Organic production, Research and Innovation: setting priorities for the future

Speakers, Moderators and Rapporteurs May 28-29, 2015 Milan, Italy
PETER POWER is the Head of Cabinet of European Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development, Phil Hogan. He has over 20 years of working experience in the EU Institutions. He has been the European Commission Spokesman for Trade and prior to that he worked on foreign policy and inter-institutional relations.

JOÃO ONOFRE is the Head of the Organics Unit in the Directorate General for Agriculture. A Portuguese citizen, João holds a Msc in Agricultural Economics by the Technical University of Lisbon and he has been working in the European Commission since 1994. He has a wide experience in all the areas of the Common Agricultural Policy. He held posts in the areas of rural development, state aids, markets for arable crops, CAP reform. Immediately before joining the organics unit, João was Head of Unit in the international unit, responsible for agricultural trade relations with Asia and Latin America.

IMAN BOOT has been working for the European Commission for 15 years (Enlargement, the 2003 Cap Reform, Audit, Rural Development). He is currently deputy Head of Unit in the unit responsible for Research and Innovation. This unit is responsible for a part of Societal Challenge 2 under Horizon 2020 and is responsible for the agricultural European Innovation Partnership (EIP). By training Iman Boot is an anthropologist having done fieldwork in Bhutan (on irrigation). Before joining the Commission he worked in various jobs in market research and data mining.

HEIKKI HOKKANEN is professor of agricultural zoology at the University of Helsinki, Finland. He holds a Lic. Phil. degree in ecology and natural resource management (Univ. Jyväskylä, Finland), and a PhD in applied entomology (Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA). He has a long experience in coordinating international collaborative research, e.g. at the OECD Directorate for Agriculture in Paris on 'Biological Resource Management'. He has coordinated two EU-projects (ERBIC, ForestSpeCs), and has participated in five other EU-projects. He is an Honorary Member of the International Organization for Biological Control. Editor-in-Chief of BioControl (1997–2006), founding EiC of Arthropod-Plant Interactions (2006–), and editor of the book series on ‘Progress in Biological Control’ (Springer).

VÉRONIQUE CHABLE is a senior scientist, based at INRA, Rennes in France. She has led research programmes on cauliflower breeding and Brassica genetic resources, including genetic, epigenetic and plant development aspects. Commencing in 2001, she has established Participatory Plant Breeding (PPB) and transdisciplinary projects for organic and low input agriculture with French farmer networks across several crop species. She has coordinated a number of EU projects, including Farm Seed Opportunities-FP6 (2007–2010) and SOLIBAM-FP7 (2010–2014). Following on from this, she is now coordinator for DIVERSIFOOD, a H2020 funded project which will run from 2015–2019.
**BRAM MOESKOPS** was born in Antwerp (Belgium). He holds a Msc. in Bio-Science Engineering, a master in International Relations and Diplomacy and a PhD in Soil Science. Before joining the EU group of the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM EU) in 2012, he worked at the Flemish Platform for Sustainable Development and 11.11.11, the umbrella organisation of the Flemish North-South movement. Currently, Bram Moeskops coordinates the OK-Net Arable project at IFOAM EU. In addition, he is delegated as Senior Scientific Coordinator to TP Organics, the European Technology Platform for organic food & farming. In that capacity, he is involved in different expert groups such as the working group on Agriculture Knowledge and Innovation Systems of SCAR (SCAR-AKIS), the stakeholder Advisory Board of FACCE-JPI and the Advisory Committee of ERA-NET ICT-AGRI.

**DR. LEEB**’S research focus lies on the assessment and improvement of health and welfare of farm animals. This field of expertise was developed during the study of veterinary medicine in Vienna and a PhD on “On-farm health and welfare of pregnant sows in Austria”, completed in 2000. As “Matthew Eyton Resident for Farm Animal Health and Welfare” including teaching, welfare research and clinical work at the University of Bristol, this expertise was deepened and expanded to apply various strategies to improve animal welfare together with farmers (e.g. health and welfare planning, stable schools). After four years at the teaching and research farm of the veterinary medicine in Vienna, Dr. Leeb is currently working at the University of Natural Resources & Life Sciences as Senior Scientist at the Department for Sustainable Agricultural Systems. She was partner in CoreOrganic I (ANIPLAN; CorePIG) and coordinated CoreOrganic II “ProPIG”.

**BEA GUIMAREY** is a Research and Science Policy Officer at the Service Point of the European Innovation Partnership ‘Agricultural productivity and Sustainability’ (EIP AGRI Service Point). He also works as a researcher at the Land Laboratory at University of Santiago de Compostela (Galicia-Spain) where she is immersed in projects related to GIS and remote sensing techniques applied to Agroforestry sector. At the Sevice Point, Bea is mainly involved in developing contents for publication and she’s assistant in some of the ongoing focus groups launched by this network, supporting their organization and preparation. Beatriz Guimarey studied Forestry Engineering at the University of Santiago de Compostela (Spain) and has a Master in Sustainable Land Planning. As member of EIP AGRI Service Point, her main skills related to this workshop are process management and facilitation of effective knowledge exchange between participants.

