

LC Net • Newsletter of the Life Cycle Initiative

September/October 2014 Edition Contents

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LC Net Focus

• REMINDER • Mainstreaming life cycle approaches around the world: An invitation to take part in a survey for a global assessment report

This is a reminder of the special invitation to take part in our survey for a global assessment on the status of the promotion and development of life cycle approaches, networks and databases.

The UNEP/SETAC Life Cycle Initiative carries out this survey as a basis for a global assessment report to monitor progress towards its Phase 3 vision of mainstreaming life cycle approaches around the world. It is also meant to help identify opportunities for life cycle networks creation and expansion and to support the development of LCA databases, especially also in developing countries and emerging economies.

In addition to the results of the survey, the report will include recommendations for concrete actions by different stakeholders at the international, regional and national level.

We invite you to answer the survey by the 16th of September at the latest in order to be taken into consideration for the first draft of the report. Additional responses received after the 16th of September are however still welcome and might be

considered at a later point in time.

You can participate in the survey via this link: http://bit.ly/LCA_Survey

For your information, it is understood here that life cycle approaches encompass a wide range of approaches for the sustainability management and evaluation of various stages of the life of a product or organization, from raw material acquisition to final disposal, covering the notion of life cycle thinking for management and policy purposes and going from qualitative and simplified screening tools via hotspot analysis, footprinting (e.g. ISO 14046 and ISO 14067) to life cycle assessment (such as environmental, social LCA or life cycle costing) based on the ISO standards of the ISO 14040 series and organizational LCA based on ISO 14072.

We would like to thank you very much in advance and are looking forward to your contribution!

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Announcements

1) Australian Agricultural LCI data and reports have just been published

The project “Developing a Life Cycle Inventory Database for Australian Agriculture” has recently been completed. Agricultural industries cannot make changes in the supply chain to improve productivity and efficiency unless they know where inefficiencies and high levels of environmental impact occur. Using a life cycle assessment approach enables businesses to find and remedy inefficiencies and environmental impacts in the production system (to farm-gate). Hence the origin of this project, which has produced three main outputs:

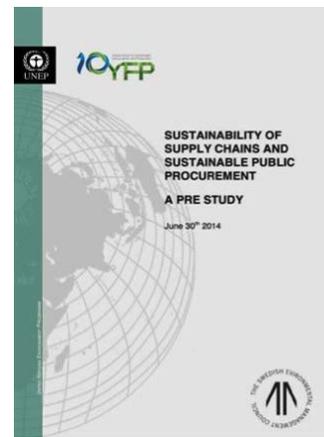
- A final report that can be found at <https://rirdc.infoservices.com.au/items/14-045>
- A detailed description of the methodologies used in data gathering, which can be found at <https://rirdc.infoservices.com.au/items/14-046>
- The actual LCI database, which can be found online at <http://www.alcas.asn.au/AusLCI/>

This project was collectively funded by the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation (project manager), Cotton Research & Development Corporation, Dairy Australia, Grains Research and Development Corporation, Forest and Wood Products Australia, Horticulture Australia Limited, Meat & Livestock Australia and Sugar Research Australia. The project also partnered with Queensland Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries; University of Southern Queensland and CSIRO.

2) “Sustainability of Supply Chains and Sustainable Public Procurement : A pre-study” Published by the

Sustainable Public Procurement programme of the 10YFP

This pre-study has been developed with the Swedish Environment Management Council through the working group 4A of the 10YFP Sustainable Public Procurement Programme, called "Greening Supply Chains." It directly assesses the state of the art regarding sustainable supply chain management and how it relates to public procurement by zeroing in on two product groups - timber and textiles. It also presents Life Cycle Costing as a useful tool. This pre-study is an important milestone in advancing the understanding of the implications, opportunities, and challenges associated with sustainable public procurement and supply chain sustainability found in the [E-Library of the SCP Clearinghouse](#).



3) "Life Cycle Assessment of Ecuadorian Electricity Generation" symposium to be held 7 October 2014 in Guayaquil, Ecuador

The Ecuadorian Network of Life Cycle is pleased to announce the symposium "Life Cycle Assessment of Ecuadorian Electricity Generation", to be held 7 October 2014 in Guayaquil, Ecuador. The symposium's main purpose is to provide a good understanding of the environmental consequences of Ecuadorian electricity mix; this baseline, which stands for the first LCI in the country, will provide a necessary general picture for decision makers. [Learn more](#).

