



EIP-AGRI WORKSHOP OPPORTUNITIES FOR FARM DIVERSIFICATION IN THE CIRCULAR BIOECONOMY 6-7 FEBRUARY 2019- VILNIUS, LITHUANIA



Speaker and facilitator CVs

Speakers – in the order of the programme



Darius Liutikas

Ministry of Agriculture of Lithuania

Darius Liutikas is vice-minister of the Ministry of Agriculture of Lithuania. His area of responsibility covers scientific issues, innovations, direct payments, rural development and fisheries. He has worked in the Ministry since the 2003 – dealing with economics, programme monitoring and evaluation issues. Darius Liutikas has obtained a PhD in the field of social sciences in 2008.



Alberto D'Avino

European Commission, DG Agriculture and Rural Development

Alberto D'Avino is the deputy head of the Research and Innovation Unit in DG Agriculture and Rural Development, holding this role since January 2017. He coordinates the activities of the team in charge of the European Innovation Partnership for agricultural productivity and sustainability (EIP-AGRI) and contributes to the conception of EU agricultural research policy under the Horizon 2020 framework programme. He started his career at the European Commission in 2000. Over the last years, he has had an extensive experience in various services of DG AGRI, notably in the domain of the economic analysis and the agricultural markets. Before the current position, he acted as deputy head of the unit in charge of the Analysis of Trade and International Policies, where he used to coordinate the economic analysis about multilateral and bilateral trade agreements negotiated by the EU.



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Liutauras Guobys

European Commission, DG Research & Innovation (DG RTD), Bioeconomy Directorate



Liutauras Guobys works as a Policy Officer at the Bioeconomy Strategy Unit of DG RTD. He is the Executive Secretary of the European Commission's Standing Committee on Agricultural Research (SCAR) - responsible for the SCAR Secretariat, planning and organising the work of the Committee, and advising and assisting the Chair of SCAR. He is also responsible, in close coordination with colleagues from other services and Directorates-General, for elaborating and following up actions of the EU Bioeconomy Strategy related to investing, financing, and digitalisation in the bioeconomy.

Liutauras Guobys is an alumnus of the Catholic University of Leuven (European Master of Public Administration, 2003) and throughout the career has been involved in a broad range of activities of the European Union at the European Commission, European Parliament, Lithuanian Parliament, and European Economic and Social Committee.

Jose Ruiz ESPI

European Commission, DG Agriculture and Rural Development



José RUIZ ESPI is Planning and Programming Officer, dealing with research and innovation activities at DG Agriculture and Rural Development of the European Commission. His portfolio includes notably the agronomic aspects of the bioeconomy and of the circular economy.

He has been a European Commission official since 2005, working mainly in research and innovation issues, firstly in the domain of bioenergy, and since January 2016 in his current position at DG AGRI. He also spent 2 years at the EU Delegation to the Republic of Guinea, where he was responsible for infrastructure projects.

José RUIZ ESPI is an Agronomic Engineer, with postgraduate training in Food Quality and Safety.



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Laura Jalasjoki

ENRD Contact Point

Laura Jalasjoki works as a Policy Analyst in the Contact Point of the European Network for Rural Development, based in Brussels, where she supports the exchange of information on how EU Rural Development policy and programmes are working in practice and how they can be improved. Her particular focus is on analysing the balance of social, environmental and economic sustainability of rural development initiatives. Laura coordinates the ENRD Thematic Group on Mainstreaming the Bioeconomy, which explores Rural Development Programme's possibilities to promote sustainable rural bioeconomy value chains. Before joining the ENRD, Laura worked for ten years on institutional development and capacity building of rural professional organisations, at the International Fund for Agricultural Development and at the global network of farmer's organisations for development cooperation, AgriCord. She has also worked at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland. Laura holds a Masters' Degree in International Relations.



Kevin O Connor

BEACON SFI bioeconomy research centre, Ireland

Professor Kevin O Connor is director of BEACON SFI bioeconomy research centre, a Principal investigator in the UCD Earth Institute and a member of the school of Biomolecular and Biomedical Science at University College Dublin, Ireland. He is chairperson of the scientific committee for the public private partnership Biobased Industries Joint Undertaking (BBI JU), a member of the European Commission biobased products expert group and a previous member of European Commission committee entitled the "lead market initiative for Bio-based products (2008-2011). His research interests are integrated biorefining, Biobased chemicals, biodegradable polymers, biocatalysis and protein engineering. Professor O Connor was the driver behind the development of the rural Bioeconomy campus at Lisheen, Co Tipperary and the Irish EU Model demonstrator region for the sustainable production of chemicals.

