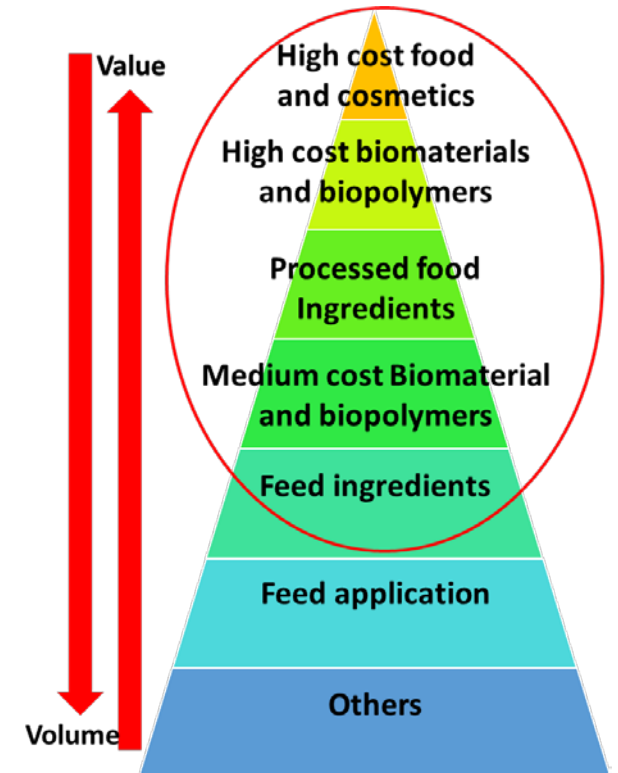
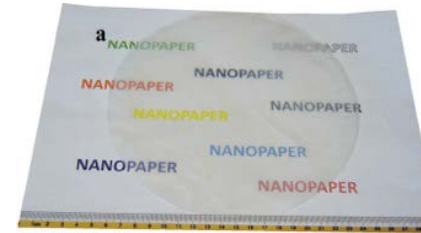


# Norwegian Seaweed Biorefinery Platform (SBP-N)

## Biomaterials, bioactives and enzymes



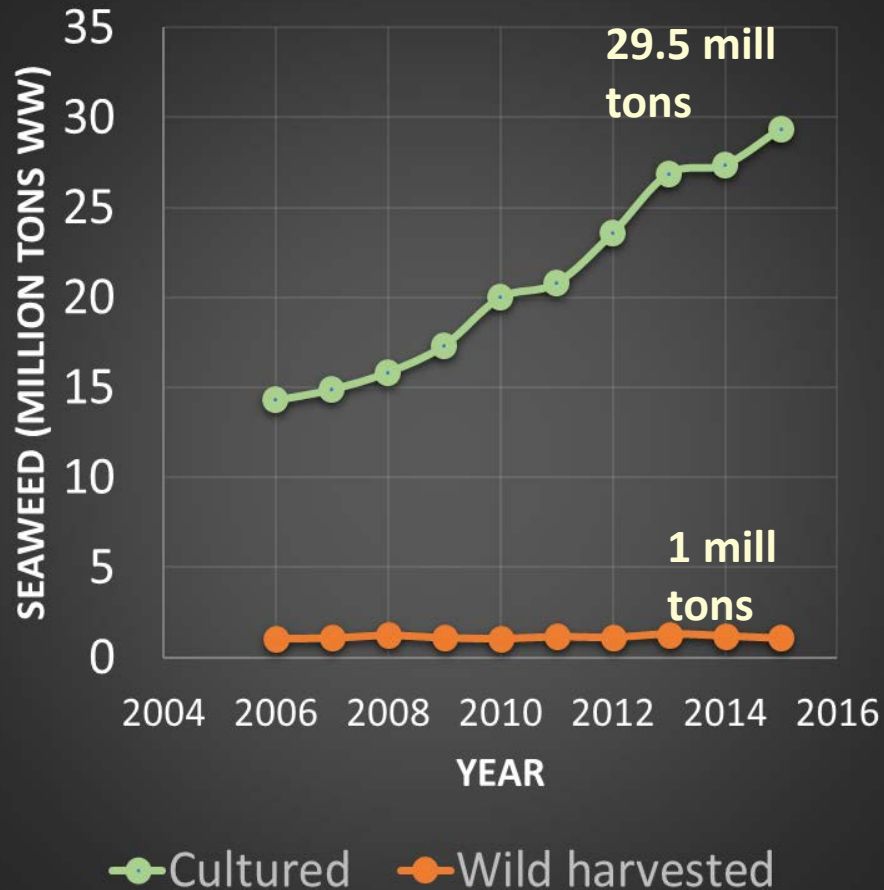
**SIG Seaweed**  
INDUSTRIAL BIOTECH NETWORK NORWAY

