



#### **Energy and Carbon Intensity of Buildings**

#### **CARBON IMPACT OF BUILDINGS**

- Material resources extraction and processing for production leading to deforestation, loss of top soil
- Transportation of raw materials and finished products
- Operational energy of buildings for comfortable indoor environments







At the national level, activities of the construction sector

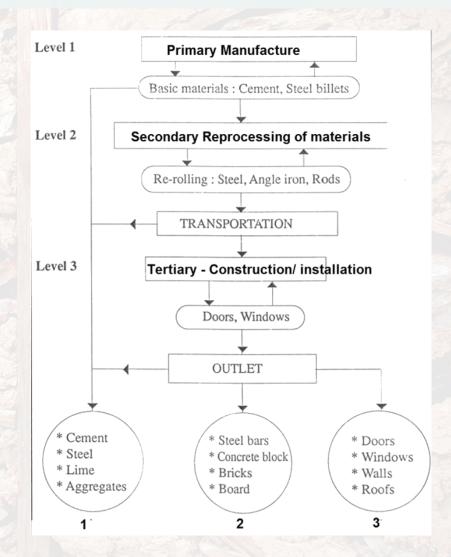
**Emission of about 22% of the total annual national CO<sub>2</sub> emissions** (80% results mainly from production of energy intensive building materials - steel, cement, bricks and lime)

#### **Embodied Energy**

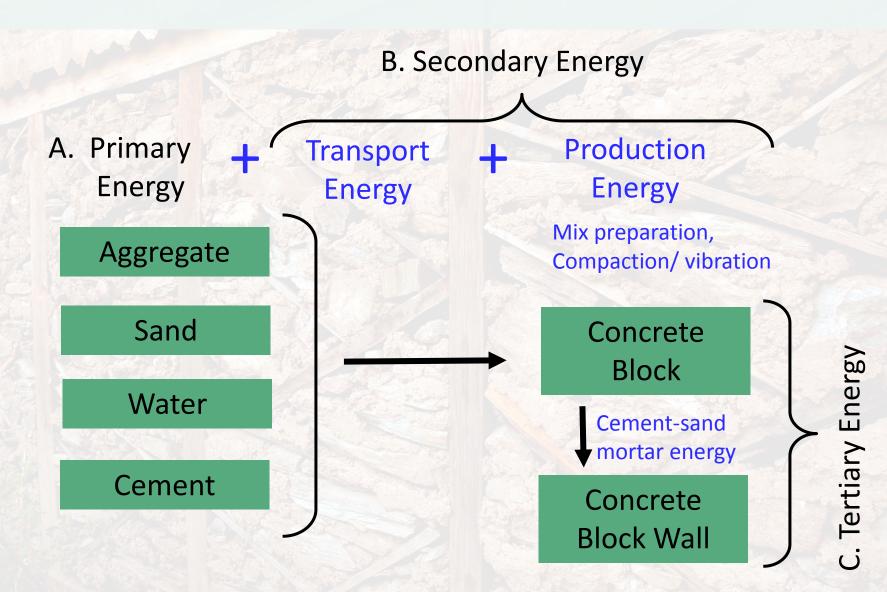
A summation of energy consumed in manufacture of raw materials, re-processing for producing building elements and in construction. (Commonly measured in Joules, kWh)

Embodied energy can be significantly reduced by

- Combining raw materials in a way that optimizes durability at low embodied energy
- Designing construction systems in a way that structural requirements are met, using low embodied energy



## **Embodied Energy of a Concrete Block Wall**



## Embodied Energy – Material Level

# At secondary level – measured per weight of building component (kg, Tonne)

#### **BRICK:**

Weight of brick – 2.2 kg

Weight of 1000 bricks – 2200 kg

Coal required for 1000 bricks – 140 kg

**Energy Content of coal** 27.5 MJ/kg

EE of 1000 bricks  $- 140 \times 27.5 = 3850 \text{ MJ}$ 

EE of 1 brick = 3.85 MJ

EE of brick = 3.85 / 2.2 = 1.75 MJ per kg

## Embodied Energy – Construction Level

At tertiary level – measured per quantity of wall, roof constructed – MJ/m<sup>2</sup>