Professor O Connor has published over 90 international peer review articles and made of over 200 contributions at national and International conferences. He has filed 8 patents and successfully licensed 3 technologies resulting from his research work. Professor Kevin O' Connor is the founder of Bioplastech a university spin out company endeavouring to commercialise the conversion of residues and biobased resources to biodegradable polymers and Nova Mentis a second campus company established to commercialise a novel antioxidant with health promoting properties.



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Johan Sanders

The Netherlands

Professor Johan Sanders has a 25 years career in industry, first at Gist brocades a fermentation company producing yeast, enzymes, penicillin and then as the research director of AVEBE, world's largest potato starch company. 17 years ago he became professor Biobased Economy at the Wageningen University, where he developed biorefinery processes for side streams as well as primary crops into valuable products such as chemicals, proteins for nutrition and materials on small and large scale. He has studied economies of scale and developed small scale biorefinery systems to benefit from small scale without having the disadvantages of small scale. He was member of several Governmental committees on Biobased economy and Sustainability. Since he left Wageningen in 2018 he is active to contribute to biobased initiatives from his own company.



Lucrezia Lamastra

Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italy

Lucrezia Lamastra graduated in Chemistry and Pharmaceutical Technologies at the University of Turin in 2005, she obtained her doctorate by attending Agrisystem, a PhD school for the agro-food system, in 2010 at the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore of Piacenza. Since 2013 she is a researcher at the Department of Sustainable Food Production of the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore. Alongside the analytical activities in the laboratory she demonstrates a growing interest in the theme of Sustainability, which leads her to coordinate and participate in various projects of national and international interest. She is coordinator of VIVA, a project of the Italian Ministry of the Environment for the sustainability of Italian Viticulture, of two PEI-AGRI projects related to circular economy (SCOOTER and FLAMBE), and participate in a LIFE project related to the sustainability of the dairy sector (TTGG).



Fernando Sebastián

CIRCE – Research Centre for Energy Resources and Consumption, Spain

Industrial engineer, senior expert at CIRCE Foundation. He works at the Environmental and Energy Technologies Area. Since 1995 he has developed and led several R&D projects related to biomass resources assessment, the optimization of their conditioning (storage and pre-treatments) and logistics chain, their thermochemical transformation (mainly by means of combustion and co-firing technologies), and also to the determination of the environmental and economic impacts of their use employing LCA as a tool. He is one of the key persons in complex biomass fuels validation tests and in their environmental and economic performance assessments. He has co-authored more than 20 scientific publications. He has coordinated the EuroPruning project (FP7/312078) about the mobilization and logistics of biomass from pruning for energy purposes. At the moment he is the coordinator of the AGROinLOG project (H2020/727961) which aims to boost the competitiveness of European agro-industries through their transformation into Integrated Biomass Logistics Centres.



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Tuula Raukola

Prizztech Ltd, Finland



Ms. Tuula Raukola is a specialist in circular economy at Prizztech Ltd, a Finnish not-profit business development company. She is also a member of the board of Local Action Group Aktiivinen Pohjois-Satakunta ry funded under EAFRD. Tuula Raukola has long experience as a project manager in various bio and circular economy projects (ERFD, ESF and LIFE IP) at Prizztech Ltd.

