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## Life Cycle Assessment activities stepped up in India

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Events About Us 27/02/2002

The first International Conference on "Ecobalance and Life Cycle Assessment in India", held in Mumbai, February 13-15, 2002, has revealed an overwhelming interest in the issue, from researchers, non-governmental organisations, governments and business. The approximmately one-hundred participants called for more user-friendliness of the tool and involvement of all stakeholders, including NGO's. A programme of



awareness raising, training and research will be proposed by the organising Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR).

Dr. Ravi Budhiraja (Government of Maharashtra) acknowledged that the implementation of LCA in India so far has been slow, due to unfamiliarity with the tool and a general feeling that a proper LCA is time-consuming and costly. The need to step up the activities is however increasingly recognised, due to ISO commitments. He called for selecting priority areas to address. Other Asian speakers, like Ms. Pongvipa Lohsombon, Thailand Environment Institute, also identified a lack of information and skills in their countries. UNEP was invited to support ongoing efforts to bridge the gap between the scientific community and the potential users of LCA. Mr. Michiel Oele, a Dutch consultant, stated that a "localisation" of the concept is certainly possible. He mentioned options for including new impact categories (like deforestation, crosion, water supply) and an adjustment of the current European impact categories (acidification, human health).

Mr. Bas de Leeuw (UNEP) quoted Mahatma Gandhi ("Earth provides enough to satisfy every man's need, but not every man's greed") and added that the relevance of this statement has only increased over time, particularly in this period of "anti-globalisation" protests. Appropriate policies to address the sustainability concerns require decision-making based upon facts about the "world behind the product", rather than upon myths and stories. This is why UNEP's Life Cycle activities are key for influencing consumption and production patterns.

Prof. Vinod K. Sharma, who was responsible for the organisation of the conference, together with his team, including Ms. Trupti and Ms. Yamini, outlined a follow-up programme with elements such as networking of researchers, capacity building, integrating multidisciplinary concept and promoting the tool by publications and communication media.

The conference was sponsored by the Indian Ministry of Environment and Forests, the Japanese Research Center for Life Cycle Assessment, the Asian Productivity Organisation and the Industrial Development Bank of India.

More information can be obtained from Prof. Vinod Sharma [vks@igidr.ac.in]

Links: IGIDR Conference website (www.igidr.ac.in/lca)

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# International Conference on ECOBALANCE AND LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT IN INDIA

February 13-15, 2002

### **ABSTRACTS**

#### Sponsored by:

Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt. of India Research Center for Life Cycle Assessment, AIST, Japan Asian Productivity Organisation, Japan Industrial Development Bank of India, India









Organised by:



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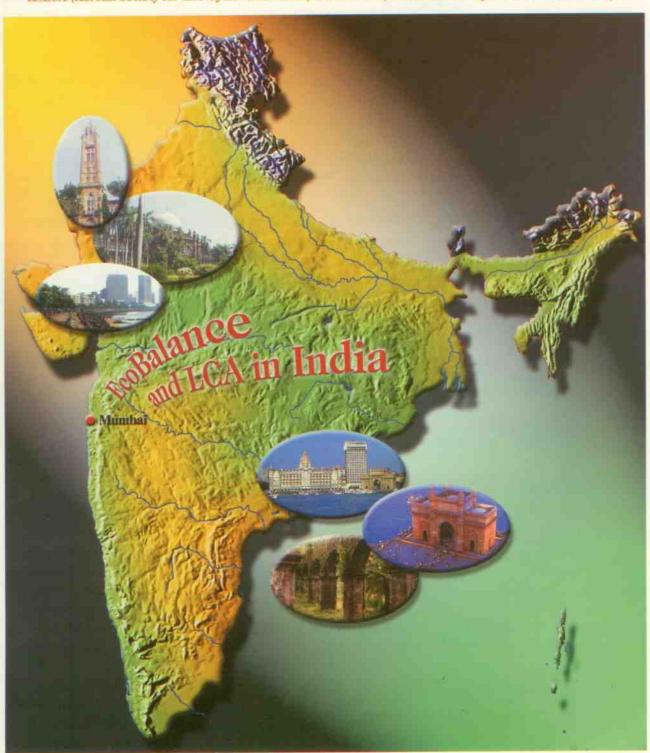
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## THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF

## LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT

Editor-in-Chief: Walter Klöpffer

Official Organ of JLCA (Life Cycle Assessment Society of Japan), ISLCA (Indian Society for Life Cycle Assessment), KSLCA (Korean Society for Life Cycle Assessment) and ALCAS (Australian Life Cycle Assessment Society)