Håvard Sletta  
SINTEF Industry, Department of Biotechnology and nanomedicine  
Trondheim, Norway

28<sup>th</sup> of November 2019



# Seaweeds Globally: 30.5 mill tons/11.7 bill USD (FAO 2017)



40 %: Brown algae  
60%: Red algae

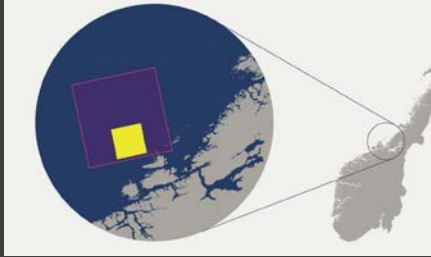
87 % : Used for human consumption  
(food or food additive (e.g. the hydrocolloids alginates, agars and carrageenans))

13 % : Used for fertilizers, animal feed additives and cosmetics, biotechnological and biomedical applications, +++)

**Key marked areas of seaweed based products are increasing**



**"We can produce 20 mill tons of biomass, in a area at a the size of Trondheimsfjorden"**



SINTEF Ocean (Ole Jacob Brock)

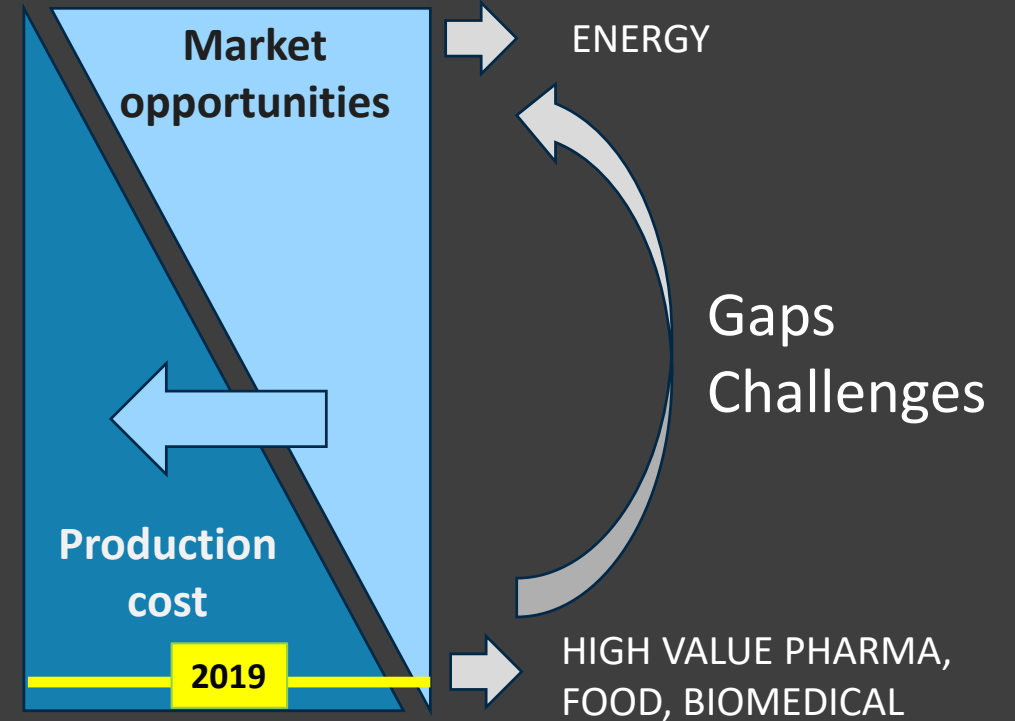
**"How to develop new products and processes from the potentially big volume of biomass?"**

DuPont (Trond Helgerud)

**"Need standardised end products with a validated known market"**

Algaia (Frank Hennequart):

Sustainability, trends, challenges, opportunities, LCA, Industrialisation, automation, breeding, IMTA, .....



