

PRESS RELEASE

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DYCLE winner of the 1st FAMAE foundation Prize!

The French Foundation Famae created a prize of 1 Million Euros in 2018 to reward innovation on Household waste. Eric Philippon, a former French investor wanted to support Start-ups in this field.

From more than 1500 competitors, DYCLE has been awarded with the first prize.

Ayumi Matsuzaka began Dycle in 2015 to produce Terra Preta (black amazonian soil) with 100% bio compostable diapers. It is a great achievement for Dycle's Team.

In cooperation with two other French Start-ups involved in this topic, Les Alchemists based in Paris and Mundao based in Bordeaux, they will work together to produce a 100% compostable, and composted diaper. This project will be based in Paris.

Further information

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Background

Disposable diapers take up to 10% of household waste and have a large CO₂ and Methane footprint. Each baby produces an average of 500 kg of diaper waste during their first 3 years. Many parents, also municipalities are interested to reduce the amount of waste.

DYCLE wants to turn the diapers which contain the precious present from babies into safe and fertile black humus, ready for growing trees and plants for local production. Children grow and trees grow. Fruit trees could be harvested to produce locally made baby food or juice, so that parents and babies could gain back the nutrients.

One child alone could produce more than 30 liters of fertile soil every month.

The black soil (terra preta) formation process, when the soil is enriched with biochar and biological matter, stimulates conversion of greenhouse gas emissions into carbon retained in the soil, both reducing the GHG emissions and improving soil quality. In addition, biological waste is rich in nutrients, such as phosphates and nitrogen, that comprise a low cost natural fertilizer.

DYCLE has successfully tried and tested the practical process of collection with a first pilot project in May 2015. In 2017, a first design of a 100% biobased, plastic free diaper inlay was developed and tested for one month with 8 families in the Berlin district of Pankow. The feedback was very promising and the lessons learned will be used for further improvement.

