



International Conference on
Socio-Environmental Footprints



energy



materials



justice



waste

Latest LCA Research on sustainable Energy storage

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Universidad de Alcalá

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Life Cycle
Thinking Group

medicusmundi



Universidad
del País Vasco

Euskal Herriko
Unibertsitatea



A garden in a bottle that hasn't been watered in over 40 years

Monica Sanchez || Gardening

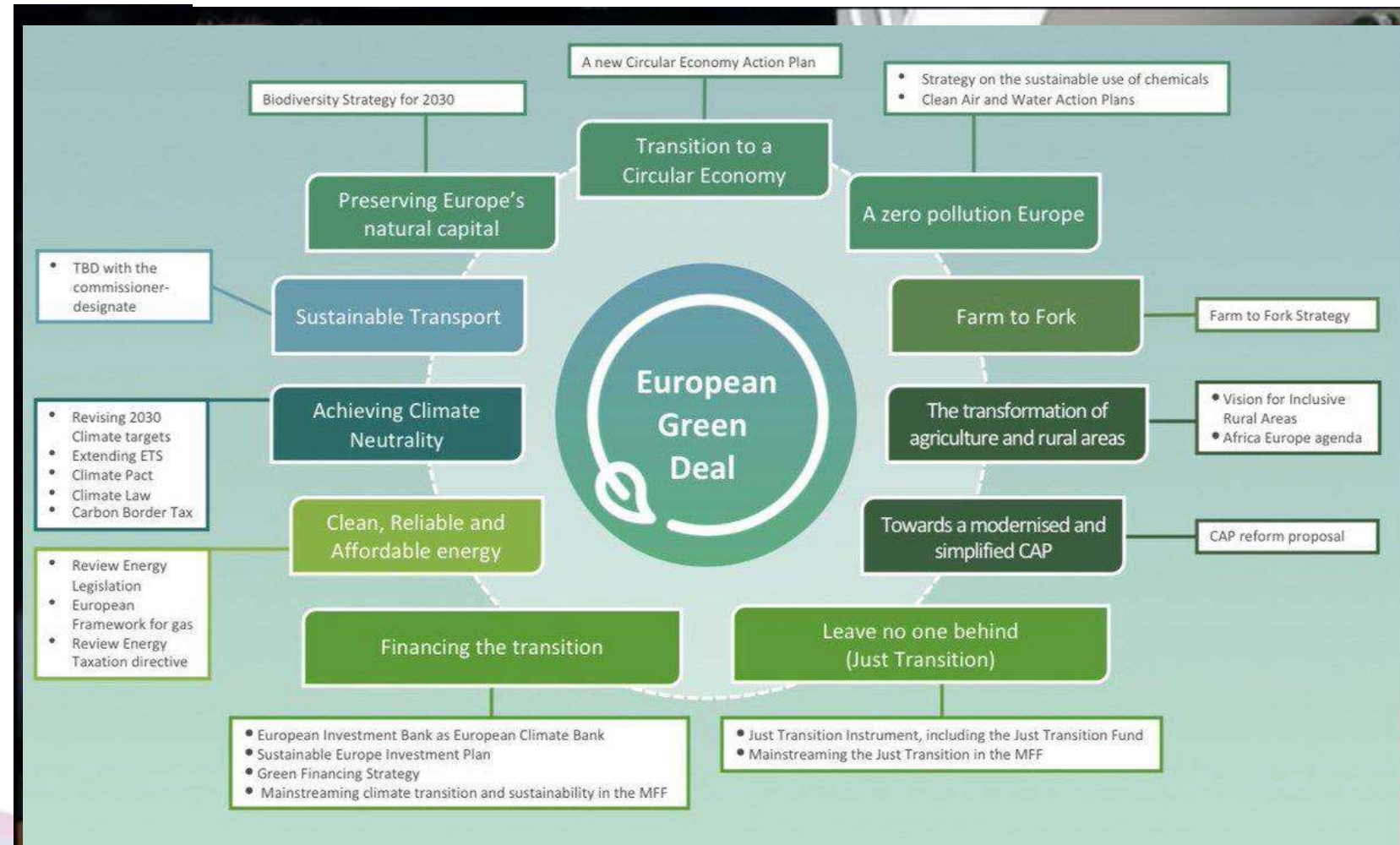
<https://www.jardineriaon.com/en/a-garden-in-a-bottle-that-hasn%27t-been-watered-in-over-40-years.html>

Some keywords

Planetary boundaries

Circular economy

European Green Deal



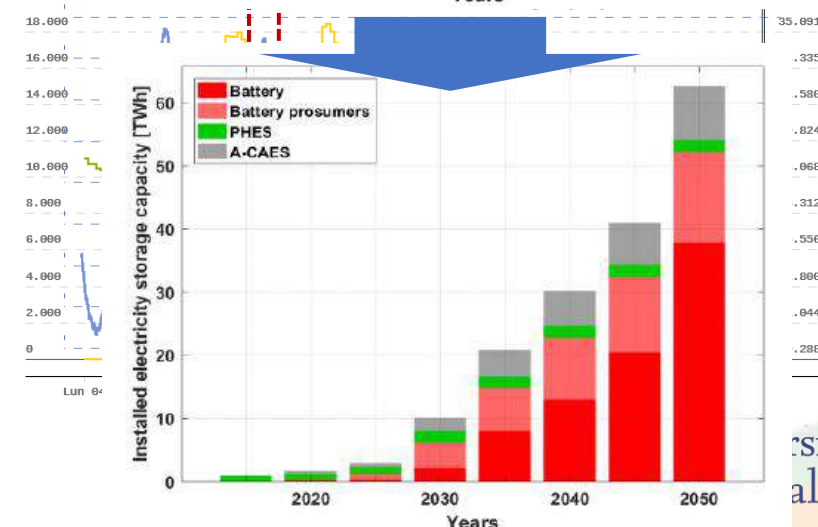
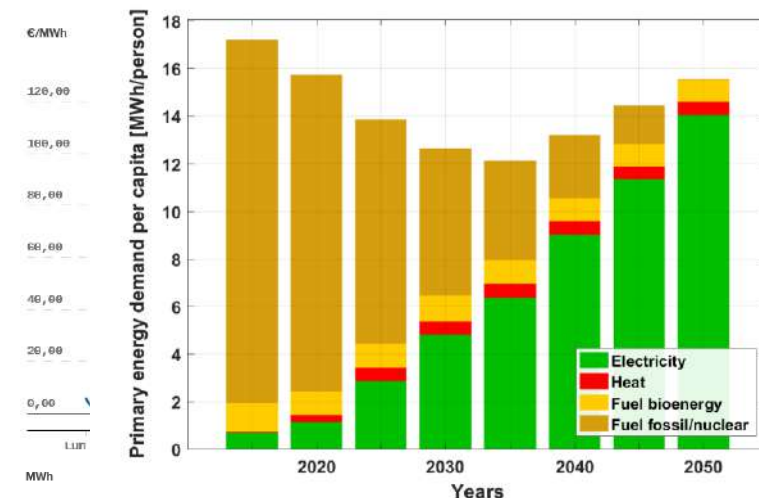


The role of energy storage



Energy storage/ batteries as key technology for a decarbonized future

- Essential for decarbonising transport and for balancing generation and demand
- Very high growth rates (>20%), energy and material intensive, import dependent
- Batteries one of the key sectors in the focus of the Green Deal
- Substantial effort for increasing sustainability (Batteries Regulation, Raw Materials Act, etc.)



Ram M., Bogdanov D., Aghahosseini A., Gulagi A., Oyewo A.S., Child M., Caldera U., Sadowska K., Farfan J., Barbosa LSNS, Fasih M., Khalil S., Dalheimer B., Gruber G., Traber T., De Caluwe F., Fell H.-J., Breyer C., Global Energy System based on 100% Renewable Energy – Power, Heat, Transport and Desalination Sectors, Study by Lappeenranta University of Technology and Energy Watch Group, Lappeenranta, Berlin, March 2019.

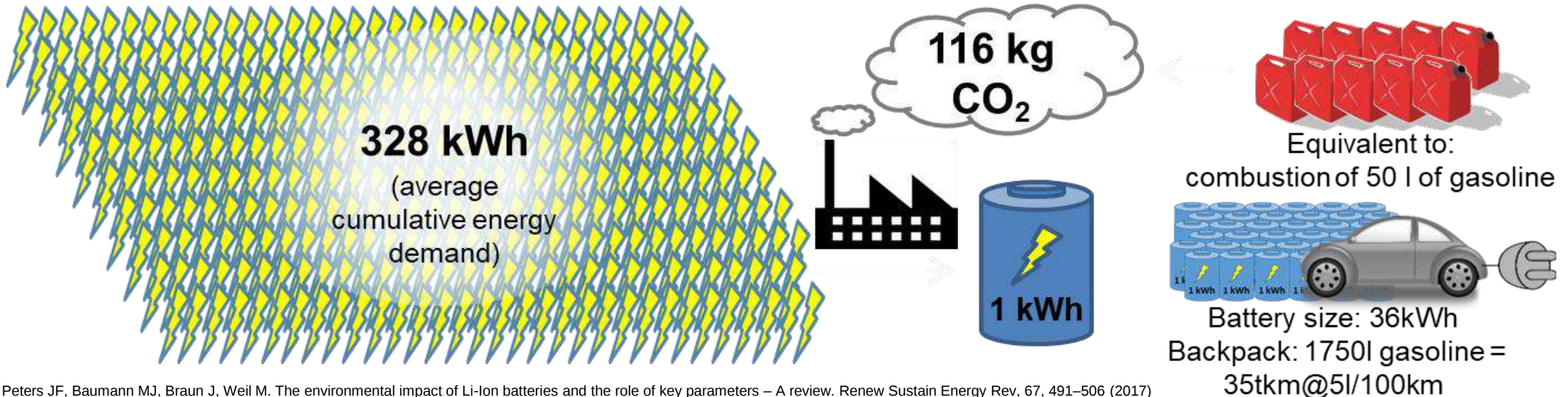
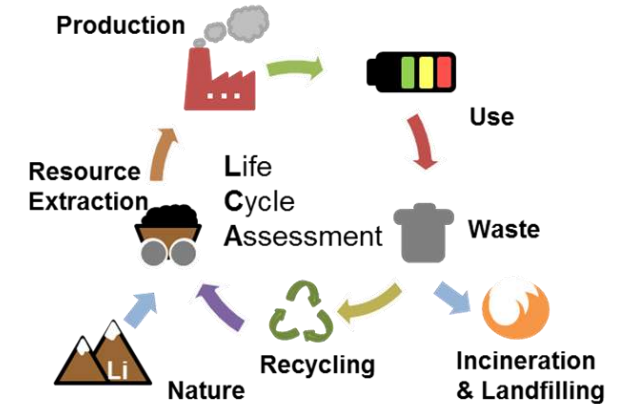


Environmental impacts



Carbon footprint

- Shift of burdens from use-phase (tailpipe emissions) to production (mainly battery)
- Need for a life cycle approach (life cycle assessment)



* Peters JF, Baumann MJ, Braun J, Weil M. The environmental impact of Li-Ion batteries and the role of key parameters – A review. Renew Sustain Energy Rev, 67, 491–506 (2017)



Recent trends in LCA



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Developments in the field of LCA of energy storage

- Strong increase of interest in LCA, also from industry
- Harmonisation of approaches, policy alignment
- Prospective assessments, future-oriented
- Combination with integrated assessment models (IAM)
- Integration of real time data and optimization of the use-phase
- Data provision, development of AI-generated databases
- Open source software packages (python, brightway, ..)
- Broadening the scope: s-LCA, absolute Sust. Assessment

Policy support

Anticipative approaches

Data science

New aspects



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Prospective LCA

- Aimed at anticipating impacts of emerging technologies and of changing framework conditions along the life cycle
- Challenges for prospective LCA:
 - Rapid technological change
 - Operating in rapidly changing environment
 - Recycling (somewhen in the future)
 - **Use phase** (energy storage devices participate in the energy market)
-> how to account for electricity?



Research Article | Open Access | 10.1002/aenm.202202636 | Citations: 14

Abstract

Sodium-ion batteries (SIB) are considered as a promising alternative to overcome existing sustainability challenges related to Lithium-ion batteries (LIB), such as the use of critical and expensive materials with high environmental impact. SIBs are an emerging technology in an early stage of development. To identify the most promising and sustainable cathode materials, a screening method is developed, providing a fast and potential sustainability hotspots for supporting cathode SIB cathodes are screened and benchmarked against Potential impacts are quantified for the following categories: i) Carbon footprint, based on existing raw material criticality and carbon footprint. The results reveal that energy density factors in all three categories, determining the overall shows a very promising performance, obtaining better results. Especially the Prussian Blue derivatives and the manganese-based materials.



BTRL	1) met Level: singl	2) Pr Level: cycle	3) I Level: cycl	Variation of Weights				Variation of Criteria			
				Equal	Environ.	Supply	Cost	+ Spec. En.			
Basic principles and properties reported	1. Theoretical and basic principles			Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank
	2. First formulation of application and concept			Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank
	3. Analytical and experimental definition and proof of concept.			Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank
	4. Cell component validation on laboratory level			Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank
	5. Cell component validation under real production conditions			Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank
	6. Cell or component prototype demonstration on production and application level			Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank
	7. Full cell prototype, demonstration for production and application			Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank
	8. Completed cell, production qualification and demonstration under operational environment			Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank
	9. Commercialization, production and safe operation of battery cells			Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank
	Proven cell for commercialization			Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank



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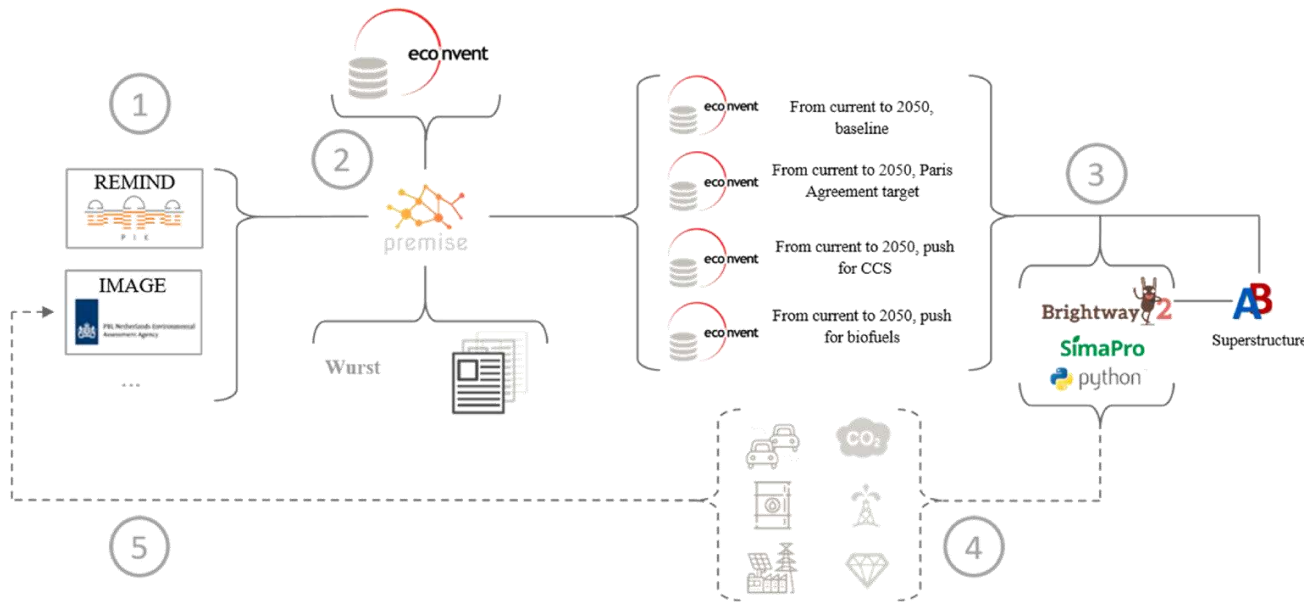
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Combination with integrated assessment models (IAM)

