

THE EXPANDING **EPD** WORLD:  
A SOURCE AND SINK OF INFORMATION ABOUT  
ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

---

**Balazs SARA**  
lifecycleexpert.com

ETV Workshop 5- 23/11/2022

# Content

- What is it
- What is the trend
- What you need
- What you get



....with an eye on possible synergies with



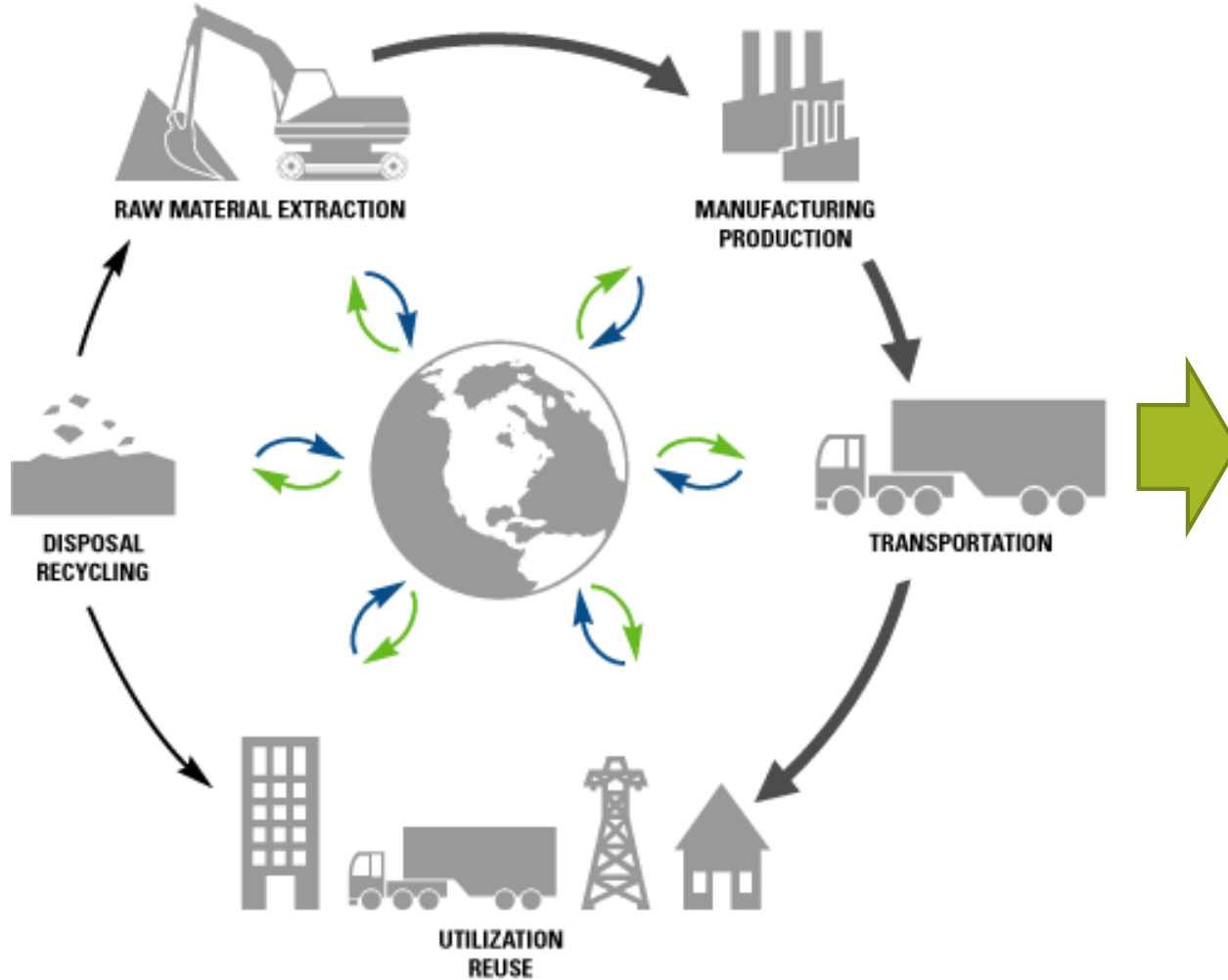
# What is it?

