

LC Net • Newsletter of the Life Cycle Initiative

March/April 2014 Edition Contents

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LC Net Focus

Creation of the Ecuadorian Life Cycle Network

In a major advance for the promotion of sustainability in Ecuador, the application of a life cycle approach for assessing sustainability has been recognized as a strategic objective for the country. Efforts to disseminate Life Cycle Thinking and co-ordination between the different actors have crystallized in the creation of the Ecuadorian Life Cycle Network, with decisive support from the international community. [Learn more.](#)

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Our Calendar: Where we'll be in the coming months

For a full calendar of life cycle events, see our *Events page* on our website.

1) 3rd International Cooperation Meeting on LCA • 14-16 April 2014 • Washington DC, USA

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and U.S. Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with UNEP, are hosting an interactive international workshop focused on promoting a new intergovernmental partnership to improve LCA data accessibility,

interoperability and application. Participation is by invitation. The workshop will be followed by the third in a series of intergovernmental meetings on promoting international cooperation on LCA, to further discuss issues identified in previous meetings, including interest in LCA data quality issues, applications of LCA in policy, and capacity building. This meeting is by invitation only. [Learn more.](#)

2) SETAC Europe 24th Annual Meeting • 11-15 May 2014 • Basel, Switzerland

UNEP/SETAC session on 'Update on Life Cycle Initiative's phase 3 activities' (13 May: 16h15-17h30) and a session on UNEP Consumer Information Programme and UNEP/SETAC project on 'Hotspot Analysis' (14 May: 16h15-17h30) will be held. The flagship project 1b "guidance on life cycle impact assessment indicators" will hold a meeting at SETAC Meeting in Basel, and the Water Use in LCA (WULCA) working group will be holding 2 events. Look for the Life Cycle Initiative Booth (#35), to learn about the current and past work. [Learn more.](#)

3) IV Latin American Seminar on LCA • 20-21 May 2014 • San José, Costa Rica

The ACCADES (Acuerdo CentroAmericano y del Caribe para el Desarrollo Sostenible) Regional Forum 2014 will promote sustainable design and construction to public and private sector decision-makers. The Initiative has been instrumental in fostering and strengthening the biannual Latin American LCA Seminars in the region, through the support it provides to the Iberoamerican LC Network. [Learn more.](#)

4) 4th ICGSI & 3rd LCA Agri-food Asia Conference 2014 • 22-24 May 2014 • Bangkok, Thailand

A presentation on life cycle thinking perspectives will be made at this conference, and at the APRSCP (Asia-Pacific Roundtable on SCP), on 20 May 2014. [Learn more.](#)

5) ISO TC207 Environmental Management • 26-30 May 2014 • Panama City, Panama

A 1.5-day 'ISO-UNEP/SETAC Awareness Raising and Training on Water Footprint' will be organized in Panama on 28 and 30 May in conjunction with the ISO TC 207 meetings in Panama. ISO delegates and invited participants from Ministries of Environment from the Latin American Region are the target audience. For additional information please contact sonia.valdivia@unep.org

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Life Cycle Impact Assessment Indicators (Flagship 1b) Co-chairs Rolf Frischknecht and Olivier Jolliet

The team has been very active with four task groups working on various subsets of indicators. All of the groups are working towards holding consultation workshops and [one will be held in Basel](#). Interested stakeholders are still welcome to join. [Learn more](#).

LCA of Organisations (Flagship 1c) Co-chairs Matthias Finkbeiner and Atsushi Inaba

The [workshop in Toyko, Japan](#), was successful and all the comments received from the reviewers have been incorporated into a revised version of the document. A list of 20 examples have been collected that could be included in a guidance document. Examples will be selected considering a geographical balance.

Data and Database Management (Flagship 2a) Co-chairs Guido Sonneman and Bruce Vigon

The well-attended [recent workshop in China](#) was used to present the training material, which is based on the Global Guidance publication. The next step involves the operationalization of the network of people who have expressed interest in the project and the next meeting of that group will take place in [Basel on Tuesday 13 May](#). The [upcoming workshop in Washington](#) will include a meeting of an ad-hoc group on how to measure, document and provide data quality that would facilitate data interoperability.

Global Capability Development (Flagship 4a) Co-Chairs Cassia Ugaya, Sanjeevan Bajaj, Sonia Valdivia

Ongoing capacity building work is featured in the [upcoming events section](#) of the Life Cycle Initiative website.

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Announcements

1) New report - French food LCA results are now available through database AGRIBALYSE

The new version of the LCA database for French farm products, AGRIBALYSE, is now available, with all the documents translated into English. [Learn more](#).

2) Call for abstracts - Upcoming conferences

- EcoBalance 2014 • 27-30 October 2014 • Tsukuba, Japan • Call for abstracts is open, deadline: 8 April. [Learn more](#).
- Indian Conference on Life Cycle Management (ILCM 2014) • 29-30 September 2014 • New Delhi, India • Call for abstracts is open, deadline: 1 July. [Learn more](#).
- 4th International Seminar on Social LCA • 20-21st November 2014 • Montpellier, France • Call for papers is open, deadline: 15 April. [Learn more](#).

