

Agenzia nazionale per le nuove tecnologie, l'energia e lo sviluppo economico sostenibile



RawMaterials Hub Regional Center Southern Italy

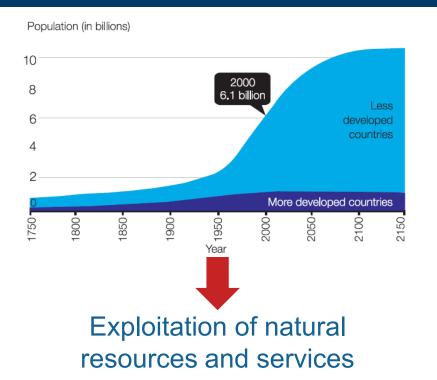
EIT RawMaterials Winter School "Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment" 26th - 30th October 2020

Recovery of materials from End-of-Life PV Panels in a Life Cycle Assessment perspective

Napoli, 29th October 2020

Amalia Zucaro, Gabriella Fiorentino SSPT-USER-T4RM

The economic system



- Increasing levels of pollution
- Resource depletion
- Species loss and ecosystem degradation





The economic system



LINEAR ECONOMY

- Resource extraction
- Production of goods and / or services
- End of life

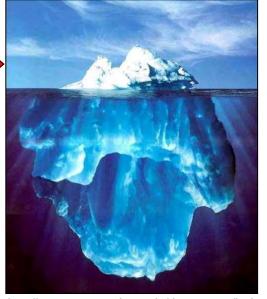




'Wasteberg'...what does it mean?

Municipal Waste

tip of the "wasteberg"



http://www.coopcentabc.org.br/documentos/inci neracao/Zero_Waste_San_Francisco_EUA.pdf



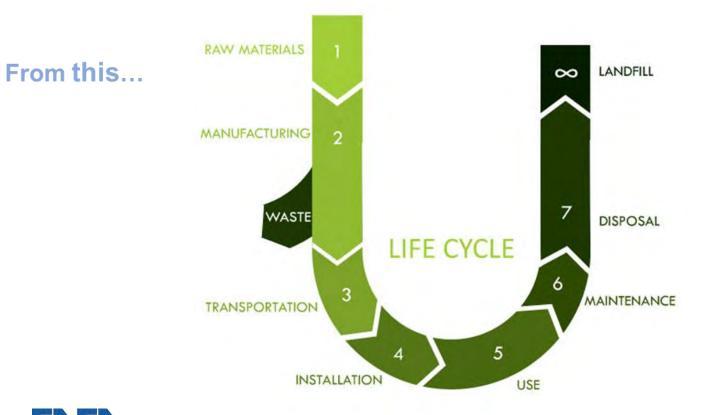
- Supply chain waste
- Airborne and waterborne emissions
- Wastewaters





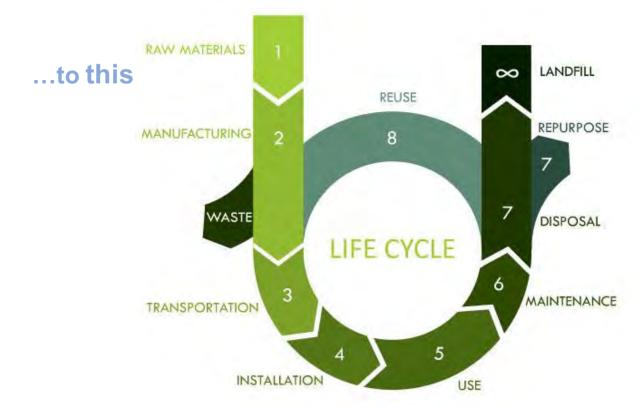
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The search for solutions





The search for solutions





The search for solutions

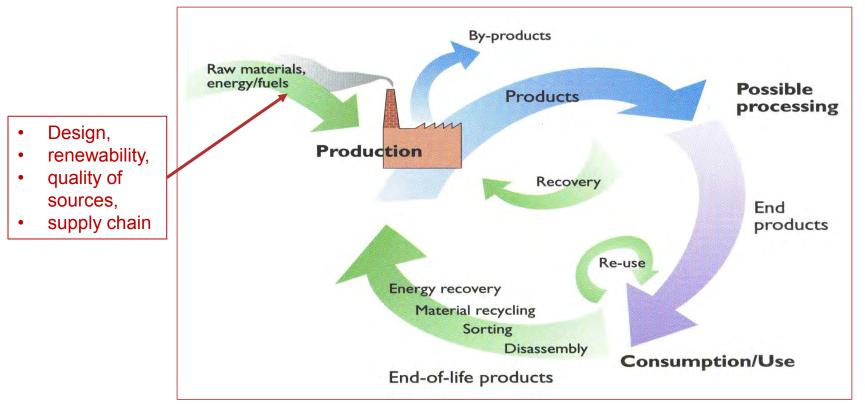


THIS IS THE OUTCOME...

The circular economy package brings the pieces together – production, consumption, secondary raw materials, waste management, innovation & investment- to cover the whole product lifecycle



Identify hotspots and alternatives in each process step





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Circular economy monitoring framework

1 EU self-sufficiency for raw materials

The share of a selection of key materials (including critical raw materials) used in the EU that are produced within the EU

2 Green public procurement

The share of major public procurements in the EU that include environmental requirements

3a-c Waste generation

Generation of municipal waste per capita; total waste generation (excluding major mineral waste) per GDP unit and in relation to domestic material consumption

4 Food waste

Amount of food waste generated

7a-b Contribution of recycled materials to raw materials demand

Secondary raw materials' share of overall materials demand - for specific materials and for the whole economy

5a-b Overall recycling rates

Recycling rate of municipal waste and of all waste except major mineral waste

6a-f Recycling rates for specific waste streams

Recycling rate of overall packaging waste, plastic packaging, wood packaging, waste electrical and electronic equipment, recycled biowaste per capita and recovery rate of construction and demolition waste

9a-c Private investments, jobs and gross value added

Private investments, number of persons employed and gross value added in the circular economy sectors

10 Patents

Number of patents related to waste management and recycling

Source: COM(2018) 29 final

8 Trade in recyclable raw materials

Imports and exports of selected recyclable raw materials

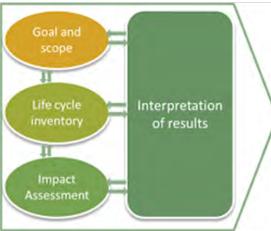


LIFE CYCLE THINKING

ISO 14040/44:2006



International Organization for Standardization



Life Cycle Assessment Framework





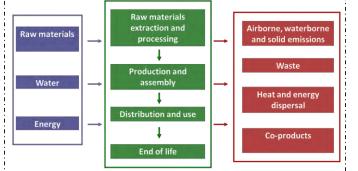
LIFE CYCLE THINKING

ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEM

DEFINED AS THE SOURCE OF INPUT MATERIALS AND ENERGY AS WELL AS THE SINK OF ALL EMISSIONS



PRODUCT SYSTEM



DEFINED AS THE SET OF SUB-PROCESSES AND OPERATIVE STEPS HAVING THE FUNCTION OF GENERATING A USEFUL PRODUCT. IT IS SEPARATED FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEM BY WELL IDENTIFIED BOUNDARIES, BUT IT IS LINKED TO THE ENVIRONMENT THROUGH INPUT AND OUTPUT FLOWS.



