



INSTITUT FÜR ENERGIE-  
UND UMWELTFORSCHUNG  
HEIDELBERG

# FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THE HEMEROBY APPROACH FOR THE INTEGRATION OF LAND USE AND BIODIVERSITY INTO LIFE CYCLE (IMPACT) ASSESSMENT

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# The Hemeroby Approach

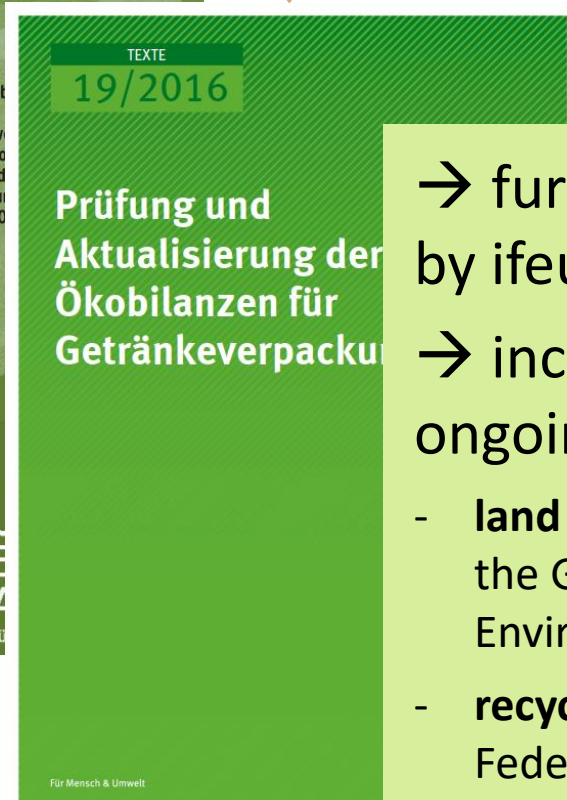
The so-called „UBA method“

since the late 90ies



Int J Life Cycle Assess  
DOI 10.1007/s11367-015-0955-y  
LAND USE IN LCA

Hemeroby as an impact category indicator for the integration of land use into life cycle (impact) assessment



→ further development by ifeu and INTEGRAHL  
→ incorporated in ongoing projects on

- **land use backpacks** (funded by the German Federal Environmental Agency (UBA))
- **recycled concrete** (funded by Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF))

- **Naturalness is the safeguard subject**
  - capturing also information on **biodiversity, soil quality and ecosystem services**
  - promotion of natural characteristics in general as favourable
- **The negative impact = loss of naturalness**
- **It's a midpoint indicator → close to th**
- **Focus on occupation impact**



