

SPEAKERS



Luis Sanchez Alvarez – European Commission (DG AGRI)

Luis Sánchez joined DG Agriculture and Rural Development (Unit F.2 ‘Research and Innovation’) in January 2023, as part of the EU Mission Soil team at DG AGRI that he now coordinates. Luis is Agricultural Engineer and holds a PhD in the field of water and nutrient management in arable crops. Before joining the European Commission in 2017 (DG Research and Innovation), he worked for almost 20 years in agricultural policy and R&I in the Madrid Government.

Presentation title: EU R&I on nutrient recycling and managing



Ana Sofia Brandao – Instituto Politécnico de Bragança

Ana Sofia Brandão (PhD Candidate, Production and Computing Engineering) is a researcher at the University of León and Bragança Polytechnic University. Her research investigates leveraging Industrial Symbiosis to strengthen the Circular Bioeconomy, particularly in low-density industrial zones. Dr. Brandão's experience encompasses both national and international research institutions, along with the business world. Her passion for research extends beyond her core area, as evidenced by her work on impact evaluation, particularly for EU-funded Circular Bioeconomy projects. This expertise allows her to not only develop innovative solutions but also assess their effectiveness, ensuring real world-impact.

Presentation title: Societal impact of publicly funded Circular Bioeconomy projects in Europe



Laia Llenas – BETA TC

Laia Llenas is a Chemical Engineer and PhD in Chemical Engineering. She is the Deputy Director of BETA Technological Center, a Catalan research institute working for the sustainable rural development. Dr. Llenas has a deep expertise in the preparation and execution of national and international research and innovation projects, as well as in knowledge and technology transfer activities to the private sector.

Currently, she is the project coordinator of the H2020 FERTIMANURE project, a project which is aiming to recover bio-based fertilisers from animal manure that can be competitive in the European fertilisers market.

Presentation title: FERTIMANURE – From Farm to Market, upcycling manure to improved fertilising products



Silvia Maltagliati – European Commission (DG RTD)

Silvia Maltagliati is Policy Officer at the European Commission, Directorate General Research & Innovation, working in the unit “Green transitions”. She works on EC strategies and policies supporting research projects in the EU in the field of bio-based industrial sectors, with a special focus on the environmental sustainability challenges of supply chains and value chains in those sectors, and contributes to the R&I work programmes of Horizon Europe Cluster 6 ‘Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment’ and of the Circular Bio-based Europe Joint Undertaking. She holds a Master degree in Physics and a PhD in Industrial Engineering.

Presentation title: EU R&I on bio-based fertilising products

Kari Ylivainio – Senior Scientist, Lex4bio/Luke



Kari Ylivainio is a Senior Scientist at the Natural Resources Institute Finland (Luke). He holds on MSc in the field of agricultural chemistry and physics (University of Helsinki) and PhD in Environmental Soil Science (University of Helsinki). His working career has focused on plant nutrition and related processes in soils, especially on optimizing phosphorus fertilization in crop production and minimizing losses to the environment. Currently he is coordinating H2020-project (LEX4BIO), where the aim is to optimize the use of bio-based fertilisers in crop production while minimizing risks to the environment, ensuring food and feed safety and supply, and protecting human health.

Presentation title: Nutrient flows in the EU and potential for reducing EU's dependency on imported fertilisers

Margarida Ambar – EU Cap Network (Head of Division A: Building up an EU-AKIS, Stakeholder Management and Facilitation)



Margarida Ambar is one of the Knowledge and Innovation officers at the EU CAP Network support unit for Innovation and Knowledge exchange | EIP-AGRI, and is the Head of the Division dealing with the EU-AKIS and general stakeholders management. She has been working with EIP-AGRI since 2013.

Margarida Ambar studied Agricultural Engineering at the Technical University of Lisbon and has a master's degree in Territorial Management, focusing on stakeholders involvement.