James Gaffey

Institute of Technology, Tralee, Ireland



James Gaffey is a Principal Investigator at the Institute of Technology, Tralee. James is coordinator of the EIP-Agri Biorefinery Glas project focused on a demonstration of a green biorefinery and new business models with Irish farmers. The project represents Ireland's first small-scale biorefinery project. James is currently Principal Investigator on the H2020 Biobased Industries Joint Undertaking project ICT-BIOCHAIN focused on developing efficient biomass supply chains for sustainable chemical production at Ireland's national bioeconomy campus at Lisheen. James has previously worked as Biorefinery Specialist on the H2020 Thematic Network AgriForValor, focused on facilitating knowledge transfer with primary producers on bioeconomy innovations, particularly small-scale biorefineries. Prior to joining IT Tralee, James was based at tcbb RESOURCE (formerly Technology Centre for Biorefining and Bioenergy) at the Ryan institute NUI Galway and was a key member of the DAFM-funded BioEire project team. The results of "BioEire" have formed a key part of the knowledge-base used by the Department of the Taoiseach to develop a National Bioeconomy Policy Statement for Ireland. James has also been an advisor to EU Bioeconomy initiatives and focus groups including STAR4BBI and EURAKNOS. James was previously worked in industry with biorefinery company Cellulac has extensive experience as a researcher and project manager on various biorefinery projects including the FP7 projects "SPLASH" (Sustainable Polymers from Algae Sugars and Hydrocarbons) and FUEL4ME (FUTURE European League 4 Microalgal Energy). James initially worked in R&D with Sustainable Biopolymers Ltd.



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Anna Trettenero

Farmer, Italy

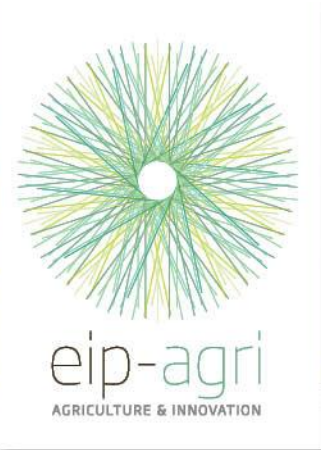
Anna Trettenero studied agricultural science and graduated cum laude from the University of Padua, Italy 1992. Scholarship: University of California at Davis 1989-90. Anna Trettenero runs a 100 Ha row crop farm in North Eastern Italy where she pioneered Conservation Agriculture (No-till associated with crop rotations and cover crops). Co-founder and managing partner of 1MWe biogas in the Province of Pavia, Italy, in operation since 2012, where thermal energy is re used for Alfalfa dehydration. Plant own engineering. Co-founder and managing partner of an innovative start-up, based at the business incubator of the Province of Bolzano, Italy, for isolate vegetable protein production. Vice President of the Italian Young Farmers Association 2004-2007; Bioenergy Group Coordinator. Attended Fuel Ethanol Workshop, USA 2004 Edition with the presentation "Building a strategy for Ethanol production in Italy". President of Confagricoltura Venezia Farmers Union 2007-2013. ECAF, European Conservation Agriculture Federation, Board of Directors 2011-15. EIP-AGRI Focus Group "Enhancing renewable energy production on farm" 2017-18. Panelist at the EU Event Sustainable & circular bioeconomy the European way in Bruxelles Oct 22nd, 2018. Fluent: Italian, English, Spanish and French.



Bernard Carey

Forester: Project Leader of the Biomass to Biochar for Farm Bioeconomy (BBFB EIP Project)

Bernard Carey is a professional Forester with over twenty years of experience working in commercial forestry and associated renewable enterprises. He has extensive practical experience working with farmers, landowners, investors, local communities, statutory agencies including conservation and heritage organisations and other key stakeholders on a daily basis. He has been involved in several partnership projects with academics, local authorities and community organisations researching and promoting forestry, biomass and environmental aims. In addition, Mr. Carey is experienced in the production, marketing and research of biochar from a variety of biomass sources. Also, for the past twenty years, Mr. Carey has owned and managed a small nursery supplying specialist trees and plants for horticultural and forestry purposes; he also ran a successful firewood business from 2007 to 2015. In 2016 Mr. Carey, in partnership with Dr Brian Tobin from University College Dublin undertook the first **i-Tree Ecosystem Services Study** in Ireland on trees in a local village using **i-Tree software** developed by the United States Dept. of Agriculture. Mr. Carey's past activities also include Alder improvement, Poplar clone trials and Miscanthus propagation.



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Ornella Martinello

European Commission, DG Agriculture and Rural Development

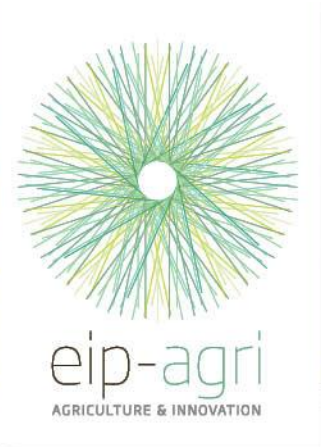
Ornella joined DG AGRI in 2017, and has since then worked as Project Officer for the European Network for Rural Development (ENRD). She is responsible for the ENRD Thematic Group on 'Mainstreaming the Bioeconomy' and the activities related to the ENRD priority on 'Greening the Rural Economy'. She coordinates the EU Rural Networks' Governance meetings as well as the ENRD communication and website activities. Before joining DG AGRI, Ornella worked in the communication team of DG Climate Action at the time of the signature, ratification and entering into force of the Paris Agreement. Political scientist by academic background, since 2014 she has worked in EU affairs for several regional representation offices, international magazines and associations.