4) Guidelines of the "World Food LCA Database" have been released

The Methodological Guidelines of the World Food LCA Database have just been released by Quantis and Agroscope in an effort to promote transparency of life cycle inventory (LCI) data and enable replicability. This document details the methodological approach on multiple issues such as emission models at the farm, land use change, water use, pesticides application, data collection procedures and data quality assessment. These guidelines (version 2.0) will be updated and enhanced in 2015. [Download the guidelines](#).

5) Call for abstracts for upcoming conferences

SETAC Europe's 20th LCA Case Study Symposium to be held in Serbia, 24-26 November, 2014 The 20th SETAC Europe LCA Case Study Symposium - taking place in Novi Sad, Serbia, from 24-26 November, 2014 - gives you a great opportunity to contribute to scientific and professional debate on "LCA in promoting eco-innovation and sustainability: education, research and application". Confirmed participation of experts and researchers

from UNEP/SETAC Life Cycle Initiative, EU Joint Research Centre, top universities and other LCA hot-spots, guarantees an interesting and high quality event! Share your vision, ideas and research results with others and help us further developing & supporting life cycle approaches in theory and practice. Don't miss the chance - **online abstract submission is open until 15 September, 2014!** [Learn more.](#)

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Our Calendar: Where we and our partners will be in the coming months

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

1) Swiss Discussion Forum on LCA "Are Environmental Declarations of Products and Organisations the way to harmonise LCAs?" 24th Annual Meeting



9 September 2014 • Zurich, Switzerland. [Learn more.](#)

The Life Cycle Initiative will present its views on harmonisation in LCA, among speakers representing ISO, the EC, the Swiss Government, and active representatives from the private sector.

2) Indian Conference of Life Cycle Management



29-30 September 2014 • New Delhi, India. [Learn more.](#)

Drop by the Life Cycle Initiative's booth to meet Flagship Activity leaders and put yourself on the Interactive Life Cycle Map!

Regional training workshops in New Delhi in conjunction with the ILCM Conference:

- 26 September: Sustainable Public Procurement and Life Cycle Costing
- 27 September: LCA Databases
- 30 September: Workshop on mainstreaming Life Cycle Thinking in Sustainable Consumption and Production Policy

3) 5th NorLCA Symposium "Global Sustainability Challenges - Northern Approaches"



2-3 October 2014 • Reyjavik, Iceland. [Learn more.](#)

4) LCA XIV



6-8 October 2014 • San Francisco, USA. [Learn more.](#)

Drop by the Life Cycle Initiative's booth to meet Flagship Activity leaders and put yourself on the Interactive Life Cycle Map!

26th Meeting of the International Life Cycle Board, hosted by US EPA on October 9th 2014.

5) IX LCA Food



8-10 October 2014 • San Francisco, USA. [Learn more.](#)

Drop by the Life Cycle Initiative's booth to meet Flagship Activity leaders and put yourself on the Interactive Life Cycle Map!

- Life Cycle Initiative presentation on Building International Consensus on LCIA Indicators
- Expert Workshop on Indicators to include land use aspects on biodiversity in LCA (7 October) hosted by US EPA

6) World Resources Forum

19-22 October 2014 • Arequipa, Peru. [Learn more.](#)

7) 1st Latin-American Congress on Ecodesign

21-24 October 2014 • Santiago de Chile. [Learn more.](#)

8) 1st Central and West Africa Regional Conference of the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC)

26-30 October 2014 • Garki, Abuja, Nigeria.

Information will be posted on our events web page as it becomes available.

9) 11th Annual Ecobalance Conference



27-30 October 2014 • Tsukuba City, Japan. [Learn more.](#)

- Life Cycle Initiative session: 'The Practical Challenge for Sustainable Industry – Organizational LCA (O-LCA): Concepts and Methodologies' on 29 Oct chaired by Atsushi Inaba and Matthias Finkbeiner

- ILCB Gathering (date to be confirmed).

10) 4th International [avnir] Conference



5-6 November 2014 • Lille, France. [Learn more.](#)

11) 4th LCM Brazil Conference



9 -12 November 2014 • Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Regional training workshop on LCA Databases in conjunction with LCM Brazil Conference, Date TBC. Information will be posted on our events web page as it becomes available.

12) 1st Morocco Seminar on Environmental Footprinting

12 and 13 November 2014 (TBC) • Casablanca, Morocco.

Information will be posted on our events web page as it becomes available.

