

35th Discussion Forum

Assessment of Water Use within LCA

June 5, 2008, 9:30, ETH Zurich (ETH Main Campus, GEP Pavilion)

We are pleased to invite you to the **35th discussion forum on Life Cycle Assessment on June 5, 2008**.

This Discussion Forum will address new scientific developments and methodological issues focusing on the evaluation of water use and water resource depletion in the framework of LCA and related environmental assessment methods. The meeting will provide an overview on the current state-of-the-art and, from the perspective of business and authorities, identify the needs for mapping the water consumption and evaluating the associated environmental impacts of global operations and product value chains. Oral presentations will be dedicated to water assessment tools, schemes to integrate water resource flows in the life cycle inventory, and new concepts and approaches for modeling the impact pathways and mechanisms of water use and water resource depletion.

The specific goals of the conference will concentrate on:

- Improving the linkage between LCI and LCIA with respect to water resource extraction and consumption;
- Providing guidance for reporting water extraction and use in corporate eco-balances, environmental reports, and in life cycle inventories;
- Enhancing the understanding of the impact assessment of water use;
- Fostering the discussion on methodological challenges and practical implementation of the assessment concepts developed.

The intended audience encompasses researchers, database developers, consultants and practitioners from industry working in the field of environmental assessments. The discussion forum will have a scientific and methodological focus. Although only few ready-to-use methods for assessing water consumption have been published so far, also practical and operational evaluation schemes for business and industry will be presented.

We are looking forward to seeing you in Zurich,

Annette Köhler, Stephan Pfister, and Rolf Frischknecht

Final Program:

Time	Topic	Speaker
9:00	Registration	
9:30	Welcome	
9:35	Water use in LCA and other environmental assessment methods: State-of-the-art and future challenges	Annette Köhler, ETH Zürich
Water Use triggered by Consumption: A Global Perspective		
10:00	Strategies, approaches, and methods in integrated water resources management of international development cooperation	Thomas Zeller, DEZA (Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation)
10:30	Virtual Flows - Real Impacts: Measuring the water footprint of a consumer	Ashok Kumar Chapagain, WWF UK
11:00	BREAK	
Water Use in Industry		
11:30	Water management and Nestlé	Pascal Greverath, Nestlé
12:00	Business in the World of Water: Strengthening the fact base - WBCSD Global Water Tool	Anne-Léonore Boffi, WBCSD (World Business Council for Sustainable Development)
12:30	Compensation scenarios for potable water supply as a metric for the LCA of water resources depletion	Francois Vince, EPFL & Veolia
13:00	LUNCH	
Environmental Impact Indicators for Freshwater Use		
14:15	Assessing Freshwater Use Impacts in LCA: Inventory Modeling and Characterization Factors for the Main Impact Pathways	Llorenç Milà i Canals, Unilever
14:45	Water-use related ecosystem impacts: Comparing different indicators on global scale	Stephan Pfister, ETH Zurich
15:15	Characterization factors for damages to aquatic biodiversity caused by water use	Sebastien Humbert, University of California, Berkeley
15:30	BREAK	
Environmental Impact Indicators for Freshwater Use		
16:00	Regionalized assessment of fresh water abstraction within the ecological scarcity method 2006	Rolf Frischknecht, ESU-Services
16:25	Considering the specifics of regional water resources in vegetable cultivation	Fredy Dinkel, Carbotech
16:40	Discussion	
17:30	Farewell	