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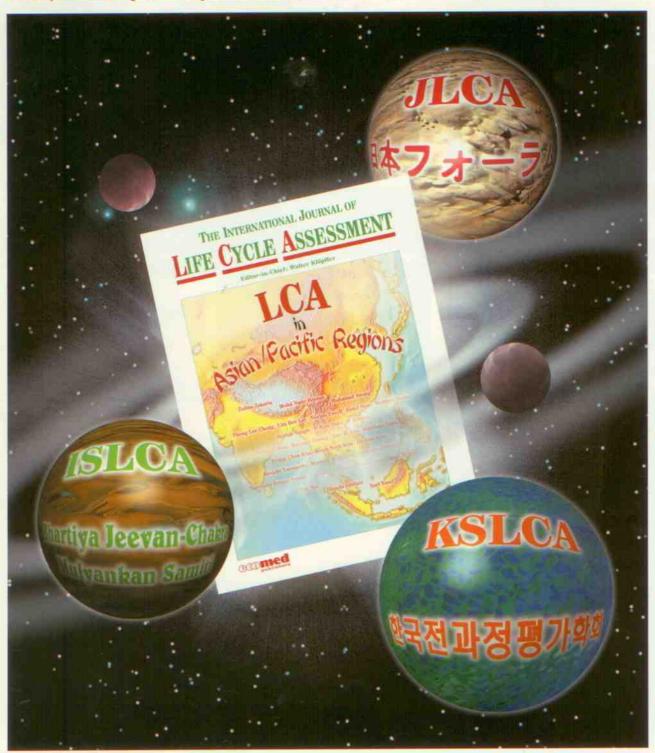
BIOSIS	BioBusiness database, Philadelphia, PA/USA
CAS	Chemical Abstracts Service; Columbus, OH/USA
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CIS	Congressional Information Service, Bethesda, Maryland/USA
Elsevier BIOBASE	Current Awareness in Biological Sciences, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
ISI	Science Citation Index Expanded, ISI Alerting Services, and Current Contents/Agriculture, Biology, and Environmental Sciences
UFOR / ULIT / URDB	Federal Environmental Agency (UBA), Berlin, Germany

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#### ISLCA Corner (Indian Society for Life Cycle Assessment)

#### Indian Society for Life Cycle Assessment (ISLCA)\*

ISLCA (http://neefin.org/islca) was inaugurated on December 13, 1997 by the NEEF – National Ecology and Environment Foundation Trust, Mumbai (http://www.neefin.org/).

ISLCA is an independent organisation for the establishment of Life Cycle Assessment methodology and application. Furthermore, ISLCA addresses technical, scientific, economic, social, political and public health issues in Environmental Management.

#### Objectives of ISLCA:

- Establishing LCA framework in India through courses, training programmes, conferences, seminars, etc.
- · Integrating socio-economic concepts in LCA.
- Representing India in national and international organisations on LCA and related areas.
- Networking with leading professionals (practitioners and scientists) in LCA and related fields.
- Promoting publications of its planned periodicals, newsletters, videotapes, discs and other communication media.

The ISLCA Advisory Board includes recognised researchers. In addition, ISLCA has several affiliates such as annual and life members, volunteers, consultants, and franchisees for the promotion of both ISLCA and NEEF.

#### Recent Activities:

Since its inception, ISLCA has actively participated in various events, organisations, and publications. Some of the recent activities by affiliates of ISLCA are as follows:

International Symposium on LCA in the Asia-Pacific Region sponsored by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), Agency of Industrial Science and Technology (AIST), and New Energy Development Organisation

(NEDO), organised by the National Institute for Resources and Environment, Tsukuba, Japan, Nov. 24-27, 1998.

- Third International Symposium on EcoBalance Progress of LCA for a Sustainable Society, organised by ECOMATERIALS Forum, The Life Cycle Assessment Society of Japan (JLCA), JAPAN LCA Forum and supported by the Science and Technology Agency of Japan (STA), the Environment Agency, the Ministry of Forestry and Fisheries, and the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) of Japan, Nov. 25-27, 1998.
- Member of the Report Editing Committee of the "Group Report on Symposium for LCA in the Asia-Pacific Region" sponsored by UNEP, APEC, AIST, and NEDO, 1999.
- Supervised M.Sc. Dissertation on "Life Cycle Analysis of Waste Paper in Mumbai" in collaboration with S. N. D. T. Women's University, Mumbai, India, April 1999.
- Member of the Editorial Board of The International Journal of Life Cycle Assessment (Int. J. LCA), ecomed publishers, Germany, since September 1999.

#### Publication organ:

Int. J. LCA is the official publication organ of ISLCA: ISLCA has a permanent column in the journal (print and online, which means on the Int. J. LCA homepage – <a href="http://scientificjournals.com">http://scientificjournals.com</a> – and in the forthcoming web edition) in order to disseminate relevant information to the international LCA community. ISLCA and NEEF members can purchase the journal at a discount of 40%.

ISLCA, on the other hand, promotes the journal in any possible respects.

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Int. J. LCA is the official publication organ of ISLCA (Indian Society for Life Cycle Assessment)

### JLCA Corner (Life Cycle Assessment Society of Japan)

(Int. J. LCA Vol. 4, No. 2, p. 117, 1999) The 3rd International Conference on EcoBalance Tsukuba, Japan, November 1998 Mamoru Morimoto

(Int. J. LCA Vol. 4, No. 3, p. 150, 1999) International Comparison of LCA Methodologies Norihiro Itsubo

(Int. J. LCA Vol. 4, No. 4, p. 194, 1999) The Progress of the Impact Assessment Study Committee in the National LCA Project of Japan Norihiro Itsubo (Int. J. LCA Vol. 4, No. 5, p. 246, 1999) The Progress of Inventory Study Committee WG2 in the National LCA Project in Japan Norihiro Itsubo

(Int. J. LCA Vol. 4, No. 6, p. 310, 1999) The Progress of the Database Study Committee in the National LCA Project of Japan Yoshifumi Nakahara

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