



WORKSHOP CONNECTING INNOVATIVE PROJECTS: WATER & AGRICULTURE **30-31 MAY 2018 - ALMERÍA, SPAIN**



Speaker CVs

In order of the programme



Concepción Cobo González

Regional Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development of Andalusia

Concepción Cobo has worked for the past 15 years for Regional Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development of Andalusia where she holds the position of Secretary-General of Agricultural European Funds since 2015. She is also the Director of the Paying Agency for the European Agricultural Funds in Andalusia, in charge of the adoption of resolutions for payments made from the European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF) and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) in Andalusia. Previously she has been the Director General for Agricultural Funds responsible for the approval of the regulatory bases and the management and control procedures to be implemented.

Before working for the Regional Ministry, she was Manager of the Physico-Chemical Laboratory for olive oil of the Regulatory Council of the Sierra de Cazorra Appellation of Origin.



Anikó Seregélyi

European Commission, DG Agriculture and Rural Development

Anikó Seregélyi is policy officer at the European Commission, Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development (DG AGRI). She started her career at the European Commission in 2007. Since March 2015 she has been working in the EIP-AGRI team of DG AGRI's Research and Innovation Unit. Her current responsibilities are related to the EU-wide EIP-AGRI networking activities (Focus Groups, workshops, seminars) the EIP-AGRI Service Point contract and the Preparatory Action on EU plant and animal genetic resources in agriculture technical management.

Prior to joining the Commission, she worked as EU project manager for the Hungarian Science and Technology Foundation in Budapest. She was responsible for several research supporting projects in the 5th and 6th RTD Framework Programme and for researchers' mobility issues.

Anikó Seregélyi studied in Budapest, Freiburg, Aachen and Speyer. She is graduated in Geography at the Eötvös Loránd University Budapest (MSc) and holding a Master in European Studies from the Aachen University, Germany.



Gerard Shortle
European Commission, DG Environment

Gerard Shortle works as a policy officer in the European Commission, Directorate General for Environment (DG ENV) in the Clean Water Unit (C1), which he joined in November 2017. His main responsibility in the unit is the integration of water and agriculture policies, which includes working jointly with Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development (DG AGRI) colleagues in the Water-Agriculture Task Force. He also has responsibility for water-related LIFE funding.

Gerard began his career as an agricultural adviser in the private sector before joining Teagasc (the Irish Agriculture and Food Development Authority) where he worked as an adviser before becoming principal of an agricultural college. He later transferred to the research wing of the organisation managing the Agricultural Catchments Programme, which focussed on the impact and implementation of Ireland's Nitrates Action Programme (NAP). He also was responsible for the establishment of a Sustainable Farming demonstration project, served on a number of national committees in the water quality and sustainability area and chaired the Teagasc Nitrates Working Group over two cycles of the NAP.



Carlos Mario Gómez
EIP Water

Carlos Mario Gómez is the Chair of the Department of Economics of the University of Alcalá. Tenured Professor of Economic Analysis. BA in Political Science and Economics. MSc in Agricultural Development (University of London) and PhD in Economics (UAH). He has been Research Associate at University of California Berkeley and was appointed as the Santander Fellow at the University of Oxford for Michaelmas and Trinity in 2013 and 2014. C. M. Gómez has done extensive research on development, tourism, resource and environmental economics and have published a collection of books, book chapters and a number of papers in peer-reviewed international journals. Since 2000 to now he has been involved in a sequence of competitive research projects at a national and European level under the 7th Framework and the Horizon 2020 research programs of the European Commission.

Carlos is Research Associate of the Madrid Institute for Advanced Studies (IMDEA). Since 2013 he is the leader of SPADIS, an Action Group within the European Innovation Partnership (EIP Water). Under a Framework Contract, he works as policy advisor for freshwater policy of the European Commission and has supported United Nations in the preparation of the background documents and synthesis reports for the Annual UN Water Conferences as well as in drafting the World Water Development Report.