- Part of prospective LCA, aiming at incorporating energy system models into LCA



Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews
Volume 160, May 2022, 112311

Prospective Environmental Impact Assessment (*premise*): A streamlined approach to producing databases for prospective life cycle assessment using integrated assessment models

R. Sacchi^a, T. Terlouw^{a,b}, K. Siala^c, A. Dirnau^c, C. Bauer^d, B. Cox^d, C. Mutel^e, Y. Daigoul^{a,f}, G. Luderer^{c,g}

Show more

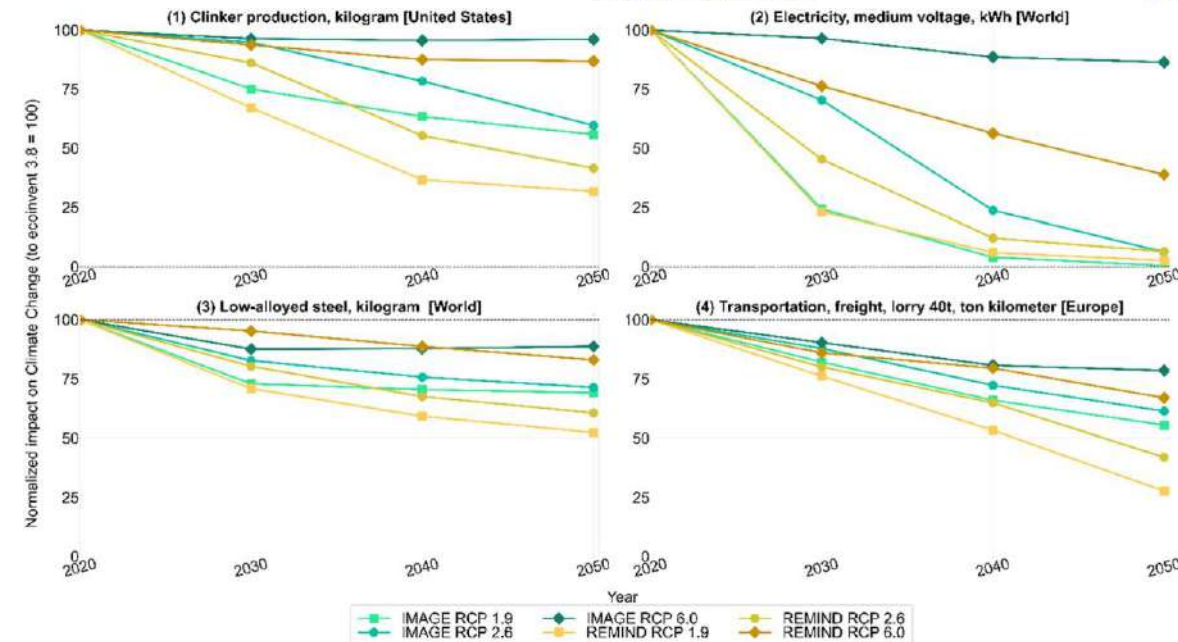
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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rser.2022.112311>

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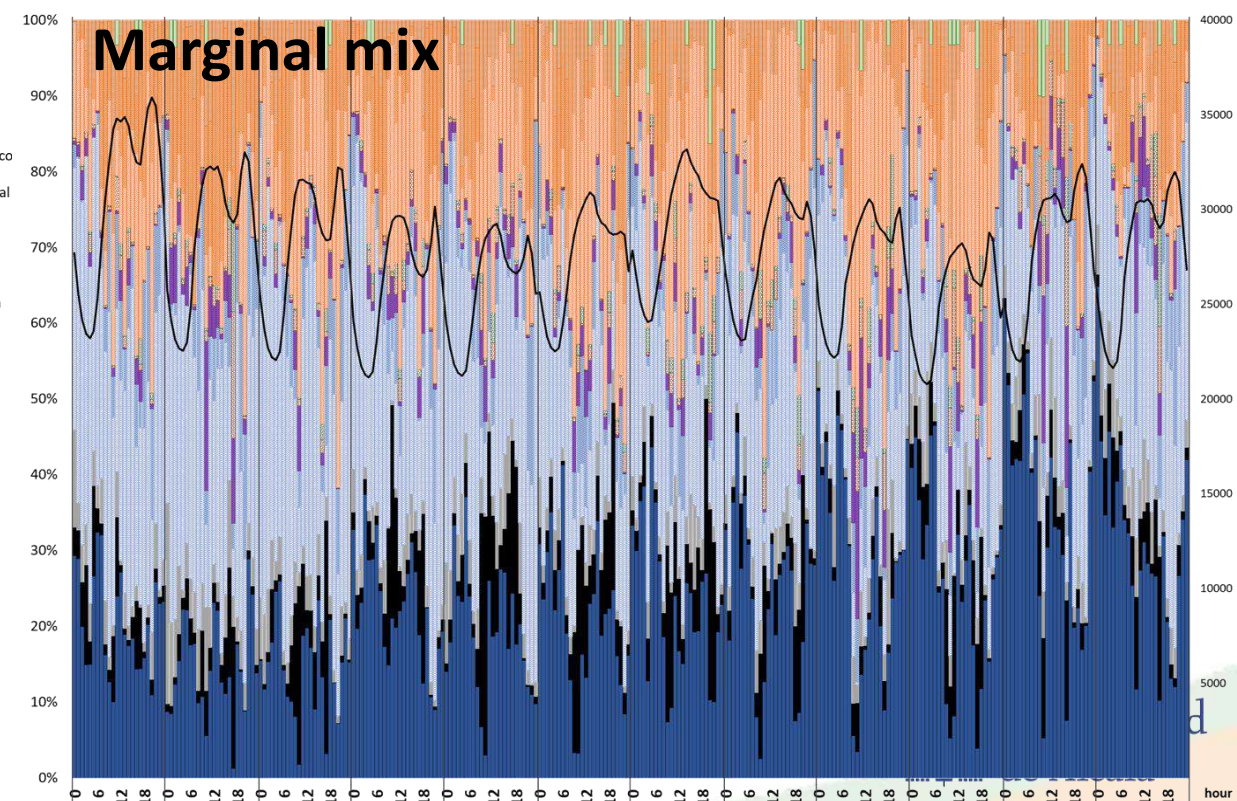
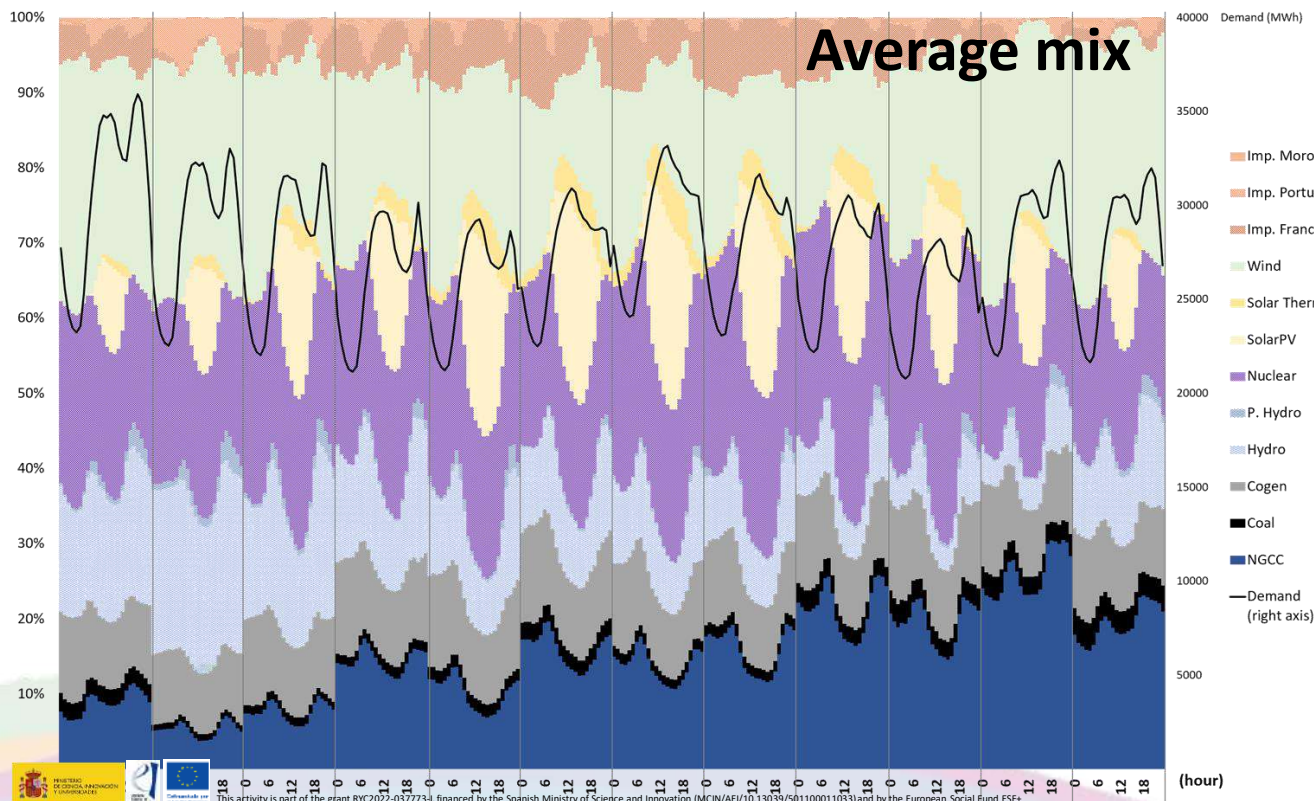
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Integration of real time data and optimization of the use-phase

- Energy storage participates actively in the electricity market
- Need to consider marginal electricity mixes and hourly generation





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Integration of real time data and optimization of the use-phase

- Varying emission intensity of grid electricity
- Potential to optimize operation (use-phase)

TIER 1		Average mix											
		Hourly emissions [gCO ₂ eq/kWh] - average mix											
hour		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
00:00		134.4	95.7	120.0	152.9	151.4	177.0	154.1	164.6	201.5	202.9	213.8	192.8
01:00		132.9	96.5	123.2	153.2	151.9	179.6	153.8	167.3	200.9	200.9	212.7	191.2
02:00		132.8	97.4	124.5	155.1	151.7	183.6	153.6	167.2	200.7	199.1	213.5	191.3
03:00		132.2	98.8	125.6	155.9	152.0	184.0	154.6	167.3	201.8	202.9	212.0	191.1
04:00		132.9	99.7	126.2	156.8	154.0	186.2	157.9	170.0	204.1	204.2	212.8	191.0
05:00		133.9	99.3	128.7	158.6	156.0	188.2	161.8	172.9	206.9	206.6	217.0	193.0
06:00		136.0	99.4	131.0	167.3	161.6	194.1	169.1	175.0	212.1	211.9	223.1	194.6
07:00		140.2	101.4	129.2	169.7	161.1	193.1	173.3	177.6	215.6	208.1	223.9	194.9
08:00		138.5	101.8	125.6	166.6	154.4	185.6	166.5	171.1	215.8	207.2	222.6	194.6
09:00		135.7	99.9	122.4	161.7	146.9	178.0	158.5	160.8	204.8	199.5	215.4	190.0
10:00		132.9	96.7	117.9	158.4	138.1	170.6	150.7	151.2	188.4	187.1	206.8	185.7
11:00		131.7	93.8	116.0	155.0	134.8	167.2	146.3	146.5	180.3	177.6	201.4	183.0
12:00		130.0	91.8	114.7	152.4	132.1	163.6	142.5	144.3	175.4	173.5	200.9	181.6
13:00		129.6	91.9	112.5	149.7	130.0	161.1	139.0	142.3	172.9	168.4	200.7	181.8
14:00		130.2	92.0	112.4	149.5	127.4	158.5	137.2	141.2	172.5	167.5	201.1	184.1
15:00		132.3	93.9	112.9	149.1	126.4	156.1	135.3	139.9	171.5	167.3	204.8	186.7
16:00		135.6	95.9	115.5	149.5	126.7	156.5	134.4	138.3	173.7	171.3	215.2	195.5
17:00		141.6	101.1	121.3	152.7	126.7	160.1	137.2	139.2	180.1	180.1	232.0	205.9
18:00		143.3	106.1	126.3	158.1	128.9	165.0	141.4	143.6	189.2	198.3	231.8	204.2
19:00		143.2	107.2	127.5	160.0	135.8	166.9	146.0	153.9	203.4	206.1	230.5	202.0
20:00		140.2	105.2	122.9	158.9	142.1	171.5	151.4	163.7	209.1	200.1	228.3	199.7
21:00		138.5	101.6	121.2	156.8	142.9	172.5	156.1	168.5	209.3	199.0	231.3	199.7
22:00		138.1	99.8	121.0	158.7	146.8	175.4	156.6	168.4	211.5	200.5	233.0	201.4
23:00		136.3	97.8	121.4	159.7	149.5	179.1	156.7	167.5	209.4	200.4	229.2	199.2
Avg		135.6	98.4	121.3	156.8	141.6	172.6	150.3	157.1	194.9	192.1	217.0	193.0

TIER 2		Marginal mix											
		Hourly marginal emissions [gCO ₂ eq/kWh]											
hour		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
00:00		291.2	247.3	171.3	259.1	221.3	267.2	238.0	239.3	324.8	326.7	325.1	351.3
01:00		245.2	189.8	195.7	193.5	224.6	240.2	246.5	249.2	294.0	380.6	325.6	341.5
02:00		226.4	237.7	166.1	210.4	230.1	259.2	237.7	262.4	260.4	339.0	295.4	333.0
03:00		297.3	251.7	254.4	250.0	240.6	265.0	324.0	273.5	231.9	364.1	335.0	377.7
04:00		285.8	197.3	265.1	256.9	361.7	282.3	233.7	247.0	249.9	397.4	422.6	422.5
05:00		331.2	248.9	257.9	300.8	324.1	306.6	292.4	270.6	333.8	409.8	384.2	418.3
06:00		247.4	230.1	173.7	308.0	294.3	286.4	277.2	243.8	263.5	310.4	336.0	352.2
07:00		278.3	293.9	212.4	278.9	281.0	264.3	292.1	242.6	297.9	268.9	353.1	297.3
08:00		245.9	259.5	258.9	272.8	258.8	184.5	202.7	215.4	314.3	282.3	300.1	264.0
09:00		181.6	257.6	295.2	319.7	535.3	379.7	493.6	277.1	230.5	347.3	332.3	280.5
10:00		389.3	295.2	409.8	479.7	515.1	464.6	379.4	400.6	286.4	391.7	367.7	397.7
11:00		362.0	318.3	303.6	434.2	425.0	513.5	332.1	308.9	277.8	430.9	375.9	252.0
12:00		234.7	272.5	230.1	321.7	465.6	402.3	356.2	277.4	292.8	386.6	345.8	274.4
13:00		273.8	280.1	215.1	242.9	302.6	311.2	312.7	338.5	273.2	350.0	361.9	323.0
14:00		180.6	199.0	201.3	268.8	254.4	282.4	304.5	242.2	266.2	317.8	249.9	236.7
15:00		213.7	222.9	255.0	233.3	280.5	305.7	249.2	236.4	264.9	299.1	267.0	305.4
16:00		326.1	375.8	263.0	290.7	416.2	263.0	276.8	269.5	240.5	388.1	337.2	485.3
17:00		258.7	389.3	508.6	391.5	400.3	391.7	309.0	220.5	219.2	390.0	288.0	258.6
18:00		221.0	200.8	206.6	487.6	472.6	376.5	271.8	319.7	277.9	405.5	237.1	220.1
19:00		244.4	231.4	185.9	208.2	270.1	467.9	385.0	326.0	289.2	242.2	278.3	206.0
20:00		234.3	208.6	180.0	185.8	199.7	358.1	432.9	558.4	212.0	232.1	270.3	218.5
21:00		263.8	274.5	244.4	249.8	187.6	318.9	448.3	261.0	249.8	242.0	236.8	275.5
22:00		210.8	255.3	193.5	206.3	216.4	244.1	231.0	224.5	225.9	243.4	256.0	247.5
23:00		230.9	210.3	160.7	196.4	162.0	163.3	200.9	208.0	252.1	233.9	298.1	267.0
Avg		261.4	256.2	242.0	285.3	314.2	316.6	305.3	279.7	267.9	332.5	315.8	308.6