- ISO 14025 - Type III. environmental declarations - many EPD program operators
- Product category rules (PCR), e.g.
  - EN 15804 – construction products
  - EN 50693 – electronic and electrical products
  - Many PCRs for different product categories
- Life Cycle Assessment – background report
- EPD document:
  - Company description
  - Product technical performance
  - Content declaration
  - LCA results
  - Additional environmental information



- Third-party verification
- Voluntary
- No predefined performance limits

# Life Cycle Assessment – ISO 14040/44



	Life cycle 1	Life cycle 2	....
Resource depletion (kg Sb eq.)	0,04	0,03	...
Primary energy (MJ)	166	135	...
Climate change (kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq)	10,3	7,3	...
Acidification (kg SO <sub>2</sub> eq)	1,2	3,3	...
Eutrophication (kg PO <sub>4</sub> eq)	0,03	0,5	...
Hazardous waste (kg)	1,5	1,3	...
Non hazardous waste (kg)	88,5	55,4	...
.....			
.....			

EPD  
example



# ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCT DECLARATION

---

GREENSTONE INDUSTRIAL  
CONSTRUCTION AGGREGATE

Source:  
[https://www.epditaly.it/epd/  
greenstone-recycled-construction-aggregate/](https://www.epditaly.it/epd/greenstone-recycled-construction-aggregate/)

# EPD example



## ENVIRONMENTAL

### THE PRODUCT

**Greenstone** is an industrial construction aggregate. Black slag arising from the Electric Arc Furnace process represents the core material of the aggregate. This residue is a ternary blend of oxides which is 100% inert thanks to a customized process patented in collaboration with Politecnico di Milano.

Once produced and transformed, the black slag becomes Greenstone; the product has several granulometries certified via 2+ system and according to UNI EN 13242.

The aggregate is sold to external companies to be used in road pavements, cement aggregates and bituminous conglomerates. The adoption of the Greenstone aggregate allows to avoid the depletion of inert natural materials such as gravel, with savings in terms of land use.

INFORMATION	DESCRIPTION
PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION	Greenstone recycled construction aggregate coming from black slag
PRODUCT FEATURES	<b>CE mark using 2+ scheme according to the following standards:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- GREENSTONE 0-90: UNI EN 13242</li><li>- GREENSTONE 0-120: UNI EN 13242</li><li>- GREENSTONE 0-200: UNI EN 13242</li><li>- GREENSTONE 20-120: UNI EN 13242</li></ul>
PRODUCT PROPERTIES (UNDER EN10080:2005)	<b>Granulometry [d/D]:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- GREENSTONE 0-90: 0/90</li><li>- GREENSTONE 0-120: 0/100</li><li>- GREENSTONE 0-200: 0/150</li><li>- GREENSTONE 20-120: 16/125</li></ul>
	<b>Volumic mass [t/m<sup>3</sup>]:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- GREENSTONE 0-90: 3.48</li><li>- GREENSTONE 0-120: 3.58</li><li>- GREENSTONE 0-200: 3.56</li><li>- GREENSTONE 20-120: 3.48</li></ul>
	<b>Watr absorption [%]:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- GREENSTONE 0-90: 1.90</li><li>- GREENSTONE 0-120: 1.90</li><li>- GREENSTONE 0-200: 1.30</li><li>- GREENSTONE 20-120: 1.60</li></ul>
	Chemical evaluation and release of substances within the thresholds included in DM 196/05 for the whole Greenstone spectrum