9" wall with burnt clay bricks

Number of bricks in 1m<sup>2</sup> wall 116

Weight of bricks in 1m<sup>2</sup> wall 250 kg

**EE of bricks in 1m^2 wall** 250 x 1.75 = 445 MJ

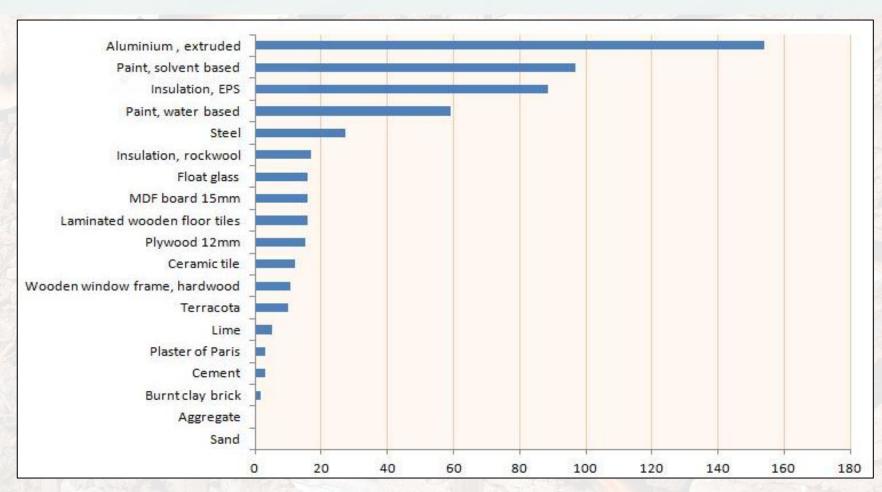
Mortar volume in 1m<sup>2</sup> wall 0.07 m<sup>3</sup>

Mortar weight in  $1m^2$  wall  $0.07 \times 2080 \text{ kg/m}^3$ = 145 kg

**EE of mortar in 1m^2 wall**  $145 \times 0.75 = 108$  MJ

EE of  $1m^2$  brick wall = 108 + 445 = 553 MJ

#### **Embodied Energy**

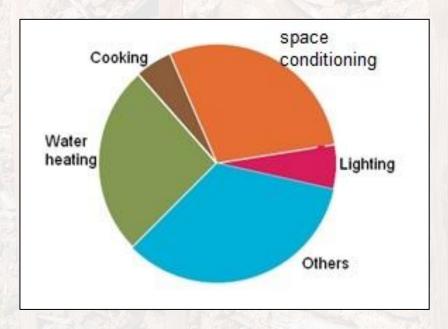


Generally, for low-rise buildings which use bricks and RCC roofs -

- Bricks and steel are the top 2 contributors to total embodied energy
- Bricks and cement are the top 2 contributors to CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

#### **Operational Energy**

Energy used for day-to-day operation - lighting, heating, ventilation, air-conditioning (HVAC), use of appliances, water pumping, etc.



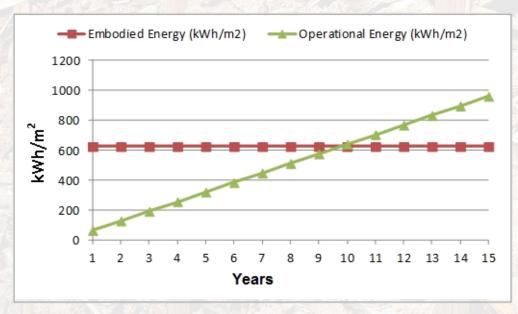
**Electricity Consumption in Residential Buildings** 

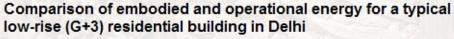
While electrical appliances determine operational energy in urban areas, cooking and lighting are the primary energy consumers in rural areas.

Measured as Energy Performance Index (EPI) expressed in kWh/m2/annum.

EPI of conventional residential buildings in Composite climate with significant cooling loads is 50 – 60 kWh/m2/annum.

## Embodied Energy vs. Operational Energy







#### Carbon Footprint

#### **Carbon Footprint is...**

The total set of GHG emissions caused directly.

Globally, Carbon footprints are a tangible parameter to assess environmental impact in terms of mass of emissions and a means of promoting Low-Carbon practices.

