

# LC Net



Bimonthly newsletter of the  
**Life Cycle Initiative**

Life Cycle Initiative announcements, events and more!

## November/December 2017 Edition

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## LC Net Focus

The Life Cycle Initiative welcomes its new Steering Committee

*A new and exciting phase for the Life Cycle Initiative began on 25 September 2017, with the announcement of the people and organizations who will form [the Initiative's new Steering Committee](#).*



The announcement followed a successful [virtual General Assembly on 21 September](#), welcoming members and stakeholders to the new phase of the Initiative, and setting the scene for the period 2017-2022.

As we move into 2018, the Life Cycle Initiative is going from strength to strength, with some 240 members worldwide from no less than 46 countries. With the majority of members being individuals (161), the Initiative's membership also comprises science and civil society organizations (31), businesses (30) and government (18).

The virtual General Assembly of 21 September was a real success, with strong participation from 20 countries across five continents. Of the 60 participants, 23 'individuals' connected, in addition to 15 business representatives and 11 science and civil society stakeholders, all eager to find out more about the coming phase of activities and Steering

Committee election which launched only moments before.

The Steering Committee is comprised of 10 seats: three occupied by government representatives; three by business representatives; and three by science and civil society stakeholders, including one seat for an 'individual' committee member. The remaining seat is occupied by a representative of UN Environment.

Our new **government representatives** are IBICT of Brazil, the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme and the European Commission. As with every constituency, the representatives must be from different regions to ensure adequate geographical representation.

The **business constituency** for the coming mandate has been filled by Plastics Europe, Regenerativa of Chile and also FICCI of India.

Finally, the **science and civil society** constituency has two institutional representatives and one individual representative: the World Resources Forum and CIRAIG take up the institutional spots, and Jorge Antonio Hilbert of Argentina will be the Life Cycle Initiative's 'individual' committee member.

The Secretariat gives a warm welcome to all our new Steering Committee members!

## Announcements

Including abstract deadlines, publications, and other interesting news

### Call for Proposals: 'National hotspots analysis to support science-based national policy frameworks for sustainable consumption and production'

The Life Cycle Initiative is issuing a Call for Proposals for a project that aims to apply hotspots analysis at the national level. The Call is supported by the 10YFP and the International Resource Panel. **The deadline for submission is 17h00 CET Friday 17 November 2017.**

[Access the relevant background information and download the application template.](#)

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### Call for Proposals: 'Mapping the plastics value chain and identifying priority actions at national level, with a focus on marine plastics'

The Life Cycle Initiative has launched a Call for Proposals for a project that aims to develop a methodological framework to map the plastics value chain and identify priority actions at national level, with a focus on marine plastics. **The deadline for submission is 17h00**

**CET Friday 24 November 2017.**

[Access the relevant background information and download the application template.](#)

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## UN Environment launches the Technical Helpdesk for National LCA Databases

The Life Cycle Initiative is pleased to announce that the new Technical Helpdesk for national LCA databases is online! The forum is available for Life Cycle Assessment data experts, developers of new national databases, and managers of existing databases. It provides users with both training and support by international experts, and has a host of useful features and guidance designed to help you establish or operate your LCA database.

These include an 'Ask an Expert' forum, on-topic discussion threads, a document repository including downloadable training materials, FAQs and a member directory. You can access all the background information here.

[Register directly on the website and get started!](#) The helpdesk contact at UN Environment is [Kristina Bowers](#).

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## O-LCA road testing report article in International Journal of Life Cycle Assessment

A UNEP/SETAC Corner is now available online on the publication of the O-LCA Road Testing report.

[Read more.](#)

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## Guidelines for Providing Product Sustainability Information

On 25 October 2017, UN Environment and the International Trade Centre released the [Guidelines for Providing Product Sustainability Information](#), a global guidance document on making effective environmental, social and economic claims, to empower and enable consumer choice.

The Guidelines offer clear guidance to value

## Guidelines for Providing Product Sustainability Information

Global guidance on making effective environmental, social and economic claims, to empower and enable consumer choice



chain and public sector professionals on making effective, trustworthy claims to consumers, and on product-related sustainability information. They are applicable to all regions and companies of all sizes.

Moving forward, the Guidelines will be road tested with companies in all regions to ensure their applicability on the ground, and so that a library of case studies can be created. The road testing will be announced on the [SCP Clearinghouse](#) in the near future, and will take around six months.

The Guidelines were developed during a two-year multi-stakeholder and consensus building process and comprise a major output of the 10YFP Consumer Information Programme.

Queries concerning the Guidelines can be directed to [ciscp\(at\)un.org](mailto:ciscp(at)un.org).

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## News from our life cycle networks

### Looking back at the LCA Awards, looking forward to new projects!

Among the Life Cycle Initiative's flagship activities in 2017 was the LCA Awards scheme, launched in June at the CILCA 2017 conference in Medellín, Colombia. The scheme was created for individuals and organizations based in Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean. No fewer than 44 project applications were accepted for implementation in these regions, with the benefit of the support of LCA experts and providers of LCA software and data.





