

# European policies for ICTs in a low-carbon society

Peter.Johnston@ec.europa.eu

OECD Copenhagen – May 2008



# Europe's 2020 targets

- 20% improvement in the energy-intensity of the economy;
- 20% low-carbon renewable energy supply;
- 20% (30%) reduction in carbon emissions

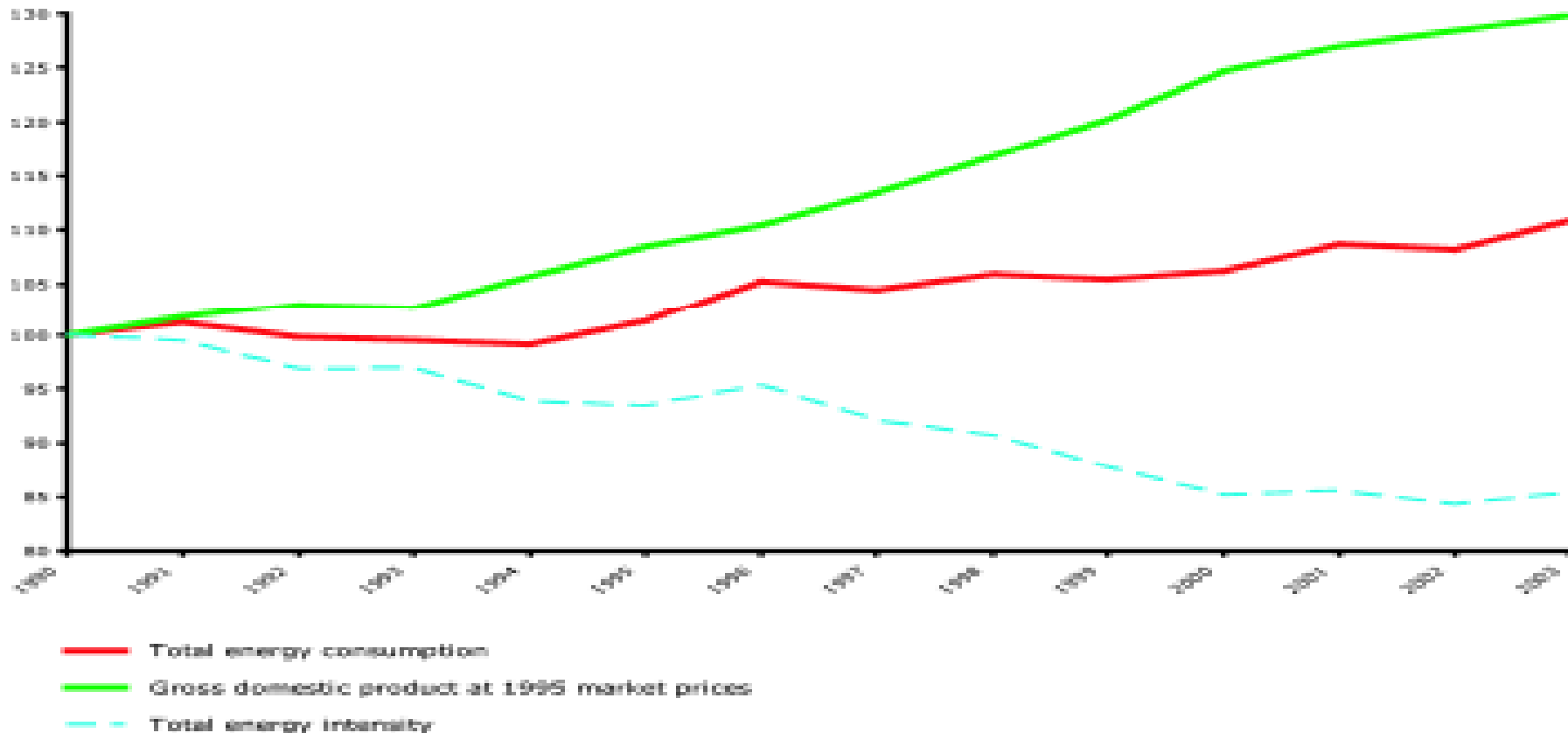


# De-coupling of energy-use and GDP growth ?

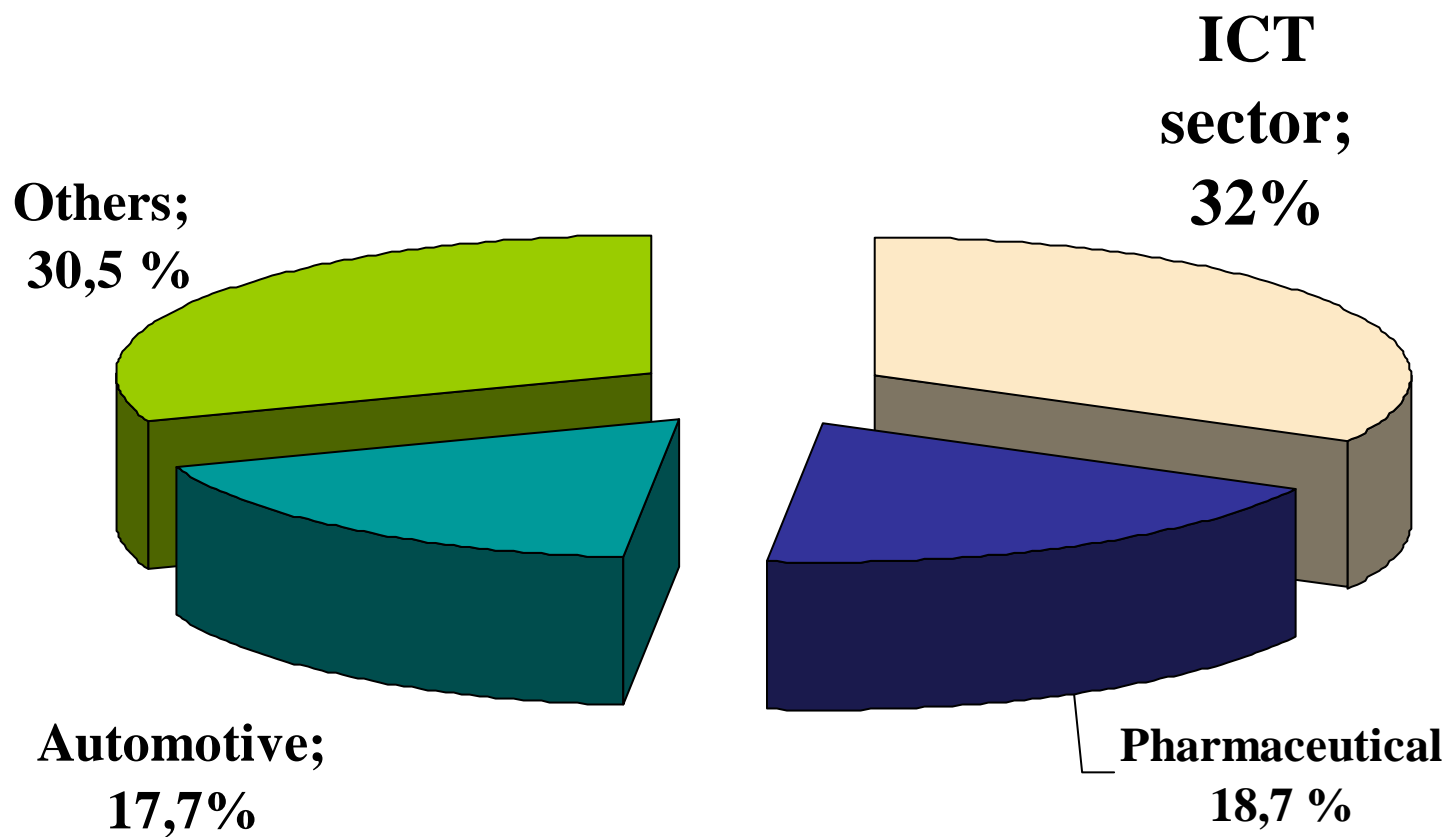
## Not yet...

The energy intensity in the EU-25 fell at an average rate of 1.2 % per year from 1990 – 2003, but total energy consumption increased by 10.9 % over the period

Energy Intensity Index 1990=100



# R&D scoreboard for the top 1250 companies in the world



# Innovation, Investment and Transformation

- **The ICT sector is the largest investor in RTD – worldwide and in Europe: 32 % in 2006 – 34% in 2007;**
- **Over \$1.5 Trillion has been invested in the last 15 years to provide 3 billion people with mobile communications and over 1 billion with Internet access;**
- **This has transformed business models, supply chains, media services and social networks.**
- **Can this transformational potential of ICT-enabled innovations now be used to accelerate the shift to a low-carbon society ?**



# Three tracks of consultation

- **More energy-efficient ICT systems for the future – Stop the ICT footprint growing;**
- **ICT-enabled energy-efficient buildings, manufacturing, logistics and power-grids;**
- **Accelerated structural change: New ICT-enabled business-models, markets and life-styles**



# European Heads of State have called for a partnership with business and civil society

- ➔ **Business leaders and other stakeholders....**
  - ➔ **“Should engage in **urgent reflection** with political leaders on the medium- and long-term policies needed for sustainable development, and propose **ambitious business responses** which go beyond existing minimum legal requirements.**



# Thankyou

Peter.Johnston@ec.europa.eu

Sustain IT – April 2008