Helena Gómez-Macpherson
Coordinating expert

She has worked on improving sustainable production of cereal-based systems in Syria, Australia and Spain, and on updating ETo maps for California (USA). In 1998, she joined FAO as an Agriculture Officer to provide assistance on cereals production and on developing strategies for participatory research. In 2004, she returned to her research position at CSIC (Spain) to i) develop conservation agricultural and evaluate its impact on gas emissions and its adaptation to climate change; and, ii) improve sustainability of irrigated agriculture systems in (un)developed. She works closely with farmers and other actors.

She is the expert coordinator of EIP-AGRI Focus Group "Water and Agriculture" and was a member of the "Soil organic matter content: Mediterranean region" group. She is member of the "EU-Africa High Level Expert working group on science, technology and innovation for food and nutrition security and sustainable agriculture".

She is agriculture engineer (University of Cordoba, Spain) and has a PhD in Crop Ecophysiology (Australian National University).



Raquel Bravo Rubio

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food of Spain.

Raquel Bravo Rubio has a Ph.D. in agricultural engineering and a Master in Public Policy Management. She joined the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in 2005 and since then she has dealt with food quality standards of European Union, food security, world trade issues, water management, Common Agricultural Policy, rural development, sustainable agriculture, modernisation of agriculture and public communication. In 2008, she was part of the Permanent Mission of Spain to the United Nations Office and other international organisations in Geneva.

She has been the technical director of Agroclimatic Information System for Irrigation (SIAR) since 2013, that is the basis for SiAR app, the regional advisory services and SPIDER-SIAR that uses remote sensing to improve water and energy efficiency.

She works in the Deputy- Directorate General for Irrigation and Water Economy as expert on irrigation, agricultural water management, water planning, environment and adaptation strategies to climate change. She has been member of the Expert Group on Water Framework Directive and Agriculture of Common Implementation Strategy of WFD and has represented the Ministry in the Joint Working Party on Agriculture and Environment (JWPAE) of OECD.

She has presented the results of Spanish Focus Group on Irrigation, Energy and Environment in the EIP-AGRI workshop 'Connecting innovative projects: Water & Agriculture' and explained the role of photovoltaic energy for irrigation in Spain in the International Forum on Solar Technologies for Small-scale Agriculture and Water Management of FAO in 2018.



Esther Koopmanschap

Main facilitator

Esther Koopmanschap works for Wageningen University & Research in The Netherlands (for Wageningen Centre for Development Innovation). From her 20 years professional experience, 18 years have been focussed on capacity development, training and facilitating learning trajectories of different stakeholder groups, mainly in the field of water (IWRM, River Basin Management, wetland management), agriculture, rural development, fisheries & aquaculture and nature conservation. In the past 17 years she has worked in the field of EU Enlargement. She recently finalised a 19-month EU Twinning project on the development of the cross-compliance mechanism in Turkey. She guided, supported or co-facilitated the development of strategies to implement the EU Water Framework Directive, Bird- and Habitats Directive (Natura 2000), Common Agricultural Policy, Common Fisheries Policy, Common Organisation of the Markets for fishery and aquaculture products or the Agri-environment Programme in Turkey, Serbia, Croatia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Bosnia, Montenegro, Bulgaria, Romania and Ukraine. She has also worked in quite a few Asian and African countries (e.g. for a project with WWF on sustaining perennial flow of the Great Ruaha river in Tanzania). Esther was course coordinator of the water related courses of WCDI for more than 10 years. She has done a lot of paid and voluntary work for the Ramsar Convention, mainly related to Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness. She is motivated by participatory processes that lead to the sustainable use of land and water resources. She is looking forward to getting to know you better too!