LIFE CYCLE THINKING

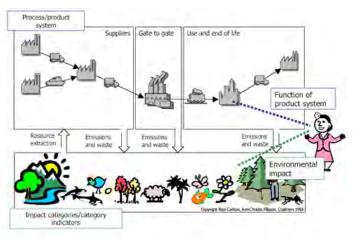
IMPACTS CAN BE DEFINED AT DIFFERENT LEVELS AND EVALUATION POINTS:

- MID POINT: BIOPHYSICAL EFFECTS

(acidification, eutrophication, etc);

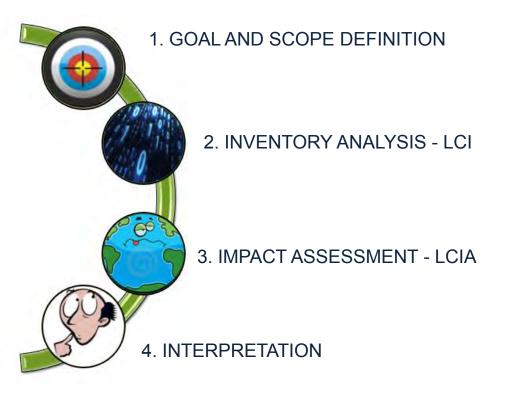
- END POINT: DAMAGE EFFECTS
- (biodiversity loss, health damage, etc).

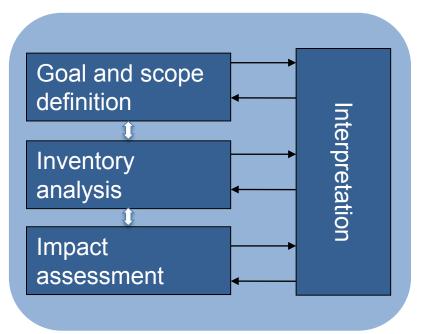
In each impact category, impacts are quantified through indicators.





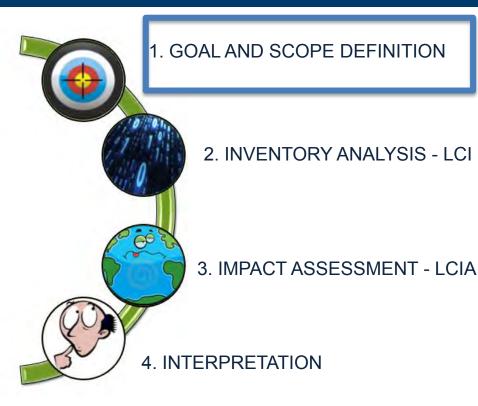
LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT (LCA)







LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT (LCA)



Goal and Scope definition

It is important to establish what purpose the model is to serve, what one wishes to study, what depth and degree of accuracy are required

Functional Unit

The functional unit defines the service that needs to be delivered

Boundaries Physical, geographical, temporal



FUNCTIONAL UNIT

<u>The functional unit</u> measures the unit <u>functions provided</u> by the outputs in the investigated "product system" (i.e. represents what will be compared). It is based on the function, not on the product (careful consideration of a product/service life time is needed).

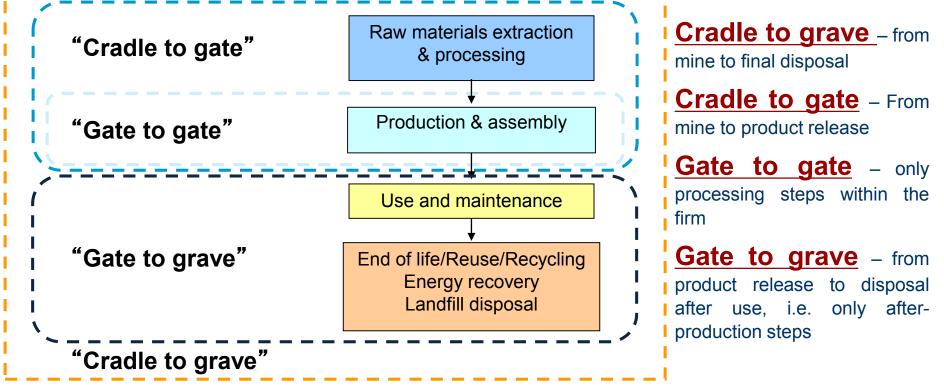
The function depends on the objective the systems and subsystems were designed for.

The REFERENCE FLOW must be defined for each elementary process.

To be used in the INVENTORY (e.g. mass of inputs, volumes of gases, etc)



PHYSICAL BOUNDARIES





Allocation

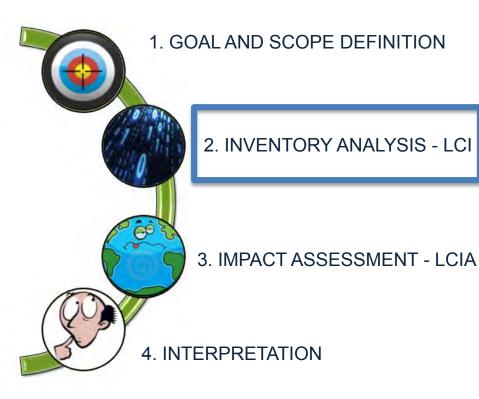
The allocation procedure must reflect a physical relation between flows and functions, in order to charge the impacts fairly and appropriately.

When data refer to a process characterized by two or more products, then we must decide which fraction of each input or output flow must be assigned to each output product or service (e.g. electricity and heat from a power plant).

This procedure is named ALLOCATION. The allocation should be avoided whenever this is possible. However, input flows and emissions can be partitioned to the products according to their mass, energy, exergy content, or economic value.



LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT (LCA)



PRIMARY DATA

data directly collected on field by the investigator, with and without the collaboration of process operators

SECONDARY DATA

data representative of the process/sector dynamics, collected from literature or databases

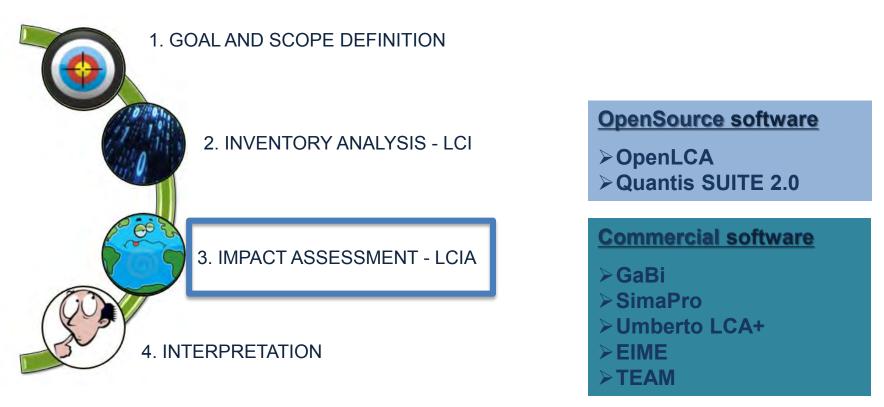


DATA COLLECTION

PRIMARY DATA data directly collected on field by the investigator, with and without the collaboration of process operators.		SECONDARY DATA data representative of the process/sector dynamics, collected from literature or databases				
	DATA SOURCE	IMPORTANT FEATURES				
	REAL PROCESSES	Questionnaires, reports, manuals, agreements, comunication tools				
	MODELS, ESTIMATES	Process models, extrapolation procedures, similarities with other models, assumptions, ecc				
	DATABASES, LITERATURE	Transparent structure, price of data sources, copyright, applicability				
	RESTRICTED DATABASES AND SOURCES	Confidentiality agreements, possibility to publish.				



LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT (LCA)







- SimaPro software
- Produced by PRé Consultants
- Integrates with vaious databases,
- Uses a more text/menu approach to modelling, rather than graphical approach
 - $\circ \textsc{Though}$ graphical flowcharts can be viewed following data input
- Calculates results using matrix inversion
- For use by professionals at two levels (Analyst or Developer)
- Server based, convenient for multiple users and for remote connection





SimaPro - Databases



Agri-footprint

ecoinvent (included by default, optional on request)

ESU world food LCA database (optional)

IDEA Japanese Inventory database (optional)

Swiss Input/Output database

AGRIBALYSE (optional)

ELCD

European and Danish Input/Output database

Industry data library: PlasticsEurope, ERASM, World Steel

US Life Cycle Inventory database

DATASMART LCI package (optional)

Environmental Footprint database (optional)

EXIOBASE (optional)

Social hotspots database (optional)

WEEE LCI database (optional)



SimaPro - Methods

S

SimaPro includes various methods

AWARE	BEES+	Berger et al 2014 (Water Scarcity)
Boulay et al 2011 (Human Health)	Boulay et al 2011 (Water Scarcity)	<u>CML-IA</u>
Cumulative Energy Demand (CED)	Cumulative Energy Demand (LHV)	Cumulative Exergy Demand
Ecological Scarcity 2006 (Water Scarcity)	Ecological scarcity 2013	Ecosystem Damage Potential
EDIP 2003	EF Method (adapted)	Environmental Footprint (EF)
Environmental Prices	EPD 2018	EPS 2015d/ dx
Greenhouse Gas Protocol	Hoekstra et al 2012 (Water Scarcity)	ILCD 2011 Midpoint+
MPACT 2002+	IPCC 2013	Motoshita et al 2010 (Human Health)
Pfister et al 2009 (Eco-indicator 99)	Pfister et al 2009 (Water Scarcity)	Pfister et al 2010 (ReCiPe)
ReCiPe 2016 Endpoint	ReCiPe 2016 Midpoint	Selected LCI results
TRACI 2.1	USEtox 2	



SimaPro - Inputs

S Eile Edit Calculate Tools Window Help

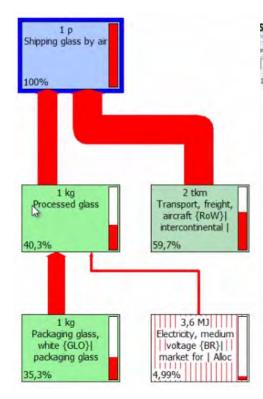
Documentation Input/output Parameters System description

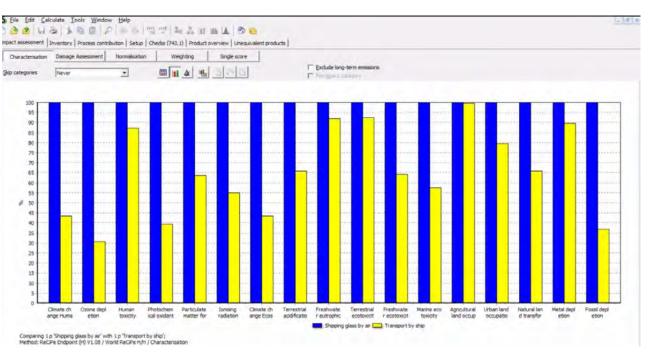
	S	Select	a product			*
nown outputs to technosphere. Products and co-p	E-Processes	Name	Unit	Waste type	Project A	
ame	Material	Electricity, medium voltage {ASCC} market for Alloc De	f, U kWh		Ecoinvent 3 - alloca	Select
rocessed glass	E Energy	Electricity, medium voltage (AT) market for Alloc Def,	U kWh		Ecoinvent 3 - alloca	
(Insert line he	. Biomass	Electricity, medium voltage (AU) market for Alloc Def,	U kWh		Ecoinvent 3 - alloca	New
nown outputs to technosphere. Avoided products	Cogeneration	Electricity, medium voltage (BA) market for Alloc Def,	U kWh		Ecoinvent 3 - alloca	
ame	 Electricity by fuel 	Electricity, medium voltage (BE) market for Alloc Def, I	J kWh		Ecoinvent 3 - alloca	View
(Insert line he	E Electricity country mix	Electricity, medium voltage {BG} market for Alloc Def,			Ecoinvent 3 - alloca	Find
	High Voltage + imp	Electricity, medium voltage (DR) in set for Alloc Def,			All and a second second	
	11 Low Voltage	Electricity, medium voltage {CA-AB} Tharket for Alloc D			Ecoinvent 3 - alloca	Cancel
nown inputs from nature (resources)	Low Voltage + imp	Electricity, medium voltage {CA-BC} market for Alloc Def, U	ef, Ll kWh		Ecoinvent 3 - alloca	
ame (Insert line here)	Medium Voltage				and the second second	Show as list
	- Market	Electricity, medium voltage [CA-NB] market for Alloc D			Econvent 3 - allocz	
nown inputs from technosphere (materials/fuels)		Electricity, medium voltage {CA-NF} market for Alloc D		Ecoinvent :	Econvent 3 - allocz	
ame		Electricity, medium voltage (CA-NS) market for Alloc D			Econvent 3 - alloca	
ackaging glass, white {GLO} packaging glass proc	Production	Electricity, medium voltage (CA-NT) market for Alloc D			Ecoinvent 3 - alloca	
(Insert line he	Production + impo	Electricity, medium voltage {CA-NU} market for Alloc D			Ecoinvent 3 - alloca	
nown inputs from technosphere (electricity/heat)	(1) Mechanical	Electricity, medium voltage {CA-ON} market for Alloc D			Ecoinvent 3 - alloca	
ame		Electricity, medium voltage (CA-PE) market for Alloc D	ef, U kWh		Ecoinvent 3 - alloca ¥	
	Others	<			>	
(Insert line he	Transport Processing Use	This dataset describes the electricity available on the medium voltage level in {{location}}. This is done by showing the transmission of 1k/Wh electricity at medium voltage. Production volume: 4050000000 k/Wh Included activities start: This activity starts from 1k/Wh of electricity fed into the medium voltage transmission network. Included activities and: This activity ends with the transport of 1 k/Wh of medium voltage electricity in the transmission network over ear-all lines and cables.				
missions to air ame (Insert line here)						
missions to water						
ame		This dataset includes:				
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ne	Sub-compartme	nt Amount Unit Distribution SD^	2 or 2*SD Min Max	Comment		
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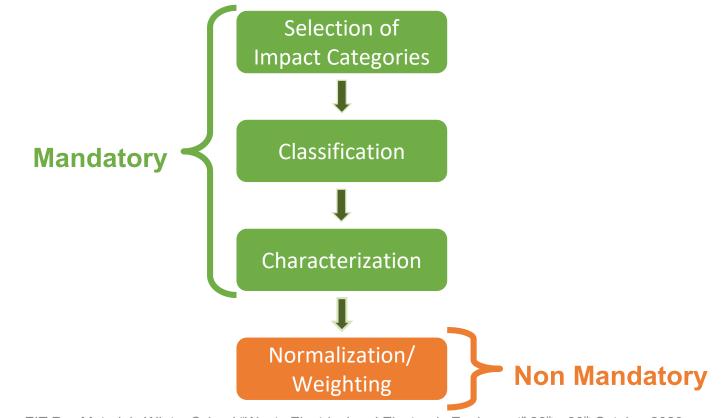
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SimaPro - Outputs

