

A new frontier in environmental input-output analysis: Corporate Sustainability/SDG Assessment

Topic: Sustainable Development Goals

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Since the end of the 1990s, environmental input-output analysis (EIO) has grown from strength to strength in academia: the default method for footprints analysis is now EIO, the IPCC discusses consumption-based emissions and EIO publications are now published in the top journals. The availability of MRIO databases that include environmental data has enhanced this trend even further. But EIO is not only useful for analysis of environmental pressures at the national level. It is also increasingly being used in sustainability assessment for companies and other organisations. This paper will provide an overview of the ways in which EIO is used in a corporate setting. Furthermore, it discusses to what extent it competes or strengthens common approaches such as Life Cycle Analysis (LCA). Finally, this paper will argue how EIO might become more relevant in the field of Corporate Sustainability companies in future, especially in light of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).