# EPD example

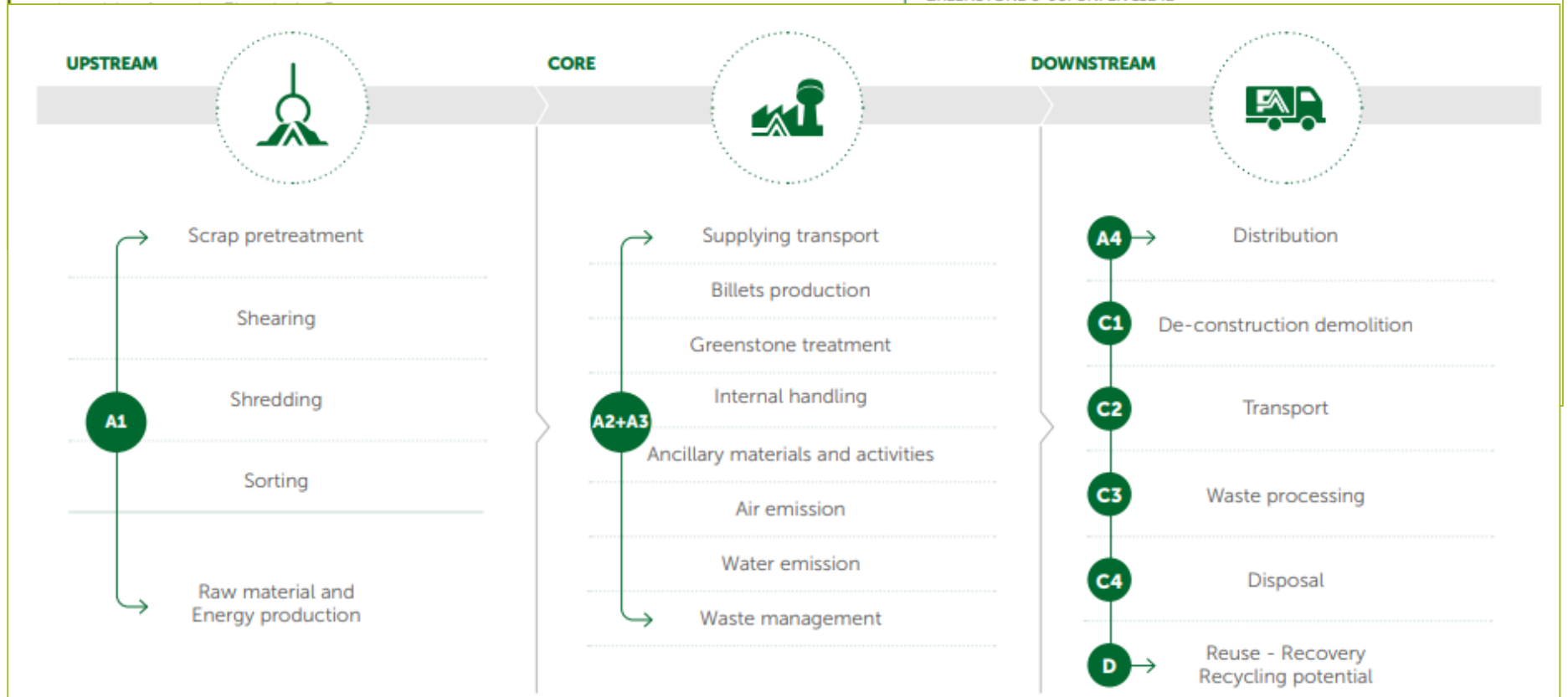


## ENVIRONMENTAL

### THE PRODUCT

Greenstone is an industrial construction aggregate. Black

INFORMATION	DESCRIPTION
PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION	Greenstone recycled construction aggregate coming from black slag
	CE mark using 2+ scheme according to the following standards: - GREENSTONE 0-90: UNI EN 13242



Source:  
<https://www.epditaly.it/epd/greenstone-recycled-construction-aggregate/>

# EPD example



## ENVIRONMENTAL

### THE PRODUCT

Greenstone is an industrial construction aggregate. Black

INFORMATION	DESCRIPTION
PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION	Greenstone recycled construction aggregate coming from black slag
	CE mark using 2+ scheme according to the following standards: - GREENSTONE 0-90: UNI EN 13242



### ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

The detailed environmental performance (in terms of use of resources, pollutant emissions and waste generation) is presented for the three phases, Upstream, Core and Downstream and related sub-phases (A1-A2-A3-A4-C1-C2-C3-C4-D). The numbers reported in the following tables are the outcome of rounding. For this reason total results could slightly differ from the sum of contributions of the different phases.

