

## The Centre for Integrated Sustainability Analysis: Developing cutting-edge thinking for a more sustainable future



As I write this, Australia stands at a cross-roads in our journey towards a more ecologically sustainable future. On one hand, Australians appreciate more than ever the crucial importance of protecting our natural environment. But on the other, the environmental impacts associated with our current economy and lifestyles are placing immense stress on vital ecological systems.

To address these challenges, we need new ways of thinking about our economy, informed by the best science and innovative thought. I would like to particularly commend the Centre for Integrated Sustainability Analysis (ISA) at the University of Sydney for providing cutting-edge leadership in developing the economic and scientific tools and thinking that will drive a more sustainable future for Australia.

In 2004, ACF began development of GreenHome, a community program that assists households across Australia to reduce their footprint on the environment. Crucial to the success of that initiative was the data and analytical muscle that ISA was able to contribute.

ISA's innovative input-output analytical capability has ensured that GreenHome is based on sound science, and is targeted at the areas of our lifestyle where we can make the biggest difference. ISA's methodology is outstanding in that it shows the true impact of consumption activities across the entire supply chain of products and services we buy every day, across many critical environmental indicators.

A testament to the highly effective collaboration between ISA and ACF is the fact that GreenHome was recognized with a Banksia Award earlier this year.



The ACF – ISA Consumption Atlas www.acfonline.org.au/consumptionatlas

In addition to GreenHome, ISA and ACF jointly developed an interactive, online Consumption Atlas, which shows the full impact of consumer expenditure on the environment in Australia. The Atlas attracted widespread public and media attention, and is an integral part of ACF's advocacy for sustainable consumption. Again, it would not have been possible without ISA's innovative thinking and extraordinary commitment.

We count ISA among our most important strategic partners, and look forward to continued future collaboration.

Don Henry, ACF Executive Director November 2007

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The Australian Conservation Foundation is committed to achieve a healthy environment for all Australians. We work with the community, business and government to protect, restore and sustain our environment.