

Eggshell: a potential raw material for ceramic wall tiles

Inês Silveirinha Vilarinho¹, Maria Francisca Quereda², Maria Paula Seabra¹

1. CICECO - Aveiro Institute of Materials, Department of Materials and Ceramic Engineering, University of Aveiro, 3810-193 Aveiro, Portugal.

2. Instituto de Tecnología Cerámica (ITC), Asociación de Investigación de las Industrias Cerámicas (AICE), Campus Universitario Riu Sec, Av. Vicent Sos Baynat s/n, 12006 Castellón, Spain

E-mail: inessvilarinho@ua.pt; pseabra@ua.pt

Contextualization



In 2018, 77 million tons of eggs were produced worldwide which corresponds to approximately **8.5 million tons of eggshell waste** [1].



SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT
a key to delivering



THE GLOBAL GOALS
For Sustainable Development

Ceramic wall tiles

- Sand
- Kaolin
- Clay
- Limestone (CaCO_3) – 10/15 wt.% [2]



60.5 billion €
(2018)

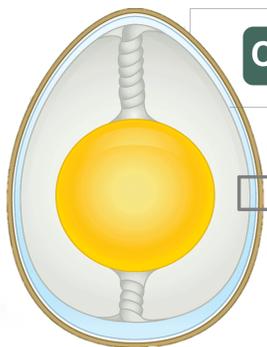


CAGR 6.1%
(2019-2025)



Objective

Promote **circular economy** by establishing a process of industrial symbiosis between two very different sectors: the **food** sector, represented by **egg production** companies, and the **ceramic** sector, represented by **atomized powder** producers and ceramic **tile manufacturers**.



Shell **90 wt.%**
Calcium Carbonate, CaCO_3
Inner & outer Shell Membranes **10 wt.%**
Made of protein – organic membrane.

➤ To use eggshells as raw material in ceramic industry is **mandatory** to separate the two components: membrane and shell.

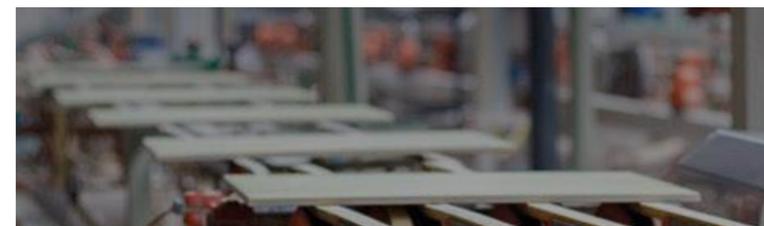
Our **ambition** is to produce **4,000m² of ceramic tiles** with biological CaCO_3 from eggshells.



Eggshell waste



Ceramic Tiles



Ceramic Industry
- clay
- kaolin
- sand

Bio-based product



CaCO_3 Powder

Substitution of limestone by:
0, 25, 50, 75 and 100 wt.% of eggshell waste



- Bio- CaCO_3 replacing natural raw materials
- **Reduce** up to **90%** of the eggshells deposited in landfills.
- Diminish the **extraction of natural raw materials**
- Reduce **environmental impact** and bring **economic benefits**.
- Implementation of the **circular economy** concept through an **industrial symbiosis** between egg-processing companies and ceramic companies



➤ New market opportunities



www.lifeeggshellence.eu

References

- [1] F. A.O., Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (2021), <http://www.fao.org/home/en/>, accessed online: June 2021.
[2] Scarth, N. (2000) "Compositions for Ceramic Tiles", Article US6127298A.
[3] Vilarinho, I (2022), "Development of eco-ceramic wall tiles with bio- CaCO_3 from eggshells waste", Open Ceramics, 9:100220.