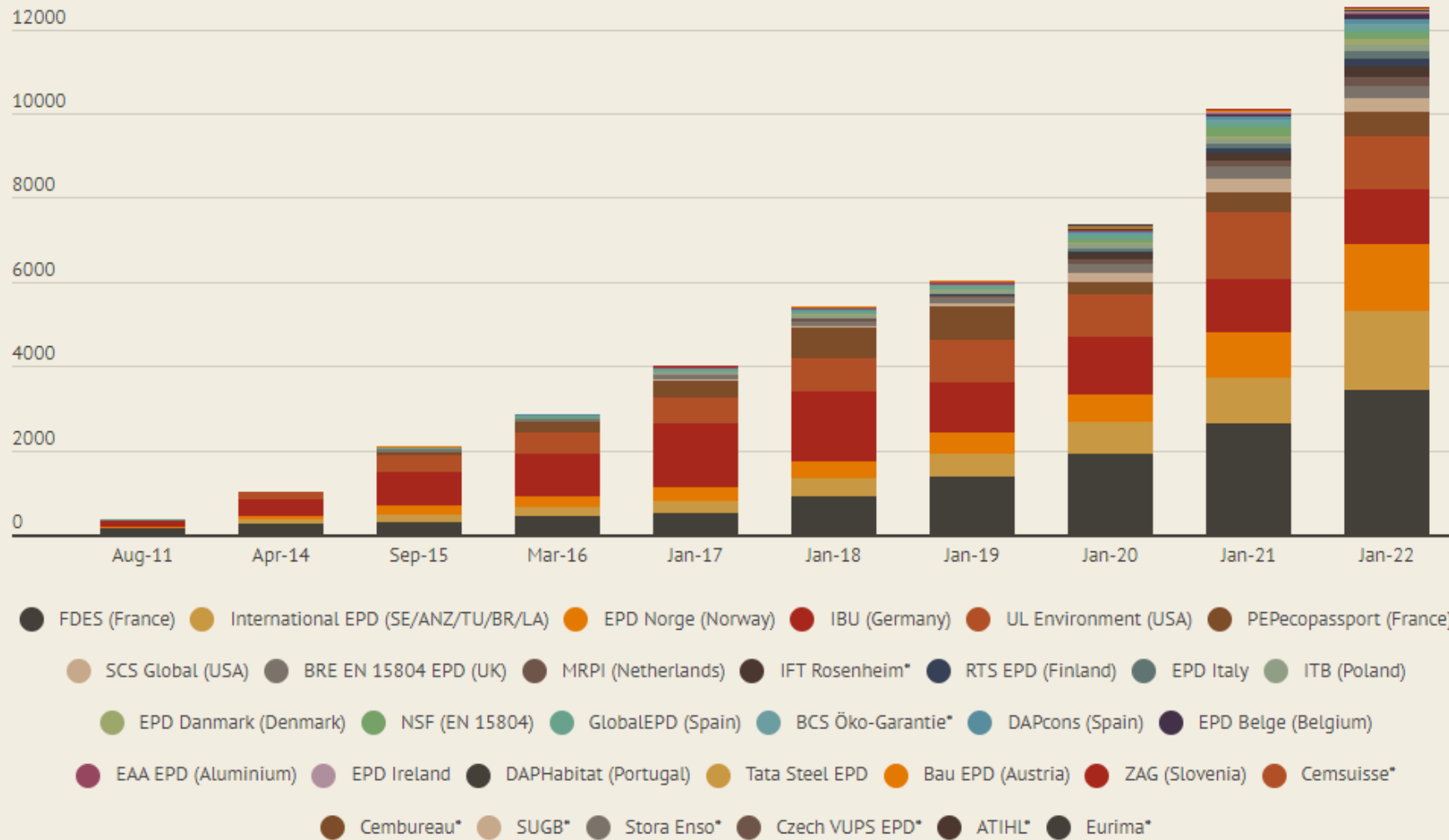
TABLE OF MODULES

POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS	UNITS / D.U.	UPSTREAM		CORE PROCESS				DOWNSTREAM				TOTAL	D
		A1	A2	A3	A4	C1	C2	C3	C4				
GWP	kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq	1,46E+01	6,04E+00	9,76E+00	2,75E+00	5,38E+01	3,44E+01	0,00E+00	2,52E+00	<b>1,24E+02</b>	0,00E+00		
GWP,f	kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq	1,46E+01	6,04E+00	9,76E+00	2,75E+00	5,38E+01	3,44E+01	0,00E+00	2,52E+00	<b>1,24E+02</b>	0,00E+00		
GWP,b	kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq	5,90E-03	2,65E-03	5,25E-03	1,49E-04	3,62E-03	1,86E-03	0,00E+00	3,34E-04	<b>1,98E-02</b>	0,00E+00		
GWP,luluc	kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq	1,24E-03	6,23E-05	1,75E-03	2,10E-05	7,88E-04	2,63E-04	0,00E+00	6,21E-05	<b>4,18E-03</b>	0,00E+00		
ODP	kg CFC11 eq	3,60E-06	1,40E-06	2,01E-07	6,44E-07	1,21E-05	8,05E-06	0,00E+00	5,26E-07	<b>2,65E-05</b>	0,00E+00		
AP	mol H+ eq	6,23E-02	3,49E-02	8,89E-02	1,59E-02	5,81E-01	1,99E-01	0,00E+00	2,60E-02	<b>1,01E+00</b>	0,00E+00		
EP,f	kg P eq	2,75E-04	7,80E-06	1,22E-04	1,51E-06	4,02E-05	1,89E-05	0,00E+00	9,10E-06	<b>4,75E-04</b>	0,00E+00		
EP,m	kg N eq	1,11E-02	1,39E-02	3,99E-02	6,41E-03	2,60E-01	8,01E-02	0,00E+00	1,13E-02	<b>4,23E-01</b>	0,00E+00		