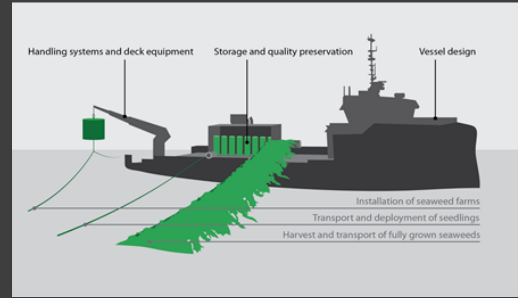
## "BREEDING"



## CULTIVATION



## HARVESTING AND PROCESSING



## BIOREFINERY



## PRODUCTS



RESEARCH, INNOVATION, NEW SEAWEED BASED INDUSTRY



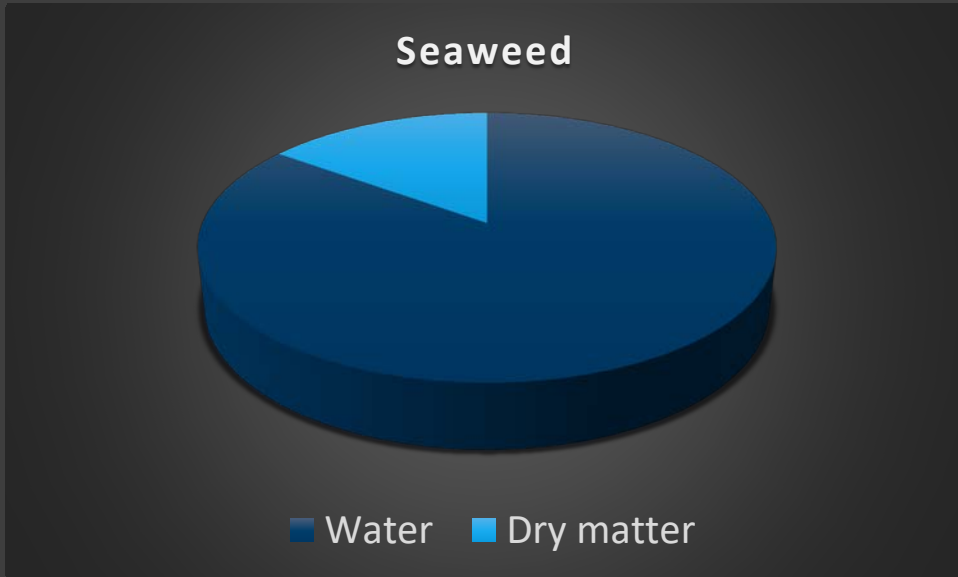
### CHALLENGES: SEAWEED BIOREFINERIES:

- The harvesting season is short (cultured seaweed)
- Current technology for marine biomass processing is not useful for cost efficient separation/recovery of products
- The knowledge about structure and composition of marine biomass not good enough to suggest good enzyme assisted strategies for treatment and fractionation
- The enzyme toolbox for processing of marine biomass is not yet developed for industrial utilization
- Products are poorly characterized, lack of structure function data
- Some of the products lack good industrial applications

# What is the components in brown algae?



*Laminaria Hyperborea* (stipe, leaf) % dry matter



Component	% Dry matter Stem [Leaf]	"Bioactivity"
Alginic acid	33% [17-34%]	+
Laminaran	0.5-1% [0-30%]	+
Fucoidan	2-4% [-]	++
Cellulose	10-12% [-]	-
Mannitol	3-7% [4-25%]	-
Protein	7-10% [4-14%]	+
Polyphenols	1 % [-]	++
Fat	0.5-1% [-]	-
K>Na>Ca>S>Iodine e>Mg>P	17-19%	
Pigments ++	Traces	+



