

Sustainability and life cycle analysis in informal e-waste recycling



Olivier Jolliet

iMod - Impact and Risk Modeling
Environmental Health Sciences

School of Public Health
University of Michigan

ojolliet@umich.edu

Aubrey Langeland

aubreyll@umich.edu

Siripond Jindaphong



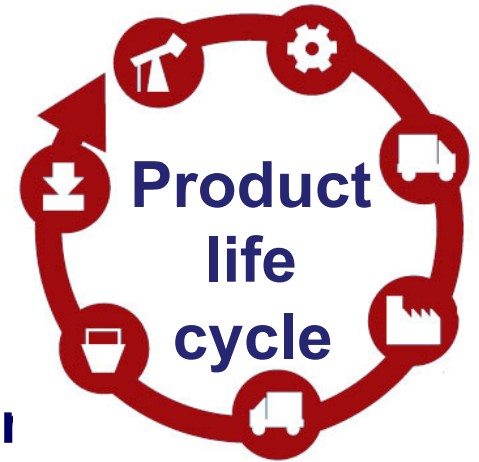
Needs and objectives

Electronic recycling has been studied in multiple LCA... but

→ Little quantitative data available for the informal sector

→ Need to understand the combined environmental and economic performance of the different EOL scenarios

→ Need to also understand the occupational risk of chemical exposures and injuries associated with informal recycling



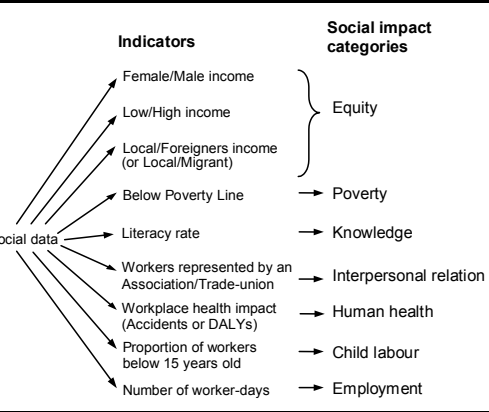
Objectives:

Develop a life cycle based approach that enables to evaluate the socio-economic, occupational and environmental risks and benefits associated with multiple electronic products

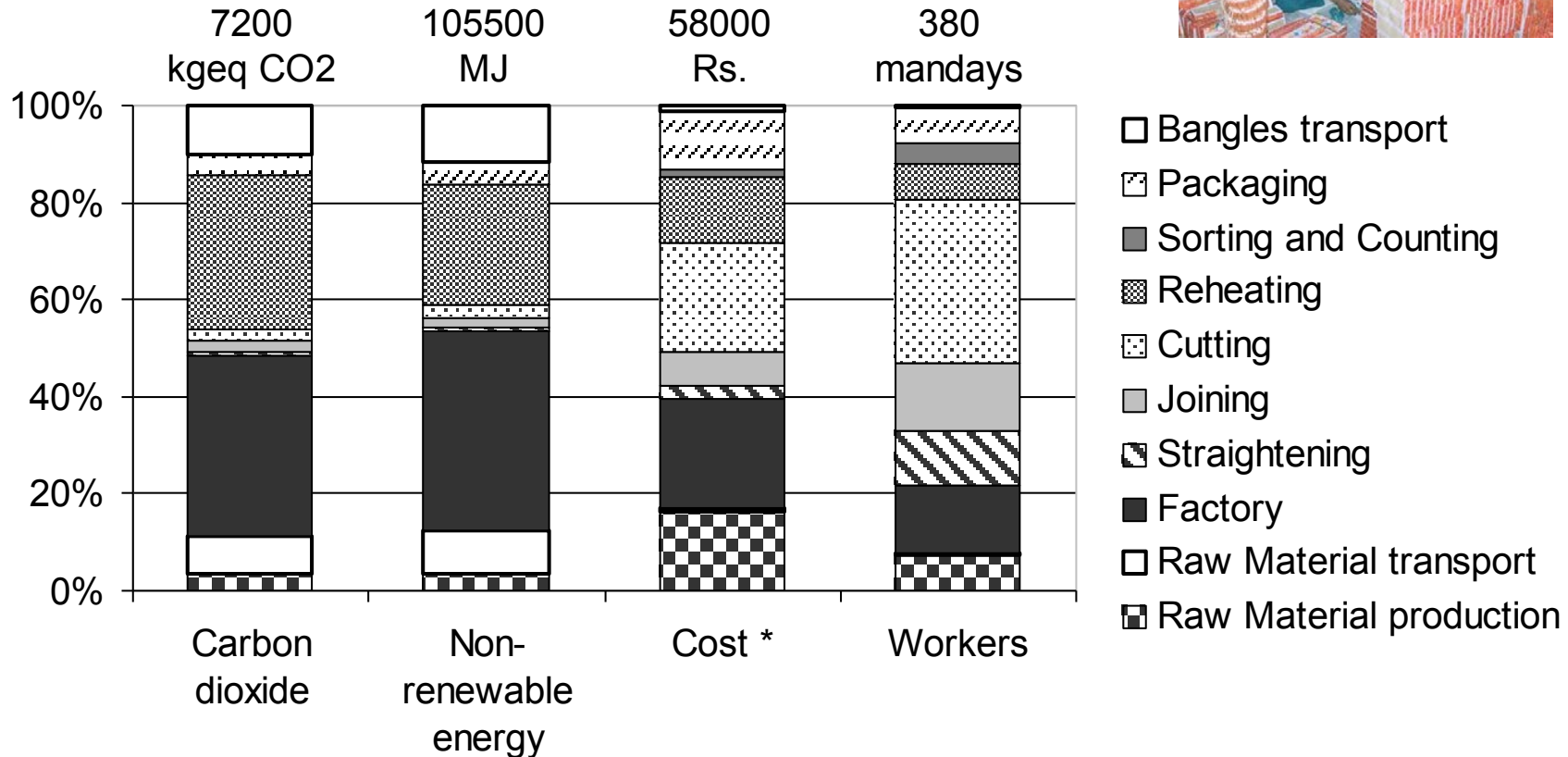
→ Mitigate risks, while maintaining economic and environmental benefits.



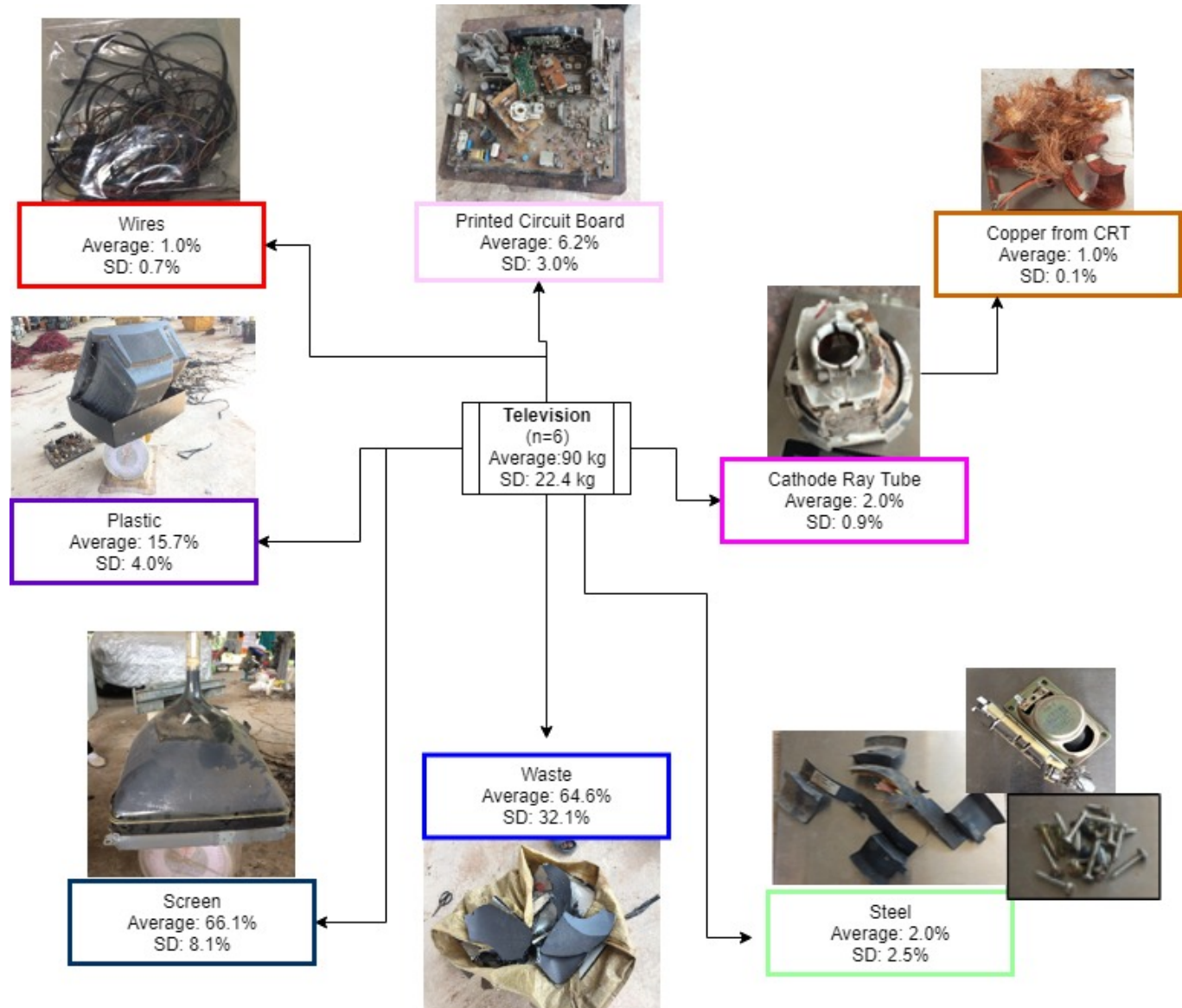
Social & LCA: Glass bangles production in India



