



**Bio-based sustainable SURFactants
TO foster GREEN industry**

Petr Humpolíček

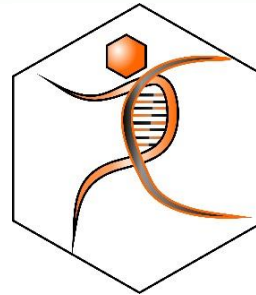
THE PROJECT IS SUPPORTED BY THE CIRCULAR BIO-BASED EUROPE JOINT UNDERTAKING AND ITS MEMBERS

Department of Biomaterials Research

Established 2011

- Material design
- Material chemistry
- Material technology
- Material characterization
- Biocompatibility
- Cytocompatibility
- Advanced *in vitro* models
- Antimicrobial activity

A unique combination of knowledge and experience of team members across the full spectrum of biomaterials research techniques.



Global Experience Opens Doors and Builds Trust

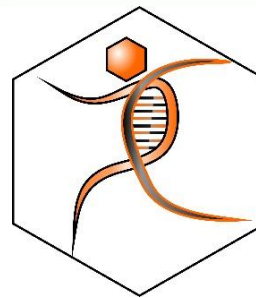
Established 2011

- Systematic networking of collaborating laboratories
- Systematic networking through short and long-term exchanges

Finland, Sweden, France, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Austria, Slovenia, Slovakia, Poland, USA, New Zealand ...

MIT, Chalmers University of Technology, The University of Auckland, Åbo Akademi University ...

≥ 50% publications with foreign partners



From Trust to Triumph: The Power of Collaboration

2015

- PhD student intership at Chalmers University of Technology - Sweden

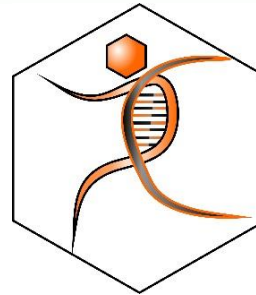
2015 - 2023

- three long-term exchange fellowships, five joint publications

2023

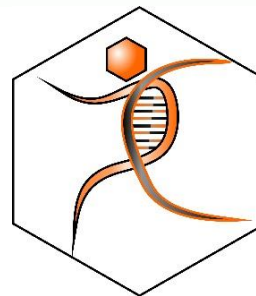
first joint project application H2020 

2024 - second joint project application 



Project preparation

- The critical role of the coordinator, in particular his/her experience to date
 - Ensured professional support from the coordinator in terms of preparation of documents, budget, WP layout etc.
 - Professional consultants with experience in H2020 solutions (not only preparation)
 - Successive addition of other consortium members as needs arise during the preparation process.
 - Highly multidisciplinary team




SurfToGreen - partners





CSGI – COORDINATOR

[INFO](#)



AALTO KORKEAKOULUSAATIO SR (AALTO)

[INFO](#)



ADSORBI AB (ADS)

[INFO](#)



AIRI – ASSOCIAZIONE ITALIANA PER LA RICERCA INDUSTRIALE

[INFO](#)




CHALMERS UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

[INFO](#)



CHT GERMANY GMBH (CHT)

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NIKKO – ASSOCIATED PARTNER

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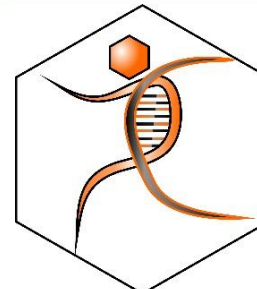
SHISEIDO – ASSOCIATED PARTNER

[INFO](#)



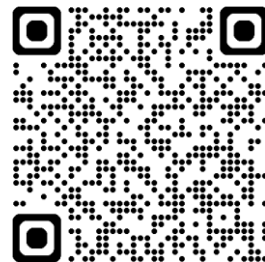
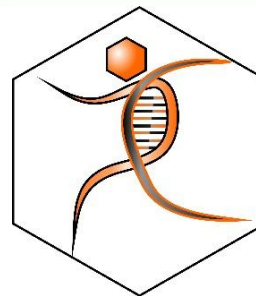
SICHUAN UNIVERSITY – ASSOCIATED PARTNER

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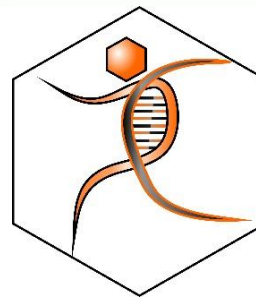


Project preparation

- High impact on industrial applications
 - Clearly defined inputs, process requirements and defined outputs in the form of industrial application and impact on society
- Basic research - is also included but is not the primary objective of the project. However, it may be important for some WPs.



