

Database notes – Environmental Footprint (EF) 3.1

(November 2nd, 2023)

For database pack from openLCA Nexus, <https://nexus.openlca.org/>

General notes (for any data pack from Nexus): This is a zolca file which is basically a compressed openLCA database. To use it in openLCA, either **restore** it (right-click in openLCA navigation panel → Restore database; main menu function: Database → Restore database); this will recreate the database in openLCA, as new database. **Or, import it into an existing** database which is already open in openLCA (then right-click on the open database → import → import entire database). This allows you to combine different databases and Nexus data packs.

Specific notes for this database: The current version of the database includes more than 7800 datasets from the different EC nodes (<https://eplca.jrc.ec.europa.eu/LCDN/contactListEF.xhtml>). The majority of datasets are system processes (or LCI results), some are unit processes. Datasets are intended to be compliant with the PEF/OEF Category rules, the present database is version 3.1. Existing detected errors in the datasets have been fixed, and the datasets have been slightly adapted for openLCA which should not affect their validity. A second document concerning the changes is provided. The database is provided integrated into openLCA DAL, the database analyzer and launcher.

Access to the Environmental Footprint database is free of charge for users who are conducting PEF or OEF studies exclusively under the approved product groups and sectors, which have been approved during the EF pilot phase and as defined in the PEFCRs and OEFSRs listed, exclusively until 31st December 2024 (check EULA).

Database can be combined with: It is not recommended to combine the unit processes with other databases.

Impact Assessment: Available in the database; no other LCIA methods are recommended to be used with the database.

Data quality systems: ILCD data quality system (information only for the processes not for the flows).

Creating product systems: Due to the presence of byproducts and non-unique products/process combinations, product systems should be created without using the setting “auto-link processes” in openLCA. Users should de-select this option when creating a new product system and then need to manually link the desired provider (either from the model graph or in the process input/output tab, by selecting the provider). Hence, also openLCA’s ‘direct calculation’ function is not compatible with this database.

Memory allocation: It is recommended that you increase your memory in openLCA. This can be done in openLCA version 2.0 following File → Settings → Configuration → Increase the maximum memory usage in MB.