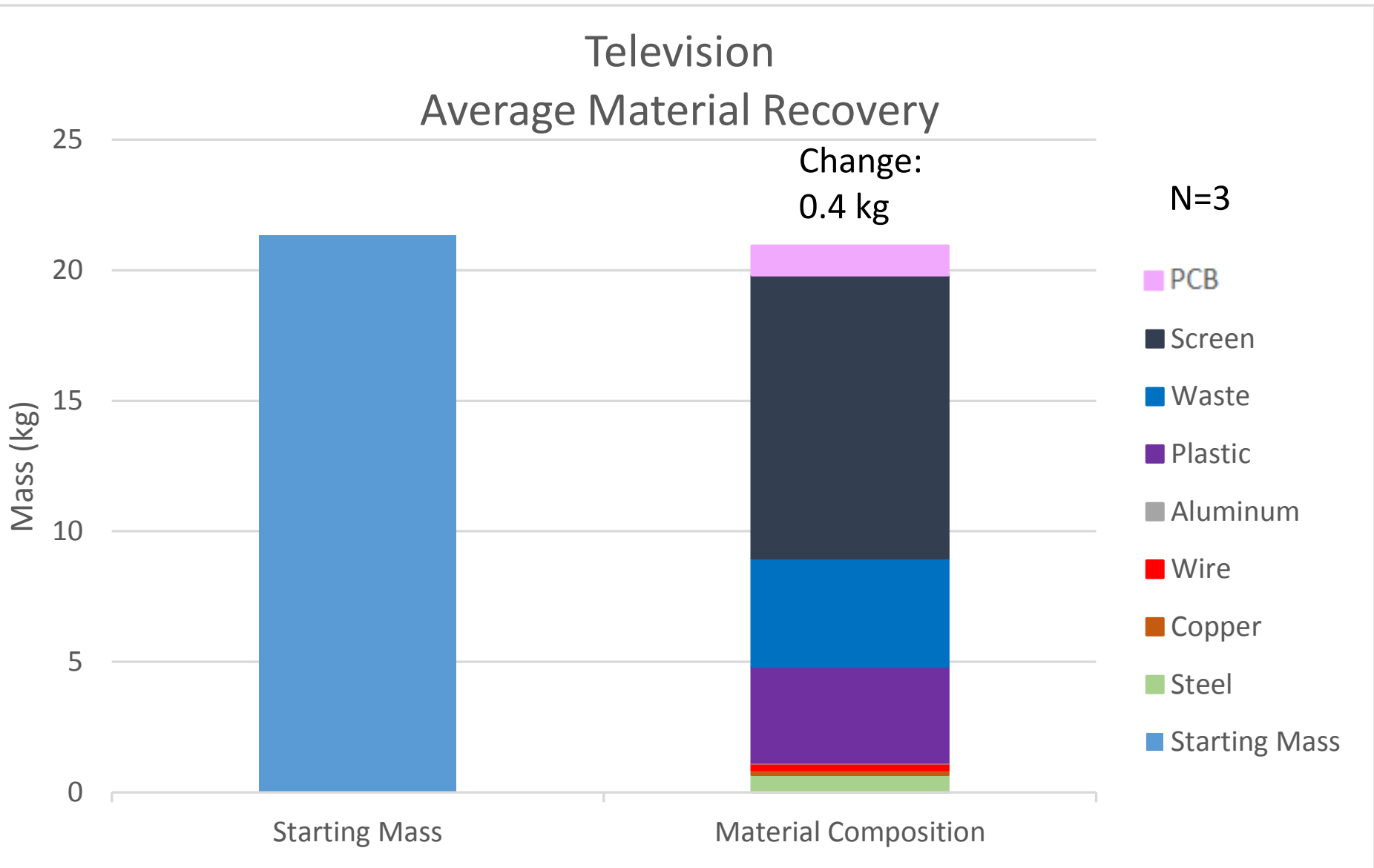
The production of 1000 toras involves...



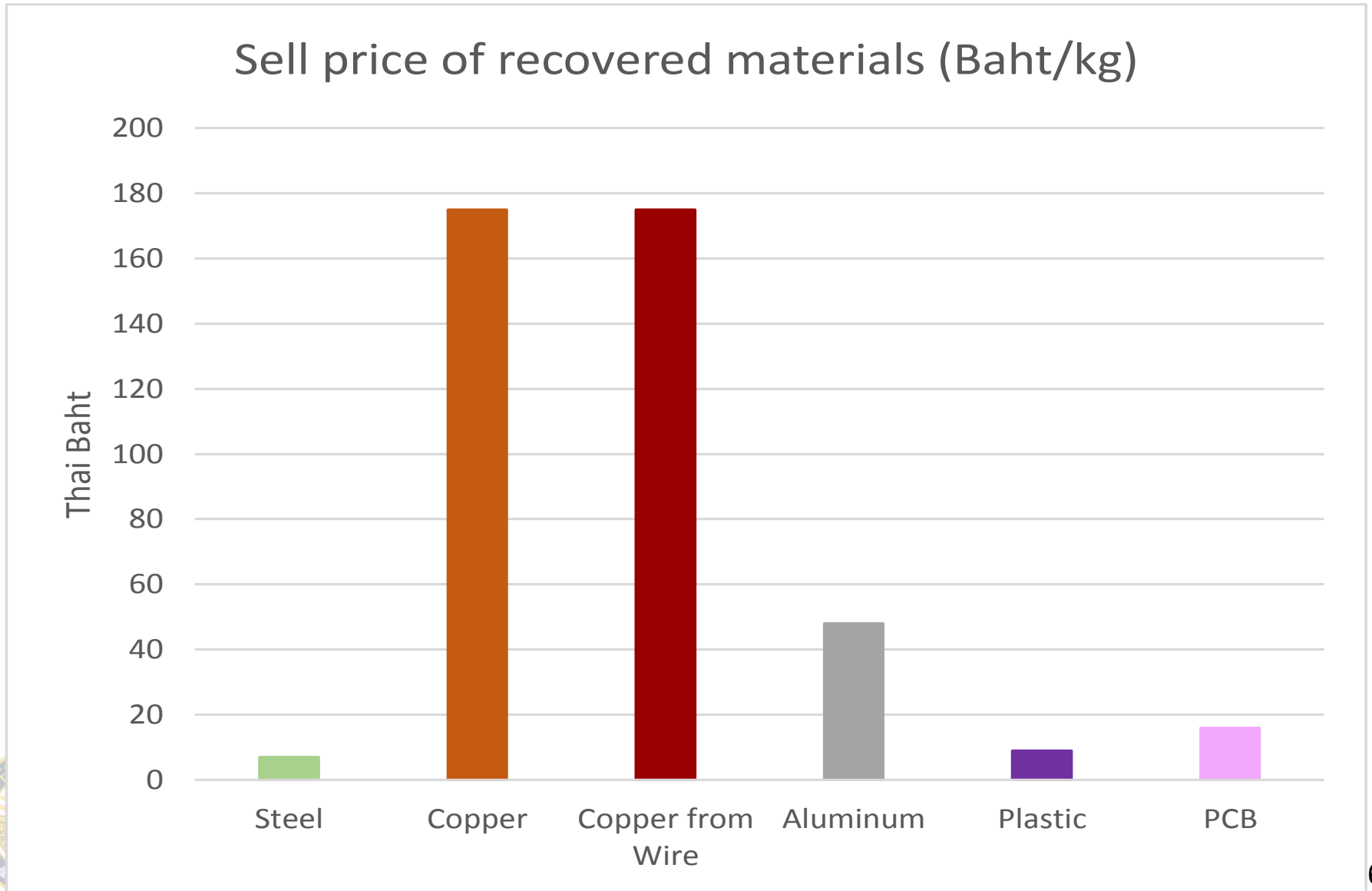
Stepwise analysis of the informal recycling process: television



