



SMIT & ZOOON

Creating a socially and environmentally sustainable leather value chain, together

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FUTURE MATERIALS LAB

RECYCELTE MATERIALIEN RECYCLED MATERIALS



BIOBASIERTE MATERIALIEN BIOBASED MATERIALS



**Textil aus Holzzellstoff
und Altkleidern**
Textile made of wood
pulp and used clothes



**Dekor aus recyceltem
Kunststoff**
Decor made of
recycled plastic

**Textil aus recycelter
Arbeitskleidung**
Fabric made from
recycled work clothes

**Flächenmaterial aus
Hanf**
Surface material
made of hemp

The circularity of leather



The positive impact of cattle...and leather



The positive impact of cattle and leather

The role of cattle and meat

Nutrition

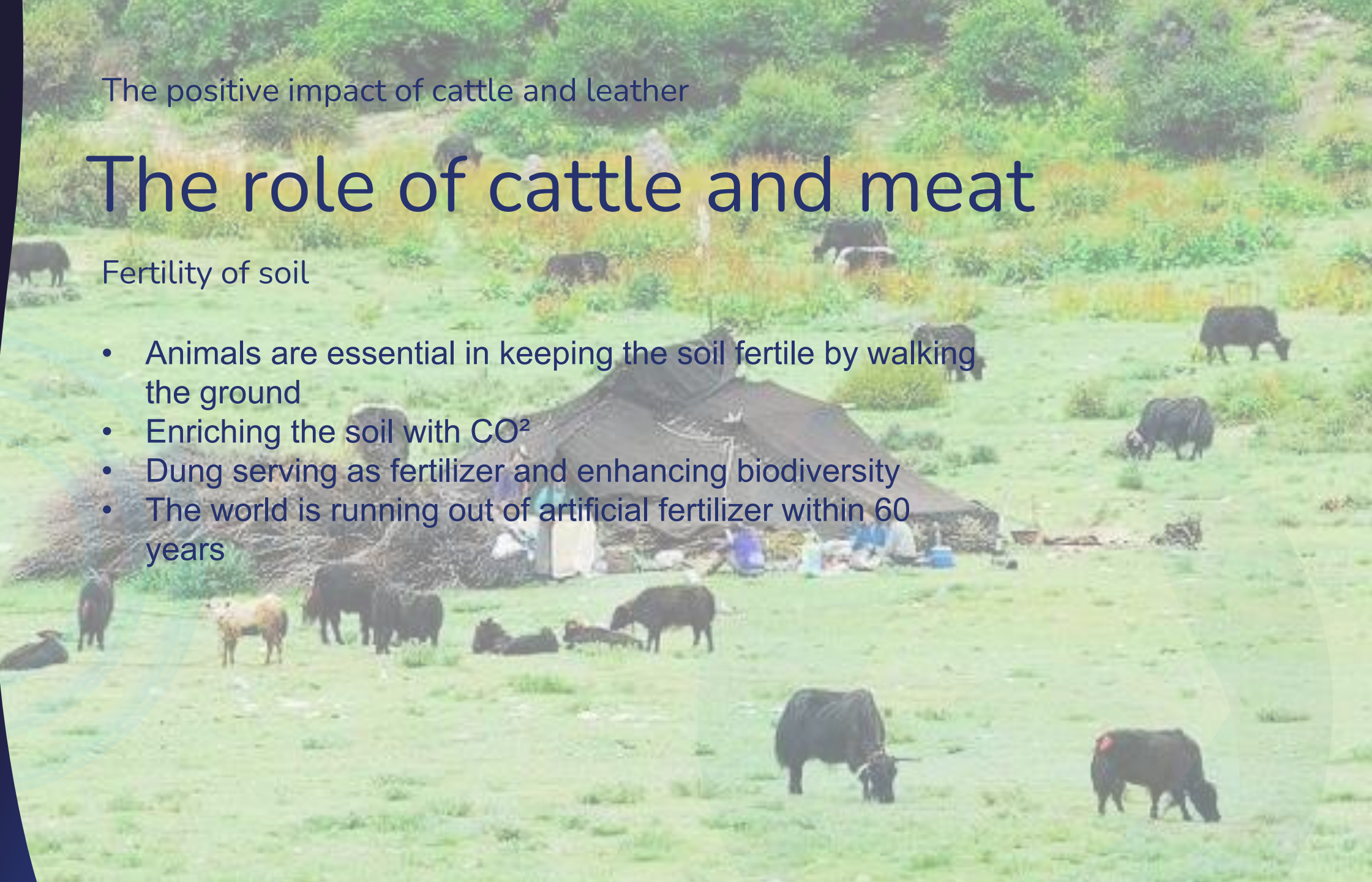
- Animal protein and Vitamin B12 are part of a healthy diet. Source: [EAT-Lancet Commission on Healthy Diets From Sustainable Food Systems.](#)
- Animals can contribute to a healthy and regenerative food system
Source: [Wageningen University](#)
- Worldwide the meat consumption is still rising (due to economic and population growth)