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Harmonisation of approaches, policy alignment

- EF Method for Product Environmental Footprints (PEF)
- Provide detailed guidelines on LCA modelling and data use
- Complex and not always unambiguous
- EF dataset repository for exclusive use in PEF studies (free of charge)
- EoL Modelling via the CFF (circular footprint formula)
- Basis for EU legislation (such as the carbon footprint for batteries)



<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32021H2279>

Document 32021H2279

? Share

Commission Recommendation (EU) 2021/2279 of 15 December 2021 on the use of the Environmental Footprint methods to measure and communicate the life cycle environmental performance of products and organisations

C/2021/9332

OJ L 471, 30.12.2021, p. 1–396 (BG, ES, CS, DA, DE, ET, EL, EN, FR, HR, IT, LV, LT, HU, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SK, SL, FI, SV)

ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reco/2021/2279/oj>

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LCA applied in policy



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- Carbon Footprint declaration mandatory under new EU Battery Regulation (Article 7 of Regulation (EU) 2023/1542)

- From 2025 for EV batteries
- From 2026 for Industrial batteries
- From 2027 for LMT batteries
- From 2030 for flow batteries

- Delegated Act with carbon footprint rules published on Have your Say

- Methodology based on EF Recommendations by the EC

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32021H2279>



European Commission

Log in English

Law

Batteries - format of carbon footprint declaration

Have your say - Public Consultations and Feedback > Published initiatives > Batteries -

Draft act

FEEDBACK: OPEN

Feedback period
30 April 2024 - 28 May 2024 (midnight Brussels time)

The Commission would like to hear your views.
This draft act is open for feedback for **4 weeks**. Feedback will be taken into account for finalising this initiative. Feedback received will be published on this site and therefore must adhere to the [feedback rules](#).

[More about draft acts](#)

In order to contribute you'll need to register or login using your existing social media account.

Give feedback >

Draft implementing regulation - Ares(2024)3131449
English (351.9 KB - PDF - 3 pages)

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Annex - Ares(2024)3131449
English (327.6 KB - PDF - 2 pages)

Download



Recent trends in LCA

Data provision and databases

- Quest for data, driven (partially) by regulation
- LCI data often hidden or inaccessible
- Efforts needed (and increasingly being made) to improve data findability and accessibility
- Examples:
 - GLAD (Global LCA Data Access network)
 - US Federal LCA Commons
 - Tiangong LCI Data Working Group
 - LCIA results (carbon footprint studies)

The screenshot displays the Global LCA Data Access network website. At the top, there are icons for 'energy', 'materials', and 'just', along with a QR code. The main navigation bar includes 'Search datasets', 'About', 'Get involved', and 'FAQ'. Below this, the 'FEDERAL LCA COMMONS' logo is visible, followed by the URL <https://www.lcacommons.gov/>. A search bar shows 'Geographical coverage' set to 'AR (Argentina)' and 'Reference year' set to 'None'. The search results show 5 datasets, sorted by 'Relevance'. A detailed view of the 'Tesla Battery Passport Pilot' is shown, including the battery passport ID 'RST2291345831', the battery model 'NMC-M50', and the battery serial number 'T14D0037652'. The 'Tesla' logo is also present. Below the detailed view, there are tabs for 'BATTERY', 'MATERIALS', 'ESG', and 'DATA'. The 'ESG' tab is selected, showing a table of metrics and indicators. The table includes columns for 'METRIC', 'CHILD LABOR', 'HUMAN RIGHTS', 'INDICATOR', 'GREENHOUSE GAS', 'SCF (PPH)', and 'SCF (PMA)'. The metrics are 'Average score', 'Questions answered *', and 'Number of companies'. The indicators are 'Greenhouse Gas', 'NUMBER OF COMPANIES', and 'QUALITY SEAL'. The table shows that the data is 'safeguarded' and that there is 'not enough data collected for benchmarking'.

METRIC	CHILD LABOR	HUMAN RIGHTS	INDICATOR	GREENHOUSE GAS	SCF (PPH)	SCF (PMA)
Average score	safeguarded	safeguarded	Greenhouse Gas	74 kg/kWh	77 kg/kWh	
Questions answered *	14 / 14	15 / 15	NUMBER OF COMPANIES	59.6%	40.4%	
Number of companies	5	5	QUALITY SEAL			



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Widening the scope: Social LCA

- Quantification of social impacts via s-LCA (social Life Cycle Assessment)
- Guidelines and methodology support by UNEP Life Cycle Initiative
- Stakeholder categories and subcategories
UNEP 2020 Guidelines



Life Cycle Initiative



<https://www.lifecycleinitiative.org/library/guidelines-for-social-life-cycle-assessment-of-products-and-organisations-2020/>

Stakeholder categories	Worker	Local community	Value chain actors (not including consumers)	Consumer	Society	Children
Subcategories	1. Freedom of association and collective bargaining 2. Child labor 3. Fair salary 4. Working hours 5. Forced labor 6. Equal opportunities/discrimination 7. Health and safety 8. Social benefits/social security 9. Employment relationship 10. Sexual harassment 11. Smallholders including farmers	1. Access to material resources 2. Access to immaterial resources 3. Delocalization and migration 4. Cultural heritage 5. Safe and healthy living conditions 6. Respect of indigenous rights 7. Community engagement 8. Local employment 9. Secure living conditions	1. Fair competition 2. Promoting social responsibility 3. Supplier relationships 4. Respect of intellectual property rights 5. Wealth distribution	1. Health and safety 2. Feedback mechanism 3. Consumer privacy 4. Transparency 5. End-of-life responsibility	1. Public commitments to sustainability issues 2. Contribution to economic development 3. Prevention and mitigation of armed conflicts 4. Technology development 5. Corruption 6. Ethical treatment of animals 7. Poverty alleviation	1. Education provided in the local community 2. Health issues for children as consumers 3. Children concerns regarding marketing practices



Recent trends in LCA



Social impacts

Material	Country	Materials supply stage (mining stage)			Governance		Conflicts			Human and social rights			Environment	
		% reserves and resources	% global mining production	% EU sourcing	Resource Governance Index	Worldwide Governance Indicators	INFORM - HH	Fragile State Index	Global Peace Index	Child labour*	Fair salary*	Global Slavery Index	Environmental Performance Index	Water Risk Index
COBALT	Australia	10	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	3
	Congo DR	46	57	69	3	4	4	4	4	4	2	4	3	1
	Finland	1	1	14	n.a.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
LITHIUM	Argentina	20	12	5	n.a.	2.5	1	2	1	2	1	1	2	2
	Australia	8	36	65	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	3
	Bolivia	21	0	0	n.a.	3	3	3	2	4	3	2	2	1
	Chile	12	38	0	1	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	2	3
	Portugal	0	0	10	n.a.	2	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	3
	USA	13	3	0	1	1.3	3	2	3	1	1	1	2	2
MANGANESE	Australia	14	17	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	3
	Brazil	1	7	17	n.a.	3	3	3	2	2	1	1	2	1
	China	2	17	0	n.a.	3	3	3	2	3	2	2.5	2	3
	Gabon	10	10	20	n.a.	3	3	3	2	4	1	3.5	3	1
	South Africa	41	28	25	2	2.5	3	3	3	n.a.	1	2	3	3
	USA	10	0	0	1	1.3	3	2	3	1	1	1	2	2
NATURAL GRAPHITE	Brazil	1	7	12	n.a.	3	3	3	2	2	1	1	2	1
	China	0	64	47	n.a.	3	3	3	2	3	2	2.5	2	3
	India	0	11	0	n.a.	2.5	3	3	3	1	2	2.5	3	3
	Mozambique	68	0	0	n.a.	3	2	3	2	4	1	3	3	2
	Tanzania	13	0	0	2	3	2	3	1	4	1	3	3	3
NICKEL	Australia	13	11	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	3
	Canada	7	10	7	n.a.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1
	China	3	4	47	n.a.	3	3	3	2	3	2	2.5	2	3
	Greece	1	1	10	n.a.	2.5	2	2	1	1	1	3	2	3
	Indonesia	17	18	0	1	3	3	3	1	2	1	2.5	3	3
	Philippines	10	17	0	2	3	4	3	3	2	3	3	2	3
	Russian Federation	11	11	0	n.a.	3	3	3	4	2	1	3.5	2	1
	South Africa	4	2	14	2	2.5	3	3	3	n.a.	1	2	3	3



Sustainability of batteries

Much more than GHG emissions..

- Chances and risks of EU technology development and deployment
 - Added value vs. impacts (social, env.)
 - Distribution of added value and benefit (or impacts) for local community
 - Social benefits vs. environmental impacts
- Need for efficient use of resources
 - downsizing? Consumption pat
 - Prosumerism?
 - Circular economy levers: collection and recovery (~30% of all EoL vehicles with unknown whereabouts)
 - Product responsibility



EARTH ISLAND
JOURNAL

An Earth Island Institute Publication

Yale **Environment360**

Published at the
Yale School of the Environment

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<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2022-02-24/cobalt-mining-in-the-congo-green-energy/100802588>

3 NEWS



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GM Announces SUV Version of the Hummer EV

It is a bit smaller than the pickup but it still has a Godzilla-sized carbon footprint.

By [Lloyd Alter](#) Updated April 06, 2021



~ 4000 kg, 850hp
165 kWh battery
-> ~ 16500 kg CO₂

GMC

VS



Shawne Martinez
@RescueEwe

"I Ebike about 50 miles on the charge used to move a Tesla X just 1 mile. Do we really need to move a 4000# car with an additional 1000# of batteries to move one person plus groceries?"



News

Environment

GM has unveiled the new SUV model of the Hummer EV; it's big, and it's expensive (starting at \$80,000). It has the same high killer front end that the Hummer pickup truck did, which was "engineered ... to dominate."



Still a long way..

Environmental Impacts -> Battery Regulation

Greening the battery supply chain

- ▶ Carbon footprint declaration: LCA approach
- ▶ Carbon footprint classes
- ▶ Minimum recycled content
- ▶ Recycling rates

Social Impacts -> Due Diligence Act

Social standards along the supply chains

- ▶ Identify, prevent and mitigate adverse human rights and environmental impacts
- ▶ establish governance systems and measures in place to this end

Much broader perspective required..

Product

Company

nature

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Article | [Open Access](#) | Published: 31 May 2023

Safe and just Earth system boundaries

[Johan Rockström](#) , [Joyeeta Gupta](#), [Dahe Qin](#), [Steven J. Lade](#) , [Jesse F. Abrams](#), [Lauren S. Andersen](#), [David I. Armstrong McKay](#), [Xuemei Bai](#), [Govindasamy Bala](#), [Stuart E. Bunn](#), [Daniel Ciobanu](#), [Fabrice DeClerck](#), [Kristie Ebi](#), [Lauren Gifford](#), [Christopher Gordon](#), [Syezhin Hasan](#), [Norichika Kanie](#), [Timothy M. Lenton](#), [Sina Loriani](#), [Diana M. Liverman](#), [Awaz Mohamed](#), [Nebojsa Nakicenovic](#), [David Obura](#), [Daniel Ospina](#), ... [Xin Zhang](#)

[+ Show authors](#)

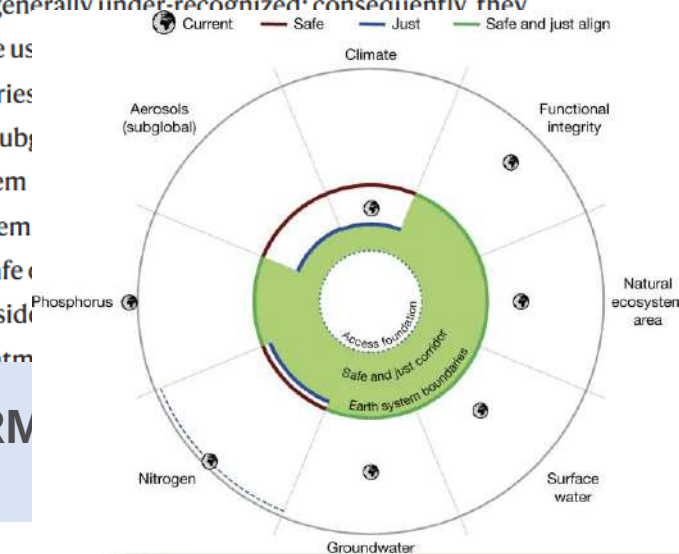
[Nature](#) (2023) | [Cite this article](#)

142k Accesses | 1 Citations | 4018 Altmetric | [Metrics](#)

Abstract

The stability and resilience of the Earth system and human well-being are inseparably linked^{1,2,3}, yet their interdependencies are generally under-recognized; consequently they are often treated independently^{4,5}. Here, we quantify safe and just Earth system boundaries for climate, land, oceans, freshwater, and the resilience and stability of the Earth system significant harm to humans from Earth system condition for justice⁴. The stricter of the safe and just ESB. Our findings show that justice considerations are more stringent than safety considerations for climate and atmosphere.

- ▶ Diversification of SRM countries



Want to know more?

