Life Cycle Initiative

hosted by UN environment

Applying Life Cycle Thinking in decision making

- experience from the Life Cycle Initiative

Feng WANG

Life Cycle Initiative
UN Environment

Life Cycle Thinking for Sustainable Development

Life Cycle Thinking is relevant to many **Sustainable Development Goals** and other **global priorities** (**resource efficiency**, **pollution**, **climate change, circular economy**…)

United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 2/8 on sustainable consumption and production, **encourages "*all Member States to promote life-cycle approaches…*",** May 2016

SDG 12.4: *By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes **throughout their life cycle…***

Life Cycle Initiative

Life Cycle Thinking for Sustainable Development

By supporting decisions and roadmaps

→ Better understand complex system, value chain and stakeholders

→ Identifying *hotspots* **at different levels and areas** where emissions and impacts can be reduced most efficiently.

→ Defining improvement potential/opportunities of the investigated product or organization to tackle *"hotspots"*

→ Contributing to the **environmental intelligence:**

→ Highlighting **trade-offs,** avoiding the **single-metric blindness**

Life Cycle Initiative

Life Cycle Initiative

A multi-stakeholder partnership, hosted by UN Environment, *enabling the global use of credible life cycle knowledge by private and public decision makers*.

We meet:

- Growing need for Life Cycle Knowledge: *Tools, data and indicators*
- Real need for interface between life cycle *users* and *experts*

Key work areas and targets

1. Technical and policy advice

→ By 2022, mainstream the use of LCT into 4 global areas of decision and policy making, in at least 15 countries and 30 companies.

2. Capacity

→ By 2022, train at least 2,500 policy makers, business decision makers and LCA practitioners, and share at least 20 Life Cycle Thinking success stories.

3. Knowledge

→ By 2022, offer a solution to access all interoperable LCA databases globally, with a library of recommended impact assessment factors linked through a nomenclature system.

Life Cycle Initiative

Programme on Technical and Policy Advice

Ongoing projects

→ Guidance and tool development for hotspots analysis at the national level

→ Life Cycle Thinking in Chemicals sector – SAICM, advancing USEtox

→ National guidance for marine plastic hotspotting and actions

→ Linking the UN Sustainable Development Goals to life cycle impact pathway frameworks for business

Life Cycle Initiative

Programme on Capacity Development

Ongoing projects

→ E-learning module on applying life cycle thinking in policies and business

→ Technical helpdesk for life cycle databases

Supported by

Life Cycle Initiative

Programme on Life Cycle Knowledge

Ongoing projects

→ GLAM project (Global Guidance for Life Cycle Impact Assessment Indicators and Methods)

→ GLAD (Global LCA Data Access)

→ Update and road-testing of Guidelines on social life cycle assessment

Life Cycle Initiative

UN Environment hosts initiatives to…

- Capitalize on UN Environment's **convening power** to **scale up action** in short time frames and make strategic interventions for change;
- **Involve key stakeholders** in the design and the planning of initiatives;
- Highlight **multiple benefits** of actions;
- Deliver in **partnership** mode;
- Build **platforms of motivated partners** addressing global agendas.

Life Cycle Initiative

Some statistics: who are we?

7→20
Govern. members

8→38
Business members

6→35
Academia & civil society members

100+→200+
Individual members
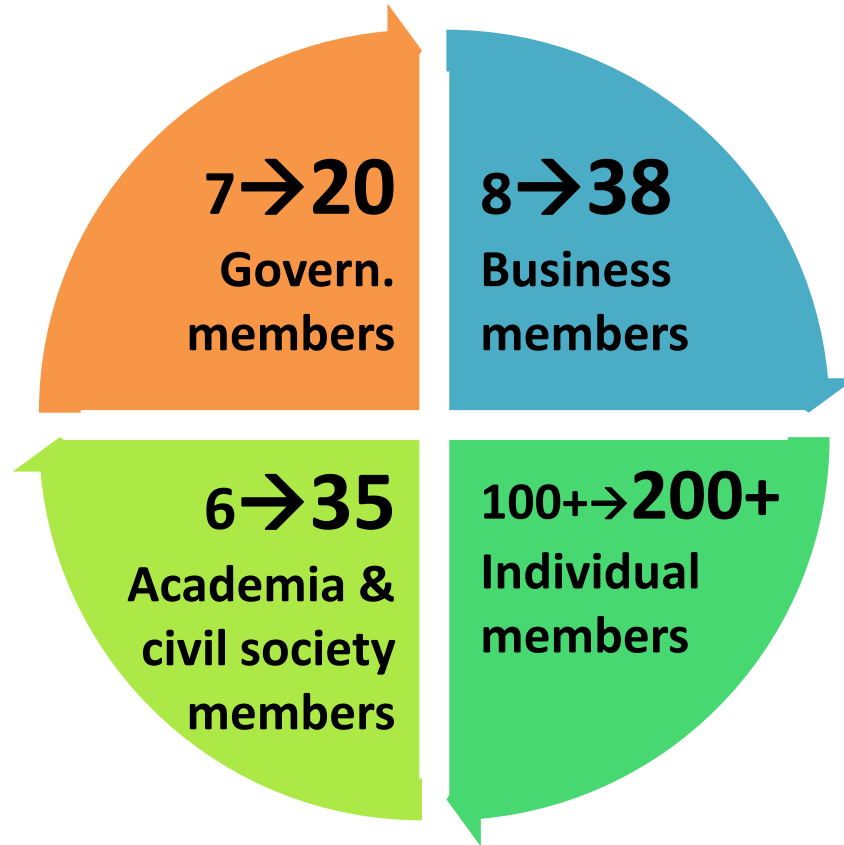
Our growing active members
Members' evolution since launch of new strategy (June 2017)

Geographical presence of…
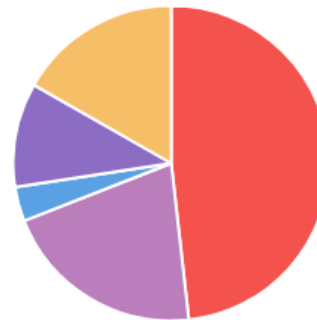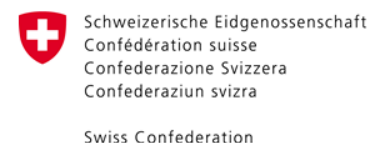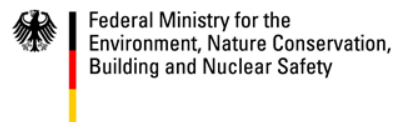
Individual members

Institutional members

Legend:
- EU
- NA
- Af
- LA&C
- AP
- Global

https://www.lifecycleinitiative.org/about/our-members/

Life Cycle Initiative

Growing sponsorship

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Thank you!

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www.lifecycleinitiative.org

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