

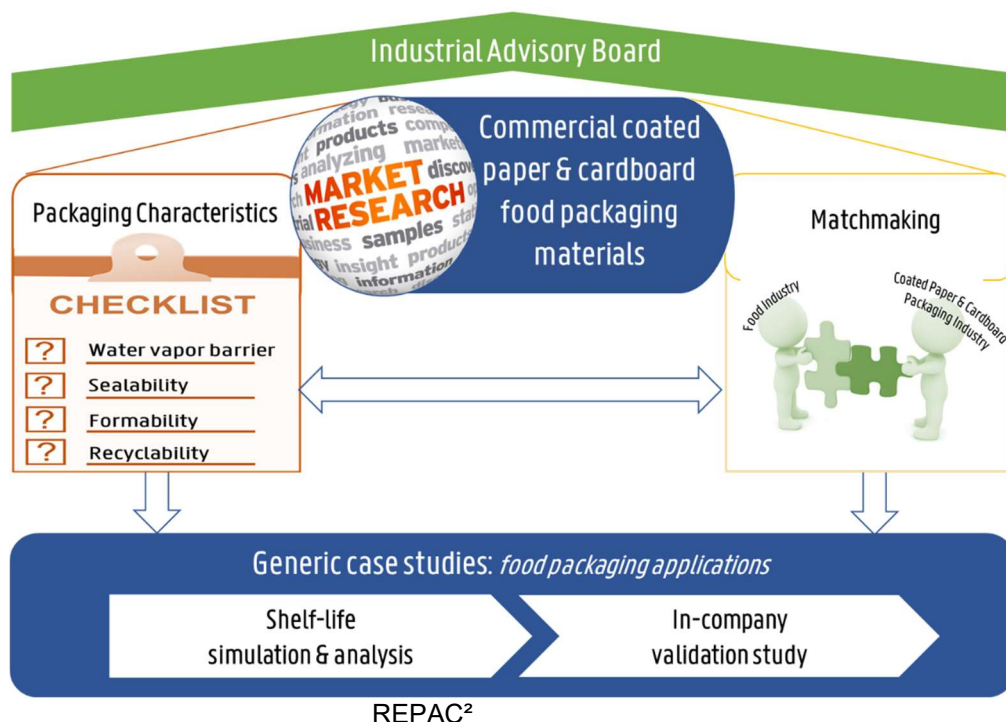
## CORNET-TETRA project proposal:

# REPAC<sup>2</sup>: Functional & recyclable coated paper packaging for food products

Packaging is one of the most important actors in the food supply chain. Food packaging protects and preserves the quality and safety of food products and extends the shelf-life. Every day, the food packaging industry is faced with the choice of the most appropriate packaging material for the storage of specific food products. In addition, the food and packaging industry is challenged to prove the recyclability of their packaging materials. Both on European and Belgian level, ambitious targets are set. The European legislation dictates that 65% of all packaging waste needs to be recycled by 2025 and 70% by 2030 (EU Directive 2018/852). On Belgian level, the Belgian Food Industry (FEVIA) states that all food packaging should be recyclable, reusable or biodegradable by 2025. The roadmap 'Food packaging of the future' also states that the recyclability of packaging is an important feature for realizing the transition to circular packaging. As a result, the use of paper and cardboard materials for food packaging receives much interest. To be applicable as food packaging, however, paper and cardboard materials are finished with one or more coatings offering good seal and barrier properties to gases and/or moisture. Currently, many novel coated paper and cardboard materials for food packaging applications are brought onto the market. However, it is not always clear whether these materials meet the desired properties and if they are fit for purpose. Furthermore, the recyclability of these coated materials is unknown. At present, no universal method to determine the recyclability of coated paper and cardboard packaging materials is available. Though, it is generally assumed that a coating should not exceed 5% of the packaging to ensure recyclability.

### Objective of the project

The objective of REPAC<sup>2</sup> is to support an accelerated implementation of highly functional and recyclable coated paper and cardboard materials for food packaging applications. By a market research, commercial coated paper and cardboard packaging materials will be recorded throughout the project. A method to determine the recyclability of coated paper and cardboard materials will be developed. Subsequently, the recyclability and functionality (i.e. water vapor barrier, sealability, and formability) of commercial packaging materials will be assessed. In addition, a matchmaking event between food companies and the coated paper and cardboard packaging industry will be organized. Based on this event and the packaging characteristics of the coated packaging materials, generic case studies will be defined for further research. For these generic case studies, initially a shelf-life simulation tool will be used after which common shelf-life studies will be performed. Finally, in-company validation studies will be established. The preliminary research approach is still open to alterations



by the industrial advisory board. This project fits the vision of the roadmap “Food packaging of the future”, covering one of the three key topics ‘circular packaging’.

## Target group

The target group of REPAC<sup>2</sup> includes the food industry, the coated paper and cardboard packaging producers and converters as well as recycling companies. To increase the industrial relevance of this project, strong interaction with the target group is required. Therefore, we are actively seeking enterprises in this value chain to support and fine-tune this project proposal. Interested? Then enter your company details and the Letter of Intent to frame your interest.

## Contact the Project Consortium




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## Company information

Organization	
VAT. and address	
Flemish SME?	Y/N (if not, add type of organization)
Name and function contact person	
Phone	
e-mail	

[company letter heading]

The undersigned declares to be aware of the content of the project proposal entitled

**REPAC<sup>2</sup>: Functional & recyclable coated paper packaging for food products**

which will be submitted in the framework of the Joint CORNET Call to the following funding agencies:

- VLAIO, Flanders Innovation & Entrepreneurship, Flemish organisation, Brussels Belgium (agency of coordinating association UHasselt/VerpakkingsCentrum imo/imomec, Sirris, Pack4Food & Flanders' FOOD)
- AiF, German Federation of Industrial Research Associations, Cologne Germany (agency of coordinating partner IVLV)
- NCBiR, National Centre for Science and Development, Warsaw Poland (agency of coordinating Natureef)

The proposed project is of interest to the business of [name of company] for the following reasons:

- [two or three specific reasons why the project results will be relevant for the business]
- [...]

After approval of the project application, the above mentioned company is willing to be member of the user committee, to participate in the project, to make clear arrangements in the bylaws of the user committee and to contribute financially, based on the table below.

Company size (number of employees)	Total project cost
Small: 1 - 50	€1200
Medium: 50 – 250	€2400
Large: > 250	€4500

The above mentioned company will delegate an active member to the user committee, which includes participation in two or three Users Committee meetings per project year.

The above mentioned company acknowledges that they will not be a formal member of the project consortium, that the intellectual property rights belong to the project applicants, and that membership of the users committee does not include any priority rights to the intellectual property. The research in this collective research project is done by research institutes (non-profit organisations).

The above mentioned company will provide information and feedback to the project consortium to enhance efficiency, focus and direction of the project.

[name and function/position of undersigned]

[date of signature]

[signature]

Please send back to one of the partners via e-mail.