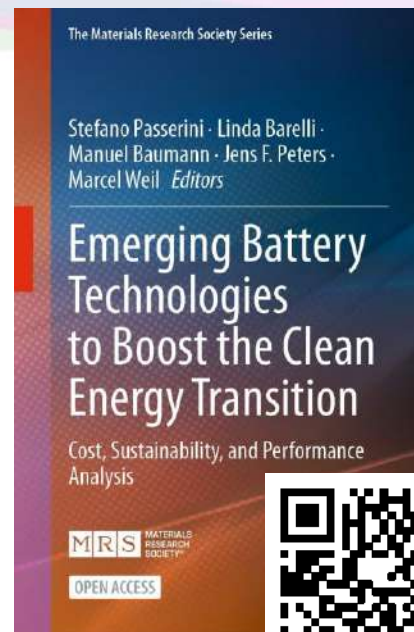
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<https://www.linkedin.com/in/jens-peters-3b153a24/>



nature sustainability

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Comment | Published: 16 February 2023

Best practices for life cycle assessment of batteries

Jens F. Peters 

[Nature Sustainability](#) 6, 614–616 (2023) | [Cite this article](#)

2469 Accesses | 6 Citations | 9 Altmetric | [Metrics](#)

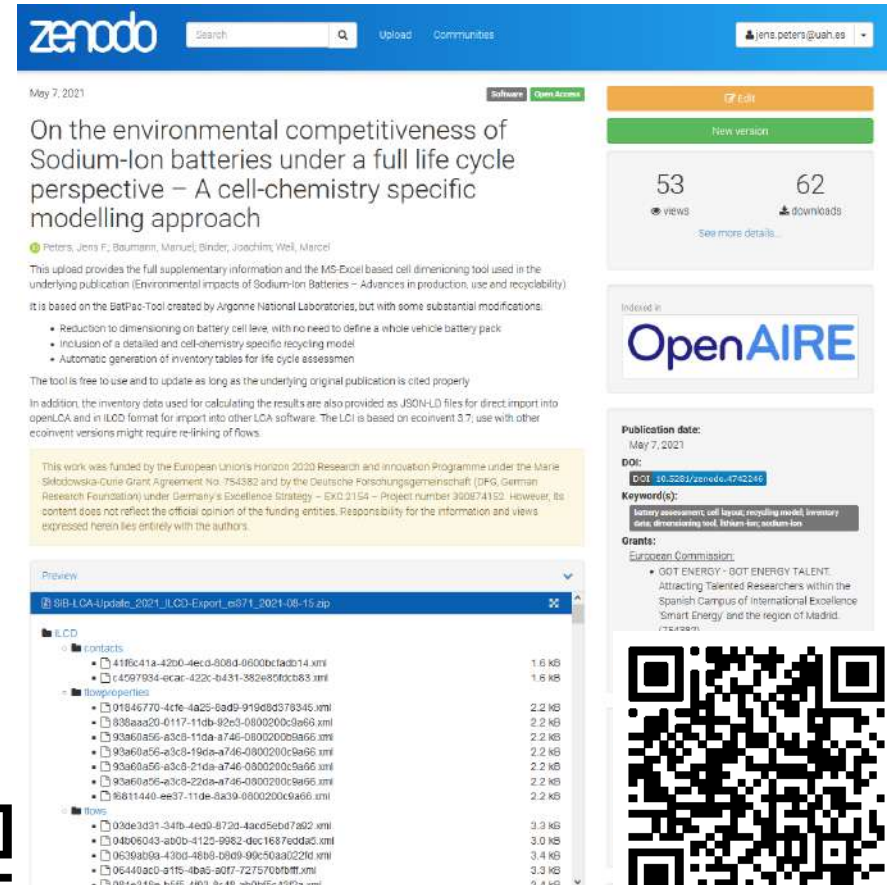
Life cycle assessment (LCA) is a prominent methodology for evaluating environmental impacts of products throughout their entire lifespans. However, studies often lack transparency and comparability, limiting their usefulness. Recommendations for best practices for LCA are provided, exemplified by batteries.



<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41893-023-01067-y>



Underlying data available openly on Zenodo:




<https://zenodo.org/badge/DOI/10.5281/zenodo.4742246.svg>

DOI: 10.1039/d1se01292d



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Conferencia Internacional de Impactos Socioambientales

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Nazioarteko konferentzia



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Seeking Feminist Justice Against Corporate Power

Ana María Palacios Briceño & Júlia Martí Comas

Amarantas Feminist Collective



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Index

1. Research Design

1. Case studies pertaining the right to health, the right to a dignified life and freedom from violence

1. Lessons from resistances





Research design: an overview

Objectives:

1. Expand the understanding of the impacts and violated rights caused by transnational corporations
 - a) Conduct a feminist and community-based analysis of corporate activities
 - b) Undertake a feminist critique of International Human Rights Law
2. Recognise resistance strategies led by women
3. Facilitate knowledge exchange among women's collectives

What are the impacts of corporate activities in interaction with the current model of patriarchal social reproduction?

What reparations are being implemented with a focus on victims' needs?



Research design: methodology (I)

- Theoretical framework:
 - Theories of corporate impunity as defined by Sociology of Law
 - Feminist economics
 - Ecofeminist analysis of land and environmental defense actions
- Interviews and focal groups with 35 activists
- Contrast with the key figures of the women's groups

Research design: methodology (II)

- Study cases:
 - Meatzaldea Bizirik (Muskiz-Abanto, Bizkaia) – Oil refinery
 - Movimento dos Atingidos por Barragens (MAB, Brazil) – Mining tailings dam disaster
 - Un Salto de Vida (Jalisco, México) – Industrial pollution
 - Alianza contra la pobreza energética (Cataluña) – Power cuts and high tariffs
- Criteria: inclusive decision-making, prioritising women's perspectives and acknowledging diverse backgrounds.

The right to health: Un Salto de Vida (A Leap of Life)

Background:

- Since the 1980s, El Salto (Jalisco, Mexico) and the surrounding towns have experienced significant industrial growth
- Two industrial corridors have developed, encompassing 1,700 companies in sectors such as chemicals, pharmaceuticals, automotive and electronics
- Over 50,000 people have been exposed to environmental contamination in the area
- This contamination has primarily been caused by industrial transformation activities (CEDHJ, 2021)



Credit: Alfredo García/ElPaís.com

Localización del río Santiago, en el poniente de México.
ALFREDO GARCÍA

The right to health: Un Salto de Vida (A Leap of Life)

Public health emergency:

- A study on children found that 40 per cent had arsenic and 98 per cent had cadmium in their blood.
- Limited epidemiological studies show higher rates of kidney, liver, and cancer damage.

Impacts on reproductive health:

- Toxins in water and air can disrupt hormones and harm fetal development and reproductive systems.



The right to health: Brumadinho Dam Disaster

Background:

- A tailings dam collapsed in January 2019
- Mining Vale S.A
- 12 million cubic meters of toxic mud and waste
- 270 people dead and another 11 missing
- More than 100,000 people affected



Credit: <https://mab.org.br>



The right to health: Brumadinho Dam Disaster

Increased exposure to contaminated water:

- Women have more frequently been exposed to contaminated water due to their roles in agriculture, fishing, and domestic work
- **Deterioration of mental health:**
 - Antidepressant use has increased by 56 per cent and anxiolytic use by 79 per cent
 - Women have experienced trauma and concern over potential illnesses caused by toxins
 - Stress and anxiety are worsened by increased care work, income loss, and reduced social interaction



Credit: <https://mab.org.br>

Right to health: Petronor Oil Refinery

Background:

- Inaugurated in 1972
- Petronor-Repsol Company
- The largest oil refinery in the state and one of the most significant in Europe.
- Situated near the urban centers of Muskiz and Abanto-Zierbena.
- Emissions into the air and water: benzene, toluene, xylene, among others



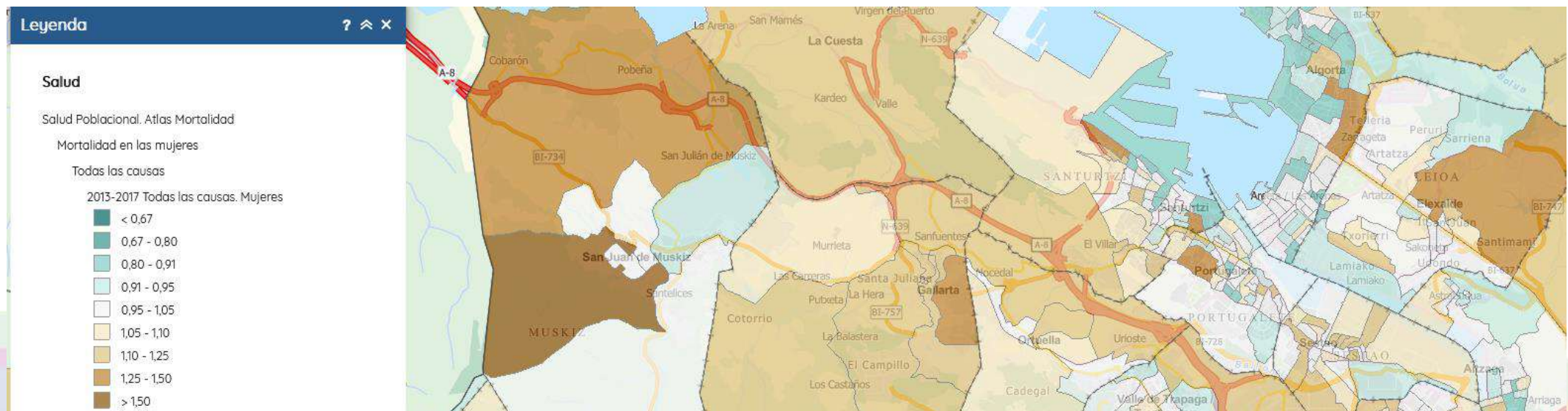
Credit: Boslan



Barrio San Julián, Muskiz.

Right to health: Petronor Oil Refinery

- **Excess mortality:** Neighborhoods nearby show a 68 per cent higher mortality rate among women (2013-2017) compared to the Basque Country
- **Reproductive health issues:** Activists documented cases of fetal malformations, miscarriages, rare diseases and low birth weights
- **Stress and anxiety:** Heightened by insecurity and incidents causing childhood trauma
- **Fear and misinformation:** Pervasive fear due to lack of comprehensive epidemiological studies



Right to a dignified life: Alliance Against Energy Poverty (APE)

Background:

- In 2014, APE initiated efforts to combat energy poverty
- 15 per cent of Spain's population grapples with energy poverty
- Catalunya faces significant challenges, with 25.7 per cent of men and 49.7 per cent of women at risk of poverty

The right to a dignified life and freedom from violence:

- **Institutional Violence:** 58 per cent of APE members report experiencing poor or offensive treatment in social services
- **Indebtedness:** 26 per cent of APE members have debts exceeding 1,000 euros
- **Insecurity:** Disruptions in supply, harassment by companies, increased vulnerability to other forms of violence, and media-driven criminalisation
- **Poor health:** Both mental and physical linked to factors like inadequate temperatures



Credit: <https://pobresaenergetica.es/>

The right to a dignified life and freedom from violence:

-

Credit: <https://unsaltodevida.wordpress.com/>

Lessons from resistances

1. **Comprehensive impact analysis:** Understanding the full scope of human rights and environmental impacts and their root causes
2. **Recognizing intersecting forms of violence and mental health consequences:** Acknowledging environmental effects and their impact on mental well-being
3. **Demanding enhanced public control and preventative measures:** Ensuring corporate accountability, both domestically and internationally
4. **Re-imagining justice:** Combining legal avenues and with collective strategies to build transformative and collective reparations
5. **Holistic approach to struggles:** Building strong local alliances and integrating different planes of action without prioritising one over the other
6. **Strategies to protect:** Creating both local and international protection measures for environmental and human rights defenders



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Sustainability and Socioenvironmental Footprints

A Comprehensive Overview



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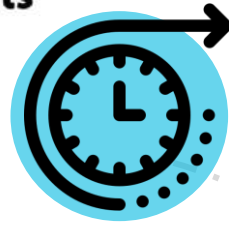


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Ethical Considerations in Sustainability



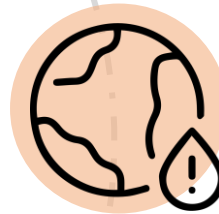
Hannah Arendt (1958)

Arendt posits that every citizen shapes our collective future.



Federico Demaria (2018)

Natural resources and environmental impacts are unequally distributed.



Daniel W. O'Neill (2018)

No country meets basic needs for its citizens at a globally sustainable level of resource use.



Vittorio Hösle (1991)

Hösle critiques the decline in ethical awareness despite technical advances, urging reintegration of ethics into sustainability



Ethical Integration

Develop initiatives and research with quantifiable indicators and real-life scenarios to enhance sustainability.



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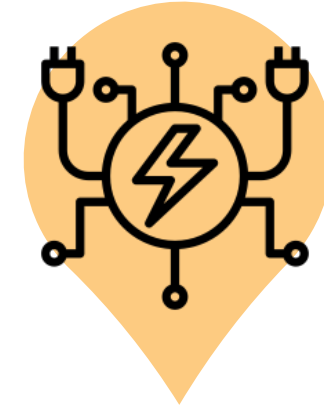
The Limits to Growth (1972)

The Club of Rome warned about the finite limits of Earth's resources and the potential catastrophic consequences of ignoring them.



Global Actions

Global efforts to address climate change remain insufficient, highlighting the need for stronger international commitments and tangible outcomes



Energy Models

Energy Models: Hans Jonas highlighted the long-term, complex, and often invisible consequences of a fossil-fuel-based energy system, complicating the attribution of responsibility and accountability.



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Energy Justice

Energy Justice demands equitable distribution of energy benefits and burdens



Outsourcing Issues

Hidden energy flows highlight justice and responsibility issues in outsourcing goods and services.

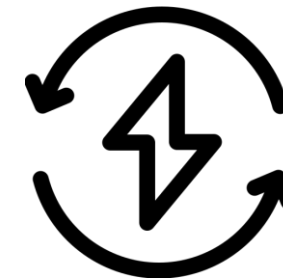


Global Inequalities

Powerful entities benefit from energy resources while vulnerable populations bear the costs

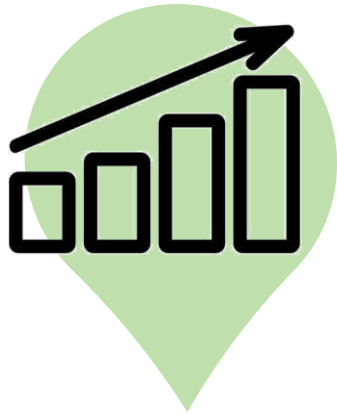


Energy Justice and Hidden Energy Flows





Moving Forward: Actionable Indicators



Quantifiable Indicators

Develop measurable indicators to ensure sustainability efforts are grounded in empirical reality..



Initiatives

Encourage initiatives addressing sustainability's multifaceted nature, including circular economy, energy efficiency, and social equity.



Call to Action

Addressing these indicators can correct misinterpretations of sustainability and promote a just global response to climate change.



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What is a footprint?

How to generate the knowledge towards a low-impact living

Estitxu Villamor
EKOPOL Research Group
estitxu.villamor@ehu.eus



ekopol



Life Cycle
Thinking Group

medicusmundi

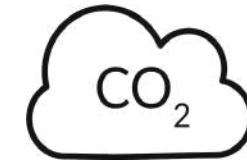


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Ecological footprint

- The total area of land needed to sustain an urban region.
- Very simple and popular.
- Many pressures on environment cannot be measured in area units.



