Plastics and circularity: A life cycle perspective

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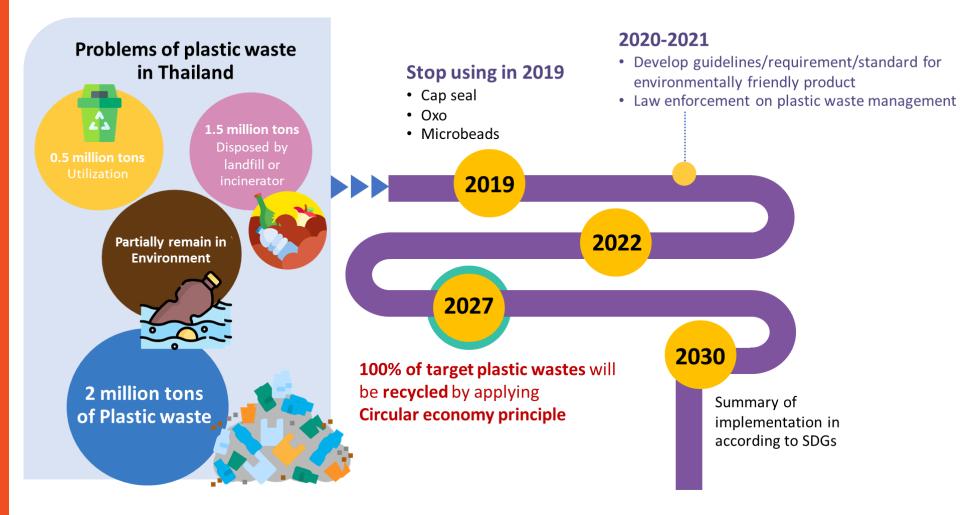








