

# Environmental footprint in Swedish industry

Webinar 2023-10-26

# Agenda

Introduction part 1

Environmental footprint update

Q&A

*Short break*

Introduction to part 2

Case studies

Closing words

Q&A



# Main speakers



Björn Spak  
Swedish Environmental  
Protection Agency



Torun Hammar  
RISE



Erika Kloow  
IVL



Josefin Neuwirth  
IVL

# Information and guidelines



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50 responses

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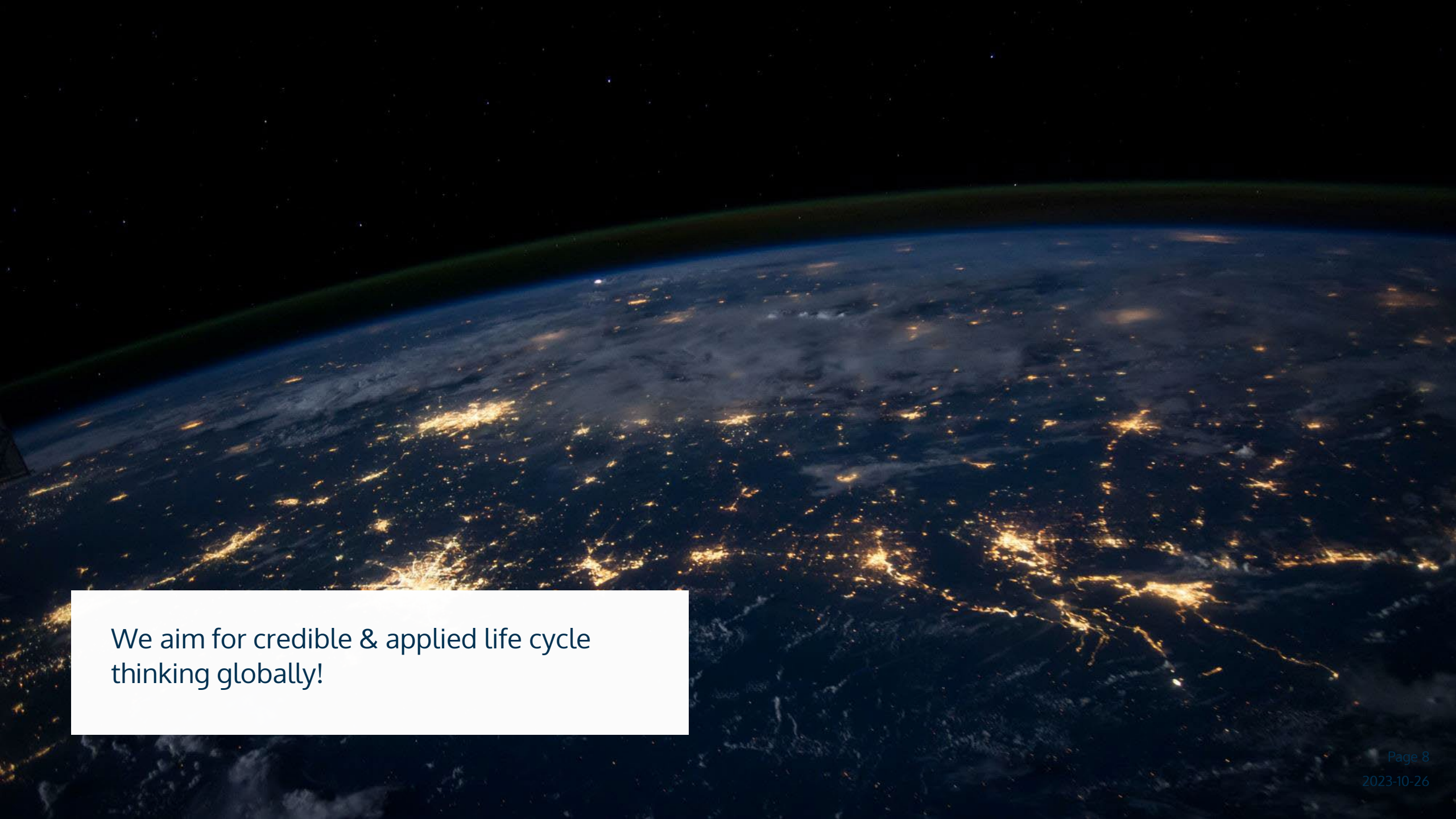
## Environmental footprint in Swedish industry

- Increased understanding
- Understand effects of implementation
- Contribute to development
  
- Funded by Vinnova





Case studies, expert group meetings and more



We aim for credible & applied life cycle thinking globally!