Magdalena Mach

European Commission, DG Agriculture and Rural Development

Magdalena Mach is a Policy Officer at the European Commission, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, Research & Innovation Unit. She holds a Master's degree in International Relations. Before joining the EC she worked for the Agriculture and Fisheries Section of the Permanent Representation of the Republic of Poland to the European Union and Polish Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development where for 6 years she was responsible for the implementation of LEADER approach under Rural Development Programme.



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EIP-AGRI Service Point team



Pacôme Elouna Eyenga

EIP-AGRI Service Point

Mr 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.



Sergiu Didicescu

EIP-AGRI Service Point – Task Manager

Born 1980, Romanian

Sergiu is educated in horticulture with a specialisation in oenology, as well as in agri-food economics. He started professional life as an oenologue in the 'Dealul Mare' area, Romania's largest vineyard. Later on, he worked for the Romanian Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and the European Commission DG AGRI. From 2013 he is farm practice and rural development officer at the EIP AGRI Service Point.



Sarah Watson

EIP-AGRI Service Point – Main facilitator

Sarah Watson is the owner of Urban Growing a management consultancy which provides project and programme development, change management and communications support, specialising in conference and meeting facilitation (2012 – 2018). She runs the Sustainable Food City Partnership, a food charity based in her local area, promoting local and sustainable food, developing short supply chains and combating food poverty (2014 – 2018), and has been involved in short supply chain development and local governance work at a European level for over 15 years, through the LEADER Programme and the European Network for Rural Development.



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Céline Karasinski

Facilitator

At EIP-AGRI Service Point, Céline Karasinski is a part-time farm practices officer. Her main duties involve the organisation and facilitation of EIP-AGRI workshops and Focus Groups.

She is agricultural specialist and she has over 20 years' experience in agriculture and rural development with a special focus on short food supply chains.

From 2012 to 2016, she worked as the leader of a group of regional rural networks for Consular Chambers. In this unit she was responsible for the organisation of meetings and conferences, the coordination of working groups and helped with cooperation projects of the Local Action Group. She participates in the French rural network's meetings and conferences.

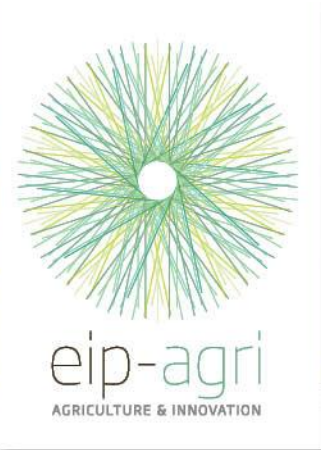
Since June 2017, she has been managing a LEADER programme in her country and facilitates a Local Action Group.



Andrés M. García Lamparte

Facilitator

PhD Forest Engineer by the University of Santiago de Compostela. He has been working as research assistant in the Land Laboratory of the same university since 2007. Andrés main fields for 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 several EIP-AGRI Focus Groups and as Task Manager in the EIP-AGRI Focus Group on mixed farming systems and the EIP-AGRI workshop on new value chains from multifunctional forests.



EIP-AGRI WORKSHOP OPPORTUNITIES FOR FARM DIVERSIFICATION IN THE CIRCULAR BIOECONOMY 6-7 FEBRUARY 2019- VILNIUS, LITHUANIA



Annika Suu

Facilitator

Annika Suu has a MSc in Biodiversity Conservation from the University of Tartu, Estonia. She has worked in the Estonian Ministry of Rural Affairs coordinating the program for applied research in agriculture and was responsible for the knowledge transfer and cooperation measures under the Rural Development Plan for 2014–2020. Currently she works at the Agricultural Research Centre as a member of the Estonian Rural Network. In the EIP-AGRI Service Point she works as a Rural Development Officer and Data Base Unit Officer.



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).