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Spotlight on International Activities of the ecoinvent Centre

On its way to a better coverage of global supply-chains, the ecoinvent Centre has as one priority a further internationalization for the development towards version v3. In the last weeks of 2010, several important events happened in this context.

The Sustainability Consortium. The ecoinvent Centre has joined the Sustainability Consortium to support the organization's life cycle assessment work with its comprehensive LCI database. The Sustainability Consortium, co-directed by the University of Arkansas and Arizona State University, is an independent organization of diverse global participants ranging from consumer product manufacturers, retailers, service providers and non-governmental organizations. More information: <http://www.ecoinvent.org/news/> [-> message of Dec 13, 2010].

Canada. A collaboration agreement with CIRAIG (Interuniversity Research Centre for the Life Cycle of Products, Processes and Services), represented by École Polytechnique in Montreal, has been signed. This agreement is a first case for a collaboration of the ecoinvent Centre with a National Database Initiative (NDI) - in which ecoinvent brings its existing DB, and the NDI will add country-specific, new datasets. Contact for more information: support@ecoinvent.org.

Brazil, India, and South Africa. A first step for establishing local LCI data centres, working in close collaboration with the ecoinvent Centre, has been achieved through the approval of phase 1 of a perennial project of Empa, funded by seco - the Swiss State Secretary for Economic Affairs. Objective of this project is to ensure the sustainability of global recycling of secondary resources; with one project component dealing with the collection of high-quality LCI data. Contact for more information: support@ecoinvent.org.

ecoinvent data v2 validated by Swiss TS

The database "ecoinvent data v2" has been successfully validated by Swiss TS Technical Services AG in Wallisellen (Switzerland). The validation process has checked (i) *the process* (->reliable mechanisms for review and correction to ensure correctness of data), (ii) *the data* (-> check of a random example of data on correctness), and (iii) *the database operation* (-> audit of the technical partner).

The validation showed that ecoinvent has a reliable process in place to feed and maintain the database correctly, provides a secure and reliable service & that the data in the database are correct.



further expansion of the ecoinvent Team

Already since autumn 2010, the ecoinvent team got a further recruitment in the person of Emilia Moreno Ruiz. Within our team, Emilia has taken over the responsibilities for the contract to our data suppliers and to our editors, while Gregor is our new responsible for the training and related training materials. We believe that like this, we will be able to support you in the future even more efficiently.

Bo Weidema (executive Manager) & Roland Hirschier (deputy Manager)
ecoinvent Centre / January 6, 2011 / contact: support@ecoinvent.org