# Partners

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**CHALMERS**



**Höganäs** 



**VOLVO**



# From the calendar

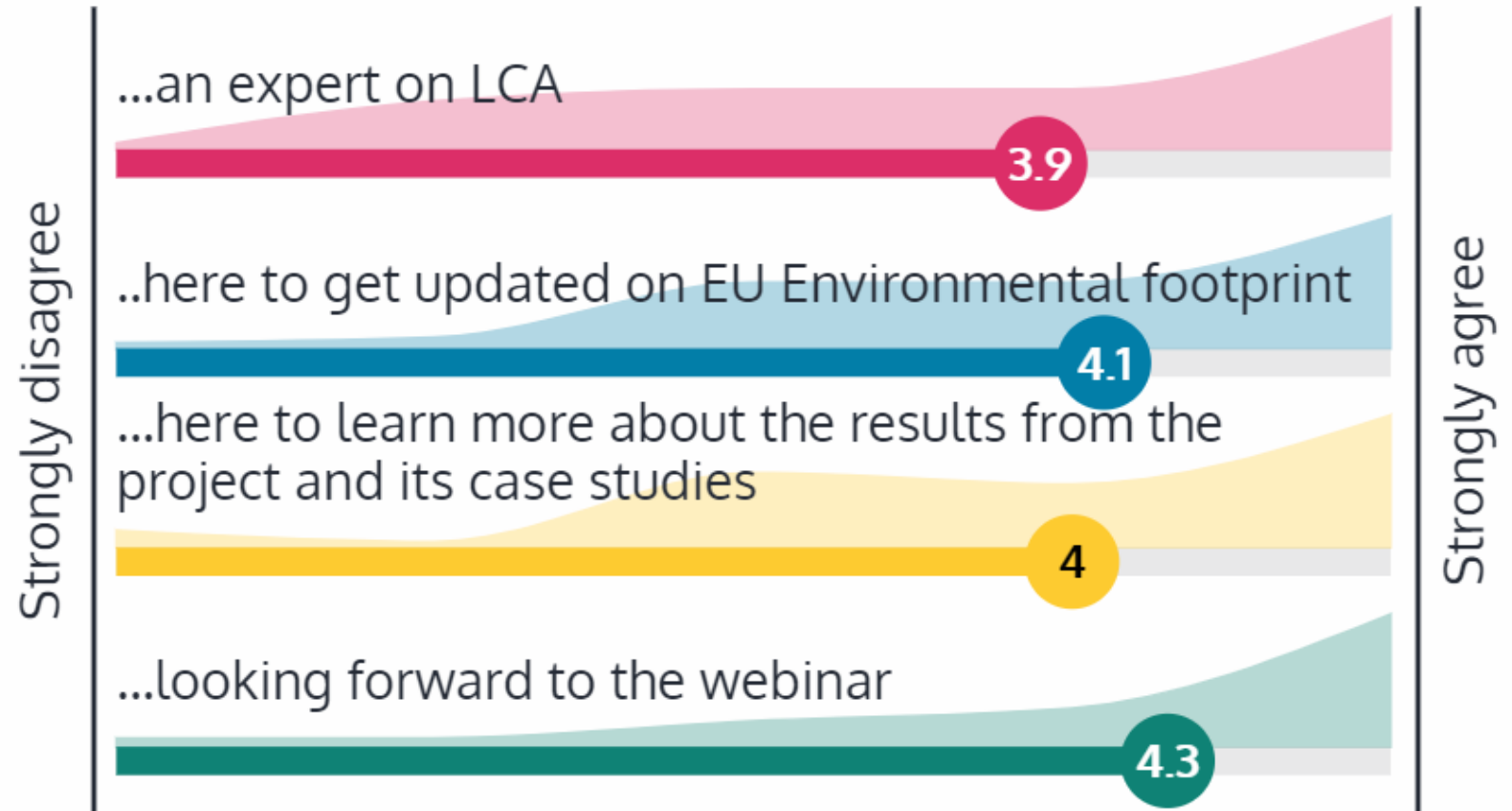
Life cycle talks

SETAC Europe 26<sup>th</sup> LCA symposium

Two day course in applied life cycle thinking

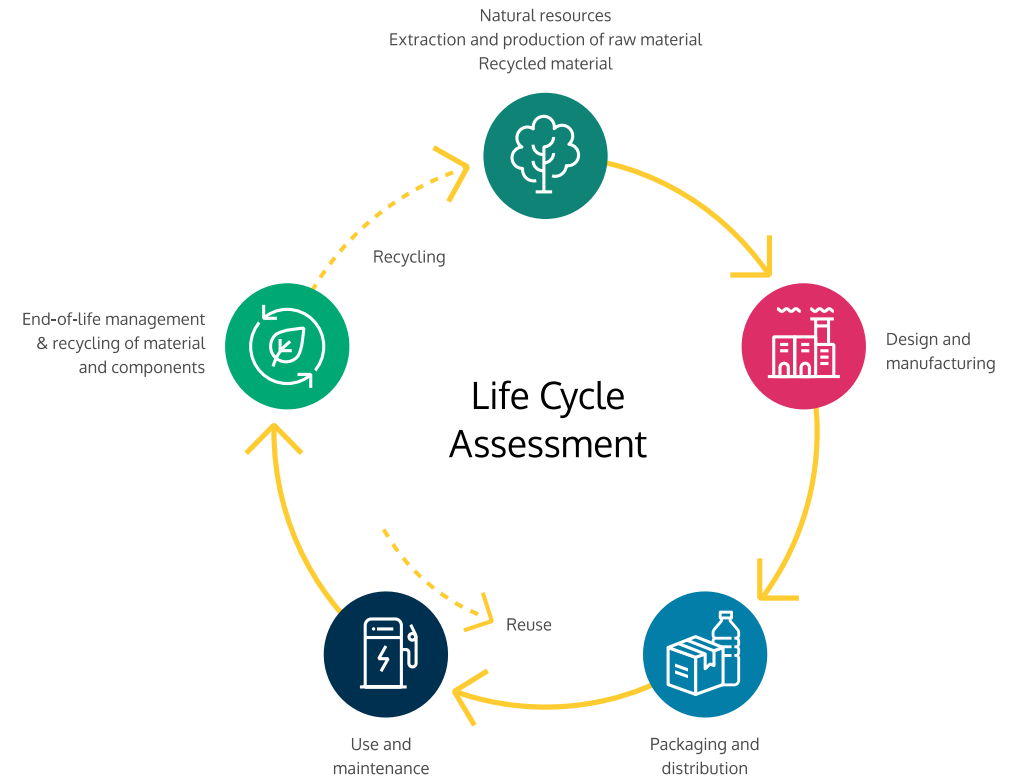
# I am...

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# What is Environmental Footprint

Methods for measuring and communicating the life cycle environmental performance of products and organisations of the European Commission.



# PEF and OEF

To carry out a PEF and OEF compliant study, product category and sector guidelines have been or are being developed

PEFCR - Rules to calculate the relevant environmental information of the organisations belonging to the sector in scope.

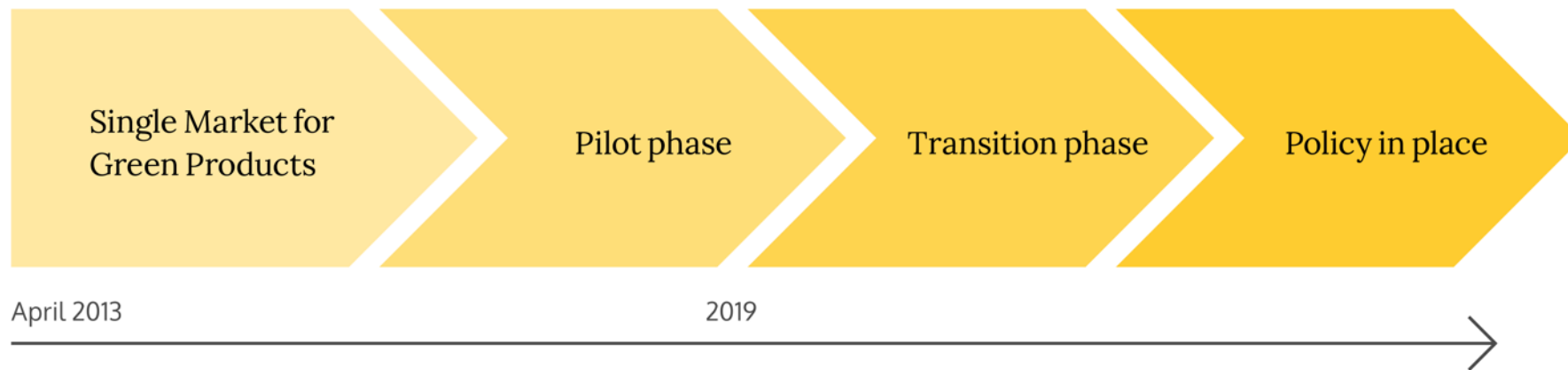
OEF SR - Rules to calculate the relevant environmental information of products belonging to the product category in scope.