Carbon footprint



Built-up land



Cropland



Forest land

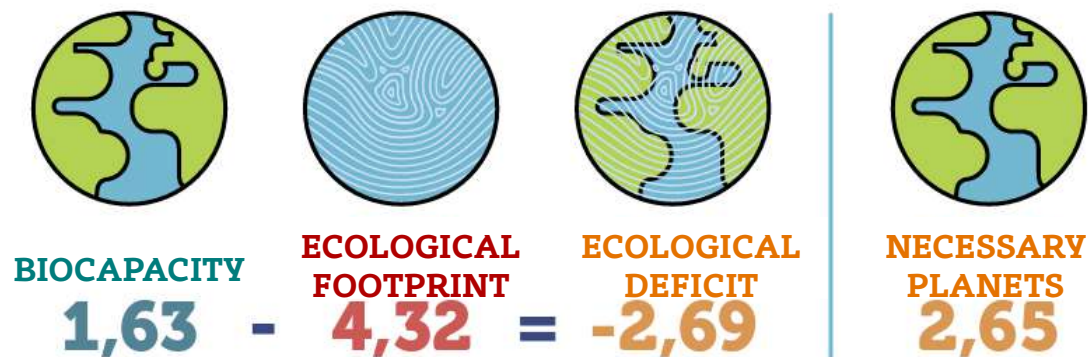


Pasture



Fisheries

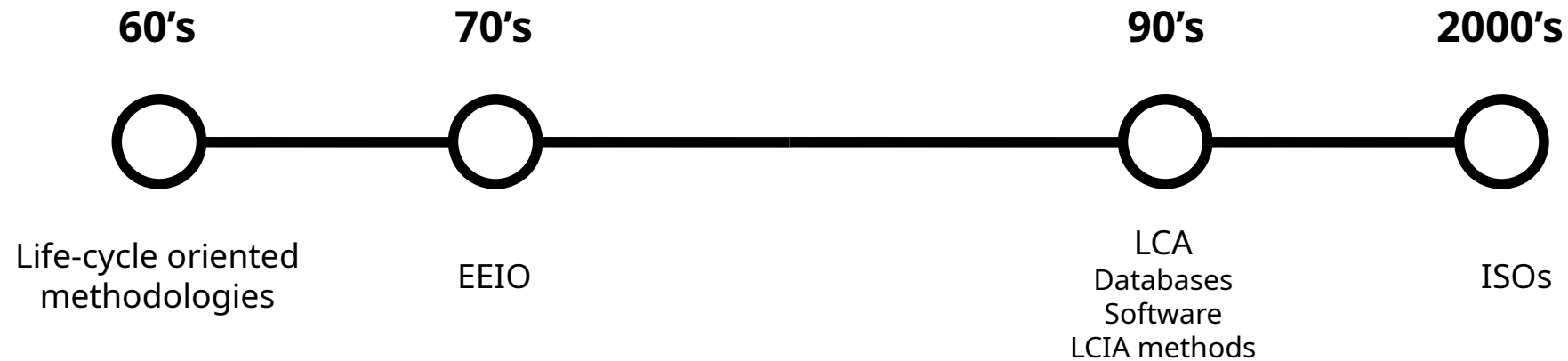
BASQUE ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT



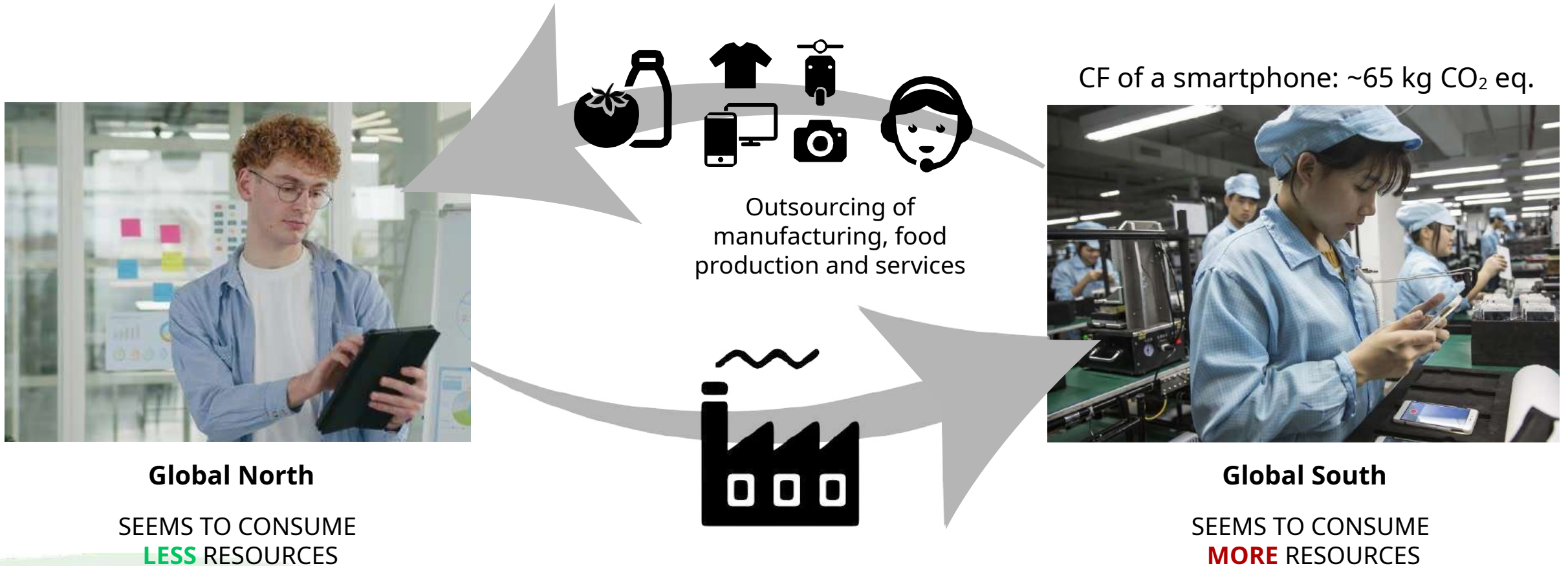


Life Cycle Assessment and Input-Output

- Bottom-up vs top-down methodologies.
- Footprint family: carbon, energy, water, land, material...

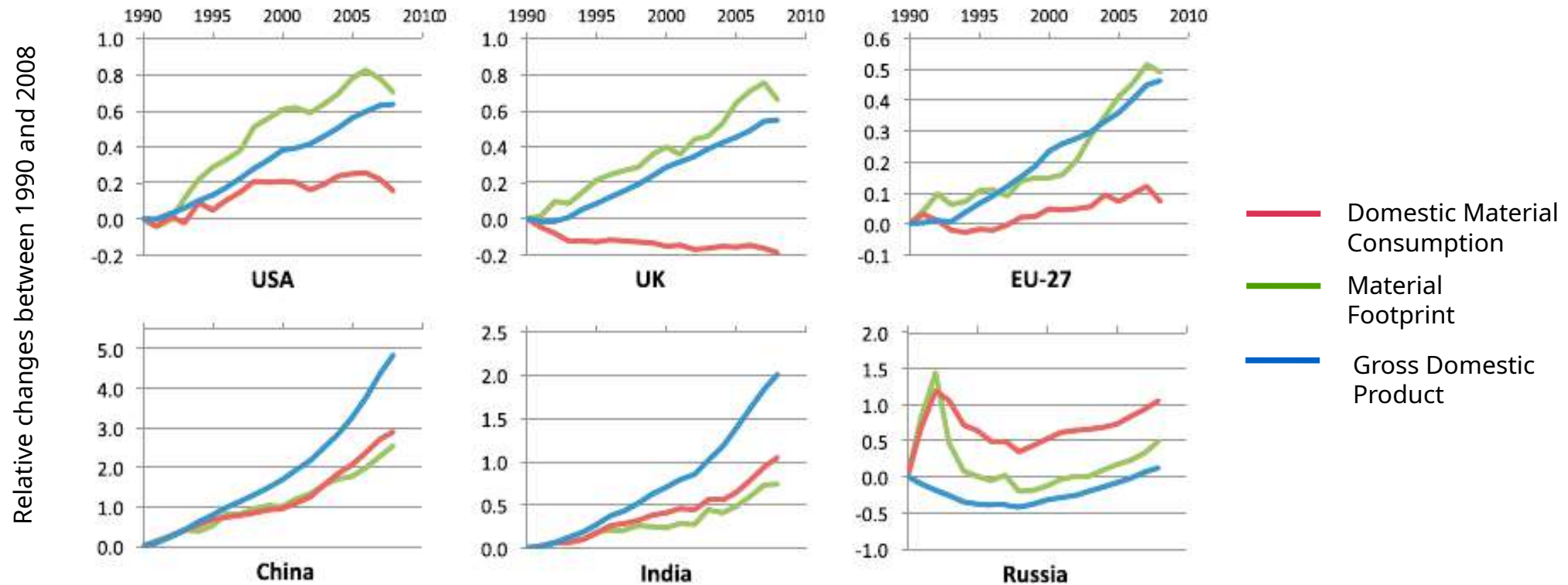


Consumption Based Accounting



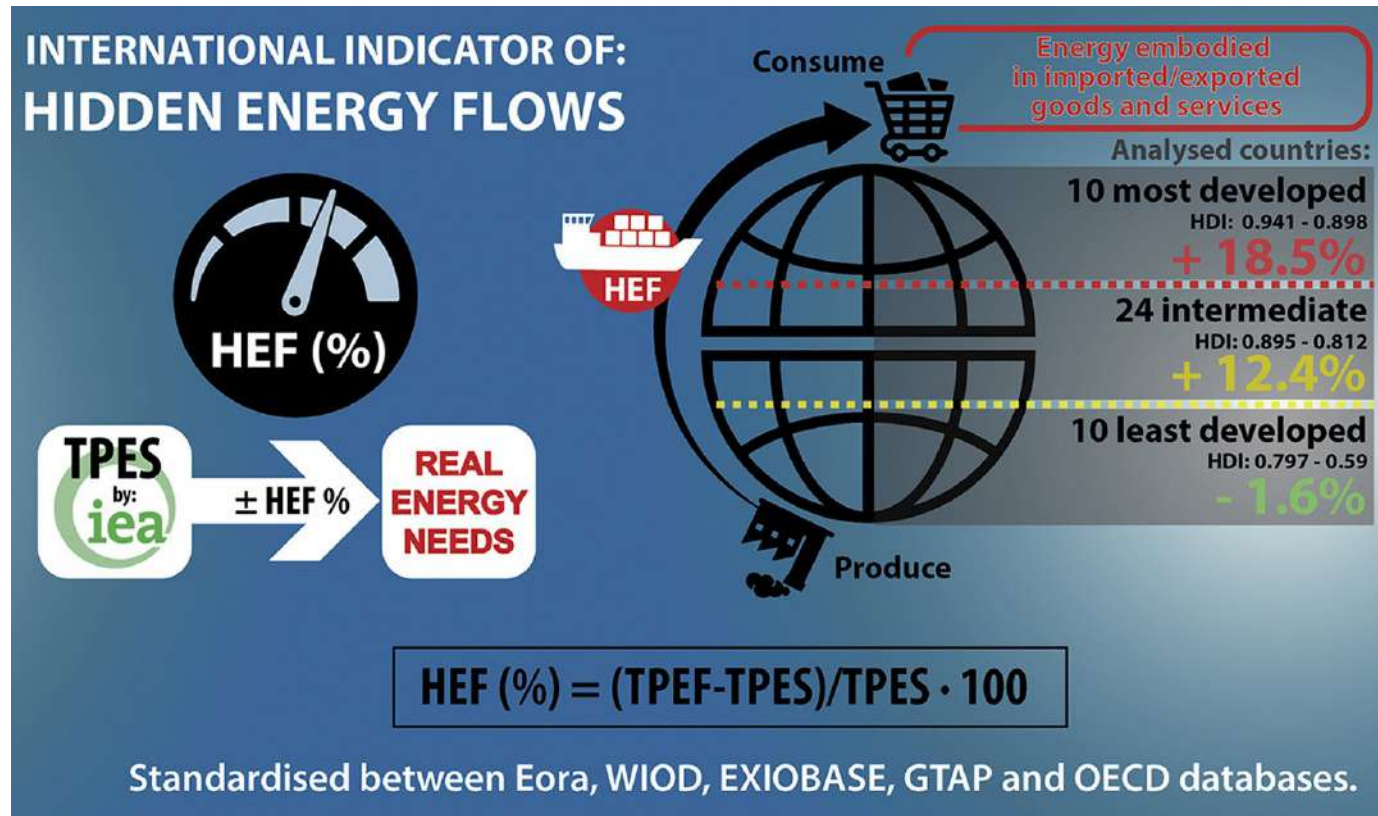


Material footprint



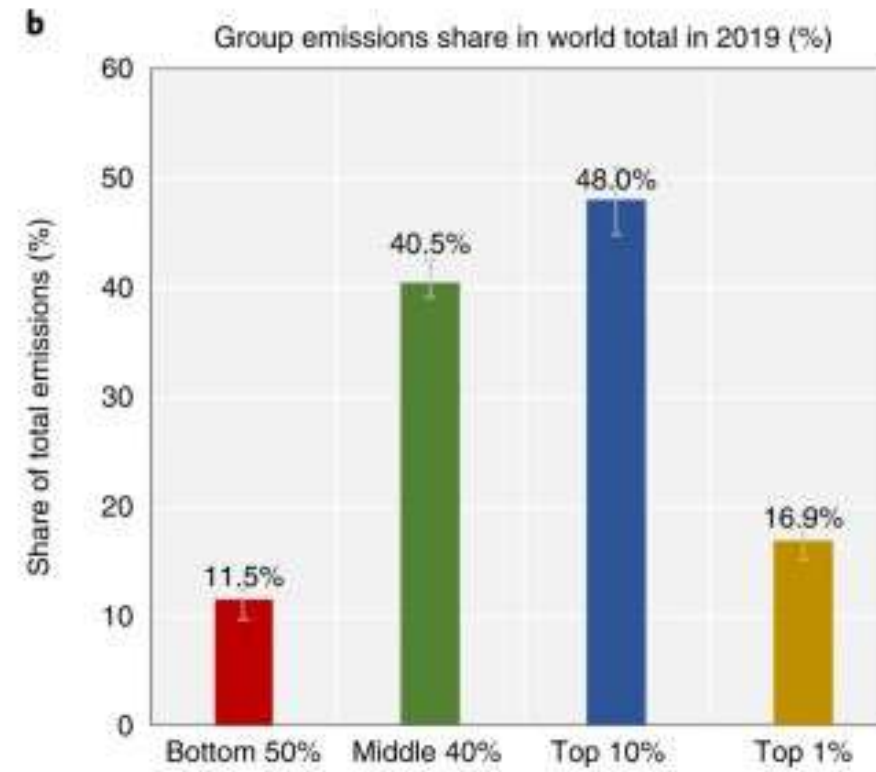
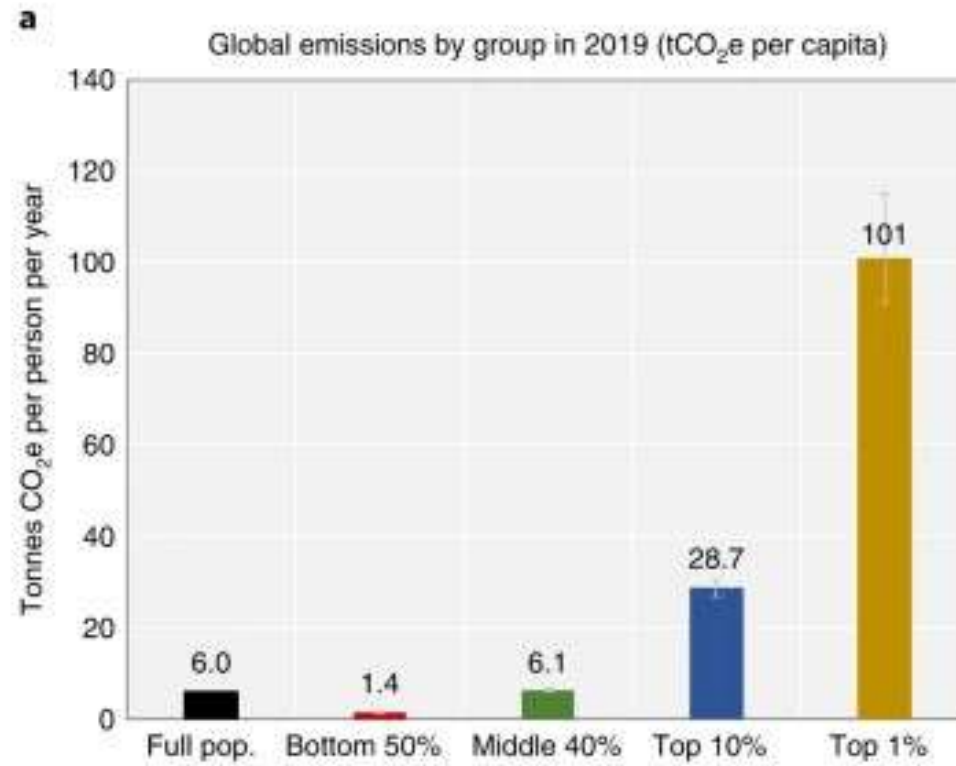


Energy footprint





Carbon footprint





Ecological debt

- Disproportionate use that wealthy countries make of the environmental space without paying for it.
- Ecologically unequal exchange.



