



## D9.4 Report with results of correlation analysis

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### **About DESIRE**

DESIRE is a FP7 project that will develop and apply an optimal set of indicators to monitor European progress towards resource-efficiency. The project runs from September 2012 to February 2016. We propose a combination of time series of environmentally extended input output data (EE IO) and the DPSIR framework to construct the indicator set. Only this approach will use a single data set that allows for consistent construction of resource efficiency indicators capturing the EU, country, sector and product group level, and the production and consumption perspective including impacts outside the EU. The project will:

- Improve data availability, particularly by creating EE IO time series and now-casted data
- Improve calculation methods for indicators that currently still lack scientific robustness, most notably in the field of biodiversity/ecosystem services and critical materials. We further will develop novel reference indicators for economic success.
- Explicitly address the problem of indicator proliferation and limits in available data that have a 'statistical stamp'. Via scientific analysis we will select the smallest set of indicators giving mutually independent information, and show which shortcuts in (statistical) data inventory can be made without significant loss of quality.

The project comprises further Interactive policy analysis, indicator concept development via 'brokerage' activities, Management, and Conclusions and implementation including a hand over of data and indicators to the EU's Group of Four of EEA, Eurostat, DG ENV and DG JRC.

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## Executive Summary

The potential for reducing the number of impact indicators required for environmental assessments was examined from two different starting points. Firstly, the ranked impacts of 135 indicators for 976 products from the Ecoinvent database were analysed and secondly 93 indicators of environmental impact were assessed for the consumption of 1 million euros worth of 7589 product-sector combinations from the EXIOBASE dataset. In both cases Principal Component Analysis (PCA) was applied and combined with multiple linear regression to come to an optimal set of indicators. The explained variance of the principal components was compared to the explained variance one would expect from randomly distributed rankings for the indicators.

Whether based on the life cycle impacts per kg of material or the impacts per million euros of consumption strong correlations between the different indicators of impact were found. This means that there is a large potential for reducing the number of indicators. For the Ecoinvent dataset, the first four principal components covered 92% of the variance in product rankings, showing the potential for indicator reduction. The same amount of variance (92%) could be covered by a minimal set of six indicators, related to climate change, ozone depletion, the combined effects of acidification & eutrophication, terrestrial ecotoxicity, marine ecotoxicity and land use. In comparison, four commonly used resource-based footprints (energy, water, land, materials) together accounted for 82% of the variance in material rankings.

For the EXIOBASE dataset seven indicators related to freshwater and marine ecotoxicity, photochemical oxidation, climate change, acidification & eutrophication, photochemical ozone formation and blue water withdrawal covered 90% of the variation. The four resource-based footprints together accounted for only 49% of the variance in product-sector rankings. Supplementing, however, the two best resource-based indicators (energy and land) with the best toxicity indicator (freshwater aquatic ecotoxicity potential, infinite time horizon) the explained variance is increased to 74.8%.

We conclude that the plethora of environmental indicators can indeed be reduced to a small key set, representing the major part of the variation in environmental life cycle impacts between materials and of the variation in product-sector combination in a Multiregional Input-Output model.

# 1 Introduction

Over the course of the last two decades a wide variety of methods for quantifying environmental impacts have been introduced, especially into the area of Life Cycle Impact Assessment (LCIA).<sup>1</sup> There are clear differences in coverage and complexity of the various LCIA methods available. Damage-based indicators, also called endpoint indicators, provide insight in the impact of emissions and resource use through the full cause-and-effect chain, which ultimately leads to ecosystem and/or human health damage.<sup>2</sup> Midpoint indicators provide a proxy of environmental damage by modeling only part of the cause-impact pathway. An example are the well-known global warming potentials to quantify the contribution of various greenhouse gas emissions to climate change in terms of integrated radiative forcing.<sup>3</sup> Finally, resource-based indicators directly apply the resources required in a life cycle without further impact or damage modeling. Cumulative energy demand is an example of such an indicator.<sup>4</sup> Additional variation in indicators results from the fact that there are several competing methods available that quantify the same type of effect, but with different models and data. For example, the TRACI method<sup>5</sup> and the EDIP method<sup>6</sup> both provide midpoint indicators for the impacts due to acidification.

A key question that this wide variety of available methods raises is whether the outcome of a Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) will be influenced by the choice of an indicator and methods. Furthermore, it is unpractical to base decisions for product optimization or environmental policy on dozens of indicators simultaneously. Therefore, there is a clear need to provide a limited set of indicators that is sufficiently small for efficient communication and decision-making, but at the same time representative of the overall environmental impact.

Several attempts have been made to find a representative subset of relevant indicators. In a study commissioned by the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission (JRC), various midpoint and endpoint indicators and methods were qualitatively compared in terms of scientific and stakeholder acceptance.<sup>1</sup> However, with 14 different recommended midpoint indicators, the set is still quite large and some of the methods have since then undergone quite significant changes. Moreover, the JRC study did not consider any redundancy among the recommended indicators caused by similarity in the underlying processes that cause the emissions and environmental impacts.

Others have suggested using only a "resource-based indicator family", which covers the cumulative demand of land, water, carbon (or fossil energy) and, potentially, materials.<sup>7</sup> While these resource-based indicators are easy to use and communicate<sup>8</sup>, the full range of impact pathways employed in the damage-based methodologies may not be covered by this set. Finding a set of indicators that is optimal in both its size and coverage requires a more systematic and quantitative way of reducing the number of indicators.

A few studies have attempted to achieve this via Principal Component Analysis (PCA).<sup>9-14</sup> If correlations between indicators are high, substantial dimensionality reduction can be achieved by PCA. For example, only two indicators were needed to cover more than 95% of the total variance of the environmental impact for a set of 11 household electronic products.<sup>14</sup> However, while these studies give valuable insights for one method and/or

product group, their coverage is too small to answer questions about which set of indicators is optimal in a more general sense. The search for an optimal set of indicators using PCA has, to the best of our knowledge, not yet been applied over a large range of products and impact assessment methods.

Here, we aim to find an optimal set of environmental indicators to cover the variance in the rankings of a large number of products. We selected 976 products and 135 environmental indicators from the Ecoinvent 3.1 database<sup>15</sup> and 93 impact indicators for 7589 product-sector combinations from the EXIOBASE database the as input for our analysis. We combined PCA with multiple regression to arrive at the minimum set of indicators explaining the variance in the product ranking. Apart from this minimum set, we also evaluated the extent to which the four commonly used resource-based indicators (fossil energy, water, land and materials) were representative of the total variation in product rankings.



## 2 Methods

### 2.1 Data sources

For the Ecoinvent dataset, 135 different impact indicators from different LCIA (Life Cycle Impact Assessment) methods were analysed (See Annex 1 for a full list of included indicators). For the EXIOBASE dataset 93 impact indicators were included (See Annex 2).

### 2.2 Data analysis

For both datasets we employed PCA combined with regression analysis to find the minimum set of indicators necessary to adequately describe the variance in product rankings among the full set of impact assessment methodologies. In PCA the total variation in a dataset is rewritten as a non-correlated linear combination of the original indicators called the principal components. The first principal component describes the maximum amount of variance and subsequent principal components explain decreasing amounts of variance. If there is a large correlation between indicators then the first couple of principal components will cover the majority of the variance in the dataset and these components can be used as a highly parsimonious summary of the total dataset.<sup>16</sup>

For 976 products from the Ecoinvent dataset, we performed our PCA on the rank correlation matrix of the 135 indicators to give equal weight to each product in the dataset and to each impact indicator. It is desirable to give equal weight to each product because the analysis of impact per kilogram of product is an arbitrary choice that does not reflect differences in production volumes or value to society. For the analysis of the EXIOBASE outcome, we have analyzed the ranked impacts based on 1 million euro of consumption from each sector-region combination. The consumptive footprints of the 7589 sector-region combinations with a final demand of more than 0.1 million euro were retained. 93 non-zero indicators of impact were calculated from these EXIOBASE output, 15 of which are direct outputs of EXIOBASE (such as water consumption and land and energy use for example).

The remaining impacts were calculated manually by multiplying the appropriate emissions/resource and material extractions by their corresponding characterization factors. To obtain the impacts per million euro, we divided the total consumption footprints of each of these sector-region combinations by its total final demand. 10 indicators could be removed *a priori* because they were perfectly correlated (rank correlation coefficient = 1) to another indicator in the dataset. Perfectly correlated are undistinguishable from each other, therefore only one (the first one, based on alphabetical order) of indicators was retained (83 in total).

Second, we determined the number of non-trivial components and associated explained variance with the Avg-Pa (Average parallel analysis) stopping rule as described by Peres-Neto et al.<sup>17</sup> This stopping rule is a criterion which tells whether a component describes more or less variance than one would expect if it was based on purely randomized data. Because we work with product rankings rather than impact scores, we adjusted the procedure to work with randomized product rankings rather than normally distributed random data. All integers from 1 to 976 were randomly sampled to create a dataset with the same number of rows (976) and columns (135) as the original data for the Ecoinvent

data and 7589 rows and 83 columns for the EXIOBASE data. A PCA was then performed on 1,000 randomized runs on this dataset and the average variance explained by each component was calculated. If the explained variance of the original data exceeded that of the randomized data, the component was considered non-trivial.

