Experts of the European Mineral Wool Insulation Industry gather in Brussels to discuss the future of LCA for buildings and construction products

On the 17th March 2015, 50 experts of the European Mineral Wool Insulation Industry gathered in Brussels to discuss the future of LCA for buildings and construction products. Main focus of this workshop was how the use of LCA and EPD could be streamlined in Europe.

Out of the discussions 4 main messages were distilled:

1. Eurima supports LCA and Environmental Product Declarations (EPD) to assess the environmental impacts of buildings and construction products;
2. Although the LCA methods are already well developed, there are still challenges that Eurima wants to address i.e. biogenic carbon, B2C communication, …
3. There is on-going work at EU level through CEN/TC350, Eco-Platform, … but national level is crucial for both decisions and implementation;
4. Harmonisation and even recognition of EPDs between countries is a priority.

Throughout the day participants discussed the standardisation work in CEN/TC 350 and CEN/TC88, the participation of Eurima in the Product Environmental Footprint Pilot of the European Commission and the support of Eurima for Eco-Platform. Two external speakers presented more in-depth presentations on the LCA-methodologies concerning waste management and on how to account for biogenic carbon.

In order to fully tap the sustainability potential of the EU building stock in realising the EU objectives on climate and energy and sustainable growth in general, a paradigm shift is necessary. To enable this, LCA methodologies must be correctly functioning and harmonized.

The industry will now continue to work on the further implementation of these main ideas through their work, both at EU-level and Member States’ level.

ENDS
Eurima is the European Insulation Manufacturers Association, representing the interests of all major mineral wool insulation producers throughout Europe. Eurima members employ over 20,000 people across Europe with the installation of insulation products accounting for an estimated 300,000 man-years.

Eurima members manufacture mineral wool insulation products. These products are used in residential and commercial buildings as well as industrial facilities. Glass and stone wool insulation secure a high level of comfort, low energy costs and minimised CO₂ emissions. Mineral wool insulation prevents heat loss through roofs, walls, floors, pipes and boilers, reduces noise pollution and protects homes and industrial facilities from the risk of fire. For further information on energy efficiency in buildings, please visit [www.eurima.org](http://www.eurima.org).