# Plastics and circularity: A life cycle perspective

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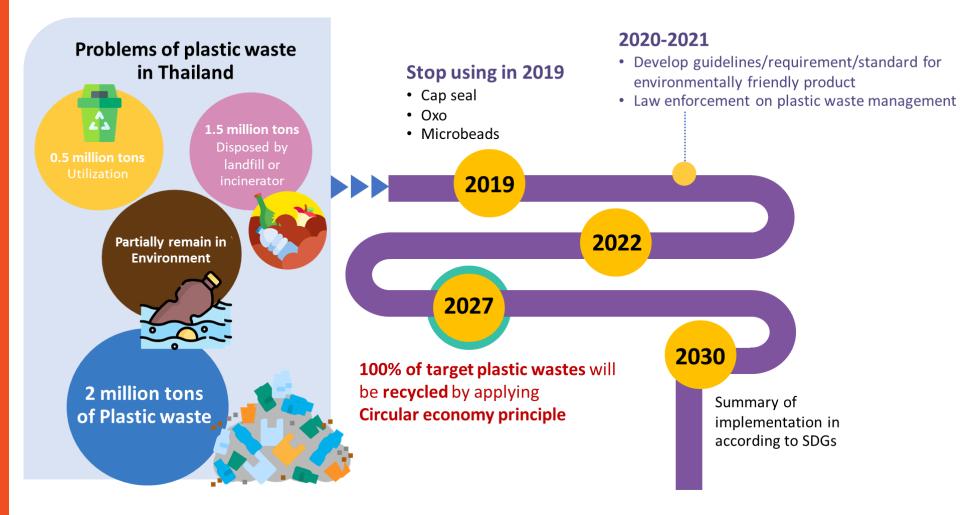








#### **Thailand's Roadmap on Plastic Waste Management 2018-2030**



Source: Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (2019)

### **BCG in Thailand**



## Bioeconomy

Involves the production of renewable biological resources and the conversion of these resources into value added products



### **Circular** economy

Aims at reusing and recycling resources





# **Green economy**

Determines to keep economy, society and the environment in balance, leading to sustainable development



