
Swiss Discussion Forum on Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) 2012

LCA of energetic biomass utilisation: current projects and new developments

DF 47, April 23, 2012, Berne-Ittigen (in English)

ecoinvent v3 - an introduction to the new features & data

DF 48, June 13, 2012, Empa Akademie,
Dübendorf (in English)

Sustainable Consumption Patterns

DF 49, September 18, 2012, GEP-Pavillon,
ETH Zurich (in English)

Water in LCA

DF 50, December 4, 2012, GEP-Pavillon,
ETH Zurich (in English)

Sponsors 2012:



DF 47: LCA of energetic biomass utilisation: current projects and new developments

April 23, 2012, Berne-Ittigen (in English)

Biomass for energy purposes, be it electricity, heat, or transport services, has been seen as a promising option to reduce both non-renewable energy use and fossil carbon emissions. However, LCA studies have shown that the energetic use of biomass also adds to climate change, and, furthermore that other environmental issues arise, such as land use and agricultural emissions. While biomass is renewable, it is not an unlimited resource. Its use, for whatever purpose, must therefore be well studied to promote those options which actually reduce environmental impacts. Consequently, there is a need for up-to-date inventories of biomass and its energetic use. This is the focus of projects financed by the Swiss Federal Office of Energy and presented at this forum, where current developments of LCA studies on biogas, biomass combustion, biofuels, and energy crops are discussed.

DF 48: ecoinvent v3 - an introduction to the new features & data

June 13, 2012, Dübendorf (in English)

The ecoinvent Centre provides the most relevant, reliable, transparent and accessible LCI data worldwide. The new, upcoming version 3 (scheduled for June 2012) offers a variety of improvements and exciting features (e.g. enhanced flexibility of multiple system models based on the same unit process data, parameterization and integration of formulas, a better and directly integrated documentation, and many other attractive options). Furthermore, many data collection projects expand and update the database, e.g. water use data for many processes, new data about fruits & vegetables, or further national electricity mixes. In this Forum, the ecoinvent Centre together with its carrying institutes (Empa, ETH, PSI, EPFL and agroscope ART) will introduce to you these new features, components and data of ecoinvent v3 and demonstrate how these features can be used to increase the quality of LCA studies.

DF 49: Sustainable Consumption Patterns

September 18, 2012, GEP-Pavillon, ETH Zurich
(in English)

Several national and international initiatives aim to considerably reduce the environmental impacts due to today's consumption patterns. This forum will show and discuss life cycle approaches used for the analysis of consumption patterns. Concepts like the "2000 Watt Society" will be explained. The existing potentials for a substantial reduction of environmental impacts, and the possible role of LCA in the analysis and quantification of such potentials, will be outlined. There will be room for presentations about web-tools, such as personal footprint calculators or other means of communication, to highlight results of an overall analysis of consumption patterns.

DF 50: Water in LCA: Which Assessment Techniques are emerging or ready? Including Lots of Challenging Aspects.

December 4, 2012, GEP-Pavillon, ETH Zurich
(in English)

Water-related issues have been considered in LCA in various ways, from the long-standing eutrophication, acidification and ecotoxicity methods, to the more recent water consumption aspects. Four years on from the first discussion forum on water in LCA, many developments have been made, resulting in a rich palette of approaches. Significant challenges still remain, related to the complexity of water systems and ecosystems. New challenges have emerged, such as how to fit these "pieces" together to form a coherent and comprehensive approach for assessing the impacts of water use (both degradative and consumptive). This discussion forum will present the current status of water use assessment in LCA, and identify new and remaining challenges where future effort could be concentrated.

Registration form

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- The whole year**
- DF 47: LCA of energetic biomass utilisation**
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- Please note my address and send me the programs and invitations for the upcoming Discussion Forum

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Please send back this registration form
via fax to +41 21 693 91 96
or by e-mail: lcaforum@quantis-intl.com

Call for short presentations

You work on a topic relevant for one of the Discussion Forum in 2012 and wish to present your findings? "Open floor" sessions for short presentations will be available in the Forums no. 47, 49 and 50 (not in DF 48).

Please contact the LCA Discussion Forum secretariat (lcaforum@quantis-intl.com) - the sooner the better.

Fees

(all prices are VAT not included)

For the whole year:

Standard fee: 350 CHF / 275 €

Reduced fee: 125 CHF / 100 €
for PhD students and students

For a single Forum:

Standard fee: 230 CHF / 180 €

Reduced fee: 60 CHF / 45 €
for PhD students and students

Contact

For more information and to receive news on the LCA Discussion Forum, please contact:
lcaforum@quantis-intl.com

Website

To download the full program and presentations and / or papers of past and future forums:

<http://www.LCAforum.ch/>

Mission and organization

Mission

The LCA Discussion Forum is a platform for the exchange between LCA practitioners working in industry, consulting companies and administrations and LCA scientists. Each LCA forum is dedicated to a specific topic of immediate interest related to

- experiences and challenges with LCA application in industry and administration
- scientific questions in life cycle inventory and life cycle impact assessment methodology development
- dissemination of new scientific findings and results of relevant LCA studies

Internationally renown speakers are invited according to the topic to present their work. Each forum offers an "open floor" session for short presentations. The LCA forum is dedicated to people interested in the field of LCA, working in Switzerland and abroad. Its content is defined by its board. Proposals are always welcome.

Discussion forum board

Yves Loerincik, CEO of Quantis
Arthur Braunschweig, E2 Management Consulting Inc.
Norbert Egli, Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN)
Rolf Frischknecht, ESU-services Ltd.
Stefanie Hellweg, ETHZ / IFU
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