# Bioactivity?



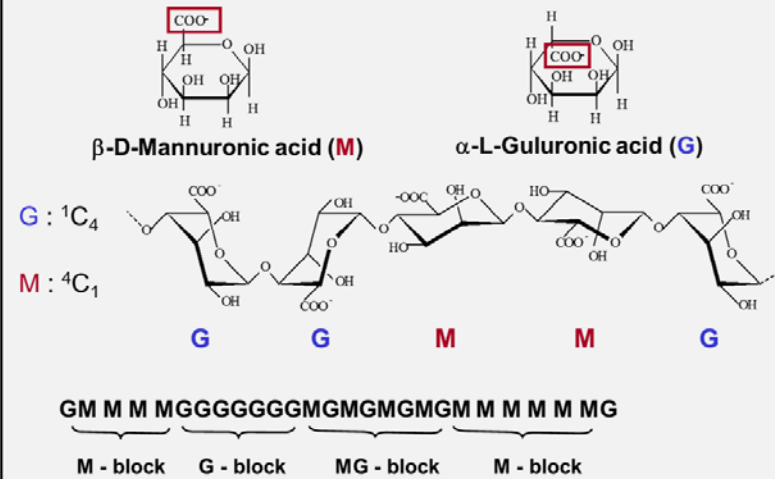
"A macromolecule from seaweed is not a defined product, but a product class, thus understanding the "true" bioactivity is dependent of understanding structure function relationships"

Bioactivities of seaweed derived molecules

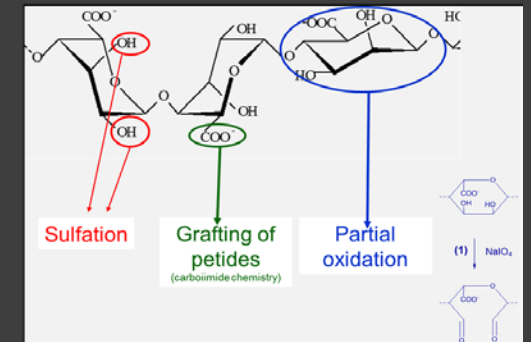
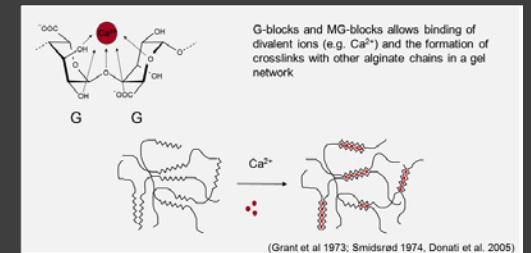
Litterture:

anticancer, antiobesity, antidiabetic, antihypertensive, antihyperlipidemic, antioxidant, anticoagulant, anti-inflammatory, immunomodulatory, antiestrogenic, thyroid stimulating, neuroprotective, antiviral, antifungal, antibacterial and tissue healing properties.

## Alginate composition



(Fisher and Dörfel 1955; Atkins et al. 1970; Haug et al 1964-1967)



Alginates not alginate

# SBP-N -Characterisation



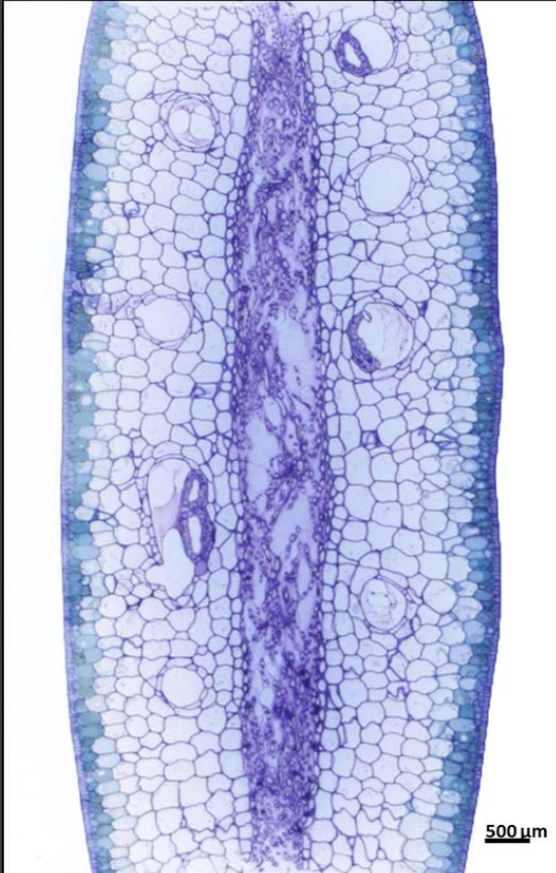
Chemical characterisation → Functional properties → Biological activity



