

# 12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



Goal Twelve stresses that achieving economic growth and sustainable development requires that we reduce our ecological footprint -- changing the way we produce and consume goods. Sustainable consumption and production aims to increase net welfare gains from economic activities by reducing resource use, degradation and pollution; actions need to be taken by business, consumers, policy makers, researchers, among others. Highlights of the baseline status of the region are based on data on domestic material consumption, material extraction and intensity and sustainability reporting by business. Other aspects of sustainable consumption and production are considered under Goal 7 (energy) and Goal 11 (solid waste).

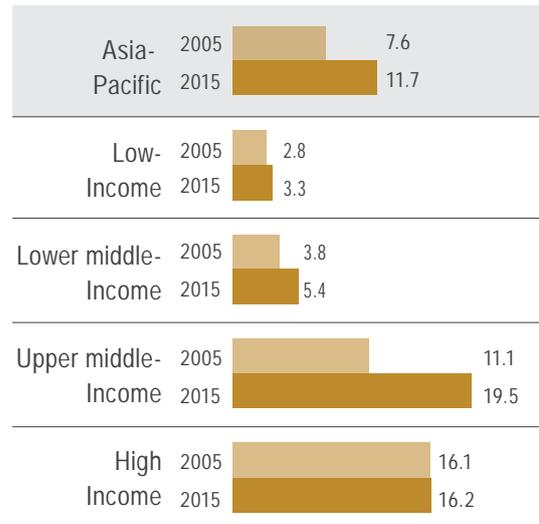
**Between 2005 and 2015, per capita consumption of natural resources in the Asia-Pacific region increased by 54%**

Domestic material consumption measures the amount of natural resources used in economic production processes in a country.

In 2010, Asia and the Pacific produced about 10 tonnes of materials for every person, which is comparable to the world average. Between 2005 and 2015, this average increased across the region by 54% – mostly in upper middle-income economies, which used six times as much materials per person as low-income economies.

*Note: Domestic material consumption measures the total amount of materials directly used by an economy. It is defined as the annual quantity of raw materials extracted from the domestic territory, plus all physical imports and minus all physical exports.*

Domestic material consumption per capita (tonnes per capita), Asian and Pacific income groups, 2005 and 2015

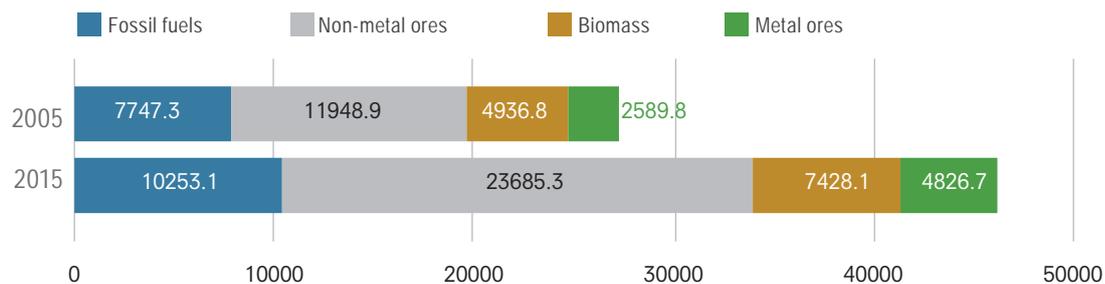


**Asia and the Pacific accounts for around half the world's materials extraction. Most of this consists of non-metal ores**

Between 2005 and 2015, as Asia-Pacific countries increased local extraction, construction and imports of finished goods, the total material footprint more than doubled, from 27 billion tonnes to 46 billion tonnes.

Half of the region's material footprint consists of non-metal ores, such as limestone, which are primarily used for construction materials.

Material footprint by type (million tonnes), 2005 and 2015



Values for some countries for 2015 were estimated.

\* Material footprint is the total quantity of biomass, fossil fuels, metal ores and non-metal ores extracted anywhere and consumed in a given country.

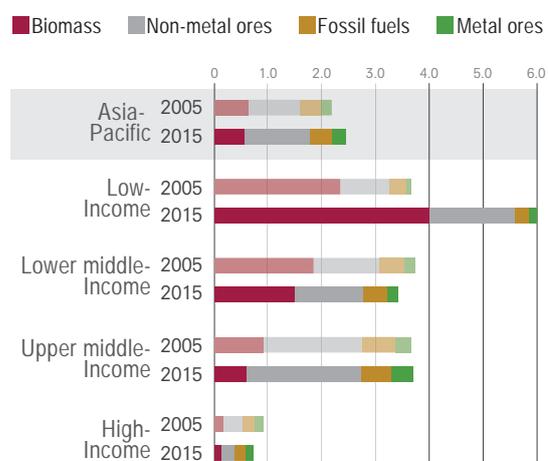
Production in Asia and the Pacific is around twice as material intensive as the world average. Intensity is much greater in the low-income countries.

A country's material intensity is the material footprint per unit of GDP. For the region as a whole this grew by 11% between 2005 and 2015, to about 2.5 kilogrammes per unit of GDP. This is about twice the world average.

Low-income economies are 8.5 times more material intensive than high-income economies. This reflects both their relatively low levels of GDP and the higher rates of local extraction required to produce exports of biomass products.

Between 2005 and 2015, the material intensity of low-income countries increased by 64%. Over the same period, the materials intensity of high-income economies decreased by 21%.

Material footprint, kg per unit of GDP, at 2005 US dollar, Asia-Pacific income groups, 2005 and 2015



Material use in low-income economies is dominated by biomass (crops, livestock and timber). High-income economies typically use a high proportion of non-metal ores.

**The region produces around one-third of the world's corporate sustainability reports**

Companies can demonstrate their progress in adopting sustainable practices through reports that comply with the standards of the Global Reporting Initiative. In 2015 the region contributed 1,803 of these reports, mostly from the high-income countries.

Source: Global Reporting Initiative database [www.globalreporting.org](http://www.globalreporting.org)

Corporate sustainability reports, Asia-Pacific income groups, 2015