present further  
developments:  
**integration of  
transformation**

# Indicative typology

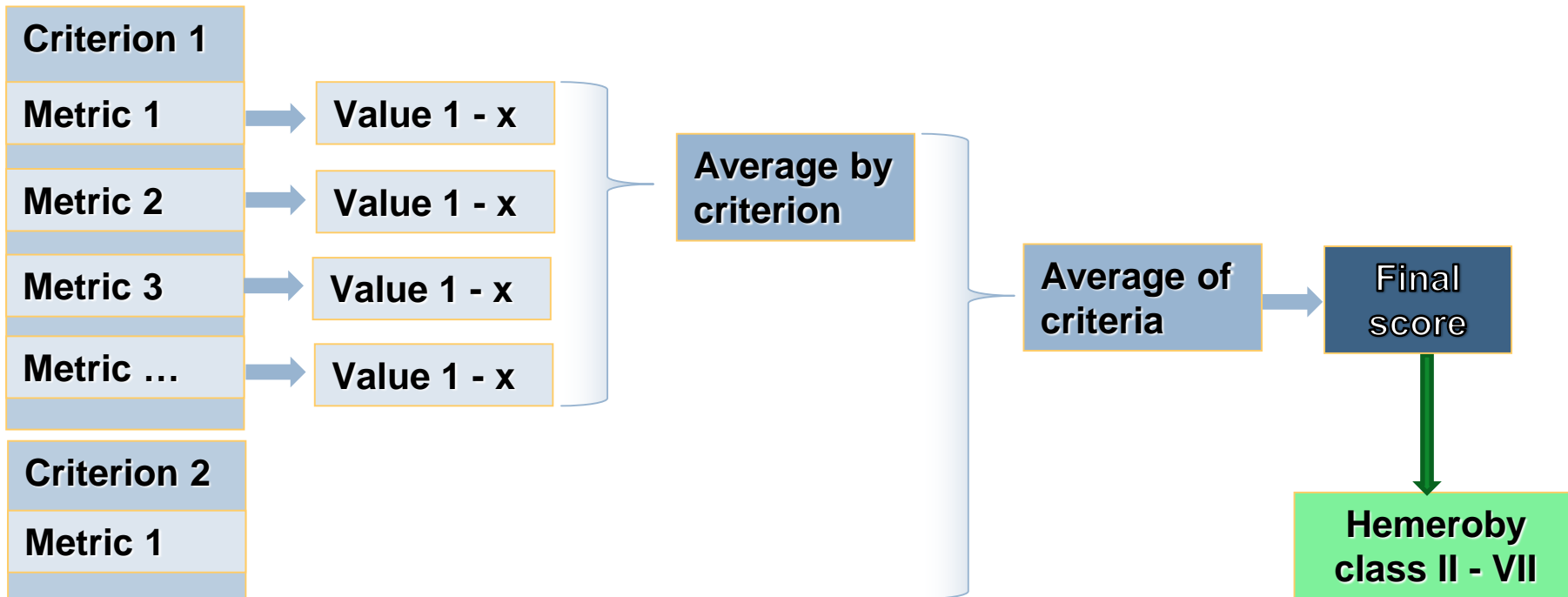
Ordinal scale of 7  
hemeroby classes

→ It's applicable for **every**  
land-use type

→ Aggregation of  
different classes into a  
single indicator value:  
**Distance-to-Nature-  
Potential (DNP)** ( based  
on Fehrenbach et al.  
(2015))

<b>I</b>	<b>Natural</b>
<b>II</b>	<b>Close-to-nature</b>
<b>III</b>	<b>Partially close-to-nature</b>
<b>IV</b>	<b>Semi-natural</b>
<b>V</b>	<b>Partially distant to nature</b>
<b>VI</b>	<b>Distant-to-nature</b>
<b>VII</b>	<b>Non-natural</b>

# Determination of the classes based on indicators









# Indicative typology



Hemeroby class		Indicative Exempels		
I	Natural			
II	Close-to-nature			
III	Partially close-to-nature			
IV	Semi-natural			
V	Partially distant to nature			
VI	Distant-to-nature			
VII	Non-natural			

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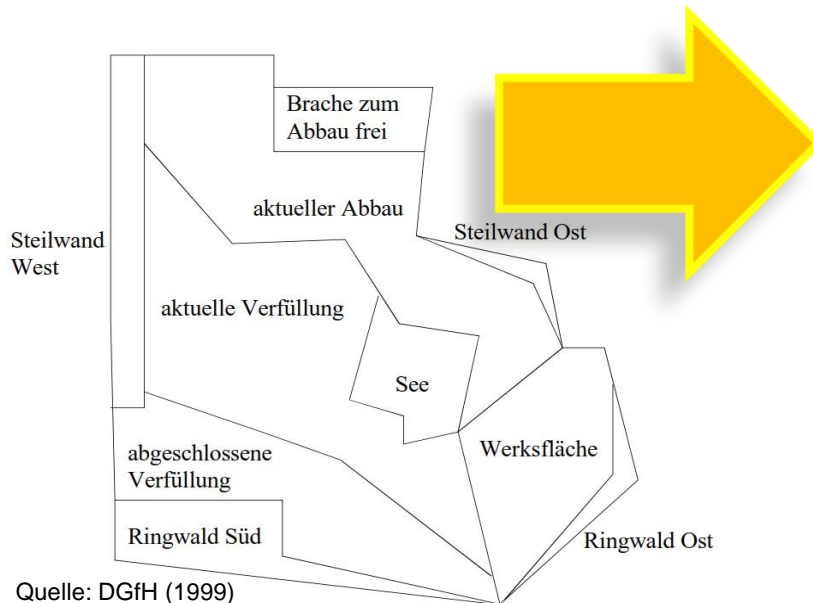
		Indicative Exempels		
Hemeroby class		for forested area	for agricultural land	for other land type
I	Natural	-	-	Undisturbed ecosystem, pristine forest, no utilisation 
II	Close-to-nature	Close-to-nature forest management, 	-	-
III	Partially close-to-nature	Intermittent management, 	...wards etc.	
IV	Semi-natural			
V	Partially distant to nature	Mono forest 	...ate agric. moderate intensity, SRC, fertilized grassland 	
VI	Distant-to-nature	-	Large-area, highly intensified arable land in cleared landscape 	
VII	Non-natural	-	-	Sealed areas

