

34th Discussion Forum

LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT VERSUS CO₂ FOOTPRINT

13th March 2008 Lausanne, 9 h 00, Hôtel Alpha Palmier (in front of the railway station)

We are pleased to invite you to the **34th discussion forum on Life Cycle Assessment on March 13th 2008**. The forum will be followed by the *2nd Internationalecoinvent Meeting on Friday March 14th 2008 in Lausanne*, at the Polydôme, EPFL. Both events will be held in English.

The importance of the climate change issue has grown impressively these last months. Companies and authorities today deal with carbon footprint assessment, carbon labelling, carbon offsets and other instruments.

Currently, there are two different approaches to assess the climate impact of processes and organisations: either with Life Cycle Assessment (**LCA methods**), or based on the **greenhouse gas protocol** (www.ghgprotocol.org) and its 'partners' e.g. the GRI Global Reporting Initiative and the WBCSD World Business Council for Sustainable Development. The two approaches use different concepts and therefore may yield different GHG emission results. In addition, LCA is not limited to climate change but includes other impacts on the environment. Does the fact that climate change is the current prime subject allow or justify not to consider other impacts?

The DF 34 will discuss the following questions:

- Which are the relevant differences between the two approaches of LCA and GHG protocol concerning GHG accounting? Is GHG accounting an "LCA light"?
- In which cases is it useful to focus the environmental assessment on GHG emissions only?
- How should GHG emission certificates be considered in an LCA / Ecobalance?
- What are the implications of the GHG methodology development on the life cycle assessment methodology?

We hope that this forum will be of interest for you and we are looking forward to welcoming you in Lausanne.

Arthur Braunschweig, Sarra Harbi and Yves Loerincik

Final Program:

Time	Title	Orators
9:00	Welcome	Yves Loerincik, Ecointesys
9:10	The relation between LCA and GHG accounting (14040, 14064, GHG protocol, Kyoto rules, GHG credits accounting)	Arthur Braunschweig, E2
9:40	Comparing carbon footprint with impact-oriented life cycle methodologies: a meta-analysis	Mark Huijbregts, Radboud University Nijmegen (NL)
10:10	An authority's view on the relation between GHG accounting and LCA	Norbert Egli, Federal office for the environment (BAFU/OFEV)
10:40	Break	
11:10	How are the GHG credits calculated? How should an institution calculate its credit demand?	David Wettstein, MyClimate
11:40	Labelling of food products: based on LCA or what...?	Pascal Greverath, Nestlé Coop
12:20	Scoping and calculation issues of "climate neutral products", a Swiss multi-stakeholder project	Daniel Lehmann, Thomas Ruddy, KlimaPro
12:40	Break	
14:00	Short presentations:	
	The 'carbon footprint' – an unreliable indicator of environmental sustainability	Guy Castelan, Plastic Europe
	LCA in greenhouse gas quantification: more than a « may be »	Sophie Fallaha, École Polytechnique de Montréal
	Validation of carbon footprints	Wolfgang Berger, DFGE – Institut für Energie – Ökologie, Ökonomie
	Development activities and status of PAS2050	Graham Sinden, Carbon Trust
	Calculation of CO2 reduction figures	Niels Jungbluth, ESU-Services
	How Much CO2 can be compensated?	
	Implementing sustainable strategy at Alcan packaging	Isabelle Jenny, Alcan
	Analysing the carbon intensity of companies with I/O data and LCA data	Yvan Maillard, Centre Info
	From rigorous LCA approach to implementable CO2 reporting scheme	François Vuille, E4Tech
	Experiences and possible improvements of greenhouse gas accounting – examples from the City of Stockholm and a project with the WWF	Stefan Johansson, Royal institute of Technology, Stockholm
15:40	Break	
16:10	Implications on GHG accounting and LCA / Ecobalancing methods	Discussion
16:50	Good-bye	