

LC Net



Bimonthly newsletter of the
Life Cycle Initiative

July/August 2019 Edition

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LC Net Focus

Members: Mark your calendars for the 3rd General Assembly of the Life Cycle Initiative on 24 September 2019

On 24 September 2019, 11:00-15:30 (CEST), the Life Cycle Initiative will host its third online General Assembly, open to all members of the Initiative. We will

use the opportunity to update members on the achievements of the past 12 months, discuss future activities, and explore cooperation among members.



Another important objective of the General Assembly is for members to elect three new representatives to the Steering Committee. As stipulated in the governance of the Initiative (Annexes 3.2 and 3.3 of the strategy document), one seat of each constituency in the Steering Committee (government, business, science & civil society) rotates every year. In order to respect the geographical representation rule, institutional members from the following regions may opt for election to the Steering Committee this year:

- Government: Africa, Asia/Pacific, North America, West Asia
- Business: Africa, Asia/Pacific, North America, West Asia
- Science & Civil Society: Africa, Asia/Pacific, North America, West Asia

Members who are based in the geographical scope mentioned above and interested to be a candidate to the Steering Committee election, please send an email to feng.wang@un.org with a short description of your motivation and qualification to be in

the Steering Committee. Please send your candidacy email **before 6 September 2019**.

For all members, please block your agenda for the General Assembly on September 24, 2019 from 11:00-15:30 (CEST), and look for more details in the next newsletter, which will be delivered to your inbox in mid-September.

Remember: membership registration is open throughout the year. You or your institution can join by downloading, completing and returning a signed membership application form to membership@lifecycleinitiative.org and copy feng.wang@un.org.

Announcements

New case study: Implementation of life cycle thinking in the tourism sector in the Dominican Republic

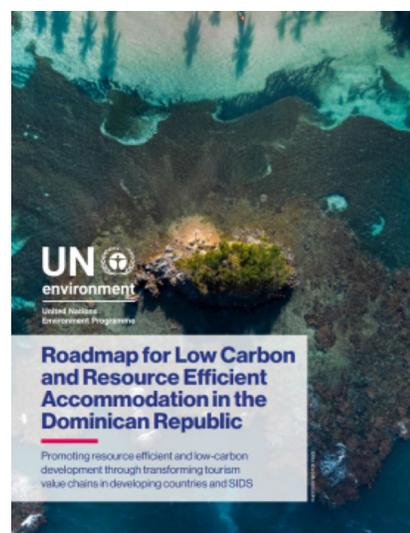
Over the past two years, the Life Cycle Initiative has built a strong collaboration with the Sustainable Tourism Programme of One Planet Network to provide hotspot analysis and develop low-carbon and resource-efficient solutions for the Dominican Republic, the Philippines, Saint Lucia and Mauritius. We are delighted to share the outcome from the Dominican Republic.

The Dominican Republic, one of the world's top tourist destinations, has set the country's tourism sector on a path to sustainability. The new tourism plan, developed in collaboration with UN Environment, includes ways to measure and reduce food waste, increase energy efficiency and promote the use of renewable energy in hotels and other accommodation options.

It builds on two years of research, data collection and analysis that identified hotspots of greenhouse gas emissions and low efficiency in the use of natural resources in hotel value chains.

The resulting Roadmap for Low Carbon and Resource Efficient Accommodation in the Dominican Republic was launched by UN Environment in May 2019, in Punta Cana. The event was attended by 75 representatives from the tourism sector.

>> [Read more](#)



New Project: Marine Impacts in LCA (MariLCA)



We are pleased to announce that the [Marine Impacts in LCA \(MariLCA\)](#) project was recently officially launched during SETAC Europe Annual Meeting in Helsinki. MariLCA is an international working group jointly supported by the Life Cycle Initiative and the Forum for Sustainability through Life Cycle Innovation and seeks to develop a methodology to integrate potential environmental impact categories and characterization factors of marine impact assessment into LCA, in priority on marine plastic litter.