Presentation title: AKIS and the EU CAP Network | EIP-AGRI Support Facility

Peter Rakers – Senior consultant, Esset Engage



EU-FarmBook is the answer to real needs of farmers, foresters and advisors. The Horizon Europe project offers an interactive, multi-lingual meeting place for agriculture and forestry communities, giving access to trustworthy knowledge objects according to findable, accessible, interoperable, and reusable (FAIR) data principles. Peter Rakers is the Strategic Coordinator of this 7-year project.

Presentation title: EU-FarmBook, the point of reference for practitioners

Victor Carbajal – BETA TC



Victor Carbajal Perelló holds a PhD in Applied Sciences, with a specialisation in Environmental Biogeochemistry. He is currently the head within the Governance for Sustainability Unit at BETA Technological Centre and NUTRI-KNOW's project coordinator. He is mainly involved in initiatives that contribute to increase the impact of research results to the RDI ecosystem, as well as in implementing new projects together with other stakeholders. In addition, he has participated in different research projects (Spain, Ireland, Portugal, and Ghana) on different topics; water quality, management and conservation of natural resources, governance, agri-food and bioeconomy.

Presentation title: NUTRIKNOW Thematic Network: Exchanging easy-to-understand nutrient management knowledge with farmers

Oscar Schoumans – WENR

Dr Oscar Schoumans is a Senior Scientist working at Wageningen University & Research in the field of environmental research related to nutrient management and in the field of circular economy related to nutrient recovery from organic waste streams and reuse in practice. He has a strong international network and has coordinated a large number of



national and international programmes and projects. He coordinated the H2020 project SYSTEMIC where industries and SME's implement and demonstrate innovative systems of nutrient recovery technologies to make biobased fertilisers out of digestate from large scale biogas plants.

Presentation title: H2020 SYSTEMIC - Improving nutrient circularity by technical innovations at large scale biogas plants

Javier Brañas – FERTIBERIA



Javier Branas, doctor in agricultural engineering, is Director of Research, Development and Innovation in FERTIBERIA since 2006. In this period, he has developed a number of projects aimed at optimizing the efficiency of fertilizers, improving circularity and ensuring agricultural sustainability. He is member of the Spanish Technology Platform for Sustainable Chemistry SUSCHEM-Spain, of the EIP Focus Group Fertiliser Efficiency in Horticulture, External Scientific Collaborator of the University of León and has collaborated in other H2020 initiatives.

Presentation title: Circular economy from biowaste in the fertilizer industry

Anna Lundbom – EasyMining



Anna Lundbom joined EasyMining, an innovation company within Ragn-Sells Group, in May 2020 as the Marketing and Product Sales Manager. She is focusing on leading the project to commercialize EasyMining's nitrogen removal and recovery process along with business development for the company's other processes and products. Previous to EasyMining, Anna has since 2012 worked in the Ragn-Sells Group, one of the Nordic's largest waste management companies, with business development and sales in various positions. Previous to Ragn-Sells, she worked as a management consultant. Anna is a graduate of Linköping's University and holds a MSc in Industrial Engineering and Management. Thrilled to be a part of creating circular solutions for nutrients and other important materials, Anna is devoted to creating cooperations between companies which is crucial for moving into a circular society.

www.linkedin.com/in/anna-lundbom-a56569a

Presentation title: LIFE RE-Fertilize – demonstrating Aqua2N, a chemical process for nitrogen removal and recovery from liquid waste streams

Martín Soriano – CETENMA



Martín Soriano holds a M.D. in Environmental Sciences and a PhD in Soil Health and brings over 15 years of experience as scientist and professor in public research organisations and private companies around the world. Related to fertilisers, it can be highlighted his work in Australia with Professor Mike McLaughlin, Director of the Mosaic-sponsored University of Adelaide Fertiliser Technology Research Centre. Currently, Martín coordinates the HOOP (H2020) and FER-PLAY (Horizon Europe) projects. He has participated in over 40 R&D projects and is co-author of more than 60 publications and contributions to 50 conferences.

Presentation title: HOOP Project: Successful cases from cities and regions on the production of circular fertilizers