

# Federal LCA Commons

## Annual Work Plan

### April 2025 – March 2026

The U.S. Federal LCA Commons (FLCAC) is formally established in a [Memorandum of Understanding \(MOU\) between the DOE, DOT, EPA, NIST, and USDA](#). As per the MOU, the Steering Committee (SC) prepares an annual work plan to guide activities to pursue collaboratively.

The FLCAC is dedicated to developing, collecting/maintaining, and disseminating life cycle inventory (LCI), life cycle impact assessment (LCIA) characterization factors, and related **data** relevant to national (U.S.) interests, **coordination** of activities in the LCA domain among Federal partners, **engagement** with the external LCA community, and **strategic planning**. The workplan is thus divided in these four areas.

#### Disclaimer

This document is intended to serve as a guide and plan for collaborative work over the annual period. The parties to the MOU are not obligated to perform this work and the work conducted may change based on priorities and resource availability. This document does not represent the opinions of the parties to the MOU.

#### 1. Data

The FLCAC will pursue activities related to the development, collection and dissemination, interoperability, and guidance for LCA data.

##### 1.1. Development

The FLCAC may endorse datasets as a means of conveying the approval and recommendation of the FLCAC Steering Committee. The FLCAC will develop guidelines for endorsing datasets including the process, data requirements, review requirements, and the communication of that endorsement.

The FLCAC will perform a review of recent data gap assessments performed on the Federal LCA Commons, or for single repositories or related projects. An outcome of this review will be a list of LCI data to prioritize for development.

##### 1.2. Collection and Dissemination

[LCAcommons.gov](https://lcacommons.gov) is the designated portal for disseminating data. The FLCAC will continue to maintain the portal which consists of multiple data repositories. The data that are disseminated will continue to be the responsibility of the repository owner.

The FLCAC will develop a collection and dissemination policy. The policy should describe who is able to submit data, the requirements of the data, in which repositories the data should be housed and what the responsibilities are for those who maintain a repository.

FLCAC will develop requirements for and begin implementing technical solutions to allow more seamless inter-repository data integration.

FLCAC will implement an automated Development, Security, and Operations (DevSecOps) process to improve application Operations and Maintenance, and consequently, the reliability and availability of the LCA Collaboration Server (LCACS) application that underlies the storage and service of LCA data in repositories on the portal.

### 1.3. Interoperability

The FLCAC will continue to work towards disseminating data that are interoperable and continue to develop and maintain common data conventions and shared data resources to this end.

The FLCAC will continue to maintain the Federal LCA Commons Elementary Flow List (FEDEFL).

The FLCAC will assess the need and requirements for a common list of recommended technosphere flow names.

### Guidance

The FLCAC will continue to maintain the [FLCAC documentation site](#) including the [Data Submission Guidelines](#), [Metadata Guidance](#), and [Data Quality Guidance](#).

## 2. Coordination

The FLCAC will organize a Community of Practice (CoP) for members of the federal community engaged in LCA. The CoP will meet approximately monthly in a virtual setting for 1 hour. The FLCAC will collect and share LCI data development activities across the FLCAC community to enable awareness of existing development activities. The FLCAC will maintain a list of active LCA-related tasks in the federal government. The SC will define and make calls to the CoP to participate in working groups to perform the tasks described in this plan where they are not already being led by a party to the MOU.

## 3. Engagement

### 3.1. Communication

The FLCAC will publish the Annual Work Plan to the portal.

The FLCAC will publish a version of the active LCA-related tasks in the federal government with sensitive information redacted to the portal.

### 3.2. Round Table

The FLCAC will pursue forming an ad-hoc roundtable of members of the external (non-Federal) LCA community to serve as technical experts and provide technical assessments and input on all aspects of the Federal LCA Commons data. The roundtable is not intended to be an advisory group in any manner. The FLCAC purpose is to solicit facts and information and non-consensus advice from the participants.

## 4. Strategic Planning

The FLCAC will develop a 5-year strategic plan to provide a roadmap for FLCAC activities that includes the three thrusts above and considers future technological changes and advancements.

The FLCAC will publish a version of the 5-year strategic plan to the portal.

## Steering Committee

Wesley Ingwersen, EPA, SC Chair

Timothy Skone, DOE, SC Alternate Chair

Peter Arbuckle, USDA, SC Secretary

Migdalia Carrion, DOT, SC Member

Joshua Kneifel, NIST, SC Member