

## **LCA as a Metric for Selection of Recipients for Intergenerational Bonds**

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Intergenerational Finance is a concept by which bonds are created to fund the social and environmental projects sought by local communities. The assumption of these bonds is that the future value of social and ecosystem services is greater than the current value, and therefore future generations should pay for these services. A further assumption is that the economic value of socially and environmentally beneficial projects is much greater than the economic value of conventional resource depleting projects.

Currently, there are efforts in three US States (Georgia, Washington and Oregon) and in the United Kingdom to build the legal bonding infrastructure for intergenerational bonds.

In order to assure that the bonds fund projects that are truly beneficial, Life Cycle Assessment has been chosen as the metric for discrimination among potential recipients of bonds. An effort is underway to develop a catalog of intergenerational services and the accompanying LCA approach (scoping) to measuring the social and environmental impacts of those services.

Examples of intergenerational services include such broad topics as:

- Clean energy
- Improved health
- Reduced juvenile delinquency
- Water supply

It is anticipated that cross sector coalitions will bid to provide the services and the amount of bond available will eventually be in the tens to hundreds of billion dollars.

A first meeting to discuss systems for LCA metrics is scheduled for May 30 in Oregon. The results of that discussion will be shared.