

2ND

EUROPEAN SUSTAINABLE NUTRIENT INITIATIVE



ESNI 2020

Fertilizing Products Regulation (FPR) a part of the Circular Economy Action Plan, experiences from EU projects

Speakers Bios

15 DECEMBER 2020



Erik Meers

Coordinator of the Biorefine Cluster Europe



Prof. Dr. ir. Erik Meers holds a degree in Bioscience Engineering (Ghent University), an MSc in Environmental Sanitation (Ghent University) and a PhD in Environmental Technology / Environmental Chemistry (Ghent University) with focus on phytoremediation. He is currently a professor at the Department of Green Science and Technology from the Faculty of Bioscience Engineering of Ghent University in Belgium. He is one of the group leaders of the Laboratory of Analytical Chemistry and Applied Ecochemistry (Ecochem), focusing on nutrient recycling and circular economy.

He is currently involved in 15 international research projects (Interreg and H2020) and supervises a team of 20 PhD students and researchers. He is a Chairman to the EBA (European Biogas Association) scientific advisory council (SAC), has created and coordinates the UGent Business Development Platform “End-of-Waste” and the project network “Biorefine Cluster Europe” and has started the European Sustainable Nutrient Initiative.

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Jérémy Pinte

Policy Officer, DG for Internal, Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs

Jérémy Pinte recently joined the European Commission in DG GROW, working on Fertilising Products and cross-cutting hazard classification of chemicals. He has a scientific background (agriculture, food processing and material science) as well as regulatory experience (pesticides, fertilisers and beneficial insects). Before joining the Commission, he held various positions at the French competent authorities for the safety of the food chain.

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Annabelle Williams

Managing director, RISE



Annabelle Williams is the Managing Director at RISE. She joined RISE in 2012 and since then has managed the Foundation's work on subjects covering the CAP, creating a Safe Operating Space for livestock, nutrient recovery and reuse, the future of European crop protection, and soil. Prior to joining the RISE Foundation, Annabelle completed an MBA in Agriculture and the Food Industry. Prior to this, she spent over 10 years managing projects in the humanitarian and development sector both from the UK and overseas.

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Ludwig Hermann



Senior Consultant, Proman Consulting GmbH

Ludwig has 35+ years of experience as technology, sustainability and innovation manager and consultant on 3 continents. He was co-founder and long-term CEO of ASH DEC Umwelt AG, isco-inventor of minerals/ash decontamination, phosphorus recovery, energy conversion and efficiency technologies, author and co-author of several patents, reports, papers and book chapters on recovery of critical materials, nutrient recycling and renewable energy.

Ludwig is president and member of the board of the European Sustainable Phosphorus Platform (ESPP), Brussels, member of the scientific advisory board “Environment” of the Federal Institute for Materials Research and Testing, Berlin and in the Steering Committee of the International Water Association’s (IWA) Resource Recovery Cluster, The Hague.

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Astrid Croes

Environmental Consultant, United Experts



Astrid Croes is specialized in environmental law and permits. She previously worked as a lawyer and since October part of United Experts.

United Experts is an advisory group bringing together different companies with various expertise and complementary skills and is known for its extensive specialization in the field of agriculture.

As a consultant part of the team participating in various (European) innovation projects like Nutri2Cycle with a focus on legal aspects, LCA and CBA.

In the Nutri2Cycle project, United Experts works together with our Croatian colleagues of IPS (daughter company of United Experts) and we are involved in three work packages, including the first package in which United Experts analysed the current legal framework that influences the CNP flows in main farming systems in Europe

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Kari Ylivainio

Senior Scientist, Natural Resources Institute Finland (Luke)

Kari Ylivainio is a Senior Scientist at the Natural Resources Institute Finland (Luke). He holds an 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 mainly focused on plant nutrition and soil chemistry related studies. Focus has been on optimizing the use of both mineral phosphorus fertilizers and organic, phosphorus-rich side-streams in agriculture from the crop requirement point of view and methods for reducing phosphorus losses to the environment. Currently he is coordinating H2020-project (LEX4BIO), where the aim is to optimize the use of nutrient-rich side-streams in crop production while minimizing risks to the environment, ensuring food and feed safety and supply, and protecting human health.

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Laura van Schöll

Senior project manager, Nutrient Management Institute NMI BV

Laura van Schöll is a senior project manager within the Nutrient Management Institute NMI BV. She holds a MSc in Tropical Land Use and a PhD in Soil Quality, obtained at Wageningen University in The Netherlands. The NMI carries out applied research and consultancies on the soil quality and nutrient cycling. Soil is seen as the base of the biobased economy, and sustainable use of recycling-derived fertiliser products is key element in closing nutrient cycles.

Specific expertise and interest of Laura are the legal framework and regulatory affairs for the trade and use of fertilisers, and more specifically recycling-derived fertiliser products. Research projects and consultancies are carried out for governmental bodies, NGO's, associations of stakeholders as well as fertiliser producers. Laura was also involved in evaluation and policy advice concerning the safe use of struvite, co-materials for digestion of animal manure, biochar and appraisal of current standards and contents in fertilisers. Recent activities include a policy advice on the inclusion of biostimulants in the Dutch Fertiliser Act, and the evaluation of the legal framework for recycling-derived fertiliser products at the European and national level (including Netherlands, France, Belgium, Germany, Ireland and UK) within the NW-Europe interreg project ReNu2Farm.

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Beltrán Puentes



Researcher, Universidade de Santiago de Compostela

Beltrán Puentes is currently a PhD candidate at the University of Santiago de Compostela (USC), studying policy and regulatory options for the circular economy in the field of products. He also teaches Administrative Law at the USC. Before working on the Run4Life project, he participated in the R2 π project (tRansition from linear 2 circular: Policy and Innovation), also funded by the EU Horizon 2020 program. He has a bachelor's degree in Law and Political Science from the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid and a master's degree in Law from the USC. He carried out research stays at the Universities of Utrecht and Saint-Louis (Brussels) and he published different papers in academic journals related to Public Law, Environmental Law, and circular economy.

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