

# Partnering with NATURE to GROW next-gen materials

Annalisa Moro - EU Project Manager at SQIM 29/10/2024





and the potential of solutions based on biology to solve societal issues, make the EU to modernise its agriculture, forestry, energy, food and feed sectors and industry".

EU, EU Commission, 2024

## "The advances in life sciences, supported by digitalisation and artificial intelligence (AI),

- biotechnology and biomanufacturing one of the most promising technological areas of this century. They can help
- Building the future with nature: Boosting Biotechnology and Biomanufacturing in the



### Vision and mission



### To establish **technological standards** on a global scale, with a **positive impact** on Planet and People, building a **lasting legacy** for future generations.



### Driven by Nature's intelligence, we disrupt the way things are made by creating innovative technologies and products which are kinder to the planet.

## $\int O|M$

technology strongly relies on partnering with **fungal** SQIM's **microorganisms** and on employing their mycelium as key agent to **bind** and transform different typologies of residual substrates, turning them into fully **functional and high value materials** and products.

Mycelium represents the ideal partner allowing for the shift toward a generative paradigm rooted in bio-fabrication, thanks to its unique features, such as:

- Fast growth
- Growing on and converting very large amount of possible feedstocks, including low-value residues and waste substrates
- Creating custom textures and structures
- Intelligence and adaptability
- Protein synthesis through fermentation and material encapsulation
- Flexibility different fermentation through (e.g. solid-state/liquid)

techniques



### /()|M|

### Mycelium technology is the perfect match between innovation and sustainability.

- Growing materials using low-value residues as feedstock
- Fungal fermentation is a very low input process
- Vertical farming approach reduces land use
- Fast growing period (2-4 weeks vs. 3 years for animal)
- Low water consumption in the whole value chain
- Adoption of sustainable post-treatments (green chemistry)





## Biomaterials - biofabricated/bioassembled

### **BIO-BASED**

"... wholly or partly derived from biomass, such as plants, trees or animals" \*

### **BIO-FABRICATED**

"... produced by living cells (e.g. mammalian) and microorganisms such as bacteria, yeast and mycelium"

\*excluding those derived from fossil sources

### **BIO-ASSEMBLED**

"... a macroscale structure that has been grown directly by living microorganisms such as mycelium or bacteria"



### JOIM



### **Green Building & Interior Design**

![](_page_6_Picture_3.jpeg)

### Next gen alternative material

![](_page_7_Picture_0.jpeg)

## PHCA

The most promising solution for Alternative Leather

## $\int OIM ephea$

## Unique, novel alternative for creators and for manufacturers

SQIM, leveraging its advanced technology-base and the unique approach associated to it, is in fact ultimately **developing entirely new materials'** categories, with their very own values and opportunities, for the related applications and markets.

A multitude of applications possible also thanks to the **many ways in which the** raw materials can be processed: Tanning / Chemical Transformation / Coating / Lamination / Sewing / Stitching / Thermal bonding / UV Printing / Embossing / Ultrasonic Cutting / Laser Cutting / Laser Etching/ Colouring / etc.

![](_page_8_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_9_Picture_0.jpeg)

# EPHEA patented<sup>(\*)</sup> production process is based on low input process

>> from feedstock selection

![](_page_9_Picture_3.jpeg)

growing in moulds at semi-liquid state

<sup>(\*)</sup> patent reference: IT201800010869A1

![](_page_9_Picture_6.jpeg)

### semi-finished products

![](_page_9_Picture_8.jpeg)

![](_page_9_Picture_9.jpeg)

>> to final products

# Image: OIM ephea EPHEA post-processing: endless design opportunities

![](_page_10_Picture_1.jpeg)

The post-processing step allows to transform, stabilize, and further functionalize the raw mycelium mat

to deliver finished materials with great aesthetics and superior performances suitable for applications in the fashion industry and beyond

![](_page_10_Picture_4.jpeg)

## Low environmental impact

![](_page_11_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_11_Picture_2.jpeg)

.....

Climate 77,7 change 13,8 kg CO2 eq. kg CO2 eq. Land 6416 551 use points points Water 30,56 2,55 m3 depriv. use m3 depriv.

![](_page_11_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_11_Picture_5.jpeg)

### JOIM EPHEA

## SQIM's Alternative Leather is Naturally Superior

- Unique Touch & Unique Textures
- Sustainable
- Properties can be Engineered
- Three Weeks Growth Process
- Virtually any Size & Shape
- Virtually No Losses
- Easily Scalable Process
- Cost Competitive
- Locally produced
- Vegan Friendly

![](_page_12_Picture_12.jpeg)

![](_page_13_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_13_Picture_1.jpeg)

## and Green Building

Innovative Materials and Products for Interior Design

### 

## Mogu: Innovative Materials and Products for Interior Design and Green Building

Since 2015, MOGU has been developing **innovative and sustainable composite** materials, following the principle of **Circular Economy**.

Mogu is committed to run its production processes starting from low-value, residual materials, which cannot find any other valuable application in industry.

By feeding on the organic matters, and thanks to Mogu's design and engineering skills, we employ mycelium to convert a large range of low-value inputs into **functional and innovative products**, with high added value and unique aesthetics.

![](_page_14_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Picture_0.jpeg)

# Mogu nurtured SQIM's product and market development as well as industrialization skills

>> from feedstock selection

![](_page_15_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Picture_5.jpeg)

>> to final products

![](_page_16_Picture_0.jpeg)

# Mogu Acoustic

acoustic panels

![](_page_16_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_16_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_17_Picture_0.jpeg)

### Combining biofabrication with green chemistry – bio-PU resin

raagants		1-2%	
reagents			
biofiller		15-30%	
isocyanate		30-35%	
from renewable			
resources			
			23

40-50%

polyol

![](_page_17_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_17_Picture_6.jpeg)

## Mogu Floor

resilient flooring tiles and floor coverings

![](_page_18_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Picture_4.jpeg)

a SMEi-phase 2 project

![](_page_18_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Picture_7.jpeg)

European Commission Horizon 2020 European Union funding for Research & Innovation

![](_page_19_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_19_Picture_1.jpeg)

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![](_page_19_Picture_4.jpeg)

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![](_page_19_Picture_11.jpeg)

### MYLIGHT - MYco LIGHTening

### ATRIUM

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