

What's new in SimaPro 8.0.3



Colophon

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Report version: 1

Date: May 2014

Language: English

Availability: PDF file

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What's new in SimaPro 8.0.3

New feature in SimaPro; Project to library link Manager

SimaPro 8.0.3 has an important new feature called the 'Project to Library link Manager'. With this feature, you can manage the links between your projects and the LCI libraries which you are using. This is very handy if you want to check links (processes) or substitute one or more links, used in one or more projects or even in the whole database, with other links which are more appropriate. This is also the solution for your projects which have been updated to Ecoinvent v3 and still have Ecoinvent v2.2 links which could not be transferred.

New LCI; Agri-footprint

Agri-footprint is a new data source, which has been developed by Blonk Consultants and is an important data source for professionals in, among others, the food industry. At the moment, an extended LCA library on food and food related data is lacking. The Agri-footprint contains about 150 unit processes which can be used as background processes in ISO 14040/14044 compliant LCAs of food or LCAs compliant with the ENVIFOOD/Product Environmental Footprint (PEF) standards. The background database used is ELCD version 3. The methodology and data has been reviewed by third parties. The processes which can be found in the Agri footprint are among others,

- Agricultural products such as grains, tubers, sugar cane and oil seed;
- commodities such as the bio-ethanol, dairy and meat products;
- transport data;
- key inputs in farming and industrial food processing such as artificial fertilizers, lime, acids and bases.

Agri-footprint contains three libraries based on economic, gross energy and mass allocation. Economic allocation is the conventional way of allocating while allocation based on gross energy is applicable for bio-fuels and mass allocation for specific industries such as the starch industry.

Updated LCI; ELCD 3

The ELCD library in SimaPro is updated with version 3 which is available since last year. The ELCD library supports Product Environmental Footprint (PEF) and Organisation Environmental Footprint (OEF) standards. This update is especially relevant for users who want to conduct PEF/OEF compliance studies. About twenty new datasets are present in the ELCD 3 library. The owner of the data, the Joint Research Centre, started reviewing the data quality against the ILCD Entry-Level requirements and several datasets are now fully reviewed in version 3. More newly developed datasets on energy, transport and materials are currently being reviewed.

Method library update

IPCC 2013

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released in January 2014 new characterisation factors for emission of substances responsible for climate change. The IPCC 2013 factors for three different time horizons (20, 100 and 500 years) are implemented now in SimaPro and will follow up the IPCC 2007 method. The most prominent changes are that the factors of methane emissions have increased and those of N₂O have decreased. Methane and N₂O are two important substances, especially in agricultural processes.

The IPCC 2007 method has been adopted by other method developers which have climate change as one of the impact categories in their LCIA method. PRé is planning to replace the IPCC 2007 with the new version later this year with the consent of the method developers.

EPD 2013

The EPD 2013 method follows up the EPD 2008 method. EPD stands for Environmental Product Declaration. An EPD is conducted always according to a Product Category Rule. This update is especially important for everybody who is reporting a Product Category Rule (PCR) published by Environdec. This method is a compilation of impact categories from the recently updated CML-IA baseline and non-baseline methods.

These impact categories are:

- Global warming;
- Eutrophication;
- photochemical oxidation;
- acidification;
- ozone layer depletion (optional);
- abiotic depletion (optional).

Ecological Scarcity 2013

The Ecological Scarcity method has been updated in 2013 and implemented in SimaPro 8.0.3. This method, commissioned by the Swiss Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN), calculates eco-factors representing Swiss conditions but can be applied in other countries and regions as well. Among others, additional eco-factors are provided for traffic noise, persistent organic pollutants (POPs) and metal and mineral sources.

More information?

Please contact us or your local partner if you have questions on SimaPro or any other questions related to the update.

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