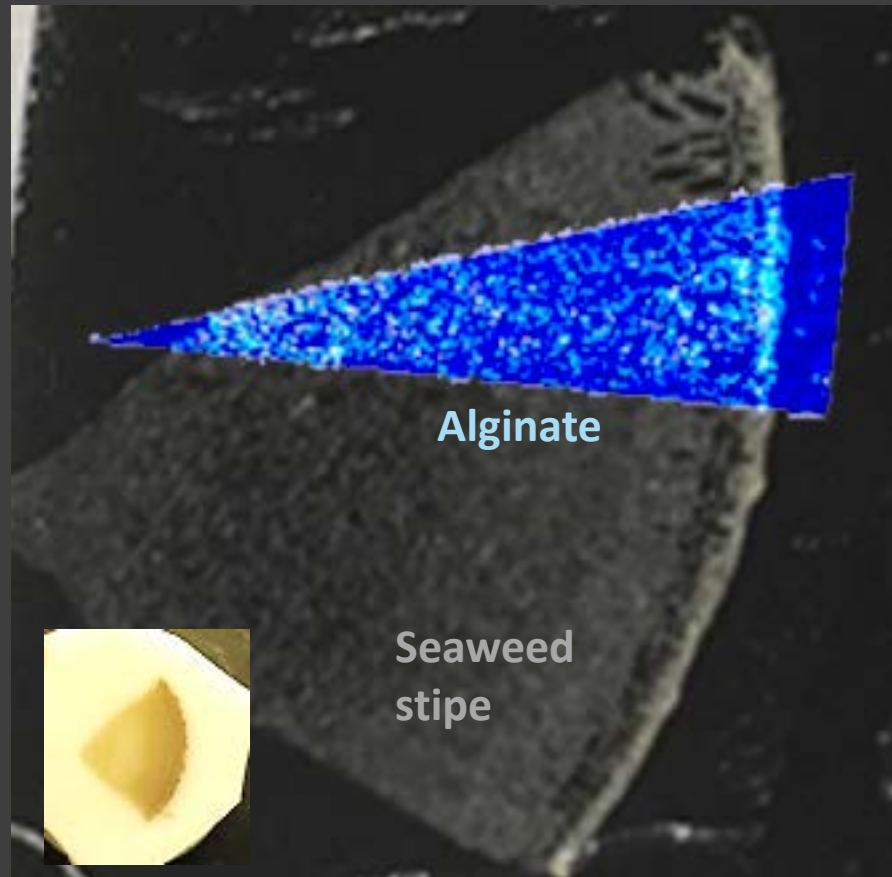
# Understanding the structure of seaweed



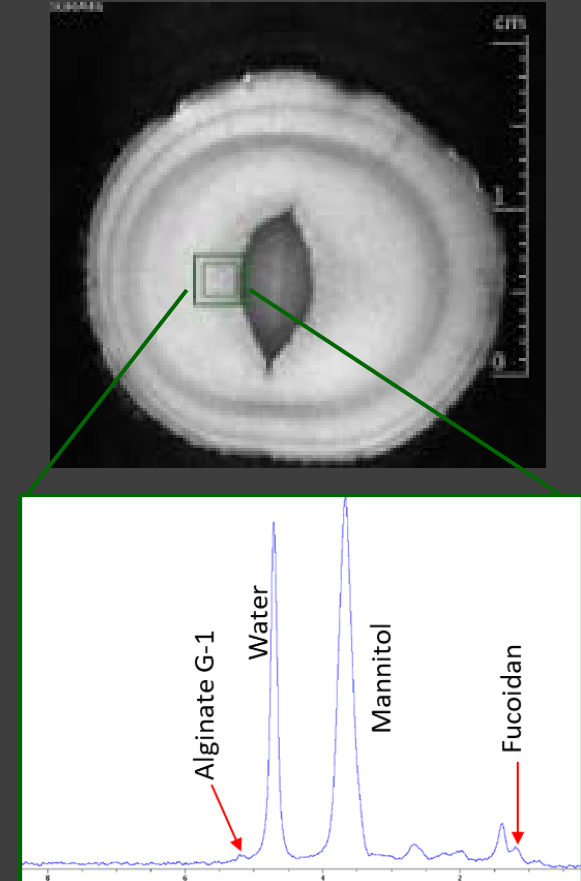
- Better understanding of distribution and interactions between seaweed macromolecules necessary
- Important for design of chemoenzymatic processing strategies



