

Special Issue

Social Life Cycle Assessment— The Implementation in Different Sectors

Message from the Guest Editors

The social impact generated by product along its life cycle has gathered interest recently. In several sectors, the interest of media on the social supply chain risks has been risen. On one hand, several methods have been developed to support companies and NGOs in identifying the social risk along the supply chain. On the other hand, these approaches trace the risks, but they can not measure the added value nor the negative social impact generated by a product along its life cycle. Indeed, in regions where bad working conditions occur, a company which invests in its human resources and supports its employees should receive a positive reputation, or at least have the chance to get a major visibility in the market among consumers. A methodology to measure the social performance is S-LCA. The first guidelines published by UNEP in 2009 are now under revision. The last decades have seen a proliferation of implementations in several sectors but an harmonized methodology has not been reached. The main goal of this SI is to define the current state of the art of S-LCA and social impact assessment methodologies implemented in different sectors towards a more sustainable way of production.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Marzia Traverso

Institute of Sustainability in Civil Engineering, RWTH Aachen University,
52062 Aachen, Germany

Dr.-Ing. Sabrina Neugebauer

Institute of Sustainability in Civil Engineering (INaB)

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Editorial Office

MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5

4052 Basel, Switzerland

Tel: +41 61 683 77 34

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