

LCA CARE - Collect, Analyse, Report and Evolve for eco-innovative SME's

NEWSLETTER 1

March 2025



Empowering SMEs: LCA CARE's Milestones in Research and Eco-Innovation



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Why LCA for Sustainable Business Practices?

As businesses worldwide face increasing environmental challenges, Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) has emerged as a crucial tool for evaluating and improving sustainability performance.

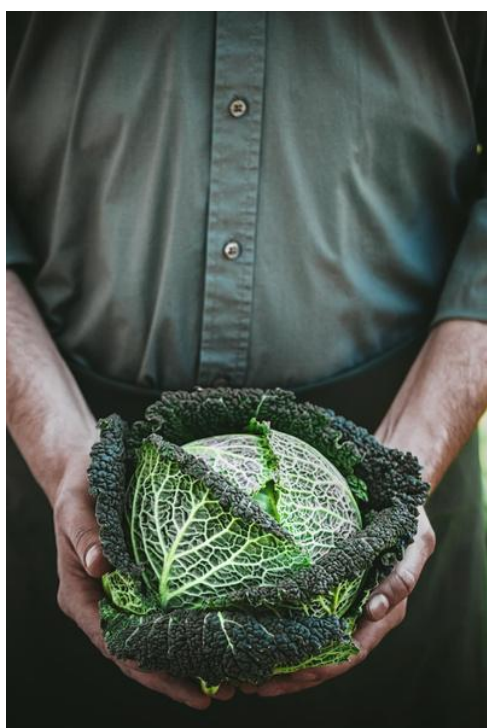
Why is it important? → It identifies significant environmental impacts during production, promoting sustainability. It provides evidence to meet requirements and policies, enhances market competitiveness by fostering brand credibility and trust, improves both economic and environmental performance and strengthens corporate sustainability strategies. Particularly, in sectors such as agri-food, it enables businesses to assess factors such as methane emissions in livestock farming, fertiliser use in crop production and energy consumption in food processing.

1st Publication: Launch of the Research Report Roadmap

The project is proud to announce the publication of the [Roadmap for the Development of an LCA Tool for SMEs](#), available on our website. This document is the result of research conducted across partner countries, offering valuable insights that will serve as a foundation for guiding the next stages.

This collaborative approach ensures that the research findings accurately reflect the needs and realities of SMEs. The report will serve as a critical guiding document for the next stages of the LCA CARE project, supporting both the development of the LCA tool and the design of the specialisation course.

This report not only marks a significant milestone of the LCA CARE project but also reinforces its commitment to supporting SMEs in integrating lifecycle assessment into their sustainability strategies.



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LCA CARE Consortium Advances in Birkenfeld, Germany

In November 2024, the LCA CARE consortium gathered for a Transnational Project Meeting in Germany, hosted by IfaS at the Environmental Campus Birkenfeld, to review progress, refine ongoing tasks and set the direction for the next phases of implementation. A visit was also paid to the Govinda factory, which is one of the project's partners.

A key focus of the meeting was the research report and the LCA Tool development, where partners focused on defining its structure and accessibility. Discussions centered on database integration, AI-driven analysis and the challenge of balancing scientific rigour with user-friendliness to ensure the tool's practical applicability for SMEs.


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Environmental Campus Birkenfeld



Govinda factory

What's Next?: The LCA CARE Tool

Following extensive research and strategic planning, project is now progressing to its next critical phase: the development of the **LCA CARE tool**. This innovative, cloud-based application is specifically designed for SMEs in the agri-food sector, providing a structured and accessible approach to sustainability assessment and the development of action plans to reduce environmental impacts.

To enhance the impact of the LCA CARE tool, the project is also developing a **Capacity Building Programme** that will provide businesses with the necessary knowledge and skills to implement sustainable practices effectively. This will strengthen organisational capacity to support eco-innovation, provide practical guidance on integrating sustainability into daily operations, enhance the effectiveness of the LCA tool to ensure its full potential is realized by SMEs, and offer specialized training and resources to directly support sustainable decision-making.

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