EM-picture leaf of *L. hyperborea*



FT-ICR-Maldi imaging of biopolymers in seaweed (Stipe of *L. hyperborea*)



MRI – analyses of stipe of *L. digitata*

# The enzyme toolbox for processing of marine biomass and tailoring of marine biopolymers



Seaweed  
(pre-processed)  
"Waste" fractions  
- Seaweed factory

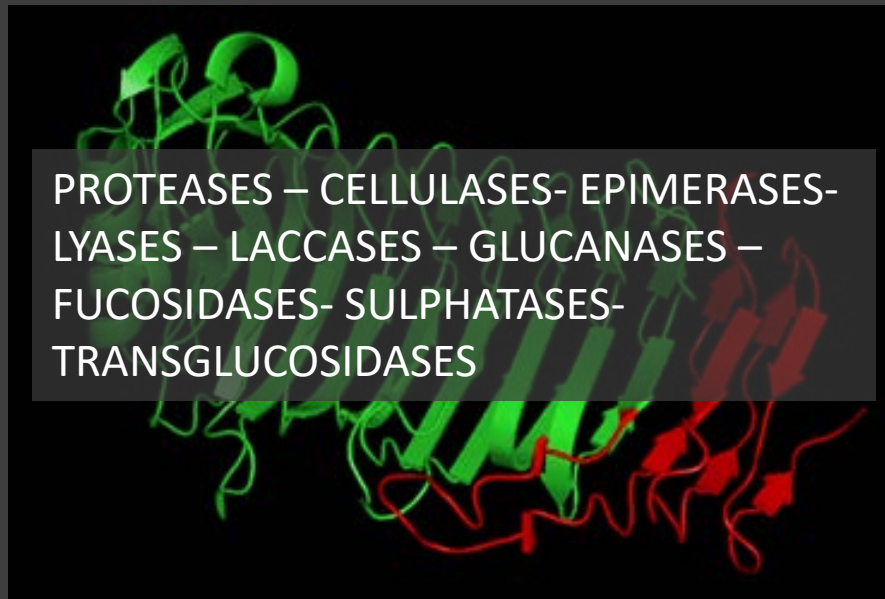
Chemistry  
Commercial and  
novel enzymes

Food ingredients  
Enable fractionation and  
isolation of biopolymers  
and other compounds

Biopolymers

Chemistry  
Novel enzymes

Tailored biopolymers  
Oligomers/monomers



BIOPROSPECTING



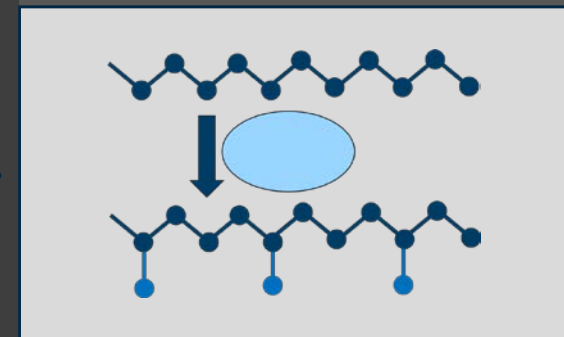
SCREENING  
ENZYME EVOLUTION



EXPRESSION



BIOPOLYMER  
ENGINEERING



# SBP-N: Examples of relevant enzymes (novel (N) – commercial available (C))



## Biomass treatment / opening /depolymerisation/modifications (>30 enzymes):

- Cellulases (C)
- Proteases (C, N)
- Laminarases (C, N)
- Alginate lyases (N)
- Carragenases (C, N)
- Alginate epimerases (N)
- Fucoidan modifying enzymes (?)



