Special Issue

Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) as a Tool for Sustainability Development

Message from the Guest Editor

Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) is a comprehensive method used to evaluate the environmental impacts associated with all stages of a product's life—from raw material extraction through to materials processing, manufacture, distribution, use, repair and maintenance, and disposal or recycling. By assessing the cumulative environmental impacts resulting from all stages of a product's life cycle, LCA helps organizations to make more informed decisions that can lead to sustainable development. LCA provides a detailed examination of the energy and materials used and wastes released to the environment throughout a product's lifecycle. It aims to identify opportunities to improve the environmental performance of products at various points in their lifecycle and helps to prevent a "problem shifting" scenario where solving one environmental issue may lead to creating another. In the context of sustainable development, LCA is used to evaluate the trade-offs between product alternatives in terms of natural resources, energy use, waste, and emissions. This enables companies and policymakers to improve the sustainability of their products and policies.

Guest Editor

Dr. Alex Godoy-Faúndez
CiSGER, Facultad de Ingeniería, Universidad del Desarrollo, Santiago, Chile

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Processes
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
processes@mdpi.com

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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Giancarlo Cravotto
Department of Drug Science and Technology, University of Turin, Via P. Giuria 9, 10125 Turin, Italy

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