The aim of EU Environmental footprint is to improve the environmental performance of products, services and organisations in the European market through a combination of market pressure and policy instruments, using information that is reliable, comparable and verifiable

**The Environmental Footprint process of the European Commission**, from the Single Market from Green Products initiative in 2013 until today and ahead.



# Björn Spak

Swedish Environmental Protection Agency

Update of current status of the EU  
environmental footprint and its  
implementation and connections to  
other EU legislation





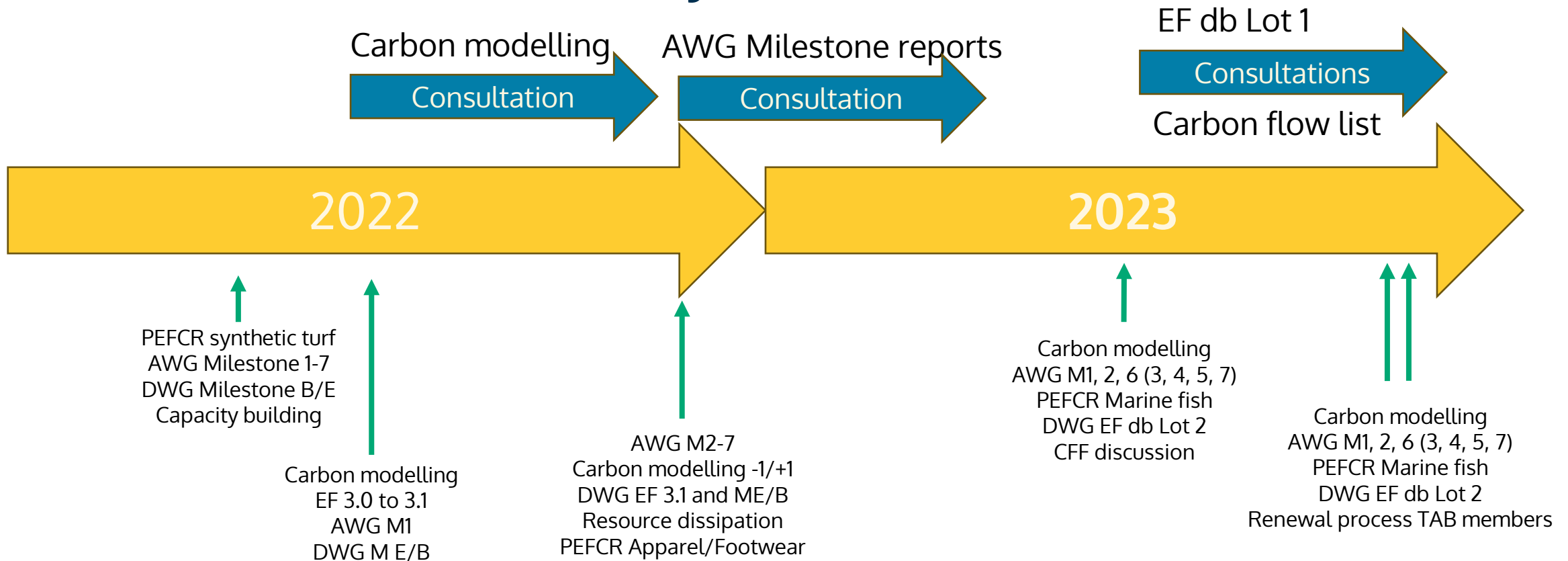


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# Environmental footprint

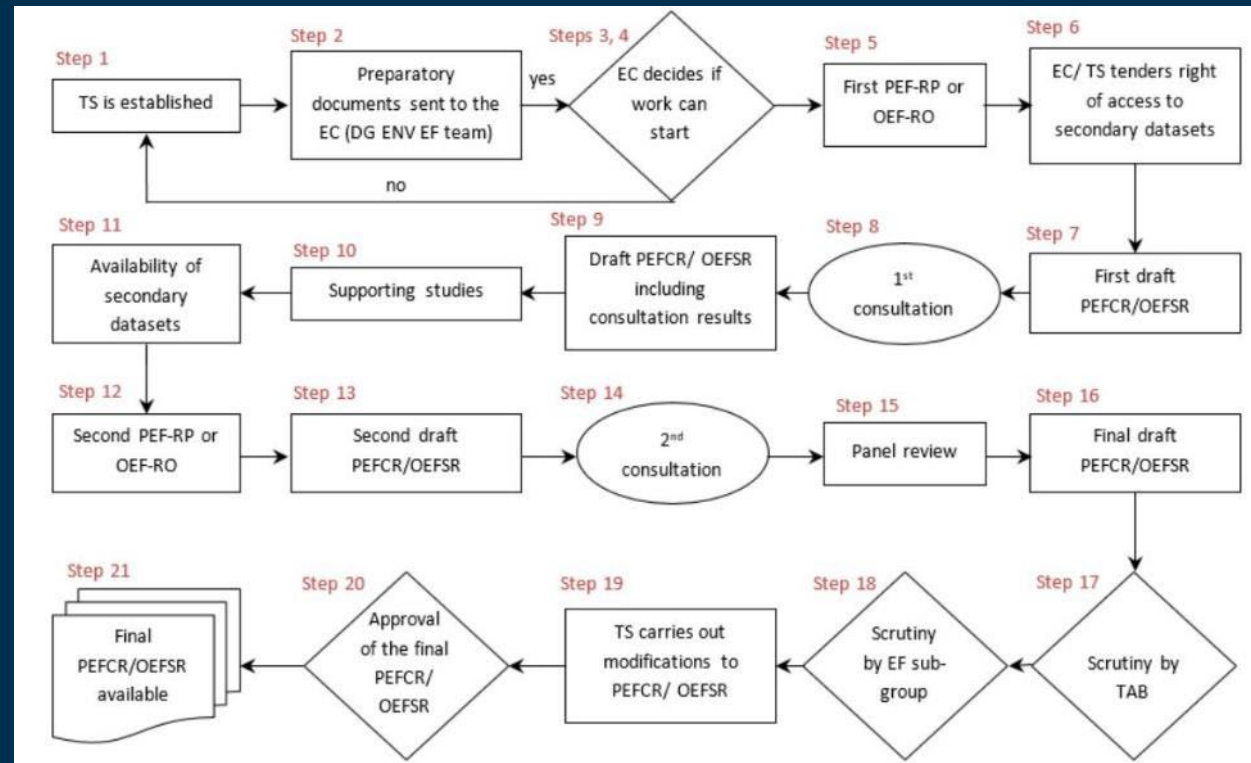
Methods, data and implementation into legislation

