

# Manual

## How to use the Info-Hub?

## Content of this presentation

- Introduction to the Info-Hub
- Structure of the Website
- How to use the Info-Hub

## Introduction to Info-Hub

- The main purpose of the InfoHub is to provide users with an easy to use, accessible version of the handbook. This handbook, which is the main output of the EeBGuide project, will provide users with guidance on undertaking Life Cycle Analysis studies of energy efficient buildings and building products. It will give LCA practitioners guidance that will help improve comparability of the LCA studies that they undertake.

## Introduction to Info-Hub

- Many of the standards and guidance materials, developed to improve the comparability of LCA studies of buildings and building products, are already available online, but it is sometimes difficult to identify what is relevant. The handbook will therefore play a crucial role in collating and charting and referring to the myriad information sources available. The web based version of the handbook will offer a much enhanced experienced for the reader as they will be directed to documents and information already available online.

## Introduction to Info-Hub

- Users will also be able to access case studies, initially developed during the project, to demonstrate how to use the guide in different situations, for different kinds of assessments. In the future users will be able to submit their own case studies using the templates provided, so that the content of the website will continue to be enhanced. Users will also be able to provide insights and ask questions of peers through the discussion forum that is set up on the Construction21 platform.

## Structure of the Website



### EeBGuide Project

Operational Guidance for Life Cycle Assessment Studies of the Energy Efficient Buildings Initiative

- Home
- Guidance document
- Report templates
- Training materials
- Case studies
- Glossary
- Discussion forum
- Links

### Home

The European research project “EeBGuide” aims to develop metrics for the preparation of Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) studies for energy-efficient buildings and building products.

LCA is used to assess the environmental benefits of new technologies. The EeBGuide manuals and guidance will support LCA practitioners to obtain comparative results in their work.

This project is supported by the [European Commission under the Environment \(including climate change\) Theme of the 7th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development\\*](#).

The EeBGuide Project is funded by



European Commission  
Research & Innovation  
Environment



Seventh Framework  
Programme for Research  
(FP7)

## Structure of the Website

- Menu system
  - Home
  - Guidance document
  - Report templates
  - Training materials
  - Case studies
  - Glossary
  - Discussion forum
  - Links

## How to use the Info-Hub

- Menu system
  - Home
  - **Guidance document**
  - Report templates
  - Training materials
  - Case studies
  - Glossary
  - Discussion forum
  - Links



## How to use the Info-Hub

- Access to the full guidance document following the structure of the original document
- Click on *Guidance document* in the main menu and read on
  - EEBGuide Part A: Products
  - EEBGuide Part B: Buildings

The screenshot displays the EeBGuide Project website. At the top left is the EeBGuide logo, a blue house icon with a circular arrow. To its right is the text "EeBGuide Project" and "Operational Guidance for Life Cycle Assessment Studies of the Energy Efficient Buildings Initiative". A search box is located in the top right corner. Below the header is a dark blue navigation bar with the following links: Home, Guidance document, Report templates, Training materials, Case studies, Glossary, Discussion forum, and Links. The "Guidance document" link is circled in blue. A blue arrow points from this link to a sidebar on the right side of the page. The sidebar contains three items: "Guidance document", "EeBGuide Guidance Document Part A: PRODUCTS", and "EeBGuide Guidance Document Part B: BUILDINGS". The main content area below the navigation bar is titled "Home" and contains text about the project's purpose, the use of Life Cycle Assessment (LCA), and funding information. The funding information includes the European Commission logo and the text "The EeBGuide Project is funded by European Commission Research & Innovation Environment" and "This project is supported by the European Commission under the Environment (including climate change) Theme of the 7th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development". The Seventh Framework Programme logo is also visible.

## How to use the Info-Hub

- Easy to navigate to the desired content using the **table of contents** below the submenu or on at the bottom each page of the guidance document

aspects. Some of these aspects are common for products and buildings and are given in both parts, other aspects are specific to either products or buildings.

