SOCIAL ALLIANCE

Life Cycle Initiative

UN environment

FEEDBACK MEETING

from the Paris Workshop on April 24-26 2019

AUGUST 27TH 2019

STEERING COMMITTEE

Agenda

- Welcome and introduction
- Paris meeting debrief and questions
- Updated calendar
- Piloting phase
- Wrap-up and closure

Project Consortium for the revision of the S-LCA Guidelines

- Sponsored by the Life Cycle Initiative
- Steering Committee of the Social LC Alliance:
  - NewEarth B, USA
  - CIRAIG, Canada
  - INaB, RWTH Aachen University, Germany
  - World Resources Forum, Switzerland
  - KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden
  - Chair of Sustainable Engineering, Technische Universität Berlin, Germany
  - Niccolò Cusano University Rome, Italy
  - Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology

+ SOLCA

Catherine Benoit-Norris
NewEarth B

Marzia Traverso
INaB, RWTH Aachen University

Matthias Finkbeiner
SEE, Technische Universität Berlin

Elisabeth Ekener
KTH Royal Institute of Technology

Gabriella Arcese
Faculty of Economy
, Niccolò Cusano University
Rome, Italy.

Sonia Valdivia
World Resources Forum

Sara Russo Garrido
CIRAIG, UQÀM, École des Sciences de la gestion

Sabrina Neugebauer
INaB, RWTH Aachen University

Markus Berger
SEE, Technische Universität Berlin

Thomas Schaubroeck
Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology

Activities

March – May

- Completion of a second draft of the S-LCA Guidelines
- Paris meeting April 24th to 26th
- Experts meeting – To work on the draft
- Industry meeting – To discuss Social LCA, the process and the pilot phase

May – September

- Review and answer comments
- Task force develop new sections and proposals as agreed in Paris
- Edit draft and integrate new sections and methodological sheets
- Spread the word about the pilots + applications

Meet at LCM in September – Event about pilots

The v2 draft of the NEW Guidelines 2019

What´s new?
– Foreseen changes in the new Guidelines

- Change of audience – more focus on accessibility and capacity building
- Potential changes in stakeholders list
- Potential changes in subcategories
- Current debate on whether it is acceptable to weight results
- Inclusion of guidance on SO-LCA
- Inclusion of Positive Impacts
- Details on the different types of impact assessment

Structure of the new document

✓ *Extensive* **Introduction** and **What is S-LCA?**
- Purpose and audience of the Guidelines
- Key concepts and definitions
- Linkages with other international frameworks

✓ *Moderate* **Goal & Scope** → Topics for further review: functional unit, stakeholder involvement strategy

✓ *Moderate* **Inventory analysis** → Topics for further review: handling of co-products, data for impact assessment, primary data collection

✓ *Extensive* **Impact assessment** → Waiting for feedback, as extensive changes have been made
- Type I – Reference Scale Approach
- Type II – Impact Pathway Approach

✓ *Extensive* **Interpretation** → Waiting for feedback, as additions have been made
- How to conduct?
- Completeness, Consistency, Sensitivity
- Materiality assessment

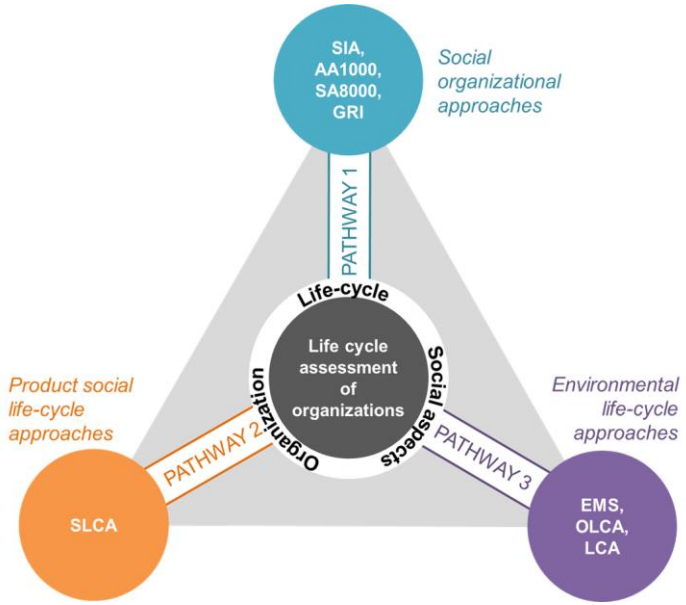
✓ *NEW* **SO-LCA** → Waiting for feedback, as it is a new part of the Guidelines!
- What is SO-LCA
- How to do it

✓ *NEW* **Communication**
→to come with the v3 version!