Source:  
<https://www.epditaly.it/epd/greenstone-recycled-construction-aggregate/>

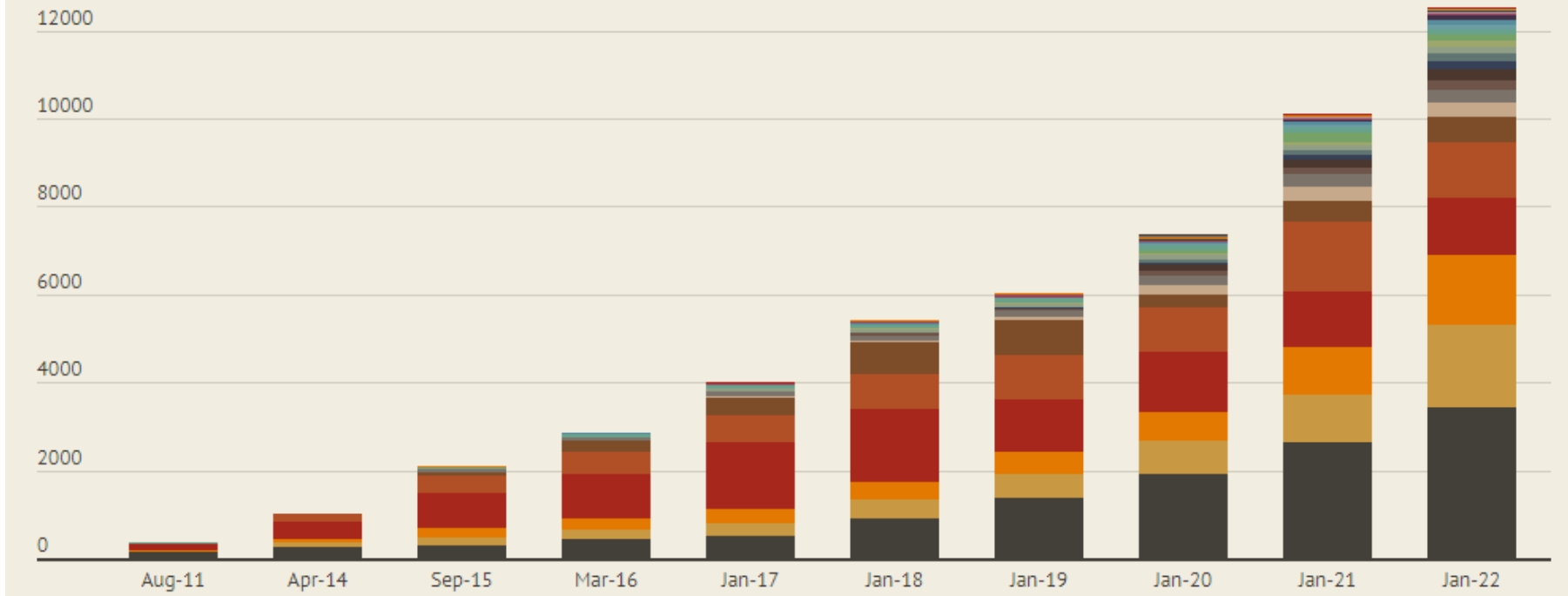


## Growth in numbers of Construction Product EPD to EN 15804



\* EPD Programmes not previously surveyed so no data provided before 2019.

## Growth in numbers of Construction Product EPD to EN 15804



20-25 years ago:

Why LCA? Why EPD?



Last 10-15 years:

exponential interest



Present:

