





# **Techno-Economic Assessment of**

# making Bioplastics from Sewage

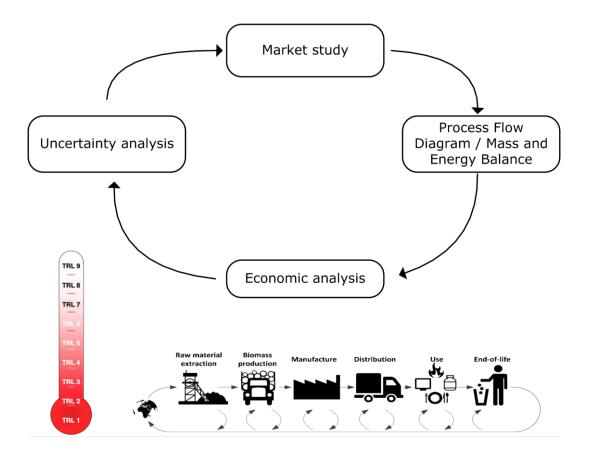
### 29 October 2020 Mohammed Nazeer Khan – VITO

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# **Techno-Economic Assessment**



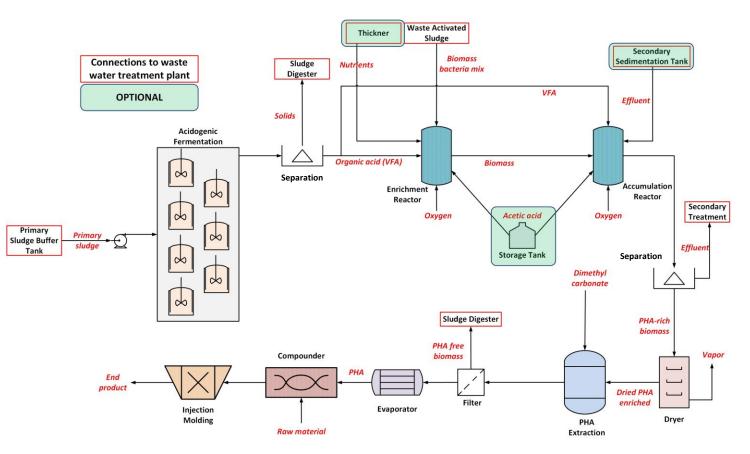


### **Benefits**

- Reduction of time-to-market and costs
- Optimal spending of available resources
- Setting R&D targets
- Lowering the risk of failed market introduction
- Well-informed decision making



## PHA PLANT – Process Flow Diagram







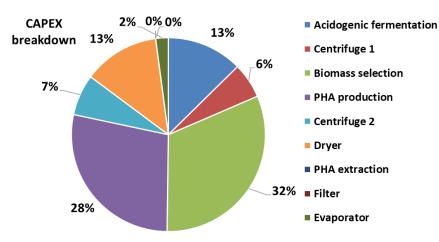
Polyhydroxyalkanoates (PHA) Source: de Souza Reis et al. 2020

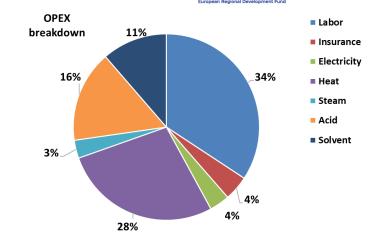


End product
Source: ASD Reports



### Economic Assessment Results – PHA Production

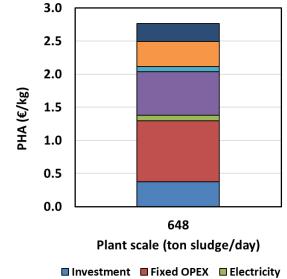




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WOW

North-West Europe



- Current study 2.74 €/kg
- PHARIO (2017) 3.4 €/kg
- Mudliar (2008) 10 €/kg
- Biomer\* 7-10 €/kg

\*PHA from starch, sugar etc.