✓ *NEW* **Next: Outlook for the future**
→to come with the v3 version!

Guidance on SO-LCA

- SO-LCA became part of the future Guidelines for Social Life Cycle Assessment
- Guidance is provided on:
  - What is SO-LCA?
  - How to apply SO-LCA?
  - What are the challenges?

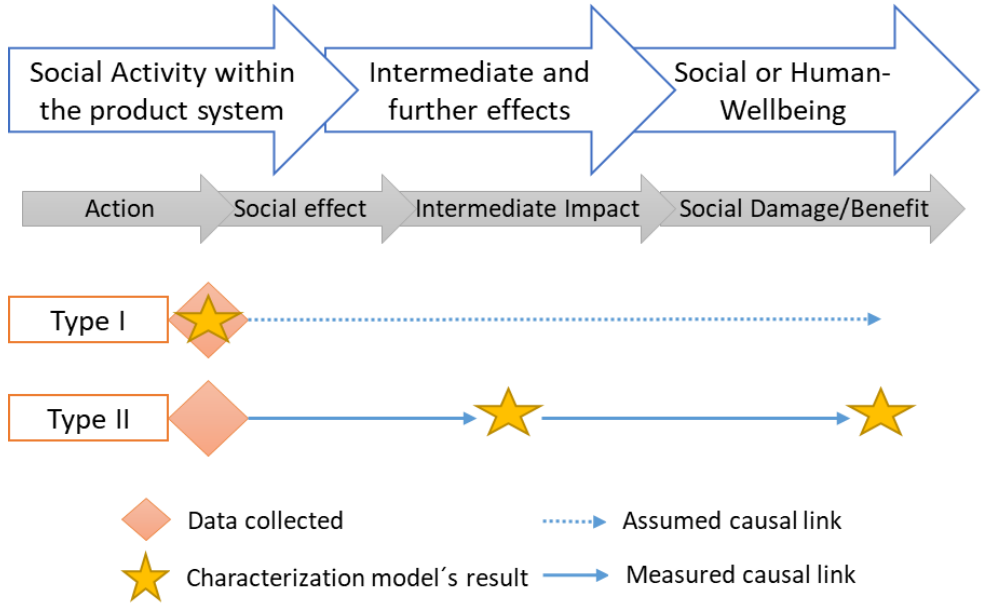


Positive Impact

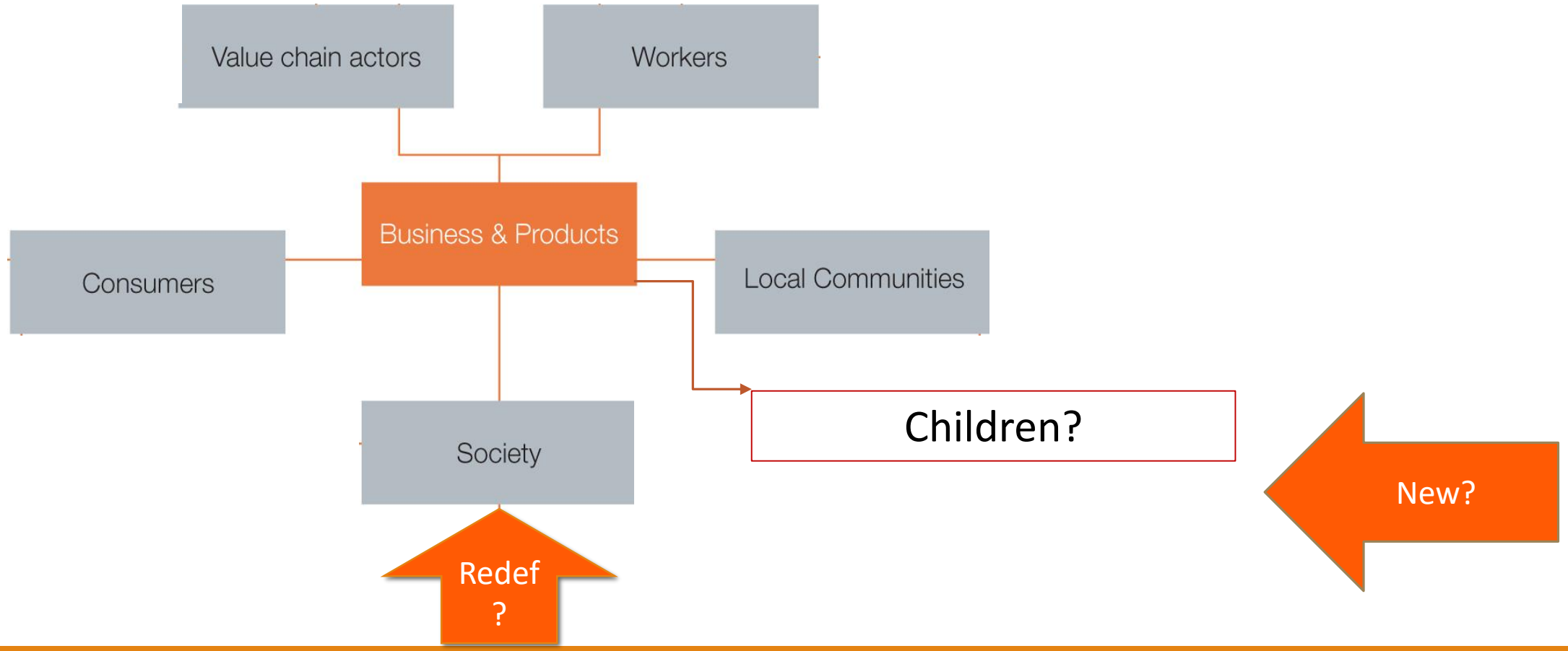
- For the first time *Positive Impacts* are proactively mentioned throughout the Guidelines
- Positive Impacts have been described, explained and implemented whenever relevant and/or applicable
- We can distinguish three types of positive impacts:
  - **Type A – Positive social performance going beyond business as usual**
  - **Type B – Positive social impact through presence**
  - **Type C – Positive social impact through product utility**

The different types of impact assessment

- Extensive changes have been made to better describe and distinguish the different types of social impact assessment
  - Type I – Reference Scale Approach →assessing the social performance or risk
  - Type II – Impact Pathway Approach →prediction of past, current and future social consequences through cause-effect-relations