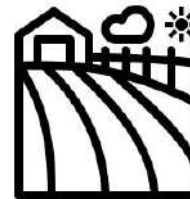
In 2015 Global North appropriated a total of...



12 Gt of raw material eq.
(43% of total N consumption)



188 M life-yrs eq.
(30% of total N cons.)



822 Mha embedded land.
(21% of total N cons.)



21 EJ of embedded energy
(10% of total N cons.)



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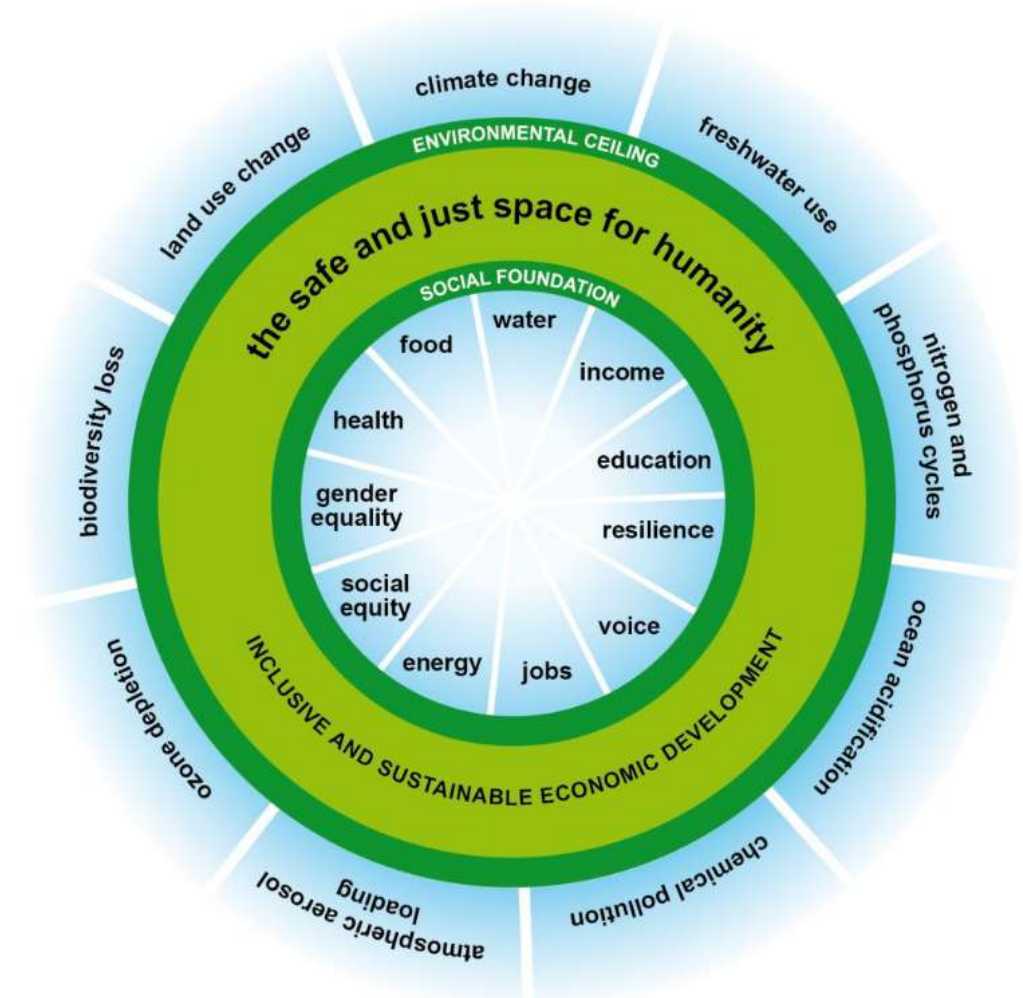


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Final remarks

Footprints are consumption based indicators for measuring the position in Raworth's safe and just space for humanity.

Tools for designing sustainable objects, services and countries.





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Life Cycle Thinking Group (LCTG) and the Master's Degree in Circular Economy: Business Application

Maider Iturrondobeitia Ellacuria

maider.iturrondobeitia@ehu.eus



Life Cycle
Thinking Group





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GOALS 12+1



Figure 1.
Diagram of coverage
in terms of SDGs
by EHU Agenda 2030
for sustainable development.



<https://www.ehu.eus/documents/4736101/11938005/EHUAgen-2030-ENG.pdf/487b2c83-51e1-d0e2-dcd1-af419b2b5c26>

Sustainability

- General information
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- » Staff
- » Contact and location
- » Reports
- EHU Agenda 2030
- » Contribution to SDG
- Education for Sustainability
- » Campus Eliza Lab
- » Gazte-paia
- » Praktikak eta GRALak GIH eraginarazkin
- » Participation in networks
- » Conferences of interest
- Environmental Management
- » Environmental management at centres
- » Hazardous waste
- » Energia y cambio climático
- » Responsible purchasing and consumption
- » Sustainable mobility

Education for sustainability

Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), Sustainable Education, Education for Sustainability (EIS) are different names for a single objective: to **rethink education**, its purposes, methodologies and content.

ESD is based on transformative learning, and which empowers people to acquire knowledge, skills, values and attitudes in order to enable them to contribute to a more sustainable future.

The UPV/EHU's commitment to Education for Sustainable Development

Article 79 of the UPV/EHU Statutes establish that "Teaching at the UPV/EHU shall contribute to the all-round education of its students, by fostering a critical spirit, promoting values of a culture of peace and coexistence, along with social integration, based on social responsibility and sustainability criteria, while respecting fundamental rights and with a specific focus on gender equality".

It is an objective of Focal Point I, Training of the **Strategic Plan 2022-2026** "to strengthen the IKD educational model and the new framework for teaching innovation committed to the SDGs, by promoting multidisciplinary training, as well as transversal and digital skills" and Focal Point III, Culture and Society "to consolidate as a reference model in gender equality, inclusion and sustainable development".

The UPV/EHU encourages experiential learning and collaboration to learn about sustainability by practising and sharing from different knowledge areas, in order for the teaching-learning environment of the UPV/EHU to foster crucial reflection and an integral vision of future scenarios, along with other skills needed to generate a change in thought and in real practice for sustainability.



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Education for sustainability



Education for
sustainability in the
UPV/EHU



Tools and resources for
EDS

i3 ikaskuntza
ikerketa
iraunkortasuna

IKD i³ strategy

CBL

CAMPUS BIZIA LAB.



Campus BiziaLab (CBL) es un programa que impulsa el avance en la sostenibilidad en la propia Universidad mediante la colaboración de Personal Docente e Investigador (PDI), Personal de Administración y Servicios (PAS) y alumnado que realiza Trabajos Fin de Grado (TFG) y Trabajos de Master (TFM) de diferentes disciplinas y saberes en proyectos innovadores que utilizan el Campus como laboratorio con objeto de responder a retos de sostenibilidad de la propia universidad.

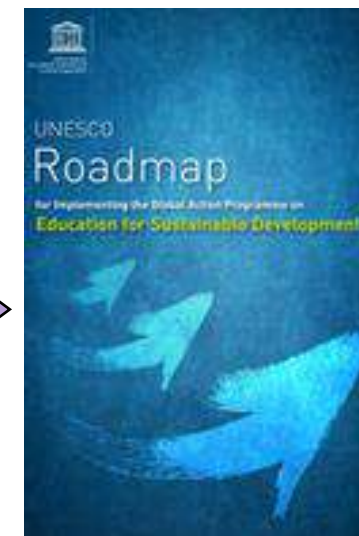
Gaztenpatia es un proyecto intercultural que promueve la empatía y la solidaridad con sociedades con mayores dificultades. Está dirigido al alumnado universitario interesado en realizar sus Prácticas y Trabajos Fin de Grado (TFG) en colaboración con proyectos de desarrollo ejecutados por las organizaciones socias de Asociación de Entidades Locales Vascas Cooperantes-EuskalFondoa en Centroamérica, Cuba y los Campamentos Saharauis.

IKD i³ strategy

i3 ikaskuntza
ikerketa
iraunkortasuna

The University of the Basque Country approved its own **IKD education model** in 2010, just as the community Higher Education policy came into force. Since then it has implemented a number of institutional programmes to foster active, innovative methodologies, assist elementary and advanced educational innovation teams, train and stimulate the educational development of its lecturers, assess teaching activity, and accredit qualifications and centres. Management tools and support and orientation materials have been developed amid a large amount of common construction work.

In addition to mandatory monitoring processes, the results were measured specifically on two occasions. This was done in 2016 by means of the "EHUn bizi" Survey by the Teaching Assessment Service on students finishing the course (3,437 students; 54.82%); and in 2019 through the University of the Basque Country's Transversal Competences Report conducted by the Practicums and Employability Department on teaching and coordination units. The results demonstrate that the work carried out illustrates the gains perceived by the students in terms of relevant transversal competences, but also point out the need to seek new innovative formulas to drive development of advanced and complex transversal competences (critical thought, leadership, creativity, sustainability, multilingualism and multiculturalism).





Escuela de Ingeniería de Bilbao Bilbao School of Engineering





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ECONOMÍA CIRCULAR: APLICACIÓN A LA EMPRESA



EKONOMIAREN GARAPEN,
JASANGARRITASUN
ETA INGURUMEN SAILA

DEPARTAMENTO DE DESARROLLO
ECONÓMICO, SOSTENIBILIDAD
Y MEDIO AMBIENTE



**Basque
Ecodesign
Center**



Universidad
del País Vasco

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Teachers lecturers



Competencies

1. **Apply theoretical knowledge in Circular Economy** in basic and advanced aspects of engineering design.
2. Apply product design theories taking into account the **life cycle**.
3. **Transmit**, in written and oral form, to your professional environment and to scientific society in general, **new knowledge** developed in a clear and precise manner.



Máster de Formación Permanente

Economía Circular: Aplicación a la Empresa

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[UPV/EHU](#) [Estudiar](#) [Másteres y Posgrados](#) [Oferta de títulos propios](#) [Economía Circular: Aplicación a la Empresa](#)

CLAVES DEL TÍTULO

En los últimos dos siglos hemos sobreexplotado nuestros recursos naturales haciéndolos cada vez más escasos y difíciles de obtener. Por ello, la cuarta revolución industrial está representando un cambio disruptivo en el desarrollo tecnológico: desarrollo que deberá ir de la mano de un desacoplamiento entre el crecimiento económico y el consumo de recursos naturales. Este último aspecto está proporcionando oportunidades para crear nuevos modelos de negocio, irrumpir en nuevos mercados y generar empleos de calidad en el ámbito de la Economía Circular.

En el modelo circular, el valor de los productos y materiales se mantiene durante el mayor tiempo posible en la cadena de valor; la extracción de materias primas se reduce al mínimo y los recursos se reintroducen repetidamente en el ciclo productivo con el objetivo "Zero Waste". En definitiva, supone un cambio del "extraer, producir, usar y tirar" al "repensar, rediseñar, reducir, reutilizar, reparar, remanufacturar, reciclar y recuperar" y, en definitiva, "hacer más con menos".

El máster se alinea con las políticas europeas derivadas del Pacto Verde Europeo (Green Deal), y con la Estrategia de Economía Circular de Euskadi 2030 y el Basque Green Deal, que cobran cada vez más fuerza en este momento de emergencia climática y superación de los límites del planeta.

El máster cuenta con convenios de colaboración con la Sociedad Pública de Gestión Ambiental del Gobierno Vasco IHOBE y con el BASQUE ECODESIGN CENTER.

En la docencia también participan instituciones como ACLIMA, AZTI, EVE, SIDEREX, ELIKA y NEIKER, entre otros.

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60 Créditos ECTS

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Escuela de Ingeniería de Bilbao

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Programa

Curso académico 2024/25

Materia	Idiomas	Créditos ECTS	Tipo	Modalidad
Ecodiseño y Economía Circular	Castellano	3	Obligatorio	Mixta
Economía Circular en la Empresa: Del Ecodiseño a la Comercialización y Adopción del Producto por el Mercado	Castellano	6	Obligatorio	Mixta
Economía Circular en la Empresa: Emprendimiento Sostenible, Modelos de Negocio de Economía Circular	Castellano	3	Obligatorio	Mixta
Economía Circular: Contexto y Aspectos Generales. Ecoinnovación	Castellano	6	Obligatorio	Mixta
Herramientas de Gestión Ambiental en la Empresa	Castellano	3	Obligatorio	Mixta
Impactos Ambientales Derivados de la Producción-consumo de Productos y Servicios	Castellano	3	Obligatorio	Mixta
Iniciativas de Economía Circular. Descripción de Casos	Castellano	9	Obligatorio	Mixta
Life Cycle Thinking 1: Herramientas para el Cálculo y la Comunicación	Castellano	3	Obligatorio	Mixta
Life Cycle Thinking 2: Cuantificación de la Huella Ambiental de Producto	Castellano	3	Obligatorio	Mixta
Sectores estratégicos de la Economía Circular	Castellano	9	Obligatorio	Mixta

[UPV/EHU](#) [Research](#) [Life Cycle Thinking Research Group](#) [Education](#) [Master's Degrees](#)

Master's Degrees

The Group mainly collaborates with three master's degrees:

- [Master's degree in Circular Economy: Business Application](#)
- [Master's degree in European Project Management](#)
- [Master's degree in Industrial Engineering](#)





Ortzi Akizu-Gardoki



Gotzone Barandika



Julen Ibarretxe



Erlantz Lizundia



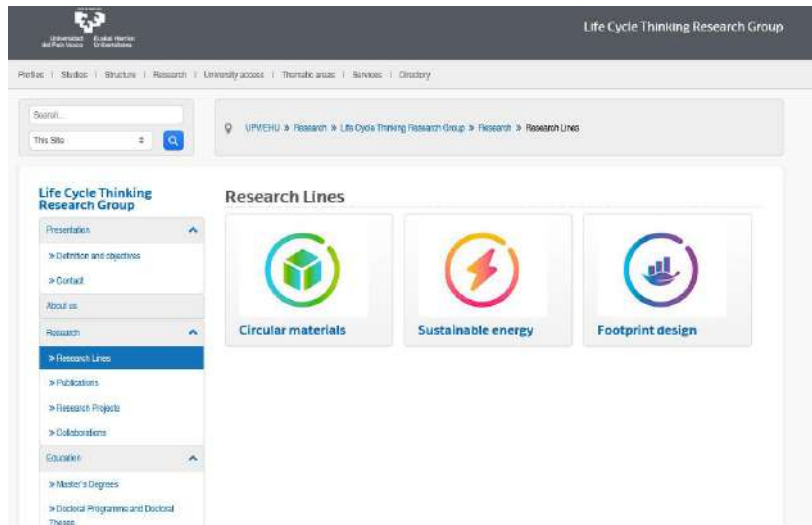
Rikardo Minguez



Maider Iturrondobeitia

Collaborators

- ▶ Jacid Montoya Torres
- ▶ Hugo Afonso González





Full length article

Prospective life cycle assessment of poly(ethylene terephthalate) upcycling via chemoselective depolymerization