### 1 Introduction

- 1.1 What is this guidance document about?
- 1.2 Life Cycle Assessment Studies in the construction sector
- 1.3 EeBGuide within the European context
- 1.4 Who is addressed by the EeBGuide?



This entry was posted in [Existing buildings](#), [General](#), [New buildings](#) by [Zsoka Gyetvai](#). [Bookmark the permalink.](#)

The screenshot shows the EeBGuide website interface. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links: Home, Guidance document, Report templates, Training materials, Case studies, Glossary, Discussion forum, and Links. The 'Guidance document' menu is open, showing two options: 'EeBGuide Guidance Document Part A: PRODUCTS' and 'EeBGuide Guidance Document Part B: BUILDINGS'. The 'Table of Contents' section is visible, listing the following items:

- 1 Introduction
  - 1.1 What is this guidance document about?
  - 1.2 Life Cycle Assessment Studies in the construction sector
  - 1.3 EeBGuide within the European context
  - 1.4 Who is addressed by the EeBGuide?
- 2 How to use this Guidance document
  - 2.1 Scope of this Guidance
  - 2.2 Structure of the Guidance document
  - 2.3 Study types
    - 2.3.1 Screening LCA
    - 2.3.2 Simplified LCA
    - 2.3.3 Complete LCA
    - 2.3.4 Summary of the study type definitions
  - 2.4 How to conduct an LCA study within the field of Energy efficient Buildings

On the right side of the page, there is a section titled 'The EeBGuide Project is funded by' with the European Commission Research & Innovation Environment logo and the Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7) logo. Below this, there is a 'Filter' section with a dropdown menu set to 'Any category' and two checkboxes: 'Show lifecycle stage, study objective / phase / type' and 'Show field of application'.

## How to use the Info-Hub

- Use the filter to get directly to the content you are searching for



The screenshot shows the EeBGuide website interface. At the top is a navigation bar with links: Home, Guidance document, Report templates, Training materials, Case studies, Glossary, Discussion forum, and Links. The main content area is titled "Home" and contains three paragraphs of text. The first paragraph states that the project aims to develop metrics for LCA studies. The second paragraph explains that LCA is used to assess environmental benefits. The third paragraph mentions support from the European Commission. To the right, there are logos for the European Commission and the Seventh Framework Programme. At the bottom right, a "Filter" menu is circled in blue, showing options to filter by application field and lifecycle stage.

Home   Guidance document   Report templates   Training materials   Case studies   Glossary   Discussion forum   Links

### Home

The European research project “EeBGuide” aims to develop metrics for the preparation of Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) studies for energy-efficient buildings and building products.

LCA is used to assess the environmental benefits of new technologies. The EeBGuide manuals and guidance will support LCA practitioners to obtain comparative results in their work.

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The EeBGuide Project is funded by



European Commission  
Research & Innovation  
Environment



SEVENTH FRAMEWORK  
PROGRAMME

Seventh Framework  
Programme for Research  
(FP7)

Filter

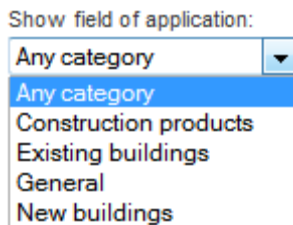
Show field of application:  
Any category

Show lifecycle stage, study objective / phase / type

- Lifecycle stage: A (all modules) (33)
- Lifecycle stage: A1-A3 (7)
- Lifecycle stage: A4 (5)
- Lifecycle stage: A5 (22)

## How to use the Info-Hub

- The **category filter** allows you to select one certain category in a dropdown menu (single choice)



Example:

1. Selecting „Construction products“ →
2. Click on „Show posts“ at the bottom of the page →
3. All guidance contents related to building products appear in a list in order of the structure of the guidance document (see next slide).