Third, to interpret the non-trivial components the loading of each indicator the loading of each indicator on that particular component was examined. The more extreme (high or low) the loading the more representative the indicator is of that component.

Fourth, to find a small subset of the original indicators that describe these principal components, we calculated the amount of variance in principal components scores that could be explained by subsets of the original indicators. Subsets of any number of indicators can be tested, whereby a set comprised of all indicators would cover 100% of the variance and smaller subsets cover less. The best set, in terms of explained variance, for each size of indicators was found by using the "improve" algorithm from the package "subselect"<sup>18</sup> in the statistical program R.<sup>19</sup> The improve algorithm uses multiple linear correlation to determine the amount of explained variance.

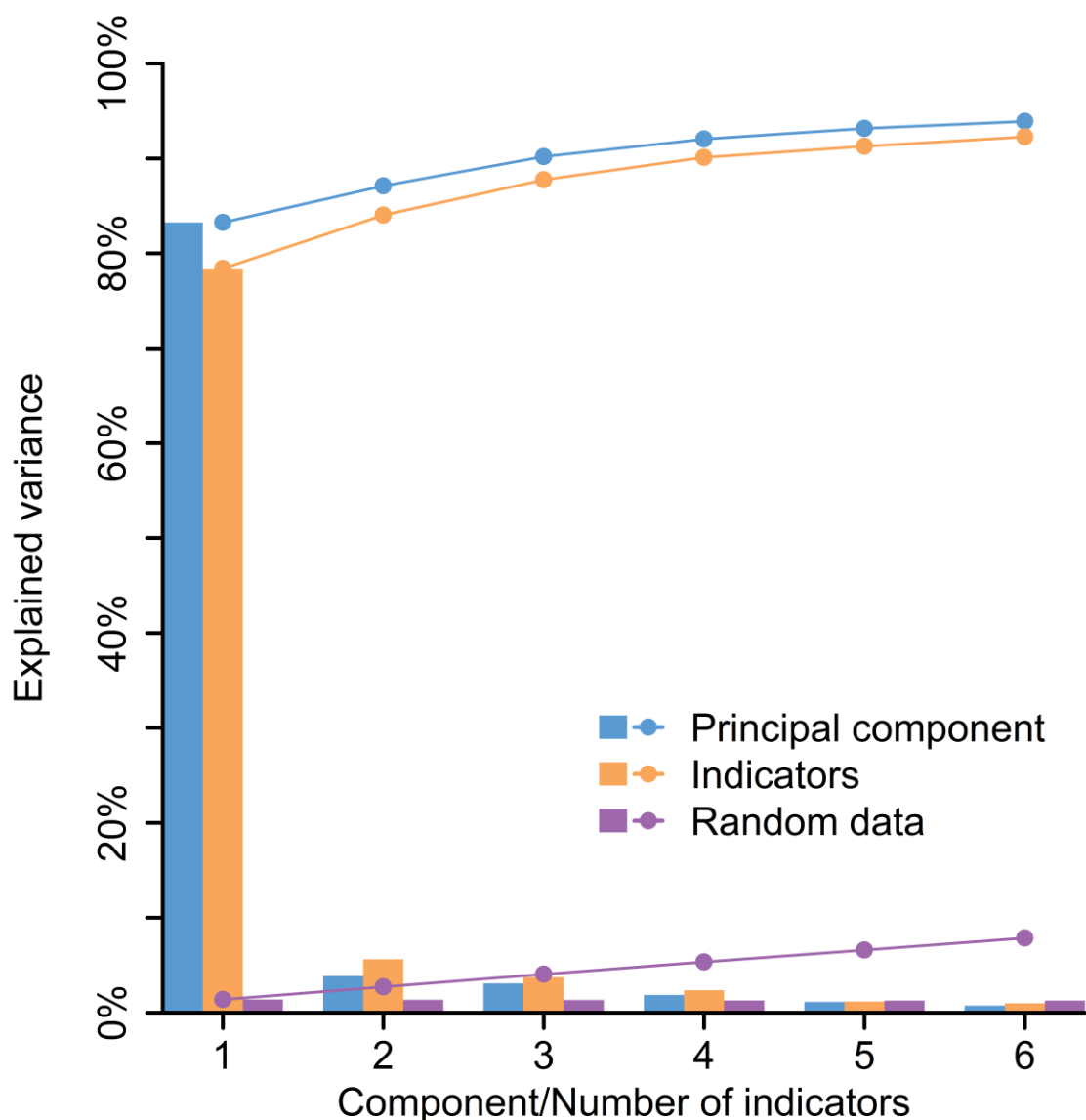
Fifth, we defined the optimal size of the indicator set by using the explained variance of the so called non-trivial principal components as a benchmark. The indicator set with the lowest number of indicators and an explained variance equal or higher than the explained variance of the non-trivial components was considered to be preferred set of indicators. Finally we tested to what extent a set of four resource-based indicators (fossil energy, land, water and material use)<sup>7</sup> covers the dimensions of the data in our dataset by using the multiple linear correlation analysis on all principal component scores, as mentioned above. For the Ecoinvent dataset these four resource-based indicators were not part of the set of 135 indicators. For the EXIOBASE dataset the four resource-based indicators were already part of the 83 indicators.

## 3 Results

### 3.1 Ecoinvent products

The number of non-trivial components was four, which together covered 92.0% of the total variance in the dataset. The majority of the variance (83.3%) was covered by the first component, with 3.9%, 3.1% and 1.9% covered by the three consecutive components (Figure 1). Since all correlations in the database were positive, the first component can be seen as an overall indicator of environmental impact. Indicators that are most similar to other indicators (i.e. have the highest correlation) have the highest absolute loadings on this component. For the first component these were the indicators related to freshwater and marine ecotoxicity. However, most other indicators showed very similar loadings (See Table A1 for the loadings of all indicators on the first four principal components).

Indicators with the lowest absolute loadings on the first component were related to land use, which means that these are the ones that are least correlated to all other indicators. The second principal component separated indicators related to land use and terrestrial ecotoxicity (high loadings) from indicators related to fossil energy use and global warming (low loadings). Indicators related to ionizing radiation (i.e. from the use of nuclear energy) and indicators of ozone depletion are further distinguished from the rest in components 3 and 4.



**Figure 1.** Bars show the explained variance per principal component based on the Ecoinvent dataset (blue), based on random data (purple) and for the best set of indicators (orange). Solid lines with dots indicate the cumulative explained variances.

A set of six indicators was needed to cover slightly more variance than the first four principal components (i.e. 92.3% and 92.0% respectively; Figure 1). The best sets of one up to six indicators and the variance explained by each set are shown in Table 1. The best set of six indicators relate to climate change, ozone depletion, terrestrial ecotoxicity, the combined ecosystem effects of acidification & eutrophication, marine ecotoxicity and land use.

The four resource-based indicators together give an explained variance of 82.0%. The results suggest that it is best to use the fossil energy indicator if just one of the simple resource-based indicators has to be selected. With an explained variance of 72.9% this seems to be a reasonably good indicator of overall impact. The explained variance can be raised to 76.8% by adding material use. Adding land use raised the explained variance to 80.1%, while a set of all four resource-based indicators, including water use, covers 82.0% of the total variance in our dataset. The water footprint appeared to be less important than the other footprints for our dataset; this is due to the fact that water

consumption is related to both the energy-intensive process of electricity generation and the land-intensive process of crop production.