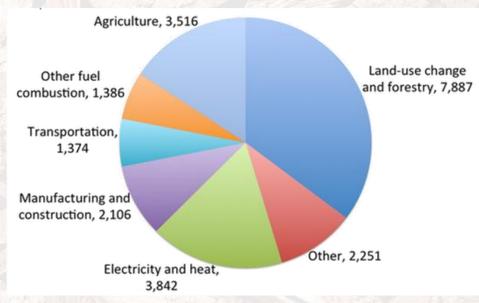


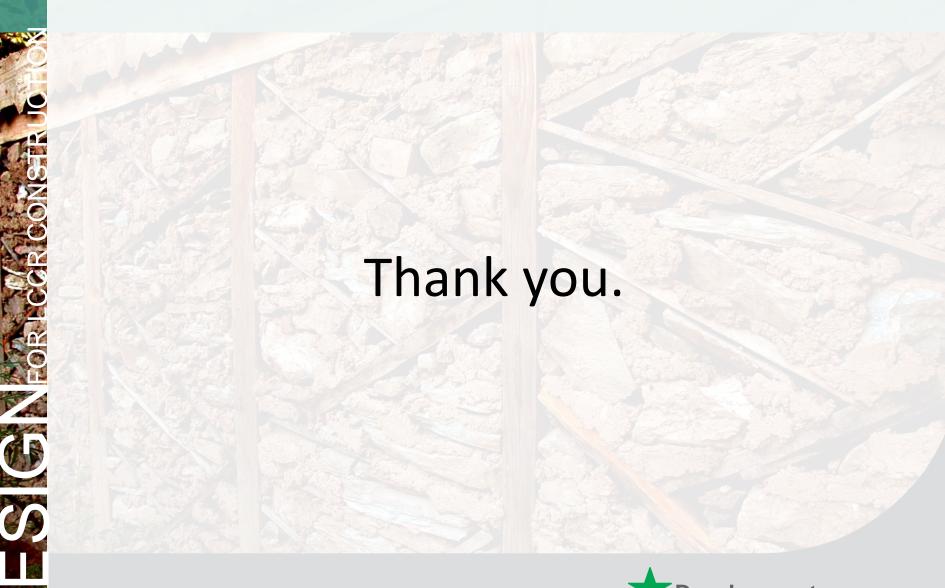
Chart showing carbon dioxide emissions (Million Metric tonnes)
by source for developing countries, 2000.
Image courtesy of Little Green Data Book 2007

For buildings, it is acceptable to assume CO<sub>2</sub> as the primary GHG emission arising from 2 causes -

- Production of materials and their consumption in building construction
- Emissions from electricity use to maintain comfortable indoor environments

## CARBON FOOTPRINT – Calculation for Brick Masonry

Total CO <sub>2</sub> emissions of burnt clay brick masonry (4+5)	69 kg CO <sub>2</sub> / m <sup>2</sup>
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions due to cement used in mortar (=1.83 x 15.5)	28.4 kg (5)
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions per tonne of cement produced	1830 kg
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions due to bricks (= 140/1000 x 120) x 2.42	40.65 kg (4)
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions per kg coal	2.42 kg



#### Disclaimer

This document is an output from a project funded by the UK Department for International Development (DFID) and the Netherlands Directorate-General for International Cooperation (DGIS) for the benefit of developing countries. However, the views expressed and information contained in it are not necessarily those of or endorsed by DFID or DGIS, who can accept no responsibility for such views or information or for any reliance placed on them. This publication has been prepared for general guidance on matters of interest only, and does not constitute professional advice. You should not act upon the information contained in this publication without obtaining specific professional advice. No representation or warranty (express or implied) is given as to the accuracy or completeness of the information contained in this publication, and, to the extent permitted by law, the entities managing the delivery of the Climate and Development Knowledge Network do not accept or assume any liability, responsibility or duty of care for any consequences of you or anyone else acting, or refraining to act, in reliance on the information contained in this publication or for any decision based on it.

© Copyright Climate and Development Knowledge Network 2013.

All content / information present here is the exclusive property of Development Alternatives (DA). The content / information contained here is correct at the time of publishing. The views expressed in this document do not necessarily reflect the views of any organization(s) associated with DA. This document contains details of a number of organizations, events, publications, projects and individuals. However, this does not imply that these entities are either endorsed or recommended by DA in preference to others of a similar nature. These entities shall not be liable for any damages incidental to the use of the information contained in this document. No material from here may be copied, modified, reproduced, republished, uploaded, transmitted, posted or distributed in any form without prior written permission from DA. Unauthorized use of the content / information appearing here may violate copyright, trademark and other applicable laws, and could result in criminal or civil penalties.

© Development Alternatives 2013



