Lebanon’s Natural Soap Production

Natural soap (cold process)

- 100% natural ingredients
- Completely biodegradable
- Family business
- Creating jobs
- >> 40 SMEs
- 5 large size producers

= Circular Economy

Green export Forum, Geneva, 8th October 2018, Geneva
Pollution from olive oil extraction

Traditional mills
High water consuming industry

2 pollutants

Olive Mill Wastewater (OMW), “Zibar”

Solid residue, “jift”

OMW

Colored substance
High polytoxic phenols
High organic matter
Least biodegradable
→ Major pollutant to surface and groundwater
→ toxic to plants and microorganisms

Olive = 50% OMW + 20% olive oil + 30% solid residue

e.g.: Hasbani River
OMW
if treated (fermented under oxygen)
→ Liquid fertiliser

Solid wastes
If treated
→ Biomass fuel
→ Compost

eg: Recycling solid waste into firewood

Valorise the natural soap sector in Lebanon
→ Allow to gather SMEs to tell their challenges
→ Shed the light on SWOT