Thailand's Roadmap on Plastic Waste Management 2018-2030



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

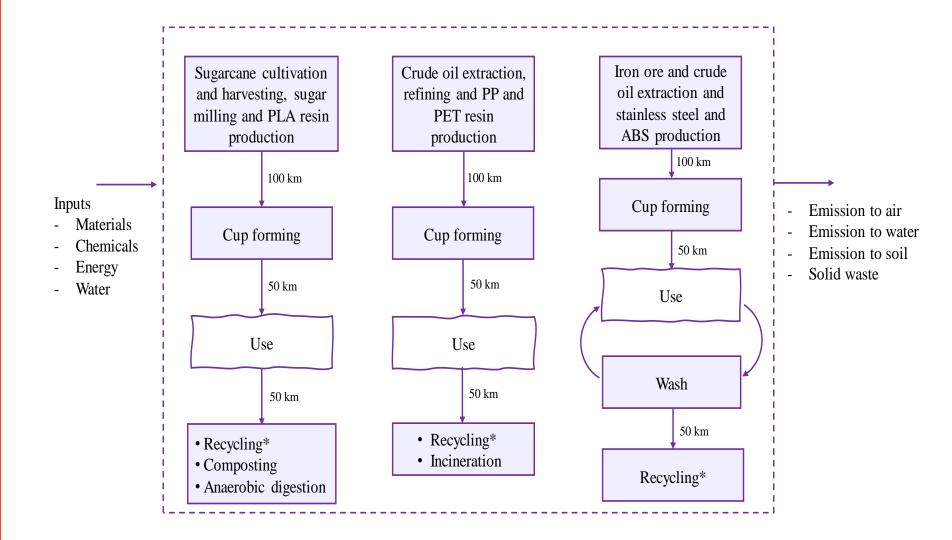
Single-use PET cup

Single-use PLA cup

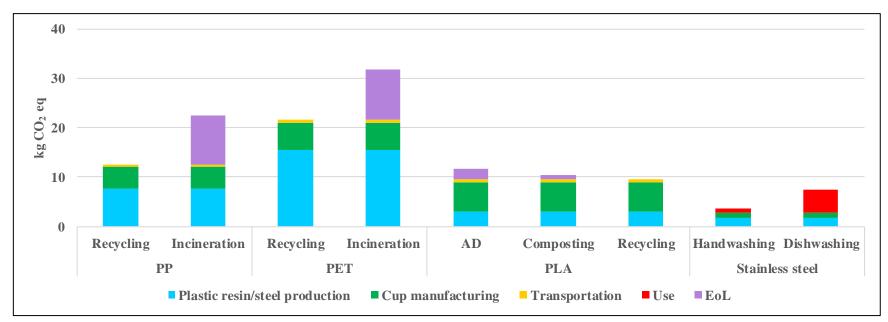
Multiple-use SS cup

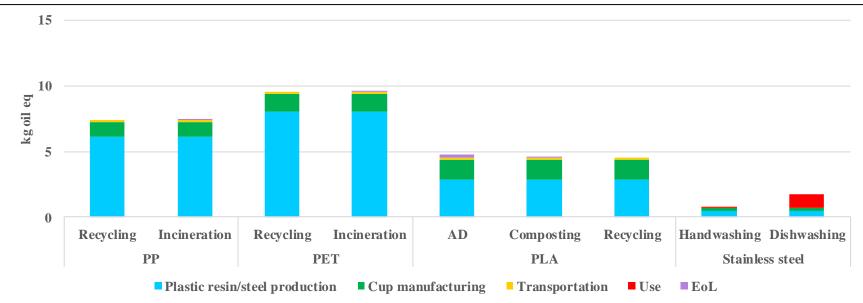
Changwichan K., Gheewala, S.H. (2020) Choice of materials for takeaway beverage cups towards a circular economy, Sustainable Production and Consumption, Vol. 22, pp. 34-44

Things to consider (system boundary)