We are currently looking for experts to be part of our Scientific Working Group and stakeholders (industry, government, NGO etc.) in our Technical Advisory Committee. You may submit your preference through [the interest form](#).

>> [Read more](#).

Get Involved: Review national guidance on plastics hotspotting and actions

UNEP, the Life Cycle Initiative and IUCN are co-developing a “National Guidance for Marine Plastic Hotspotting and Shaping Action”. This guidance aims to provide countries with a prioritization methodology and tool to identify key hotspots on marine plastics and drive sound actions towards closing the plastic tap. The guidance is accompanied with methodological modules on modelling approaches, as well as practical spreadsheet for data collection and analysis.

If you are interested to review this report, please send an email with your background, affiliation, location and gender to [Feng Wang](#) and [Kate O'Brien](#) before 20 July.



Get Involved: Review recommendations for action on marine plastics



**Addressing
Marine Plastics**
A Systemic Approach

Under the Global Environment Facility (GEF) funded project: Addressing Marine Plastics – A Systemic Approach, UNEP is developing a report to explore barriers and opportunities throughout the plastic value chain, and to provide recommendations towards achieving a circular plastics economy at the global level. The draft report will be publicly reviewed between 20 July – 20 August 2019.

If you are interested to review this report, please send an email with your background, affiliation, location and gender to [Feng Wang](#) and [Kate O'Brien](#) before 20 July.

Participation in CILCA conference



We are excited to announce that The Life Cycle Initiative will be participating at the upcoming CILCA 2019 conference. The 8th edition of the CILCA Conference of the Iberoamerican Life Cycle Network (RICV) will take place in Cartago, Costa Rica, from 15-19 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.

Please make a note of the following times in your diaries for the highlights of the Life Cycle Initiative!

- Workshop on Marine Litter and LCA, co-organised with the FSLCI: 16 July 8:30-18:00
 - Opening plenary session key note speech: 17 July 8:00 – 10:30am
 - Social Gathering of the Initiative: 17 July 18:30 (this will be an opportunity to mingle with the members of the Initiative, learn about the status of projects, and sign up to the Life Cycle Initiative if you're still not a member! The session is open to everyone)
 - Special Session on the REAL project, with close attention to LCA Databases: 18 July 10:30-12:30
-

Who won the free participation to CILCA 2019?



Following the announcement in January of the competition to win free participation at CILCA 2019, many LC Net readers were motivated to complete the [Life Cycle Thinking e-learning module](#) and submit a short description of how they were applying the concept of Life Cycle Thinking in their personal or work life and what kind of impact it has had.

After considering all the submissions, we are now very happy to announce that the winner is **Angela Sarmiento**! Angela explains in her submission how she integrates Life Cycle Thinking:

"In 'Kukupu Moda con Sentido' we think how to extend the life cycle of a garment, offer several alternatives to involve the consumer and make the brands rethink their processes with Life Cycle Thinking. We encourage reuse, repair, recycling and redesign to take advantage of materials; but we also have the donation as a social focus, as well as education about the importance of a Circular fashion for the future."

We look forward to meeting you in Cartago, Angela, and hope you'll make the most of it!

Upcoming webinar on SCP-HAT

We have been talking about demonstrating the [Sustainable Consumption and Production Hotspots Analysis Tool](#) for a while now... If you have not yet checked out the tool and would like a guided tour and overview of the basics by the experts, on 26 July 13:30h (CEST) we will host a webinar co-organised by the One Planet network and the International Resource Panel. More information on registration for this free webinar will be provided in the Initiative website in due course.



Congratulations to our new implementing project partner!

Congratulations to the IVL Swedish Environmental Research Institute for being selected as the implementing partner for the meta-study on single use plastic bags and their alternatives.



