# Platform Data Release – Environmental Footprint 3.1

## User Documentation

SimaPro

Title: Platform Data Release – Environmental Footprint 3.1 User Documentation

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# About SimaPro

SimaPro was developed by PRé with the goal of making sustainability a fact-based endeavor. PRé has been a leading voice in sustainability metrics and life cycle thinking development for more than 30 years, pioneering the field of environmental and social impact assessment. We develop tools that help you create value and drive sustainable change.

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# 1 Introduction

This document describes the changes to the data on the SimaPro Online Platform with the November 2023 data release.

The main aim of this release is to provide the Environmental Footprint 3.1 data libraries to eligible[1] SimaPro users. In addition, small changes have been implemented to impact assessment methods to ensure quality, consistency and accuracy with SimaPro desktop. Some software changes have also been implemented to allow for changes in data and improve data import.

# 2 Overview of changes

## 2.1 Changes to data libraries

The Environmental Footprint (EF) database is designed to support the use of product environmental footprint category rules (PEFCR) and organization environmental footprint sector rules (OEFSR). The Environmental Footprint database has been developed in the context of the European Commission's Single Market for Green Products Initiative.

With this platform release, the Environment Footprint (EF) 3.1 libraries are available in aggregated form, for all data providers who have published data as of August 2023.

The list of libraries, and ids for use by API users, can be found below. We use the naming convention "EF Database 3.1 – *Data stock* [*Data provider*]".

| Id | Library Name |
|---|---|
| 47A8EF65-0005-415B-8467-043F2A1B1A89 | EF Database 3.1 - Agrofoods [Blonk] |
| 2E32AE75-FCCF-428D-B2FB-07BAF0DA0D6C | EF Database 3.1 - Feed [Blonk] |
| DE000D9D-943A-41BC-91E2-19D23E84B3E4 | EF Database 3.1 - Core package [Sphera] |
| B1663E2C-C67C-4A32-90B5-3490517D9BA2 | EF Database 3.1 - Chemicals 1 [ecoinvent] |
| FA57F0A2-CAD3-4AE0-9A76-388E95975CA9 | EF Database 3.1 - Apparel 1 [ecoinvent] |
| 6DC0A43A-ACC3-4962-ABC2-4F671D8F7D0F | EF Database 3.1 - Plastics [ecoinvent] |
| CBB0A6B7-9CC8-4804-B944-56B213C84261 | EF Database 3.1 - Others [ecoinvent] |
| F689B955-1EFC-4415-8369-888D12955E66 | EF Database 3.1 - Part 2 [Sphera] |
| 685507DB-864E-4B29-AA49-912D6D2325DA | EF Database 3.1 - Chemicals 2 [ecoinvent] |
| AE6AA143-451F-4437-9B8F-9234B5CE4B0C | EF Database 3.1 - Renewables [Blonk] |
| 4B7DBAD4-4981-4955-8FFF-96F89B75A945 | EF Database 3.1 - Chemicals for paints [CEPE] |
| E8DF6363-206E-4A5D-A500-A7CAF40E020D | EF Database 3.1 - Apparel 3 [ecoinvent] |
| A82AE48B-C84F-4C27-BDA3-DB627EF7527E | EF Database 3.1 - Apparel 2 [ecoinvent] |

[1] Please refer to this webpage for eligibility criteria and to accept terms and conditions of all data providers

## 2.2 Changes to impact assessment methods

The EF 3.1 impact assessment methods have been released in July 2023 but become more relevant now with the release of the Environmental Footprint 3.1 data libraries.

Two versions are available in SimaPro Flow:

- ***Environmental Footprint 3.1*** [version 1.00] – for use with the EF 3.1 libraries and PEF studies. This method is implemented with one-to-once correspondence to characterization factors published by the method developer. It does *not* include characterization factors for regions not defined in the EF 3.1 nomenclature, but used in other SimaPro libraries. ***Use this method if conducting a PEF study, or using data originating from the EF 3.1 database.***

- Use ***Environmental Footprint 3.1 (adapted)*** [version 1.00] for non-EF 3.1 libraries. Adaptation of the EF method has been done to avoid under-characterization of regions and sub-compartments used in non-EF libraries. ***Use this method if using a library or dataset that does not originate from the EF 3.1 database.(example: ecoinvent).***

**Superseded methods**

The *EF 3.0 adapted* method (1.03.1 and below) has been superseded by the method developer. It is retained on the SimaPro online platform for transparency. Users who already have a project on Platform using the older method will still be able to use the old method. We advise not to use this method for new projects and to migrate to a the newer method instead.

## 2.3 Changes to substances

No substances or substance mappings have been modified since the last release.

# 3 Data fixes and improvements

In addition to the changes mentioned earlier, a number of small fixes and improvements have been implemented:

- EPD (2018) method – data correction to resolve a bug that caused calculations to fail. Version number updated from 1.04.1 to 1.04.2.
- When importing a SimaPro project in .csv format that links to EF 3.1 data from desktop, a new import option "*SimaPro EF 3.1"* will be available to ensure correct mapping of substances.
- When importing ILCD data, new mapping files for "EF 3.1" will be available (in addition to the current EF 2.0). More information on using the mapping files can be found here.

# 4 Known issues

- A software issue causes the impact assessment results tab to be greyed out for some processes. Other results, such as damage assessment and substance contributions are available. A work

around is to use the totals from the substance contributions table. This issue is being investigated by our developers.

- Some processes in the library USLCI incorrectly receive regionalized contributions to water impact categories. This issue is being investigated by our developers.

# 5 Contact us

Please contact us or your local partner if you have questions about new features in the SimaPro software or database, or if you have any other questions related to the update.

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