

**Let us not reinvent the wheel.
EU harmonised LCA should remain the
backbone of our effort to achieve Climate
Neutral Buildings by 2050.**

18.02.2021

The French Government plans to apply a new “dynamic” Life-Cycle Assessment (LCA) to construction products¹ whilst we have a European standard, EN15804 recently aligned to the European Commission needs and used as reference by the whole construction industry. More so, developing national methodologies would lead to barriers to trade for construction products.

French dynamic LCA vs. European harmonised methodology

Whilst we support the efforts of any government to introduce Life-Cycle Assessments (LCA) as the appropriate tool for sustainability assessment of construction works, we will always recommend the use of the single, harmonised, scientifically based, European methodology.

As explained previously, the calculation of the environmental performance of construction products as part of the overall building performance has been subject to extensive standardisation work in CEN/TC350, mandated by the European Commission in 2004 and in 2017. Under this framework, the standards provide clear guidance when dealing with calculation methods, indicators, and reporting. This framework should therefore be considered as the best existing source of information by public authorities, which can of course be adapted to new requirements in the European context.

The Construction Products Regulation is the sole legislative instrument by which to regulate the delivery of construction products performance information across the EU. Deviations from the European approach, such as national assessment methods or labels are not allowed because they would lead to barriers to trade and to a distortion of the Single Market.

Construction Products Europe considers it essential to follow the single European methodology to assess the environmental performance of construction products and construction works and to integrate any information need in the regulatory context of the Construction Product Regulation



Founded in 1988, Construction Products Europe is a Brussels-based international non-profit making association. It is made up of national and European associations that represent Small and Medium-size Enterprises and world-leading companies. Construction Products Europe aims to promote the European construction industry, to share information on EU legislation, standardisation and to provide input in all European construction-related initiatives.

¹ TRIS notifications 2020/790/F, 2020/791/F and 2020/792/F