- 4th International [avniR] Conference • 5-6th November 2014 • Lille, France • call for abstracts is open, deadline: 31 March. [Learn more.](#)

3) Save the date - Upcoming meetings & conferences

- 4th ICGSI & 3rd LCA AGRI-FOOD ASIA • 22-24 May 2014 • Bangkok, Thailand • Early-bird registration closes: 10 April, registration deadline: 30 April. [Learn more.](#)
- 4th International Seminar on Social LCA • 20-21 November 2014 • Montpellier, France • [Learn more.](#)
- 4th International [avnir] Conference • 4-5 November 2014 • Lille, France • [Learn more.](#)
- SETAC 20th LCA Case Study Symposium • 24-26 November 2014 • Novi Sad, Serbia • [Learn more.](#)

4) Launch of the ANR Industrial Chair “Environmental Life Cycle Sustainability (ELSA)-PACT”

With a total initial budget of € 4 million and a minimum duration of 4 years (2014-2017) the purpose of the ANR (French National Research Agency) Industrial Chair ELSA-PACT is to develop scientifically based methods and tools to assess the environmental and social impacts of human activities, especially those related to natural resource management (agriculture / food, water and waste management). [Learn more.](#)

5) LEAP Partnership seeks Life Cycle Experts' Input for Public Review



The Livestock Environmental Assessment Performance (LEAP) Partnership is glad to announce the recent launch for

public review of the draft guidelines to measure and monitor the environmental performance of feed and poultry and small ruminants. Particularly appreciated are inputs from experts in life cycle assessment, environmental footprinting methods, farming practices, and in methods to derive key environmental performance indicators. More information on the process as well as a template for comments is available [here](#).

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A Look Inside: Profiling our sponsors & members

Acknowledging our Existing Sponsors: European Commission (ENRTP funds)

The European Commission has provided funding to the Life Cycle Initiative as part of a 3 year funding agreement that is part of the ENRTP Innovation funding project – the Thematic Programme for Environment and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources Including Energy. The Life Cycle Initiative received funds to assist with increasing the



resource efficiency of international supply chains in 15 target countries, namely Brazil, Chile, Peru, Mexico, Egypt, Morocco, South Africa, China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Turkey and Russia. Funding has been allocated to a range of projects supporting the overall aim of increased resource efficiency, including capacity building and the implementation of LCM pilot projects in the target countries and other developing countries. 2014 is the final year of the programme funding, and the Life Cycle Initiative would like to thank the European Commission for their support.

>> [Consult the full list of sponsors of the Life Cycle Initiative.](#)

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Flashback: Recent Life Cycle Initiative Events & Activity

1) International Workshop on Life Cycle Assessment & Water Footprint, Curitiba, Brazil, 24-26 February 2014



The UNEP/SETAC Life Cycle Initiative participated in this international workshop co-organised with the Federal Technology University of Parana and the Brazilian Association of LCA, and with the support of IBICT, FIERGS-SENAI and the Brazilian Entrepreneurial Network of LCA and the collaboration of Embrapa and IEE/USP. [Learn more.](#)

** supported with ENRTP funding from the European Commission **

2) UNEP/SETAC Training workshop on Product Environmental Footprint & Global Guidance Principles for LCA databases, Beijing, China, 6-7 March 2014



The International Workshop on LCA Database Development and Key Applications was held in Beijing on 6 and 7 March 2014 with 110 participants from industry, association, government and research representatives who joined the workshop. The workshop was co-organized by the Chinese Institute of Electronics, the Sichuan University and the UNEP/SETAC Life Cycle Initiative. [Learn more.](#)

** supported with ENRTP funding from the European Commission **

3) Training Workshops on LCA Approaches, Water Footprint, Mainstreaming LCT in South Africa, 11-17 March, Pretoria, Cape Town & Durban, South Africa



A number of events were recently held in South Africa. A "Mainstreaming LC thinking in South Africa" workshop was held on 11th March in Pretoria. LCM and Water Footprinting Workshops were held in Cape Town on 12-14 March and in Durban on 17-19 March. [Learn more.](#)

** supported with ENRTP funding from the European Commission **

4) 3er Congreso Internacional de Ingeniería Industrial • 27-28 March 2014 • Bucaramanga, Colombia



The Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana hosted the *3er Congreso Internacional de Ingeniería Industrial* with the focus on life cycle analysis. Further details will be made available on the Past Events section of the Life Cycle Initiative website.

5) I International Seminar of Life Cycle In Ecuador • 31 March - 2 April 2014 • Ibarra, Ecuador



The workshop was hosted by the Ministry of Electricity and Renewable Energy and the National Institute of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy. Additional support was provided by the Life Cycle Initiative and the Iberoamerican Life Cycle Network (RICV). [Learn more.](#)

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Life Cycle Jobs

The University of Queensland Postdoctoral Research Fellowships 2015: Applications Now Open

The University of Queensland (UQ) invites applications for a limited number of Postdoctoral Research Fellowships in 2015, to be awarded to early career researchers of exceptional calibre wishing to conduct full-time research at the University in any of its disciplines. The scheme aims to attract outstanding recent doctoral graduates to the University in areas of institutional research priority. Guidelines, Conditions of Award and Application Form for Men and Women are available [here](#). Closing date for applications: 18 May 2014

American Center for Life Cycle Assessment Jobs Page

The ACLCA has a number of LCA related jobs on its website. [Learn more.](#)

European Commission Joint Research Centre (JRC) Jobs Page

The EC JRC has a number of LC related jobs on its website. [Learn more.](#)

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Secretariat of the UNEP/SETAC Life Cycle Initiative

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

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