13) 4th International Seminar on Social LCA



20-21 November 2014 • Montpellier, France. [Learn more.](#)

14) SETAC Europe's 20th LCA Case Study Symposium



24-26 November 2014 • Novi Sad, Serbia. [Learn more.](#)

SETAC 20th LCA Case Study Symposium "LCA in promoting eco-innovation and sustainability: education, research and application". 24-26 November 2014. Novi Sad, Serbia. Don't miss the chance - online abstract submission is open till 15th September, 2014!

15) 5th International Conference on Green and Sustainable Innovation (ICGSI 2015)

Mid November 2015 – dates TBC • Pattaya, Thailand.

Information will be posted on our events web page as it becomes available.

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LC Initiative has a new Sponsor : Fundacion Chile



Fundación Chile (FCh) is a unique public private partnership fostering innovations that “move the boundary of possibility”, its partners are the Chilean State and BHP Billiton – Escondida Mine. FCh partners globally to provide a high impact response to address Chile’s challenges—ultimately, today’s global challenges: sustainability, human capital development, healthier food, and digitalization. Since its creation in 1976 by the Chilean Government and ITT Corporation, this non-profit has generated over two billion dollars in social value in industries and enterprises initiated by FCh. FCh is a “do-tank”, pioneering new sectors through a portfolio of capacity building initiatives, demonstrative companies, and enabling technology services. [Learn more.](#)

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Flagship Activity Feedback - A selection

Global Principles and Practices for Hotspot Analysis • Co-chairs Jim Fava and Mark Barthel

Phase 1 of the UNEP/SETAC Life Cycle Initiative’s Flagship Project 3a – Hotspots Analysis is well underway. Since the survey that was launched in June, the results have been reviewed and analysed, with further support from desktop research and interviews with key hotspots analysis methodologies developers and users. The outcome of this work was summarised in a draft report and issued to UNEP for review and comment in early August. At present this draft is being finalised in order to soon be launched as an official publication of the UNEP/SETAC Life Cycle Initiative and disseminated worldwide.

This first phase of Flagship Project 3a, is aiming to produce a common methodological framework and global guidance for sustainability hotspots analysis; a protocol for the appropriate use and communication of sustainability information derived from hotspots analysis; and to evaluate and, if possible, implement a range of options to bring together the findings from existing hotspots studies to provide a richer, global picture of sustainability hotspots in the economy and society.

In addition, the provision of access to best practice approaches to hotspots analysis; and the availability of comparable, consistent, credible, and comprehensive information about the sustainability performance of sectors, products’ and companies will enable and support positive change in the global marketplace.

The UNEP/SETAC Life Cycle Initiative is very appreciative of the time and expertise of all who have participated in the survey and have contributed to this report. [Learn more.](#)

Global Capability Development • Co-chairs Sonia Valdivia, Cassia Ugaya and Sanjeevan Bajaj

On August 28, 2014, FICCI organized an exclusive session on Life Cycle Thinking and Approaches for Indian Public Sector Enterprises. The purpose was to warm them up to the Life Cycle Initiative's capacity building work in developing countries and enable them to make informed choices on their participation in various activities. The session was chaired by Mr. A.K Pavadia, Joint Secretary, Department of Public Enterprises, Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises, Govt of India (DPE). He explained the concept of Life Cycle Assessment and pointed out that this was the future direction that Sustainability related work is going to take. Ms. Sunita Singh, Director, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India also addressed the audience and explained her Ministry's work on Sustainable Consumption and Production. Dr Sanjeevan Bajaj, CEO FICCI Quality Forum and Co-chair of flagship 4 described FICCI's work in the capacity building work and provided detailed information on the upcoming Indian Conference on Life Cycle Management (ILCM 2014) and technical workshops being organized from September 26 to September 30, 2014. [Learn more.](#)

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Life Cycle Jobs

Vacancy at PRé Consultants

PRé is looking for a Senior consultant to strengthen its team in the Netherlands. For further information, please consult the [post description](#), or contact Margreet Riedstra [riedstra (at) pre-sustainability.com].

PhD Position at ULB (Brussels, Belgium) on social LCA

There is call for candidates who are interested to take up a PhD Position at the university (ULB) in Brussels (Belgium) focusing on social LCA. For more information, please see http://igeat.ulb.ac.be/fileadmin/media/Geste/Vacancy_Mini-ARC.pdf.

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Secretariat of the UNEP/SETAC Life Cycle Initiative

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