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DISCUSSION FORUM ON LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT

LCA Discussion Forum 72

Normalization and weighting: The forgotten theme in LCA

Niels Jungbluth: Summary

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Summary

SU-services	A		B	C	D	E
Normalization Weighting	Internal, case study	Internal, LCI database	Release	Consumption, LCA perspective	Boundaries	General
Panel	Does not know the environmental relevance Might be biased for expected results		Best to assess the relevance with existing problems, scientific panel Check with bird view		Good to check the importance of boundaries	Choice on panel, questions averaging pre-defines resu
Distance-2-policy target	Not defined on case level		National politics and releases fit together	No regional politics on GLO impacts	Lack of agreement on global boundaries	Egg-Hen problem of politic and decisions Biased by grouping All indicators have the sam importance
Distance-2-carrying capacity-			Higher release leads to lower factors All indicators same importance		Overlap in N and W	All indicators have the sam importance
Monetary	Might be to bias by expectations					Can be applied on all level Modelling or panels choice behind
Interpretation for single study	Biased by own views		Expert perspective	Best knowledge of LCA practitioner	Possible. Expert knowledge necessary	Influence by expected resu Pre-structure might help Considers all relevant aspe data quality
Binary (equal, in/out)	Traffic light; A, B, C, .classes. Benchmark for setting					Very problematic, but often should be avoided
General	- Disadvantage for new impacts - Biased by hole view	No data gap issues, unclear how to apply weighting	+ Good statistical basis - Bad link to LCA Basis CH, EU, GLO?	Avoid bias between LCA data and emission statistics	+ No reward for rising emissions + No prejudice for additional emissions	Normalization and weightin timeframe and region, cros with real world problems

Summary

- Urgent need for good single score methods
- Good to see more research and opening of ISO
- Many open issues are not easy to solve
- Normalisation, Grouping and Weighting have to be developed together
- Do not blindly believe the models, fine tuning by Bird view necessary

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