

## DF 74: LCA in the National Research Programme "Sustainable Economy"

29 June 2020, (in English)

**Takes place online**

The growing global economy relies on limited natural resources to produce goods and deliver services. In order to generate scientific knowledge about a sustainable Swiss economy, the National Research Programme NRP 73 was launched. It aims to provide economy with a holistic perspective including environmental, economic and societal implications along the whole value chain and with regard to the Sustainable Development Goals of the Agenda 2030. The NRP 73 not only focuses on gathering knowledge, but also aims at analysing the effects of measures and instruments and at developing concrete applications. The 74<sup>th</sup> LCA Discussion Forum will show the diversity of life cycle based approaches applied within the NRP 73. It will address the following overarching issues:

- How can life cycle approaches be used by decision-makers for a sustainable economy?
- Which life cycle based approaches are best suited to reveal opportunities and risks in different sectors?
- Which instruments are most useful for combining environmental, economic and societal aims?

This forum will provide the opportunity for representatives from economy and academia to discuss the role of life cycle thinking and LCA results in all economic sectors relevant for the NRP 73 including building and construction, cities and mobility, health, agriculture and nutrition as well as sustainable behavior.

## DF 75 Jubilee: Life Cycle Thinking = Lower Footprint? Or: Is LCA relevant?

14/15 September 2020, Zürich University (in English)

LCA is supposed to help us tackle the huge global environmental challenges as the necessary improvements (climate, biodiversity, etc.) and the global challenges. No one can do this alone. LCA is an important tool to support decision-making. It is not always how to operate. It will be assigned a new DF number. It shall take place as a physical meeting at a later date. It will be assigned a new DF number.

**Due to Covid-19, the jubilee forum is moved to 2021.**

- How much does LCA really help in reducing pressure on the environment?
- Which important decisions were based on LC thinking and analysis?
- How can LCA become more effective for big & relevant issues?

Keynote speeches of **Kora Kristof** from German UBA and **Thomas Vellacott**, CEO of WWF Switzerland, will set the floor for an exciting two day 75<sup>th</sup> jubilee LCA forum, incl. a surprise evening get-together.

Interested to present? Submit your abstract until 7 February 2020 to [lcaforum@ethz.ch](mailto:lcaforum@ethz.ch)

## DF 76: The use of LCA as a development tool for emerging technologies / How to deal with forecasts in LCA?

19 November 2020, (in English)

**Takes place online**

In light of developing innovative technologies with better environmental considerations, LCA comes as one of the tools to steer and guide designs at its early phases. Introducing LCA and its implementation at this stage, however, is not a straightforward task as there are underlying challenges to be resolved. A valid assessment should take into account technology developments on maturity, upscaling and industrial learning, inventory data gaps and system changes for different sight years, e.g. energy transition, circular economy and emission regulation developments, which are involving changes in foreground as well as background life cycle inventory. We have seen many developments in the past few years on this topic and this DF will be the perfect platform where everyone shares insights, which might lead to future collaboration.

This DF will show state-of-the-art approaches that aim to perform prospective LCA for new and innovative technologies and how to communicate the results. Furthermore, some tools and frameworks that might support the modelling of future technologies and interpretation from various aspects will also be highlighted (e.g. scenario analysis and incorporation, open-source software, uncertainties handling, etc.).

To summarize, this DF will culminate with discussion about applying prospective LCA methods and recommendations for improvements for accelerating prospective LCA joint practices on emerging technologies' developments.

## Fees

(documentation included)

Annual pass (2 online fora in 2020): 200 CHF

Standard online access, single forum: 150 CHF

PhD & student online access, single forum: 50 CHF

## Registration

To register for the whole year or a single LCA Discussion Forum, please use the following link:

(<https://ethzurich.eventsair.com/lcaforum/reg/Site/Register>)

To register you need to create a profile, which is done in few steps and is self-explanatory. In case you are not able to pay by credit card, please send an e-mail to: [lcaforum@ethz.ch](mailto:lcaforum@ethz.ch) with a short notice that you want to receive an invoice instead. Please provide the full invoice address as well as the chosen fee type.

For all questions regarding the registration process, please do not hesitate to contact:

[lcaforum@ethz.ch](mailto:lcaforum@ethz.ch)

## Call for short presentations

You work on a topic relevant to one of the Discussion Fora in 2020 and wish to present your findings?

An "Open floor" session for short presentations will be available in each forum. Please contact the LCA Discussion Forum secretariat – the sooner the better.

## Contact

For more information and to receive news on the LCA Discussion Forum, please contact the secretariat:

[lcaforum@ethz.ch](mailto:lcaforum@ethz.ch)

## Website

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

[www.LCAforum.ch](http://www.LCAforum.ch)

## Mission and organization

### Mission

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

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

Speakers are invited according to the topic of a forum. In addition, 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.

### Board of the Association

- Stefanie Hellweg, ETHZ/IFU (President)
- Arthur Braunschweig, E2 Management Consulting AG (VP)
- Norbert Egli, Federal Office for the Environment (BAFU)
- Rolf Frischknecht, treeze Ltd.
- Gérard Gaillard, Agroscope
- Roland Hischier, Empa
- Mischa Zschokke, Carbotech



# 2020

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Life Cycle Assessment DF: Footprint?  
ONLINE  
DF 75, 14-15 September 2021  
*in English*

## The use of LCA as a development tool for emerging technologies / How to deal with forecasts in LCA?

DF 76, 19 November 2020, **ONLINE**  
*in English*

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