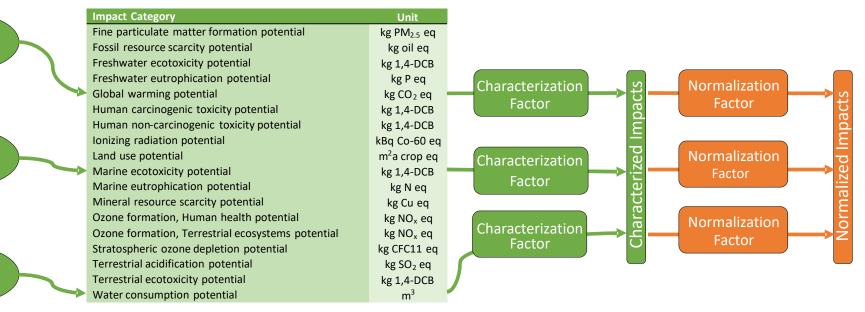








Recipe Midpoint H Impact Method





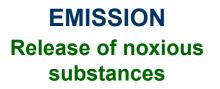
Emission 1

Emission 2

Depletion 1

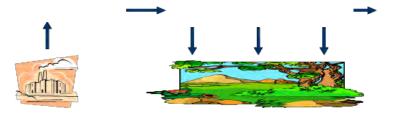


THREE (3) MAIN FACTORS

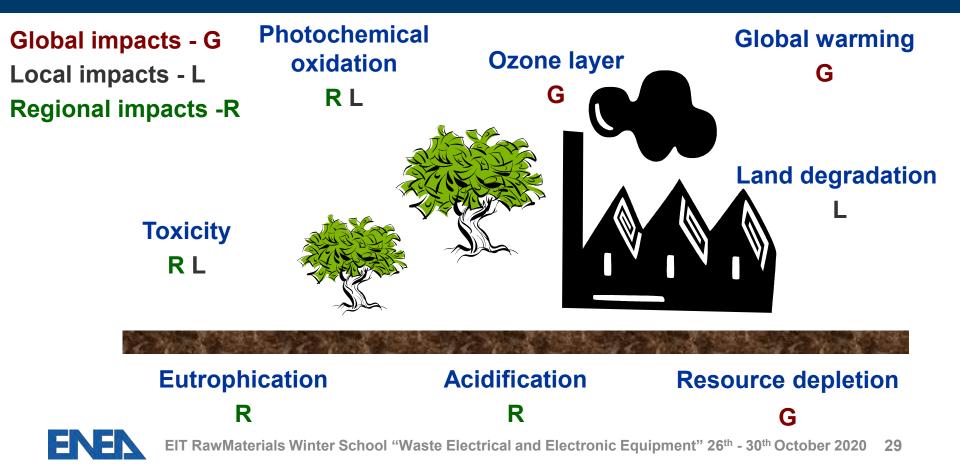


TRANSMISSION

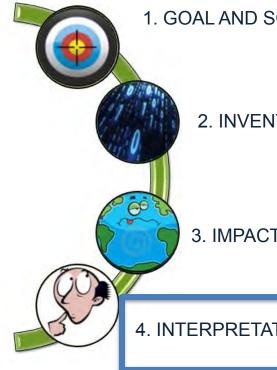
Substances undergo physico-chemical changes after being released to the environment IMMISSION Concentration or deposition of pollutants in their final destination site







LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT (LCA)



1. GOAL AND SCOPE DEFINITION

2. INVENTORY ANALYSIS - I CL

3. IMPACT ASSESSMENT - LCIA

4. INTERPRETATION

INTERPRETATION

Once the system has been analysed, this step aims at verifying if results are consistent with the goal and scope and if the procedure fits the ISO standards. Then improvements are suggested to minimize the environmental load.



Case study – the ReSiELP project



Supported by

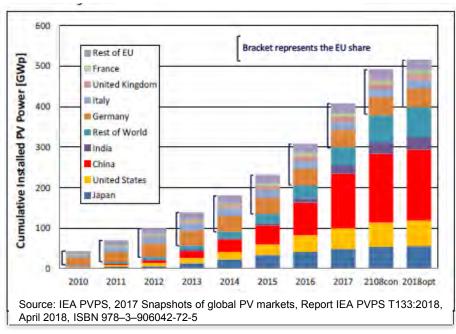


Recovery of Silicon and other materials from End-of-Life Photovoltaic Panels

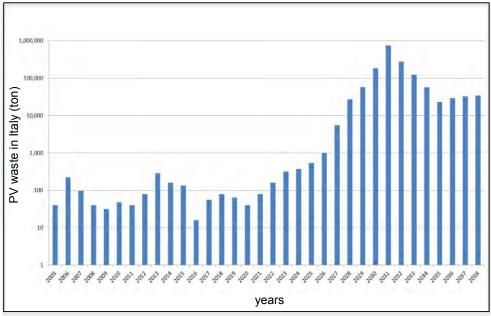




General context



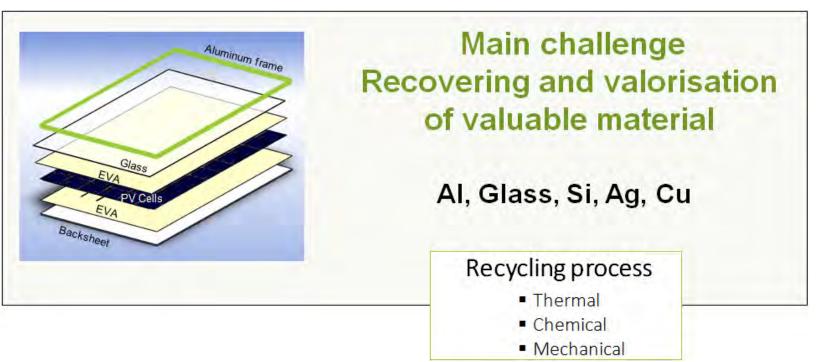
PV panels lifetime: ~ 25-30 years Cumulative EoL PV panels waste should exceed 60 million tonnes by 2050