**Table 1. Best sets of impact indicators and the variance explained per set, for all combinations and the explained variance of the resource-based sets**

| #                          | Impact indicator                                                                                                                   | Method: Full name of indicator                                                                                                                    | Explained variance               |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1                          | Marine ecotoxicity                                                                                                                 | ReCiPe: METP100a (I)                                                                                                                              | 78.4%                            |
| 2                          | Climate change<br>Marine ecotoxicity                                                                                               | CML2001: upper limit of net GWP100a*<br>ReCiPe: METPinf (H)                                                                                       | 84.0%                            |
| 3                          | Land use<br>Human toxicity<br>Climate change                                                                                       | Impact2002: land occupation<br>ReCiPe: HTPinf (E)<br>ReCiPe: GWP100a (H)                                                                          | 87.8%                            |
| 4                          | Climate change<br>Ozone depletion<br>Land use<br>Marine ecotoxicity                                                                | CML2001: upper limit of net GWP100a<br>CML2001: ODP40a<br>Impact2002: land occupation<br>ReCiPe: METPinf (E)                                      | 90.1%                            |
| 5                          | Climate change<br>Ozone depletion<br>Terrestrial ecotoxicity<br>Acidification &<br>eutrofication<br>Marine ecotoxicity             | CML2001: GWP20a<br>CML2001: ODP40a<br>CML2001: TAETP20a<br>Impact2002: terrestrial acidification &<br>eutrofication<br>ReCiPe: METPinf (E)        | 91.3%                            |
| 6                          | Climate change<br>Land use<br>Ozone depletion<br>Acidification &<br>eutrofication<br>Marine ecotoxicity<br>Terrestrial ecotoxicity | CML2001: GWP20a<br>CML2001: Land use: competition**<br>CML2001: ODP40a<br>Impact2002<br>ReCiPe Midpoint E: METPinf<br>ReCiPe Midpoint I: TETP100a | 92.3%                            |
| <b>Resource-based sets</b> |                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                   |                                  |
| 1                          | Fossil energy<br>Land<br>Water<br>Material                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                   | 72.9%<br>37.9%<br>58.1%<br>54.3% |
| 2                          | Fossil Energy, Material                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                   | 76.8%                            |
| 3                          | Fossil Energy, Land, Material                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                   | 80.1%                            |
| 4                          | Fossil Energy, Land, Material and Water                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                   | 82.0%                            |

Abbreviations:

METP: Marine EcoToxicity Potential

GWP: Global Warming Potential

HTP: Human Toxicity Potential

ODP: Ozone Depletion Potential

T(A)ETP: Terrestrial EcoToxicity Potential

inf/100a/40a/20a: Time Horizons of infinite duration and 100, 200 and 40 years respectively

(I): Individualist perspective, (E): Egalitarian perspective, (H): Hierarchist perspective

\* Upper limit of GWP100a: a method where the upper values of several uncertain GHGs are used rather than the most likely value

\*\* Like the land footprint this consists of an unweighted summation of different land uses, however not all types are included

### 3.2 EXIOBASE sector outputs

Six non-trivial components were found for the 93 included indicators in the EXIOBASE dataset, the first six components cover 91.5% of the total variance in the set (Figure 2). Again all correlations were positive, meaning that in general sectors that are intensive in one type of emission or resource use are intensive in all. Because all correlations are positive all the indicator loadings of the first component have the same sign (negative in this case). The lowest (i.e. most extreme) loadings on the first component were found for different indicators of ecotoxicity while the indicators for eutrophication and land use score highest on the second component (Table A2).

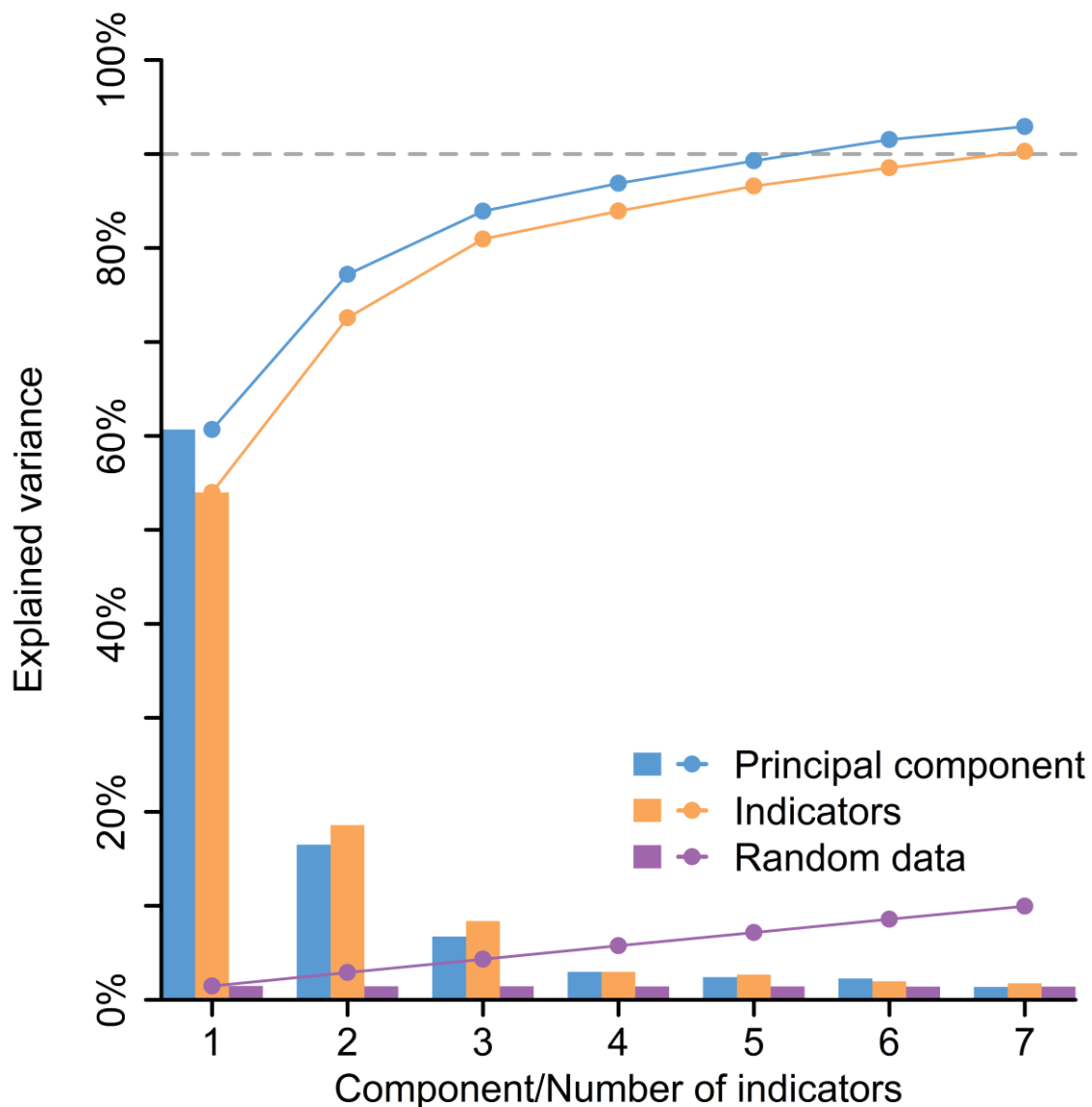


Figure 2. Bars show the explained variance per principal component based on the EXIOBASE dataset (blue), based on random data (purple) and for the best set of indicators (orange). Solid lines with dots indicate the cumulative explained variances. The grey dotted line indicates 91.5% explained variance.

The indicator with the most extreme loading on the first component (freshwater aquatic ecotoxicity) explains the most variance in the total dataset of all indicators (54.0%), 72.7% of the variance can be explained if acidification (which is among the indicators with the most extreme values on the second component) is added. Three of the original indicators (Freshwater aquatic ecotoxicity, Climate change and Marine eutrophication) are needed to cover 80.9% of the variance. For other sets of indicators, up to 7 indicators (explaining >90% of the variance), see Table 2. Similar to the analysis on the Ecoinvent dataset, the performance of the resource based sets as indicator sets was also tested. A difference is that for the EXIOBASE dataset the resource based sets of Energy, Water, Land and Material were already part of the original set of 83 indicators. Results demonstrate that sets of 1 to 4 resource indicators cannot cover the same amount of variance that can be explained by one toxicity indicator. Combined, the energy, land and material footprints cover 48.1% of the variance.. There is not much benefit in adding the fourth resource-based indicator (blue water consumption), because it is strongly correlated ( $r = 0.84$ ) with the amount of land used.

**Table 2. Best sets of impact indicators, the methods via which these indicators are calculated and the variance explained per set**

| # | Impact indicators                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Method                                                                                         | Explained variance |
|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | Freshwater aquatic ecotoxicity (FAETP inf)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | CML                                                                                            | 54.0%              |
| 2 | Freshwater aquatic ecotoxicity (FAETP inf)<br>Acidification (fate not included)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | CML<br>CML                                                                                     | 72.6%              |
| 3 | Freshwater aquatic ecotoxicity (FAETP inf)<br>Climate change endpoint, human health<br>Eutrophication marine midpoint                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | CML<br>ILCD recommended<br>ILCD recommended                                                    | 80.9%              |
| 4 | Freshwater aquatic ecotoxicity (FAETP inf)<br>Damages to human health caused by climate change (H.A)<br>Eutrophication marine midpoint<br>Photochemical ozone formation endpoint, human health                                                                                                                                                                                                | CML<br>Ecoindicator 99<br>ILCD recommended<br>ILCD recommended                                 | 83.9%              |
| 5 | Freshwater aquatic ecotoxicity (FAETP inf)<br>Global warming net (GWP100 max)<br>Eutrophication marine midpoint<br>Photochemical ozone formation endpoint, human health<br>Water Withdrawal Blue – Total                                                                                                                                                                                      | CML<br>CML<br>ILCD recommended<br>ILCD recommended<br>EXIOBASE output                          | 86.6%              |
| 6 | Freshwater sedimental ecotoxicity (FSETP 20)<br>Damages to human health caused by climate change (I.I)<br>Eutrophication marine midpoint<br>Photochemical ozone formation endpoint, human health<br>Water Withdrawal Blue – Total<br>Marine aquatic ecotoxicity (MAETP 500)                                                                                                                   | CML<br>Ecoindicator 99<br>ILCD recommended<br>ILCD recommended<br>EXIOBASE output<br>CML       | 88.5%              |
| 7 | Freshwater sedimental ecotoxicity (FSETP 100)<br>Damages to human health caused by climate change (H.A)<br>Damage to Ecosystem Quality caused by the combined effect of acidification and eutrophication (I.I)<br>Photochemical ozone formation midpoint, human health<br>Water Withdrawal Blue – Total<br>Marine aquatic ecotoxicity (MAETP 500)<br>photochemical oxidation (MOIR; high NOx) | CML<br>Ecoindicator 99<br>Ecoindicator 99<br>ILCD recommended<br>EXIOBASE output<br>CML<br>CML | 90.3%              |

