

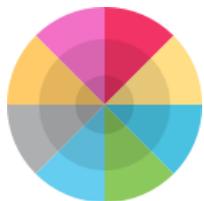


Effective Altruism Rotterdam



Sustainable Consumption
Reading & Discussion Evening

Overview



Individual Consumption

How do we consume and how does that impact climate change?



Global CO2*

What contributes to global CO2 levels?



Where to focus our efforts?

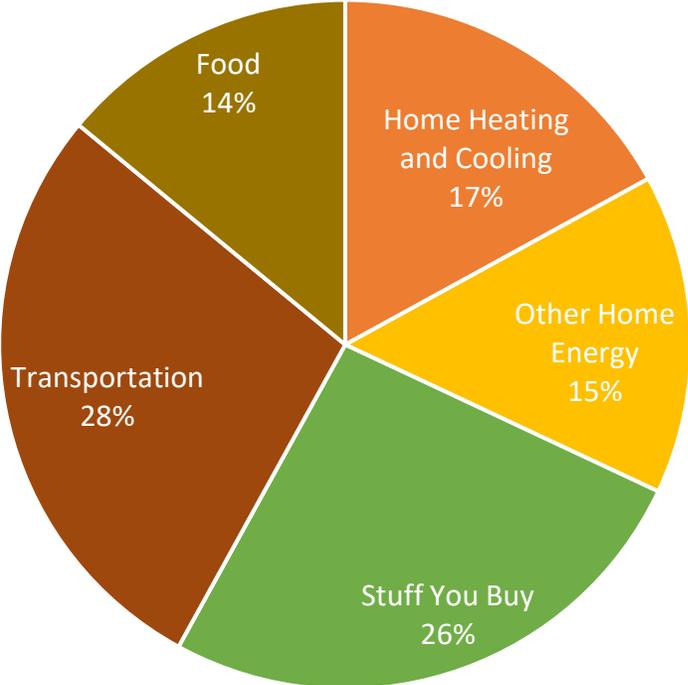
What can I do as an individual to combat climate change?

*CO2 equivalent, or in other words, how many bad things we put in the air

Average Carbon Footprint

19 Tons / Year

Average US Citizen 16.3 Tons / Year*



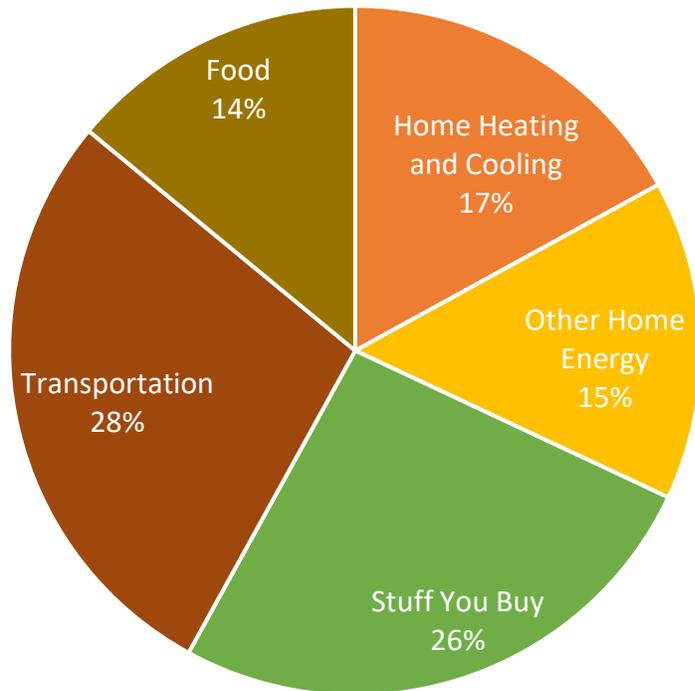
*<https://ourworldindata.org/co2/country/united-states?country=~USA>