## Successful discussions at the 2017 Indian Conference on Life Cycle Management

On 9-10 October, New Delhi hosted the 2017 Indian Conference on Life Cycle Management (ICLM 2017). Now in its sixth edition, this year's conference gathered over 90 delegates to focus on the added value of life cycle knowledge to the Sustainable Development Goals. The event also addressed challenges specific to India. The conference hosted two high-level panel discussions on using life cycle knowledge for creating circular economy advantage and realizing national resource efficiency strategies. The Life Cycle Initiative participated virtually, with the Secretariat presenting the Initiative's new strategy for this new phase of activities (2017-2022).

[Read more.](#)

## The 2017 World Resources Forum

On 23-26 October, more than 400 participants from 48 countries gathered in Geneva for the [2017 World Resources Forum](#). Participants heard from Jørgen Randers, author of *Limits to Growth* and *2052: A Global Forecast for the Next Forty Years*, who emphasized that climate change and poverty are key challenges to be tackled in the coming decades. During the conference, Mr Randers noted that increasing productivity and stopping the use of coal, oil and gas can help achieve these goals.



At the Forum, effective communication of sound science-based solutions was seen as essential for engaging decision makers in government and business – and society at large

– to take actions towards natural resource management which follows a life cycle thinking and systemic approach.

The conference also saw UN Environment's Llorenç Mila i Canals announce the [new phase of the Life Cycle Initiative \(2017-2022\)](#), and Steven Stone of UN Environment's Resources and Markets Branch presented the [Guidelines for Providing Sustainability Information](#).

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## A look inside: Profiling our members

This month, LC Net takes a look at two organizations which have become very active in the field of life cycle thinking; organizations which have, naturally, stepped up their engagement with the Life Cycle Initiative as either a member or sponsor.

We profile both our newest sponsor, Braskem of Brazil, and the World Resources Forum. Bem-vindo and welcome both!

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### Braskem of Brazil: manufacturing major and life cycle innovator



The largest polymer manufacturer in the Americas, and largest biopolymer producer in the world, Braskem is one of Latin America's most recent additions to a burgeoning life cycle community.

But although Braskem only joined the Life Cycle Initiative as a direct sponsor this year, the company has been investing in life cycle approaches for much longer, showing a real interest in the impacts borne by the full, entire life cycle of its products.

The company says this is "the correct way to take decisions" now. So much so that Braskem advocates for life cycle thinking capacity building in Brazilian policy circles, as well as using its own valuable life cycle experience to boost the Life Cycle Initiative's offering of LCA case studies as we move into our new phase of activities in the period 2017-2022.

[Read more about Braskem.](#)

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### World Resources Forum: the global platform for resources expertise



The Switzerland-based [World Resources Forum \(WRF\)](#) has been engaged with the Life Cycle

Initiative for some years, but this global multi-stakeholder platform has now taken our collaboration to the next level as the WRF has been elected to the Initiative's Steering Committee.

With a large array of stakeholders, both individual and institutional, the WRF is a science-based platform for sharing knowledge on the economic, political, social and environmental implications of global resource use.

[Read more about WRF.](#)

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## Our Calendar: where we and our partners will be active

### **The [avniR] Conference on 'Life Cycle Management, the pathway for eco-transition' | 8-9 November 2017 | Lille, France**

The [avniR] conference is the international event that brings together more than 300 professionals (large companies, SMEs, public actors, international academics) and experts around Life Cycle Management issues. The objective of this year's conference is to share the latest best practices, scientific insights and innovations leading to the successful implementation of Life Cycle Management to boost competitiveness.

**The Life Cycle Initiative will present the new strategy in the conference, and please also visit us at our booth!**

>> [Consult the conference website.](#)

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### **Contribution of Products to Avoided GHG Emissions: Seminar and Discussions | 9 February 2018 | Tokyo, Japan**

Throughout the world, there is a growing interest in the calculation of avoided greenhouse gas emission; several organizations have published guidelines, while the Greenhouse Gas Protocol is looking to the development of such methods. The scope of these guidelines released by industry associations applies to some specific industry sectors. There is little consistent and consensual methodology for the calculation of greenhouse gas reduction contributions, including the allocation of contribution to the relevant actors.

In this context, the Working Group on Assessing the Contribution to Avoided Emissions has been established by the Institute of Life Cycle Assessment, Japan published "Guidelines

for Assessing the Contribution of Products to Avoided Greenhouse Gas Emissions” in 2015. The working group has discussed how the base line should be set up for each industrial sector. The results of the discussion will be reported in this seminar.

[Read more.](#)

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You can also consult our [Events page](#) for more information about the events above. Is there an event coming up in your area? Just [let us know](#) and we'll add it to our list.

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## Jobs

### Consultant position at UN Environment on sustainable lifestyles

The Consumption and Production Unit within the Resources and Markets Branch at UN Environment is looking for a ‘Sustainable Lifestyles Consultant’. The successful candidate will support the work of the Unit’s sustainable lifestyles work stream, notably contributing to the development, communication and dissemination of core sustainable lifestyle messaging drawn from research of life cycle-based evidence and project support. The consultant will work full time for a period of six months and be based at the UN Environment office in Paris, France.

**Deadline for applications: 15 November 2017.**

[Get job description and details on how to apply.](#)

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#### Secretariat of the Life Cycle Initiative

For more information, please visit our [website](#), or feel free to contact us by [email](#).

Consult the full list of  
Life Cycle Initiative Sponsors