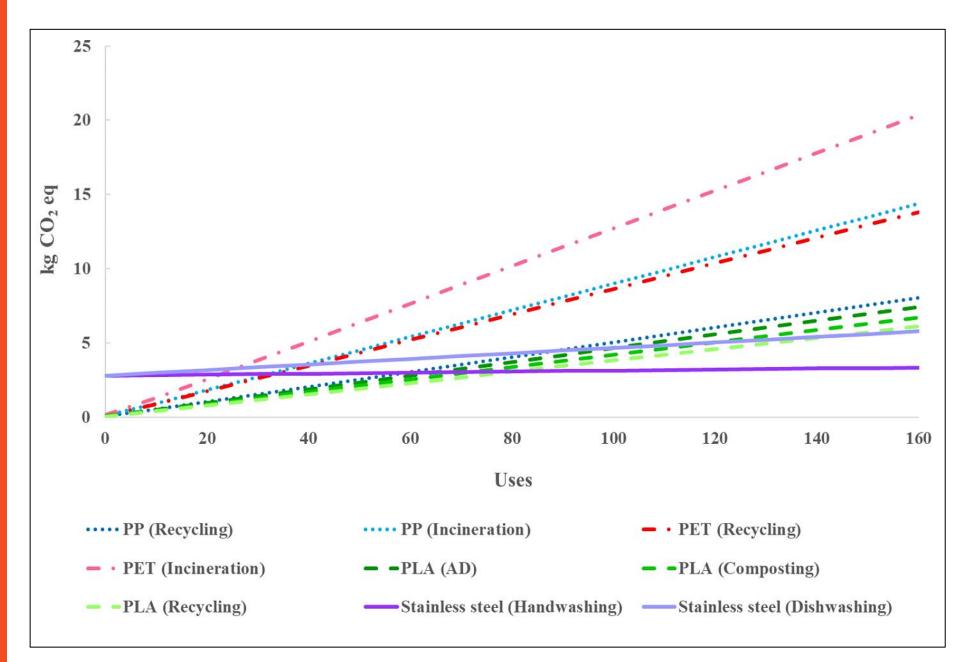


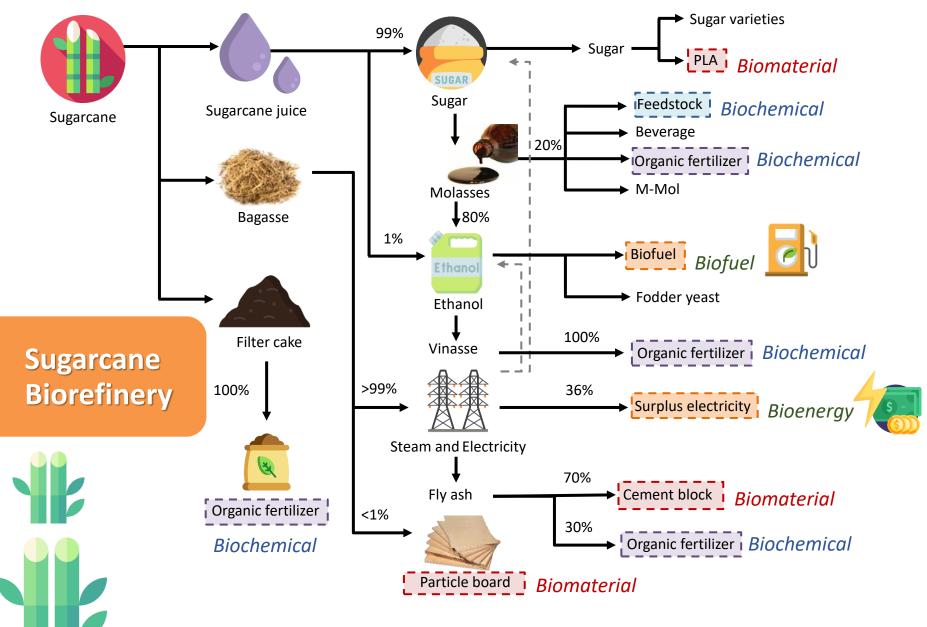
How do single-use cups compare to multiple use ones?





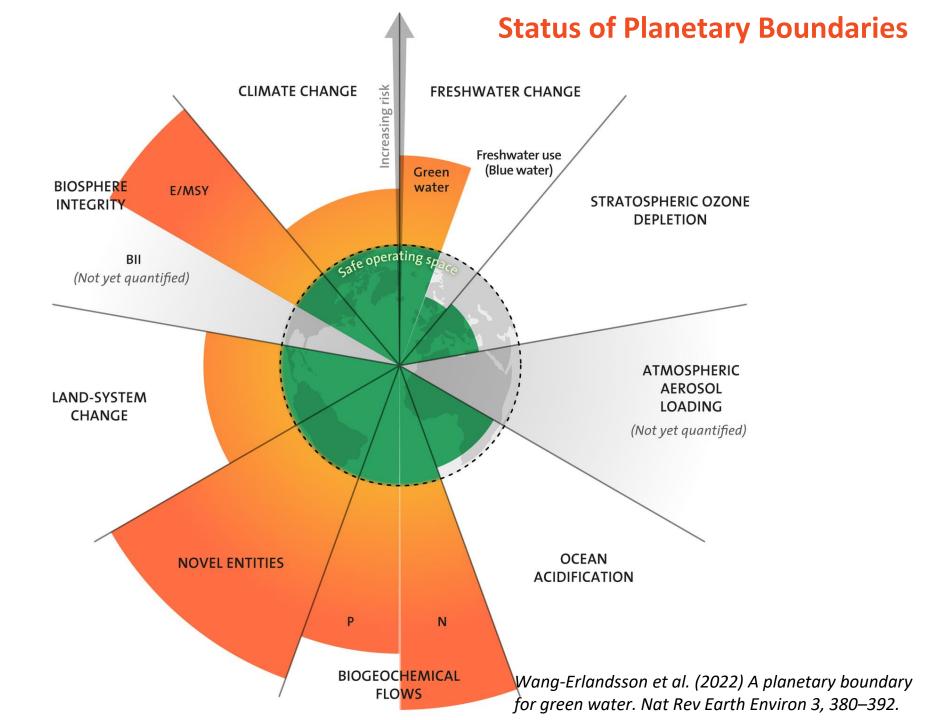
How many times must a reusable cup be reused?





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