



## USABLE PACKAGING – PRESS RELEASE

### One year on - Partners host project update webinar

2 July 2020 – Partners in the EU-funded "Usable Packaging" project hosted a one-year-on webinar to update stakeholders on the progress made since the project launch in June 2019.

The three-year project, funded by the EU and governed by the Bio-Based Industries Joint Undertaking (BBI-JU) as part of the EU Horizon 2020 programme (under grant agreement No 836884), aims to develop fully compostable or recyclable bio-based packaging materials for the food, pharmaceutical and clothing industries, using food industry by-products as a feedstock. The project will close on 31 May 2022.

In the webinar, Dieter Brigitta of BBI JU's, Prof José Maria Lagarón of CSIC, Dr Fabiana Fantinel of InnoEx, David Borzonella of Innoven, Alessandro Carfagnini of Sabia Materials and David Newman of BBIA provided progress reports on the project's deliverables for the first year of activity. Despite delays caused by the Covid-19 pandemic and lockdowns across the world in recent weeks, much has been achieved with an inventory of applications completed, prototypes of materials produced as straws, cutlery and plates, and over 50 organisations recruited to provide advice and guidance to partners at every stage of the process in the Stakeholder Platform.

The webinar gathered over 150 delegates from all over Europe.

Project leader Prof. José Maria Lagarón said: *"Despite Covid-19 causing disruption in recent times, we are delighted with the progress made within the first year of activity of the "Usable Packaging" project. Developing environmentally friendly alternatives to plastic packaging has become critical when we witness the huge damage that plastic pollution causes to wildlife and nature. Additionally, the project offers a fully circular value chain by using food processing wastes as the base ingredient to manufacture this material which is then recycled into new feedstock for the next cycle of production."*



Watch the webinar [here](#)

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