# Technical Advisory Board 2022-2023



# PEFCR development

- PEFCR-development
  - Apparel & Footwear
  - Marine fish
  - Synthetic turf
  - Cut flowers and potted plants
  - Flexible packaging
- PEFCR-update
  - Pilot-phase PEFCRs

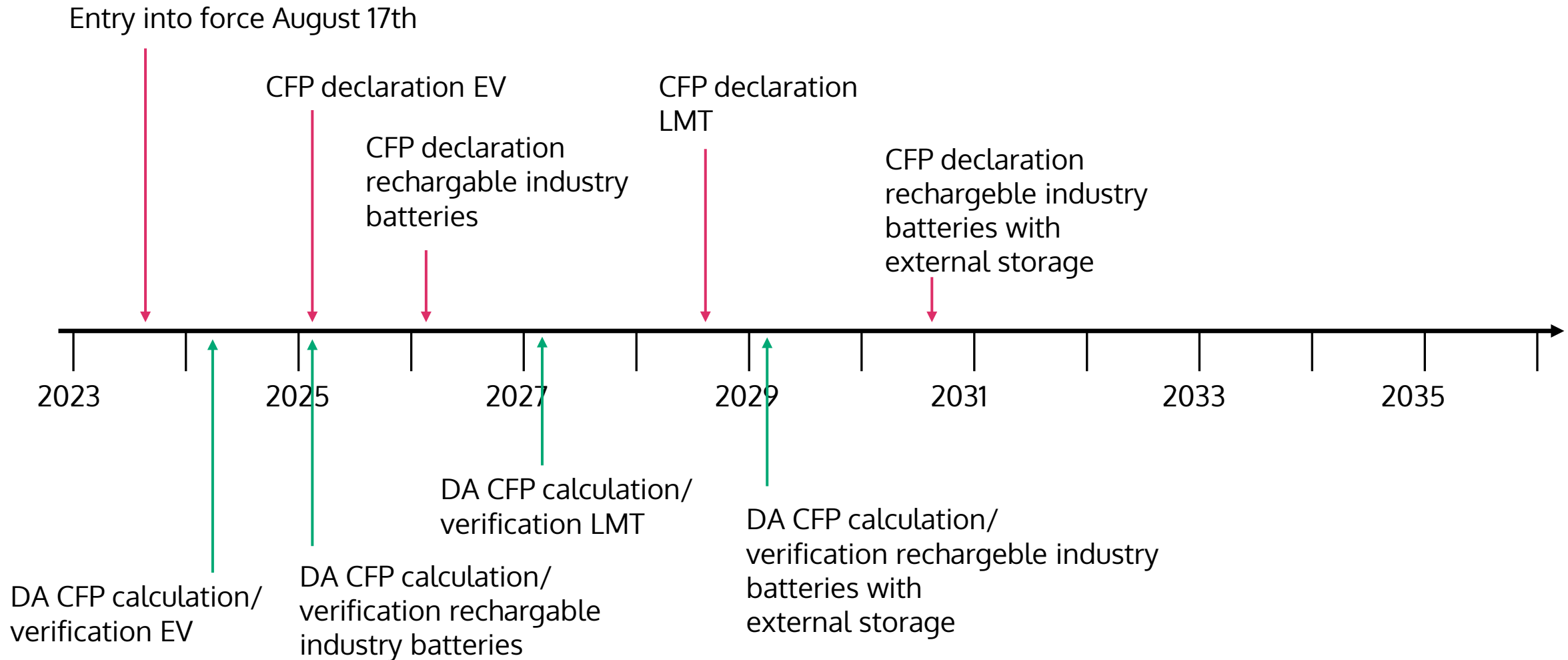


# EF implementation in Battery regulation and Solar PV product regulation

Both acts refers to EF/PEFCRs

- Battery regulation adopted August 17<sup>th</sup> 2023
  - Carbon footprint declaration delegated/implementing acts
    - Delegated acts (DA) for calculation and verification
      - **Member states and other stakeholders concerned over electricity modelling**
    - Implemented act for format of declaration
    - DA for carbon footprint performance levels
    - DA for maximum carbon footprint threshold values
- Solar PV product regulation under current Ecodesign Directive
  - Pilot phase PEFCR partially incorporated into draft regulation
  - Development halted over dispute on electricity modelling
- These texts will likely influence EF development and/or other implementation

# Battery regulation CFP declaration



# EF implementation in other frameworks/acts

## Ecodesign regulation (ESPR)

- Currently in trialogue, high priority for Spain
- EF may be used in DAs
  - “Preparatory study” going on for textiles
  - “Preparatory study” being prepared for iron/steel (intermediary products)

## Ecodesign directive MEErP

- Methodology for Ecodesign of Energy-related Products – screening LCA
  - Database, impact assessment methods and EoL-modelling adopted to EF

## Farm-to-fork – Framework for Sustainable Food Systems

- EF-based Consumption Footprint suggested as indicator

# Other frameworks/acts

## Carbon Removal Certification Framework

- Influences carbon modelling in EF

## Taxonomy

- Weak link to EF

## Construction Product Regulation revision

- EN 15804 over EF

## CBAM

- Relates to ETS rather than EF



**Questions?**



An hourglass with red sand is the central focus, set against a background of a newspaper. The top bulb of the hourglass is partially filled with red sand, and a thin stream of sand is falling into the bottom bulb. The newspaper text is blurred in the background.

