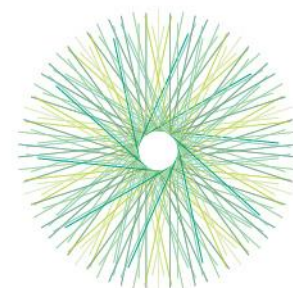


Speakers' CVs

EIP-AGRI SERVICE POINT
21 OCTOBER 2015



eip-agri
AGRICULTURE & INNOVATION

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

EIP-AGRI WORKSHOP 'OPPORTUNITIES FOR AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY IN THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY' – NAANTALI, FINLAND

In order of the programme



Tarja Haaranen

LUKE Natural Resources Institute

Tarja Haaranen has gained more than twenty years' experience in sustainable use of natural resources, especially regarding agriculture. She holds office as an Environmental Counsellor in the Ministry of the Environment of Finland. Since 2014 she has been coordinating a project dealing with Circular Economy, especially Nutrient Recycling in Natural Resources Institute Finland. She has been working in the Ministry of Environment since 2006 mainly as the head of the Sustainable Use of Natural Resources Unit which is responsible for ecological sustainability and environmental protection within the forestry and agricultural sectors, for extraction and other uses of natural resources, and maintenance of agricultural landscapes. In 2007 she worked as an agricultural specialist in the Helsinki Commission (HELCOM). During 1999-2006 she worked with environmental protection in agriculture in the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. After graduating she worked as a farm advisor for five years. She has a degree in agriculture from the University of Helsinki.



Rob Peters

European Commission, DG Agriculture and Rural Development

Rob Peters joined the European Commission in 1988 and has mostly worked on policy analysis, development and implementation in the field of agriculture and rural development in DG AGRI. Since 1st of January 2014 he is head of the newly created Research and Innovation unit, AGRI-H5, with responsibility for agricultural research and the European Innovation Partnership for agricultural productivity and sustainability.



Ben Allen

Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP)

Ben Allen holds a degree in Environmental Biology and a PhD in the field of Land Use and Spatial Ecology and has ten years of experience working on UK and EU land use, bioenergy, agriculture and land management policy in both the public and private sector. A key focus of Ben's work is the development of EU bioenergy and bioresources policy. He coordinates IEEP's work in this area looking at the impacts of different policy and market drivers on bioresource use and how these could best be aligned to help develop sustainable bioeconomies in the EU and individual Member States. To this end he has been developing thinking on bioenergy policy, the bio- and circular-economy as they relate to land use, and the improved resource efficient production and use of biomass.



Johan Vlaemyck

Manager of Tomato Masters

Johan Vlaemyck started as entrepreneur in 1980 in the firm of his parents 'LV Vlaemyck J and sons' in Nevele in Belgium. Besides him, two brothers worked in the firm, which had a size of 3 hectares and produced lettuce, strawberries, pears and tomatoes. From 1986 onwards the farm specialized in tomato production. Between 1986 and 2012 several courses were attended in the field of hydro culture, bookkeeping, financial analysis, the human factor in the farm, innovation management and agro coach. Since 2012, Johan is manager of 'Tomato Masters' in Deinze. Tomato Masters is a family farm managed together with Johan's brothers Hermen and Dirk and their sons Tim and Tom. Tomato Masters produces tomatoes in 10 hectares of glasshouses. Johan's main tasks are bookkeeping, finance and administration.



Michael Kornaros

University of Patras

Michael Kornaros is Associate Professor and Head of the Laboratory of Biochemical Engineering and Environmental Technology (LBEET) in the Department of Chemical Engineering at the University of Patras, Greece. Formerly, he had been Lecturer and then Assistant Professor at the same Department for the period 2003-2013. His main research interests are organic waste valorisation for production of bio-based compounds, anaerobic fermentation, exploitation of agro-industrial waste and wastewater for liquid and gaseous biofuels production and modeling of biological processes. He has extensive expertise in co-ordination and participation in European and Cross-Border projects (more than 50 in the last 15 years). Successfully completed projects include: INTEGRASTE, BIOGAIA, DAIRIUS, MISSTOW, Bio-SURFEST, AGROENERGY, SWAM, GoW, POPULAR amongst others. He has published more than 60 scientific papers, several book chapters and has participated in more than 120 international conferences. He is active reviewer in more than 30 international journals and conference proceedings. Throughout his career, he has chaired 15 sessions in National and International Conferences, while has also been member of their Organization and/or their Scientific Committee.