Lignite open cast mines, natural stone mines, wind and solar power plants???

development of indicator sets

# Hemeroby Concept – Surface Mining

## Which areas have to be considered?



- A)** Area subjected to mining
- B)** Operational areas and stockpiles
- Spoil heap and dumps
  - Operating buildings and processing plant
  - Stationary & mobile conveyor (machinery, conveyor, railways, gondola lift systems)
  - Roadways
  - Storage stockpiles



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- **Permanently sealed industry areas**
- **Hemeroby class VII**

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  - Roadways
  - Storage stockpiles

- **Temporarily and punctually stressed followed by potential succession**
- **Reference period: 1 year**  
→ Only limited near-natural development is possible in this period

→ **Hemeroby classes V to VII**  
(based on biotope values for mining areas (class I to max. III))

### Criterion 1

#### **Severity of the intervention**

### Criterion 2

#### **Biotope development**

(How valuable and important is the mining area? What possibilities are available?)

### Criterion 3

#### **Durability of the intervention**

#### **Underlying idea:**

- develop raw-material specific metrics which are valid for all raw materials
- Starting point: German surface mines

# Hemeroby Concept – surface mining

## Criteria and metrics



<b>Criterion 1</b> <b>Severity of the intervention</b>	Metric 1: maximum extraction equipment capacity [m <sup>3</sup> /h] (How much area is punctual stressed?)	e.g. <100 or > 1000 m <sup>3</sup> /h
	Metric 2: Annual mining per mine [t/a]: How much connected area is subject to the intervention?	e.g. > 100,000 t/a or > 2 Mio. t/a
	Metric 3: Intervention in the water balance (water table drawdown, dewatering)	e.g. water table drawdown, dewatering)
	Metric 4: Dumping in mines: Will a potential succession be disturbed by dumping?	e.g. direct fill up
<b>Criterion 2</b> <b>Biotope development</b>		
<b>Criterion 3</b> <b>Durability of the intervention</b>		

# Hemeroby Concept – surface mining

## Criteria and metrics

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### Criterion 1

#### Severity of the intervention

Metric 1: Potential biotope values (I-III) (based on Küpfer 2016/LuBW 2005)

e.g. quarry face = II,  
sand sole = I

### Criterion 2

#### Biotope

#### development

Metric 2: Development of small biotopes (structural diversity) and possibilities for succession

e.g. quarry faces or  
nutrient poor sole with  
waterholes

Metric 3: High quality of the natural development without human intervention

e.g. no development  
possible or high-valued  
biotopes

Metric 4: Importance for the biotope network following IUS (1999)

e.g. high, middle, low

### Criterion 3

#### Durability of the intervention

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# Hemeroby Concept – surface mining

## Criteria and metrics

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### Criterion 1

**Severity of the intervention**

### Criterion 2

**Biotope development**

### Criterion 3

**Durability of the intervention**

Metric 1: Harmful residues on-site: Prevention of real near-natural development

e.g. heavy metals, high acidity

Metric 2: Renaturation potential: What can be done with the area at best?

e.g. high-value biotopes

# Hemeroby Concept – surface mining

## Criteria and metrics



### Criterion 1 Severity of the intervention

Metric 1: maximum extraction equipment capacity [ $\text{m}^3/\text{h}$ ] (How much area is punctual stressed?)

Metric 2: Annual mining per mine [ $\text{t}/\text{a}$ ]: How much connected area is subject to the intervention?

Metric 3: Intervention in the water balance (water table drawdown, dewatering)

Metric 4: Soil dumping?

**metrics are defined by three different value groups:**



value group 1 = “closest to nature”



value group 2



value group 3 = “most distant to nature”

### Criterion 2 Biotope development

Metric 1: Potential

Metric 2: Development for succession

Metric 3: High quality

Metric 4: Importance

### Criterion 3 Durability of the intervention

Metric 1: Harmful residues on site. Prevention of re-occurring natural development

Metric 2: Renaturation potential: What can be done with the area at best?