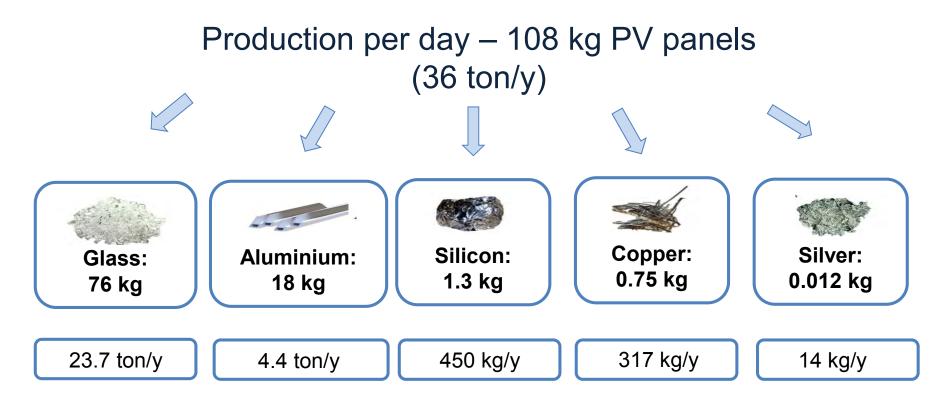
EoL PV panels management: opportunity and challenge

VALUE CREATION & IMPLEMENTATION OF A CIRCULAR VALUE-CHAIN





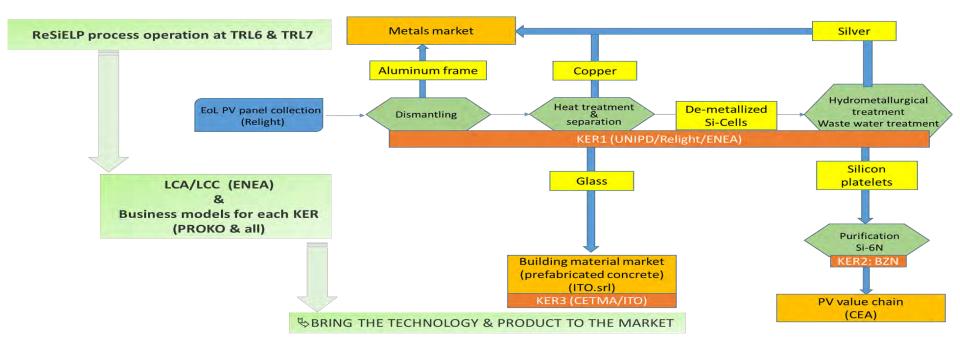
EoL PV panels management: opportunity and challenge





ReSiELP value chain

Recovery and valorization of materials (Si, Ag, Al, Cu and glass)





LCA of ReSiELP recovery process

1. GOAL AND SCOPE DEFINITION

The objectives of this LCA study are:

- identifying environmental hotspots and opportunities to improve the environmental performances (e.g. by reducing environmental loads) of the following processes:
 - from dismantling up to hydrometallurgical treatments, carried out at Relight plant – Recovery line (Northern Italy)
 - use of the recovered glass as inert in the concrete prefabricated building elements (predalles), implemented at ITO plant – Glass reuse line (Southern Italy)
 - silicon purification process, carried out at Bay Zoltan plant Si purification line (Hungary)
- giving a general overview on the environmental performances of the developed recovery process.

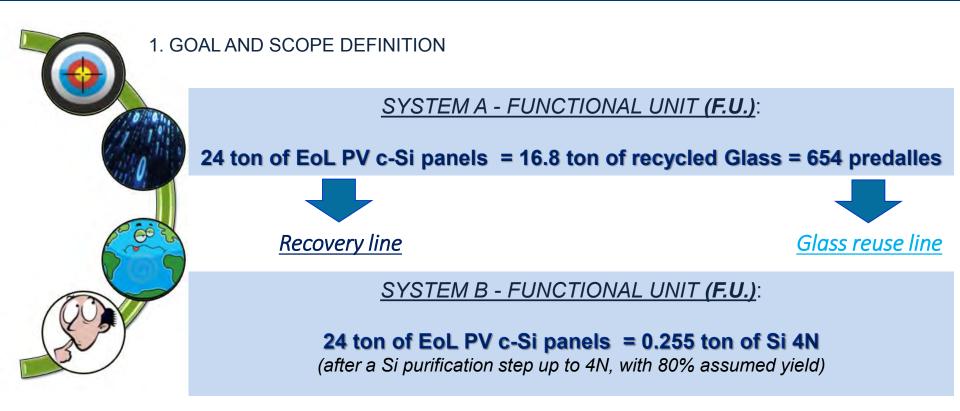


1. GOAL AND SCOPE DEFINITION

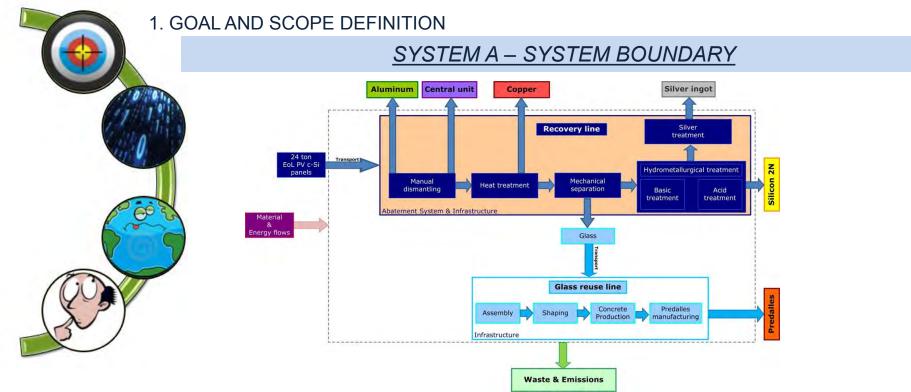
The systems under study are two:

- A. System A, including two different lines: 1) the Recovery line and 2) the Glass reuse line. The function of this system consists in recovering/extracting aluminium, glass, copper, silver and silicon (2N purity grade) from EoL PV c-Si modules and in reusing the recovered glass in the Building & Construction sector;
- B. System B, related to the purification of silicon, from 4N to 6N purity grade. The function of this system consists in purifying silicon, so that it can be reused for the production of new PV panels.