The positive impact of cattle and leather

The role of cattle and meat

Fertility of soil

- Animals are essential in keeping the soil fertile by walking the ground
- Enriching the soil with CO²
- Dung serving as fertilizer and enhancing biodiversity
- The world is running out of artificial fertilizer within 60 years



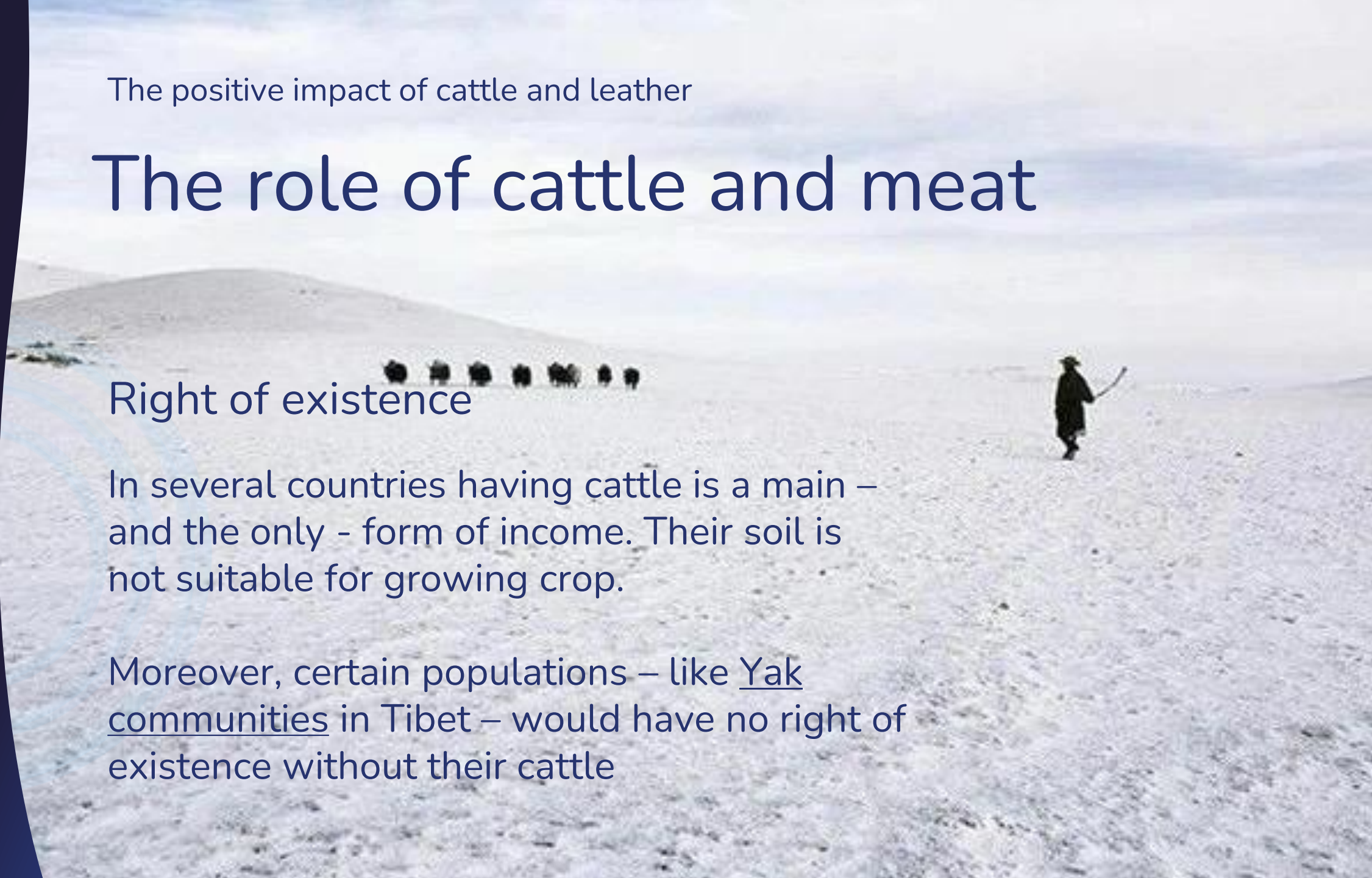
The positive impact of cattle and leather

The role of cattle and meat

Right of existence

In several countries having cattle is a main – and the only - form of income. Their soil is not suitable for growing crop.

Moreover, certain populations – like Yak communities in Tibet – would have no right of existence without their cattle



















If we stop making leather, what would happen?

- It will have 0 impact on meat and dairy consumption
- Hides ending up in landfill – ca. 30% of bovine hides worldwide are not being used
- Example US: the burning or disposal of 33 million unused US hides would generate more than 750,000 metric tons of CO2 emissions every year. [Source: usleather.org](https://usleather.org)



The positive impact of leather

to support sustainable



24

50

100



Leather

**and the
consumer**



The positive impact of leather



Leather can
be repaired,
refinished,
recycled
and resold.

