

# Social Life Cycle Assessment of products as a tool for Corporate Social Responsibility in the forest sector

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## Introduction

Activities related to forest materials deliver socially vital functions to a broad range of stakeholders but also could lead to a range of different socio-economic concerns or impacts. Therefore, it is to the benefit of businesses to take into account an integrated approach to social and socioeconomic standing of their products beyond responsible forest management practices in the first or second tier of production.

This research aims to identify and develop Social performance profiles for a given set of forest products and companies, while also experiencing the potential of a methodology that seeks to offer comprehensiveness. The Social Life Cycle Assessment; term as SLCA, is a method that assess social and socio-economic of products and their potential impacts along their life cycle.

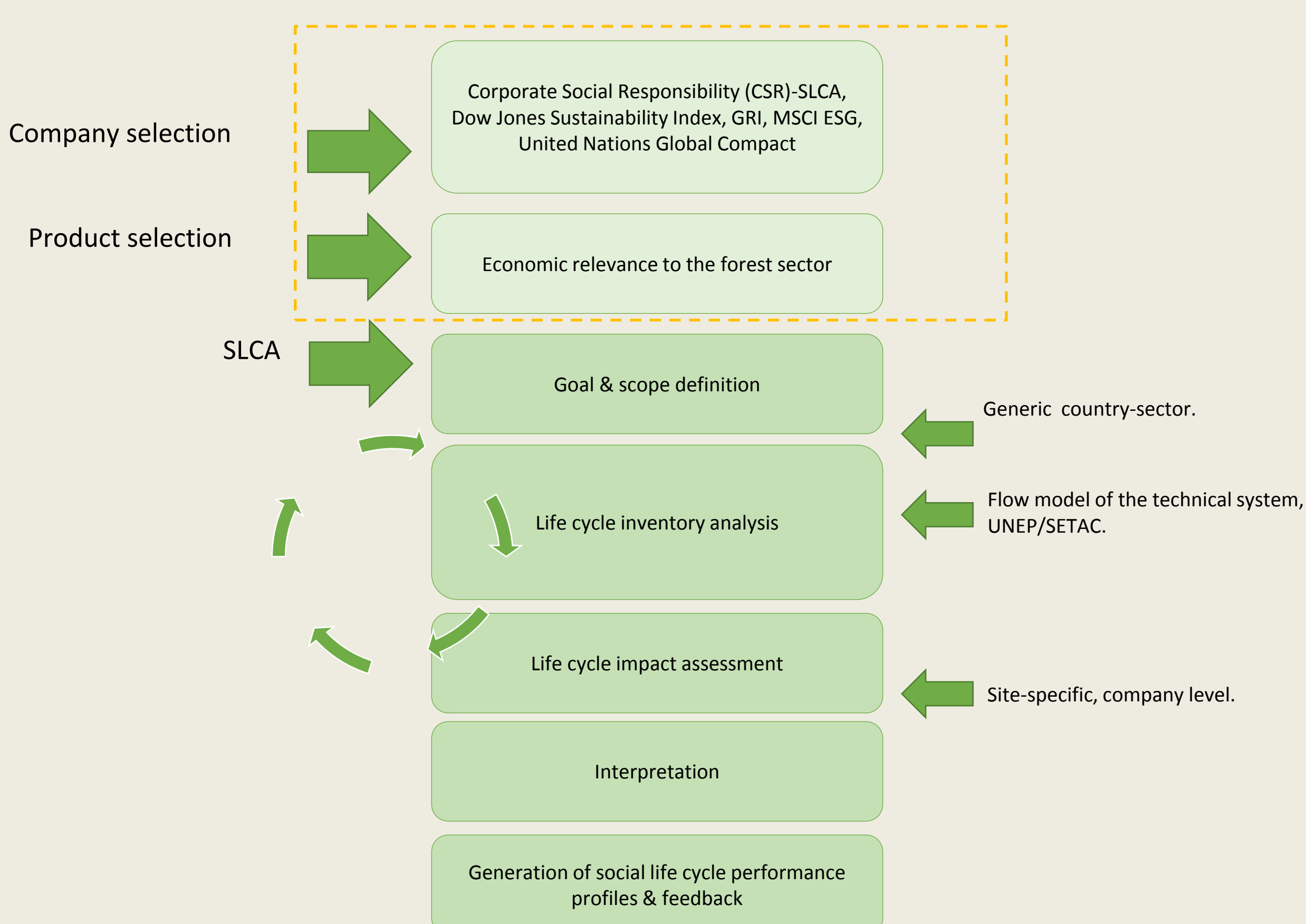


Figure 1. Conceptual framework of the overall research project.