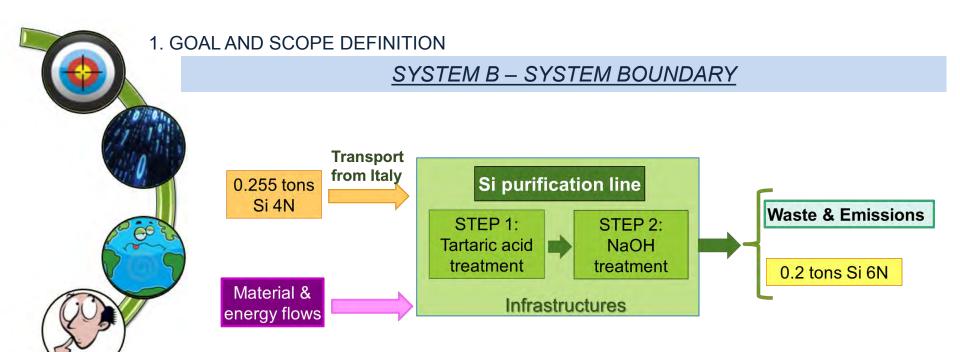








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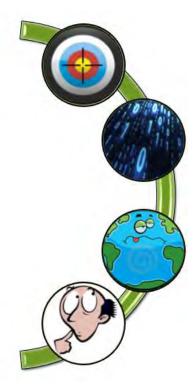






- Primary data from direct surveys
- Secondary data from literature (scientific papers and databases)
- Tertiary data from estimates and similar operations, environmental statistics and average values.





ReCiPe H Midpoint method

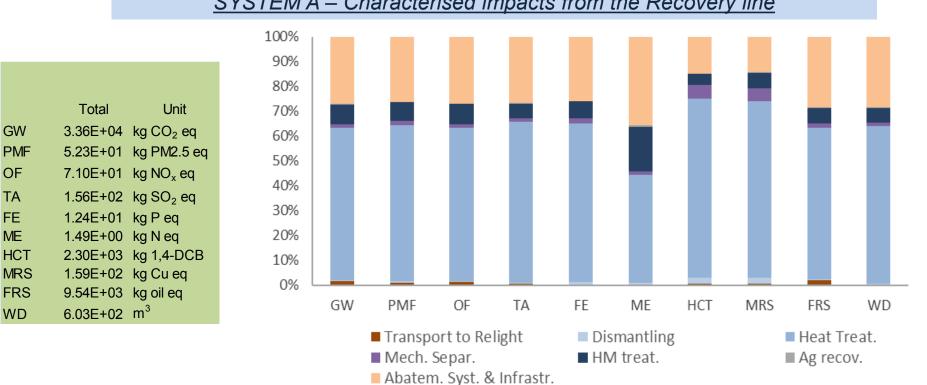
(Huijbregts *et al.,* 2016. ReCiPe 2016 A harmonized life cycle impact assessment method at midpoint and endpoint level. Report I: Characterization. RIVM Report 2016-0104. National Institute for Public Health and the Environment)

3. IMPACT ASSESSMENT - LCIA

Which environmental impact categories were considered?

global warming (GW), fine particulate matter formation (PMF), ozone formation, terrestrial ecosystems (OF), terrestrial acidification (TA), freshwater eutrophication (FE), marine eutrophication (ME), human carcinogenic toxicity (HCT), mineral resource scarcity (MRS), fossil resource scarcity (FRS) and water consumption (WD)





SYSTEM A – Characterised impacts from the Recovery line



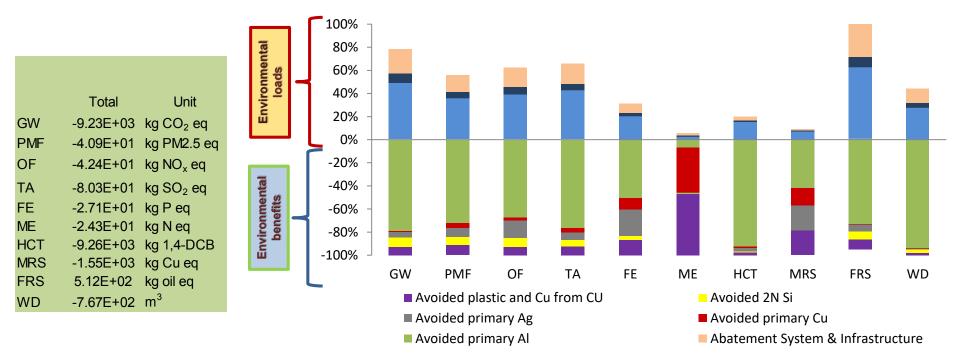
OF

TA

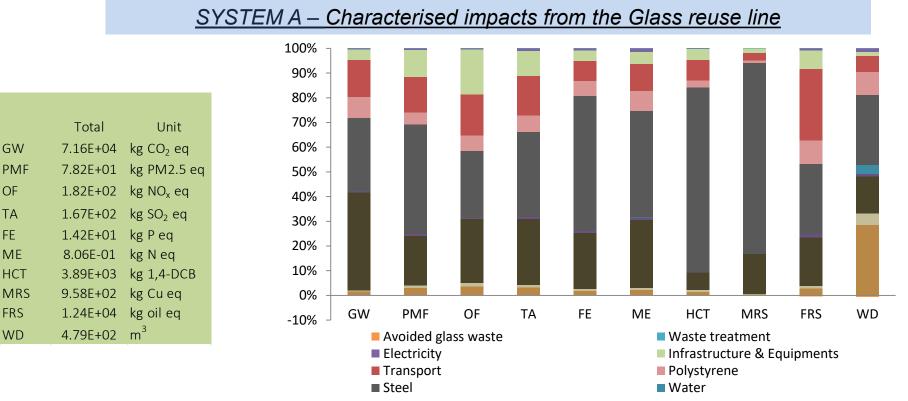
FE

ME

<u>SYSTEM A – Characterised NET impacts from the Recovery line</u>

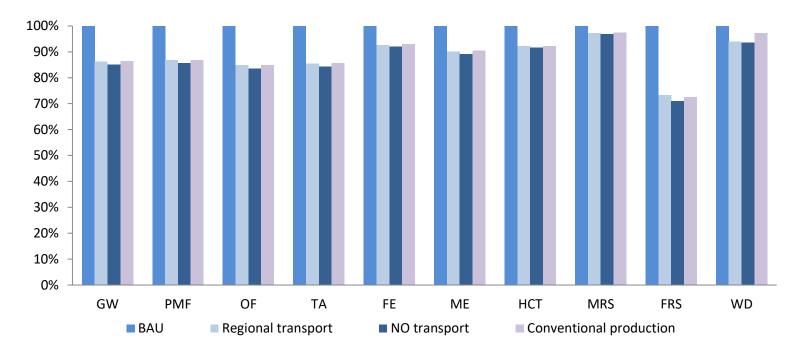








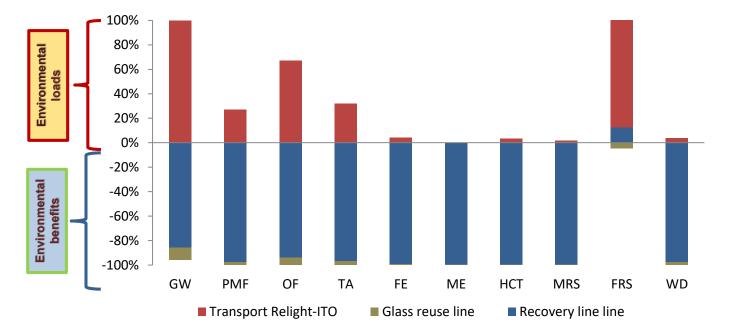
<u>SYSTEM A – Transport scenarios in the Glass reuse line</u>