**Short break**

*Back at 13:53*



Case studies



# Torun Hammar

RISE – Research Institutes of Sweden

*Case study circular footprint  
formular with focus on  
materials used in batteries*



# Case study: Application of the Circular Footprint Formula within the automotive industry

Environmental footprint in Swedish industry  
– increased understanding and implementation

## Overall aim of case study

The aim of the case study was to better understand the consequences of implementing the circular footprint formula (CFF) within the automotive industry in Sweden

## Case study group

- RISE Research Institutes of Sweden
- Volvo Car Corporation
- Höganäs AB
- CEVT

# How was the case study performed?



## Study circle

- Reading and discussing relevant literature and documentation
- Identifying challenges in interpreting the CFF, and developing suggestions for how to clarify the existing documentations and guidelines



## Practical testing

- Both in a developed Excel tool for a simplified product example and in selected LCA software
- Evaluating the results compared to using another end-of-life allocation method
- Evaluating data availability



Evaluating the overall implications of implementing the circular footprint formula in the Swedish automotive industry

## What is the circular footprint formula (CFF)?

Formula for allocating the environmental burden or benefit of material recycling, energy recovery and disposal between products life cycles

$$\text{CFF} = \text{Material} + \text{Energy} + \text{Disposal}$$



# Circular Footprint Formula

## Material

$$\underbrace{(1 - R_1)E_v}_{\text{Primary material in}} + \underbrace{R_1 \cdot (AE_{recycled} + (1 - A)E_v \times \frac{Q_{Sin}}{Q_P})}_{\text{Secondary material in}} + \underbrace{(1 - A)R_2 \cdot (E_{recyclingEoL} - E_v^* \cdot \frac{Q_{Sout}}{Q_P})}_{\text{Secondary material out and replaced primary material (credit)}}$$

Connected to input (points to the secondary material in term)  
 Connected to output (points to the secondary material out and replaced primary material (credit) term)

## Energy

$$(1 - B)R_3 \cdot (E_{ER} - LHV \cdot X_{ER,heat} \cdot E_{SE,heat} - LHV \cdot X_{ER,elec} \cdot E_{SE,elec})$$

## Disposal

$$(1 - R_2 - R_3) \cdot E_D$$

## Challenges in interpreting the CFF

- Main challenge connected to how pre-consumer materials and post-consumer materials should be handled

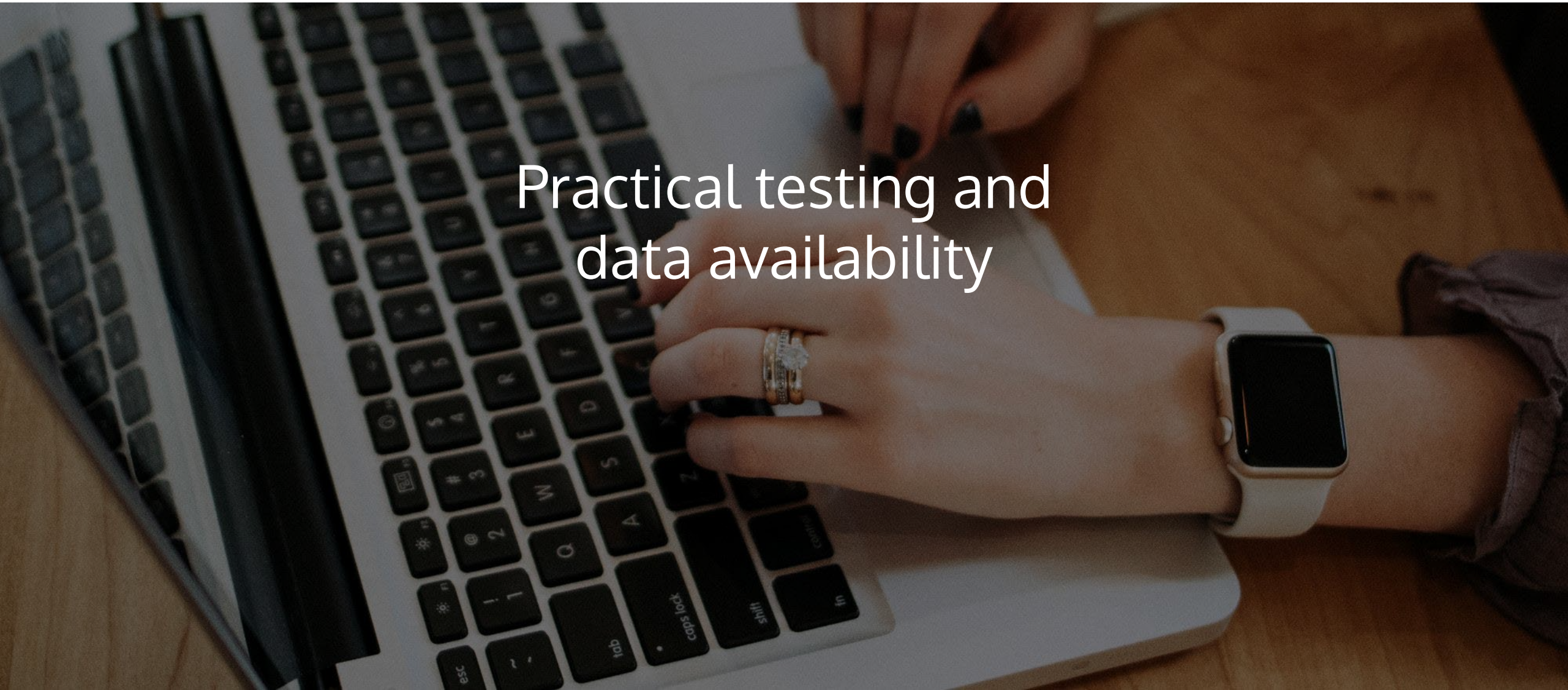
<b>Post-consumer material</b>	Material derived as waste stream at products end of life, after use by households, commercial, industrial or institutional facilities.
<b>Pre-consumer material</b>	Material derived as waste stream from manufacturing process.