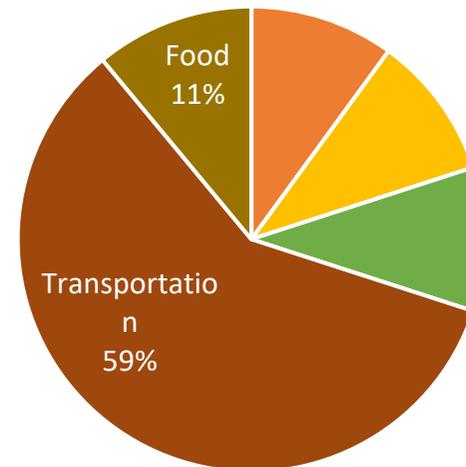
Conscious Carbon Footprint

19 Tons / Year

Average US Citizen 16.3 Tons / Year



Conscious Citizen 6.9 Tons / Year*



*<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=bvhXtOps4MM> 8:02



Individual Consumption Tips

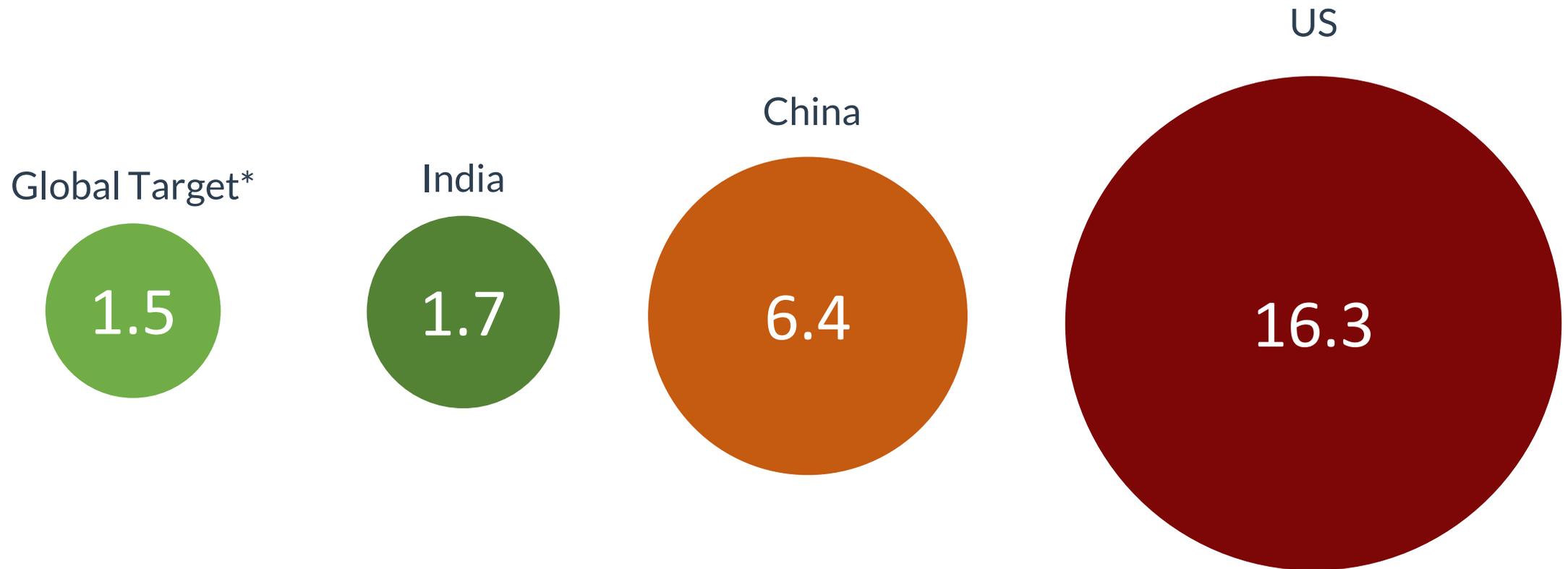
1. You can roughly halve the food emissions by changing to a predominantly plant-based diet
 - 1.5 Tons / Year
2. You can drastically improve heating/cooling and home energy emissions by using renewable energy
 - 2 Tons / Year
3. Avoid driving a car or flights
 - 2.5 Tons / Year
 - 0.25 Tons / Hour Flying (e.g. 8 hours flying = 2 Tons (and 2 for the way back))
4. Buy less, buy things that last, buy second hand