## How to use the Info-Hub

- If the results are listed on more pages, click on „older posts“ to go forward or on „newer posts“ to go backward in the guidance document.

### B- 09 “Modelling of energy use”

Posted on [October 17, 2012](#)

Aspect B- 09 “Modelling of energy use” Description Is B6 relevant at a product level? How should the operational energy use be modelled? related study objective  stand-alone LCA  comparative assertion related study phase     ... [Continue reading →](#)

Posted in [Construction products](#) | Tagged [Lifecycle stage: B \(all modules\)](#), [Lifecycle stage: B6](#), [Related study objective: comparative assertion](#), [Related study objective: stand-alone LCA](#), [Related study phase: Goal and scope definition](#), [Study type: Complete LCA](#), [Study type: Screening LCA](#), [Study type: Simplified LCA](#) [Edit](#)

### B- 10. “Repair with screening LCA”

Posted on [October 17, 2012](#)

Aspect B- 10. “Repair with screening LCA” Description Repair module covers all corrective, responsive or reactive treatment of a construction product or construction works to return it to a condition in which it can perform its required functional and technical ... [Continue reading →](#)

Posted in [Existing buildings](#), [New buildings](#) | Tagged [Lifecycle stage: B \(all modules\)](#), [Lifecycle stage: B3](#), [Related study objective: comparative assertion](#), [Related study objective: stand-alone LCA](#), [Related study phase: Goal and scope definition](#), [Study type: Screening LCA](#) [Edit](#)

forward

[← Older posts](#)

backward

[Newer posts →](#)

## B- 02. “Release of dangerous substances to soil and water during the use stage”

Posted on [October 17, 2012](#)

Aspect B- 02. “Release of dangerous substances to soil and water during the use stage”

Description Release of dangerous substances to soil and water during the use stage concern the on-site water pollution induced by the leaching phenomena (water contact ... [Continue reading →](#)

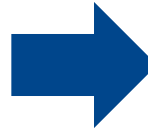
Posted in [Construction products](#), [Existing buildings](#), [New buildings](#) | Tagged [Lifecycle stage: B \(all modules\)](#), [Lifecycle stage: B1](#), [Related study objective: comparative assertion](#), [Related study objective: stand-alone LCA](#), [Related study phase: Goal and scope definition](#), [Related study phase: Inventory analysis \(LCI\)](#), [Study type: Complete LCA](#) [Edit](#)

## B- 02 “Recarbonisation of concrete during the use phase”

Posted on [October 17, 2012](#)

Aspect B- 02 “Recarbonisation of concrete during the use phase” Description During the use phase, fresh concrete can incorporate CO2 from the atmosphere, which is then converted to calcium carbonate by a chemical reaction. This could be accounted for similarly ... [Continue reading →](#)

Posted in [Construction products](#) | Tagged [Lifecycle stage: B \(all modules\)](#), [Lifecycle stage: B1](#), [Related study objective: comparative assertion](#), [Related study objective: stand-alone LCA](#), [Related study phase: Goal and scope definition](#), [Study type: Complete LCA](#), [Study type: Screening LCA](#), [Study type: Simplified LCA](#) [Edit](#)



## B- 03 “Release of dangerous substances to soil and water during the use stage”

Posted on [October 17, 2012](#)

Aspect B- 03 “Release of dangerous substances to soil and water during the use stage”

Description Release of dangerous substances to soil and water during the use stage concern the on-site water pollution induced by the leaching phenomena (water contact ... [Continue reading →](#)

Posted in [Construction products](#), [Existing buildings](#), [General](#), [New buildings](#) | Tagged [Lifecycle stage: B \(all modules\)](#), [Lifecycle stage: B1](#), [Related study objective: comparative assertion](#), [Related study objective: stand-alone LCA](#), [Related study phase: Goal and scope definition](#), [Related study phase: Inventory analysis \(LCI\)](#), [Study type: Complete LCA](#) [Edit](#)