### Are reusable cups better than single-use ones?









Single-use PP cup

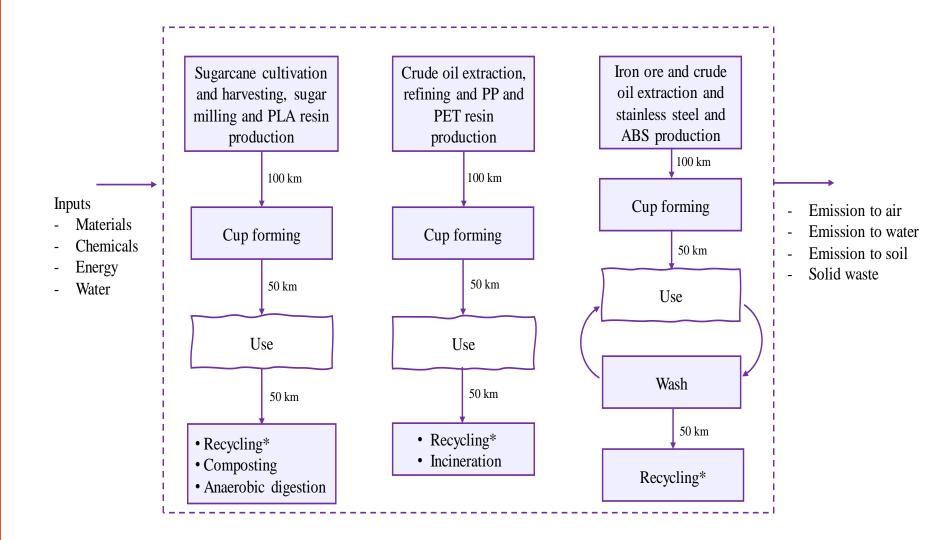
Single-use PET cup

Single-use PLA cup

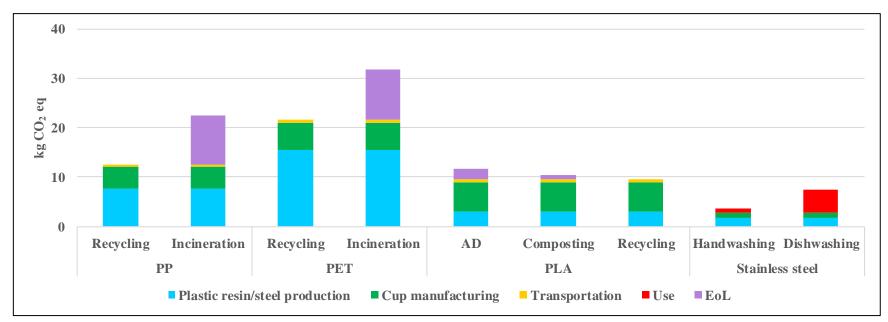
Multiple-use SS cup

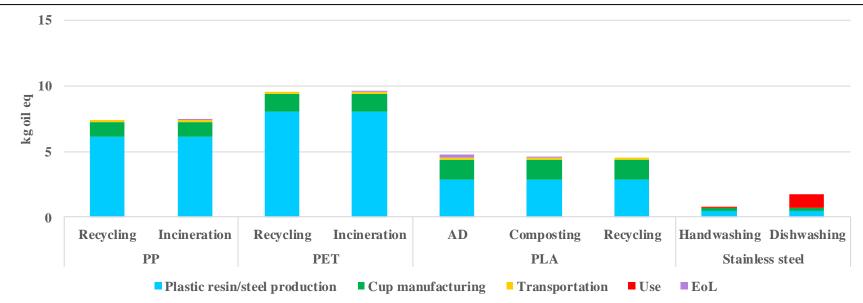
Changwichan K., Gheewala, S.H. (2020) Choice of materials for takeaway beverage cups towards a circular economy, Sustainable Production and Consumption, Vol. 22, pp. 34-44