Maidor Iturrondobeitia^{a,b}, Laura Alonso^a, Erlantz Lizundia^{a,c}  

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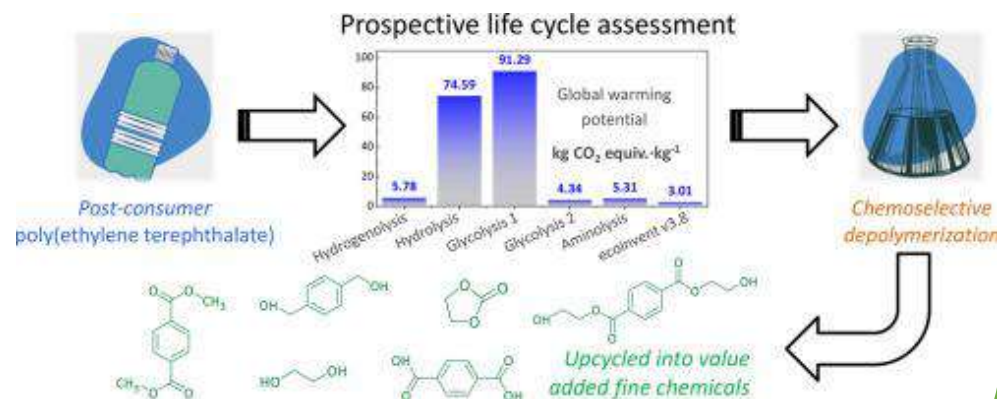
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RESEARCH ARTICLE

 JOURNAL OF
INDUSTRIAL ECOLOGY WILEY

3D printing to enable the reuse of marine plastic waste with reduced environmental impacts

Naiara Cañado¹ | Erlantz Lizundia^{1,2} | Ortzi Akizu-Gardoki^{1,3} | Rikardo Minguez¹ | Blanca Lekube⁴ | Alex Arrillaga⁴ | Maidor Iturrondobeitia^{1,5} 



Life Cycle Assessment (Cradle to Cradle)

ReCiPe Midpoint (H) - 18 Environmental Indicators - Functional Unit 1 kg of plastic processed by 3D printing



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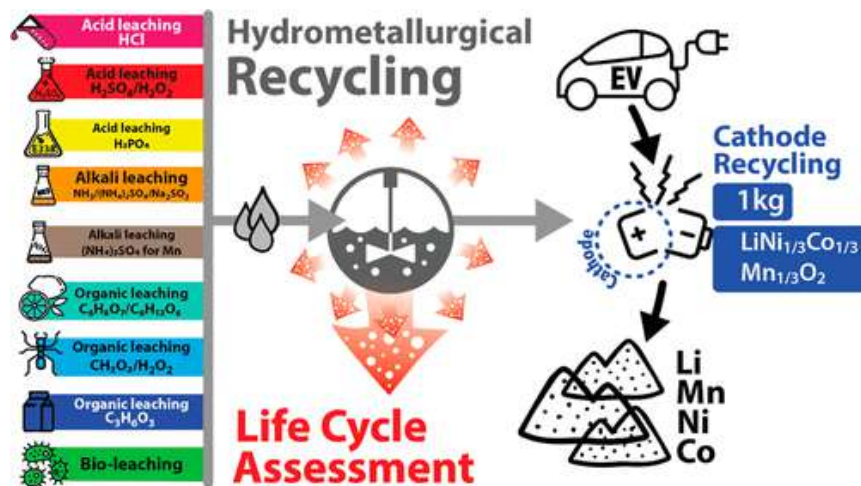
Research Article

Environmental Impact Assessment of $\text{LiNi}_{1/3}\text{Mn}_{1/3}\text{Co}_{1/3}\text{O}_2$ Hydrometallurgical Cathode Recycling from Spent Lithium-Ion Batteries

Maider Iturrondobeitia, Claudia Vallejo, Maria Berroci, Ortzi Akizu-Gardoki, Rikardo Minguez, and Erlantz Lizundia*

Cite This: *ACS Sustainable Chem. Eng.* 2022, 10, 9798–9810

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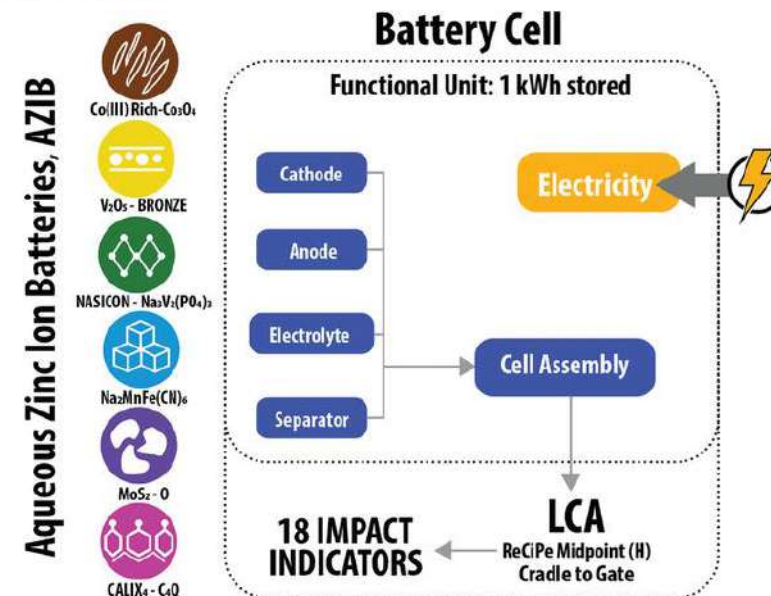
Environmental Impacts of Aqueous Zinc Ion Batteries Based on Life Cycle Assessment

Maider Iturrondobeitia, Ortzi Akizu-Gardoki, Oier Amondarain, Rikardo Minguez, Erlantz Lizundia✉

First published: 17 October 2021 | <https://doi-org.ehu.idm.oclc.org/10.1002/adsu.202100308> |

Citations: 18

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Footprint design



Journal of Cleaner Production

Volume 418, 15 September 2023, 138149



Towards sustainable passenger transport: Carbon emission reduction scenarios for a medium-sized city

Jacid Montoya-Torres ^{a, b}, Ortzi Akizu-Gardoki ^{a, c}, Carlos Alejandre ^a,
Maider Iturrondobeitia ^{a, d}

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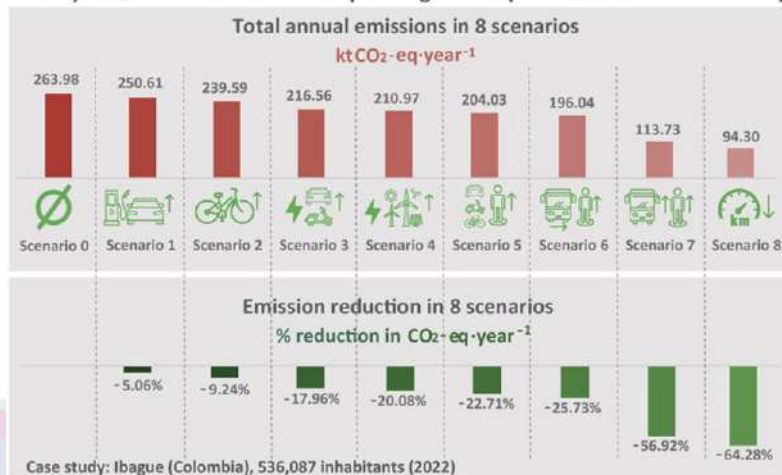
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Life-cycle carbon emissions from passenger transport in a medium-sized city



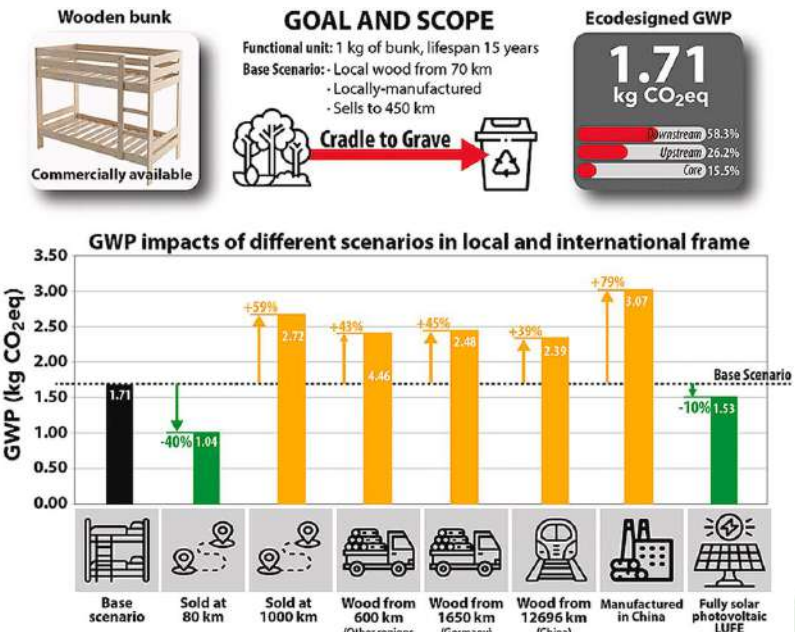
Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Journal of Cleaner Production

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/jclepro

Beyond ecodesign, internationalized markets enhance the global warming potential in the wood furniture sector

Maider Coloma-Jiménez ^a, Ortzi Akizu-Gardoki ^{a, b}, Erlantz Lizundia ^{a, c, *}





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Lifestages, ages and generational Carbon Footprints

Dr Anne Owen

Associate Professor, Sustainability Research Institute,
University of Leeds, UK



Life Cycle
Thinking Group



- Rationale – why consider lifestages, ages and generations?
- Data and methods
- How has the UK's carbon footprint changed over time?
- What are the drivers of change/difference?
- Age period & cohort effects – definitions, findings and policy implications
- Limitations and future work



Rationale: why consider lifestages, ages and generations

- UK Sixth Carbon Budget requires 78% reduction in territorial emissions 1990-2035 (CCC, 2020) - role for demand reductions
- Previous research focusses on role of age, income, education, employment status, urban/rural location – role of changing generations remains poorly understood

Known age effects	Role of generation
• Emissions increase with age but fall again with old age (Büchs and Schnepf, 2013; Christis et al., 2019; Haq et al., 2007; Liu, J. et al., 2022; Lévy et al., 2021). • Older people higher home energy emissions (Büchs et al., 2018; Büchs and Schnepf, 2013; Christis et al., 2019; Lévy et al., 2021) • Emissions from car travel tend to be higher for middle aged and older people compared to those of younger people (Büchs et al., 2018; Mattioli et al., 2023) • Younger people are more likely to have high carbon emissions from air travel (Büchs and Mattioli, 2021; Mattioli et al., 2023)	• Younger generations more concerned about climate change, but opposing discourses exist portraying younger generations as more aligned with throwaway, consumerist culture (Diprose et al., 2019; Twenge et al., 2012). • Longitudinal study - car ownership Germany declining. Millennials least likely to use car. Bike use increased more among Babyboomer and Gen X members than among millennials over time (Konietzka and Neugebauer, 2023). • Studies focussing on environmental behaviours through a generational lens remain inconclusive

Data and methods

MRIO database	Overview	UKMRIO database (constructed by UoL) calculates UK's consumption-based emissions account (Barrett et al., 2013). The UK is one of the few nations to report consumption emissions - recognised as an 'Official Statistic' (Defra, 2022).
	Construction notes	SUT tables from UK's Office of National Statistics. Extract domestic use. Convert to basic prices. Disaggregate imports to and exports from UK using a modified version of EXIOBASE. RoW to RoW data taken directly from EXIOBASE converted to GBP.
	Years	1990 - 2021
	Sectors	112 industrial sectors. UK household final demand disaggregated to 105 COICOP products
	Regions	12 (UK, Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, USA, Japan, Rest of EU, Rest of Europe, Rest of OECD, Rest of Africa, Rest of America, Rest of Asia, Rest of Middle East)
Household survey data	Overview	Living Costs and Food Survey (LCFS) - sample of ~6000 representative UK households – weight supplied to indicate the proportion of UK household represented by each surveyed household
	Data collected	Spend on over 300 product types – aggregated to 105 COICOP products Additional information is collected such as the age, sex and occupation of members of the household reference person (HRP), the total household income, taxes paid, and the location, tenure and dwelling type
	Generations	Using age of HRP assign each household to one of Millennial and younger, Generation X, Babyboomer, Silent and older
Carbon multipliers	Method	Calculate footprint by 105 COICOP products. Divide by total spend by product from LCFS to generate multiplier that takes product taxes (VAT) into account



How has the UK's carbon footprint changed over time?

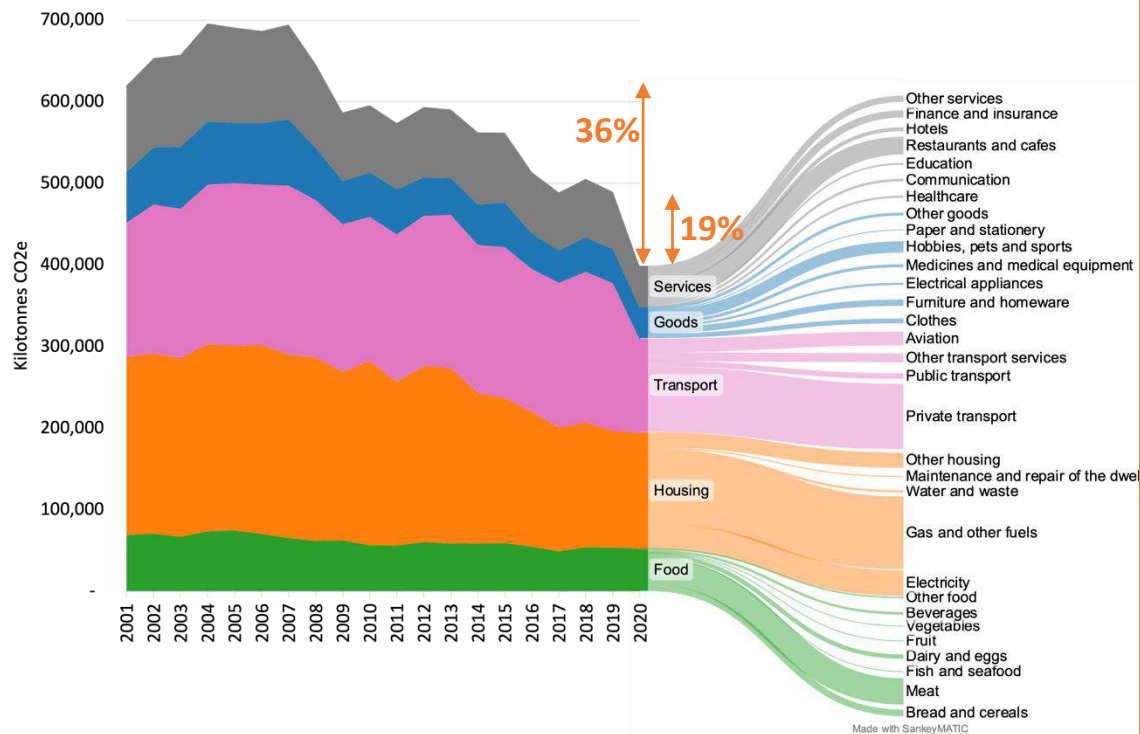


Figure 1: UK Household Carbon Footprint 2001-2020 by product group

93MtCO₂e of reduction during the COVID-19 pandemic

- Air travel – 29MtCO₂e (**Babyboomers** 12MtCO₂e)
- Cars – 22.3MtCO₂e (**Babyboomers** 10MtCO₂e; **GenX** 9MtCO₂e)
- Restaurants – 9MtCO₂e