## B- 04 “Maintenance – product LCA”

Posted on [October 17, 2012](#)

Aspect B- 04 “Maintenance – product LCA” Description Product LCAs can have different system boundaries, which can include or exclude maintenance. related study objective  stand-alone LCA  comparative assertion related study phase     goal and ... [Continue reading →](#)

Posted in [Construction products](#) | Tagged [Lifecycle stage: B \(all modules\)](#), [Lifecycle stage: B3](#), [Related study objective: comparative assertion](#), [Related study objective: stand-alone LCA](#), [Related study phase: Goal and scope definition](#), [Study type: Complete LCA](#), [Study type: Screening LCA](#), [Study type: Simplified LCA](#) [Edit](#)

## B- 05 “Repair – product LCA”

## How to use the Info-Hub

- The **tag filter** allows you to select any tags shown as checkboxes (multiple choice)
  - Lifecycle stages (modules)
  - Related study objective (comparative assertion / stand-alone LCA)
  - Related study phase (Goal and scope definition / Inventory analysis (LCI) / Impact assessment (LCIA) / Interpretation / Reporting )
  - Study type (Screening LCA / Simplified LCA / Complete LCA)
- ! You can use the category and tag filter together or separately to search for a certain content of the guidance document.

## How to use the Info-Hub

- Example
  - Lifecycle stages (modules)
    - select individual modules (e.g. lifecycle stage: A4)
    - select a module group (e.g. lifecycle stage: A (all modules)
      - this tag filter includes the modules A1-A3, A4, A5)



## How to use the Info-Hub

- Example
  - Category: Construction products
  - Tag: lifecycle stage: A4

→ results: all posts with module A4

The screenshot shows the EeBGuide website interface. At the top is a navigation bar with links: Home, Guidance document, Report templates, Training materials, Case studies, Glossary, Discussion forum, and Links. Below the navigation bar, the page title is 'CATEGORY ARCHIVES: CONSTRUCTION PRODUCTS'. The main content area displays a search result for '4.3 Module A4', posted on October 17, 2012. The title is 'A- 04 "Transports – consideration in complete LCAs" Back to 4. Aspects concerning Module A'. Below the title, it says 'Posted in Construction products | Tagged Lifecycle stage: A4' with an 'Edit' button. The main heading is 'A- 04 "Transports – consideration in complete LCAs"', posted on October 17, 2012. The description reads: 'Aspect A- 04 "Transports – consideration in complete LCAs" Description Depending on the object of assessment, in complete LCAs transports may be a considerable source of environmental impacts. How should they be considered? related study objective ☒ stand-alone LCA ☒ ... Continue reading →'. Below the description, it says 'Posted in Construction products | Tagged Lifecycle stage: A (all modules), Lifecycle stage: A4, Related study objective: comparative assertion, Related study objective: stand-alone LCA, Related study phase: Goal and scope definition, Study type: Complete LCA, Study type: Screening LCA, Study type: Simplified LCA' with an 'Edit' button. On the right side, there is a sidebar with the text 'The EeBGuide Project is funded by' and the European Union flag. Below the flag, it says 'European Commission Research & Innovation Environment'. There is also a logo for the 'SEVENTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME' and 'Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7)'. At the bottom of the sidebar, there is a 'Filter' section with 'Show field of application: Construction products' and 'Show lifecycle stage, study objective / phase / type'. Underneath, there is a list of checkboxes: 'Lifecycle stage: A (all modules) (33)', 'Lifecycle stage: A1-A3 (2)', 'Lifecycle stage: A4 (5)' (which is checked and circled in red), and 'Lifecycle stage: A5 (22)'. There is also a 'Filter' button.

