

Memorandum of Understanding

SETAC North America and the American Center of Life Cycle Assessment

The history of professionals advancing Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) globally is a long one. The Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry ([SETAC](#)) has promoted and supported the study of LCA, since its inception, by encouraging sessions at its meeting, organizing workshops, and developing publications in the field within its journal Integrated Environmental Assessment and Management ([IEAM](#)). SETAC also advances LCA through collaboration with other organizations interested in the topic, including global organizations such as the Life Cycle Initiative hosted by the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and the International Standardization Organization, as well as by lending its name to the UNEP-SETAC corner in the International Journal of Life Cycle Assessment. Moreover, SETAC encourages advancements in LCA through regional SETAC Interest Groups (IGs) including the SETAC North America (SNA) LCA IG.

Over the last decade, the American Center for Life Cycle Assessment ([ACLCA](#)) has established itself as one of the leading organizations focused on LCA in the United States. Its annual LCA conference is the biggest one of its kind in North America and attracts a healthy mix of academia, consultants, and industry. The ACLCA Board of Directors recently identified an interest and desire in its general membership to revive the ACLCA Technical Committee, which would be concerned with advancing LCA from a methodological perspective. However, recognizing the existence of the SNA LCA IG, concerns were raised about having two committees focused on LCA methodology working in parallel and independent of each other in North America. As such, representatives of both ACLCA and SNA, with the intention of strengthening collaboration between both groups prepared this memorandum of understanding:

- SNA and ACLCA wish to strengthen collaboration on advancing technical and methodological aspects of LCA in North America. This will be accomplished through the SNA LCA IG.
- All ACLCA members will be officially invited to join the SNA LCA IG, recognizing that membership in the SNA LCA IG is open to ALL interested individuals and that many IG members are already ACLCA members as well.
- The SNA LCA IG Steering Committee would be co-chaired by one SETAC member and one ACLCA member (recognizing that many LCA practitioners are members of both organizations). Steering committee members would need to be a member of at least one of the organizations, a requirement that most members already fulfill today. IG members do not need to belong to either organization but would be encouraged to join both. The work of the IG should benefit both societies. As such the IG will encourage that its work is:
 - o Presented at meetings of both SNA and ACLCA (e.g., SNA annual meetings or focused topic meetings and ACLCA annual conference);
 - o Presented through webinars that are co-branded as SETAC and ACLCA and publicized to both audiences consistent with the organizations branding guidelines; and
 - o Submitted to SETAC publications venues (e.g., IEAM) where topics overlap with the journal's scope such as those in methods development at the interface of LCA with

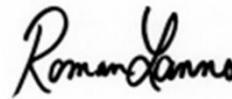
environmental fate, exposure science, ecotoxicology, human toxicology, ecosystem services, and decision-analysis and LCA case studies.

- A revised charter for the SNA LCA IG would be drawn up by the Steering Committee adhering to SETAC IG Guidelines and the contents of this MOU, upon the execution of the MOU.

On behalf of

American Center for Life Cycle Assessment

Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry



Bill Flanagan

Roman Lanno

Chair of the Board

President of the Board of Directors



Debbie Steckel

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