Abbreviations of the methods: FAETP: Freshwater Aquatic Ecotoxicity Potential, GWP: Global Warming Potential, FSETP: Freshwater Sediment Ecotoxicity Potential, MAETP: Marine Aquatic Ecotoxicity Potential, MOIR: Maximum Ozone Incremental Activity

inf/500a/100a/20a: Time Horizons of Infinite, 500, 100 and 20 years respectively

(I): Individualist perspective, (E): Egalitarian perspective, (H): Hierarchist perspective, (A) Average weighting set

**Table 2. (continued)**

| #                          | Impact indicators                                                                              | Method                  | Explained variance |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Resource-based sets</b> |                                                                                                |                         |                    |
| 1                          | Total Energy Use                                                                               | EXIOBASE output         | 29.2%              |
| 2                          | Total Energy Use<br>Land use                                                                   | All: EXIOBASE<br>output | 44.7%              |
| 3                          | Total Energy Use<br>Land use<br>Domestic material extraction                                   | All: EXIOBASE<br>output | 48.1%              |
| 4                          | Total Energy Use<br>Land use<br>Domestic material extraction<br>Water Consumption Blue – Total | All: EXIOBASE<br>output | 49.3%              |



## 4 Discussion

We have successfully applied our methodology for reducing the number of impact indicators on two fundamentally different datasets. In the EXIOBASE database, 93 indicators of impact could be reduced to just seven indicators while retaining 90% of the variation in the rankings of the region-sector combinations. For the Ecoinvent dataset an even larger reduction in indicators could be achieved, with more than 90% of the variance in product rankings covered by just 4 out of 135 original indicators.

While the optimal sets maximize the amount of covered variance, the recommended indicators are not necessarily the most preferable using additional criteria, such as the RACER (Relevant, Accepted, Credible, Easy and Robust) criteria.<sup>20</sup> As the loadings of the indicators (Annex A1 and A2) on the first component show for both datasets there are several indicators with approximately the same amount of explanatory power. This means that alternative sets of indicators can be defined which are only marginally worse in terms of explained variance compared to the statistically preferred set of four and seven indicators proposed here. Some of the selected indicators may not fulfill all these criteria, for example the problem of ozone depletion is becoming less relevant due to successful emission reduction policies<sup>21</sup> and the indicators of toxicity are not always robust, due to the large uncertainties involved in their calculations.<sup>22</sup>

The resource-based indicators are relatively easy and robust to calculate. Being indicators of resource use rather than indicators of environmental impact it was not clear whether they can be used as a proxy for environmental impacts. Our results for the Ecoinvent dataset indicate that they also cover the variance in impact indicators relatively well (82% explained variance with four indicators), which suggests that these indicators are relevant for use in the area of LCIA. For the EXIOBASE dataset the difference between the resource-based sets and the statistically optimal sets of the same size was relatively large. These toxic emissions are not explained well by the resource-based footprints.

In both cases, only three out of the four resource-based indicators seem to be of real added value. For the both datasets these were the indicators of energy, land and material. This is due to the fact that the (agricultural) water consumption is strongly correlated to the land footprint, especially in the EXIOBASE dataset (rank correlation coefficient,  $r = 0.84$ ), making one of the two indicators redundant. Using two or three simple resource based indicators would eliminate the need for the complicated mid- and endpoint damage models, but has limited coverage of the impacts associated with toxic emissions, especially for the EXIOBASE dataset. Supplementing the two best resource indicators (energy and land) with the best toxicity indicator (freshwater aquatic ecotoxicity potential, infinite time horizon) increases the explained variance to 74.8%.

## 5 Conclusion

Strong correlations between the included indicators were found, this makes reduction of the number of indicators for both the Ecoinvent as well as the EXIOBASE dataset feasible. For the Ecoinvent dataset, a minimal set of six indicators cover 92% of the variation. The indicators refer to climate change, ozone depletion, the combined effects of acidification & eutrophication, terrestrial ecotoxicity, marine ecotoxicity and land use. For the EXIOBASE data seven indicators related to freshwater and marine ecotoxicity, photochemical oxidation, climate change acidification & eutrophication, photochemical ozone formation and blue water withdrawal covered 90% of the variation.

However, the optimal sets found in our study are sets that are optimal from a statistical point of view only. A combination of our statistical approach and other criteria such as the RACER (Relevant, Accepted, Credible, Easy and Robust) criteria is needed to come to a final set of recommended indicators. A first attempt to include alternative criteria was made by testing the statistical coverage of a footprint family set, consisting of the: the fossil-energy, material, land and water footprints. These footprints covered only marginally less variation than statistically optimal sets of indicators of the same size for the Ecoinvent dataset. For the EXIOBASE dataset it is recommended to supplement the resource based indicators with an indicator of ecotoxicity to increase the statistical coverage of the set.

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## Annex 1

**Table A1. Included indicators used for the Ecoinvent dataset and their loadings on the first four components, ranked from highest to lowest absolute score on component 1.**

| #  | Indicator category            | Method: full name of indicator                            | Loadings per component |        |        |       |
|----|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|--------|--------|-------|
|    |                               |                                                           | 1                      | 2      | 3      | 4     |
| 1  | Marine ecotoxicity            | ReCiPe: METP100a (I)                                      | -0.091                 | 0.006  | 0.071  | 0.085 |
| 2  | Freshwater ecotoxicity        | ReCiPe: FETPinft (E)                                      | -0.091                 | 0.042  | 0.016  | 0.066 |
| 3  | Marine ecotoxicity            | ReCiPe: METPinft (H)                                      | -0.091                 | 0.012  | 0.076  | 0.087 |
| 4  | Freshwater ecotoxicity        | ReCiPe: FETPinft (H)                                      | -0.091                 | 0.042  | 0.016  | 0.066 |
| 5  | Marine ecotoxicity            | ReCiPe: METPinft (E)                                      | -0.091                 | -0.007 | 0.084  | 0.099 |
| 6  | Respiratory effects & PM      | Impact2002: human health:respiratory effects (inorganics) | -0.091                 | -0.029 | -0.038 | 0.060 |
| 7  | Marine ecotoxicity            | CML2001: MAETP 100a                                       | -0.091                 | -0.002 | 0.086  | 0.100 |
| 8  | Marine ecotoxicity            | CML2001: MAETP 20a                                        | -0.091                 | -0.004 | 0.088  | 0.094 |
| 9  | Marine ecotoxicity            | CML2001: MSETP 100a                                       | -0.091                 | 0.001  | 0.087  | 0.098 |
| 10 | Marine ecotoxicity            | CML2001: MAETP 500a                                       | -0.091                 | -0.002 | 0.085  | 0.101 |
| 11 | Marine ecotoxicity            | CML2001: MSETP 500a                                       | -0.091                 | 0.001  | 0.086  | 0.100 |
| 12 | Freshwater eutrophication     | ReCiPe: FEPT (H)                                          | -0.091                 | 0.034  | 0.041  | 0.060 |
| 13 | Marine ecotoxicity            | CML2001: MSETP 20a                                        | -0.091                 | -0.001 | 0.088  | 0.092 |
| 14 | Eutrophication                | EDIP2003: eutrophication:separate P potential             | -0.091                 | 0.032  | 0.042  | 0.061 |
| 15 | Freshwater ecotoxicity        | CML2001: FSETP infinite                                   | -0.091                 | 0.036  | 0.063  | 0.096 |
| 16 | Freshwater ecotoxicity        | CML2001: FAETP infinite                                   | -0.091                 | 0.041  | 0.055  | 0.092 |
| 17 | Freshwater ecotoxicity        | CML2001: FSETP 500a                                       | -0.091                 | 0.034  | 0.063  | 0.096 |
| 18 | Freshwater ecotoxicity        | CML2001: FAETP 500a                                       | -0.091                 | 0.039  | 0.056  | 0.093 |
| 19 | Freshwater ecotoxicity        | CML2001: FSETP 100a                                       | -0.091                 | 0.034  | 0.063  | 0.095 |
| 20 | Endpoint: single score        | ReCiPeend: ReCiPeend(E,A)                                 | -0.091                 | -0.030 | -0.022 | 0.064 |
| 21 | Freshwater ecotoxicity        | CML2001: FAETP 100a                                       | -0.091                 | 0.039  | 0.056  | 0.093 |
| 22 | Freshwater ecotoxicity        | CML2001: FSETP 20a                                        | -0.091                 | 0.034  | 0.062  | 0.095 |
| 23 | Freshwater ecotoxicity        | CML2001: FAETP 20a                                        | -0.091                 | 0.039  | 0.055  | 0.092 |
| 24 | Marine ecotoxicity            | CML2001: MSETP infinite                                   | -0.091                 | -0.016 | 0.090  | 0.086 |
| 25 | Aquatic ecotoxicity           | EDIP2003: ecotoxicity:chronic, in water                   | -0.091                 | -0.001 | 0.091  | 0.031 |
| 26 | Human Toxicity                | ReCiPe: HTPinft (E)                                       | -0.091                 | -0.011 | 0.102  | 0.063 |
| 27 | Acidification                 | EDIP2003: acidification:acidification                     | -0.091                 | -0.046 | -0.035 | 0.048 |
| 28 | Respiratory effects and PM    | TRACI: human health:respiratory effects, average          | -0.091                 | -0.063 | -0.002 | 0.054 |
| 29 | Marine ecotoxicity            | CML2001: MAETP infinite                                   | -0.090                 | -0.017 | 0.086  | 0.083 |
| 30 | Photochemical ozone formation | TRACI: environmental impact:photochemical oxidation       | -0.090                 | -0.059 | -0.084 | 0.033 |
| 31 | Acidification                 | CML2001: acidification:average European                   | -0.090                 | -0.045 | -0.041 | 0.047 |
| 32 | Acidification                 | TRACI: environmental impact:acidification                 | -0.090                 | -0.037 | -0.051 | 0.052 |

