



RawMaterials

Connecting matters

# Integrating dissipation into Life Cycle Assessment

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Brokerage Event & Expert Forum<sup>3</sup> | 13-14 October 2021



Co-funded by the  
European Union



# SHORT DESCRIPTION OF THE IDEA

- The **life cycle assessment (LCA)** according to 14040/44 is a relevant environmental impact assessment method to improve product designs and communicate on their environmental performance.
- **Dissipative flows of abiotic resources** are flows to sinks or stocks that are not accessible to future users due to different constraints; hence they are the **“negation” of a circular economy**.
- These constraints prevent humans to make use of the function(s) that the resources could have in the technosphere and these flows are currently **not considered in LCA**.
- The idea of our project is to **integrate life cycle inventory data and an impact assessment method** for estimating the impacts of dissipative flows of abiotic resources in **LCA\* software**.
- The business model is to **sell data and the assessment method as an add-on to LCA software to the growing market** of LCA practitioners, based on a related **dataset for dynamic material flow analysis (MFA)**

\*Charpentier Poncelet, A., Helbig, C., Loubet, P., Beylot, A., Muller, S., Villeneuve, J., Laratte, B., Thorenz, A., Tuma, A., & Sonnemann, G. (2021). Life cycle impact assessment methods for estimating the impacts of dissipative flows of metals. *J. Ind. Ecol.* jiec.13136. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jiec.13136>

# THEMATIC SCOPE OF THE PROJECT PROPOSAL

Category of activity:

- Upscaling

Link with the topics addressed in KAVA Call 9:

- Raw Materials and Circular Societies Lighthouse:
  - Recycling of end-of-life products containing Strategic Materials and/or CRMs
  - Resource and Energy efficient in metallurgical and Mineralogical processing
- Sustainable Materials Future Mobility Lighthouse:
  - Innovative technical and business solutions in process design, plant engineering and construction
  - Development of an improved Life Cycle Inventory database
- Sustainable Discovery and Supply Lighthouse:
  - Environmental-Social-Governance (ESG)

# CURRENT STATUS OF THE PROPOSAL

- Current partners: Université de Bordeaux & BRGM
- Type of expertise requested:
  - Dynamic material flow analysis (MFA)
  - Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) database developer, method developer and software developer
  - Commercialising partner
  - Companies interested in testing the use of dissipative flows of abiotic resources in their LCA studies

# CONTACT PERSONS

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