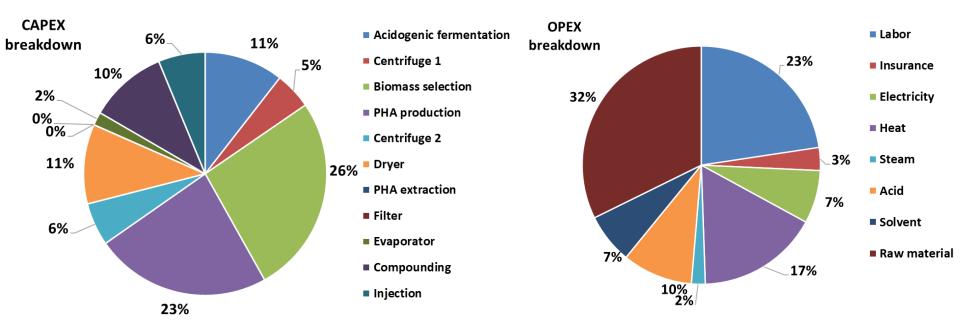


Investment
 Fixed OPEX
 Electricity
 Heat
 Steam
 Acid
 Solvent

## Economic Assessment Results – End product



### Blending ratio: PHA (70%) + RM (30%)



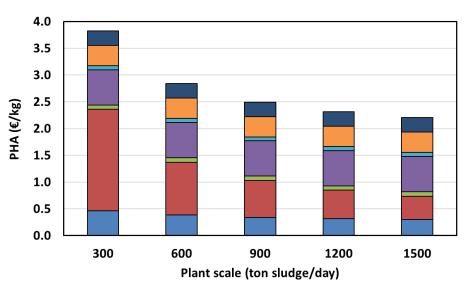
#### **Plastic processing – Injection molding**



CAPEX – 20% ↑

OPEX – 67% 个

## PHA and End Product Price – Plant Scale

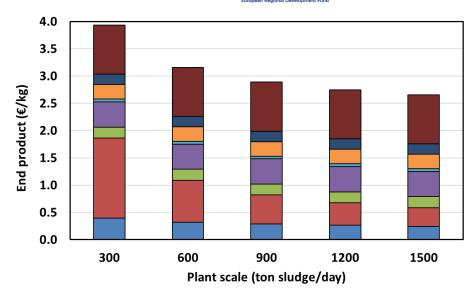


■ Investment ■ Fixed OPEX ■ Electricity ■ Heat ■ Steam ■ Acid ■ Solvent

#### **Base case assumptions**

- Plant scale ~650 ton-sludge/day
- PHA yield 35%
- Cell disruption 100%
- NG price 34 €/MWh
- Acid price 0.5 €/kg
- Raw material price 3 €/kg





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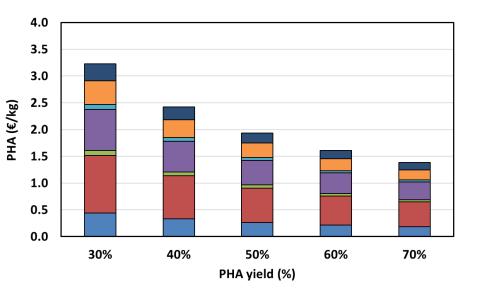
WOW

North-West Europe

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### PHA and End Product Price – PHA Yield

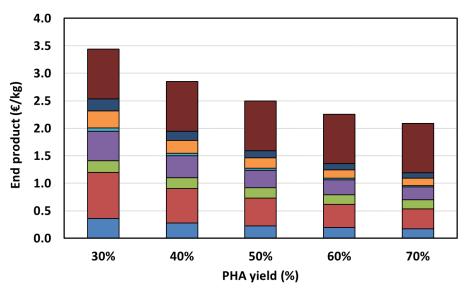


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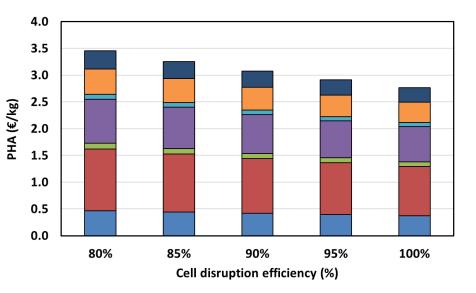
North-West Europe

