Dear Colleagues of the UNEP/SETAC Life Cycle Initiative,

It is my pleasure to announce the UNEP/SETAC Workshops on the Global Principles for Life Cycle Databases in Bangkok which will be held on 29-30 June, the First Indian Life Cycle Assessment and Life Cycle Management Conference from 21 to 24 August and the new UNEP/SETAC publication on Life Cycle Sustainability Assessment (LCSA). Please read on!

UNEP/SETAC Workshops on the Global Principles for Life Cycle Databases, Bangkok, Thailand, 29-30 June 2012

The UNEP/SETAC Life Cycle Initiative is pleased to invite you to the UNEP/SETAC Workshops on ‘Global Principles for Life Cycle Databases’ to be held in Bangkok, Thailand, on 29 and 30 June 2012. The ‘Global Guidance Principles for Life Cycle Assessment’ publication represent an international milestone in the harmonization of how datasets are developed and how life cycle assessment databases are created, managed and used in an interoperable and transparent manner by LCA practitioners worldwide. Database managers and data providers around the globe need to be aware about what the requirements and recommendations of the Guidance Principles are. The aim of the workshop is to present the UNEP/SETAC Global Guidance Principles and how they could be implemented. This is done to facilitate their implementation, support the data demands for LCA studies and to get feedback from the participants on how to make the best out of the established global consensus in the area of LCA Databases in the different regions of the world. The co-Chairs of the UNEP/SETAC Project Group on ‘Networking and Capacity Building on Global Principles for Life Cycle Databases’, Bruce Vigon and Guido Sonnemann, will lead the workshops.


29 June: 19:00-22:00 at the venue of the ISO/TC 207 19th Plenary Meeting. Audience: ISO delegates.
- Welcome words by ISO hosts and representatives of the Life Cycle Initiative: ISO and international context for guidance on LCA Databases
- Introduction to the Global Guidance Principles for Life Cycle Assessment Publication and space for discussion on current Thailand LCA Databases developments and needs

30 June: 14:00 – 19:00 (venue to be confirmed). Open participation previous registration.
- Welcome words by UNEP, SETAC and Thailand delegates.
- Chapter 1: The Context for Global Guidance Principles for Life Cycle Inventories
- Chapter 2: Development of Unit Process Datasets
- Chapter 3: Aggregated Data Development Questions and Answers - Interventions from Participants
- Chapter 4: Data Documentation, Review, and Management
- Chapter 5: Adaptive Approaches Questions and Answers - Intervention from Participants
- Chapter 6: Cooperation and Capacity Building in Rapidly Growing Economies
- Chapter 7: Outlook: Future Scenarios for Knowledge Management Future activities. Where to start Discussion on next steps. Everybody

We would like the ISO organizers and PE INTERNATIONAL for helping to sponsor the events, including the venues and hospitality of the Workshop on 29 and 30 June 2012, correspondingly.

For more information about the venue and registration issues please contact ilci@unep.org
India is the 19th largest exporter in the world. As a member of BRICS and one of the G-20 major economies, the development of economic activities is with significant growth and it is the urgent time to encourage decision makers to embed Life Cycle Thinking as a core principle towards sustainable development. Life Cycle Management and Assessment is able to help the region monitor its development patterns by preserving its natural richness while improving the social and economic wealth of its inhabitants. The Conference aims to focus on the provision of knowledge about the application of tools for guiding governments, consumers and business towards a sustainable quality of life in India. In addition, it is also a great opportunity to bring Indian and international Life Cycle Assessment/Life Cycle Management (LCA/LCM) experts, policymakers, academia, producers, retailers and intermediaries together to explore the potentials of life cycle approaches for Sustainable Consumption and Production, especially for policy making in India.

In order to provide a comprehensive overview of the various issues related to Life Cycle Thinking (LCT), the conference programme encompasses a broad range of topics that are going to be addressed in separate sessions; in particular, the four key areas to be discussed are the following:

1. Life cycle approaches research on methodology, standards, databases etc;
2. Life cycle approaches implementation for sustainable production including Life Cycle Management (LCM), sustainability approaches and supply chain management;
3. Life cycle approaches implementation for sustainable consumption;
4. Life cycle approaches in support of policy goals and their implementation in government.

Contributions from both researchers and practitioners to any of above mentioned areas are invited. Contributors interested in presenting a poster/paper at the Conference are invited to submit an abstract with no more than 250 words to the conference organisers. Only abstracts that conform to the given template form will be accepted for review. Please read the guidelines carefully before writing your abstract. The deadline for submitting an abstract is 7 June 2012. Submitted abstracts will be reviewed by the Scientific Committee. Authors will be informed of the acceptance of their abstracts by 30 June at the latest.

