

Strategy for the second phase of the UNEP/SETAC Life Cycle Initiative – Bringing science-based life cycle approaches into practice

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UNEP and SETAC, aware of the need to support a global dissemination and implementation of Life Cycle approaches, set-up in 2002 the Life Cycle Initiative. In the first phase of the UNEP/SETAC Life Cycle Initiative (LC-In), three programs were established: (1) application of LCA and life cycle thinking (LCM program); development and enhancement of (2) sound LCI data and methods (LCI program) and (3) sound LCIA data and methods (LCIA program). The first phase concludes this year with important achievements and the completion of a series of products.

Renewed goals and a strategy are being outlined for the second phase of the LC-In from 2006 to 2010 in line with the 10-year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (Marrakech Process). The Initiative aims at facilitating the knowledge exchange of the 100 leading life experts and associated regional networks (Africa, Eastern Europe, Latin America and Southeast Asia) and at promoting life cycle thinking worldwide in order to bring science-based life cycle approaches into practice. Therefore, it is foreseen to structure the activities in the second phase in four work areas: LCM applied to Consumption Clusters (structured in housing, mobility, food and consumer products), Resources, Capacity Building and Life Cycle Approaches Methodology.

A general outline will be presented about the future organization of the work process, taking into account the aim of global participation and focus on well defined deliverables.