SurfToGreen - intro



- **Surfactants** are chemical compounds that decrease the surface tension or interfacial tension between two liquids, a liquid and a gas, or a liquid and a solid.
- Formulations in industrial applications primarily rely on fossil-based surfactants/polymers significantly contributing to environmental pollution (CO₂ increase, microplastics) and are scarcely sustainable.
- **SurfToGreen** develops a new portfolio of **fully bio-based surfactants** for key applications. By **using renewable biomass-derived building blocks sourced from EU agricultural and forest side streams**, we are creating surfactants with over 95% bio-based content, **overcoming the current performance and production throughput constraints**, as well as provide environmentally friendly alternatives to conventional petroleum-based products.

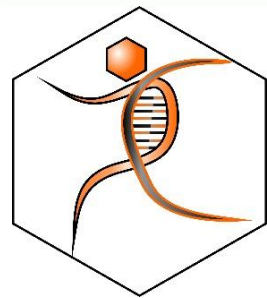
SurfToGreen - aim



Paradigm shift: To develop new chemicals and formulations technologies that prioritize sustainability at lower costs and without compromising their performances.

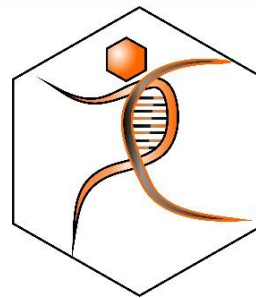
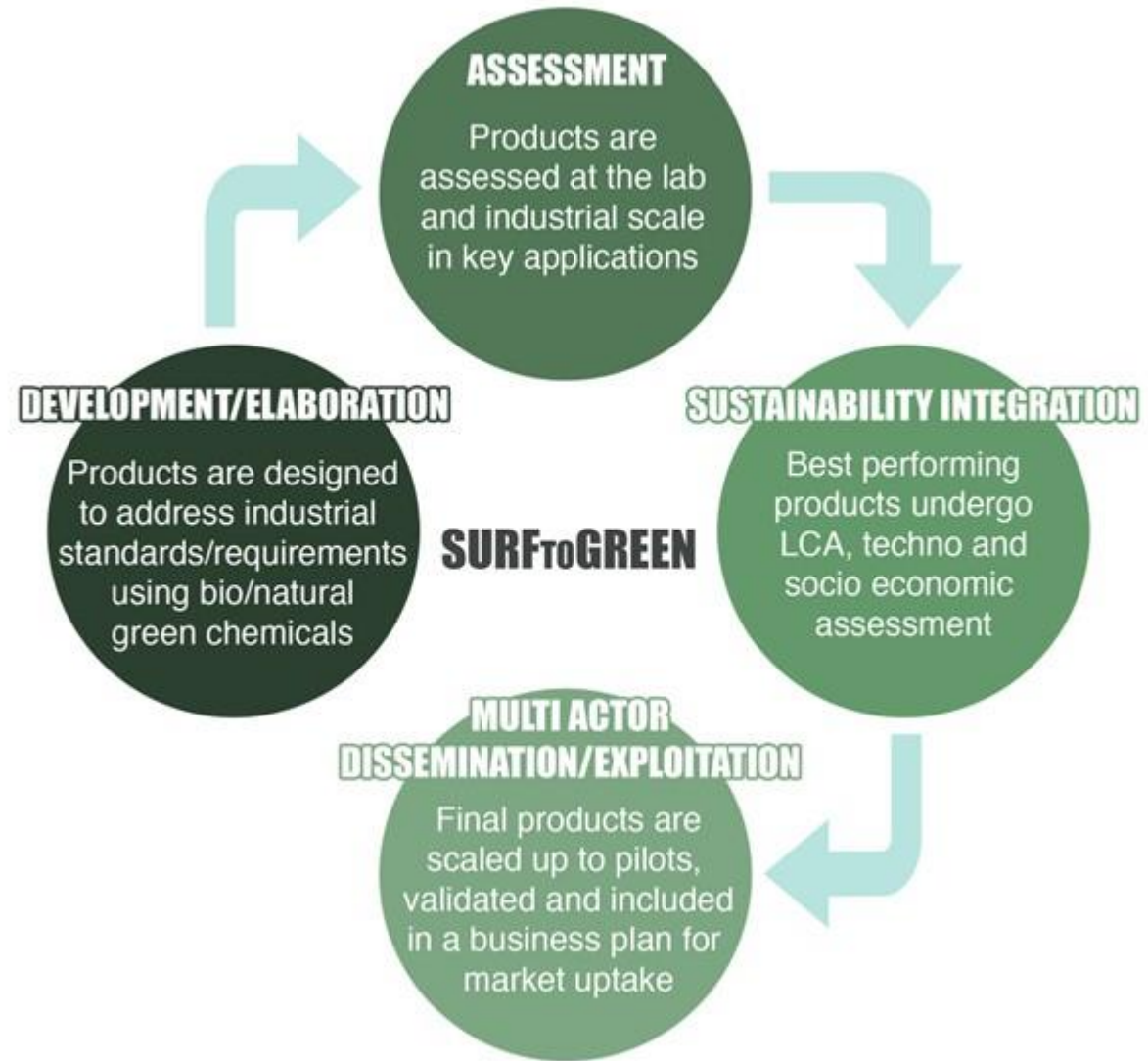
We validate the effectiveness, sustainability and safety of our bio-based formulations in key industrial applications such as **home and personal care, textile enhancement,** and **agriculture.**

