



Life Cycle Initiative

hosted by **UN**
environment

Contribution of the Life Cycle Initiative to sustainable business & policy



Llorenç Milà i Canals

UN Environment



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.*



Agenda for Sustainable Development

Life Cycle Knowledge is relevant to many **Sustainable Development Goals** and other **global agendas** (Resource Efficiency, Pollution, Climate Change...)





The Circular Economy

Life Cycle Thinking provides **robust science-based insights** to circular economy options:

→ When are different business model options more adequate? Material recovery vs. product life extension vs. service-based systems...

Identification of **potential trade-offs** and insights into ways to address them:

→ i.e. Build-up of toxic substances in materials' cycles; benefits of recycling cancelled by extra energy used.



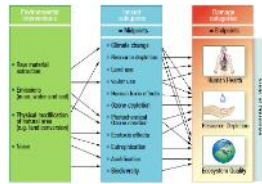
We've come a long way...

Phase 1: Creating community (2002-2006)

Key publications: Why Take a Life Cycle Approach? LCA Framework (Joliet et al.)

First international LCA Conferences in Africa and Latin America

2006: 1st edition LCA Award for non-OECD



Phase 2: Becoming a stakeholder (2007-2011)

Significant methods development: USEtox (2010); WULCA; Life Cycle Management (2009); Global Guidance LCA Data (2011)...

LCA Awards (2008-2010)



Phase 3: Mainstreaming (2012-2016)

Global capacity development events; Growth in national and regional LCA Networks

Additional Methods consensus: Q-LCA; Hotspots Analysis; LCA

International relevance: IOYFP; Global Network of Interoperable LCA Databases

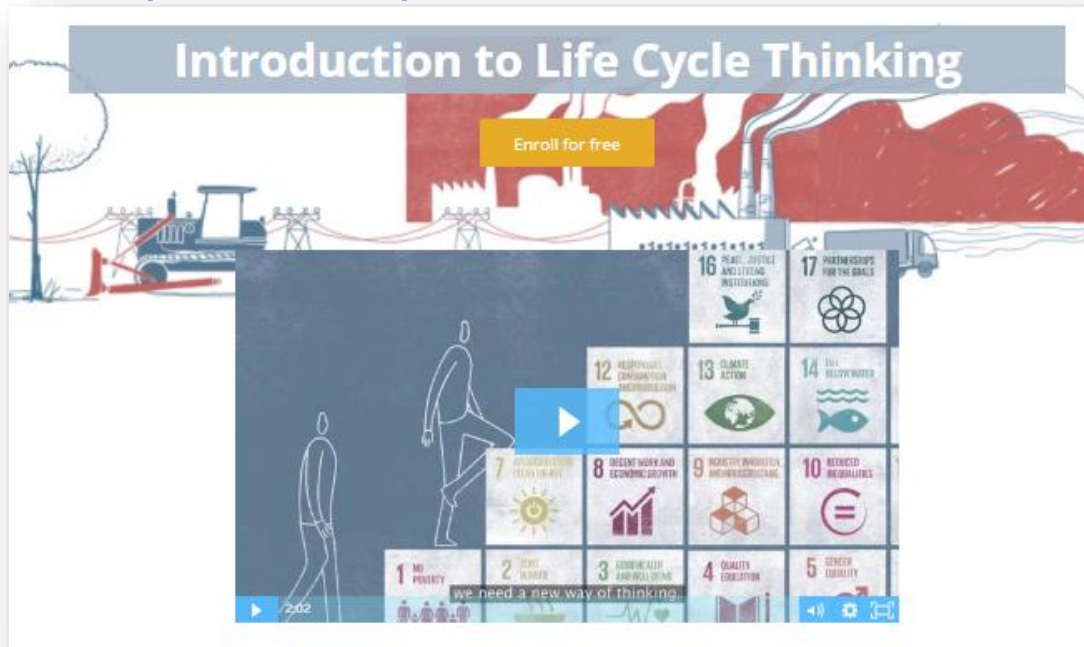
LCA Networks in 33 countries (17 in developing countries)



News 1: Our first e-learning module

<http://www.learnlifecycle.com/>

<http://www.aprendeciclodetoda.com/>



Introduction to
Life Cycle Thinking

Drive Change in
Public Policies

Drive Change in
Business

Drive Change in
Lifestyles

*Special thanks to project developer Culturambiente.
Co-financed by the European Commission*