# Examples: German natural stone and lignite surface mines



critterion/metric		natural stone		lignite
<b>Criterion 1: Severity of the intervention</b>				
maximum extraction equipment capacity [m <sup>3</sup> /h]		250 m <sup>3</sup> /h		2,400 m <sup>3</sup> /h
Annual mining per mine [t/a]:		200,000 – 1.Mio t/a		42.9 Mio t/a
Intervention in the water balance		dewatering, partly: water table drawdown		water table drawdown
Dumping in mines		Dumping: about 25 %		yes





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<b>Criterion 2: Biotope development</b>				
Potential biotope values (I-III)		II		III
Development of small biotopes (structural diversity) and possibilities for succession				
High quality of the natural development without human intervention				
Importance for the biotope network				





















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Importance for the biotope network		
<b>Criterion 3: Durability of the intervention</b>		
Harmful residues on-site		
Renaturation potential		
<b>Aggregation</b>	<b>4.75 → class VI</b>	<b>9 → class VII</b>

**Adjustment of metrics according to global conditions**

**Generation of a data base for raw material extraction outside Germany**

**Development of a method for integration of transformation aspects for surface mines**

**Handling of long-term devastation (no use possible in the years after mining)**



# Characterized results: Electric energy from wind power and lignite

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- **Energy supply from lignite (Germany):**
  - Occupation (LCI level) per t lignite =  $3.07 \text{ m}^2 \cdot \text{a}/\text{t}$
  - Occupation (LCIA level) per t lignite =  $3.07 \text{ m}^2\text{-e (DNP)} \cdot \text{a}/\text{t}$   
(DNP = Distance-to-Nature-Potential)

→  **$3.14 \text{ m}^2\text{-e (DNP)} \cdot \text{a}/\text{MWh}$**
- **Energy supply from wind power plant (onshore)** (preliminary figures for Germany)
  - Occupation (LCI level) per t MWh =  $0.5 \text{ m}^2 \cdot \text{a}/\text{MWh}$
  - Occupation (LCIA level) per t MWh =  **$0.36 \text{ m}^2\text{-e (DNP)} \cdot \text{a}/\text{MWh}$**



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# Thank you for listening!

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# Results at LCI level

## examples of specific occupation values

Specific occupation/ hemeroby class	Area subjected to mining [m <sup>2</sup> *1a/t]	Spoil heap and dumps [m <sup>2</sup> *1a/t]	Operational area (buildings, stationary & mobile conveyor, roadways, storage stockpiles, ...) [m <sup>2</sup> *1a/t]
Sand, gravel	0.037 <sup>(1)</sup> → class VI	0.0026 <sup>(2,3)</sup> → class VI	0.1556 <sup>(2,3)</sup> – class VII
Limestone	0.015 <sup>(1)</sup> → class VII	0.0157 <sup>(2,3)</sup> → class VII	0.1221 <sup>(2,3)</sup> – class VII
Lignite	Operational area: 3.071 <sup>(4)</sup> → class VII		

(1) BGR (2017), (2) LAGB Sachsen-Anhalt (2012), (3) NMUEK & NLÖ 2002, (4) Statistik der Kohlewirtschaft e.V.

(1) BGR – Bundesanstalt für Geowissenschaften und Rohstoffe (2017): Deutschland – Rohstoffsituation 2016. – 190 S.; Hannover.

(2) Landesamt für Geologie und Bergwesen Sachsen-Anhalt (Hrsg.) (2012). Rohstoffbericht Sachsen-Anhalt 2012. Mineralische und energetische Bodenschätze – Sachstand und neue Nutzungswege. Mitteilungen zu Geologie und Bergwesen von Sachsen-Anhalt. Band 17, 2012

(3) Niedersächsisches Umweltministerium und Niedersächsisches Landesamt für Ökologie (2002). Arbeitshilfe zur Anwendung der Eingriffsregelung bei Bodenabbauvorhaben auf der Grundlage des „Leitfadens zur Zulassung des Abbaus von Bodenschätzen nach dem NNatG und dem NWG“. 24.09.2002