## Results

Table 1. Summary of companies and their potential products according to DJSI

RobecoSAM Industry leader & class 2014 - Paper & Forest Products.	Included in the 11th edition yearbook 2014	Companies invited to participate in RobecoSAM's Corporate Sustainability Assessment	Country	Workforce	No. subs.	Subsidiary in North America	Canadian business units	Products	Table 2. Forest sub-categories (NAICS) relevant to the product selection
		Domtar Corp	United States	10,000	13	✓	Domtar Corporation	Cellulose fibers: Papergrade bleached softwood kraft market pulp. Specialty: technical and specialty papers, uncoated freesheet papers.	Pulp, paper and paperboard mills Kraft Pulp, freesheet paper Forestry and logging Veneer, plywood and engineered wood product manufacturing
		Duralex S.A.	Brazil	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Empresas CMPC SA	Chile	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Fibria Celulose S.A.	Brazil	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Hansol Paper Mfg Co	Republic of Korea	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Intl Paper Co	United States	61,500	43	✓	Shorewood packaging	Folding paperboard boxes	-
		Lee & Man Paper Manufacturing Ltd.	China	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Louisiana Pacific Corp	United States	3,900	24	✓	Louisiana-Pacific Corporation/LP Canada Ltd	Oriented Strand Board Manufacturing, Engineered wood product manufacturing	Included Medium density fibreboard, Plywood, Oriented strand board
		Mondi Plc	United Kingdom	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Mondi Ltd	South Africa	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Nine Dragons Paper (Holdings) Ltd.	China	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Nippon Paper Group Inc / Industries	Japan	13,000	180	✓	-	-	-
		Oji Holdings Corp	Japan	20,000	54	✓	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-	Domtar Cariboo Pulp & Paper Company	Kraft pulp	Kraft Pulp Included
		-	-	-	-	-	Daishowa-Marubeni International Ltd.	Softwood and/or Hardwood Kraft Pulp.	Kraft Pulp Included
		-	-	-	-	-	Abitibi-consolidated-Abitibi-Bowater-Resolute Forest Products	market pulp, commercial printing papers, newsprint, lumber.	Kraft Pulp, freesheet paper Included Medium density fibreboard, Plywood, Oriented strand board
		-	-	-	-	-	Alpac Forest Products Inc. (AFPI) / Alberta Pacific Forest	Kraft Pulp	Kraft Pulp Included
		-	-	-	-	-	Sappi Ltd	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-	Stora Enso OYJ R	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-	Suzano Papel e Celulose	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-	UPM-Kymmene Oyj	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-	West Fraser Timber Co Ltd.	SPF Lumber ( either KD SPF, Studs, Hem-fir or Douglas-Fir), pulp & paper, Plywood, MDF, Veneer & LVL	Kraft Pulp, freesheet paper Included Medium density fibreboard, Plywood, Oriented strand board
		-	-	-	-	-	Alberta Newsprint Company Ltd.	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-	Uniconcorporated joint venture Cariboo Pulp & Paper Company	pulp and paper Kraft pulp	freesheet paper Kraft Pulp Included

## Objectives

## Concluding Remarks / Next Step

- The identification of five forest products for which Social life cycle profiles are being developed.
- The identification of four to five companies that could find SLCA attractive as it is customized to their particular contexts.

- Modest participation of the forest sector in the global sustainability benchmarks (DJSI).
- The analyzed companies under DJSI are always holding/parent companies with several subsidiaries, equity ownership, equity-affiliated, and incorporated companies which made difficult the identification of companies under the scope of this research.
- The expected CSR performance of holding companies does not always align with the performance of their subsidiaries.
- Companies such Weyerhaeuser, Millar Western Forest Products, Cascades Inc., Catalyst Paper Corp., Tolko and Mitsubishi Corp. also showed a strong CSR commitment.
- It is knowledge that a certain degree of flexibility for products and companies is needed when it is not possible to match the initial company/product recommendation.