Felix Montecuccoli

Austrian Land and Forest Owners

Felix Montecuccoli was a member of the advisory board at the federal ministry for agriculture, forestry, water and environment from 1996 – 2012.

Other functions are:

Owner and Manager of the family estate "Gut Mitterau" (1000 Hectare Forest, 200 Hectare arable land) www.montecuccoli.at since 2000

President of the Association of Land & Forest Owners in Austria since 2005 www.landforstbetriebe.at

Chairman of the Cooperation-Agreement between Forestry, Timber based Industries and Wood based Industries www.FHP.at since 2008

Chairman of working group on electronic measurement of round wood
Member of board of the European Landowners Organisation www.elo.org since 2002

Member of board of CEPF, the private forest owners association in Europe www.cepf-eu.org since 2010

Member of advisory board of "Bundesforschungs- und Ausbildungszentrum für Wald, Naturgefahren und Landschaft (BFW)" (Federal Research and Training Centre for Forests, Natural Hazards and Landscape) since 2008

Regular publications in several media and speeches and presentations about forestry, land use and environment.



Teija Paavola

Biovakka Suomi Oy

Teija Paavola works as development manager at Biovakka Suomi Oy. She is responsible for extensive development of biogas business including nutrient productisation and recycling, optimising biological and technical processes, leading, implementation and reporting of R&D projects as well as planning and implementation of new biogas plant projects. She participates in the management and optimisation of daily operations in biogas plants in co-operation with plant managers and the managing director. Paavola's work include co-operation with different authorities and participation in working and steering groups. In addition, she acts as specialist and assistant of the board of company. She has a scientific background and has been working over ten years in the research sector at MTT Agrifood Research Finland and the University of Jyväskylä, Finland. Her research area focused on development of material flow management of agricultural, municipal and industrial waste by biogas technology and digestate productisation. She has prepared, implemented and managed several national and international R&D projects.



Nouchka De Craene

Millibeter

Nouchka De Craene graduated in 2010 as a Master of Science in Biology from the University of Antwerp. Nouchka's dissertation on damselflies' behaviour instigated her interest in entomology. Looking for international experience in project management, she joined a high tech company in Tel Aviv where she was trained in online marketing and branding. Fully responsible for the company's Benelux market, Nouchka managed major projects, analyzed large datasets and translated these analytics into action plans.

Upon her return to Belgium 2013, Nouchka joined the budding startup biotech company of Johan Jacobs, Millibeter. Millibeter conducts research and development on the *Hermetia illucens*-fly. The fly larvae convert organic waste into their own biomass. Millibeter intends to yield renewable resources, such as proteins, fats and chitin out of this larval biomass. Nouchka is responsible for optimizing the breeding program of the black soldier fly and reaching production levels to suffice industrial dimensions. In 2014 she enrolled in classes at Mississippi State University covering various aspects of insect breeding. Nouchka has a broad international background and speaks English, French and Dutch (mother tongue) fluently.



Keijo Siitonen

AgroHubs

Keijo Siitonen works for ProAgria Lappi where he advises on business development, investment and financial planning. He is currently involved in an initiative that connects different local stakeholders into so called AgroHubs. These are networks in which waste and side streams (such as wood chips) are recycled or used as a source of local energy production. The main aim is to enhance the green economy approach, i.e. accelerate activities based on sustainable and efficient use of natural resources and energy in rural areas. The project is set up keeping in mind the particular conditions of Lapland (a sparsely populated region with long distances and harsh winter conditions).



Niklas von Weymarn

Research of Metsä Fibre

Niklas von Weymarn has a doctoral degree in bioprocess engineering. He has also studied economics and innovation strategies. His job career begun in 1999, when he took on the position of Research Scientist at Cultor Technology Center (Cultor is today a part of DuPont). He has since hold the positions of Project Manager, Team Leader, Program Manager and Technology Manager at Aalto University, VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland and FIBIC Ltd. He is currently Vice-President, Research at Metsä Fibre Ltd. Niklas was part of the industrial core team, who set up the Biobased Industries Consortium and together with the European Commission, the Biobased Industries Public-Private Partnership.



