

User Technical Objectives: (Worldwide Governance Indicators) Civancik–Uslu et al. (2019) presented a comparative LCA for HDPE, LDPE, PP woven, single–use recycled paper and biodegradable bags in the context of Spain cited from a 2008 report and correlated the outcome with a preliminary approach for marine litter impacts. The novelty of this research work is conducting a comprehensive and integrated LCA of the existing grocery bag options from cradle–to–grave including production processes, transportation distances in the context of cities, and addressing the environmental impacts from the perspective of cities with the prevailing end–of–life thermal waste management. Polyolefins (PE and polypropylene (PP)) are inexpensive, light, robust, highly malleable and ductile, resist damage by water, air, grease and cleaning solvents that the polymers encounter during its usage (World Economic Forum, 2018; Lewis et al., 2010; Perugini et al., 2005). There have been few LCA studies reporting plastic as an environmentally friendly option (Chaffee and Yaros, 2007; Muthu and Li, 2014b; Saibutrong et al., 2017; Edwards and Fry, 2011) while some promote other materials, such as paper and biodegradable bags (Khoo et al., 2010; Muthu and Li, 2014d). Life cycle assessment (LCA) is one of the best environmental management tools for comparing alternative eco–performances of recycling or disposal systems (Perugini et al., 2005) and for application in MSW management involving specific geographic location (Hou et al., 2018). The outcome of studies varied based on the system boundary conditions such as transportation distances, the different geographical coverage, the weight of products, the recycling infrastructure, and the rate of mismanaged waste, which is in agreement with Abejon et al. (2020). Previous studies have compared the environmental impacts of various grocery bag alternatives, with results varying based on factors like transportation distances, recycling infrastructure, and waste management practices. Previous studies have compared the environmental impacts of various grocery bag alternatives, with results varying based on factors like transportation distances, recycling infrastructure, and waste management practices. Saibutrong et al. (2017) compared three garbage bag alternatives including PE, Bio–PE (produced from bio–ethanol), and poly (butylene adipate–co–terephthalate) (PBAT)/Starch bags. This research aims to fill this gap by conducting an integrated LCA of grocery bag options, including production processes, transportation distances, and end–of–life waste management, in the context of cities with existing waste management practices. This research aims to fill this gap by conducting an integrated LCA of grocery bag options, including production processes, transportation distances, and end–of–life waste management, in the context of cities with existing waste management practices. Low–density, linear low–density and high–density PE (LDPE, LLDPE, HDPE, respectively) represented 26% of the global plastics demand in 2012 (Saibutrong et al., 2017). The environmental impacts of PE were lower than the Bio–PE and PBAT/Starch in all the impact categories except the climate change potential despite the carbon offsetting effect of the biogenic carbon origin. The research provides new insight into the environmental implications of various options of grocery bags, enabling review in a densely populated urban area, and provide perspectives for further improvements. PE, including low–density (LDPE), linear low–density (LLDPE), and high–density (HDPE) variants, accounts for a significant portion of global plastic demand, with about 65% used for packaging applications. The objective is to compare the environmental impacts of HDPE plastic bags with common alternatives in cities with confined waste management structures,

providing insights for waste prevention, resource management, and policy decision-making. The study compares the impacts of single-use (HDPE, biodegradable plastic, kraft paper) and reusable (cotton, polypropylene non-woven) bags using GaBi 6 LCA software with ecoinvent 3.5 database. PE, including low-density (LDPE), linear low-density (LLDPE), and high-density (HDPE) variants, accounts for a significant portion of global plastic demand, with about 65% used for packaging applications. The objective is to compare the environmental impacts of HDPE plastic bags with common alternatives in cities with confined waste management structures, providing insights for waste prevention, resource management, and policy decision-making. The study compares the impacts of single-use (HDPE, biodegradable plastic, kraft paper) and reusable (cotton, polypropylene non-woven) bags using GaBi 6 LCA software with ecoinvent 3.5 database.

ChatGPT Memory updated To answer the questions:

Evaluate current usage and disposal of plastic bags: This can be done through surveys, interviews, and observations in the selected villages to understand the current practices regarding the use and disposal of plastic bags.

Assess current infrastructure for solid waste management and recycling: Evaluate the existing infrastructure in the targeted villages to determine its capacity and effectiveness in managing solid waste, including plastic bags.

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However, a critical evaluation of an integrated cradle-to-grave impact of using various bags in cities with dense population, well-developed infrastructure, and thermal treatment as an end-of-life waste management option has been insufficiently documented.

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LCA of only the production process of the various grocery bags would underestimate the impacts of plastic bags (The Danish Environmental Protection Agency, 2018); hence, an integrated approach is essential. The objective of this research paper is to compare the environmental impacts associated with the usage of HDPE plastic bags and their common alternatives in cities with confined waste management structure like Singapore. The results discussed herein provide the comparative impacts of three single use (HDPE, biodegradable plastic, kraft paper) bags and 2 reusable (cotton, polypropylene non-woven) bags that are currently in vogue.

Evaluate environmental and health impacts of plastic bag usage: Conduct a study or review existing literature to understand the environmental and health impacts of plastic bag usage, including issues related to pollution and wildlife harm.

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However, the extent of the human carbon footprint is underscored by the usage of grocery shopping bags, a symbol of the throwaway society (Muthu et al., 2011). The low success rate of the packaging waste prevention initiatives indicates the need for life cycle thinking and substantial changes in production, consumption and distribution pattern (Tencati et al., 2016). The possible negative environmental impacts arising due to the usage of plastic bags include resource consumption, air and water pollution, and stress on the limited landfill space (SEC, 2018). Muthu and Li (2014a) demonstrated the environmental impacts of

grocery bags via an eco-functional approach. Morales-Mendez and Silva-Rodriguez (2018) studied the ozone layer depletion potential due to the plastic bags production at a manufacturing plant in Columbia. The integrated life cycle based critical evaluation would aid in focused waste prevention initiatives, efficient resources management, environmental footprint reduction, and policy decision making.

ChatGPT Introduction Plastic usage has surged dramatically over the last 50 years and is expected to double in the next 20 years, with over 350 million tonnes of polymers manufactured globally in 2018. Most plastics are short-lived or single-use, but efforts are underway to improve resource sustainability, particularly for products like polyethylene (PE), one of the most common plastics. Life cycle assessment (LCA) is a valuable tool for comparing the eco-performance of recycling or disposal systems, aiding in decision-making and environmental perspective. However, there is a lack of comprehensive LCA studies focusing on densely populated urban areas with well-developed waste management infrastructure.

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Note: These activities should be consistent with the overall project objective and environmental and financial principles to ensure project implementation success.

Conduct field visits and meetings with stakeholders: Schedule visits to the villages to meet with local authorities, businesses, and community members to discuss the issue of plastic bag usage and gather their perspectives and insights.

Provide recommendations for an incentive and penalty system: Develop recommendations for an incentive and penalty system that can be legislated through council decisions to encourage the reduction of plastic bag usage.

Analyze expected benefits and costs of switching to paper bags: Evaluate the expected benefits, such as reduced environmental impact, and costs, such as the cost of purchasing and distributing paper bags.

Present the study to relevant authorities: Share the findings and recommendations of the study with local authorities and other stakeholders to gain support for implementing policies to reduce plastic bag usage.

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