What´s new?
– Potential Changes to Stakeholder Categories

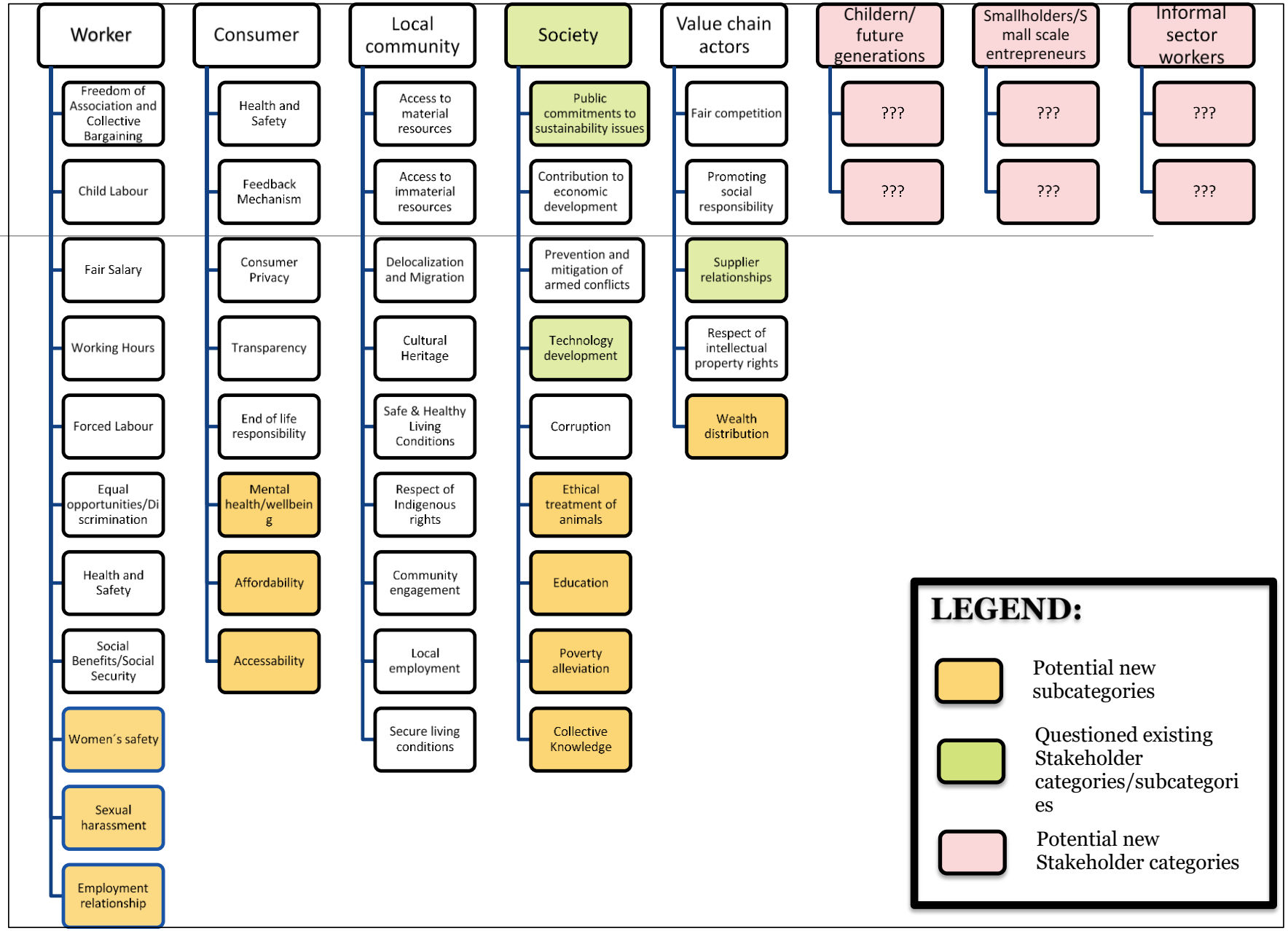


What´s new?
– Potential Changes to Subcategories

Some possibilities being discussed at the moment:

- Sexual harassment
- Mental health
- Poverty alleviation
- Ethical treatment of animals
- Employment relationship
- Wealth distribution

What´s new?


Worker
Freedom of Association and Collective Bargaining
Child Labour
Fair Salary
Working Hours
Forced Labour
Equal opportunities/Discrimination
Health and Safety
Social Benefits/Social Security
Women´s safety
Sexual harassment
Employment relationship
Consumer
Health and Safety
Feedback Mechanism
Consumer Privacy
Transparency
End of life responsibility
Mental health/wellbeing
Affordability
Accessability
Local community
Access to material resources
Access to immaterial resources
Delocalization and Migration
Cultural Heritage
Safe & Healthy Living Conditions
Respect of Indigenous rights
Community engagement
Local employment
Secure living conditions
Society
Public commitments to sustainability issues
Contribution to economic development
Prevention and mitigation of armed conflicts
Technology development
Corruption
Ethical treatment of animals
Education
Poverty alleviation
Collective Knowledge
Value chain actors
Fair competition
Promoting social responsibility
Supplier relationships
Respect of intellectual property rights
Wealth distribution
Childern/ future generations
???
???
Smallholders/Small scale entrepreneurs
???
???
Informal sector workers
???
???
LEGEND:
Potential new subcategories
Questioned existing Stakeholder categories/subcategories
Potential new Stakeholder categories

Guidance will include methodological sheets

Methodological Sheets to complete the guidelines were published in 2013. They described the impact subcategories and provided example of indicators to use.

