

Cocio bioplastics... Waste 2022 – Coffs Harbour – May 2022

## Trends in Compostable Bioplastics and FOGO Programs in Europe, Australia and the US

Markus Leufgens - May 2022





### Summary:

- Organics in landfill are a significant contribution to climate change.
- Compostable kitchen tidy bags and bin liners play an essential role in diversion of food organics from landfill.
- Decision on applications for compostable bioplastics should pass at least three basic criteria:
  - It cannot be economically recycled.
  - Associated with organic waste and end of life in compost
  - Infrastructure to collect and get it there.
- Compostable food packaging will come, we need to get ready!
- Paradigm shift: WASTE → RESOURCE



#### Cardia Bioplastics - we make Starch Based Compostable Bioplastics

#### **Bioplastics are Biobased or Compostable or Both**





#### Trends in Compostable Bioplastics and FOGO Programs

### **Bioplastics**





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Global production capacities of bioplastics in 2021 (by market segment)





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Source: European Bioplastics, nova-Institute (2021) More information: **www.european-bioplastics.org/market** and **www.bio-based.eu/markets** 

Bio-based/non-biodegradable Obiodegradable Obiod

# Ellen McArthur Foundation: Vision of Circular Economy for Plastics

- **1.** Elimination of problematic or unnecessary plastic packaging through redesign, innovation, and new delivery models is a priority
- 2. Reuse models are applied where relevant, reducing the need for single-use packaging
- 3. All plastic packaging is 100% reusable, recyclable, or compostable
- 4. All *plastic packaging is reused, recycled, or composted in practice*
- 5. The use of plastic is fully decoupled from the consumption of finite resources
- 6. All plastic packaging is *free of hazardous chemicals*, and the health, safety, and rights of all people involved are respected



#### Wrap, UK – 2019

- Considerations for Compostable Plastics Packaging
- List 6 packaging product types that meet guidelines
- Basis for APCO Guidelines on Compostable Packaging



https://ellenmacarthurfoundation.org/



### Europe

#### **BioSinn - Nova Institute (Germany) ... where compostables make sense:**

- 1) it is not possible / economically feasible / common practice to collect the products or their leftovers;
- 2) it is not possible / economically feasible / common practice to separate the products or their leftovers from organic waste
- 3) Recycling it is not possible / economically feasible / common practice;
- 4) thermal recycling is not a viable option due to the high moisture content;
- 5) the use of biodegradable materials prevents microplastics from entering the environment;
- 6) there are indirect positive effects / there is a secondary benefit (e.g. more bio-waste can be collected);
- 7) relevant quantities of the product are produced;
- 8) biodegradable substitutes are technically feasible.

#### EU – Legislation:

- Waste Directive: Mandatory kerbside collection of organics by January 2024 (EU and UK).
- Framework regulation on bio-based, biodegradable and compostable packaging in final consultation process

# nova Institute







### The Compostable Conundrum (UK)

Published by "A Plastic Planet", UK, October 2021

A practical guideline on the sensible use of compostable packaging in a circular economy, including a "GREEN" and a "RED" list.

'Does this help get food waste into the food waste system?'



**RED LIST RECOMMENDATION** Do <u>not</u> use compostable materials for these products





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#### Australia

#### AUSTRALIA'S 2025 NATIONAL PACKAGING TARGETS

APCO in co-operation with ABA and AORA developed:



Australasian Bioplastics



waste 2022





^Data shown excludes wood packaging due to insufficient data



https://apco.org.au/national-packaging-targets



### Benefits of Compostable Packaging in a Circular Economy

- Compostable waste handling products, e.g. bin liner and bags enable a convenient, safe, low-mess collection and transport of organic food waste to the composter
- Existing robust certification schemes for compostability, like ABA, ensure compliance with Australian and international standards for industrial and home composting
- New packaging solutions are aiming to deliver high renewable content and functional packaging for food that does not compromise on shelf-life and quality of foods
- Compostable Bioplastics do not cause persistent microplastics



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### **FOGO: Stake Holders**



#### <u>Challenges to broad FOGO</u> <u>Implementation:</u>

- Infrastructure for processing
- Contamination
- Performance in individual plants varies
- Insufficient, ineffective separation at source decreases value
- Creation of viable markets for products
- Research on materials and packaging design to assist FOGO
- Education, communication and understanding
- Policing of policies



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### Introducing SECOS Group

- Cardia is part of SECOS Group Limited (ASX: SES)
- Cardia develops, manufactures and distributes compostable products, resin, films and bags certified to all relevant global standards for compostability:
- New state-of-the-art R&D centre, the "Onestonium", in Melbourne









#### SECOS Group – Cardia: Locations







#### Cardia Products – New Brands







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# **THANK YOU!**



Changing the world of packaging

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#### **Resources and INFO**



- <u>https://bioplastics.org.au/the-compostable-conundrum-making-sense-of-when-to-use-compostable-materials/</u>
- <u>https://renewable-carbon.eu/publications/product/biosinn-products-for-which-biodegradation-makes-sense-pdf/</u>
- <u>http://www.fao.org/home/en</u>
- <a href="https://www.nasa.gov/feature/goddard/2021/esnt/nasa-at-your-table-where-food-meets-methane">https://www.nasa.gov/feature/goddard/2021/esnt/nasa-at-your-table-where-food-meets-methane</a>
- <u>https://documents.packagingcovenant.org.au/public-</u> <u>documents/Sustainable%20Packaging%20Guidelines%20(SPGs)</u>
- <u>https://wrap.org.uk/sites/default/files/2022-02/WRAP-Reducing-household-food-waste-and-plastic-packaging-Summary.pdf</u>
- <u>https://docs.european-bioplastics.org/publications/EUBP\_discussion\_paper\_criteria-for-compostable-plastics\_products.pdf</u>
- <a href="https://calrecycle.ca.gov/organics/slcp/education/">https://calrecycle.ca.gov/organics/slcp/education/</a>
- <u>https://bioplastics.org.au/resources/fact-sheets-2/</u>
- <u>https://bpiworld.org/BPI-Resources</u>

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