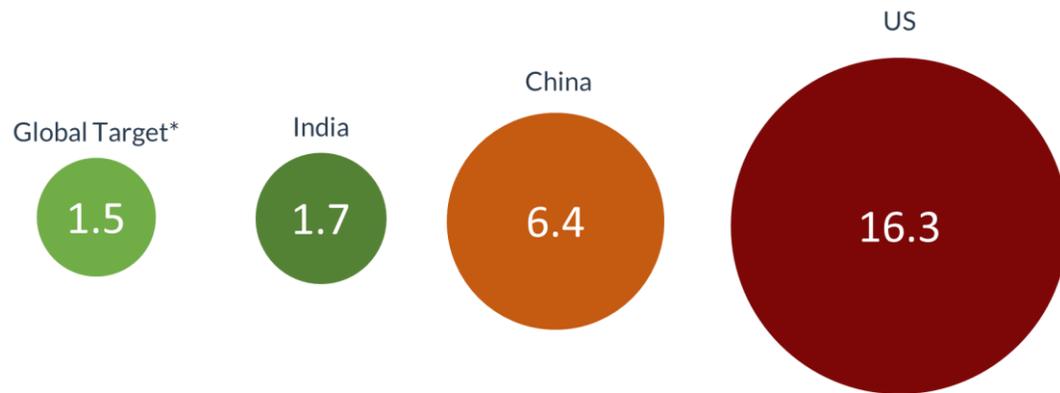
Question: Have you changed anything in your life to reduce your carbon footprint?



Individual footprint is different by region and socioeconomic status



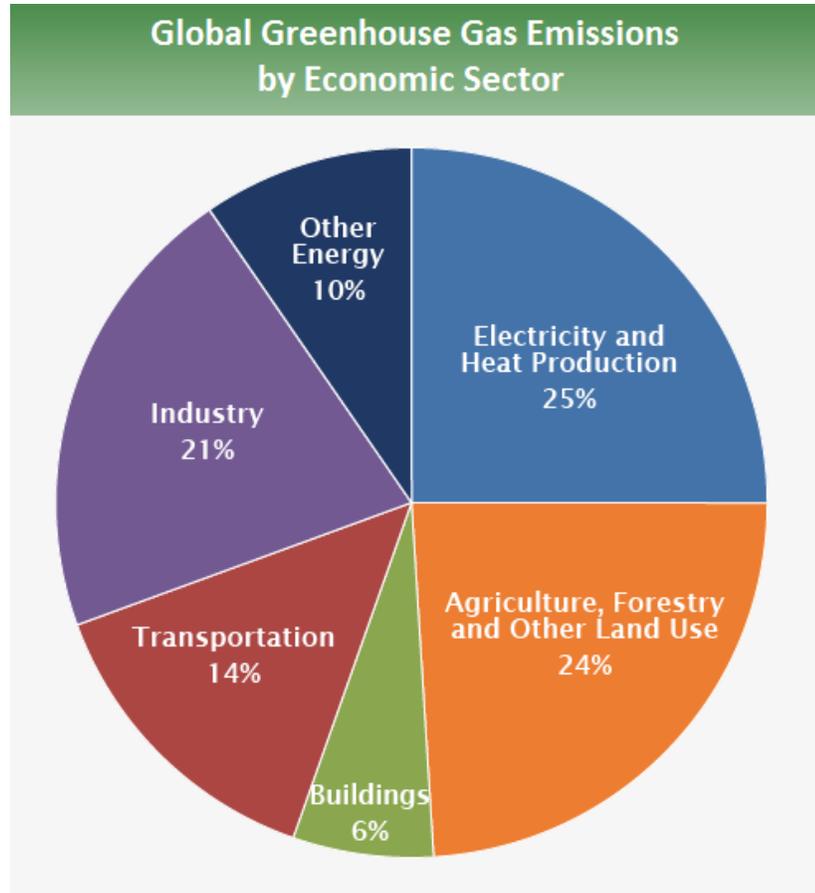
There is huge variance between individuals