They are being integrated to the revised version of the Guidelines

[UNEP/SETAC 2009]

Task forces post Paris

1. Working group on Stakeholder Society and related subcategories

- Main questions
  - What would be the final definition for **Society**?
  - What would be the final list of subcategories for Society?
  - How to practically redefine **Public commitment** towards contribution and **Technology development**?
- Conclusions on these question made by working group, to be entered in V3

2. Working group on subcategories I
Ethical treatment of animals, Wealth distribution

- Main questions
  - How to precisely define new subcategories on **Ethical treatment of animals**, **Wealth distribution**?

→First drafts for definitions in Methodological Sheets format are being prepared until beginning/midst of September

3. Working group on subcategories II
Employment relationship (Small-scale businesses, Informal sector workers), Sexual harassment and Mental health

- How to define a subcategory on **Employment relations** (Smallholders/Small-scale businesses & Informal sector workers)?
- What could be subcategories/indicators for **Sexual harassment** and **Mental health**?

→First drafts have been prepared and are currently revised

Task forces post Paris

4. Working group on Aggregation and weighting

Main questions

→ Stress the transparency point in terms of weighting and generally for the assessment
→ display approaches for aggregation (e.g. geometric aggregation)
→ link weighting also to interpretation section
→ differentiate the different assessment levels where weighting may apply
→ create template to ensure transparency to be used in assessment (e.g. as used in GRI)
→**Revision has been done by working group – to be reviewed by SC**

5. Task Force on Impact Assessment and related terms

→Start from comments made on v2 draft
→provide consistent definition of terms for risk, impact and potential impact based on common and relevant definitions
→ define areas of protections and if possible impact categories of relevance
→ regard Type I as well as Type II!
→**Revision is ongoing**

Task forces post Paris

6. Task Force on Stakeholder category Children

Main questions

- → Provide a definition for the stakeholder category
- → Define a list of subcategories → define the AIM and approach of the each (orientate on methodological sheets)
- → Ensure minimization of overlaps with existing subcategories covered under other stakeholder categories
- →Work is ongoing

7. Working group on Communication

- → Starting from White Paper on Communicating Products´ Social Impacts
- → Provide guidance on how to communicate
- →Work is starting

Task forces post Paris

8. Working group on Poverty alleviation/reduction

Main questions

→ Check if the topic is sufficiently represented in existing subcategories (orientate on Worldbank)

→Revision of it representation in the current Guidelines conducted

→ Consider absolute vs. relative poverty

→ Link to Fair Salary, Discrimination, Contribution for Economic Development, Child Labor and Wealth distribution