|    |                               |                                                                 |        |        |        |        |
|----|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 33 | Human Toxicity                | ReCiPe: HTPinf (H)                                              | -0.090 | 0.026  | 0.080  | 0.067  |
| 34 | Acidification                 | Impact2002: ecosystem quality:aquatic acidification             | -0.090 | -0.036 | -0.049 | 0.051  |
| 35 | Acidification                 | CML2001: acidification:generic                                  | -0.090 | -0.036 | -0.048 | 0.051  |
| 36 | Respiratory effects and PM    | ReCiPe: PMFPt (I)                                               | -0.090 | -0.035 | -0.045 | 0.075  |
| 37 | Freshwater ecotoxicity        | ReCiPe: FETP100a (I)                                            | -0.090 | 0.051  | -0.009 | 0.061  |
| 38 | Acidification                 | ReCiPe: TAP20a (I)                                              | -0.090 | -0.032 | -0.052 | 0.048  |
| 39 | Acidification                 | ReCiPe: TAP100a (H)                                             | -0.090 | -0.025 | -0.058 | 0.049  |
| 40 | Ecotoxicity                   | EDIP2003: ecotoxicity:in sewage treatment plants                | -0.090 | -0.002 | 0.063  | 0.033  |
| 41 | Acidification                 | ReCiPe: TAP500a (E)                                             | -0.090 | -0.020 | -0.063 | 0.050  |
| 42 | Endpoint: Human health        | Impact2002end: Impact2002humanhealth                            | -0.090 | 0.001  | -0.005 | 0.055  |
| 43 | Human toxicity                | CML2001: HTP infinite                                           | -0.089 | 0.009  | 0.051  | 0.049  |
| 44 | Aquatic ecotoxicity           | EDIP2003: ecotoxicity:acute, in water                           | -0.089 | -0.016 | 0.088  | 0.010  |
| 45 | Climate change                | Impact2002: climate change:total                                | -0.089 | -0.090 | -0.091 | 0.004  |
| 46 | Climate change                | CML2001: GWP 500a                                               | -0.089 | -0.090 | -0.091 | 0.004  |
| 47 | Climate change                | ReCiPe: GWP500a (E)                                             | -0.089 | -0.091 | -0.090 | 0.003  |
| 48 | Climate change                | CML2001: upper limit of net GWP                                 | -0.089 | -0.087 | -0.101 | 0.004  |
| 49 | Photochemical ozone formation | ReCiPe: POFPt (H)                                               | -0.089 | -0.088 | -0.084 | 0.022  |
| 50 | Climate change                | CML2001: GWP 100a                                               | -0.089 | -0.088 | -0.102 | 0.002  |
| 51 | Climate change                | ReCiPe: GWP100a (H)                                             | -0.089 | -0.088 | -0.102 | 0.001  |
| 52 | Eutrophication                | EDIP2003: eutrophication:combined potential                     | -0.089 | 0.088  | -0.056 | 0.039  |
| 53 | Human toxicity                | EDIP2003: human toxicity:via surface water                      | -0.089 | -0.029 | 0.059  | 0.005  |
| 54 | Climate change                | EDIP2003: global warming:GWP 500a                               | -0.089 | -0.111 | -0.068 | 0.015  |
| 55 | Climate change                | TRACI: environmental impact:global warming                      | -0.089 | -0.106 | -0.081 | 0.013  |
| 56 | Climate change                | EDIP2003: global warming:GWP 100a                               | -0.089 | -0.106 | -0.081 | 0.012  |
| 57 | Climate change                | CML2001: lower limit of net GWP                                 | -0.089 | -0.087 | -0.104 | 0.008  |
| 58 | Photochemical ozone formation | EDIP2003: photochemical ozone formation:impacts on vegetation   | -0.089 | -0.095 | -0.095 | 0.026  |
| 59 | Human toxicity                | TRACI: human health:carcinogenics                               | -0.089 | 0.013  | 0.072  | 0.042  |
| 60 | Climate change                | ReCiPe: GWP20a (I)                                              | -0.088 | -0.099 | -0.106 | 0.000  |
| 61 | Climate change                | CML2001: GWP 20a                                                | -0.088 | -0.099 | -0.106 | 0.001  |
| 62 | Photochemical ozone formation | CML2001: Summer smog: high NOx POCP                             | -0.088 | -0.085 | -0.049 | -0.030 |
| 63 | Photochemical ozone formation | EDIP2003: photochemical ozone formation:impacts on human health | -0.088 | -0.098 | -0.098 | 0.022  |
| 64 | Eutrophication                | CML2001:                                                        | -0.088 | 0.090  | -0.063 | 0.012  |

|    |                                       |                                                                         |        |        |        |        |
|----|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|    |                                       | eutrophication:generic                                                  |        |        |        |        |
| 65 | Climate change                        | EDIP2003: global warming:GWP 20a                                        | -0.088 | -0.114 | -0.085 | 0.010  |
| 66 | Acidification&eutrification           | Impact2002: ecosystem quality:terrestrial acidification & eutrification | -0.088 | 0.012  | -0.104 | 0.057  |
| 67 | Human toxicity                        | CML2001: HTP 500a                                                       | -0.088 | 0.023  | 0.043  | 0.018  |
| 68 | Human toxicity                        | EDIP2003: human toxicity:via air                                        | -0.088 | 0.039  | -0.006 | 0.012  |
| 69 | Human toxicity                        | CML2001: HTP 100a                                                       | -0.088 | 0.023  | 0.044  | 0.018  |
| 70 | Human toxicity                        | CML2001: HTP 20a                                                        | -0.088 | 0.023  | 0.044  | 0.017  |
| 71 | Land fill                             | EDIP2003: land filling:slag and ashes                                   | -0.088 | 0.020  | 0.093  | -0.024 |
| 72 | Endpoint: Single score                | EPS2000end: EPS2000Total                                                | -0.088 | -0.075 | 0.015  | 0.095  |
| 73 | Endpoint: Single score                | ReCiPeend: ReCiPeend(H,A)                                               | -0.087 | -0.020 | -0.110 | 0.019  |
| 74 | Land fill                             | EDIP2003: land filling:bulk waste                                       | -0.087 | 0.034  | 0.014  | 0.075  |
| 75 | Endpoint: Single score                | ecological scarcity 2013: EcoscarcityTotal                              | -0.087 | 0.019  | -0.081 | 0.048  |
| 76 | Endpoint: Single score                | ReCiPeend: ReCiPeend(I,A)                                               | -0.087 | -0.032 | -0.107 | 0.031  |
| 77 | Human Toxicity                        | TRACI: human health:non-carcinogenics                                   | -0.087 | 0.060  | 0.035  | 0.062  |
| 78 | Land use                              | ReCiPe: ULOPt (E)                                                       | -0.087 | 0.081  | 0.039  | 0.027  |
| 79 | Human Toxicity                        | EDIP2003: human toxicity:via soil                                       | -0.087 | 0.020  | -0.018 | -0.065 |
| 80 | Human Toxicity                        | Impact2002: human health:human toxicity                                 | -0.086 | 0.040  | 0.071  | 0.029  |
| 81 | Ionizing radiation/radio-active waste | ReCiPe: IRP_It (I)                                                      | -0.086 | 0.004  | 0.127  | -0.055 |
| 82 | Aquatic ecotoxicity                   | Impact2002: ecosystem quality:aquatic ecotoxicity                       | -0.086 | 0.011  | 0.109  | 0.019  |
| 83 | Ionizing radiation/radio-active waste | ReCiPe: IRP_HEt (H)                                                     | -0.086 | -0.007 | 0.133  | -0.093 |
| 84 | Ionizing radiation/radio-active waste | Impact2002: human health:ionising radiation                             | -0.086 | -0.007 | 0.133  | -0.094 |
| 85 | Ionizing radiation/radio-active waste | CML2001: ionising radiation                                             | -0.086 | -0.007 | 0.133  | -0.094 |
| 86 | Endpoint: single score                | EI99end: EI99(H,A)                                                      | -0.086 | 0.011  | -0.130 | -0.001 |
| 87 | Eutrophication                        | CML2001: eutrophication:average European                                | -0.085 | 0.039  | -0.132 | 0.051  |
| 88 | Eutrophication                        | ReCiPe: MEPt (I)                                                        | -0.085 | 0.094  | -0.111 | -0.030 |
| 89 | Eutrophication                        | EDIP2003: eutrophication:terrestrial eutrophication                     | -0.085 | 0.044  | -0.133 | 0.050  |
| 90 | Water/resource depletion              | Impact2002: resources:mineral extraction                                | -0.085 | 0.028  | 0.117  | 0.095  |
| 91 | Terrestrial ecotoxicity               | ReCiPe: TETPinft (E)                                                    | -0.085 | 0.127  | -0.039 | -0.011 |
| 92 | Ozone depletion                       | CML2001: ODP steady state                                               | -0.084 | -0.045 | 0.117  | -0.180 |
| 93 | Eutrophication                        | EDIP2003:                                                               | -0.084 | 0.102  | -0.128 | -0.017 |

