

Global LCIA guidance Phase 3 "Creation of a Global Life Cycle Impact Assessment Method"

The Life Cycle Initiative - hosted by UN Environment - is pleased to announce the launch of the Global LCIA guidance Phase 3, **aiming at establishing a comprehensive, consistent and global environmental Life Cycle Impact Assessment Method (LCIA)**. Building on the recommendations for nine impact categories from the first two phases (Frischknecht and Jolliet, [2016](#) & [2019](#), figure 1- green), the integration of individual environmental indicators into a consistent, harmonized and more comprehensive LCIA midpoint-endpoint method will be key to facilitate application and use of life cycle assessment by governments, industry and NGOs. The recommended global LCIA method will cover classification, midpoint and damage/endpoint characterisation, normalisation and weighting to assess the life cycle impacts of products and services on human health, ecosystem and natural resources.

The consensus finding activities will include open working groups and systematic stakeholder consultation and dialogue. Emphasis will be set on integration, consistency and applicability when prioritizing indicators and characterization methods. The work will be performed within four main task forces focusing on (figure 1, with potential area of focus identified at the 2019 Poznan workshop - in red):

Human Health – HH (including endpoint modelling of climate change, nutritional impacts on human health, noise and worker exposure – chair Peter Fantke),

Ecosystem Quality – EQ (including vulnerability, POCP effects, ocean acidification, impacts of plastic litter – chair Francesca Verones, Rosalie van Zelm),

Natural Resources and ecosystem services – NR (including biotic resources, water, mineral and energy resources – chairs Tim Grant and Masaharu Motoshita)

Normalization and Weighting and cross cutting issues – NW (including spatialization, integration with Life Cycle Inventory – chair Alexis Laurent).

You are invited to express your interest on the enclosed form to join one or several of these task forces, either as a **LCIA developer status** that will directly contribute to the method development (requires expertise in the field, minimum in-kind commitment of 8 days' work/year, regular attendance to teleconference, ability to work on consensus building) **or a stakeholder status** that will provide important advisory comments.

Next steps include:

- February-May 2020: Scoping work in Task Forces, defining areas of focus.
- **Stakeholder workshop on May 7 2020, 4-6pm in Dublin** in conjunction with SETAC Europe congress, coupled with task force meetings on May 7 1- 4pm and May 8 morning 2020, 8:30-11:30 am, Dublin airport)
- Targeted work 2020-2022, Draft comprehensive and consistent LCIA method ready by Winter 2020
- Pre-recommendations of all category indicators, including additional and new categories, Spring 2022.
- Consensus building workshop January-February 2023 for final integration, implementation and approval.

We are looking forward to work with you on this project

The leadership team
Olivier Jolliet (chair)
Francesca Verones and Peter Fantke (co-chairs)

For the Life Cycle Initiative
Llorenç Milà i Canals

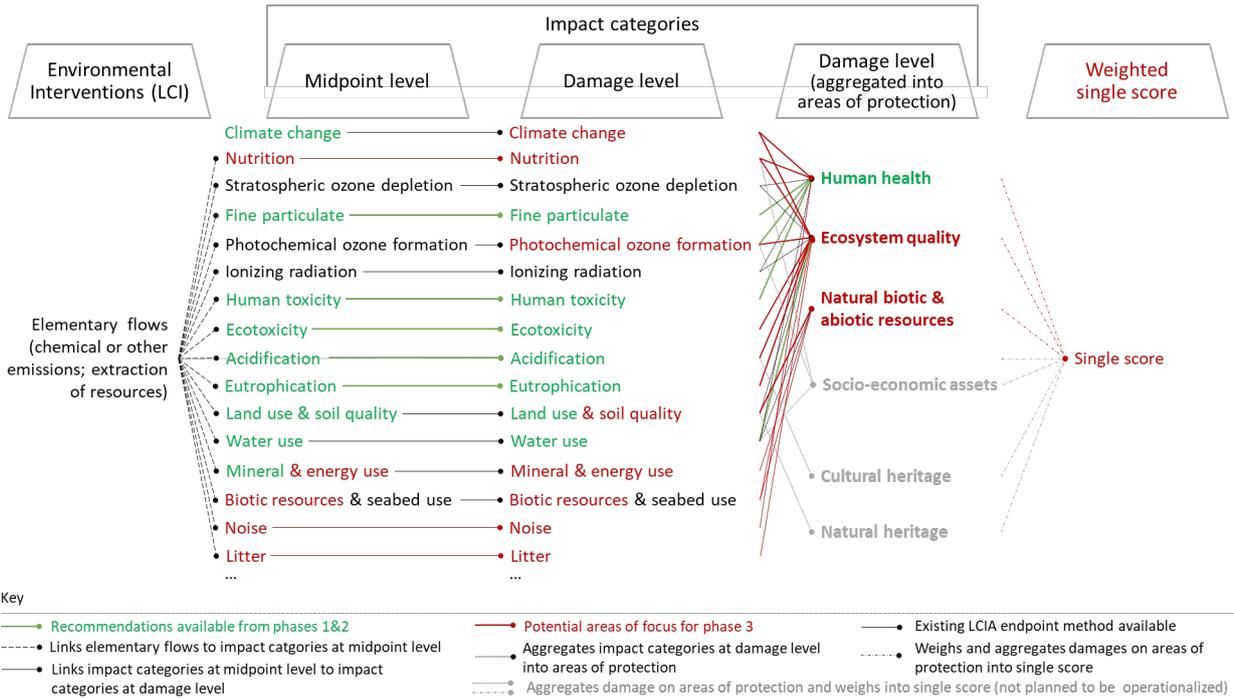


Figure 1. LCIA framework, showing categories with existing recommendation from phases 1&2 (green), potential areas of focus for phase 3 identified at the 2019 Poznan workshop (red) and categories with existing global LCIA methods that could be incorporated as such (black)