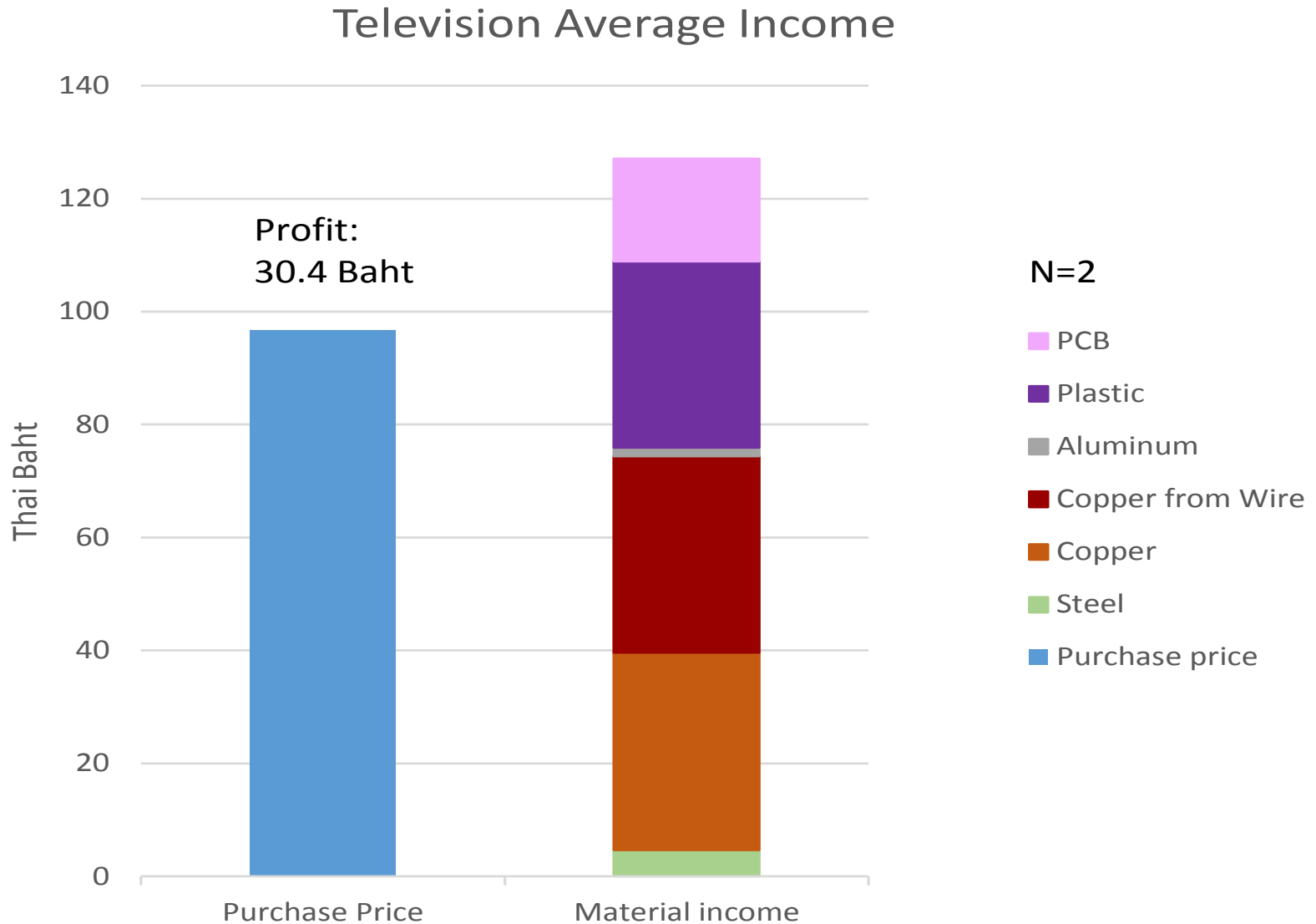
Mass decomposition: TV example



Socio-economic assessment

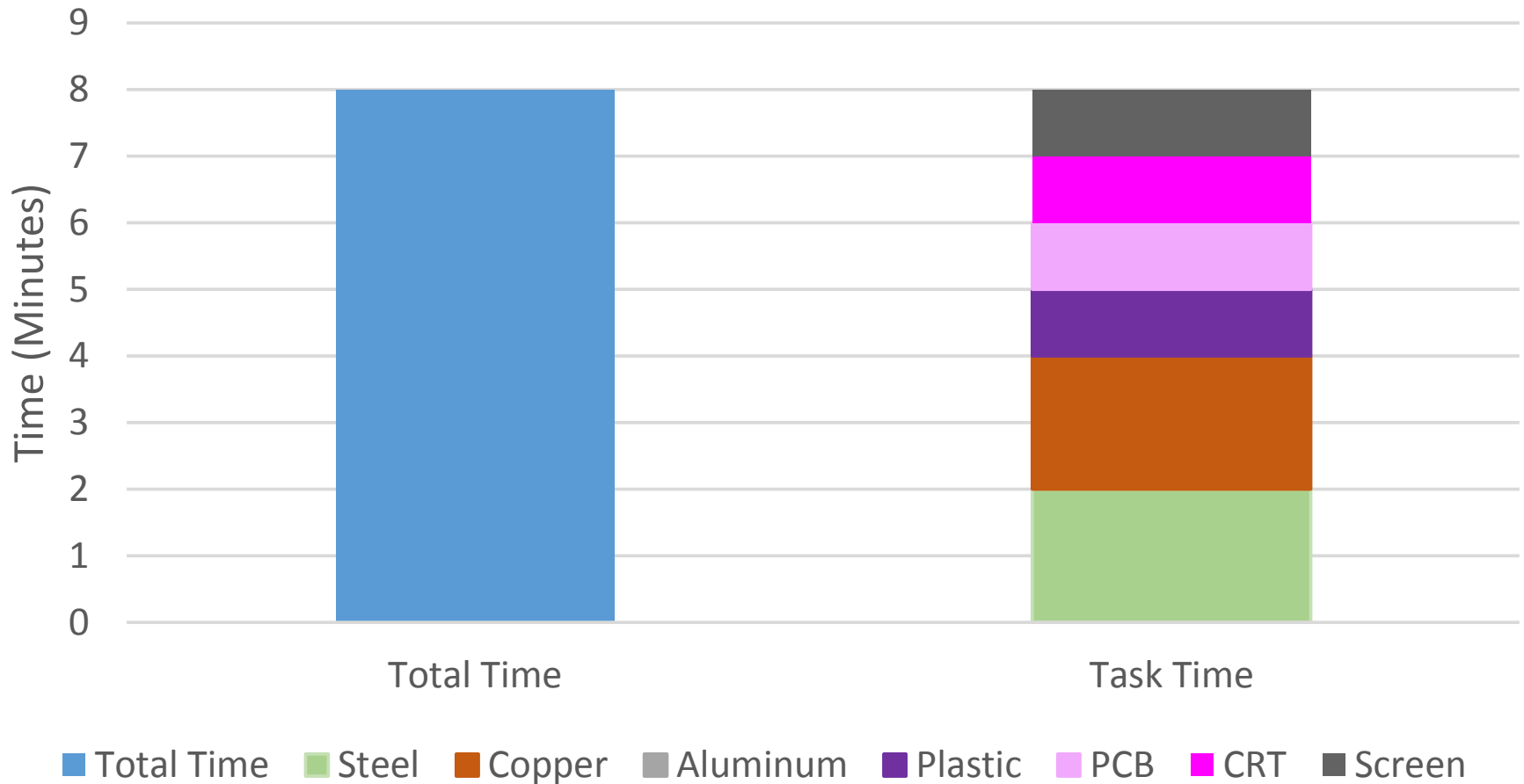


Average income television

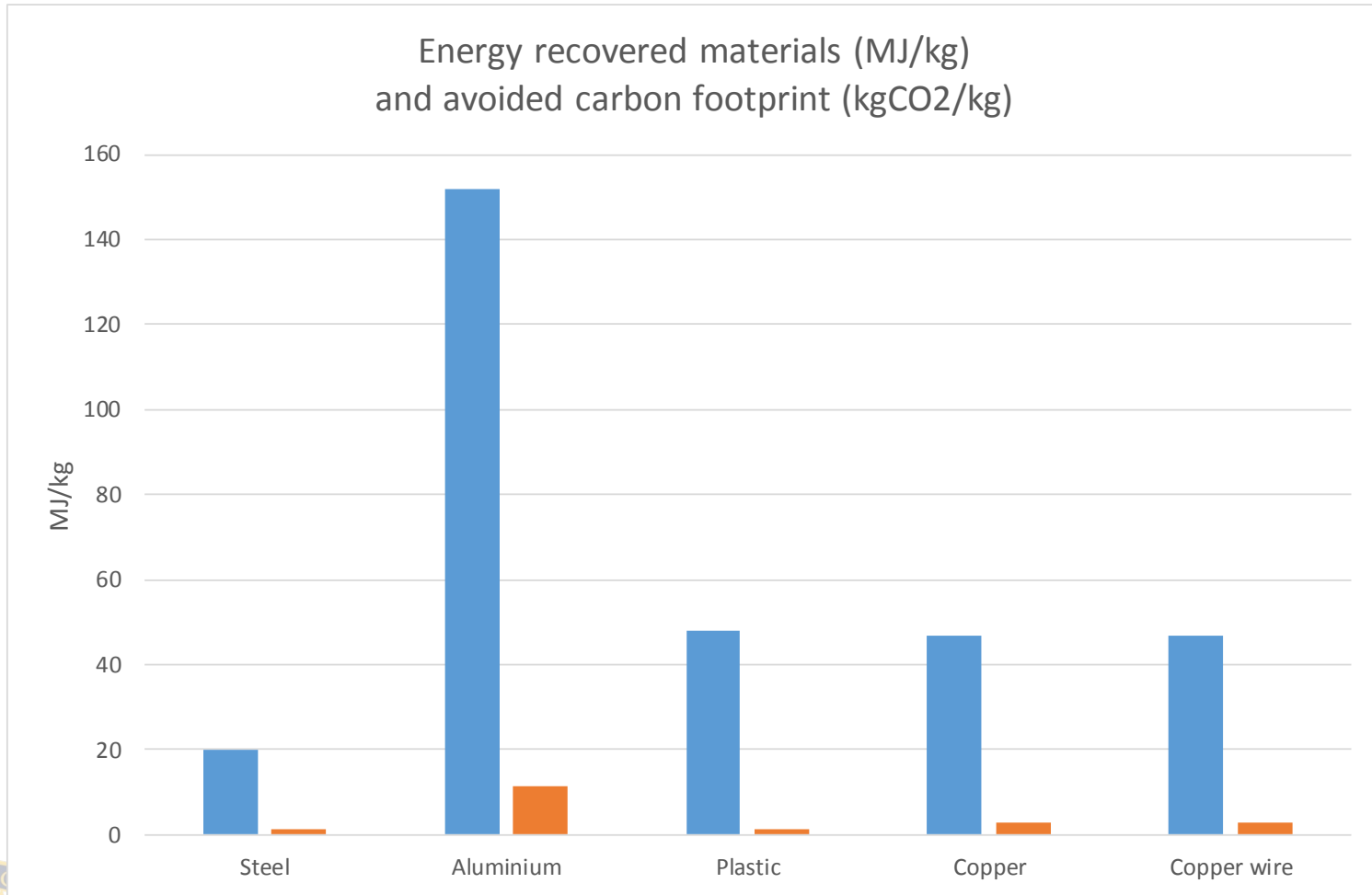


Socio-economic and injury risks

Time Allocation by Material Type: TV 1

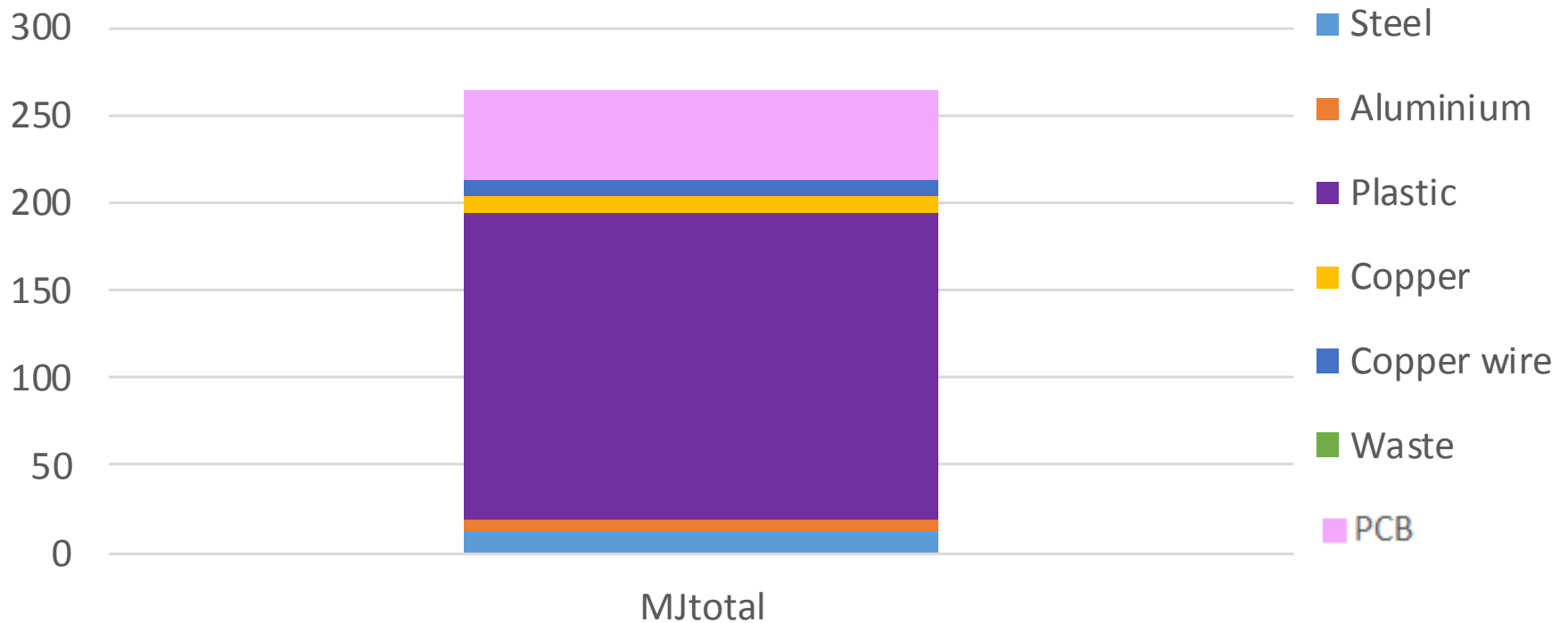


Energy recuperated avoided CO2 per kg

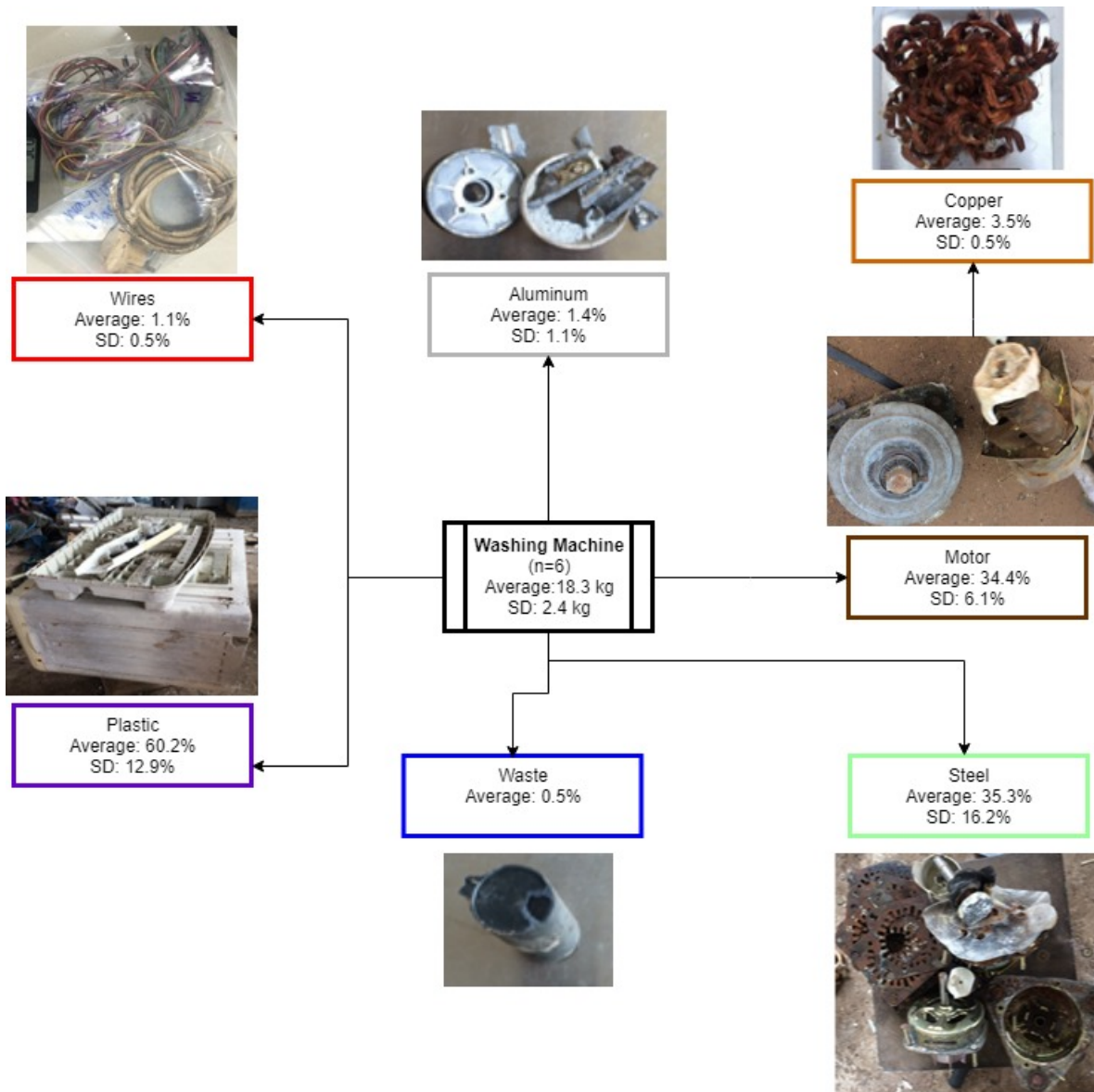


Average avoided and CO2 Television

TV Substituted
energy

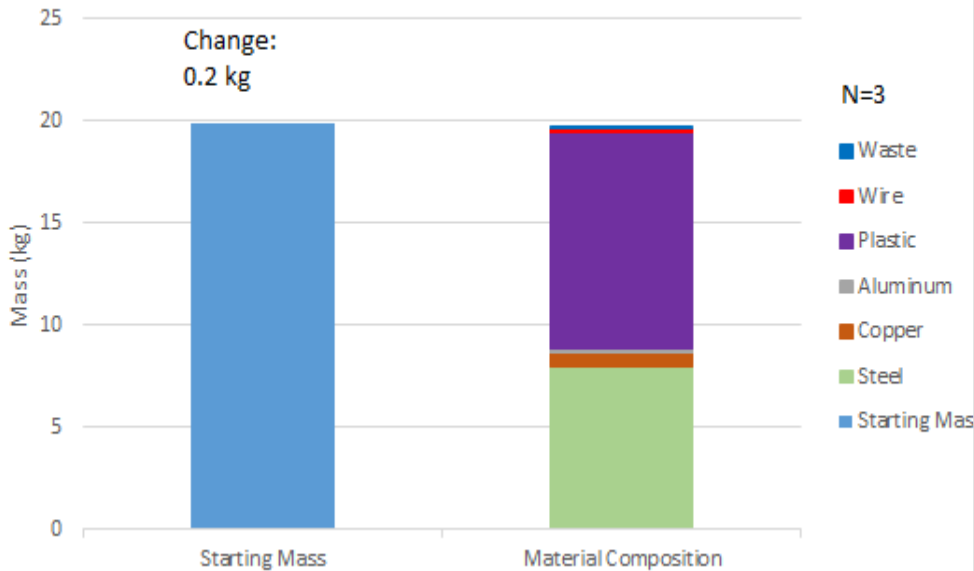


Washing machine recycling

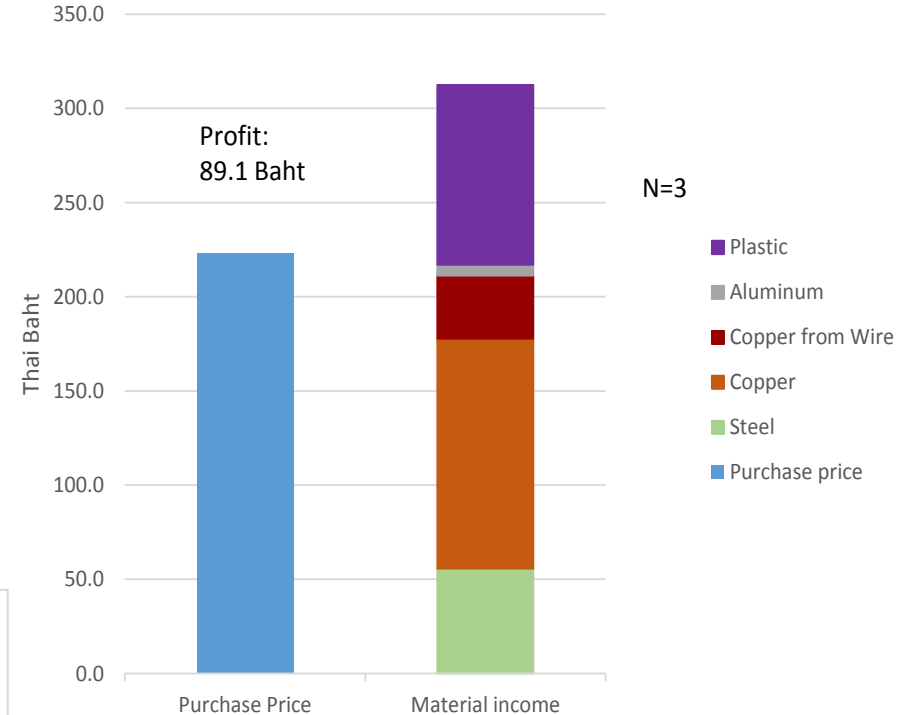


Washing machine recycling

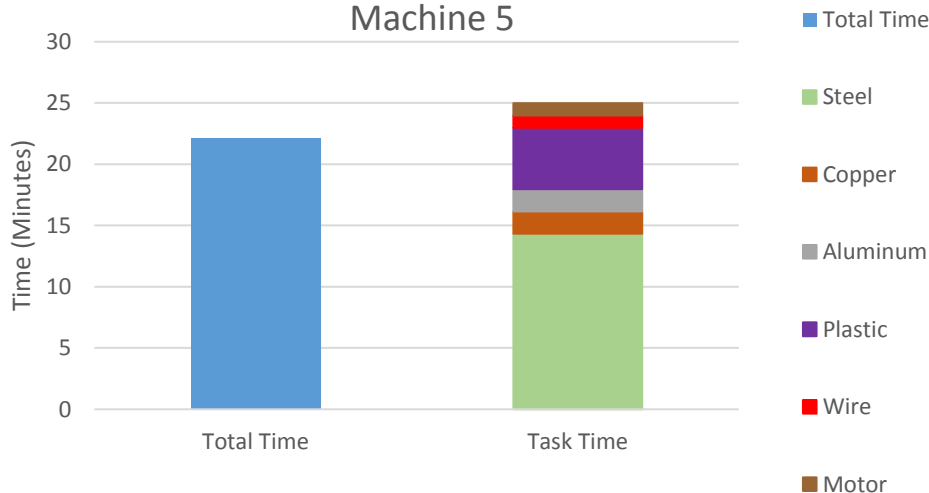
Washing Machine Average Material Recovery



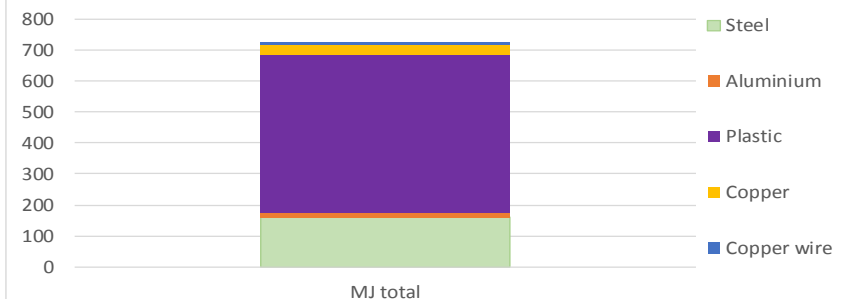
Washing Machine Average Income



Time Allocation by Material Type: Washing Machine 5



Washing machine substituted energy

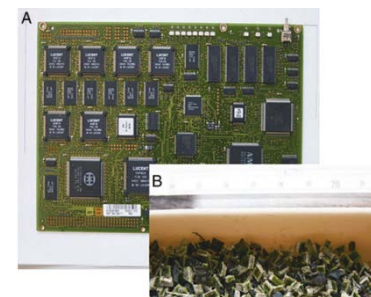


Matrix approach for combining LCA and Mass Flow analysis

		Income	Baht/week	Steel	Aluminium	Plastic	Copper	Copper wii Waste	PCB	Screen	Compressor	Total	