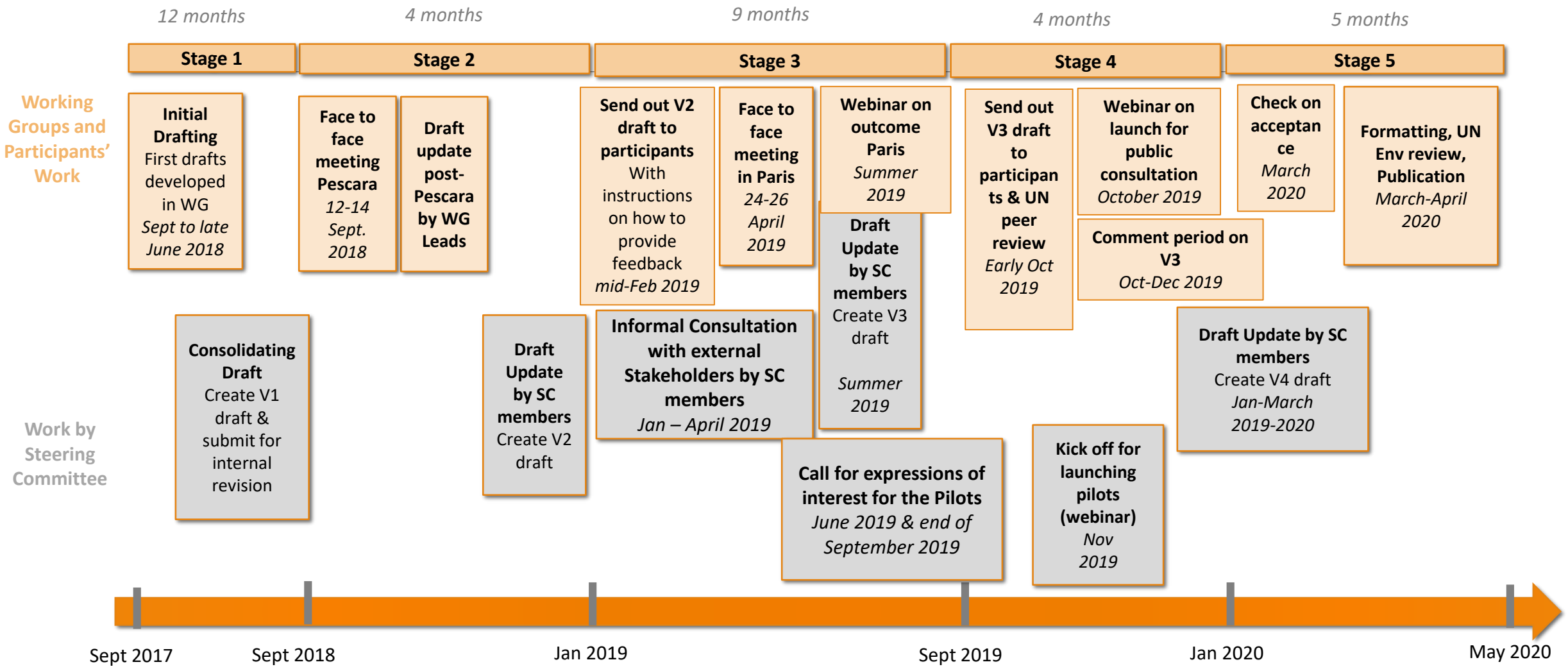
9. Working group on Site specific data collection