## How to use the Info-Hub

- Example
  - Category: Construction products
  - Tag: lifecycle stage: A (all modules)

→ results: all posts with modules A1-A3, A4 and A5

CATEGORY ARCHIVES: CONSTRUCTION PRODUCTS

### 4.1 Overview

Posted on October 17, 2012

The chapter "aspects concerning Module A" addresses aspects, which are related to life cycle stage A. Following list describes the addressed aspects in module "A". 4 Aspects concerning Module A 4.1 Overview 4.2 Module A1 – A3 A- 01 "Waste/by-products ... Continue reading →

Posted in Construction products | Tagged Lifecycle stage: A (all modules)

Edit

### A- 01 "Waste/by-products during extraction & processing"

Posted on October 17, 2012

Aspect A- 01 "Waste/by-products during extraction & processing" Description How should wastes and by-products be handled? Should energy consumption for waste disposal be included? Should processing energy/water and capital equipment/machinery required for waste disposal be included? How should allocation and ... Continue reading →

Posted in Construction products | Tagged Lifecycle stage: A (all modules), Lifecycle stage: A1-A3, Related study objective: comparative assertion, Related study objective: stand-alone LCA, Related study phase: Goal and scope definition, Study type: Complete LCA, Study type: Screening LCA, Study type: Simplified LCA

Edit

### A- 02 "Transport of staff in the supply of raw materials"

Posted on October 17, 2012

Aspect A- 02 "Transport of staff in the supply of raw materials" Description Is it relevant to consider the transport of staff during extraction and manufacturing life cycle stages? related study objective  stand-alone LCA  comparative assertion related study ... Continue reading →

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Filter

Show field of application:

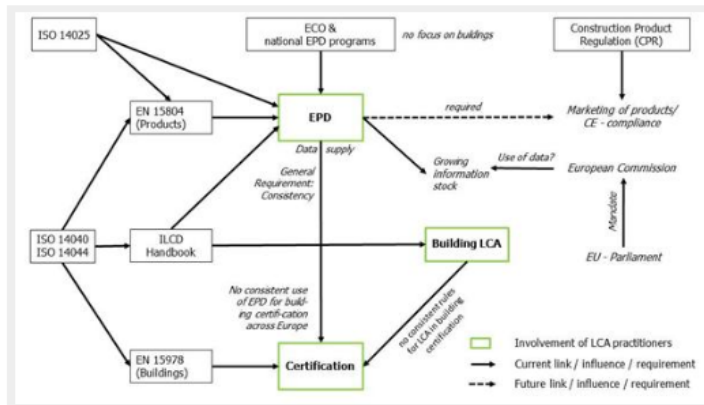
Construction products

Show lifecycle stage, study objective, related study phase

- Lifecycle stage: A (all modules) (33)
- Lifecycle stage: A1-A3 (7)
- Lifecycle stage: A4 (5)
- Lifecycle stage: A5 (22)
- Lifecycle stage: B (all modules) (52)
- Lifecycle stage: B1 (5)
- Lifecycle stage: B2 (6)
- Lifecycle stage: B3 (8)
- Lifecycle stage: B4 (10)
- Lifecycle stage: B5 (2)
- Lifecycle stage: B6 (11)
- Lifecycle stage: B7 (7)
- Lifecycle stage: C (all modules) (19)
- Lifecycle stage: C1 (3)
- Lifecycle stage: C2 (3)

## How to use the Info-Hub

- Tips and tricks



← Click on pictures to zoom in

Figure 2: Current European situation in the context of EPD and building LCAs

LCA is currently used as the basis for product assessments, especially to provide Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) as the basis for building assessments such as an instrument used in building certification schemes. This basis is not defined by different standards and the ILCD handbook, definitions may be conflicting and different approaches to conduct a study may be chosen. The upcoming [Construction Products](#)

## How to use the Info-Hub

- Tips and tricks

LCA is currently used as the basis for product assessments, and especially in providing EPDs, which form an important data source for building assessments used in building labelling schemes. This basis is not consistently defined by the various standards and the ILCD Handbook; definitions may conflict, and different approaches to conducting a study may be chosen. The forthcoming Construction Products Regulation (CPR) [CPR 2011] contains [additional Basic \(Work\) Requirements \(BWR\)](#), particularly the addition of 'environment' to BWR 3 (hygiene and health) and the addition of 'natural resources', stating that "EPD should be used to ensure the sustainable use of resources and of the impact on the environment."