		Price	Baht/kg	2329	1542	3321	6636	3670	0	818	0	0	18316
				7	48	9	175	175	0	16	0	0	
Item	Piece/week	Weight/piece	kg/week	Steel	Aluminium	Plastic	Copper	Copper wii Waste	PCB	Screen	Compressor	Total	
Fan	100	2.4	241.6	49.8%	9.2%	28.7%	6.4%	2.4%	3.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Refrigerator	7	28.8	201.4	51.1%	3.6%	14.3%	3.2%	2.1%	11.8%	0.0%	0.0%	13.9%	
Washing machine	10	19.7	196.6	40.5%	0.6%	53.9%	3.5%	1.0%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
TV	45	20.9	942.5	3.2%	0.2%	17.5%	1.0%	0.9%	20.1%	5.4%	51.7%	0.0%	
		Avoided energy	MJ/kg	Steel	Aluminium	Plastic	Copper	Copper wii Waste	PCB	Screen	Compressor	Total	
		Total avoided en	MJ/week	6648	4882	17710	1773	981	0	0	0	0	31994

Next steps: Complement by combining time per task with risks of injury/hour





Short communication

Heavy metal partitioning from electronic scrap during thermal End-of-Life treatment

Wolfram Scharnhorst^{a,b,*}, Christian Ludwig^{a,c}, Jörg Wochele^{a,c}, Olivier Jolliet^{a,d}

Table 3

Experiment conditions (N.D.=not detected), volatilisation of heavy metals during thermal treatment in the QTR and initial metal masses in the PWBA samples

Elements	Element masses initial [g]				Element masses residual [g]				Volatilisation [%]			
	S1 [550ox]	S2 [550red]	S3 [880ox]	S4 [880red]	S1 [550ox]	S2 [550red]	S3 [880ox]	S4 [880red]	S1 [550ox]	S2 [550red]	S3 [880ox]	S4 [880red]
As	0.00025	0.00025	0.00026	0.00026	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100	100	100	100
Cd	0.00001	0.00001	0.00001	0.00001	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100	100	100	100
Ga (aqua regia)	0.00006	0.00006	0.00006	0.00006	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	*	*	*	*
Ga (HF)	0.817	0.826	0.857	0.832								
Ni	0.152	0.149	0.157	0.156	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.16	0.70	1.19	6.81	0.36
Pb	0.070	0.068	0.072	0.071	0.03	0.06	N.D.	0.02	55	11	N.D.	72
Sb	5.813	5.694	6.003	5.949	0.09	0.17	0.18	0.23	99	97	97	96

The error of the measurement is in the range of 5–10%. *: The achieved results are presented and discussed in detail directly in the text.

