



Federal Ministry
of Food
and Agriculture

EURAGRI



List of speakers

Digital Transformation of the Agricultural
Value Chain – Opportunities, Challenges
and the Role of Science

2 – 3 December 2020, Berlin (Germany)





Julia Klöckner

is the Federal Minister of Food and Agriculture of Germany. She studied Political Science, Theology and Education at the Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, holds a Masters' degree and passed the state examination in Religion and Social Studies. From 2002 to 2011, she was a member of the German Bundestag (inter alia member of the agricultural committee of the German Bundestag, Commissioner for Consumer Affairs of the CDU/CSU parliamentary group in the German Bundestag, deputy chair of the working group on agriculture, food, nutrition and consumer protection). From 2009 to 2011, she was the Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection. Julia Klöckner has been a member of the Christian Democratic Union of Germany (CDU) since 1995 and currently serves as chairwoman of the CDU in Rhineland-Palatinate as well as deputy chairwoman of the federal CDU.



Dr. Wolfgang Burtscher

is the Director General of DG Agriculture and Rural Development since April 2020. From 2009 to 2020 he was Deputy-Director General in the Directorate-General for Research and Innovation of the European Commission and in that function he was responsible for wide range of research and innovation policy development and implementation issues including research and innovation in the fields of agriculture, food and health.

From 2000 to 2009, Mr Burtscher was Director in the European Commission's Directorate-General for Agriculture where he was responsible for the provision of legal support to the CAP and quality policy and for the control of agricultural expenditure.

Wolfgang Burtscher is an Austrian citizen and before joining the European Commission in 2000, he was a representative of the federal states in the permanent representation of Austria to the EU.

From 1992 to 1996, Mr Burtscher was a head of department for European affairs in the public administration of Vorarlberg state. From 1990 to 1992, he was a legal advisor for questions relating to the European Economic Area at the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) in Geneva. Between 1983 and 1990, Wolfgang Burtscher was a university assistant and lecturer in public international and European law at the University of Innsbruck.

Wolfgang Burtscher holds a doctorate in law and a qualification from the Institut Européen des Hautes Etudes Internationales in Nice.



Chris Addison

is a consultant based in Brussels working on digital strategy for agriculture, most recently for the Food and Agriculture Organisation. Previously he was Senior Programme Coordinator of the Data for Agriculture programme at the Technical Centre for Agriculture and Rural Cooperation in the Netherlands working on digitalisation of SMEs and farmers associations on blockchain, digital innovation and data rights. In Washington DC as head of digital communications at the International Food Policy Research Institute he worked on digital projects in Africa and developed IFPRI's portfolio of online services. He has also held positions as Director of the internet company OneWorld Europe BV and worked for the European Centre for Development Policy Management on their Euforic and OneSite software projects. Over 25 years he has worked on a wide range of digital projects in agriculture and natural resource management across Europe, the Americas, Africa, Caribbean and the Pacific.



Dr. Martina Anzini

studied law in Rome at Sapienza University, where she also obtained a II level Masters degree in Global Regulation of Markets. After her legal traineeship at the State Legal Advisory Service in Rome, she worked as trainee both at the Council Legal Service in Brussels and at a cabinet of a judge of the General Court of the EU in Luxembourg. She holds a Ph.D. in Economic Law from the Marche Polytechnic University and is currently working as Legal Policy Analyst at the Department of Financial Markets and Information Technology of the Center for European Policy (CEP), based in Freiburg im Breisgau.



Can Atik

is a Ph.D. Candidate at Tilburg Law School with affiliation to the Tilburg Law and Economics Center (TILEC) and Department of Law, Technology, Markets, and Society (LTMS) in the Netherlands. He holds a Master's degree (LLM) in International Trade and Commercial Law (Merit) from Durham University in the UK, and a Bachelor's degree from Ankara University Law School in Turkey. Mr. Atik is also a registered lawyer at the Union of Turkish Bars. His main research areas are the effects of Big Data and IoT revolution on EU competition law and privacy law. He is particularly investigating the role of agricultural data in the emerging Digital Agriculture sector from competition law and policy perspective. He is also interested in M&A, alternative commercial dispute resolution and corporate law.