Main questions

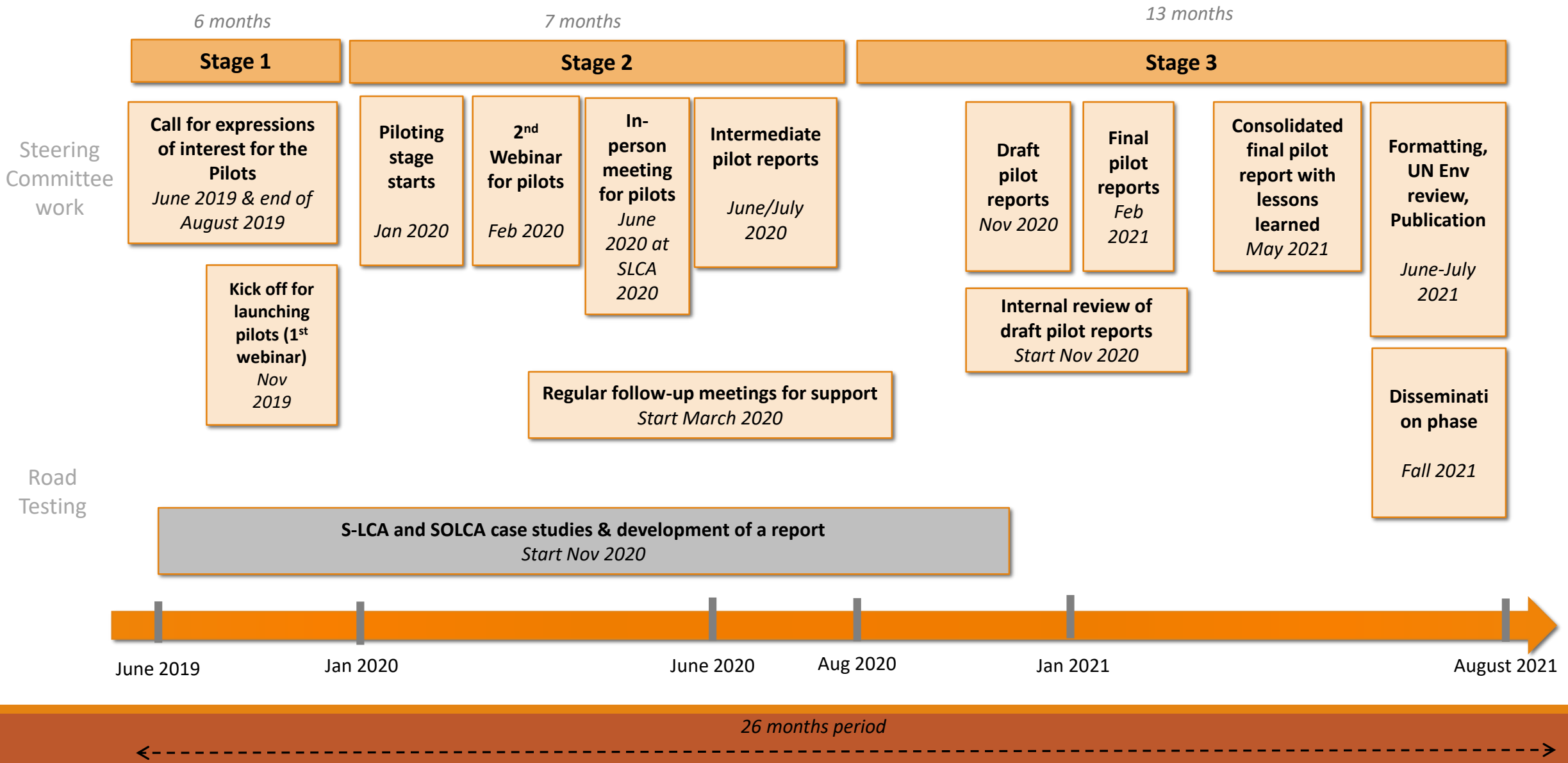
→ Provide guidance on how to collect data on site