Conclusions

Developed a life cycle based tool that enables to evaluate the socio-economic, occupational and environmental risks and benefits associated with multiple electronic products

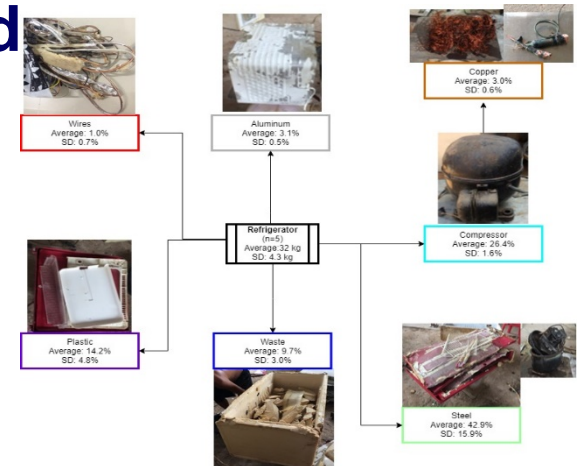
→ Combines environmental and socio-economics consistently

→ Combines occupational and environmental

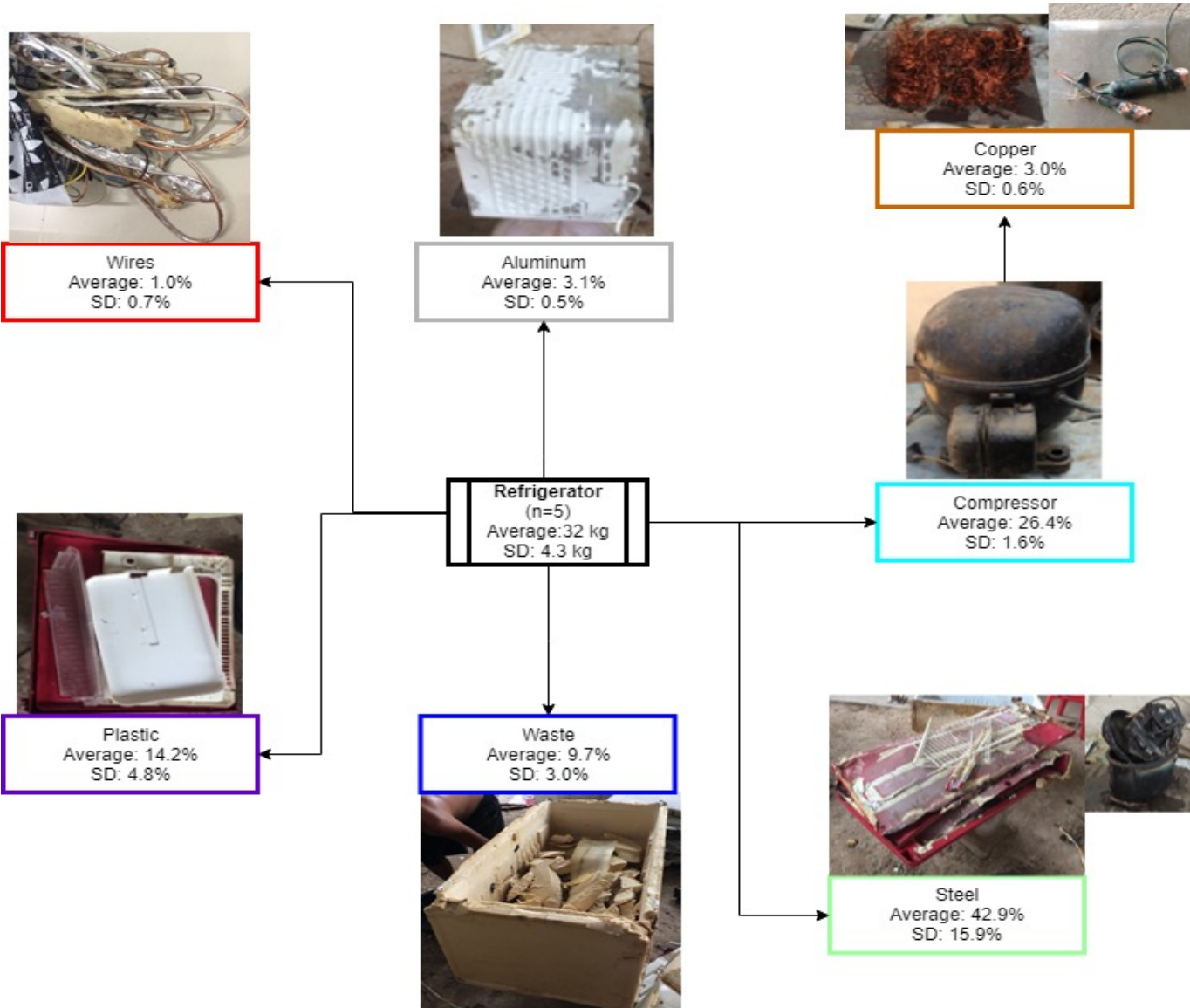
→ Possible to apply the approach at product or regional levels (LCA and MFA)