Former 'essential requirements', as defined in the Construction Products Directive (CPD 89/106/EEC) of 1989, are replaced by 'basic requirements' (sometimes called 'basic work requirements', BWR) in the new Construction Products Regulation (CPR 305/2011/EU) of 2011.

Both the European standards EN 15804 and EN 15978 and the ILCD Handbook are based on the international standards ISO 14040 and ISO 14044. The European standards define the general framework and general calculation methods for building and product LCAs. The European ECO EPD platform (as the potential umbrella body for national EPD programmes) and national EPD programmes have individual sets of rules, and may refer to EN 15804. Building labelling schemes (such as [DGNB](#), [HQE](#), [VERDE](#) or [BREEAM](#)) use their own individual sets of calculation rules for building LCA, and may refer to EN 15978. As a consequence, the European landscape of LCA calculation rules is currently not harmonized, and the links between EPD data and building LCAs (which use EPD data for the products used) are not necessarily well established. However, the ongoing efforts of projects such as SBA Common Metrics are contributing to the development of common rules.

Move the mouse over the

[blue highlighted text](#) to

see *additional infos*

## How to use the Info-Hub

- Tips and tricks

Both the European standards EN 15804 and EN 15978 and the ILCD Handbook are based on the international standards ISO 14040 and ISO 14044. The European standards define the general framework and general calculation methods for building and product LCAs. The European ECO EPD platform (as the potential umbrella body for national EPD programmes) and national EPD programmes have individual sets of rules, and may refer to EN 15804. Building labelling schemes (such as [DGNB](#), [LEED](#), [VERDE](#) or [BREEAM](#)) use their own individual sets of calculation rules for building LCA, and may refer to EN 15978. As a consequence, the European landscape of LCA calculation rules is currently not harmonized, and the links between EPD data and building LCAs (which use EPD data for the products used) are not necessarily well established. However, the ongoing efforts of projects such as SBA Common Metrics are contributing to the development of common rules.

Open [hyperlinks](#) in a new tab



## How to use the Info-Hub

- Tips and tricks

Home Guidance document Report templates Training materials Case studies **Glossary** Discussion forum Links

### Glossary

[Edit](#)  
A|B|C|D|E|F|G|H|I|J|K|L|M|N|O|P|Q|R|S|T|U|V|W|X|Y|Z

The following table describes the terms and definitions of common used LCA expressions and wordings. Part of these expressions are use in this guidance document, the others are mentioned to show a full list of European terms and definitions.

|                                  |   |                       |
|----------------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| additional technical information | information that forms part of the EPD by providing a basis for the development of scenarios  | EN 15804/<br>EN 15978 |
| allocation or partitioning       | Partitioning the input or output flows of a process or a product system between the product system under study and one or more other product systems.   | ISO 14040             |
| analysed decision                | Decision that is subject to an LCA study. In contrast to LCI studies and most non-comparative LCA studies stand comparative LCA studies with a direct decision context. For these the LCA study analysis a decision rather than a single process or system. Such can be for example the decision on alternative materials that are evaluated to be used for a product, the purchase of alternatives products that are compared, the decision on a policy option that is analysed regarding its environmental impact implications, and the like. | ILCD Handbook         |
| ancillary material               | input material or product that is used by the unit process producing the product, but which does not  | EN 15804/<br>EN 15978 |

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SEVENTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME  
Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7)

Click on a letter in the glossary to go to the words with this initial letter

## How to use the Info-Hub

- ❓ ▪ How to print the guidance document?
  - We recommend to download the full guidance document (available as a PDF version) for this issue in order to a sufficient print quality.