Aim: to further develop the seaweed enzymatic toolbox, and establishment of enzyme assisted processes for improved fractionation of biomass and tailoring of seaweed derived macromolecules

## SBP-N Processing Platforms



Norbiolab (NTNU, NMBU, SINTEF I)  
Bioprocess lab (SINTEF Ocean)  
Fermentation lab (SINTEF I)  
++

# Biomaterials based on seaweed biopolymers – examples



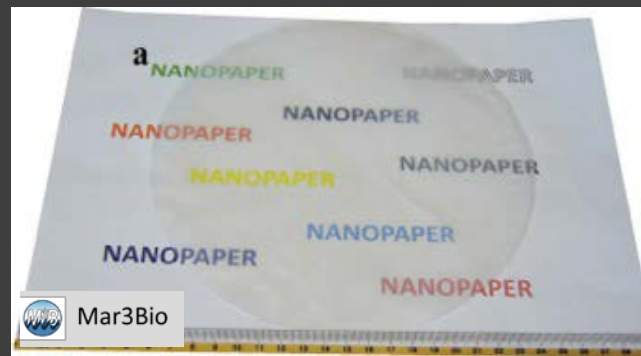
## Seaweed based plastics and packaging



## Seaweed based textiles



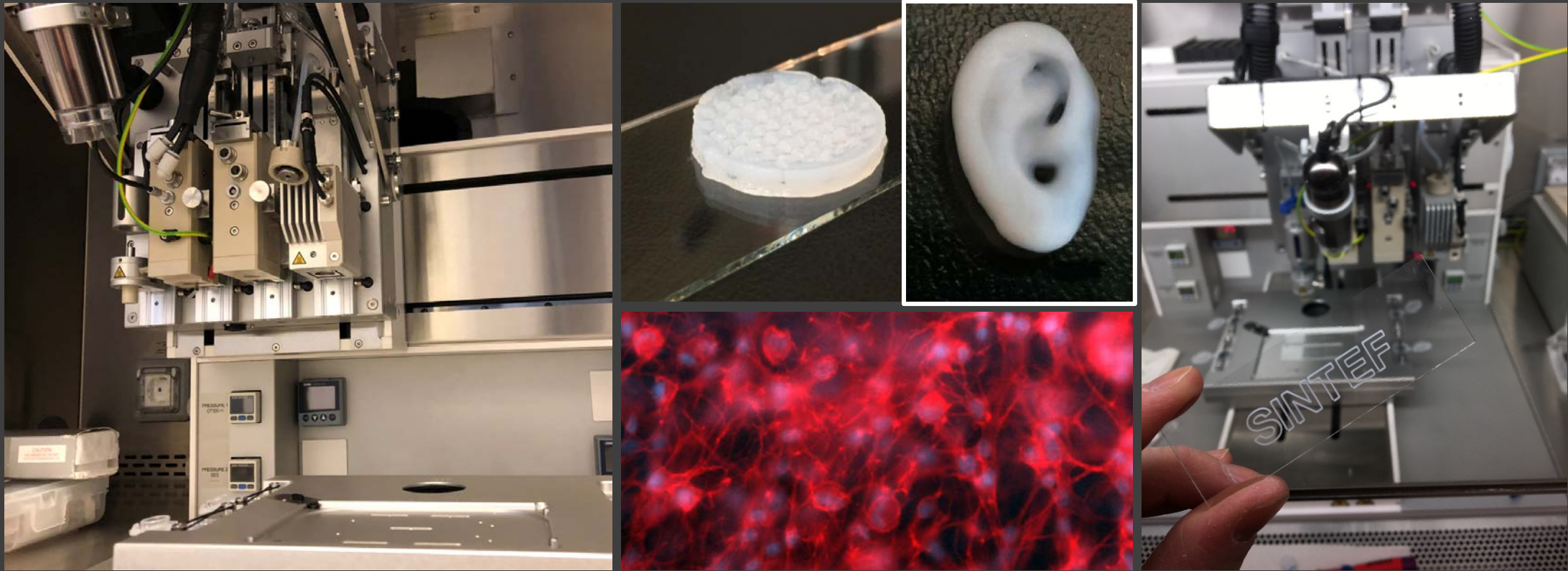
## Composites, films, foams



## Chassis for cell cultivation

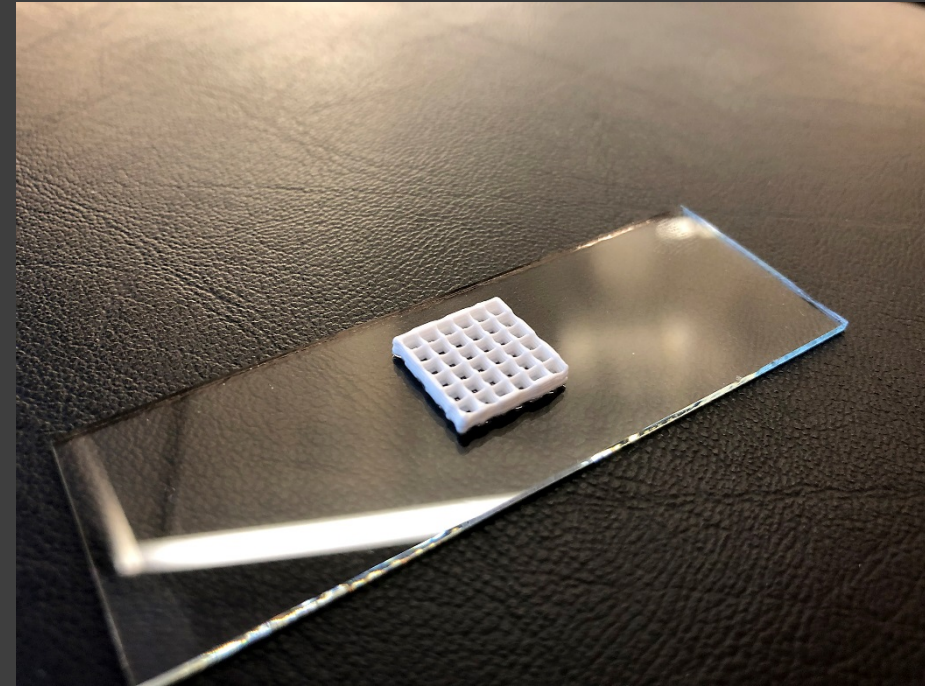