## Methodology

There is no evidence of practical application of SLCA in the forest sector; therefore this research stage took an explorative approach where empirical data was used as the basis for this selection.

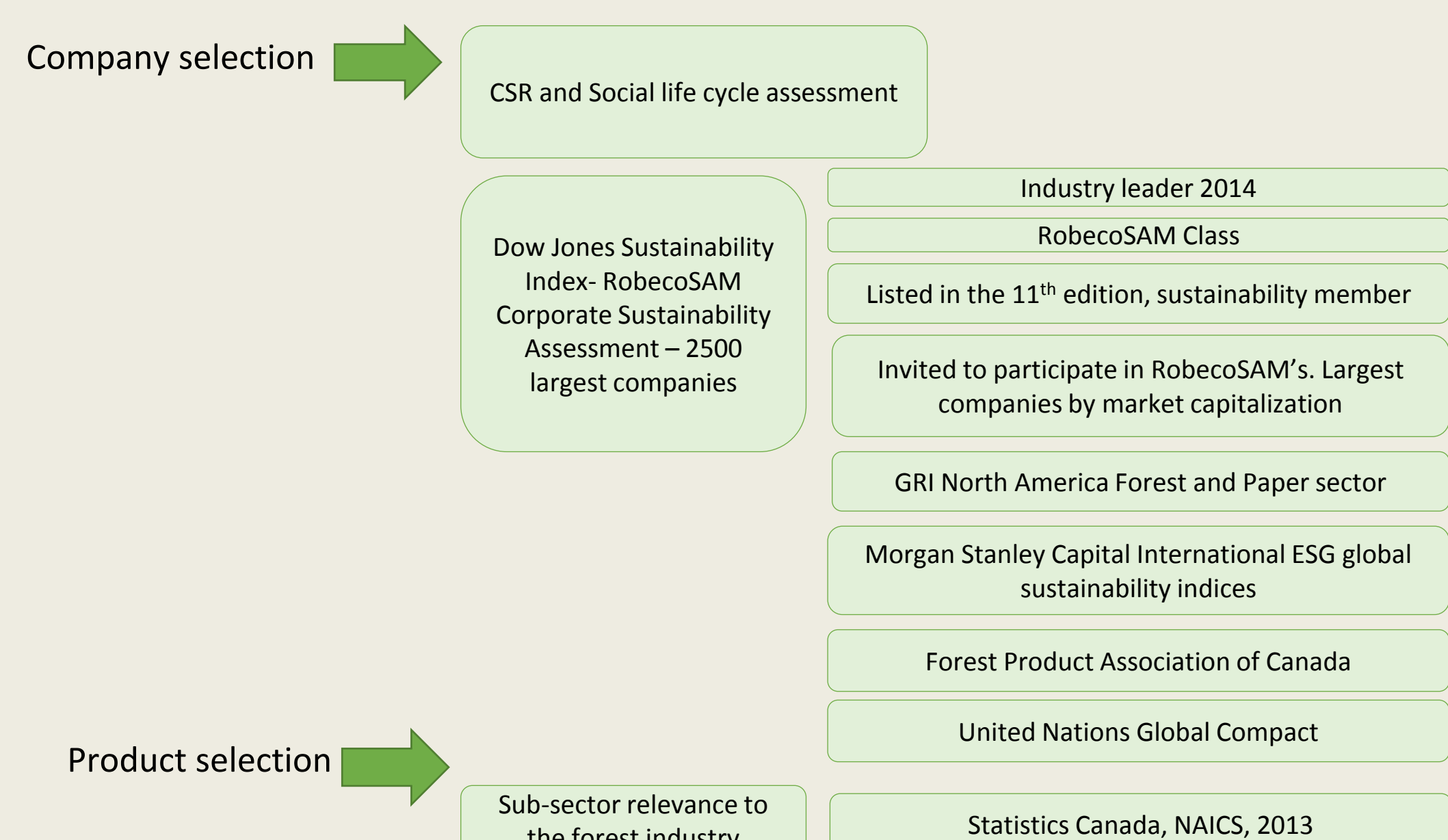


Figure 2. Systematic process for the identification of Companies and products

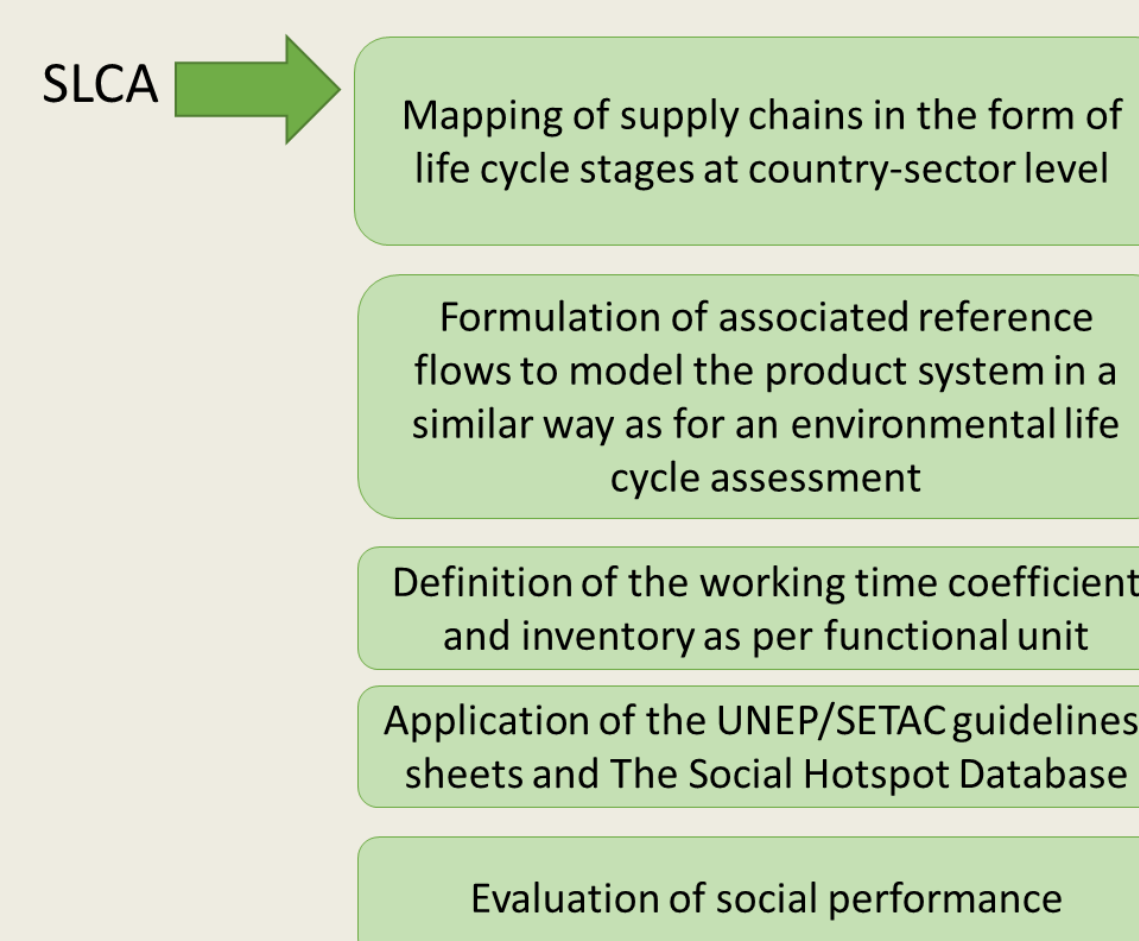


Figure 3. Generic social assessment of products

Stakeholder categories	Subcategories
Worker	Freedom of association and Collective bargaining, Fair salary, Working hours, Social benefits, Forced labor, Health and safety, etc.
Consumer	Feedback mechanism, Transparency, End of life responsibility, Health and safety, etc.
Local community	Cultural heritage, Safe & healthy living conditions, indigenous rights, community engagement, local employment, secure living conditions, etc.
Society	Prevention & mitigation of armed conflicts, Corruption, Public commitment to sustainability issues, etc.
Value chain actors not including consumers	Fair competition, Promoting social responsibility, suppliers relationships, Respect of intellectual property rights, etc.

Figure 4. Initial assessment categories according to The UNEP/SETAC SLCA Guideline

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