Fabio Cossu

European Commission, DG Agriculture and Rural Development

Fabio Cossu works as policy officer at the European Commission, Directorate General for agriculture and rural development in the 'Research and Innovation' unit.

Agronomist by academic background, he has been working on rural development-related issues for the last ten years, starting as independent evaluator of EU rural development programmes with a focus on investments in the agri-food sector.

In 2008 he joined the Contact Point of the 'European Network for Rural Development' as policy analyst. Initially in charge of monitoring of rural development programmes, he contributed to the network's activities through leading the 'policy analysis' team, responsible for the analysis of the programmes' implementation, working groups involving rural development stakeholders and the dissemination of good practices.

As of September 2015 he joined the European Commission holding responsibility for communications within the European Innovation Partnership for Agriculture productivity and sustainability (EIP-AGRI).

EIP- AGRI Service Point team

Frank van Holst

facilitator



Frank is a Dutch expert involved in several activities of the EIP-AGRI Service Point. He has experience in rural development projects and is specialized in land use and land structure related issues. As Task Manager for the workshop, he supports DG AGRI in the organization, the preparation and the facilitation. He is very interested in the topic of circular economy but he is not an expert in this field. His main skills related to the workshop are process management and facilitation of effective knowledge exchange between experts of different countries. He brings in experience of coordinating interregional cooperation projects and networks aimed at knowledge exchange and improvement of (government) approaches. He organized and facilitated various international seminars and workshops.

Pacôme Elouna Eyenga

facilitator



Pacôme Elouna Eyenga is Belgian and was born in Yaoundé, Cameroon. He graduated as Agricultural Engineer in the field of rural economy and sociology, at Gembloux Agro-Bio Tech / Université de Liège in Belgium. Since July 2014, he is the Team Leader of the EIP AGRI Service Point in which he was appointed Deputy Team Leader at its establishment in 2013 by the European Commission, namely DG AGRI.

Before joining EIP AGRI Service Point, he has been working as European Affairs Officer from 2008 at VLM – Flemish Land Agency (Belgium) where he was dealing with European projects and policies especially rural development and cohesion policy, and networking. He is also Secretary General of AEIAR (Association Européenne des Institutions d'Aménagement Rural) since 2012.



Ann-Sophie Debergh

facilitator

Ann-Sophie Debergh is team member of the EIP AGRI Service Point and Task Manager of the EIP Focus Group "Optimising profitability of crop production through Ecological Focus Areas".

She started as scientific researcher at the Flemish Institute for Agricultural and Fisheries research (ILVO) working on a Eurostat project about agricultural competitiveness and agri-environmental indicators for rural development. Since 2008 she is working as a Rural Development policy officer at the Flemish Land Agency (VLM). There she has been coordinating several working groups of the Flemish Intergovernmental Rural Development Platform (IPO) (currently one about the valorisation of biomass harvested from landscape features). She coordinated in 2011 the development of the first Flemish Rural Development Policy Programme. Since 2013 she is involved in a land development project of the peri-urban area surrounding the Brussels region, focusing on short supply chains for farmers.

Throughout these years Ann-Sophie was trained and gained experience in the facilitation of interactive sessions and workshops at policy and project level.

Ann-Sophie Debergh holds a Master's degree in Bioscience engineering (specialisation of Land and Forest management) and an Advanced Master in European integration and development.



Ina Van Hoyer

Communication officer

Ina Van Hoyer is communication officer at the EIP-AGRI Service Point. She is responsible for the communications strategy, press contacts, social media, dissemination of the communication tools and events coordinator. She coordinates the communication team.

Ina Van Hoyer is a communication expert who has more than 15 years communication experience. Since 2009, she works for the communication agency JusBox, who is a consortium partner in the EIP-AGRI Service Point. Previously she was involved in several regional and European projects for the Flemish Government, Waterwegen en Zeekanaal NV to support them in their communication for several Sigma Plan projects. She was involved in the final phase of a clear stakeholder strategy through public information and engagement activities. Before that she worked five years for the Flemish Sports Federation and seven years for Verhaert, a Flemish product development company active in industrial and space technology, as communication officer, coordinating newsletters, publications, website and events. media relations and website.