**Training in Life Cycle Assessment Data Bases: Work Exercise on Responsible Management Practices**

**Description: U.S. LCA Data Commons(1)**

The U.S. LCI database is maintained by the U.S. Government NREL/USDA which are government agencies. Due to the constant rotation of staff, it has a web page of contact with a form where users can send questions, methodological, or require technical support. The questions are usually answered within a period of 48 hours - no personal contact information is given.

The database is currently implemented in its first version to manage submissions of information from sources external to the Government and be submitted to a review of quality and editorial process. The information would be incorporated after quality assurance. The system was recently tested with the first batch of non-governmental inventories, and is in the process of evaluation and improvement. It is expected that from now on a database update would occur at least once a year, depending on the new processes that are provided. However, there is no formal agenda for this purpose. These processes must respect the methodological guidelines already existing, describing the required documentation, nomenclature, and must undergo a review process to ensure compliance with current standards. The data can be uploaded and downloaded, in various formats, including ILCD.

Documentation for each set of data available can be found on its web site, finding the description of their technology, period of reference, category, and flows into the fields in the dataset; Some streams have explanatory comments of their origin and aggregate datasets are not accepted. Calculations and flow diagrams are usually not present in the dataset, but rather through methodological reports which are available on the web site, where you can see specific processes of calculations, which adhere to ISO standards and guidelines and conforming to rigorous and transparent ILCD requirements.

The set of data are stored in government servers, following strict protocols implemented by the US Government. These are backed up daily, with restricted access.