Technical Helpdesk for National LCA Databases

Training on Data Acquisition and Dataset Development
Part 3 - Secondary data acquisition

Content from Andreas Ciroth, GreenDelta and Amir Safaei, ecoinvent

Managed by SETAC

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Secondary data acquisition

Objective and Background

• In the second practical exercise, we will create datasets from secondary data, i.e. from data already published.

• What are secondary sources that can be used here?
Secondary data acquisition

Where are secondary data available?

- Public, official statistics
- Wikipedia
- Company websites
- Journal papers
- Chemical engineering books
- Other LCA databases and datasets (!)
- …
Secondary data acquisition

Secondary data, example

http://www.info.energy.gov.lk/
Secondary data acquisition

Secondary data, example

Possible use of this information when creating a data set?

http://www.info.energy.gov.lk/
Secondary data acquisition

Secondary data – challenges, issues

• Quite often, data does not fully fit to what you need
  • Incomplete
    • Product missing
    • Only some emissions reported, or only composition of products
  • Not fully fitting (slightly different product, location, time than needed)
• Source reliability
Secondary data acquisition

Secondary data – challenges, issues

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→ Need attention and care, but great potential. Typically, results are “patchwork datasets”
Secondary data acquisition

Secondary data – challenges, issues

Exercise:

• Creating a national grid electricity data set for Sri Lanka
  • Files: Data_2\textsuperscript{nd}_Exercise.docx, 2\textsuperscript{nd}_exercise_processes.xlsx
  • See MS Excel workbook and hand-outs
  • Would you agree to the mix?
  • Would you agree to the proposed processes?
  • Is something essential lacking (yes..really..what is it)? How would you acquire the missing bits?
For helpdesk assistance –

• Become a Helpdesk member:
  – To access the Helpdesk exchange space (or any other Clearinghouse area), you will need to create an account in the Clearinghouse (www.scpclearinghouse.org):
  – Toward the bottom of the homepage you will see a button labeled ‘Join the Community now’. Click on this link and open a form to allow you to create a login and profile.
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  – Go to ‘About’ and then to ‘Exchange Spaces’ where you will see Lifecycle Approaches in the drop down menu and one menu level below that is the Technical Helpdesk.
  – The Technical Helpdesk space will be available to any visitor, logged in or not. Without being logged in and joining the helpdesk space, any visitor can look at the various sections of the helpdesk space, but cannot contribute any content.
  – In order to become a member of the helpdesk space, on the homepage under the summary, is “Request space membership”. Click here, you will automatically be given rights of a members to contribute content, since it is a public group.
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• Helpdesk Manager - Bruce Vigon, Consultant to SETAC,
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