|     |                                       |                                                       |        |        |        |        |
|-----|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|     |                                       | eutrophication:separate N potential                   |        |        |        |        |
| 94  | Endpoint: single score                | EI99end: EI99(I,I)                                    | -0.084 | 0.046  | 0.011  | 0.101  |
| 95  | Ozone depletion                       | ReCiPe: ODPinf (H)                                    | -0.084 | -0.053 | 0.101  | -0.167 |
| 96  | Water/resource depletion              | ReCiPe: MDPT (H)                                      | -0.084 | 0.027  | 0.110  | 0.090  |
| 97  | Ozone depletion                       | CML2001: ODP 5a                                       | -0.084 | -0.044 | 0.133  | -0.195 |
| 98  | Ozone depletion                       | CML2001: ODP 10a                                      | -0.084 | -0.043 | 0.133  | -0.198 |
| 99  | Ozone depletion                       | CML2001: ODP 15a                                      | -0.084 | -0.043 | 0.133  | -0.200 |
| 100 | Land fill                             | EDIP2003: land filling:hazardous waste                | -0.084 | 0.004  | 0.112  | -0.046 |
| 101 | Water/resource depletion              | CML2001: depletion of abiotic resources               | -0.084 | -0.168 | -0.053 | -0.046 |
| 102 | Ozone depletion                       | CML2001: ODP 20a                                      | -0.084 | -0.043 | 0.133  | -0.202 |
| 103 | Ozone depletion                       | CML2001: ODP 25a                                      | -0.083 | -0.042 | 0.134  | -0.203 |
| 104 | Ozone depletion                       | CML2001: ODP 30a                                      | -0.083 | -0.042 | 0.133  | -0.204 |
| 105 | Ozone depletion                       | TRACI: environmental impact:ozone depletion           | -0.083 | -0.045 | 0.117  | -0.189 |
| 106 | Ozone depletion                       | CML2001: ODP 40a                                      | -0.083 | -0.042 | 0.133  | -0.206 |
| 107 | Ionizing radiation/radio-active waste | EDIP2003: land filling:radioactive waste              | -0.083 | -0.018 | 0.124  | -0.151 |
| 108 | Endpoint: resources                   | Impact2002end: Impact2002resources                    | -0.083 | -0.169 | -0.053 | -0.053 |
| 109 | Endpoint: single score                | EI99end: EI99(E,E)                                    | -0.082 | 0.028  | -0.066 | -0.010 |
| 110 | Photochemical ozone formation         | CML2001: Summer smog: low NOx POCP                    | -0.082 | -0.086 | -0.096 | -0.090 |
| 111 | Water/resource depletion              | Impact2002: resources:non-renewable energy            | -0.082 | -0.174 | -0.056 | -0.066 |
| 112 | Respiratory effects and PM            | CML2001: malodours air                                | -0.082 | 0.041  | -0.012 | -0.080 |
| 113 | Ecotoxicity                           | TRACI: environmental impact:ecotoxicity               | -0.082 | 0.049  | 0.089  | 0.098  |
| 114 | Water/resource depletion              | ReCiPe: FDPt (E)                                      | -0.082 | -0.181 | -0.065 | -0.074 |
| 115 | Terrestrial ecotoxicity               | CML2001: TAETP infinite                               | -0.081 | 0.138  | -0.041 | -0.021 |
| 116 | Photochemical ozone formation         | CML2001: Summer smog: EBIR                            | -0.081 | -0.081 | -0.104 | -0.104 |
| 117 | Terrestrial ecotoxicity               | CML2001: TAETP 500a                                   | -0.081 | 0.146  | -0.055 | -0.026 |
| 118 | Land use                              | ReCiPe: NLTPt (I)                                     | -0.080 | -0.014 | 0.109  | -0.139 |
| 119 | Photochemical ozone formation         | CML2001: Summer smog: MOIR                            | -0.080 | -0.077 | -0.110 | -0.120 |
| 120 | Endpoint: ecosystems                  | Impact2002end: Impact2002ecosystemquality             | -0.080 | 0.176  | -0.012 | 0.003  |
| 121 | Photochemical ozone formation         | CML2001: Summer smog: MIR                             | -0.080 | -0.072 | -0.107 | -0.126 |
| 122 | Terrestrial ecotoxicity               | Impact2002: ecosystem quality:terrestrial ecotoxicity | -0.079 | 0.061  | 0.093  | 0.042  |
| 123 | Photochemical ozone formation         | Impact2002: human health:photochemical oxidation      | -0.079 | -0.146 | -0.120 | -0.072 |
| 124 | Eutrophication                        | TRACI: environmental impact:eutrophication            | -0.079 | 0.013  | -0.140 | -0.131 |



|     |                          |                                                            |        |       |        |        |
|-----|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|--------|-------|--------|--------|
| 125 | Terrestrial ecotoxicity  | CML2001: TAETP 100a                                        | -0.078 | 0.184 | -0.070 | -0.056 |
| 126 | Human toxicity           | ReCiPe: HTP100a (I)                                        | -0.078 | 0.121 | -0.120 | -0.053 |
| 127 | Terrestrial ecotoxicity  | ReCiPe: TETPinft (H)                                       | -0.076 | 0.190 | -0.066 | -0.101 |
| 128 | Terrestrial ecotoxicity  | ReCiPe: TETP100a (I)                                       | -0.076 | 0.190 | -0.066 | -0.101 |
| 129 | Terrestrial ecotoxicity  | CML2001: TAETP 20a                                         | -0.074 | 0.214 | -0.071 | -0.082 |
| 130 | Ecotoxicity              | EDIP2003:<br>ecotoxicity:chronic, in soil                  | -0.073 | 0.166 | -0.095 | -0.069 |
| 131 | Water/resource depletion | ReCiPe: WDPt (I)                                           | -0.071 | 0.192 | -0.053 | -0.051 |
| 132 | Eutrophication           | Impact2002: ecosystem<br>quality:aquatic<br>eutrophication | -0.070 | 0.033 | -0.135 | -0.224 |
| 133 | Land use                 | CML2001: land<br>use:competition                           | -0.063 | 0.260 | -0.086 | -0.109 |
| 134 | Land use                 | ReCiPe: ALOPt (E)                                          | -0.059 | 0.270 | -0.095 | -0.131 |
| 135 | Land use                 | Impact2002: ecosystem<br>quality:land occupation           | -0.059 | 0.284 | -0.100 | -0.096 |

Abbreviations of the methods: METP: Marine EcoToxicity Potential, FETP: Freshwater EcoToxicity Potential, MAETP: Marine Aquatic Ecotoxicity Potential, MSETP: Marine Sediment Ecotoxicity Potential, FEP: Freshwater EutroPhication, FSETP: Freshwater Sediment Ecotoxicity Potential, FAETP: Freshwater Aquatic Ecotoxicity Potential, HTP: Human Toxicity Potential, PMFP: Particulate Matter Formation Potential, FETP: Freshwater Ecotoxicity Potential, TAP: Terrestrial Acidification Potential, GWP: Global Warming Potential, POFP: Photochemical Ozone Formation Potential, POCP: Photochemical Ozone Creation Potential ,ULOP: Urban Land Occupation Potential, IRP: Ionizing Radiation Potential, MEP: Marine Eutrophication Potential, TAETP/TETP: Terrestrial Ecotoxicity Potential, ODP: Ozone Depletion Potential, MDP: Mineral/Metal Depletion Potential, MOIR: Maximum Ozone Incremental Activity, FDP: Fossil Depletion Potential, EBIR: Equal Benefit Incremental Reactivity, NLTP: Natural Land Transformation Potential, MIR: Maximum Incremental Reactivity, WDP: Water depletion potential, ALOP: Agricultural Land Occupation Potential.