Sirpa Karjalainen
European Commission, DG Agriculture and Rural Development

Sirpa Karjalainen works as policy officer at the European Commission, Directorate General for agriculture and rural development in the 'Research and Innovation' unit. Agronomist and economist by academic background, she has been working on rural development-related issues since 1988 in Finnish Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. Since 1994 as planning and managing EU rural development programmes with the responsibility of national legislation and measures which concern training, innovations, business aid, investments and rural development as well as Leader –approach included in the RDP of mainland Finland. The responsibilities have been rural strategy planning, legislative work, co-operation in the governmental and regional level concerning especially bio economy and the Partnership Agreement comprising all ESI funds.

She has been a member of the Bureau of the working party on territorial Policy in Rural Areas, OECD 2009 – 2012. As of September 2015 she joined the European Commission, holding responsibility for interaction with the MA within the European Innovation Partnership for Agriculture productivity and sustainability (EIP-AGRI).

EIP- AGRI Service Point team



Céline Karasinski
Task Manager

She started in June 2014 as policy officer for the EIP-AGRI Service Point. Since 2009 she has worked for the Chamber of Agriculture of Deux-Sèvres in France. During this period she has been involved in short food supply chain in agriculture and agritourism. From 2012 to 2016, she worked as leader for the Group of Regional Rural Network for Consular Chambers. In this unit she was responsible for the organisation of meetings and conferences, coordination of working groups and helping the cooperation projects of the Local Action Group. She still participates in the French rural network's meetings and conferences. Since June 2017, she has been managing a LEADER programme in her country and facilitates a Local Action Group.

Céline Karasinski is Agricultural engineer, specialist of environment and ecology; she studied at the Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Agronomie of Toulouse (France).



Andrés Manuel García Lamparte
Backup

PhD. Forest Engineer by the University of Santiago de Compostela. He also has a bachelor degree in agriculture engineering (speciality in horticulture). He has been working as research assistant in the Land Laboratory of the same university since 2007. Andrés' main fields of research are land-use change models, spatial analysis and decision support tools. Andrés is working since 2014 at the EIP-AGRI Service Point as database officer and website administrator.

He has participated as backup in the EIP-AGRI Focus Group on water and agriculture and Task Manager of the EIP-AGRI Focus Group on mixed farming systems. Andrés has also been the Task Manager of the EIP-AGRI Workshop 'new value chains from multifunctional forests'. He currently works as backup in the Focus Groups on carbon storage on arable farming and renewable energy on the farm.



Willemine Brinkman
Backup

Willemine Brinkman is the deputy team leader 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.



Alexandre Morin
Facilitator

Alexandre is a specialist in agricultural innovation projects, currently working for the Chambre d'Agriculture in western French region of Pays de la Loire. An environmental and hydrological scientist by academic background, he brings an outsider view in the agronomic fields since 2004, focusing on sustainable practices at farm and territorial levels. In his current position in the Chambre d'Agriculture he focuses on European funding for projects and partnerships, and he also works part time for the EIP-AGRI Service Point.



Ann-Sophie Debergh
Facilitator

Ann-Sophie Debergh is a team member of the EU network facility of the EIP-AGRI Service Point. She holds a Master's degree in Bioscience engineering (Land and Forest management) and an Advanced Master in European integration and development. Since 2008 she is working as a Rural Development policy officer at the Flemish Land Agency (VLM). She coordinates a platform "harvestable landscapes" in Flanders which focuses on the local and regional valorisation of biomass from forest, nature and landscape management. Throughout these years Ann-Sophie was trained and gained experience in the facilitation of interactive sessions and workshops at policy and project level.



Pacôme Elouna Eyenga
Team Leader

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.



Sarah Beigel
Communication officer

As part of the EIP-AGRI Service Point's communication team, Sarah coordinates the EIP-AGRI newsletter and the Service Point standard email. She works on publications, contributes to the content of the EIP-AGRI website and offers support for events. Sarah is British, currently living and working in France. She has a masters in International project management, and experience taking part in international cooperation projects aimed at knowledge exchange and she had organised a number of international meetings and events within her role as European project officer for AC3A (French Chambers of Agriculture).