**ANTONELLA ZONA** is a Commission official since 1993, currently active in involving stakeholders in the design and implementation of the EU Rural Development Policy through the European Network for Rural Development. She was Deputy Head of DG AGRI Unit in charge of direct payments to farmers from 2010 to 2013. Her experience includes managing rural development programmes, developing legislation for asylum seekers, steering impact assessments of a number of reforms of the Common Agricultural Policy since 2007.
**ALINA UJUPAN** is a Commission official since 2008 and is currently coordinating the implementation of the European Action Plan for Organic Farming. She was Member of Cabinet of the Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development from 2010 to 2014, in charge of organic farming among other areas. Her experience includes also research and innovation policy, economic and monetary affairs, environment and climate change matters, as well as structural and investment funds.

**WILLEMINE BRINKMAN** is the deputy teamleader of the EIP-AGRI Service point. Since 2007, she has worked in various executive agencies of the Netherlands Ministry of Economic Affairs, formerly the Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation. She previously coordinated the European Tropical Forest Research Network, bringing research closer to policy and practice. Ms Brinkman studied tropical forestry and agronomy at Wageningen Agricultural University, and worked as an advisor in forestry and agriculture in an integrated rural development project in the Philippines.

**DAVID LAMB** works as a Policy Analyst for the ENRD Contact Point with a particular focus on local foods and short supply chains. He comes from a background of working within advisory services in Scotland in Food Marketing, where he led a team of advisors for 12 years, supporting small rural businesses in the development of capacity and market access, including organic market information. He developed and led a programme of activities on local food development, food tourism and in the development of collaboration before moving to work in Brussels last year. He has previous experience working within the food processing sector for 5 years, and edited guides on Local Food Marketing, Organic Marketing and Food Networks, and has delivered training and project management across the EU and beyond.

**PILLE KOOBERG** (EIP-AGRI Service Point, Rural Development Officer) is a team member of the EU level network facility of European Innovation Partnership (EIP) concerning Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability (EIP-AGRI Service Point). She has a Msc in environmental sciences and has over 13 years’ experience in agri-environment (AE) policy, with a special focus on development of evaluation schemes for rural development programme (RDP) regarding relevant indicator system, data collection and data management. Her current position is the head of Agri-environmental Monitoring Bureau in the Estonian Agricultural Research Centre (ARC) which is the leading research and advisory body of the Ministry of Agriculture in the field of rural development in Estonia. Since 2003 Pille Koorberg has been a team member of several work groups and has participated in several projects regarding RDP issues both at Estonian and EU level.

**WILLI SCHULZ-GREVE** is Head of Unit for analysis of trade and international policies in DG Agriculture and Rural Development of the European Commission. He holds a doctoral degree in agriculture economics from the University of Göttingen, Germany. In 1996, Mr Schulz-Greve joined the European Commission and held several posts in rural development, policy analysis, agricultural markets and economic analysis.
EDUARDO CUOCO was born in Naples (Italy) where he studied and successfully completed his MSc in Food Science and Technologies. He has been involved in organic farming since 1998 and collaborated with many organic organizations such as the Italian Association for Organic Farming – AIAB, the Institute for Environmental and Ethical Certification ICEA, the Mediterranean Institute of Agriculture (CIHEAM - Bari), BIOCERT, etc. During the first career phase, from 1998 to 2008, he focused on the regional and national development of the organic policies in Italy, regarding rural development plans, promotional and certification schemes. Furthermore, he also promoted the organic industry in Italy as an innovation broker. From 2008 on, Eduardo has been involved in the establishment and management of the European Technology Platform “TP Organics” (now as Head of the Secretariat). He is currently participating in different expert groups such as the Agriculture Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKIS-SCAR) and the Euro-Mediterranean Expert Group (EMEG). Additionally he is developing a PhD dissertation on stakeholder’s involvement in strategic decision-making processes.

MONIQUE PARIAT has been appointed Deputy Director-General in DG “Agriculture and Rural Development” in April 2014. She is responsible for EU international and trade relations in the area of agriculture and rural development, and for further developing EU agricultural quality policies. Prior to this post, she was Director for the Mediterranean and the Black Sea in the Directorate-General “Fisheries and Maritime Policy”, Director for General Affairs in the Directorate-General “Justice, Freedom and Security” and Director for Resources in Directorate-General “Agriculture and Rural development. She has been an official at the European Commission since 1987. She graduated from the Institute of Political Studies of Strasbourg and holds a degree from the College of Europe in Bruges.

AMINDA LEIGH has more than 25 years’ experience as a professional journalist, working for BBC radio and TV in Britain for over a decade. She now runs her own media services agency from Rome. She works as a reporter, moderator, trainer and translator for European and international clients. As a moderator, Aminda has chaired debates at major EU showcases such as Green Week, managing discussions on subjects as diverse as animal welfare, REACH chemical legislation, endocrine disrupters, LIFE nature projects and Healthy Oceans Productive Ecosystems, to name but a few.