

GLAM, GLAD and the road towards global harmonization and interoperability of LCA

Date&Time: November 3, 2022 15:00-17:30 (Japan Standard Time (UTC +9))

Venue: Fukuoka International Congress Center (Fukuoka, Japan) + Online (Zoom)

Registration fee: Free

Outline

The Global Guidance for Life Cycle Assessment Indicators and Methods (GLAM) focuses on establishing a comprehensive, consistent, and global Environmental Life Cycle Impact Assessment (LCIA) method, covering classification, midpoint and damage characterization, normalization, and weighting to assess the life cycle impacts of products and services on human health, ecosystems, and natural resources. The Global LCA Data Access Network (GLAD) is the largest directory of LCA datasets that helps users find the LCA datasets they need and aims to increase the interoperability between independent LCA database providers. Both initiatives operate under the umbrella of the Life Cycle Initiative and continue efforts to harmonize the methodologies of LCA globally. However, despite the work accomplished so far, there is still a long way to reach a state where bidirectional interoperability is ensured between multiple LCA databases evaluated by a single impact assessment method, with numerous LCA software producing identical (or permissible) results. In other words, the LCA community still has many issues to solve before generating reasonable impact assessment result comparisons across multiple LCA databases.

In this workshop, we will introduce the recent activities of GLAM and GLAD. We will also discuss the challenges needed to harmonize LCA impact assessment results at the global level and the GLAM x GLAD interaction required for the next steps.

Agenda:

- (1) Introduction of GLAM activities
- (2) Introduction of GLAD activities
- (3) Current challenges of LCA harmonization, interoperability
- (4) Next steps on GLAM & GLAD interaction