→ Mitigate risks, while maintaining economic and environmental benefits

→ Let us play ... but also use it

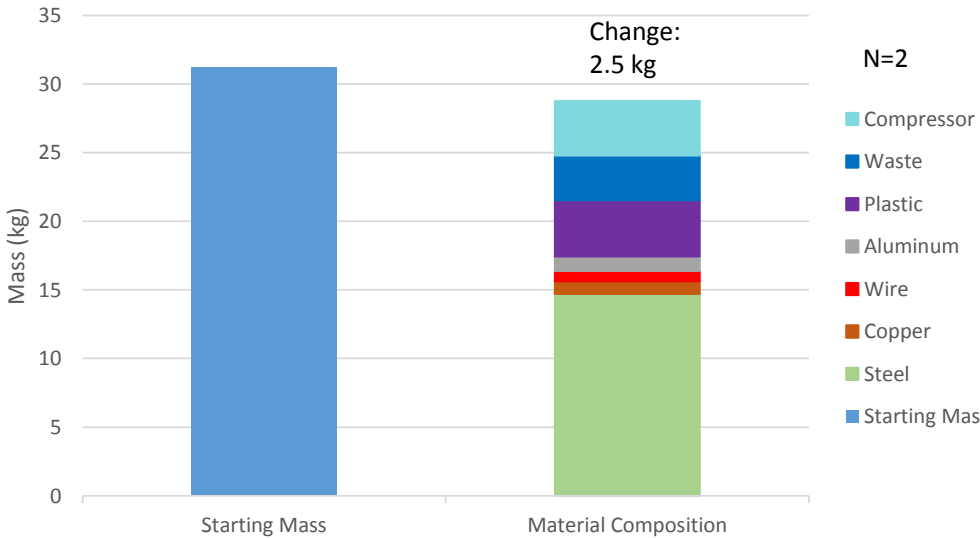


Refrigerator recycling

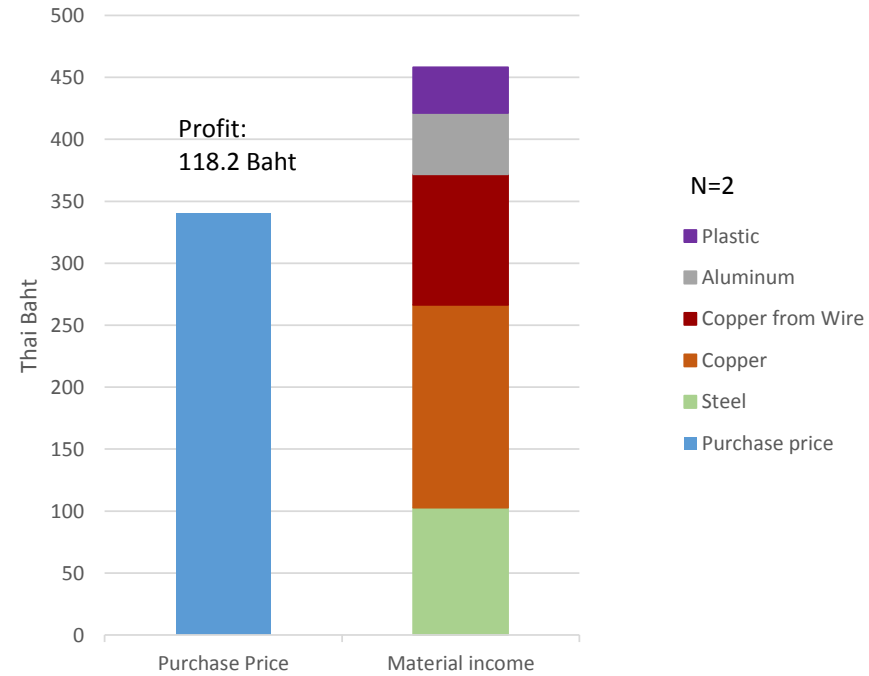


Refrigerator recycling

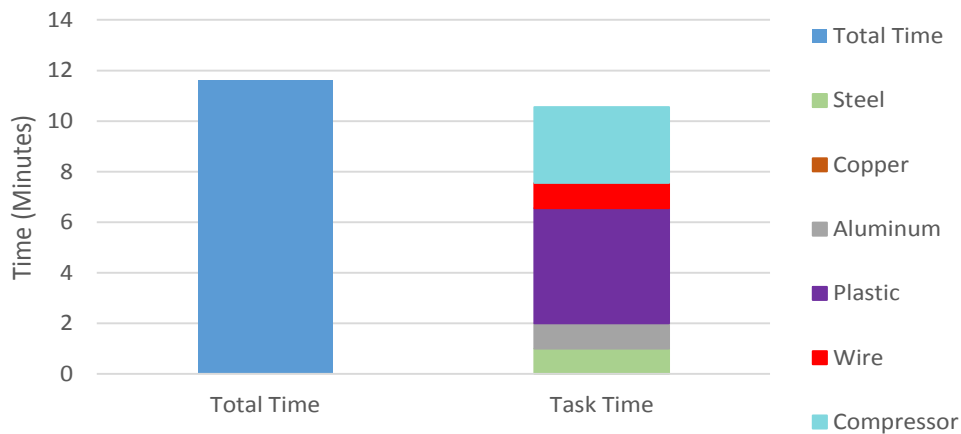
Refrigerator Average Material Recovery



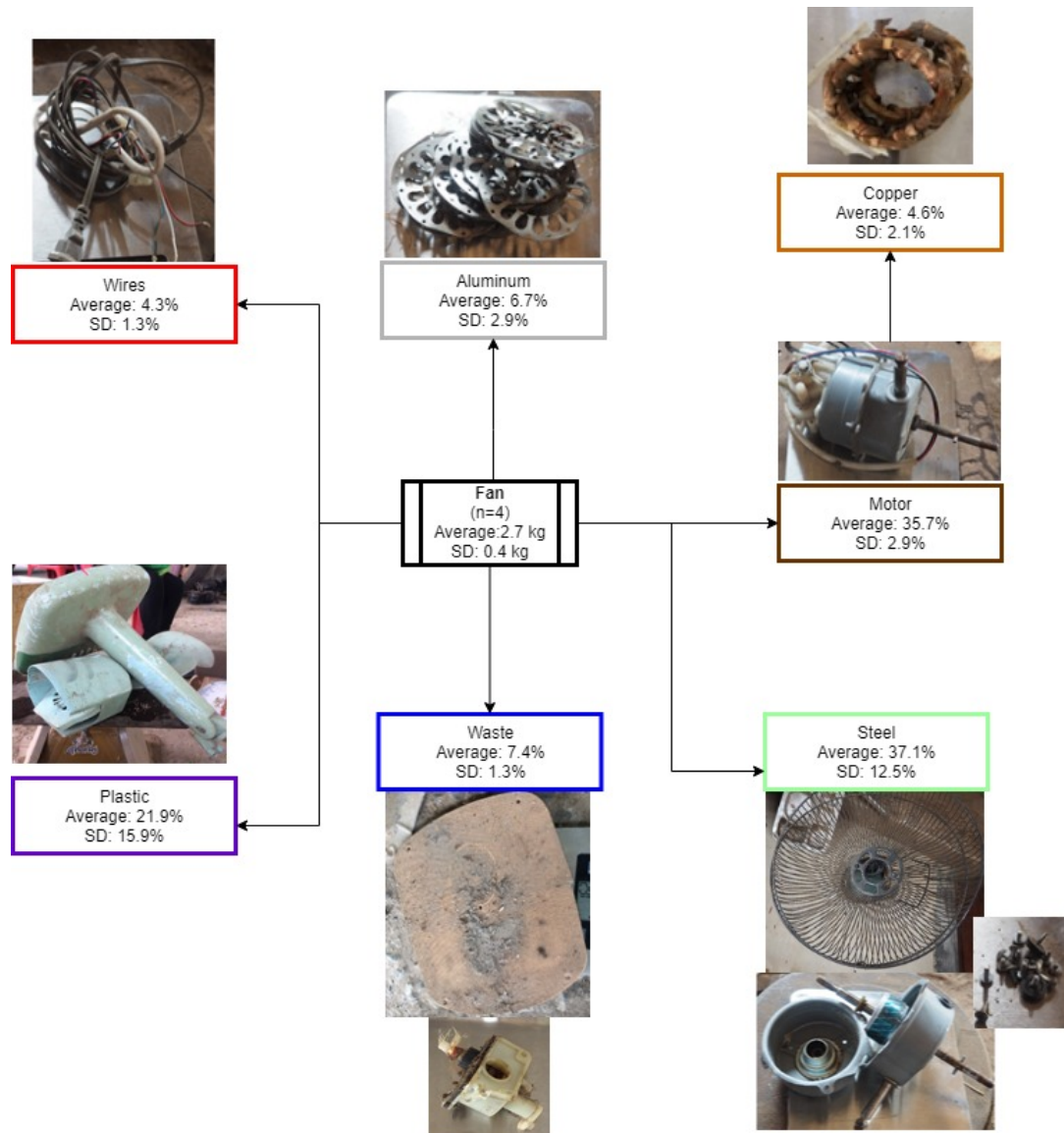
Refrigerator Average Income



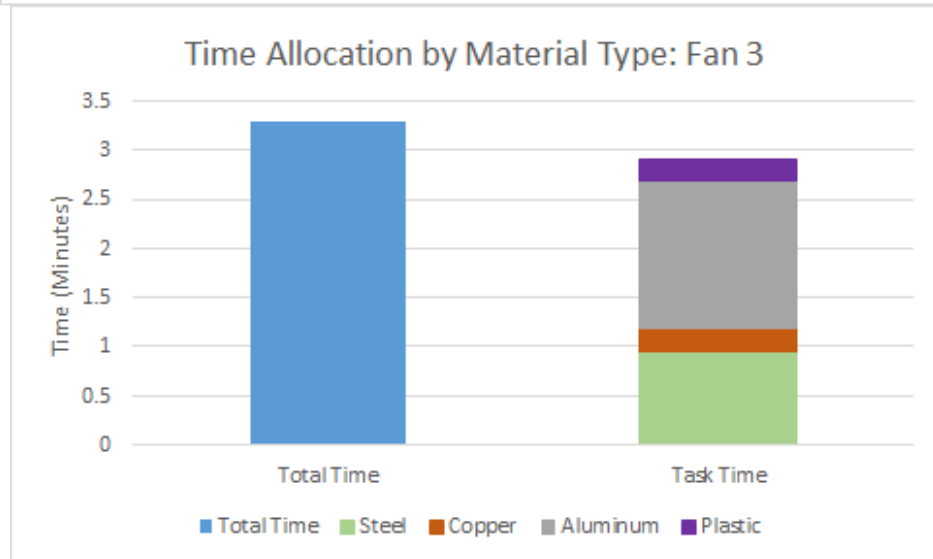
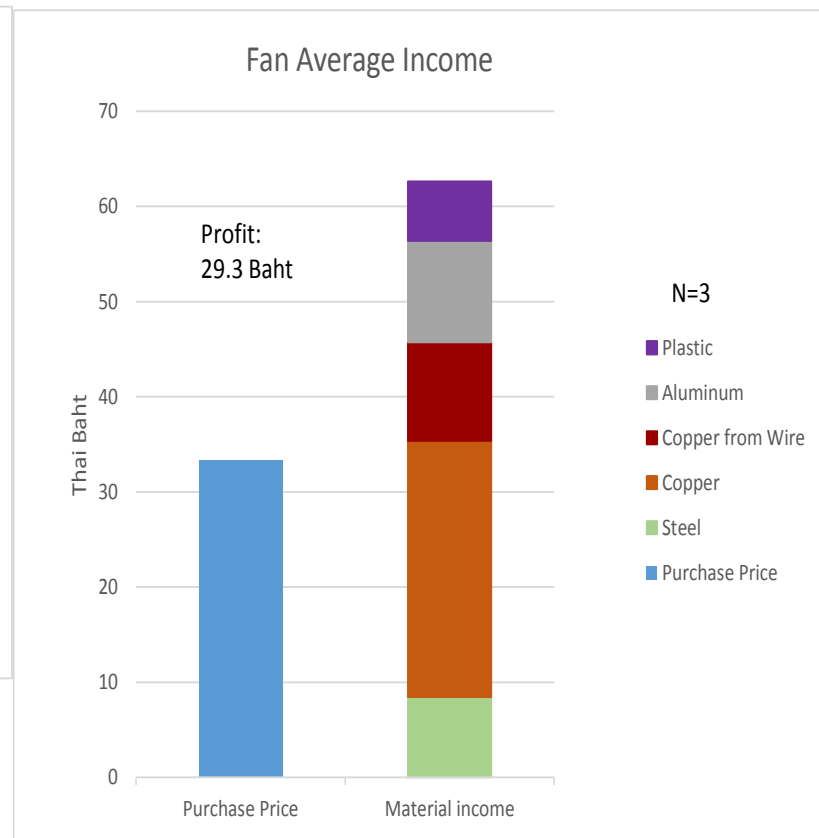
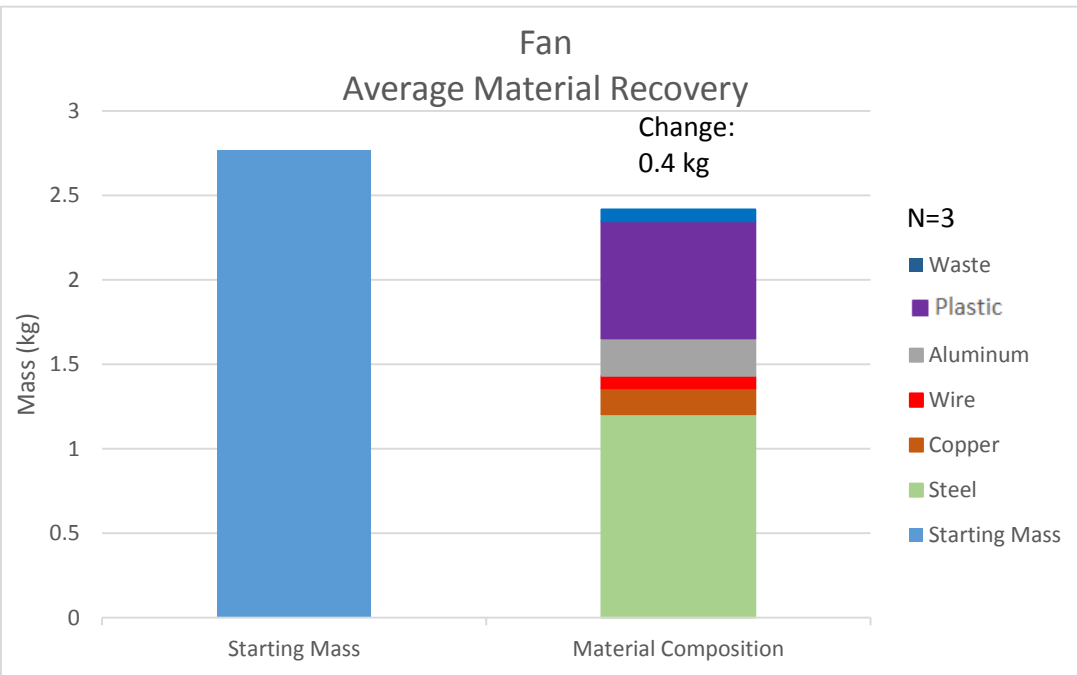
Time Allocation by Material Type: Refrigerator 4