Daniel Azevedo

is a Director in the Commodities and Trade team of Copa and Cogeca, an agricultural lobby representing almost 70 national farm organizations and cooperatives in Europe. He is a natural resources engineer graduated in the University of Évora (Portugal), currently the coordinator of Copa and Cogeca Task Force on agricultural technology. He has previously been working for DG Agriculture and Rural Development after specializing on agro-environmental measures in SLU university (Sweden). Mr. Azevedo comes from a family producing wine and olive oil in Vila Real (Douro Region) in Portugal.



Dr. Steffen Beerbaum

is head of the unit application of digitalisation in agriculture at the German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture. He has studied agriculture sciences and agricultural economics. He holds a masters' degree in agricultural sciences from the University of Stuttgart-Hohenheim, Germany and a masters' degree in Agricultural Economics from the ENSA in Montpellier, France. He received his doctorate in agricultural sciences at the University of Stuttgart-Hohenheim. He has been working for the German Agricultural Ministry in different positions since 2001.



Prof. Donagh Berry

is the director of the €40m VistaMilk SFI Research Center in AgTech hosted by Teagasc Ireland which has employed >100 scientists working across the domain areas from soil to society. Donagh undertook his bachelors of agricultural science in University College Dublin after which he completed his PhD in statistical genetics at Wageningen university, the Netherlands. He has worked in Teagasc since where he is strongly engaged in research, education and extension across different species.



Prof. Gerry Boyle

is Director of Teagasc – the agricultural and food development authority for Ireland. Teagasc conducts research on agriculture and food; provides extension services to Irish agriculture and is the main provider of vocational education programmes and collaborates with several higher education institutes in the delivery of undergraduate programmes. It also operates a post graduate fellowship programme at Ph.D. and M.Sc. level. Teagasc employs 1200 staff and has an annual budget of about €195 million. Prof. Gerry Boyle is a Member of the Royal Irish Academy and has been conferred as a Chevalier de l'Ordre des Palmes Académiques by the Government of France. He serves as a member of the Climate Change Advisory Council of Ireland and as President of EURAGRI (European Agricultural Research Initiative). He also holds an honorary Doctor of Science conferred by University College Cork, Ireland.



Prof. Gianluca Brunori

is full professor of Food Policy at Pisa University. His research activities focus on the link between food and rural development and on sustainable food systems. Gianluca Brunori is scientific coordinator of the EU research project DESIRA (Digitalization: Socio-economic Impact in Rural Areas), and has participated as leader of local research teams to more than 20 EU projects. He is past president of the ISA Research Committee 40 “Sociology of food and agriculture”, and vice-president of the European Society of Rural Sociology. He is Editor-in-chief of the journal Agriculture and Food Economics. He is vice-chair of the FACCE-JPI SAB and chair of the Expert group for the V SCAR foresight.



Dr. Karel Charvát

graduated in theoretical cybernetics. He is a member of International Society for Precision Agriculture, Research Data Alliance, Club of Ossiach, CAGI, and CSITA. He was in period 2005-2007 President of European Federation for Information Technology in Agriculture Food and Environment (EFITA), now he is chairman of OGC Agriculture DWG. He was organiser for many hackathons, most important INSPIRE Hacks I and II and MEDHackathon. He works on implementation on national INSPIRE Geoportal. Now he is also active in Plan4all association. He has long time experience in ICT for Environment, Transport, Agriculture and Precision Farming and is a promoter of Open and Big Data in Agriculture in Europe. Participation in projects: Wirelessinfo, Premathmod, EMIRES, REGEO, RuralWins, Armonia, aBard, EPRI Start, Ami@netfood, AMI4For, Voice, Naturnet Redime, Mobildat, SpravaDat, Navlog, c@r, Humboldt, WINSOC, Plan4all, Habitats, Plan4business, SmartOpenData, FOODIE, SDI4Apps, AgriXchange, FOODIE, SDI4Apps, OTN, DataBio, SIEUSOIL, STARGATE, Polirural, AfraCloud, SKIN, ENABLING, Liverur, Innovar, ++



