

LC Net



Bimonthly newsletter of the
Life Cycle Initiative

November/December 2018 Edition

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LC Net Focus



The Life Cycle Initiative welcomes its new Steering Committee

The 2nd General Assembly of the Initiative concluded successfully on 27 September, with 62 members participating online. The Secretariat presented progress on implementing the new strategy during 2017-2018 through ongoing projects and activities, as well as the fund-raising strategy and communication. Engagement of members was discussed in terms of involvement in project implementation and resource mobilization. The preliminary work plan for 2018-2019 was shared as well.

Three new Steering Committee members were [voted by the members](#) within their constituencies:

- Government: The Government of Sweden (Europe)
- Business: The HUB EPD of Latin America (Latin America and the Caribbean)
- Science and Civil Society (individual member): Bárbara M. Civit (Latin America and the Caribbean)

Find the [latest composition of the Steering Committee](#) on the Initiative website.

We take this opportunity to thank Michele Galatola (representing the European Commission) Camilo Bastias (for Regenerativa) and Jorge Antonio Hilbert (individual representative for the Science and Civil Society constituency), for their great and valuable contribution to the work of the Steering Committee during 2017-2018.

Participants very satisfied with the 2018 General Assembly: survey results

Results of the General Assembly participants survey revealed that the vast majority of respondents were very satisfied with the organization and realization of the General Assembly, including the webex platform, content, facilitation, presentations and outcomes. Non-participants cited time zone and schedule conflict most often as the reason for not being able to participate.

Improvements in the interactivity and engagement with members were noted as areas for improvement, in general. As a start in the right direction, starting in 2019 the Initiative will organise regular webinars to update the progress on specific projects, and seek the support and feedback from members, and will look into organising regional member gatherings or events. Follow us on Twitter and LinkedIn to get the latest information on webinar dates and topics.

Thank you to all those who took the time to fill out the survey!

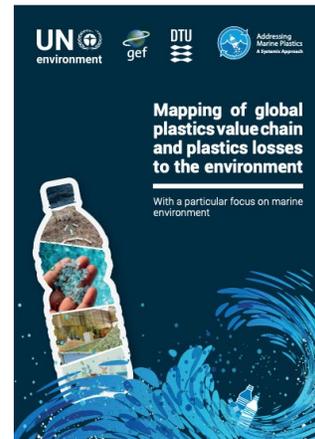
Announcements

UN Environment published two reports on marine plastics applying a life cycle approach

UN Environment has published 2 reports under the GEF funded project “[Addressing Marine Plastics - A Systemic Approach](#)”, which provide a comprehensive overview on the issues of marine plastics at the global level, based on life cycle and systemic thinking. The reports also form a basis that will guide subsequent work and initiatives in the plastics pollution area led by UN Environment, as well as related work of the Life Cycle Initiative.

1) [Addressing marine plastics: A systemic approach - Stocktaking report](#)

This report provides a high level summary of the available literature on the key sources and locations of plastics, along with an analysis of the problem products and polymers making up marine plastics and microplastics. It also looks at current actions and policy responses to address the problem of marine plastics, in order to lay the groundwork for future actions.



2) Mapping of global plastics value chain and plastics losses to the environment - With a particular focus on marine environment

This report provides a comprehensive global mapping of plastic losses to the environment throughout the plastic value chain using 2015 as the reference year. This mapping covers plastics production and processing, use of plastics or plastic containing products, and disposal of the products. It differentiates 23 types of plastics and 13 plastic applications, including division between macro- and microplastics.

Please kindly disseminate the reports in your network, and you can [contact us](#) for any feedback.

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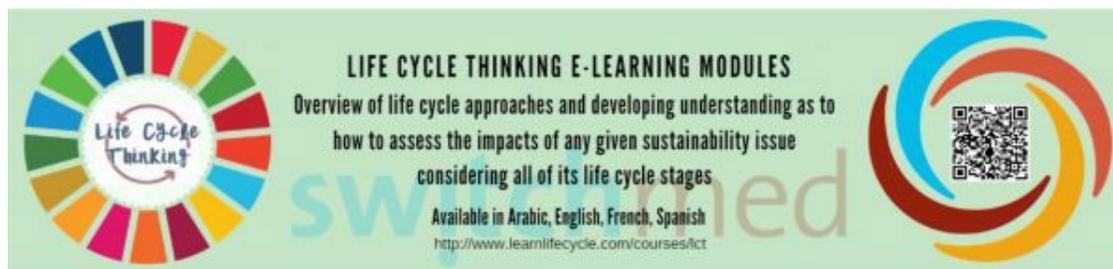
Life Cycle Initiative endorses the New Plastics Economy

The Life Cycle Initiative joined over 250 other actors (plastics manufacturers; fast moving consumer goods producers; retailers; waste managers; finance community; local and national governments; NGOs...) in the *New Plastics Economy Global Commitment*, formalising its support as an endorser. The Global Commitment presents a unique opportunity for businesses and governments to step forward as global leaders working on solutions addressing the root causes of plastic waste and pollution and transitioning to a circular plastics economy. What makes this Global Commitment unique is that it aligns concrete actions by all actors in the value chain, including governments at all levels, plastics producers, goods manufacturers, recyclers and waste managers, finance community... towards one common vision making sure the plastic we produce stays in the economy and never becomes waste or pollution. The key actions that signatories align to were also informed by the above-mentioned reports on marine plastics, based on life cycle thinking and systemic perspective. The Life Cycle Initiative will continue developing life cycle based guidance and tools to support the decision making and actions related to marine plastics.

