



RawMaterials

Connecting matters

Integrating dissipation into Life Cycle Assessment

Prof. Dr. Guido Sonnemann
Université de Bordeaux

Brokerage Event & Expert Forum³ | 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

Dr Guido Sonnemann

Professor, Sustainable Chemistry

Université de Bordeaux, France

E-mail address: guido.sonnemann@u-bordeaux.fr



Dr Marie ROSSELIN

Innovation Manager, Materials

Université de Bordeaux, France

E-mail address: marie.rosselin@u-bordeaux.fr