We would also like to thank all the partners and experts who took the time to submit proposals within the short time frame. The result of the project is expected to be published in November 2019. As a reminder, this project is directly linked to one of the resolutions approved in the last session of the UN Environment Assembly in March 2019 (see the note in [the previous LC Net](#)). [Resolution UNEP/EA.4/Res.9](#) on “Addressing single-use plastic products pollution” requests UNEP to provide life cycle assessment studies of single-use plastic products compared to alternative products / materials in advance of UNEA 5 (in February 2021). The study on bags is thus the first in a collection of meta-studies, pending availability of resources.

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Life Cycle Initiative project updates & event feedback

Events organised during SETAC Helsinki conferences

The Initiative organised a series of successful events during the SETAC Helsinki conference in May 2019, with

strong support from SETAC.



- The Initiative and the European Commission co-organised a training on the technical approach of the Environment Footprint (EF) methodology. Forty participants from academia, LCA consultancy as well as the private sector expressed positive feedback on the setup and content of the training.
- A physical Steering Committee meeting of Initiative was organised to discuss project development and progress, budget and expenditure, communication, further implementation of the strategy. The new project on developing impact assessment of marine litter under the LCA framework (MariLCA) was approved, and actions related to UNEA4 resolutions and circular economy were planned.
- Projects of the Initiative presented during the conference, included GLAM (life cycle impact indicators), MariLCA, Social LCA, and the work of the Initiative was well recognised in the life cycle related sessions of the conference.

World Circular Economy Forum in Helsinki

The Life Cycle Initiative was present in the 3rd World Circular Economy Forum, held in Helsinki on 3-5 June 2019. The Initiative supported a side event on 'Closing the Loop in Textiles' co-organised by the Finnish Ministry of Environment, the Ellen MacArthur Foundation, and UNEP, participated in a



session on lifelong learning for the Circular Economy, and demonstrated the [Sustainable Consumption and Production Hotspots Analysis Tool](#) during the Forum. Several instruments and enablers for the circular economy were highlighted, including taxation shifts (from labour to resources and pollution); redefining the concept of ownership and responsibility; circular investments and (Circular) Public Procurement; as well as a shift in values and trade rules. A key gap to address for this community is the need for metrics based on systemic approaches to enable measuring progress and fees / pricing (internalizing externalities): Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) has obviously much to offer on this topic.



Launch of Peru LCA

The launch of [Peru LCA](#) on 23 May was attended by over 70 representatives from several ministries, private sector and academia. Peru LCA is a national life cycle assessment database that aims to provide data and insights to assist policy makers, private sector and academia to integrate LCA methodologies and approaches. The tool utilises the national economic input output matrix to allow users to calculate the carbon footprint and water consumption in key economic sectors of Peru. The database was developed with the support of the Life Cycle Initiative and the UN Environment Consumer Information Programme and was funded by the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety (BMU) of Germany and the European Union. Peru LCA provides open data in key strategic sectors such as energy or waste, and has enabled Peru to become a regional leader on LCA. The project was the joint effort of the Ministry of Environment and the Peruvian LCA Network. Participants at CILCA 2019 will be able to learn much more about the amazing progress in Peru in terms of LCA data!

Project Update: GLAM

The “Global Guidance for Life Cycle Impact Assessment Indicators and Methods” (GLAM) project was launched to enhance global consensus on environmental life cycle impact assessment indicators. The project aims to generate tangible and practical recommendations for different environmental indicators and characterization factors used in Life Cycle Impact Assessments (LCIA).

We are pleased to announce that Phase 2, which provides guidance on indicators regarding; Acidification and eutrophication, human toxicity, natural resources – mineral primary resources, land use impacts on soil quality, ecotoxicity, and cross-cutting issues, is in the final stages of report production after completing its review. The report and characterisation factors will be released in the coming weeks. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Experience Nduagu, Ph.D., P. Eng. for his contribution to the project

as the chair of the ad hoc technical review committee.

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Our Calendar: where we and our partners will be active

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.