Prof. Anna Davies

is Professor of Geography, Environment and Society at Trinity College Dublin, Ireland, where she directs the Environmental Governance Research Group. Widely published in the fields of geography, environmental policy and sustainability, Anna is a member of the Royal Irish Academy and an elected Governing Board member of the International Science Council. Named Irish Researcher of the Year in 2018 by the Irish Research Council, in 2020 Anna was an inaugural recipient of the ERC Public Engagement Award for her project SHARECITY which is exploring the practice and sustainability potential of urban ICT-mediated food sharing. A Board Member of the European Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production, Anna is a founding member of Future Earth's Knowledge Action Network on Systems of Sustainable Consumption and Production and the inaugural Chair of Future Earth Ireland. She is a Director of The Rediscovery Centre in Dublin, Ireland's National Centre for the Circular Economy and a creative space connecting people, ideas and resources for greener living in Ireland and advises the Irish government as a member of Ireland's National Climate Change Advisory Council.



Dr. Alexander Duisberg

is a partner of Bird & Bird in Munich. His practice covers a wide range of contentious and non-contentious matters of technology law, including agile development, AI and Big Data, cloud migration and IT outsourcing projects, transactional data protection and cyber security, digital transformation projects, Internet of Things, Industry 4.0 and technology disputes. His client base comprises suppliers and customers in a range of industries, in particular within the automotive, mechanical engineering, defence and insurance sectors.

Alexander has been invited to the Federal Government think-tanks "Trusted Cloud", "Smart Data" and "Plattform Industrie 4.0", and is member of the Steering Group of the International Data Spaces Association. He is regularly invited to hearing of the German government and the EU Commission on related questions. He has also contributed with an extensive case study to the Federal German government's initiative on "regulatory sand-boxes" ("Reallabore"). Alexander is an appointed panelist to the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Centre, and has deep experience in domestic and international arbitration on technology disputes.



Dr. Bérénice Dupeux

is Senior Policy Officer for Agriculture at the European Environmental Bureau (EEB). Bérénice holds a PhD in Agricultural economics from Ghent University in Belgium, she has also a Master degree in International Development and Rural Policy from Wageningen University in the Netherlands and she is an agricultural engineer from Institut national polytechnique de Toulouse, France. Before joining the EEB she worked as a researcher at Ghent University and conducted some research at UC Berkeley as a Fulbright-Schuman scholar. Bérénice speaks French and English.



Prof. Dr. Peter H. Feindt

is Professor of Agricultural and Food Policy at the Albrecht Daniel Thaer Institute for Agricultural and Horticultural Science at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany. Previously, he was Professor of Strategic Communication at Wageningen University (2013-2017), Senior Lecturer/Reader for Environmental Policy and Planning at Cardiff University (2007-2013) and Senior Researcher at University of Hamburg (2000-2007). Holding a PhD in Political Science, he is also an experienced facilitator and mediator in public policy dialogues. His research addresses a broad range of questions in agricultural and food policy, in particular links to the bioeconomy, environmental policy, sustainability transitions and the resilience of farming systems. Related interests include environmental and technology conflicts; public participation and conflict management; strategic communication, policy discourse and narratives; and inter- and transdisciplinary collaboration. Peter is co-editor of the Journal of Environmental Policy and Planning, member of the board of the German Agricultural Research Alliance (DAFA) and chairs the Scientific Advisory Council for Biodiversity and Genetic Resources at the German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture.



