

FICCI Quality Forum brings UNEP supported pilot projects on Life Cycle Management to India



L to R: Guido Sonnemann, Professor, University of Bordeaux; Dr. Sonia Valdivia, Programme Officer, UNEP and Prof. Dr. Matthias Finkbeiner, Chair, ISO/TC 207/SC 5 Life Cycle Assessment in ILCM 2012.

FICCI Quality Forum (FQF) has partnered with United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to facilitate Indian businesses in understanding the latest global developments in Life Cycle Thinking and moving towards sustainable production and consumption.

Upcoming pilot projects

UNEP has announced a call for proposals from companies interested in implementing projects which adopt Life Cycle Thinking in their business management and operations. As part of the UNEP project on integration of resource efficiency in international supply chains funded by the EC, successful proposals will receive technical assistance to implement the project over an eight-month period and develop a case study which highlights the project implementation experiences. Seed funding could be provided to developing country applicants.

The applicant companies are

expected to have an environmental/sustainability policy, fulfill certain criteria and submit a proposal to expand the application of life cycle approaches in their business practices. The proposals should include the results of a self-assessment based on the LCM Capability Maturity Model (CMM). CMM is a tool to assess and communicate an organisation's current level of maturity, gaps and opportunities for improvement for moving to the next level in a selected area. The deadline for submission of pilot project proposals to UNEP is August 15, 2013. FQF is assisting Indian companies in learning more about the initiative and preparing their proposals.

Upcoming technical workshops and conference

For the past several years, FQF has been providing consultancy services to take up GHG mitigation projects. In November 2011, FQF forayed into Life Cycle Management and organised a half-day session on

'Opportunity for UNEP/SETAC Initiative on Life Cycle Assessment and Management'. Encouraged by the positive feedback from session participants, FQF organised ILCM 2012 in New Delhi on August 22-23, 2012 with pre-conference technical workshops. Continuing its flagship initiative, FQF is organising ILCM 2013 on September 26-27 in Bengaluru preceded by technical workshops on environmental foot printing on September 25, 2013. ■

For more information on the call for proposals and technical workshops/conference, please contact FICCI Quality Forum at ilcm@ficci.com. You can also join India LCA Alliance at www.indialca.com, a freely accessible electronic platform moderated by FQF for exchanging information and knowledge on Life Cycle Concepts.