### Things to consider (system boundary)

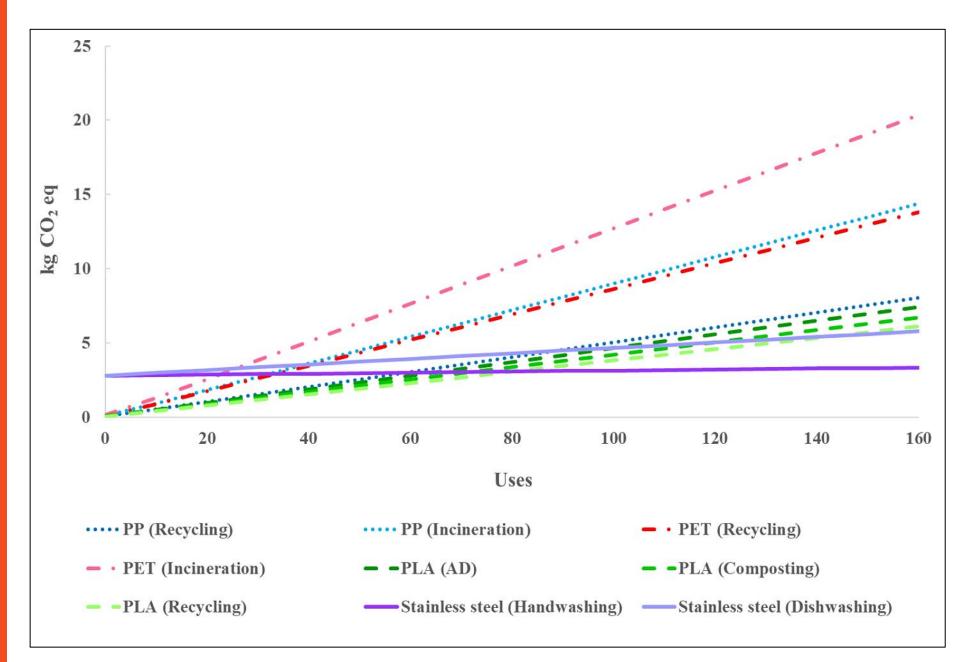


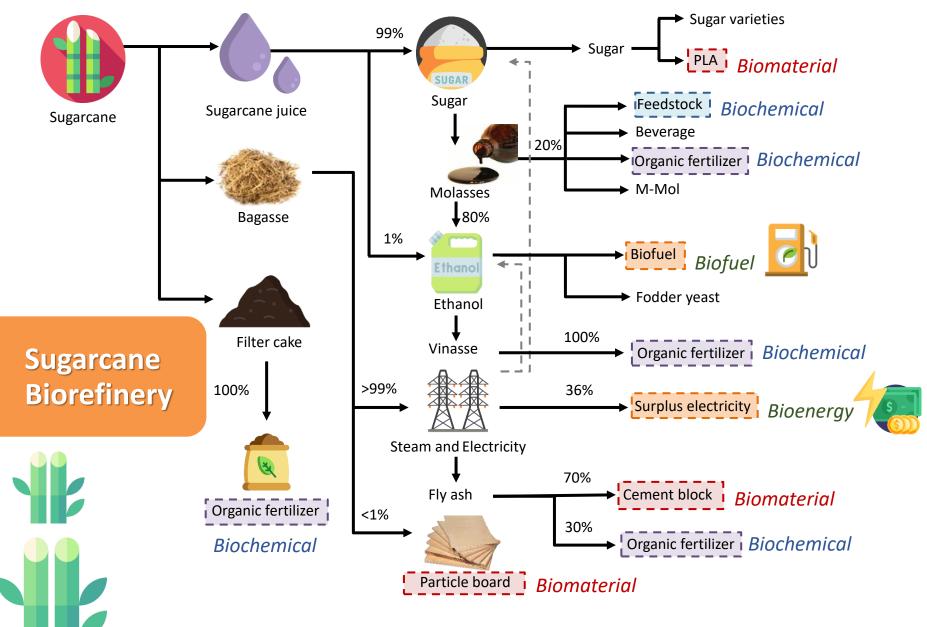
### How do single-use cups compare to multiple use ones?





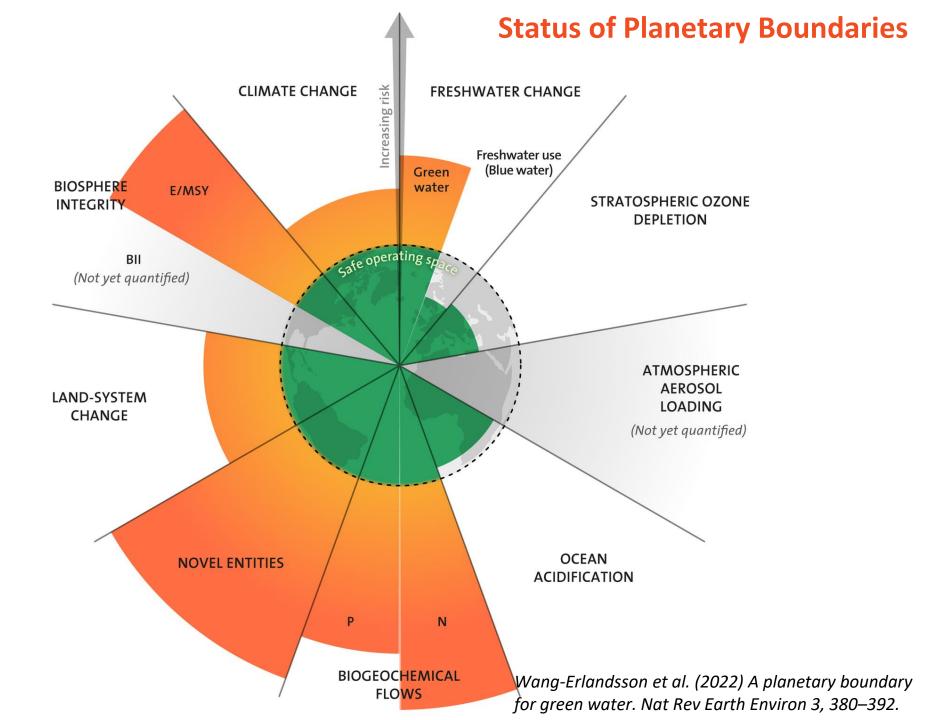
### How many times must a reusable cup be reused?





Gheewala, S.H. (2019). Biorefineries for Sustainable Food-Fuel-Fibre Production: Towards a Circular Economy, E3S Web of Conferences, 125, 01002, https://doi.org/10.1051/e3sconf/201912501002

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# **Parting thoughts**

• Life cycle thinking/systems solutions

• <u>Mindfulness</u> over tokenism

 <u>Environmental pragmatism</u> over environmental extremism

• <u>Sustainable consumption</u> is a must