

Biographies of speakers

Tuesday 27th June 2017



Dr. Milka Sokolović, Head of Food & Health Science at European Food Information Council (EUFIC), holds a degree in Biology from the University of Belgrade, and a PhD in Medicine from the University of Amsterdam. She has spent 15 years enjoying the magic of science, looking into metabolism of starvation and obesity, with communicating knowledge as her passion throughout career.



Dr. Manfred Ruthsatz, Global Head Regulatory Advocacy, Nestlé Health Science, is a regulatory and policymaking networker with an international mindset: he has a long-standing record as an advocate, ambassador & "translator" in the complex, regulated food-pharma environment, connecting (with) experts in industry, medical affairs, authorities & policy making.



Dirk Jacobs at FoodDrinkEurope since March 2010, Dirk Jacobs is Deputy Director General and Director in charge of Consumer Information, Diet and Health issues. As Deputy Director General, he supports the general management and external representation of the organisation. Furthermore, he manages and co-ordinates the European food and drink industry's positions in the areas of consumer information and diet, nutrition and health.



Emma Calvert -Food Officer at BEUC. She worked as an MEP assistant on the ENVI committee working on food and water issues from October 2010 – January 2017. In BEUC, Emma's focus is on marketing to children of unhealthy foods, nutrition issues and nutritional labelling.



Arnold Timmer works with GAIN as a Director for Maternal and Infant and Young Child Nutrition supporting programmes in 10 countries. Prior this, he was heading the Nutrition Department in UNICEF Ethiopia, one of the largest nutrition programmes worldwide.



Alie de Boer is researcher in the field of nutrition and food law at Campus Venlo of Maastricht University. She studies how scientific findings in the field of nutrition and the legal environment affect each other, for example in the case of the development of new European legislation concerning novel foods and how to assess safety of food products under this regulation.



Catherine Weetman helps develop future-fit, resilient strategies, examining sustainability risks and value opportunities. Her book, 'A Circular Economy Handbook for Business and Supply Chains', was published by Kogan Page in 2016.

Catherine is a Visiting Fellow at the University of Huddersfield, UK, is Vice-Chair of the Environment and Sustainability Forum, Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transportation and gained an MSc in Logistics from Cranfield University.



Agnese Ratzenberger is a young professional working at the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in Brussels. At UNIDO she develops dialogue and cooperation with the European Union in areas related to environment and green industry, and in particular the circular economy. She has previously worked with A-Pictures, MakeSense, and has been part of the Italian delegation at the Youth G7.



Dr. Steffen Niebergall- Head of division energy economics & special projects at K+S AG. Besides energy related financial aspects, he is furthermore responsible for the EU-Emission Trading System within K+S organization and energy related frameworks, which affects the K+S facilities worldwide.



Katja Hansen is an acknowledged practitioner, trainer and lecturer in urban, product and process development using Circular Economy as well as the Cradle to Cradle (C2C) Design framework.

She is the conceptual founder and co-author of the published Nutrient Certificate concept, also known as Material Passports, which is key for material flows in the Circular Economy. She is co-developer of BAMB, an ongoing €10 million Horizon2020 R&D initiative on passports.



Dr. Christopher Briggs- Executive Director at Water Footprint Network, senior manager and sustainable development expert with extensive experience in managing staff, funds and people. Experienced in communication, strategy development, resource mobilization and delivering results. Broad experience of work in conservation, ecosystem management and livelihoods.



Peter Laybourn- is the founder and Chief Executive of International Synergies. Peter devised International Synergies' flagship project the National Industrial Symbiosis Programme (NISP) and has since helped to see similar projects established in over 20 countries around the world.



Christophe Yvetot- holds the position of Head of UNIDO Liaison Office to the European Union, the European Investment Bank, Belgium and Luxembourg. As Director of UNIDO Brussels Office, he continues to foster the dialogue and cooperation with the European Union in the areas of Climate Action and Energy. Currently, he is following various energy-related issues in Brussels.



Peter Eder is team leader in the Circular Economy and Industrial Leadership Unit of the European Commission's Joint Research Centre. He is managing various JRC projects in support of the EU circular economy policies with the aim of creating a resource-efficient, green and competitive circular economy. He focuses on techno-economic research in support of waste and environmental management policies and to propose environmental, safety and quality criteria for the recovery of secondary raw-materials from waste.



Stefaan Vandist works as trendwatcher and innovation consultant with a focus on sustainability. That means he helps organizations explore the future and develop strategic innovation boulevards to get fit for the future. The past two years he worked for the European Commission, Volvo Cars, various retailers such as Intergamma (DIY) and many others.