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**A presentation by: Eleni
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Making the food of the future

- Valio Dairy is Finland's largest dairy company and has a healthy lifestyle at its core.
- Their milk is among the healthiest in the world and they were the first to make lactose-free products in 2001.
- . Valio's goal is for farmers to be part of the solution with practices that result in carbon being locked up in the soil and not released into the atmosphere.
- Valio is creating the so-called ProManure ecosystem, wanting to separate the nitrogen and phosphorus contained in manure so that it can be reused.
- New solutions are also being sought for food, as the demand for organic products has increased by 30% in recent years. For example, at Valio, they make Valio Mifu, a meat-like product, from milk protein.

Is the answer to plastic coming from Finland?

An 18-employee start-up that makes packaging from a new material that is the eco-friendly successor to plastic.

A material that is not only biodegradable but contains not a trace of microplastic. In short, even if it is thrown into the sea, it causes absolutely no problem to the environment.

Sulapac has won major awards and has signed agreements with global cosmetics brands.

Eating gourmet from the... garbage

The Loop restaurant is located in a beautiful part of Helsinki and is run mainly by volunteers. In the kitchen you can find very talented chefs, who process the ingredients that volunteers bring in from the supermarkets and turn them into very special dishes. The restaurant's goal is to reduce the amount of food that ends up in the garbage.

The WeFood store, which started in Denmark and is now also located in Finland, has the exact same goal and philosophy. The mini-market works with large food chains and bakeries, takes the products they don't want for free and then sells them at low prices with the proceeds going to charity.

Finland is the greenest country in Europe and its people are very close to nature, so their interest is neither opportunistic nor schematic. If you take into account that climate change has already made its presence felt in the country, you can see why there is such enthusiasm for action.

However, in Finland there is something else. The country, in these matters, resembles a well-tuned orchestra with the government in a conductor's role, essentially helping each member and acting as an intermediary between the various actors, whether they belong to the private or public sector. All this is based on a culture of trust, which has been cultivated over decades in a country with very low corruption rates, with citizens feeling trust in the state, in the institutions and in the country's businesses.

Why in Finland?

Three examples of a circular economy show the way...

- In Belgium, coffee is then mixed with straw in specific proportions to produce a special compost suitable for mushroom production.
- In England, another plant collects stale bread discarded by a local bakery network to replace the raw material for beer production, barley.
- Old jeans are also being used by a company in the Netherlands to create new trousers for the market using new quantities of cotton.

The next stage, according to the Director General of the OTA Development Company, Anatoliki SA, is to ensure the institutional framework for the use of secondary raw materials, such as water from biological treatment and fuel produced from frying oil.

The circular economy in Greece is already being implemented, but it can be extended to building materials, recyclable packaging materials, food waste, clothing, but also in tourism, where there can be water utilization and management and creation of new products from recycling utilization in tourist units, he adds.

Thank you for your time!

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