🔲 Investment 🔲 Fixed OPEX 🔲 Electricity 🔛 Heat 🔲 Steam 🛄 Acid 🔳 Solvent 🔳 Raw material

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### PHA and End Product Price – Cell Disruption Efficiency



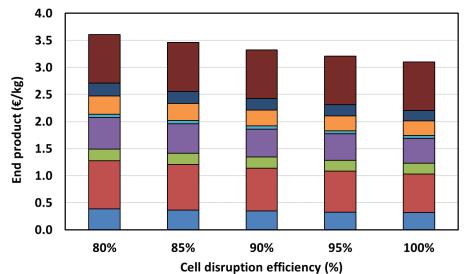


■ Investment ■ Fixed OPEX ■ Electricity ■ Heat ■ Steam ■ Acid ■ Solvent

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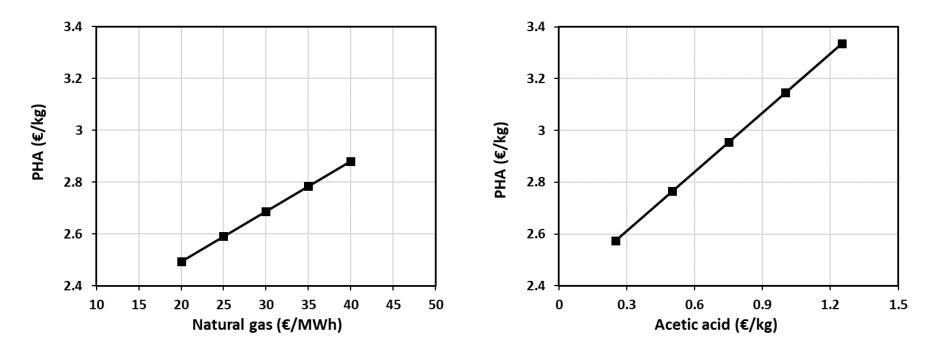


Investment Fixed OPEX Electricity Heat Steam Acid Solvent Raw material

#### Blending ratio: PHA (70%) + RM (30%)

# **PHA Price – Fuel and Acid**





#### **Base case assumptions**

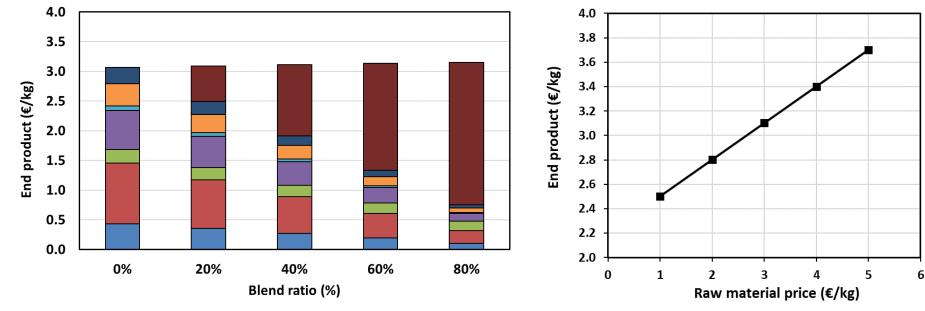
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- Acid price 0.5 €/kg



• Raw material price – 3 €/kg

## End Product – Blend Ratio/Raw Material price







#### **Base case assumptions**

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- Raw material price 3 €/kg



# Conclusions



- Current study demonstrate that PHA can be produced in the range 2-3 €/kg
- Plant scale and PHA yield are the key important parameters that reduce the PHA price significantly
- Natural gas and acetic acid prices have significant effect
- Blend ratio is also a key parameter when cheaper raw materials are used
- Raw material price is the most significant parameter



# **Future Research**



- Sequential batch reactor cost reduction
- Alternate drying process with low energy consumption
- Increasing the PHA yield during accumulation stage
- Keeping the disruption efficiency high using other cheaper solvents
- Develop instrumentation control strategies for plant operation
- Increasing the product quality by using cheap raw materials





Wupperverbandsgesellschaft für integrale Wasserwirtschaft mbH

WiW

North-West Europe

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