# 3D bioprinting of cells and seaweed biopolymers



Functionalizing of alginate to promote cell interaction or allow UV crosslinking

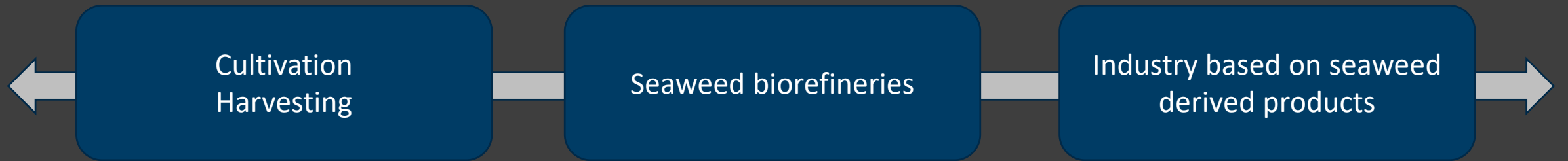
Use of nanofibrillar seaweed cellulose to maintain the printed structures until cross-linking of alginates



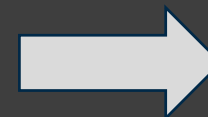
### Demonstration of bioprinting methods:

1. Assembly of scaffold (e.g. functionalized alginate+cellulose)
2. Ink-jetting of liquids in compartments (e.g. cells)
3. UV cross-linking of scaffolds

# SBP-N contributions



Access to infrastructure and knowledge  
Education and generic research  
Hub for innovation and communication



Support the development  
of a large seaweed based  
industry in  
Norway/Europe