



Centre for  
Climate Change  
Economics and Policy

UKERC



**Joint CCCEP, UKERC and CLCF Workshop with DECC and Defra**

**“Consumption-based accounting – Implications for Policy”**

**170 Queens’s Gate, Imperial College, London, Tuesday July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

### **Objective of the Workshop**

Although domestic emissions in the UK and other European countries have stabilised or even decreased in the past two decades, from a consumption perspective, there has been no reduction but an increase in GHG emissions. In 2008, consumer GHG emissions in the UK were 20% higher than in 1990 demonstrating that the policies to address consumer emissions since 1990 have been limited in impact.

With a range of policies in place to reduce UK territorial emissions, they will form a small proportion of UK carbon footprint by 2050, with the majority of emissions embedded in imports. In 1992, 64% of the GHG emissions associated with the goods and services consumed by UK residents were emitted within the UK. By 2001, GHG emissions to satisfy UK consumption were greater from imports than from domestic production and by 2008, 60% of emissions derived from imports. This implies that national climate change policy in the UK, currently focused on territorial emissions, will increasingly need to consider approaches to reducing the overseas greenhouse gas emissions related to consumption patterns of UK residents.

The workshop will bring together experts in consumption-based accounting and internationally recognised policy analysts on climate change mitigation and governance to examine the full implications of the different options for consumption-based approaches to climate change governance and policy. The workshop will explore the strategies that exist to address consumer emissions, considering their political ramifications, the required institutional structures and their effectiveness in reducing GHG emissions.

## Format

<b>Day 1 – The Workshop</b>	
Arrival and coffee	9.30 – 9.45
<b>An Introduction to Consumer Accounting</b> (Summary of international and UK research) John Barrett (University of Leeds)	9.45 – 10.00
<b>What can consumer accounting tell us about measuring progress towards a low carbon society?</b> Moderated by Adrian Gault. Presentations from: Julia Steinberger (University of Leeds), John Barrett (University of Leeds), Alice Bows (University of Manchester)	10.00 – 11.15
Coffee Break	11.15– 11.30
<b>Consumer Strategies for reducing GHG Emissions</b> Moderated by John Barrett. Presentations from: Sara Eppel (Defra), Harry Wilting (PBL), Arnold Tukker (TNO), Keith James (WRAP)	11.30 – 12.45
Lunch	12.45 – 1.30
<b>Consumer Accounting and Trade Policy</b> Moderated by Michael Grubb. Presentations from: Graham Sinden (Carbon Trust), Glen Peters, (CICERO), Karen Turner (University of Sterling)	1.30 – 2.45
Coffee Break	2.45 – 3.00
<b>Government Responses to Consumer Accounting – Challenges and Opportunities</b> Moderated by Andy Gouldson. Presentations from: Jim Skea (CCC and UKERC), John Van Ardenne (European Environment Agency), Eva Ahlner (Swedish Environmental Protection Agency)	3.00 – 4.15
<b>Final Session</b> Concluding remarks covering future research agenda and follow up	4.15 – 4.45