Please contact Archana Datta by tel. +91 11 23487211; +91 11 23487239 or by email ILCM@ficci.com if you have any further questions.

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- **USE LEFT ALIGNMENT IN THE ABSTRACT TITLE. THE TITLE HAS TO BE WRITTEN IN CAPITAL LETTERS**
  
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It is with great pleasure that the UNEP/SETAC announces the launch of its latest publication "Towards a Life Cycle sustainability Assessment – Making Informed choices on products".

Environmental life cycle assessment, life cycle costing and social life cycle assessment are techniques with similar aims and methodological frameworks addressing individually the three sustainability pillars. Towards a Life Cycle Sustainability Assessment shows how it is possible to combine them into an integrated assessment and outlines how they can be used to contribute to an overarching life cycle sustainability assessment (LCSA).

Every day, unsustainable patterns of consumption, unsustainable production methods and population growth challenge the resilience of the planet to support human activities. At the same time, inequalities between and within societies remain high - leaving billions with unmet basic human needs and a disproportionate vulnerability to global environmental change. To counteract this trend, UNEP and SETAC have worked together to develop the current work Towards a Life Cycle Sustainability Assessment.

This publication will increase the awareness of stakeholders and decision-makers in governments, agencies for international cooperation, business and consumers’ associations who are called on to take integrated and holistic decisions on products.

The publication is freely available at: http://www.unep.fr/scp/publications/details.asp?id=DTI/1412/PA

You are kindly invited to follow-up and attend the following events:

**Avaliação do Ciclo de Vida – ACV na Indústria**
*Instituto de Eletrotécnica e Energia IEE/USP, São Paulo, Brazil, 7 May 2012*

**6th Society and Materials International Conference SAM-6, First announcement & call for papers**
*SOVAMAT Initiative, Leuven, Belgium, 30-31 May 2012*

**3rd International Conference on Green and sustainable innovation**
*Centre of Excellence on environmental strategy for GREEN business (VGREEN) and Department of Environmental Science, Faculty of Science, Kasetsart University*Le Meridien, Chiang Mai, Thailand, 24-26 May 2012

**United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20)**
*United Nations, Rio de Janeiro, Brasil, 4-6 June 2012*

**Global Guidance Principles for LCA Databases: Implementation and Capacity Building**
*UNEP/SETAC Life Cycle Initiative, Bangkok, Thailand, 30 June 2012*

**International Symposium on Life Cycle Assessment and Construction**
*IFFFSTAR, Nantes (France), 10-12 July, 2012*

**First Indian LCM/LCA Conference**
*FICCI and the UNEP/SETAC Life Cycle Initiative, New Delhi, India, 21-23 Aug 2012*

**III Brazilian Conference on Life Cycle Management of Products and Services (Congresso Brasileiro em Gestão do Ciclo de Vida de Produtos e Serviços)**
*Departamento de Engenharia Química DEQ/UEM, Maringá, Paraná, Brasil, 3-6 September 2012*
River Flow – International Conference on Fluvial Hydraulics
International Association for Hydro-Environment Engineering and Research IAHR, Costa Rica, 5-7 September 2012

LCA XII
American Center for Life Cycle Assessment ACLCA, Tacoma, USA, 25-27 September 2012

8th international conference on Life Cycle Assessment in the Agri-Food Sector “LCA Food 2012”
Research Unit Soil, Agro and hydroSystem INRA, Saint-Malo, France, 2-4 October 2012

III Seminario Latinoamericano de Ciclo de Vida
Red Iberoamericana y Red Colombiana de ciclo de Vida, Medellín, Colombia, 3-5 October 2012

3rd China LCM Conference
Sichuan University and Tsinghua University Beijing, China. Dates to be confirmed, November 2012

2012 LCA Conference
Avnir Life cycle Assessment Platform, Lille, France, 6-7 November 2012

SETAC North America 33rd Annual Meeting
SETAC North America, Long Beach, California, U.S.A., 11-15 November 2012

Ecobalance
The Institute of Life Cycle Assessment ILCAJ, Yokohama, Japan, 20-23 November 2012

SETAC LCA Case Study Symposium
SETAC Europe, Copenhagen, Denmark, 26-28 November 2012

Kind Regards,
Secretariat of the UNEP/SETAC Life Cycle Initiative
For more information, please visit our website: http://lcinitiative.unep.fr/
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