500a/100a/20a: Time Horizons of 500, 100 and 20 years respectively

(I): Individualist perspective, (E): Egalitarian perspective, (H): Hierarchist perspective

## Annex 2

**Table A2. Included indicators used for the EXIOBASE dataset and their loadings on the first six components, ranked from highest to lowest absolute score on component 1.**

|    | Indicator names                                                  | Method                  | Loadings per component |       |        |        |        |        |
|----|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|    |                                                                  |                         | 1                      | 2     | 3      | 4      | 5      | 6      |
| 1  | Freshwater aquatic ecotoxicity FAETP 500                         | CML                     | -0.131                 | 0.074 | 0.023  | 0.006  | -0.010 | -0.034 |
| 2  | Freshwater sedimental ecotoxicity FSETP 500                      | CML                     | -0.130                 | 0.076 | 0.024  | 0.006  | 0.009  | -0.052 |
| 3  | Freshwater aquatic ecotoxicity FAETP inf.                        | CML                     | -0.130                 | 0.097 | 0.019  | -0.002 | 0.013  | -0.012 |
| 4  | Freshwater sedimental ecotoxicity FSETP inf.                     | CML                     | -0.130                 | 0.094 | 0.024  | -0.021 | 0.003  | 0.007  |
| 5  | Marine aquatic ecotoxicity MAETP 20                              | CML                     | -0.129                 | 0.088 | 0.029  | -0.007 | 0.012  | -0.036 |
| 6  | Freshwater aquatic ecotoxicity FAETP 100                         | CML                     | -0.129                 | 0.051 | 0.020  | 0.046  | 0.008  | -0.108 |
| 7  | Marine sedimental ecotoxicity MSETP inf.                         | CML                     | -0.129                 | 0.090 | 0.014  | -0.003 | -0.052 | 0.072  |
| 8  | Marine aquatic ecotoxicity MAETP inf                             | CML                     | -0.129                 | 0.074 | 0.010  | 0.028  | -0.076 | 0.063  |
| 9  | Marine sedimental ecotoxicity MSETP 100                          | CML                     | -0.128                 | 0.100 | 0.031  | -0.027 | 0.002  | 0.007  |
| 10 | Marine sedimental ecotoxicity MSETP 20                           | CML                     | -0.128                 | 0.079 | 0.027  | 0.017  | 0.027  | -0.080 |
| 11 | Freshwater sedimental ecotoxicity FSETP 100                      | CML                     | -0.128                 | 0.054 | 0.022  | 0.048  | 0.029  | -0.128 |
| 12 | Marine aquatic ecotoxicity MAETP 100                             | CML                     | -0.127                 | 0.105 | 0.032  | -0.044 | -0.014 | 0.050  |
| 13 | Marine sedimental ecotoxicity MSETP 500                          | CML                     | -0.126                 | 0.109 | 0.035  | -0.053 | -0.016 | 0.067  |
| 14 | Freshwater aquatic ecotoxicity FAETP 20                          | CML                     | -0.126                 | 0.040 | 0.023  | 0.060  | 0.037  | -0.156 |
| 15 | Carcinogenic effects on humans (I.I)                             | Ecoindicator 99         | -0.126                 | 0.111 | 0.019  | -0.023 | 0.004  | 0.061  |
| 16 | Respiratory effects on humans caused by organic substances (E.E) | Ecoindicator 99         | -0.125                 | 0.003 | -0.022 | 0.059  | 0.007  | -0.112 |
| 17 | Marine aquatic ecotoxicity MAETP 500                             | CML                     | -0.125                 | 0.109 | 0.036  | -0.057 | -0.027 | 0.087  |
| 18 | Human toxicity                                                   | USEtox                  | -0.125                 | 0.112 | 0.040  | -0.008 | 0.004  | 0.014  |
| 19 | Human toxicity midpoint, non-cancer effects                      | ILCD recommended method | -0.125                 | 0.112 | 0.040  | -0.008 | 0.004  | 0.014  |
| 20 | Human toxicity endpoint, non-cancer effects                      | ILCD recommended method | -0.125                 | 0.112 | 0.040  | -0.008 | 0.004  | 0.014  |
| 21 | Damage to Ecosystem Quality caused by ecotoxic emissions (I.I)   | Ecoindicator 99         | -0.125                 | 0.093 | 0.021  | 0.029  | 0.058  | -0.052 |
| 22 | Terrestrial ecotoxicity TETP 20                                  | CML                     | -0.125                 | 0.110 | 0.045  | -0.032 | -0.055 | 0.066  |
| 23 | Ecotoxicity freshwater midpoint                                  | ILCD recommended method | -0.124                 | 0.109 | 0.038  | -0.021 | 0.028  | 0.013  |
| 24 | Carcinogenic effects on humans (E.E)                             | Ecoindicator 99         | -0.124                 | 0.112 | 0.047  | -0.060 | -0.020 | 0.089  |
| 25 | Freshwater sedimental ecotoxicity FSETP 20                       | CML                     | -0.124                 | 0.041 | 0.023  | 0.068  | 0.051  | -0.172 |
| 26 | Terrestrial ecotoxicity TETP 100                                 | CML                     | -0.124                 | 0.111 | 0.047  | -0.035 | -0.055 | 0.072  |
| 27 | Terrestrial ecotoxicity                                          | CML                     | -0.124                 | 0.113 | 0.048  | -0.036 | -0.050 | 0.070  |
| 28 | Fresh water Ecotoxicity                                          | USEtox                  | -0.124                 | 0.114 | 0.045  | -0.040 | 0.011  | 0.046  |
| 29 | Terrestrial ecotoxicity TETP inf                                 | CML                     | -0.124                 | 0.114 | 0.044  | -0.004 | 0.014  | 0.000  |