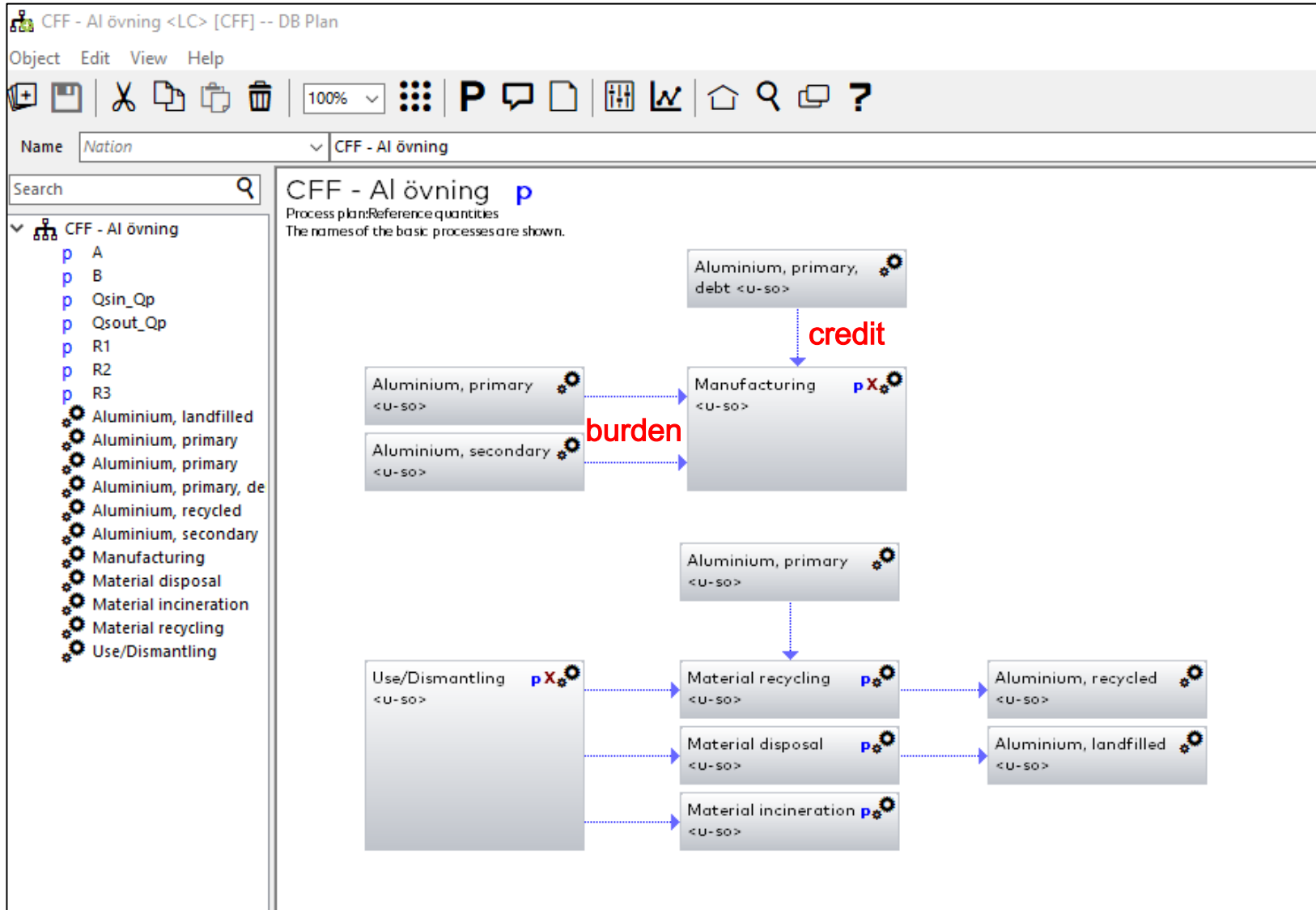
- R1 (recycled content), R2 (proportion of material being recycled), quality parameters, emission factors