New



Pre-loved



The pre-loved apparel sector
is currently growing 11 times
faster than traditional retail.



Leather vs. alternative materials

What is more sustainable?

Leather

Longevity ✓

Comfort ✓

Feeling of wellbeing ✓

Technical performance ✓

Bio-based content ✓

Alternative materials

Longevity ?

Comfort ?

Feeling of wellbeing ?

Technical performance ?

Bio-based content ?

Leather can be compostable

PUMA RE:SUEDE

Stylish, comfortable and completely compostable



Decomposition starting



Zeology leather is decomposing fast



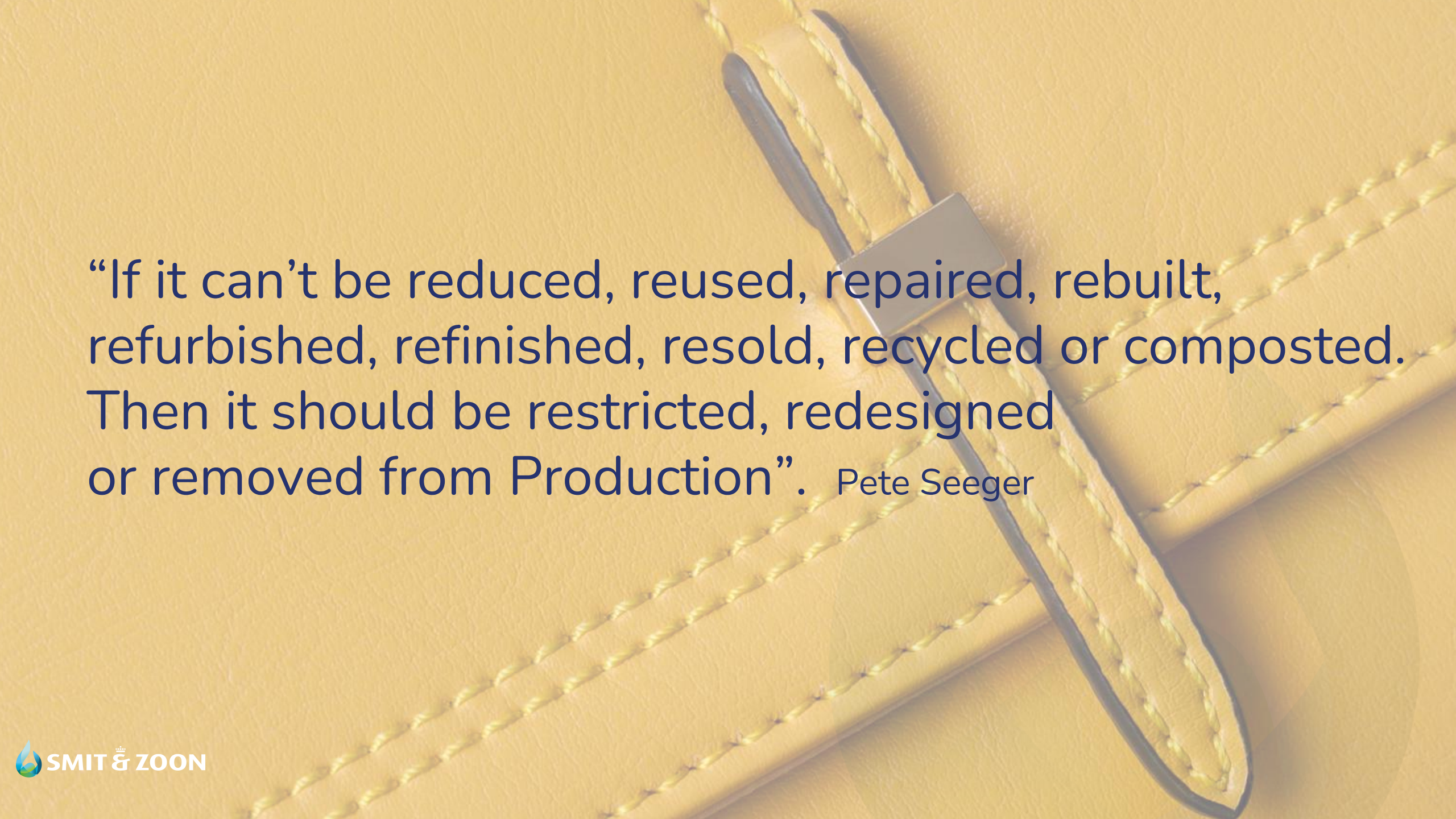
After 2,5 months the shoe has turned into grade A compost



Did you know...?

Compostable leather...

...gives a proper compost within 28 days under industrial composting. It is also found to actually nourish the soil, delivering 20% stronger plant growth than a control compost.



“If it can’t be reduced, reused, repaired, rebuilt, refurbished, refinished, resold, recycled or composted. Then it should be restricted, redesigned or removed from Production”. Pete Seeger



Thank you for your attention.
Any questions?