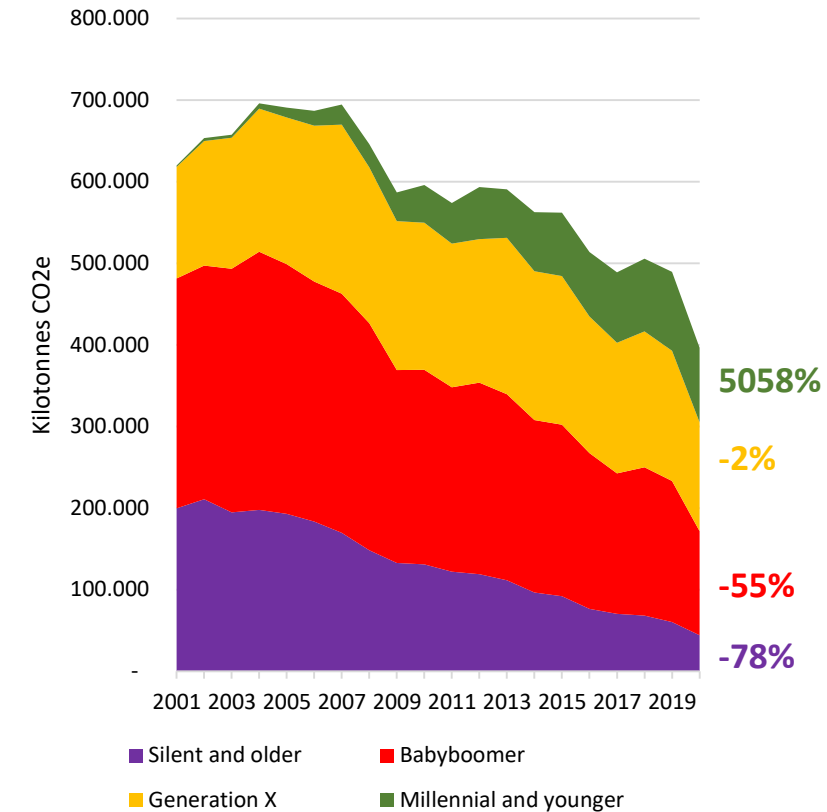


Figure 2: UK Household Carbon Footprint 2001-2020 by generation

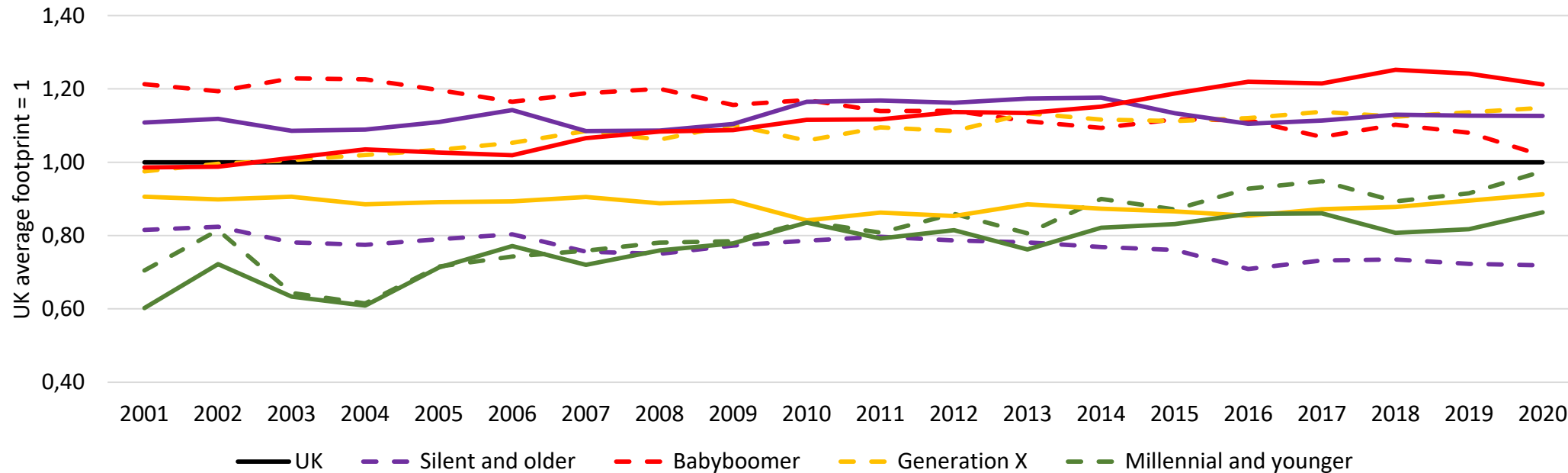


Figure 3: Per capita footprints (solid) and household footprints (dashed) of generational groups relative to UK average 2001-2020 (UK average = 1)

- Per capita perspective: **Millennials** & **Babyboomers** take on more emissions with age but **Silent** generation & **Gen X** maintain a similar position w.r.t UK average
- Per household perspective: **Millennials** & **Gen X** take on more emissions with age but **Millennials** always below UK average. **Silent** and **Babyboomers** reduce
- Per capita **Babyboomer** footprints increase w.r.t UK average due to reducing household occupancy as they become 'empty-nesters'
- Per household **Babyboomer** footprint decreases w.r.t UK average due to the household size decreasing

What are the drivers of change?

Use Dietzenbacher and Lose (1998) structural decomposition equations to calculate the drivers of changes in emissions.

Decompose $\mathbf{T} = \mathbf{h.o.s.b.m}$ using a five factor D&L decomposition where:

“What are the most important drivers of change in the household emissions associated with each generation between 2001 and 2020?”

	Variable short name	Description	Unit
T	Total	Total UK consumption-based emissions of a generation	KtonnesCO ₂ e
h	Number of households	Total number of households in generation [1x1]	NA
o	Occupancy	Population per household headed by that generation [1x1]	NA
s	Spend per capita	Total per capita spend by a household headed by that generation	£ GBP
b	Basket of goods	Proportion of spend by product group for that generation	NA
m	Multiplier	Emissions intensity of products	KtonnesCO ₂ e/£



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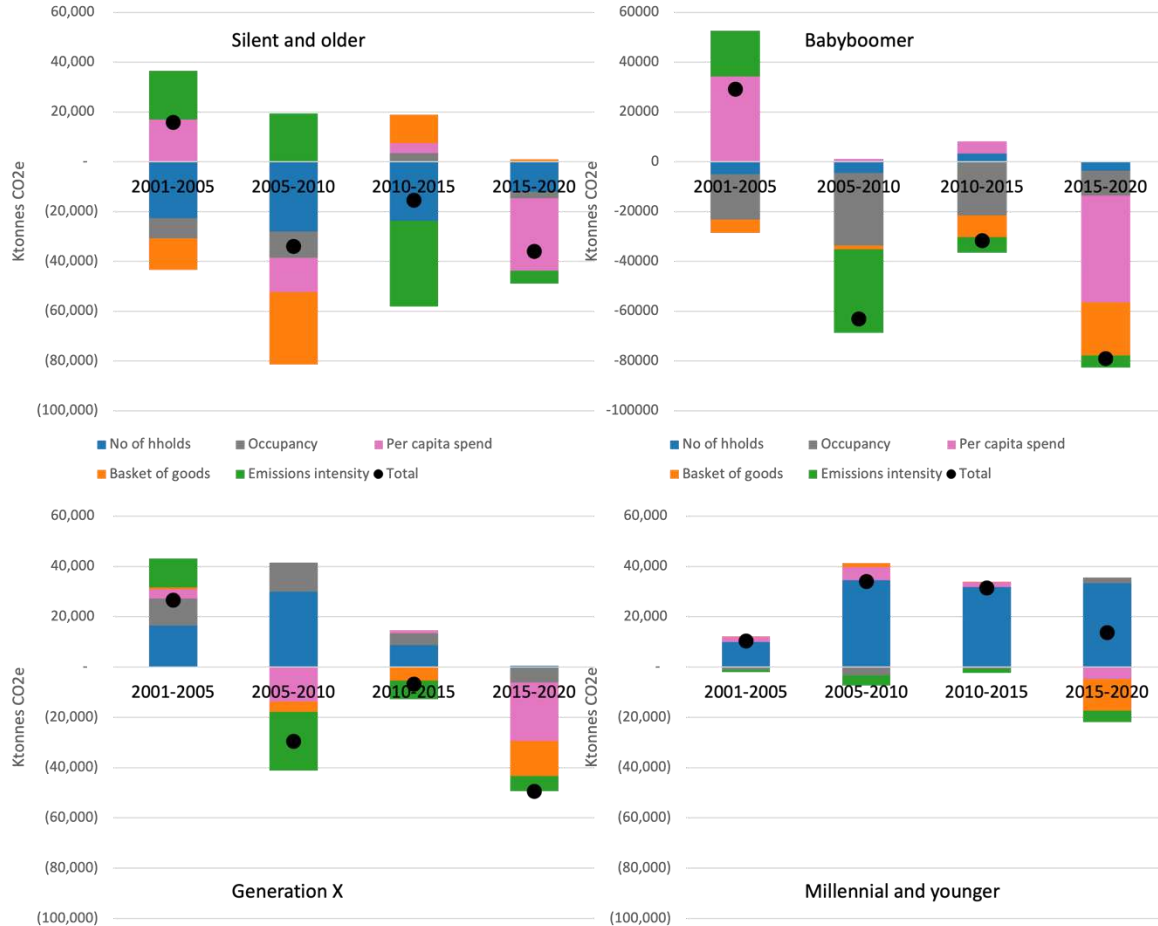


Figure 4: Structural Decomposition Analysis showing the important factors driving changes in total emissions by each generation between 2001 and 2020

- Change in the **number of households** reduces Silent Generation footprint and increases footprint associated Gen X and Millennials
- **Occupancy** changes have driven down Babyboomer emissions. These households may become 'empty-nesters' as children leave home. Increases the total footprint of Generation X, indicating these households starting families
- **Emissions intensity** increased emissions in early years then decreased post 2005
- **Total spend** increased emissions at the start of the time period. The economic recession of 2008-2009 seems to have had most effect on the Silent and Gen X. Covid spend had most effect on Babyboomers.
- **Baskets of goods** tends to act as a decreaser with the exception of Silent between 2010 and 2015. Time when Silent retire leading to a change in spending habits associated with being at home more and taking a greater number of holidays.
- For Millennials and Gen X, the times **basket effect** is positive correspond to when total spend has an increasing effect and the groups are in their early 20s. Perhaps we are seeing a change in spending habits due to increased earning potential.

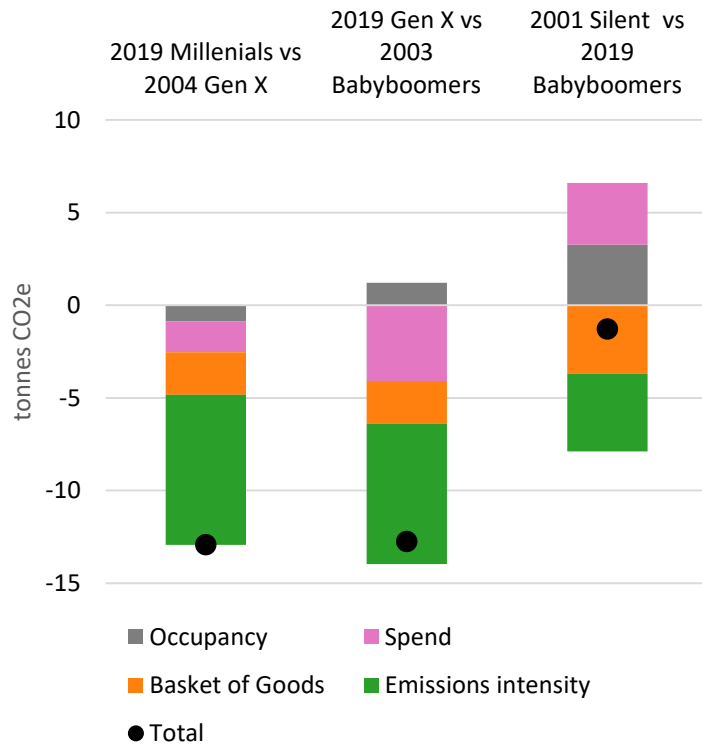


Figure 5: Structural Decomposition Analysis comparing average household emissions of different generational groups at the same lifestage

- 2019 Millennials, who would be aged <39, had a household footprint 12.9 tonnes CO₂e smaller than Gen X at the same age
 - Improvements in **emissions intensity** explains 63% of this difference, but other factors also contribute to this difference
 - The **type of products** bought by Millennials in 2019 are less emissions intensive, they **spent** less per person and have fewer people per household; each factor contributing 18, 13 and 7%
- 2019 Gen X households, aged 39-54, had a footprint 12.7 tonnes smaller than similarly aged Babyboomers
 - **spend per capita** is the second largest driver of difference
 - **occupancy** acts as a positive driver, implying at that at a similar age, Babyboomers have started to decrease their household size.
- 2019 Babyboomers aged 55-73 had a footprint 1.3 tonnes smaller than similarly aged Silent
 - only **emissions intensity** and **basket** contribute to reductions
 - Babyboomers have a larger equivalent **spend** and a larger **occupancy** at the same lifestage.

APC effects (Yang et al., 2008)

	AGE	PERIOD	COHORT
Definition	Variation associated with different age groups	Variation over time periods that affect all age groups simultaneously	Changes across groups of individuals who experience an initial event such as birth in the same year or years
APC effects in UK carbon footprint	Evidence of age increasing footprint - concentrated at certain points in a person's lifetime and depends if consider per capita or per household as unit	2001-2020 emissions reduction for all generational groups due to rapid decarbonisation	Occupancy is cohort effect – having children later, boomerang adults Unable to fully determine cohort effects at this stage Need to observe Millennials becoming settled family units and Gen X retiring to assert generational traits to emissions profiles
Policy implications	Climate policy needs to recognise that the needs of households change with aging and lifestage	Climate policy also needs to recognise period effects – e.g. COVID-19 pandemic effected spending behaviours of all ages	Consumption patterns differ between cohorts. Differences related to levels of concern about climate change and outlooks which shape cultures of consumption. Policy should reflect this when targeting specific groups to encourage sustained reductions of carbon footprints

Limitations & future work

- LCFS records year of birth of the household reference person. We assume spend assigned to the whole household is the representative spend of that generation - several generations within the household?
- Could resample to only include single person households, but much variation in spend between Gen X and Silent explained by Gen X spending on behalf of children. Excluding families would not be representative of the typical household
- While we focus on generations, we acknowledge that these are not homogenous groups - attitudes, behaviours, life choices and resulting carbon footprints are additionally shaped by factors such as income, education, employment, health, gender, location, etc.





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Thank you!

Please ask me questions

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