



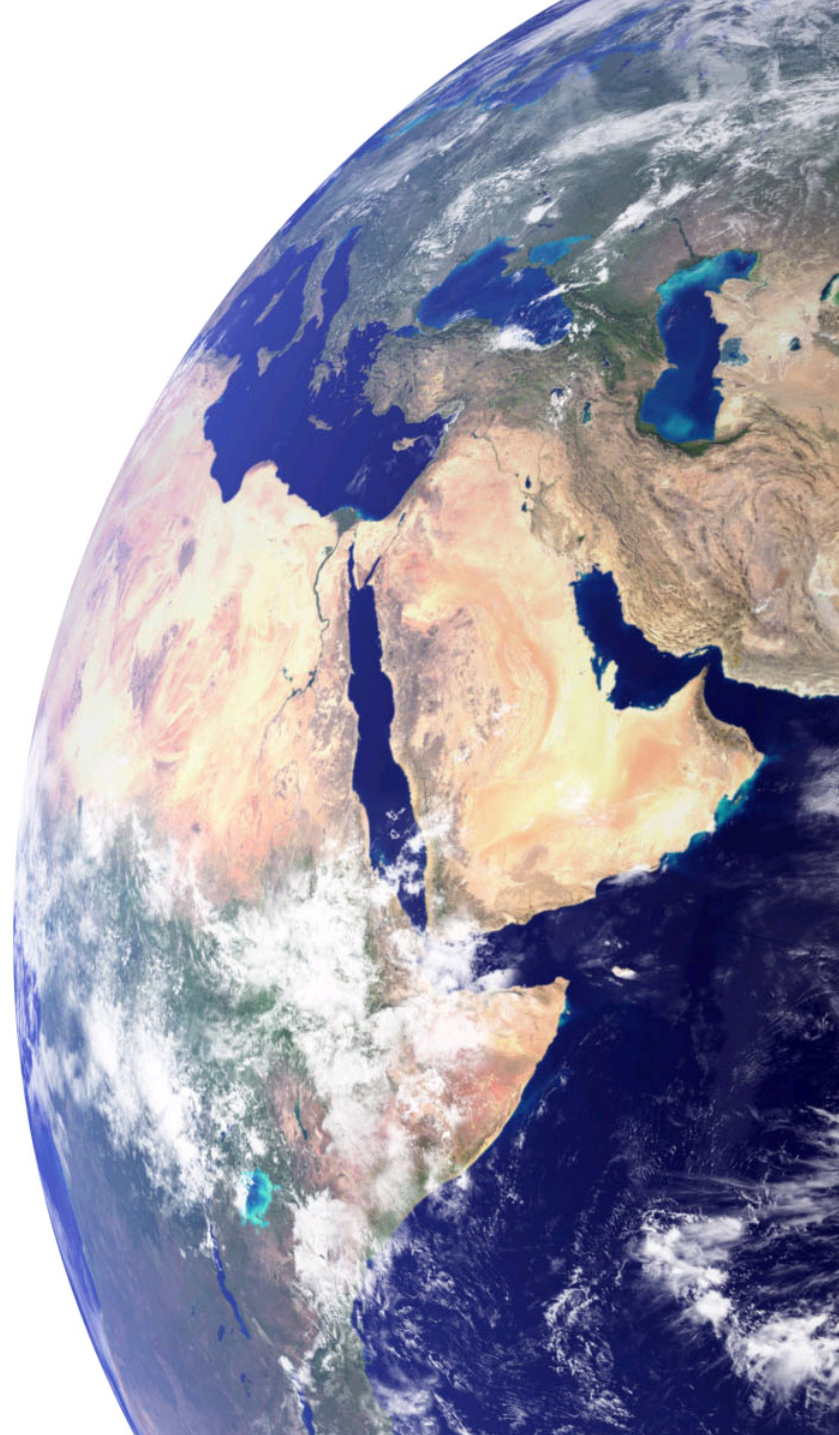
Applying the Principles and Practice of LCA to Green Procurement Initiatives

Scott Canonico, P.E.



