increased by 30% between 2001 and 2011
- The main driver of this increase has been the demand for electricity, which is needed to power televisions and other household appliances
- Energy use for private cars and non-electric energy for cooking and hot water increased by about 17%.



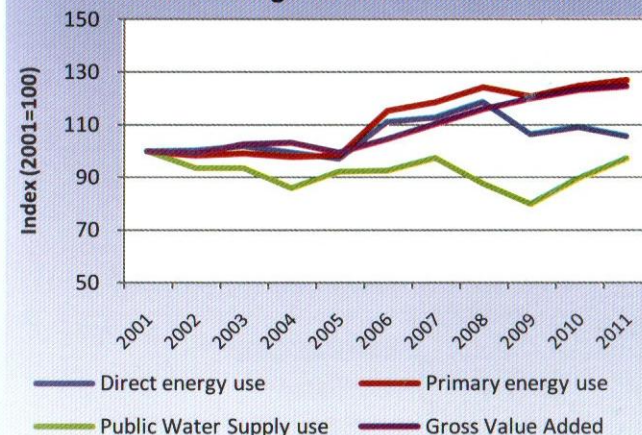
## Energy Policy and energy efficiency

The Energy Policy report sets out ambitious targets for a 70% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions within 50 years, with a 30% reduction in 25 years. As the bulk of greenhouse gas emissions in Mauritius result from energy use, the implication is that significant improvements in energy efficiency will be required from all sectors of the economy. The global economic downturn adds further pressure on businesses to improve the way they use natural resources such as energy and water.

But which sectors are priorities for improving the **resource efficiency** of production? The Environmental-Economic Accounts set out how the use of key resources has changed over the last ten years in the manufacturing and commercial sectors, compared with the increase in Gross Value Added (their contribution to GDP):

- Primary energy use by the extraction, manufacturing and construction sectors, including an allowance for the share of the energy used to produce electricity, rose by 26% over the last ten years, compared with an increase in Gross Value Added of 24%
- On the other hand, the water intensity of production has improved, as consumption of water has dropped by 3% since 2001.

## Resource efficiency in the extraction, manufacturing and construction sectors



A similar picture emerges for the services sector:

- Primary energy use in the services sector has increased about threefold between 2001 and 2011, compared with a rise of 72% in Gross Value Added
- In contrast, water use increased by 37% between 2001 and 2011.

## Services sector resource efficiency