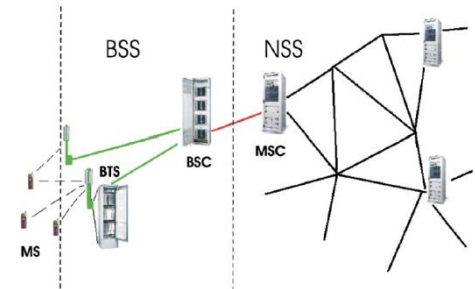


Fan recycling



Fan recycling





The end of life treatment of second generation mobile phone networks: Strategies to reduce the environmental impact

Wolfram Scharnhorst^{a,b,*}, Hans-Jörg Althaus^a, Mischa Classen^a,
 Olivier Jolliet^b, Lorenz M. Hilty^a

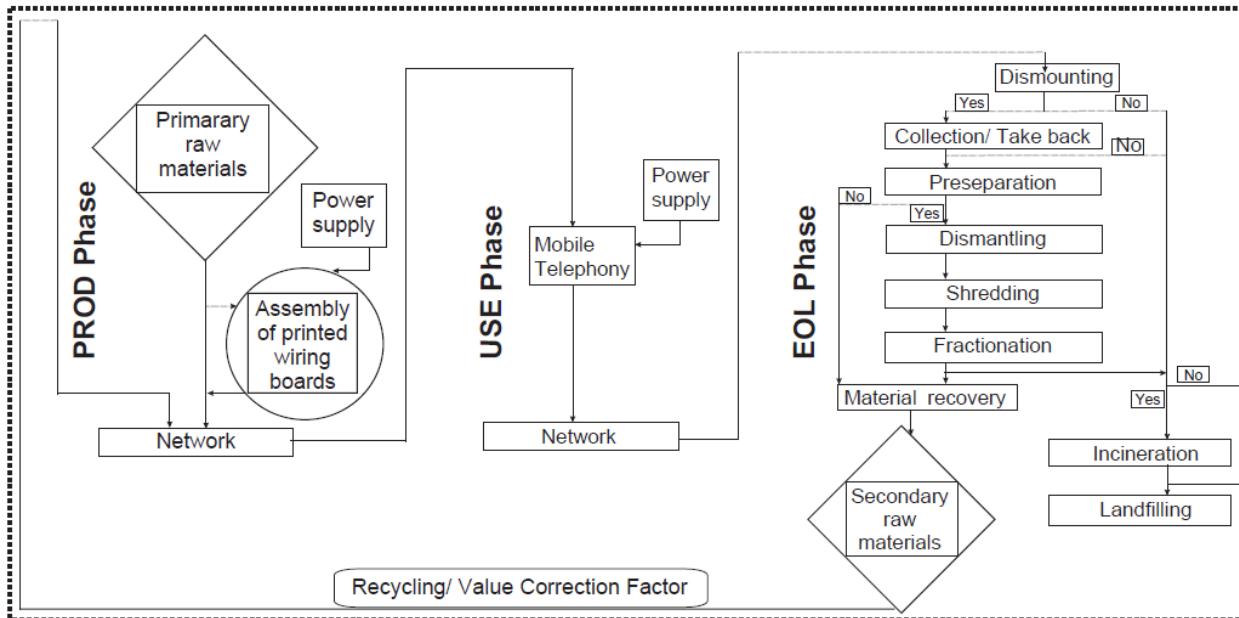
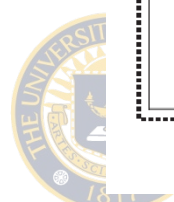
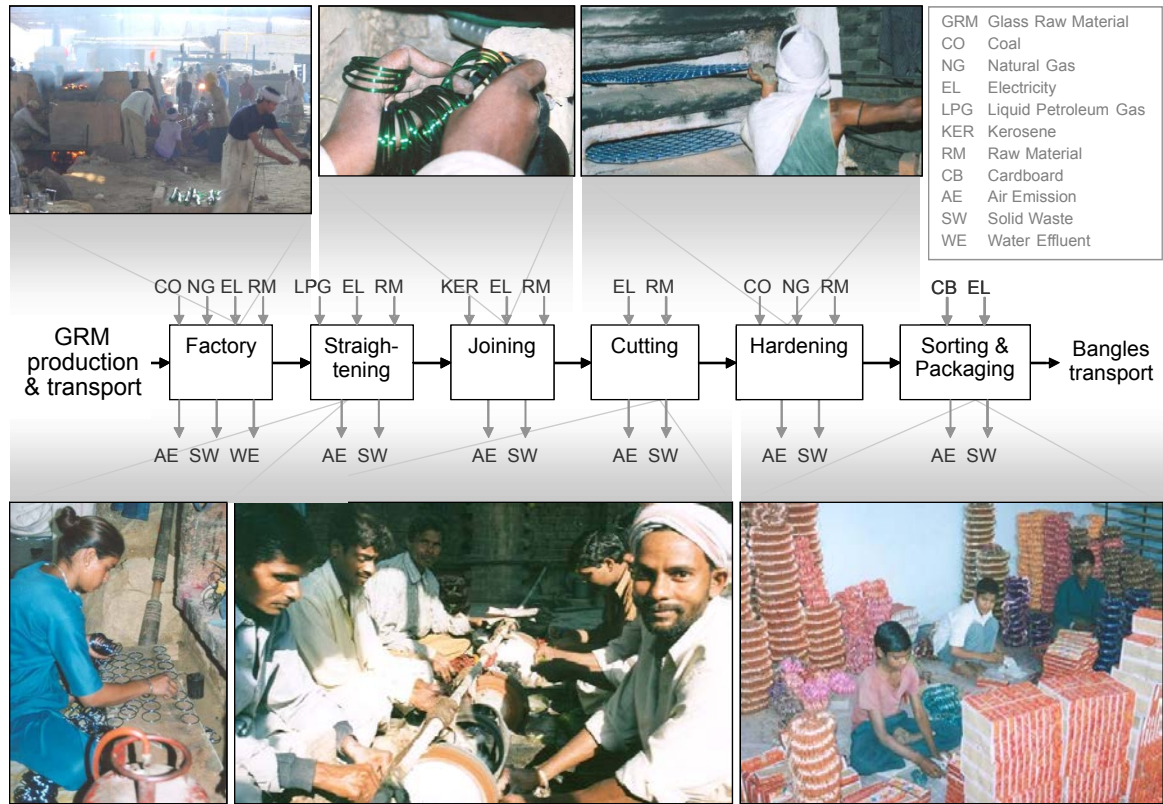
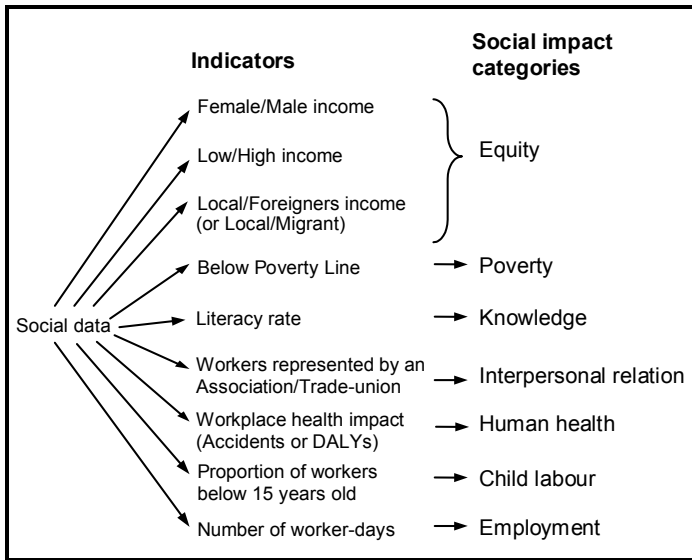


Fig. 1. Flow chart and system boundaries of the life cycle phases of the mobile phone network studied.



Related UM work



Related UM work