<u>SYSTEM A – Characterised NET impacts from the System A</u>

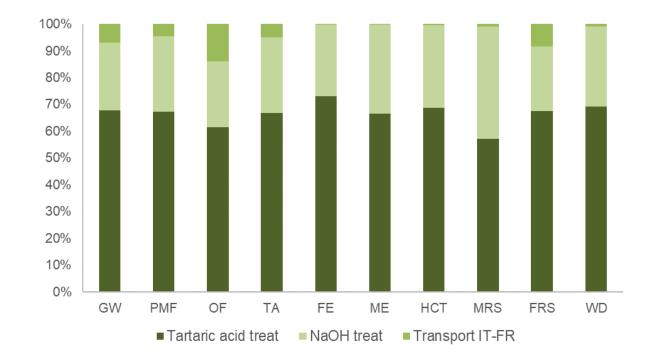
Total Unit GW 4.66E+02 kg CO₂ eq PMF -3.06E+01 kg PM2.5 eq OF -1.48E+01 kg NO_x eq TA -5.64E+01 kg SO₂ eq FE -2.61E+01 kg P eq ME -2.42E+01 kg N eq HCT -8.95E+03 kg 1,4-DCB MRS -1.52E+03 kg Cu eq FRS 3.92E+03 kg oil eq -7.53E+02 m³ WD



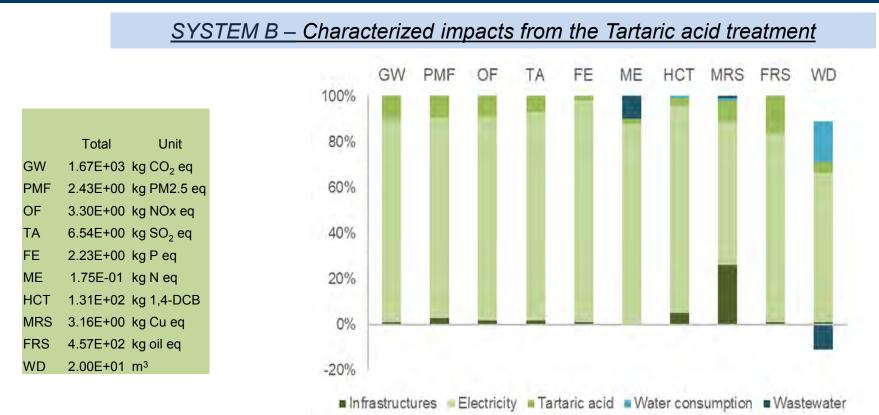


SYSTEM B - Characterized impacts from the Si purification

Total Unit 2.47E+03 kg CO₂ eq GW 3.61E+00 kg PM2.5 eq PMF 5.37E+00 kg NOx eq OF 9.79E+00 kg SO₂ eq TA 3.06E+00 kg P eq FE 2.62E-01 kg N eq ME 1.91E+02 kg 1,4-DCB HCT 5.54E+00 kg Cu eq MRS 6.77E+02 kg oil eq FRS 2.89E+01 m³ WD

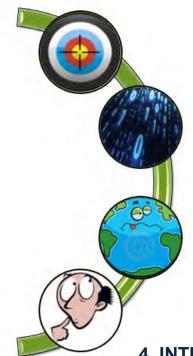








LCA analysis: Conclusions



The LCA analysis shows that, overall, the process developed within the ReSiELP project is <u>advantageous from an environmental point of view</u>, thanks to the recovery of secondary materials. Moreover, the ReSiELP process results <u>quite competitive in comparison with other recycling</u> <u>processes</u> (especially, with the low value ones).

System A: the main **benefits** derive from the recovery of <u>AI and Cu</u>. In the Recovery line, the greatest **burden** is the <u>electricity</u> consumption while <u>steel</u> <u>and cement</u> productions are the main hotspots for the Glass reuse line; moreover, the scenario analysis showed the relevance of <u>transportation</u> on the environmental impact.

System B: the Tartaric acid treatment is more impacting than the NaOH treatment, due to its considerable <u>energy consumption</u>.

4. INTERPRETATION



Environmental Life Cycle Costing (eLCC) analysis

Life Cycle Costing (LCC) is applied as an assessment tool to **estimate the entire cost of the system under investigation**, during its whole life cycle.

In this study the Environmental LCC (eLCC) was performed. It includes:

(i) the **sum of all funds expended** in support of an item from its conception and fabrication through its operation and the end of its useful life (**internal costs**);

(ii) the **external costs** of environmental impacts (also known as externalities or environmental costs).

This eLCC analysis was conducted from the **perspective** of an entrepreneur. The **boundaries, functional units** (FUs) and **assumptions** for the studied systems (A and B) were the same as in the LCA study.

Data sources : primary and secondary data were used.



Environmental Life Cycle Costing (eLCC) analysis

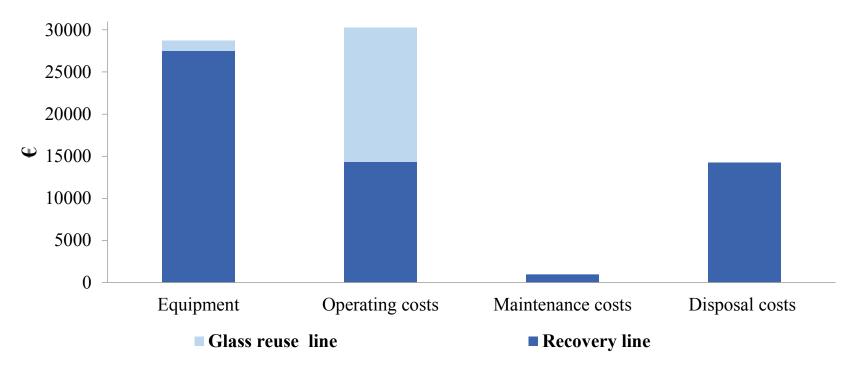
The Environmental Priority Strategies (EPS) approach (version 2015dx) was applied for the calculation of the externalities.

Safeguard subject/ Area of protection	Abbrev.
Abiotic Resources	AR
Access to Water	AW
Bio-Diversity	BD
Ecosystem Services	ES
Human Health	НН

The **results** of the EPS impact assessment method are **monetary values** (monetarization) of environmental impacts from emissions and use of resources. They are indicated as damage costs and are expressed as <u>ELU (Environmental Load Units)</u>. **One ELU** represents an externality corresponding to **1 Euro** environmental damage cost.