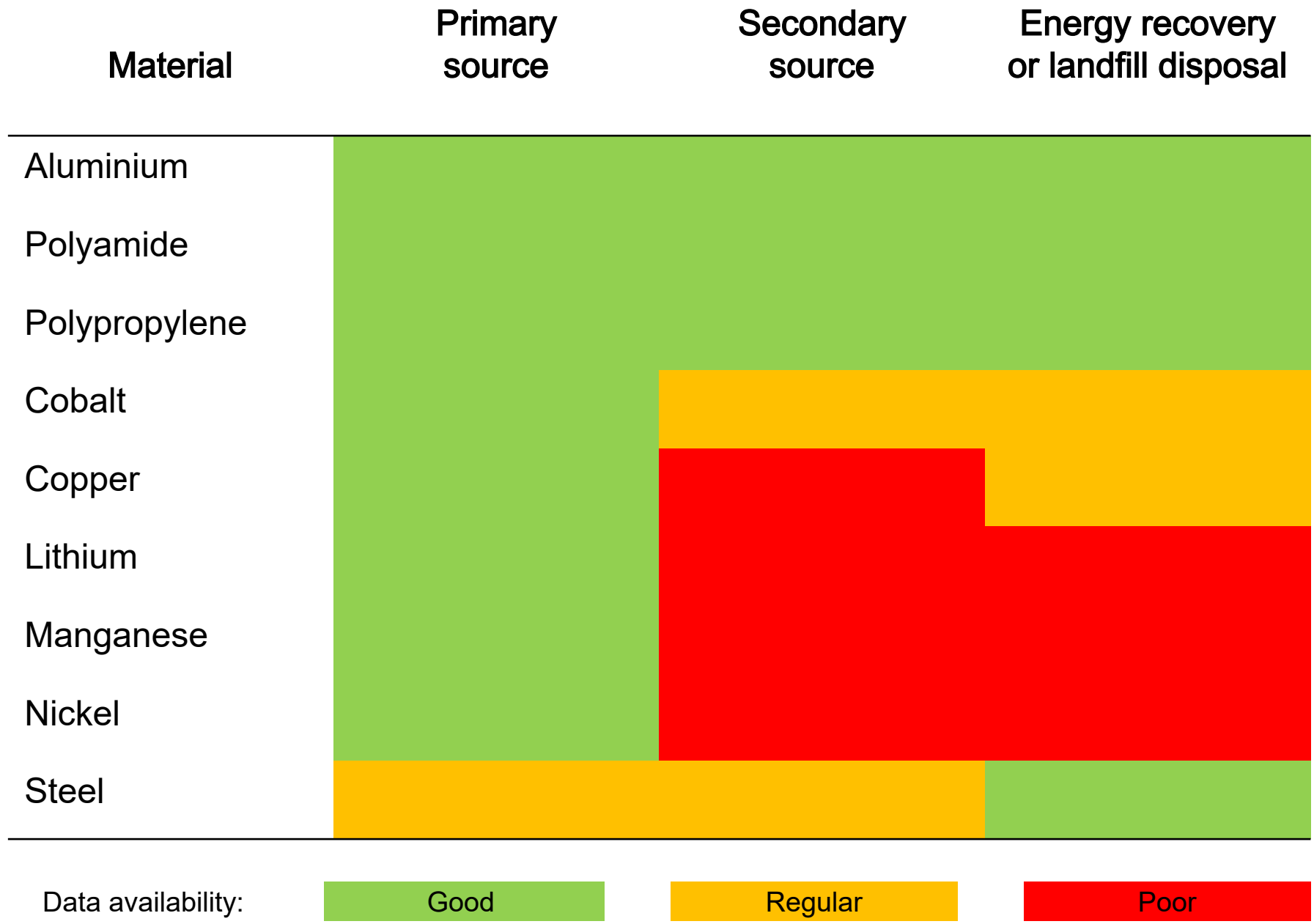


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# Practical testing and data availability









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# Conclusions and recommendations

## Conclusions and recommendations (1/3)

- A benefit with the CFF is the possibility to give incentives for both using recycled materials as input, and that materials leaving the system throughout the whole value chain are recycled. The CFF is thus a useful tool for internal decision-making regarding e.g. material selection.

## Conclusions and recommendations (2/3)

### Pre-consumer vs. post-consumer materials

- Clearer definitions on how different types of secondary materials should be handled are recommended. In particular, clarifications regarding pre-consumer materials are needed.
- The CFF should ideally reflect and give incentives for using post-consumer materials over pre-consumer materials, since pre-consumer materials can be results of inefficiencies in manufacturing processes.
- Pre-consumer materials are generally considered more high-value materials than post-consumer materials, and should therefore in many cases not give the same credit as post-consumer materials (from replacing primary materials), which is not clearly reflected in the formula.



## Conclusions and recommendations (3/3)

### Practical feasibility of implementing the CFF

- Data availability was identified as most difficult, including asking suppliers to supply data according to the CFF, due to the risk of different interpretations and/or use of data sources resulting in non-comparable results.
- Therefore, until the CFF becomes mandatory, the cut-off approach will likely be continually used when asking suppliers for data and for publicly shared LCA results.
- Lastly, recommendations from this case study are to clarify guidelines on data selection, ensure compatibility with existing databases and provide open access data for making the PEF and CFF more widely applicable.



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Thanks!





**Questions?**

# Erika Kloow and Josefin Neuwirth

IVL - Swedish Environmental Research Institute

*Case study biogenic carbon in interlinked product systems and in long living products*



# Modelling of biogenic carbon following the guidance in the PEF method

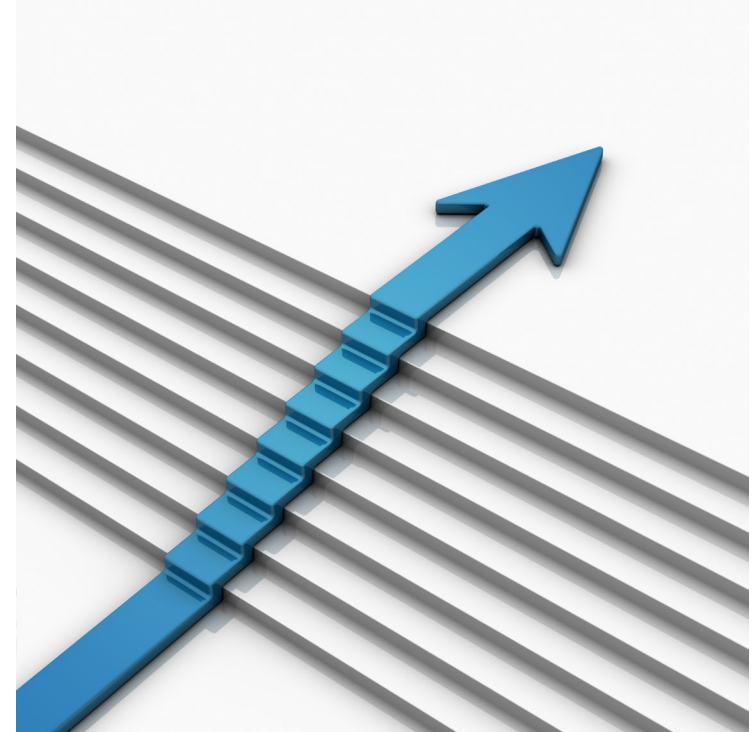
Josefin Neuwirth & Erika Kloow, IVL  
Jonas Larsson, SSAB

## Project aim

The overall aim of this case study was to better understand the consequences of using the PEF method to model the climate change impact with focus on biogenic carbon content in interlinked product systems and long living products.

# Working procedure

1. Guidance: *PEF, PEFCR:s, EN 15804 (standard for construction products)*
2. Case study products: *SSAB Fossil-free™ steel and scrap-based steel*
3. Defining scenarios
4. Modelling potential climate change impact
5. Conclusions



# Guidance in the PEF method

## Modelling of biogenic carbon

- The PEFCR shall specify if a 'simplified modelling approach' should be used. A simplified approach means no inclusion of emissions or uptakes of biogenic CO<sub>2</sub> in the study.
- If a simplified approach is not used, all the biogenic CO<sub>2</sub> flows shall be modelled. However, the characterization factors (CF) for biogenic CO<sub>2</sub> are set to zero within the EF impact assessment method.
- 'Physical content and allocated content' of biogenic carbon shall be reported as additional information for intermediate products.

## Allocation

- Circular Footprint Formula (CFF) shall be used to model recycled input and product going to recycling.
- There is no specific guidance on how to treat biogenic carbon in the material when allocating burdens and credits between product systems.