The Life Cycle Initiative has a key role to play in providing support for a transition to a circular economy for plastics. The commitment the Initiative has undertaken is:

- We endorse the New Plastics Economy Global Commitment and common vision.
- Additionally, we make the following relevant ambitious commitments in line with the vision's recognised "importance of taking a full life-cycle and systems perspective, aiming for better economic and environmental outcomes overall": We will strive to facilitate access to life cycle based tools and approaches to enhance the knowledge on amounts of plastic leaking into the environment, and ways to assess the impacts associated to those amounts for use in Life Cycle Assessment.

Find more information in [our news post](#).



Arabic and French version of the e-learning module “Introduction to Life Cycle Thinking” in development

The [Switch-Med project](#) has provided financial support to translate the Life Cycle Initiative’s e-learning module “Introduction to Life Cycle Thinking” into Arabic and French. We wish to express our gratitude to the Switch-Med project for its interest and support! The translated module will be available in early 2018.

Event feedback & activity updates

Subcommittee meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UN Environment Programme | 8 November 2018 | Nairobi, Kenya

The Secretariat of the Life Cycle Initiative presented a briefing on life cycle approaches to the Committee of Permanent Representatives (the Member States ambassadors to UN Environment). The briefing included the latest overview on implementation of the work of the Life Cycle Initiative, and is particularly timely considering the potential links to the [theme of the fourth session of UN Environment Assembly](#). The [documents for this meeting](#) can be accessed online.



Workshop on the Revision of the Social LCA Guidelines

The S-LCA Guidelines revision process passed a new milestone with its first face-to-face workshop in Pescara, Italy, on September 12-14, 2018. The workshop brought together 44 participants from 17 countries and from a range of sectors (academia, consulting, industry, international organisations). It offered a concrete opportunity for S-LCA practitioners to get involved in the revision process and to improve an initial draft that was developed by working groups. The revised guidelines aim to reflect current state-of-the-art in both S-LCA and SOLCA, focus on capacity building, and broaden the audience of the current guidelines. [Read more](#).

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Gimo workshop on “Empowering decision makers across the value chain to protect and restore life on land” Gimo, Sweden, October 1st to October 3rd 2018

The Life Cycle Initiative was honoured to participate in this workshop, hosted and organised by our most recent funding partner, the [Alliance for Beverage Cartons and the Environment](#). The [workshop](#) gathered a multi-disciplinary group of international experts in forestry, ecosystem science and life cycle assessment to discuss how life cycle assessment (LCA) can better address land use impacts on biodiversity – supported by a forest visit to study responsible forest management. Life Cycle information addressing biodiversity should drive decisions across the value chain that restore and protect components of biodiversity including the ones for which society has already set targets as in the SDGs, Science Based Targets (SBTs), etc. Acknowledging the strengths and limitations of LCA and other tools, the participants developed the “[Gimo recommendations](#)”, which address the reference situation, appropriate spatial granularity for addressing forest land, as well as ways of providing better decision support.

New Project: “Linking the UN Sustainable Development Goals

Our Calendar: where we and our partners will be active

2nd consultation workshop for the review of the Social LCA Guidelines |24-26 April 2019 | Paris, France

Life Cycle Initiative's new project "[Towards an updated Guidelines for Social LCA – Scale up and road testing of Social LCA & Social Organizational LCA \(S-LCA & SOLCA\)](#)" is organizing a face-to-face workshop to consult stakeholders on the revision and use of the Social LCA guidelines in April 2019. If you are interested to participate in the revision process please email [Elisabeth Ekener](#) to be added to the mailing list.

CILCA 2019 Conference | 15-19 July 2019 | Cartago, Costa Rica

The eight edition of the CILCA Conference of the [Iberoamerican Life Cycle Network \(RICV\)](#) will take place in 2019 in Costa Rica (Cartago), from 15 to 19 July 2019. CILCA 2019 is being co-organized with the Association for LCA in Latin America (ALCALA), and the Costa Rica National Life Cycle Network. The [CILCA 2019](#) has adopted as the overarching central topic "LCA: Global Competitiveness" to frame the discussions and exchanges

The deadline for abstract submissions has been extended until the 30th of November. To submit an abstract please click in here. For more information please contact info@cilca2019.org.

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

9th International Conference on Life Cycle Management | 1-4 September 2019 | Poznań, Poland

The LCM (Life Cycle Management) conference series is one of the world's leading forums for environmental, economic and social sustainability. The focus is on practical solutions for the implementation of life cycle approaches into strategic and operational decision-making, whether in science, industry, NGOs or public bodies. TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE FUTURE is LCM2019's draft title and the conference will consider the current challenges and prospects in life cycle management.

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.

Green Growth Knowledge Platform post

The GGKP just launched a P3 staff position to manage the new Green Industry Platform. More information at either of the links below:

- <http://www.greengrowthknowledge.org/news/vacancy-ggkp-programme-management-officer-green-industry>
 - <https://careers.un.org/lbw/jobdetail.aspx?id=104244&Lang=en-US>
-

If you have a job posting to send to our network of LCA practitioners, [send us an email](#).

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On-going Call for LCNet Contributions!

Members of the Life Cycle Initiative, please feel free to submit your event, job vacancy, news, capacity development opportunities, topics and stories related to life cycle thinking and LCA, to be shared with the global life cycle community. We are always looking for featured coverage on the experience how life cycle thinking contributes to different policy agendas, sustainable business and decision making, in various countries and regions. You may send your content to [info\(at\)lifecycleinitiative.org](mailto:info@lifecycleinitiative.org) and copy [Feng Wang](#). Note that we cannot accept contributions of a commercial nature.

LCNet is released bimonthly in the beginning of January, March, May, July, September and November, so please send us your piece approximately at least two weeks before the release date.

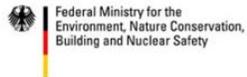
We look forward to your contributions in disseminating life cycle knowledge from global policy and business agendas!

Secretariat of the Life Cycle Initiative

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

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