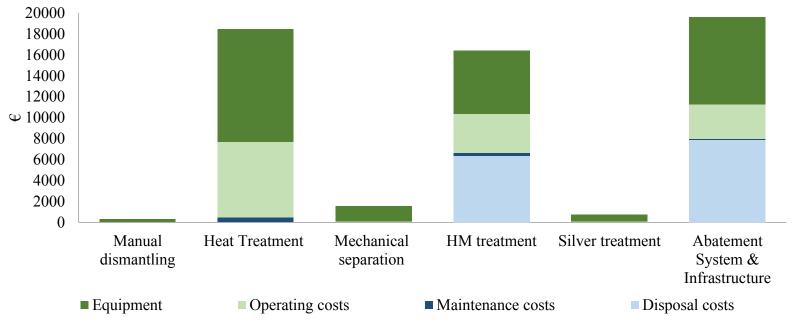


eLCC – System A (Recovery & Glass reuse lines): Internal costs



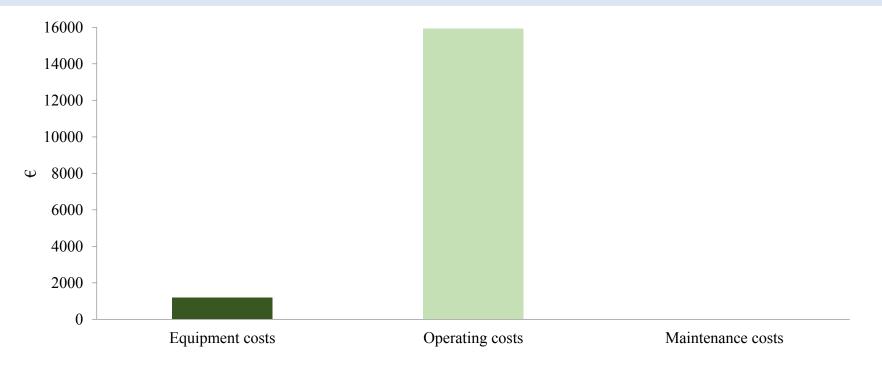


eLCC – Recovery line: Internal costs





eLCC – Glass reuse line: Internal costs



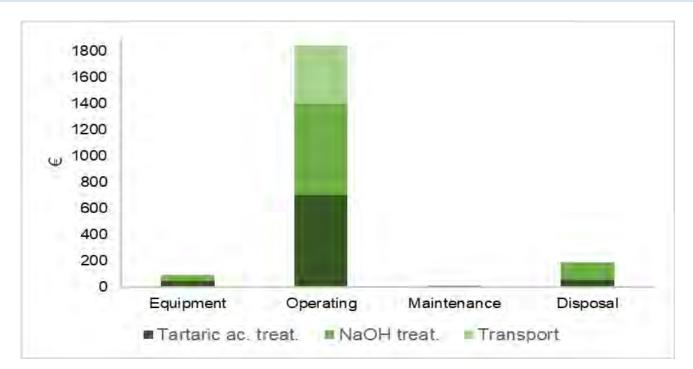


eLCC - System A (Recovery & Glass reuse lines): Externalities

Safe guard subject	Unit*	Total	Recovery line	Glass reuse line	Transport Relight ITO
Ecosystem services	ELU	-2.02E+00	-4.06E+01	-4.26E+00	4.28E+01
Access to water	ELU	4.33E-01	-1.87E+00	-2.58E-01	2.56E+00
Biodiversity	ELU	2.60E-02	-9.96E-02	-1.39E-02	1.40E-01
Human health	ELU	-1.23E+03	-2.92E+03	-1.69E+02	1.86E+03
Abiotic resources	ELU	-1.18E+05	-1.29E+05	-5.90E+02	1.12E+04
TOTAL	ELU	-1.19E+05	-1.32E+05	-7.64E+02	1.31E+04

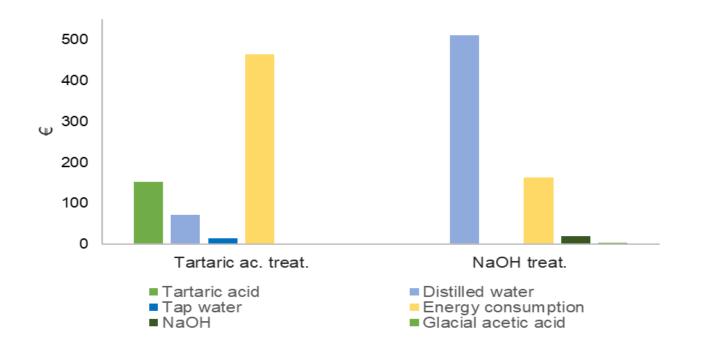


eLCC - System B: Internal costs





eLCC - System B: Internal costs





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900

600

300

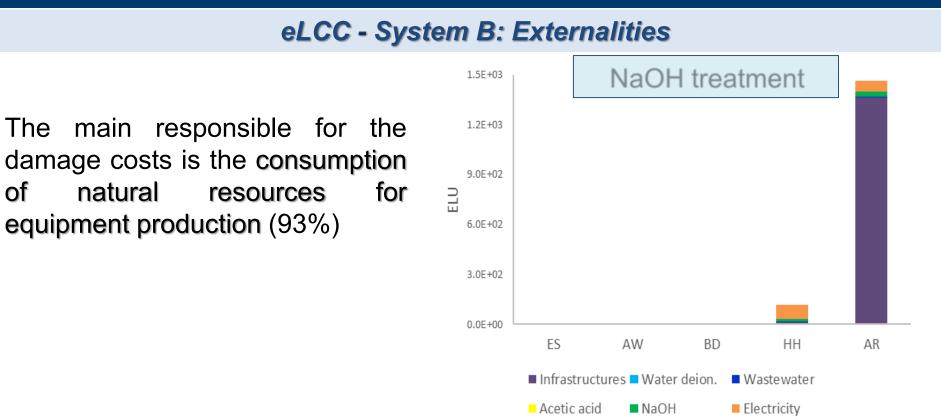
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eLCC - System B: Externalities

1800 The highest costs (80.5%) 1500 the total) were of recorded for Abiotic 1200 Resources, followed \supseteq (19.0%) by those for Human Health.

Safe guard subject	Unit	Total	Tartaric acid treatment	NaOH treatment	Trai
Ecosystem services	ELU	9.52E+00	6.45E+00	2.35E+00	7
Access to water	ELU	5.81E-01	3.94E-01	1.45E-01	4
Biodiversity	ELU	3.19E-02	2.14E-02	8.18E-03	
Human health	ELU	4.26E+02	2.86E+02	1.1 <mark>6E+02</mark>	2
Abiotic resources	ELU	1.80E+03	3.07E+02	1.46E+03	2
ES AV	N	BD	HH	AR	
rtaric acid treat	NaOł	ltreat ∎Tra	nsport Italy-Fra	nce	







eLCC: Internal costs

- In System A, the operating phase is the most expensive, followed by the equipment costs. Recovery and Glass reuse lines contribute to an equivalent extent to the operating costs, while for all other cost categories, the main share is from the Recovery line.
- For System B, the hotspot for internal costs is the operating phase.

eLCC: Externalities

- Concerning the externalities, a net saving in environmental damage costs is observed thanks to the secondary materials recovery for System A.
- For System B, the highest damage costs are due to resource depletion for the production of the equipment used in the basic treatment.



Concluding Remarks

- Untreated waste and polluting emissions generate huge impacts on human health and ecosystems.
- Waste is not only what we see, let's keep in mind the hidden waste flows, much bigger. Never forget the "wasteberg" !
- Needed investments for environmental care, landscape integrity, waste decrease and recycling, innovation towards new materials and technologies that pollute less and provide more jobs and wellbeing.





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EIT RawMaterials Winter School "Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment" 26th - 30th October 2020