Thanks to a collaboration between major market players and small businesses, SurfToGreen aims to gain significant market share and compete against existing products, ensuring a **paradigm shift towards more environmentally friendly practices.**



SurfToGreen - approach

SurfToGreen innovates the formulations landscape by developing new bio-based surfactants derived from renewable and low-value side-stream materials. We propose a radical and comprehensive approach to develop, upscale and secure the integration of novel eco-friendly surfactants into key applications, overcoming the main limitations of traditional methods.

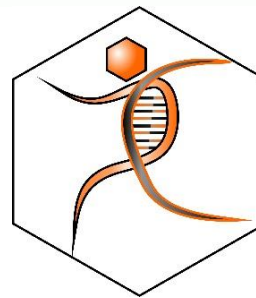


SurfToGreen - approach



We apply a holistic approach **integrating green metrics, safety assessments, Life Cycle Assessment (LCA), Safe and Sustainable by Design (SSbD) and digital technologies.**

We evaluate the bio-based formulations **throughout their entire lifecycle**, and we **assess their functionality** (high performances of the formulations), the **safety** (human health, environmental and physical hazards; risks for workers, public health and the environment along the life cycle) and **sustainability** (environmental impacts, technoeconomic aspects and social acceptance).



Specific Know-how related to the project

Antimicrobial activity

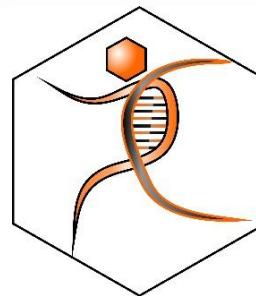
from antibacterial to evaluation of impact on microbioms

Cytocompatibility evaluation

- from basic cytotoxicity to in vivo simulated conditions*
- reconstituted 3D tissues models*
- from cancer cells to iPSC*

Surfactants characterization

*surface and interfacial tension, contact angle
foamability*



Role in the project

WP2 & WP3 (minor)

WP5 Task 5.2: Toxicological and ecotoxicological testing (task lead: TBU)

- Antibacterial properties
 - *disk diffusion test*
 - *minimum inhibitory concentration*
 - *absorption method to determinate antibacterial activity of textile products according to EN ISO 20743*
- Biocompatibility
 - *Cytotoxicity - EN ISO 10993-5 Biological evaluation of medical device*
 - *In vitro Skin irritation: OECD Test Guideline N°439 and EN ISO 10993-23*
 - *Further biological testing as required*
- Ecotoxicity
 - *Acute in vivo toxicity (OECD 201 for algae and 202 for Daphnia magna)*



Contacts

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