## Time

- All emissions and removals shall be considered as emitted 'now'. There is no discounting of emissions over time.



# Modelling scenarios: biogenic carbon in product

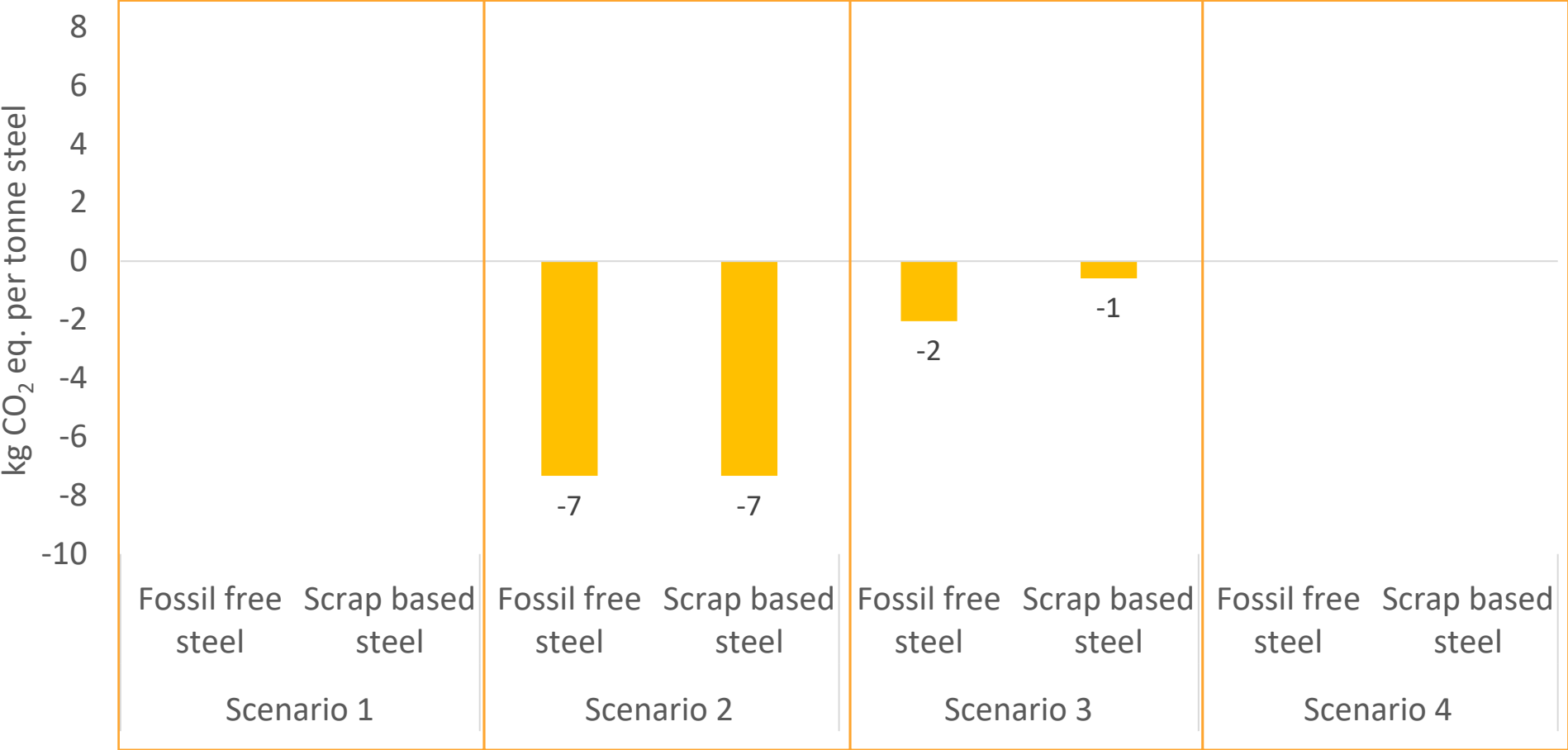
- 4 modelling scenarios
- Aim to capture the most relevant modelling scenarios

Methodological aspect	Scenario 1: PEF with bio CO <sub>2</sub> CF* set to 0.	Scenario 2: PEF with bio CO <sub>2</sub> CF* -/+1	Scenario 3: PEF with bio CO <sub>2</sub> CF* -/+1 and bio C content allocated to primary production	Scenario 4: EN 15804
Bio C modelling	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bio CO <sub>2</sub> CF*	0	-/+1	-/+1	-/+1
Allocation	CFF	CFF	CFF	Cut-off
Allocation of bio C in the product	No	No, handled as material inherent property	Yes, the bio C is allocated to the primary production	No, handled as material inherent property
Time	No discounting of emissions over time			

\*CF = characterisation factor

# Results differ between modelling scenarios

## Climate change impact - biogenic



- Total result
- Allocation factor set to 0.2
- An A-factor < 0.5 - the formula focuses on recyclability at EoL

PEF with bio CO<sub>2</sub> CF set to 0

PEF with bio CO<sub>2</sub> CF +/-1

PEF with bio CO<sub>2</sub> CF +/-1 and bio C content allocated to primary production

EN 15804

# Conclusions

- Modelling of biogenic carbon content in interlinked product systems: not clearly defined in the PEF method
- Guidance in PEF and PEFCRs: Two approaches for modelling biogenic CO<sub>2</sub> are possible (simplified approach vs. modelling)
- Guidance on time: not possible to capture differences in the modelling for long-living vs short-living products
- Circular footprint formula (CFF): takes time to understand and results are difficult to analyse
- Standards not harmonised



**Questions?**



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Project webpage

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## What are important steps to take now?

23 responses

Understanding the need and demand for PEF, if it will ever be relevant.

Standard and approach harmonization

Close data gaps

Complexity vs Simplicity will be critical to wide adoption of LCIA

Further tests of the feasibility of Environmental Footprint methods as it is required by upcoming EU policy

Clarify guidelines & rules

harmonization

assess the robustness of the EF Methods for policymaking

Highlight problems with PEF to TAB in order to get them resolved for better implementation

Inform/Reach related actors and decision makers

Making invalid PEFCRs valid again.

Up-stream adaptation, working with suppliers from multiple tiers

Harmonizing the electricity modelling between PEF

Somehow ensure that the identified challenges get heard by the PEF development work

Bombarde pef helpdesk

21