News 2: Organizational-LCA Road testing Report

- The Life Cycle Initiative successfully launched the Guidance on Organizational LCA in 2015 (> 10.000 downloads)
- Road testing report: <http://www.lifecycleinitiative.org/download/6060>

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Our new strategy

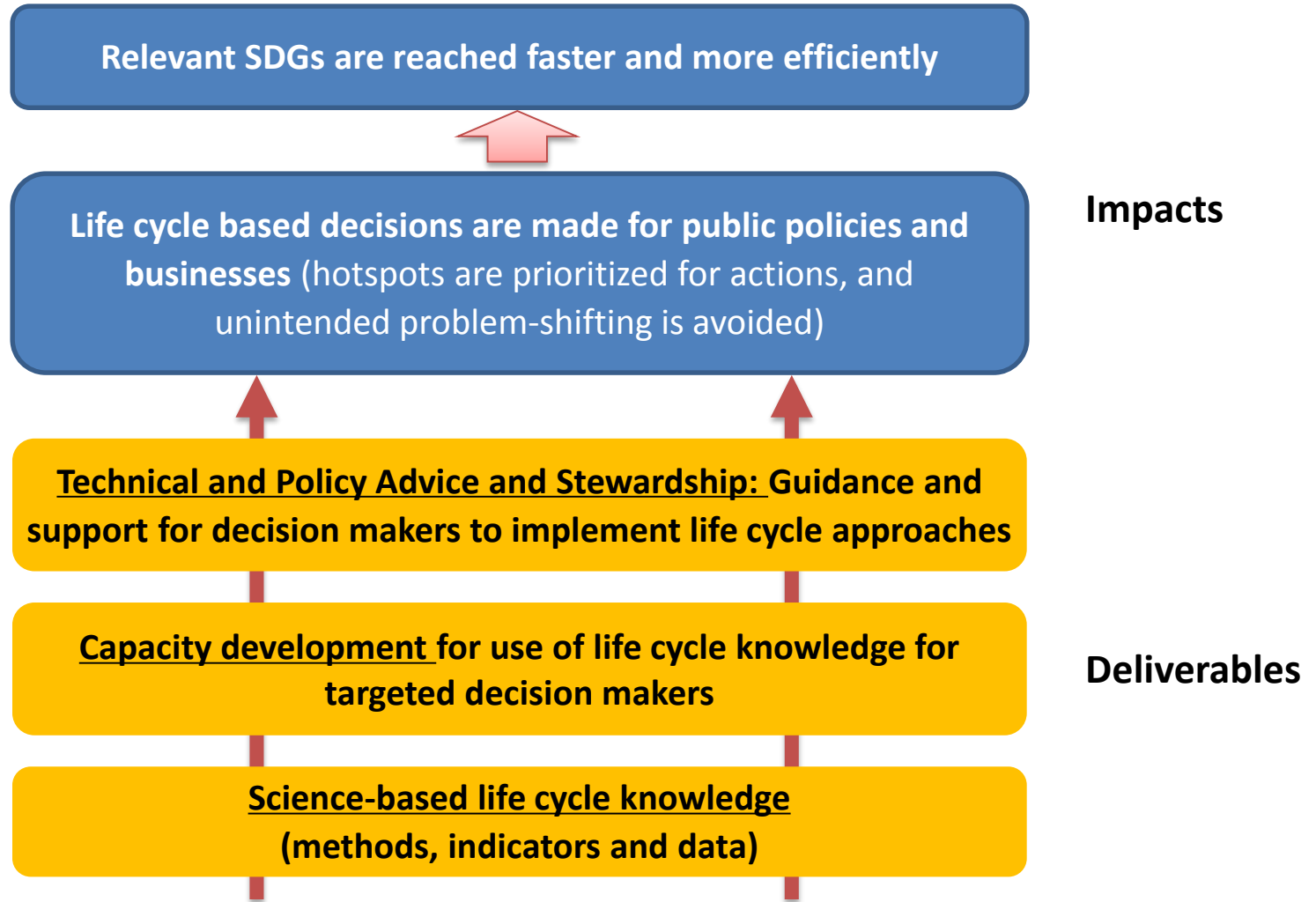
Vision

- to bring Life Cycle Thinking to the **mindsets of decision makers** with the **practical knowledge and tools** to enhance the sustainability of their decisions

Mission

- (1) advance the **understanding of life cycle thinking** between experts and users;
- (2) build **consensus** on and facilitate **access** to economic, social and environmental **life cycle knowledge**.