the „wave“ is growing

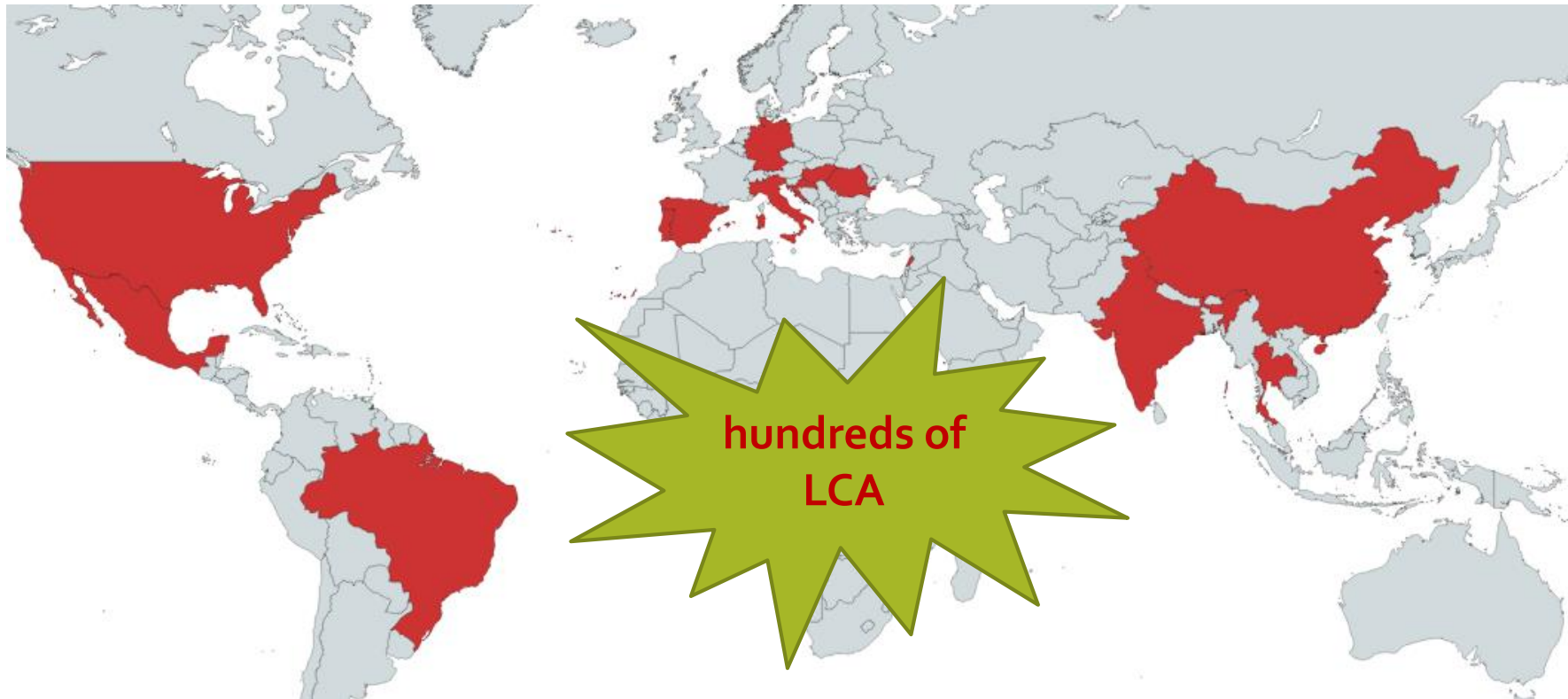
# Electronic and electrical products



Dec 2021:  
28 EPD



Nov 2022:  
100 EPD



# Driving forces

- Private procurement of large organizations - supply chain management
- Sustainable building certification schemes
- Public procurement
- EU policy
  - Circular Economy Action Plan – a main pillar of the EU Green Deal
  - Sustainable Products Initiative - Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation (ESPR)
- B2B communication
- Need for data in the supply chain

# Trends in requirements

## Analyse and report

- The existence of the LCA / EPD is sufficient

## Compare and improve

- Improvement has to be demonstrated vs a baseline

## Achieve limits

- Rating or cap to define limits

From voluntary to mandatory...



# What you need

- Data, data, data on technologies / manufacturing processes
  - Materials consumption
  - Energy consumptions
  - Waste
  - Emissions
- Core process
- Upstream
- Downstream
  - e.g. End of life is mandatory for construction products
- Improvement!



# What you get

- Info about direct and indirect impacts
  - Verified mass balances
  - Hot spots
  - Problems unhidden
  - Improvement options
- Source of
  - product category rules
  - alternative products/technologies – benchmark
  - hot spots of product - where to improve



# Common grounds and synergies

- Assessment of environmental performance
  - Life cycle perspective
  - Need to provide evidence on added value and improvement
  - Benchmarking
- 
- EPD is industry driven – existing market value
  - ETV can foster environmental improvement in the EPD world



# Thanks for your attention!



**Balazs SARA**

[lifecycleexpert.com](http://lifecycleexpert.com)

+39 328 9243978

+36 30 6134662

[bsaranet@gmail.com](mailto:bsaranet@gmail.com)