Objective

- To illustrate how the LCA methodology can serve as an effective model for the development of environmentally based procurement measures

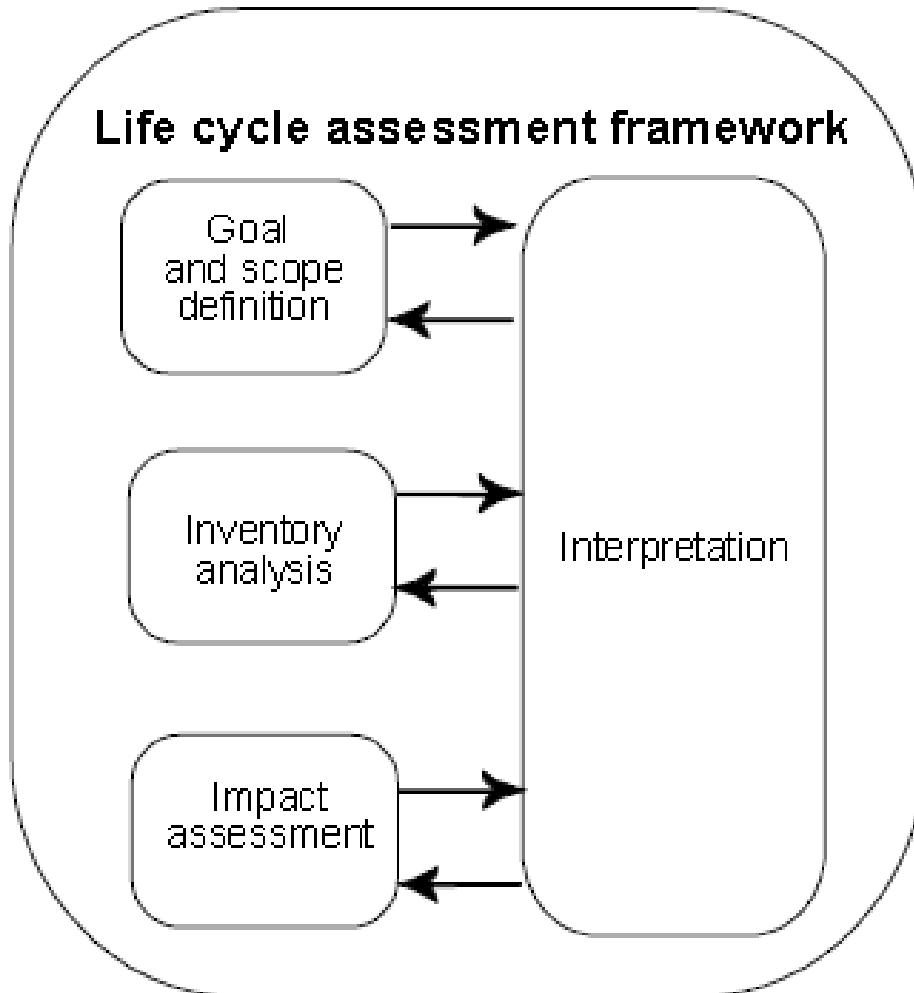


Outline

- Brief review of the ISO 14040 LCA Methodological Framework
- Draw Parallels for Green Procurement measure development
 - Definition of Goal and Scope
 - Inventory Analysis
 - Impact Assessment
 - Interpretation
- Examples
- Questions and (hopefully) Answers

The ISO 14040 LCA Framework

The ISO Framework



Key Characteristics

- Focused on defining the problem and iterating to a solution
- Flexible in application
- Requires extra rigor for comparative assertions
- Emphasizes:
 - Documentation
 - Transparency
 - Stakeholder consultation

Applying the LCA Framework in a Green Procurement Context

Definition of Goal and Scope

- Goal Definition – “Unambiguously” state the study’s:
 - Application ... *Products*
 - Rationale ... *Environmental objective (e.g., waste diversion)*
 - Audience ... *Markets (Users, jurisdictions, geographies)*
- Defining The Scope of the Study – Clearly describe:
 - System boundaries
 - Data needs
 - Functional Unit
 - Type and format of the report study
 - Assumptions, data quality requirements, limitations, etc
- Comparisons between systems must have:
 - Same functional unit
 - Equivalent methodological considerations
 - Third-party review

Inventory Analysis & Impact Assessment

- Life Cycle Inventory Analysis
 - Iterative process of data collection and analysis
 - May result in revisions to goal and/or scope

- Life Cycle Impact Assessment
 - Classify and characterize impacts
 - Determine if goals have been met
 - Transparency is critical to compensate for subjectivity

Examples

Success Stories

- IEEE 1680 (EPEAT) standard
 - Consensus based criteria
 - Threshold-level performance, and aspirational aspects
 - Considers full life-cycle
 - Codified into a standard through IEEE
- IT EcoDeclaration
 - Harmonized criteria
 - Self-certified
 - Thousands of products declared
 - Developed and policed by Swedish IT industry association (IT-Företagen)



Questions