Life Cycle Initiative: Pathways to Impact



Key work areas and targets



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.



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.



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.



Contribute to sustainable business

- Common ground / level playing field to foster innovation
- Enhance alliances and partnerships among stakeholders

Company level

Organizational Life Cycle Assessment (O-LCA)

- informing materiality (reporting, 14001) and sustainable business models
- Social appraisal across company's value chain

Sector level

Value Chain mapping

- e.g. Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM), or other sectors such as tourism, textiles, food, plastics, mining etc.

Certification

Life-cycle based evidence for performance monitoring

- Evidence of performance for e.g. Forest Stewardship Council, UTZ Certification, RSPO, RTRS and Better Cotton Initiative (to name a few)
- Exploring potential links to trade and fiscal mechanisms.



Contribute to sustainable policy

Global agenda

Science – Policy interface

- Convening actors to identify actions to make the best solutions work
- (market conditions, policy framework, perverse incentives / fiscal instruments)
- Influencing relevant actors

National level

Hotspot analysis for priority setting

- can be applied in 10YFP National Action Plans, SWITCH Programmes, Partnership for Action on Green Economy, and national environmental planning for priority setting.

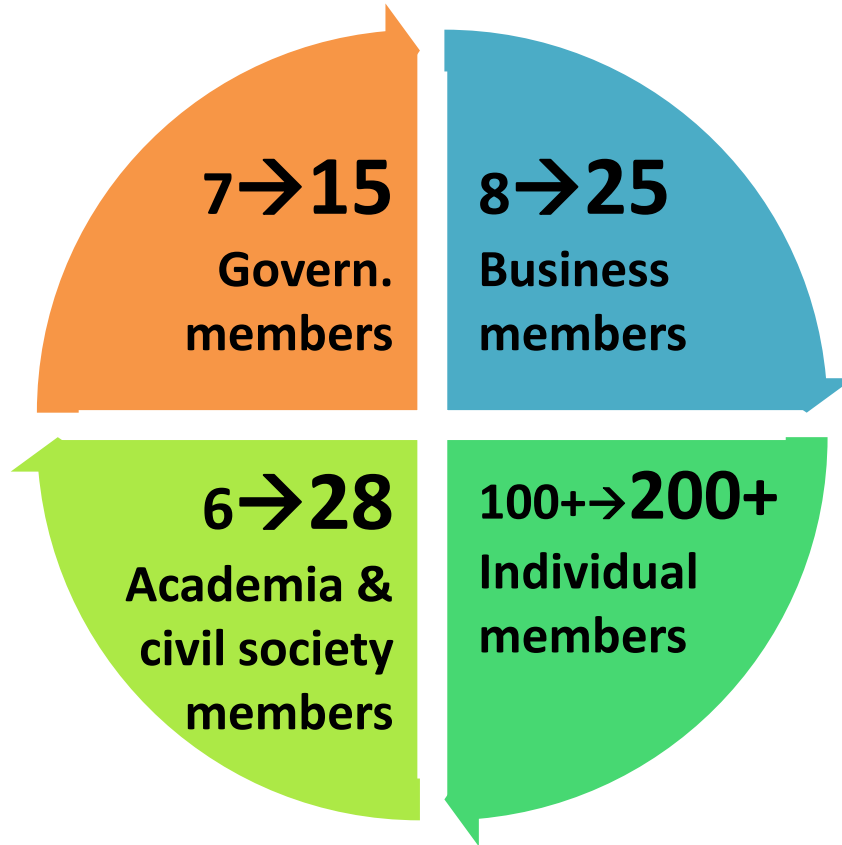
Procurement

Life Cycle Costing to monetarize environmental costs

- Support efficient decision-making by procurers in public (and private) institutions through the 10YFP Sustainable Public Procurement Programme
- Natural Capital and externalities quantification and valuation



Our growing active members



- **21 Sep. 2017**

1st General Assembly

- **3 Oct. 2017**

1st Steering

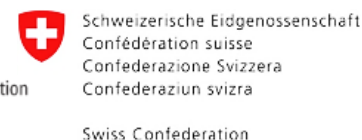
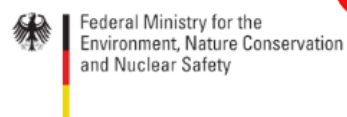
Committee meeting

Members' evolution since launch of
new strategy (June 2017)



Growing sponsorship

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Life Cycle Initiative

Thank you!

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www.lifecycleinitiative.org

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