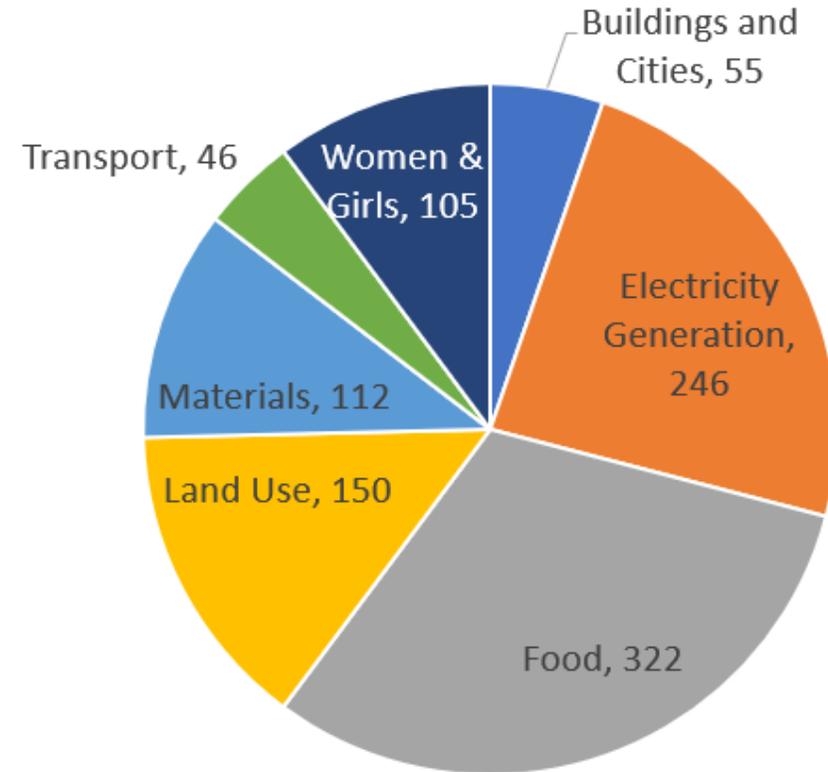
Paris Hilton*

1261

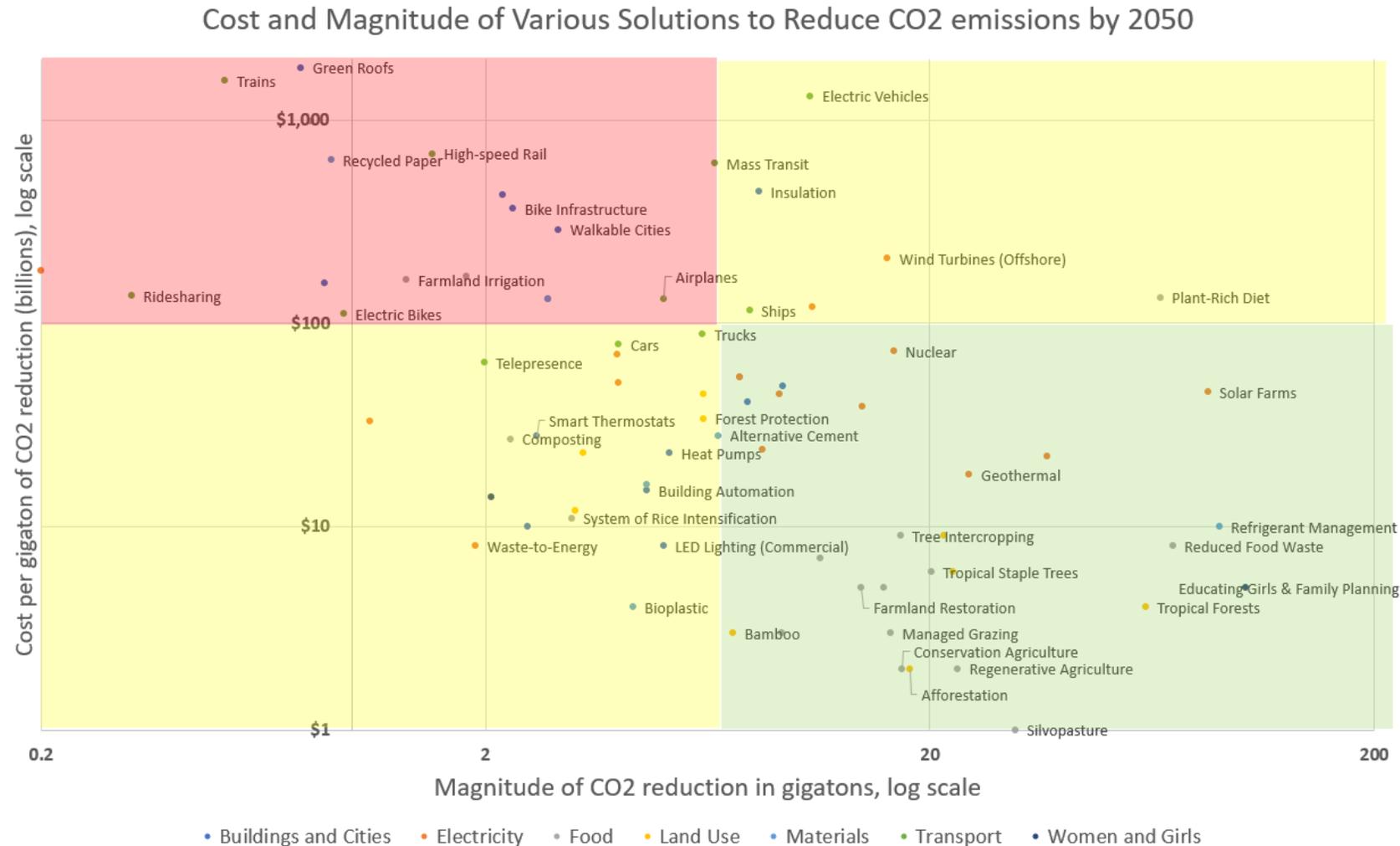
From which sectors do the global greenhouse gas emissions come from?



CO2 reduction potential by sector (GT)



From which sectors do the global greenhouse gas emissions come from?



Against intuition, transportation has the most solutions in the red box

Surprisingly, land use has the largest number of solutions in the green box

Overview of some of the most and least effective areas to invest to reduce CO2

Most effective

1. Silvopasture (\$1/ton)
2. Tropical forests(\$4/ton)
3. Educating girls and family planning(\$5/ton)
4. Reduced food waste(\$8/ton)
5. Refrigerant management(\$10/ton)

Least effective

- 1.Green Roofs (\$1,800/ton)
- 2.Trains (\$1,500/ton)
- 3.Electric Vehicles(\$1,300/ton)
- 4.Biochar(\$1,000/ton)
- 5.High-speed rail(\$700/ton)



Sustainable Consumption Discussion

Topics for discussion

1. Should we focus on driving system change and is it then reasonable to mostly neglect own consumption behavior? If so, what do you see as your own best action plan to drive system change?
2. Instead of changing own consumption behavior, should we just 'pay' for an effective charity (~\$40-100 per year to be carbon neutral) and should we stop at being carbon neutral?



Time to say goodbye

EA Outro

Effective Altruism:

<https://www.effectivealtruism.org/>

80000hours, career advice:

<https://80000hours.org>

Effective Altruism Rotterdam:

<https://earotterdam.nl/>



Links

EA on Climate Change (Is this the right thing to focus on?)

<https://www.effectivealtruism.org/articles/johannes-ackva-an-update-to-our-thinking-on-climate-change/>

EA Donation Recommendations

<https://forum.effectivealtruism.org/posts/yhKnbcX6YmTgLpfwJ/climate-change-donation-recommendations>

Overview of potential areas to focus on

<https://medium.com/@tsloane/applying-effective-altruism-to-climate-change-e2d703f6414f>

Youtube Video on Individual Carbon Footprint

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=bvhXtOps4MM>

