John REAP 2008.

« A survey of unresolved problems in life cycle assessment ».

Table 1 LCA problems by phase

Goal and scope definition Functional unit definition Boundary selection Social and economic impacts Alternative scenario considerations Allocation Negligible contribution ('cutoff') criteria Local technical uniqueness Impact category and methodology selection Spatial variation Local environmental uniqueness Dynamics of the environment Time horizons Weighting and valuation Uncertainty in the decision process			
Boundary selection ^a Social and economic impacts ^a Alternative scenario considerations ^a Allocation Negligible contribution ('cutoff') criteria Local technical uniqueness Life cycle impact assessment Impact category and methodology selection Spatial variation Local environmental uniqueness Dynamics of the environment Time horizons Weighting and valuation ^a Uncertainty in the decision process	Phase	Problem	
Social and economic impacts ^a Alternative scenario considerations ^a Allocation Negligible contribution ('cutoff') criteria Local technical uniqueness Life cycle impact assessment Impact category and methodology selection Spatial variation Local environmental uniqueness Dynamics of the environment Time horizons Life cycle interpretation Weighting and valuation ^a Uncertainty in the decision process	Goal and scope definition		
Negligible contribution ('cutoff') criteria Local technical uniqueness Life cycle impact assessment Impact category and methodology selection Spatial variation Local environmental uniqueness Dynamics of the environment Time horizons Weighting and valuation ^a Uncertainty in the decision process		Social and economic impacts ^a	
criteria Local technical uniqueness Life cycle impact assessment Impact category and methodology selection Spatial variation Local environmental uniqueness Dynamics of the environment Time horizons Life cycle interpretation Weighting and valuation ^a Uncertainty in the decision process	Life cycle inventory analysis	Allocation	
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Local environmental uniqueness Dynamics of the environment Time horizons Life cycle interpretation Weighting and valuation Uncertainty in the decision process	Life cycle impact assessment		
Dynamics of the environment Time horizons Life cycle interpretation Weighting and valuation Uncertainty in the decision process		Spatial variation	
Time horizons Life cycle interpretation Weighting and valuation Uncertainty in the decision process		Local environmental uniqueness	
Uncertainty in the decision process •			•//
	Life cycle interpretation		•
	AII		•

a One might reasonably consider these problems to be pivotal decisions.