See the announcement section above for the various events the Life Cycle Initiative will be (co)-organising during CILCA 2019.

>> [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 title and the conference will consider the current challenges and prospects in life cycle management.

Similar to the previous competition, there is a chance to win participation in this conference. **Send us your submission by 12 July** following the [instructions in the previous newsletter](#).

>> [Consult the event website](#)

International Social Life Cycle Assessment Forum | 12-13 September 2019 | Pescara, Italy

The International Social Life Cycle Assessment (S-LCA) Forum “The Circular Economy is about People” will take place in Pescara – Italy, on the 12-13 September 2019. The forum is now calling for papers, and deadline of submission is 10 July 2019.

>> [Consult the event website](#)

LCA XIX | 24-26 September 2019 | Tucson, AZ, USA

The American Center for Life Cycle Assessment (ACLCA) is hosting its 3rd LCA conference in Tucson, Arizona. It is a great opportunity to connect with experts from academia, industry, consulting and, government and NGOs on the latest innovations in life cycle thinking.

>> [Consult the event website](#)

Joint conference: 4th Congress of Engineering, Science and Environmental Management and 5th International Conference of Greening of Industry Network | 28-30 October 2019 | Mexico City, Mexico

The Congress is organized by the Mexican Association of Engineering, Science and Environmental Management (AMICA) and Greening of Industry Network (GIN).

>> [Read more](#)

>> [Consult the event website](#)

ISIE Americas 2020 Conference | 6-8 July 2020 | Lima, Peru

The ISIE Americas 2020 conference will be held in July 2020 in Lima, Peru. The theme of the conference is "Enhancing circularity and wellbeing through industrial ecology for resilient and sustainable cities". There is a call for papers, and the deadline of submission is 31 January 2020.

>> [Consult the event website](#)

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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Job Announcements

Internship in UNEP, Secretariat of the Life Cycle Initiative

We are pleased to announce that the Life Cycle Initiative is accepting applications for a 6-month internship post in our UNEP Paris office. There are two opportunities available each lasting six months: internship period October 2019 – April 2020, and period April/May – October/November 2020.

The intern will work under the direct supervision of the Head of the Life Cycle Initiative, in coordination with Programme Officers under the unit in UNEP. Please specify your desirable starting date in your cover letter.

Application deadline is 31 July 2019.

>> [More information](#)

Consultant on marine plastics in UNEP

UNEP Paris is looking for an expert to assist UNEP to consolidate technical delivery and outreach materials around plastics pollution, with a strong focus on life cycle, sustainable consumption and production and circular economy approaches. A strong technical focus coupled with proven communication skills (and fluency in both English and French) are a must.

Application deadline is 27 July 2019.

>> [More information](#)

Two job openings at Unilever with Science/LCA requirements

Continuing on their mission to make sustainable living commonplace around the world, our long-standing partner Unilever is seeking to recruit two professionals to join the sustainability team in the Safety & Environmental Assurance Centre (SEAC) (www.unilever.com/about/innovation/safety-and-environment/), which plays a vital role in building and sustaining confidence from consumers and communities around the globe in Unilever's brands and products. Please check the detailed description of the roles and application procedure in the following two links (one for each position):

<https://unilever.taleo.net/careersection/external/jobdetail.ftl?job=190006NX&tz=GMT%2B01%3A00&tzname=Europe%2FLondon>

<https://unilever.taleo.net/careersection/external/jobdetail.ftl?job=190006NU&tz=GMT%2B01%3A00&tzname=Europe%2FLondon>

Application deadline is 15 August 2019.

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On-going Call for LC Net Contributions!

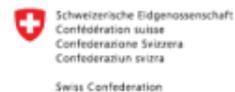
Members of the Life Cycle Initiative, please feel free to submit your event, job vacancy, news, capacity development opportunities, topics and stories related to life cycle thinking and LCA, to be shared with the global life cycle community. We are always looking for featured coverage on the experience 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@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!

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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](#).

