

WEBINAR Q&A Session

Introduction to the Life Cycle Thinking e-learning courses [English]

Date: Tuesday, November 3, 2020

Starting time: 10:00 AM

Q: Do you know how much time it'll take approximately to do all three courses? And is there any examination or test in the end?

A: Is quite dependent on whether you go through all the additional readings etc. as well, but around 4 hours per course. There are quizzes that you do as you go through (but no exam at the end). You can find the courses here <https://www.lifecycleinitiative.org/life-cycle-thinking-e-learning-modules/>

Q: Is a participation diploma awarded for participating in an online course?

A: Yes, once you complete the course and go through the self-evaluation you will receive a certificate of completion-

Q: Good morning. Is the content focused on certain geographical area. I am looking for an understanding of LCT in Europe and Switzerland.

A: The courses have global focus with examples from around the world-

Q: Are the content of the courses/ solutions at any point consider the regulatory restrains e.g. EU procurement law - are these solutions, ideas, good practices compatible / allowed with the EU procurement law ? Have this been checked?

A: Hi Marta, such regulatory considerations are mentioned and discussed in the courses, although the courses are a general introduction to life cycle thinking and how it is used e.g. in policy. Specific regulations will have specific tools not covered here.-

Q: Do we have certificates at the end of these courses?

A: Yes certificates are issued at the end of the course, once all components have been done-

Q: Is the LCT on waste and food policy discussed in the introductory course? Or are those separate courses on their own?

Thank you

A: Examples of LCT in waste and food policy are covered in the LCT in policy making course-No, not separate courses but come into the modules of the LCT in policy making course.-

Q: Do you have programs that focus on actualization of this thinking especially in Kenya?

-A : Thank you Dennis, I am afraid we do not – at least for the time being.

Q: will u demonstrate any case study related to wastewater treatment in the courses??

A: No, none of the examples covered in the courses relate to wastewater treatment. There are plenty of examples in the LCA literature, though. The following article might be of interest to you:

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0043135420305959> (*The application of life cycle assessment (LCA) to wastewater treatment: A best practice guide and critical review*)

Q: Any material on LCA within a Circular economy context? How to address the issues of allocation and double counting within CE?

A: Very relevant questions Amos! These are very detailed and the courses do not get to this depth. You may check the recent position paper on this in <https://www.lifecycleinitiative.org/must-read-the-initiatives-latest-position-paper-on-circular-economy/>-

Q: Will the use of Life Cycle Assessment Software be mentioned at any point in the courses?

A: Hi Calum. We talk about Life Cycle Assessment and applications in the courses, but not about specific software packages-

Q: I am an architect and doctorate student. My research will be about to sustainable building materials. Which courses will be useful for me?

A: I would suggest taking the introductory course and the business one.

Q: Can we use the part of the content of the course in a sustainable development training offered to students online?

A: Hi Lovena, as Claudia is mentioning we would love to find ways for you to incorporate the course into your training... please share your e-mail and we'll get in touch!-

Q: is there any courses that focus on LCT in agriculture science currently running in any university that we can look at

A: Hi Mohamed. There is the one module in the policy course that has some case studies on agriculture-

Q: Is there any module available for the school students? We want to impart this education to them.

A: I'm afraid there is nothing at this time for school students. It may be a little high level for them - but you might be able to find one or two of the case study videos that they might be able to understand - depending on their level. IBICT in Brazil published some materials for school children a few years ago (in Portuguese and Spanish), you may want to check there.-

Q: Is the focus on carbon footprint (GWP) and/or a key set of LCA impact categories?

A: Hello Carol! The courses introduce the several impact categories, no focus on a specific one.-

Q: I have completed 3 courses, really they are excellent and very informative. Thanks for Life Cycle Initiative

A: This is great Feedback! thank you Rama

Q: Hi Claudia : This is Tarcisio from ESCWA . Want reiterate our offer to translate to Arabic the remaining two courses and make them available form our new Arabic based E-learning platform

A: Many thanks for the offer. We will be pleased to discuss more details after the webinar

Q: Did you consider uploading the courses on one of the big MOOC platforms (EdEx, Coursera etc.) to improve visibility and reach a wider public?

A: Good point, we will explore.

Q: Do you think that the application of the life cycle is possible in third world countries?

A: Yes, absolutely, it is still possible to get the benefits of "systems thinking" even if some of the detail and data are lacking. It is important not to just transfer LCA results from other countries (important to think of the particular country context) and also important to include socio-economic aspects as well.

Q: How can we consider the LCT even I only work at a governmental sector? may be hard to do it by myself ? or must have general desire

A: Not knowing your context, it is difficult to answer, but I'd say having the insights that LCT brings is relevant to all sectors and levels of government. As a policy maker, you might rather contract specialists to do LCA studies for you than do them internally, e.g. in South Africa, government funded an LCA of

single-use grocery bags to inform their policy thinking. Or you might have a policy that requires companies to conduct LCAs, e.g. again from South Africa (my home country), new EPR legislation requires producers to submit information about the "life cycle" of their products.