|    |                                                                    |                         |        |        |        |        |        |        |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 30 | Respiratory effects on humans caused by inorganic substances (H.A) | Ecoindicator 99         | -0.123 | 0.095  | 0.018  | 0.044  | 0.055  | -0.055 |
| 31 | Damage to Ecosystem Quality caused by ecotoxic emissions (E.E)     | Ecoindicator 99         | -0.123 | 0.095  | 0.018  | 0.044  | 0.055  | -0.055 |
| 32 | Particulate matter/Respiratory inorganics endpoint                 | ILCD recommended method | -0.123 | -0.069 | 0.028  | -0.015 | -0.039 | -0.149 |
| 33 | Human toxicity endpoint, cancer effects                            | ILCD recommended method | -0.123 | 0.112  | 0.052  | -0.053 | -0.050 | 0.093  |
| 34 | Human toxicity midpoint, cancer effects                            | ILCD recommended method | -0.123 | 0.112  | 0.052  | -0.053 | -0.051 | 0.093  |
| 35 | human toxicity HTP inf.                                            | CML                     | -0.122 | 0.118  | 0.043  | 0.007  | 0.012  | -0.009 |
| 36 | Respiratory effects on humans caused by inorganic substances (I.I) | Ecoindicator 99         | -0.121 | -0.085 | 0.039  | -0.048 | -0.027 | -0.128 |
| 37 | EPS (Steen, 1999)                                                  | EPS                     | -0.121 | 0.023  | -0.028 | 0.073  | 0.027  | -0.217 |
| 38 | human toxicity HTP 500                                             | CML                     | -0.118 | 0.110  | 0.056  | -0.083 | -0.056 | 0.147  |
| 39 | human toxicity HTP 100                                             | CML                     | -0.118 | 0.110  | 0.056  | -0.083 | -0.056 | 0.147  |
| 40 | human toxicity HTP 20                                              | CML                     | -0.118 | 0.110  | 0.056  | -0.083 | -0.056 | 0.147  |
| 41 | photochemical oxidation (high NOx)                                 | CML                     | -0.116 | -0.044 | -0.155 | -0.024 | 0.208  | -0.057 |
| 42 | photochemical oxidation (low NOx)                                  | CML                     | -0.116 | -0.046 | -0.069 | -0.023 | 0.075  | -0.290 |
| 43 | photochemical oxidation (MOIR; high NOx)                           | CML                     | -0.115 | -0.055 | -0.076 | -0.033 | 0.082  | -0.281 |
| 44 | photochemical oxidation (EBIR; low NOx)                            | CML                     | -0.115 | -0.055 | -0.076 | -0.033 | 0.082  | -0.280 |
| 45 | photochemical oxidation (MIR; very high NOx)                       | CML                     | -0.115 | -0.056 | -0.077 | -0.034 | 0.083  | -0.279 |
| 46 | global warming GWP500                                              | CML                     | -0.108 | -0.107 | -0.161 | -0.029 | -0.193 | 0.021  |
| 47 | global warming net GWP100 max                                      | CML                     | -0.106 | -0.132 | -0.145 | -0.069 | -0.152 | -0.004 |
| 48 | Total Emission relevant energy use                                 | Direct EXIOBASE output  | -0.106 | -0.048 | -0.167 | 0.080  | -0.133 | 0.148  |
| 49 | Damages to human health caused by climate change (H.A)             | Ecoindicator 99         | -0.106 | -0.134 | -0.145 | -0.066 | -0.155 | 0.015  |
| 50 | global warming net GWP100 min                                      | CML                     | -0.106 | -0.134 | -0.145 | -0.070 | -0.155 | 0.004  |
| 51 | Damages to human health caused by climate change (I.I)             | Ecoindicator 99         | -0.106 | -0.135 | -0.145 | -0.067 | -0.153 | 0.015  |
| 52 | Climate change endpoint, ecosystems                                | ILCD recommended method | -0.106 | -0.133 | -0.149 | -0.068 | -0.148 | 0.015  |
| 53 | Climate change endpoint, human health                              | ILCD recommended method | -0.106 | -0.133 | -0.149 | -0.068 | -0.148 | 0.015  |
| 54 | Climate change midpoint                                            | ILCD recommended method | -0.106 | -0.133 | -0.149 | -0.068 | -0.148 | 0.015  |
| 55 | global warming GWP100                                              | CML                     | -0.105 | -0.132 | -0.151 | -0.068 | -0.154 | 0.007  |
| 56 | Photochemical ozone formation midpoint, human health               | ILCD recommended method | -0.104 | -0.051 | -0.181 | -0.018 | 0.306  | 0.060  |
| 57 | Photochemical ozone formation endpoint, human health               | ILCD recommended method | -0.104 | -0.052 | -0.181 | -0.018 | 0.306  | 0.060  |
| 58 | acidification (incl. fate, average Europe total, A&B)              | CML                     | -0.104 | -0.149 | 0.092  | -0.107 | -0.018 | -0.001 |
| 59 | global warming GWP20                                               | CML                     | -0.101 | -0.140 | -0.152 | -0.088 | -0.091 | 0.009  |

|    |                                                                                                     |                         |        |        |        |        |        |        |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 60 | Respiratory effects on humans caused by inorganic substances (E.E)                                  | Ecoindicator 99         | -0.101 | -0.155 | 0.090  | -0.123 | -0.027 | 0.021  |
| 61 | acidification (fate not incl.)                                                                      | CML                     | -0.101 | -0.156 | 0.102  | -0.115 | -0.020 | 0.010  |
| 62 | Acidification midpoint                                                                              | ILCD recommended method | -0.098 | -0.156 | 0.124  | -0.089 | -0.002 | -0.007 |
| 63 | Acidification endpoint                                                                              | ILCD recommended method | -0.097 | -0.157 | 0.127  | -0.089 | -0.001 | -0.005 |
| 64 | Total Energy Use                                                                                    | Direct EXIOBASE output  | -0.094 | -0.019 | -0.205 | 0.092  | 0.103  | 0.231  |
| 65 | Damage to Ecosystem Quality caused by the combined effect of acidification and eutrophication (I.I) | Ecoindicator 99         | -0.088 | -0.176 | 0.130  | -0.123 | -0.026 | 0.049  |
| 66 | Water Withdrawal Blue - Total                                                                       | Direct EXIOBASE output  | -0.085 | -0.064 | -0.018 | 0.413  | -0.118 | 0.089  |
| 67 | Unused Domestic Extraction                                                                          | Direct EXIOBASE output  | -0.085 | -0.065 | 0.013  | 0.194  | 0.027  | -0.111 |
| 68 | Water Consumption Blue - Manufacturing                                                              | Direct EXIOBASE output  | -0.083 | -0.058 | 0.118  | 0.341  | 0.017  | -0.071 |
| 69 | eutrophication (incl. fate, average Europe total, A&B)                                              | CML                     | -0.082 | -0.182 | 0.141  | -0.116 | -0.027 | 0.062  |
| 70 | Respiratory effects on humans caused by organic substances (I.I)                                    | Ecoindicator 99         | -0.082 | -0.092 | -0.186 | -0.035 | 0.342  | 0.181  |
| 71 | ozone layer depletion ODP steady state                                                              | CML                     | -0.081 | -0.067 | -0.168 | 0.003  | 0.370  | 0.237  |
| 72 | Water Withdrawal Blue - Manufacturing                                                               | Direct EXIOBASE output  | -0.080 | -0.067 | 0.116  | 0.351  | 0.022  | -0.059 |
| 73 | Water Consumption Blue - Electricity                                                                | Direct EXIOBASE output  | -0.079 | -0.052 | -0.065 | 0.387  | -0.194 | 0.093  |
| 74 | Water Withdrawal Blue - Electricity                                                                 | Direct EXIOBASE output  | -0.076 | -0.048 | -0.074 | 0.367  | -0.173 | 0.141  |
| 75 | Total Energy supply                                                                                 | Direct EXIOBASE output  | -0.076 | -0.021 | -0.194 | 0.137  | 0.214  | 0.218  |
| 76 | Domestic Extraction                                                                                 | Direct EXIOBASE output  | -0.074 | -0.123 | 0.048  | 0.119  | 0.088  | -0.098 |
| 77 | eutrophication (fate not incl.)                                                                     | CML                     | -0.065 | -0.168 | 0.192  | 0.002  | 0.056  | 0.056  |
| 78 | Eutrophication marine midpoint                                                                      | ILCD recommended method | -0.063 | -0.186 | 0.205  | -0.033 | 0.029  | 0.049  |
| 79 | Water Consumption Blue - Livestock                                                                  | Direct EXIOBASE output  | -0.062 | -0.164 | 0.202  | 0.011  | 0.078  | 0.078  |
| 80 | Water Consumption Blue - Total                                                                      | Direct EXIOBASE output  | -0.058 | -0.170 | 0.217  | 0.058  | 0.056  | 0.096  |
| 81 | Water Consumption Green - Agriculture                                                               | Direct EXIOBASE output  | -0.058 | -0.175 | 0.221  | 0.019  | 0.103  | 0.108  |

|    |                                                                                                     |                         |                                                                                                                                               |        |       |       |       |       |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 82 | Land use                                                                                            | Direct EXIOBASE output  | -0.056                                                                                                                                        | -0.177 | 0.207 | 0.044 | 0.107 | 0.045 |
| 83 | Water Consumption Blue - Agriculture                                                                | Direct EXIOBASE output  | -0.053                                                                                                                                        | -0.168 | 0.226 | 0.027 | 0.073 | 0.111 |
| 84 | odour                                                                                               | CML                     | <b>These indicators were left out of the calculation procedure because of perfect correlation with one (or more) of the other indicators.</b> |        |       |       |       |       |
| 85 | Carcinogenic effects on humans (H.A)                                                                | Ecoindicator 99         |                                                                                                                                               |        |       |       |       |       |
| 86 | Respiratory effects on humans caused by organic substances (H.A)                                    | Ecoindicator 99         |                                                                                                                                               |        |       |       |       |       |
| 87 | Damage to Ecosystem Quality caused by ecotoxic emissions (H.A)                                      | Ecoindicator 99         |                                                                                                                                               |        |       |       |       |       |
| 88 | Damage to Ecosystem Quality caused by the combined effect of acidification and eutrophication (H.A) | Ecoindicator 99         |                                                                                                                                               |        |       |       |       |       |
| 89 | Damages to human health caused by climate change (E.E)                                              | Ecoindicator 99         |                                                                                                                                               |        |       |       |       |       |
| 90 | Damage to Ecosystem Quality caused by the combined effect of acidification and eutrophication (E.E) | Ecoindicator 99         |                                                                                                                                               |        |       |       |       |       |
| 91 | Particulate matter/Respiratory inorganics midpoint                                                  | ILCD recommended method |                                                                                                                                               |        |       |       |       |       |
| 92 | Eutrophication terrestrial midpoint                                                                 | ILCD recommended method |                                                                                                                                               |        |       |       |       |       |
| 93 | Ecotoxicity freshwater endpoint                                                                     | ILCD recommended method |                                                                                                                                               |        |       |       |       |       |