→Work is ongoing

Calendar Overview – Phase I – REVISED July 2019



Calendar Overview – Phase II – REVISED July 2019



SOCIAL ALLIANCE

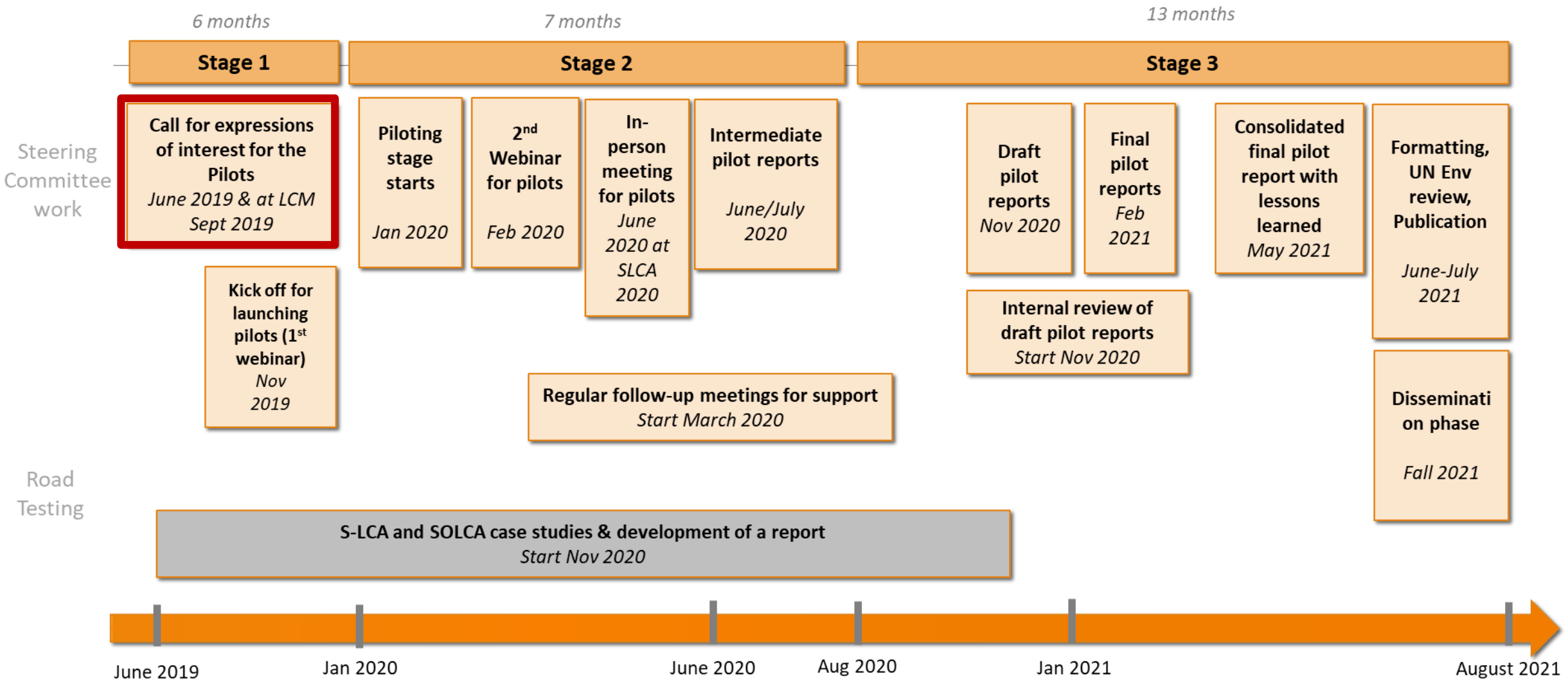
Life Cycle Initiative

UN environment

Hosted by UN environment

Road testing

Project Phase II – Implementation of the revised S-LCA Guidelines



Launch of call of expressions of interest for Road-testing (or Pilot projects)

Pilots test to implement the Social Life cycle Assessment guidelines

how we should proceed.

Launch of call of interest in the following dates:

5 April 2019 European Commission event.

24 April 2019 Workshop at UN Environment

UN LCI Newsletter

1-4 September Life cycle management conference, Poznan

Goals of the road testing 1/2

- Build capacity on the new Social LCA Guidelines in diverse sectors and regions.
- Identify the need for additional specifications or clarifications.
- Test the methodology requirements and the clarity of the descriptions/ explanations/ requirements.
- Obtain direct feedback from practitioners.
- Provide clear illustrations of the usefulness of the methodology in different user case scenarios.
- Increase company's awareness about social topics and their data availability in connection with other tools such CSR and Sustainability reports

Deutscher NACHHALTIGKEITS Kodex Anwender

GRI Empowering Sustainable Decisions

Goals of the road testing 2/2

- Compile practical experiences applying Social LCA that could be replicated by other sectors and in other regions.
- Identify main difficulties and drawbacks/ success and highlights related to the application of the methodology.
- Share insights from the implementation of S-LCA and /or SO-LCA with available assessment methods and information.

Pilots selection process and timeline

- Call and selection of road-testers (04/24/19 to 09/30/2019)
- Agree specific conditions with each road-tester (10/31/2019).
- Kick-off-Web meeting and webinar with an introduction to the methodology and explanation on how to use the template (November 2019)
- Web trainings (January 2020 and February 2020)
- Implement the methodology (10-12 months)
- Regular meetings (every 1-2 months). Individual or collective (common questions / confidentiality conflicts). Online or face-to-face (international conferences)
- Obtain results according to the template and confidential reports from road-testers (02/28/2021)

Call for expression of interest details

We would like to have as many as possible pilots which covers:

- Methodological differences → S-LCA and SO-LCA, Type 1 and 2, New Subcategories
- Different locations
- Different sectors
- Different Products
- Different company dimensions

Pilot project Co-chairs:

marzia.traverso@inab.rwth-aachen.de

catherine@socialhotspot.org

matthias.finkbeiner@tu-berlin.de

SOCIAL
ALLIANCE

Life Cycle Initiative

Thank you!

Social LC Alliance Steering Committee:

Life Cycle Initiative