Solar-based polymers' possible applications in

SULAPAC®

MATERIAL INNOVATION THAT

LEAVES NO MICROPLASTICS

BEHIND

December 2019

Maija Pohjakallio @maijapohjakalli





Sulapac's co-founders Dr. Suvi Haimi & Dr. Laura Tirkkonen-Rajasalo









SULAPAC has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant No 829681







SULAPAC PORTFOLIO





SULAPAC AS A LICENSE EXTENDABLE BEYOND PACKAGING



SULAPAC: SAFE & CIRCULAR BY DESIGN







SULAPAC® BIODEGRADES FAST

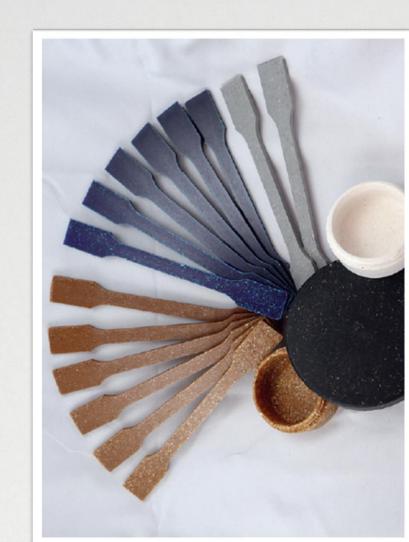


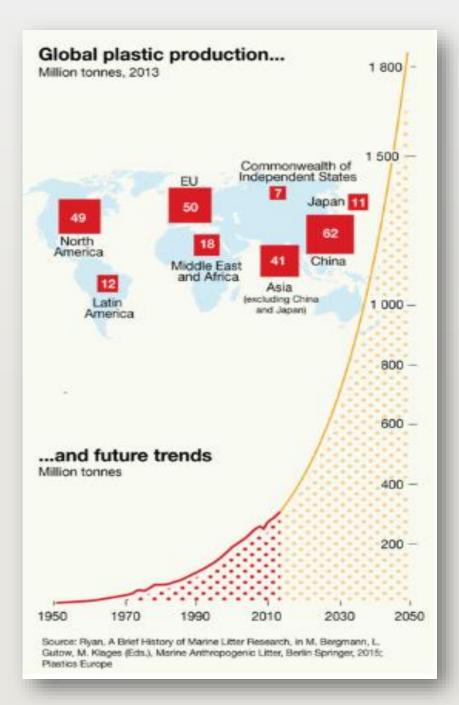
Sulapac biodegrades in 21 days in industrial composting. Compostability according to EN 13432 standard. In addition to biodegradability also ecotoxicity is tested & it's proofed by chemical analysis that the degradation products don't have any potential negative effects to end compost quality



MECHANICAL RECYCLING OF SULAPAC IS TECHNOLOGICALLY FEASIBLE

- Mechanical recycling of Sulapac has been demonstrated by VTT, Technical Research Centre of Finland: mechanical properties last up to 5 cycles
- Chemical recycling via pyrolysis is also an interesting option which we are currently investigating



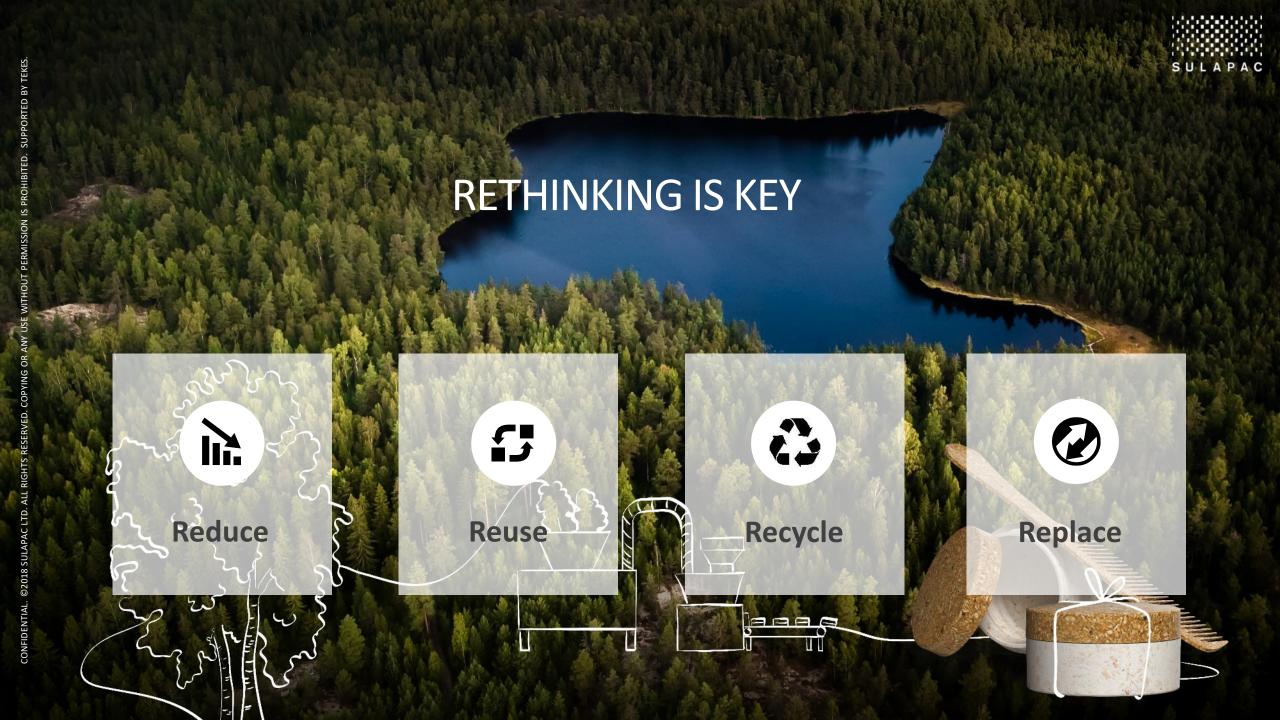




PLASTICS PRODUCTION

The annual global plastics production has increased from 2 Mt to 380 Mt between 1950 and 2015, and it's predicted that the production will double by 2035 and almost quadruple by 2050.

Source: Solving plastics pollution through accountability, WWF report 2019.





RETHINKING THE USE OF CARBON

Sustainable carbon

- Renewable carbon from biomass
- Recycled fossil carbon
- Carbon extracted from CO₂



DECREASING THE PLASTICS LEAKS INTO ENVIRONMENT

Visible litter

Waste management infrastructure & product design

Microplastics

- Any persistent, non-biodegradable polymer in plastics, fibres, tyres, paints, cosmetics etc. can be a source of microplastics polution
- Material innovation & design is key as once released microplastics are difficult to remove from the environment



To some extent, all solid polymeric materials release small particles (< 5 mm) due to wearing in use.

One great advantage of fully biodegradable materials is, that the particles which are released do not accumulate but are "eaten up" by the microbes in nature.



FREE OF MICROPLASTICS, FULL OF POSSIBILITIES