Prof. Dr. Spyros Fountas

is Editor-in-Chief in the ELSEVIER journal “Computers and Electronics in Agriculture” (IF: 3.84) since 2014 and Associate Professor at Agricultural University of Athens since 2013. He holds an MSc from Cranfield University UK in Information Technology, and PhD from Copenhagen University, Denmark in Systems Analysis on Precision Agriculture. He was also Visiting Scholar at Purdue University, USA. He has been Keynote speaker in several conferences among others in the International Horticultural Congress (IHC 18) in Istanbul, Turkey in August 2018 on “Applications of new technologies in horticultural crops”; in the 17th European Weed Research Society (EWRS) in France in June 2015 on “Big data analytics for crop protection”; in the European Conference on Precision Agriculture (ECPA) in Spain in July 2013 on “Application of Precision Agriculture technology in high value crops”. He has coordinated 3 H2020 projects, Smart-AKIS, GATES and currently OPTIMA on optimised Integrated Pest Management for precise detection and control of plant diseases. He is also participating in 9 other H2020 funded projects. He has 130 papers, including book chapters, journal papers and conference papers and 3600 citations (Google scholar, October 2020).



Prof. Dr. Cynthia Giagnocavo

is Cátedra (Chair) of Horticulture, Cooperative Studies and Sustainable Development UAL-Coexphal, in the Faculty of Economics and Business Management at the University of Almería, Spain. Her overall work is focused on sustainability in food and agricultural systems, including transitions to agro-ecological social systems. Related and important research areas involve digitisation in agriculture (internet of food and farm, smart agriculture), digitisation transition management and impact, and corresponding value chains. Her research focuses on the intersection of organisational, technical, social, economic and institutional innovation, with an emphasis on cooperatives, innovative business models and collective entrepreneurship and social enterprise. She is President of the International Co-operative Alliance, European Research Board. She has participated in numerous European and international projects on innovative knowledge systems, entrepreneurship, the application of new technologies and digitization processes from a socio-economic perspective, policy and the diversity of business models.

Current projects:

Internet of Food and Farm (IoF2020, <https://www.iof2020.eu>, Use Case IoT on small family farms); SmartAgriHubs (<https://smartagrihubs.eu>, WP leader on agri-tech competence center networks); Fairshare (<https://www.h2020fairshare.eu>, business models for digital farm advisory tools); CooPerformance (cooperative governance) and Nefertiti (knowledge networks and demo farms, <https://neferiti-h2020.eu>).

She is also an experienced Barrister, Solicitor and Attorney qualified in Canada (Ontario), England and Wales and New York State. She has worked in both London and Madrid for the global law firm Clifford Chance LLP in the structured finance and banking groups, advising leading European and global banks and corporate entities. PhD in Economics and Business; M.E.S. in Environmental Studies; LL.B. in law; Hons. B.A. Philosophy and Literature.



Niels Gøtke

is Head of Division in the Danish Agency for Science and Higher Education. He is responsible for leading the implementation of EU Research & Innovation policy and programming across the Bio-economy in Denmark.

Niels Gøtke is heavily involved in a number of international research activities within food and bio-economy. From 2009-2019 he was the coordinator of the cross thematic ERA-NET ICT-AGRI, which had the aim to strengthen the European R&I within the diverse area of precision farming. From 2013-2016 Niels Gøtke was Chair of the Governing Board of the joint programming initiative on Agriculture, Food Security and Climate Change (FACCE-JPI). He is member of the Standing Committee on Agricultural Research, member of States Representatives Group for the Bio-based Industries Joint Undertaking (vice-chair from 2014-2019). At the Nordic level Niels Gøtke was chairman of the Joint Nordic Committee for Agricultural and Food Research from 2010-2014.

Niels Gøtke has a MSc in Economics from Aarhus University and a MSc in financial management and business administration from Copenhagen Business School. Niels Gøtke started his career as economist in the Danish Ministry of Agriculture and later he was posted at the Danish Mission to the OE



Karen T. Hamann

is the CEO of IFAU Institute for Food Studies & Agro Industrial Development in Denmark. She has worked with business development, innovation and technology in the European food sector for more than 25 years. Karen will present findings from a project about the digitalization and automation in the food industry and the implications for food industry workers. Karen holds a Masters' Degree from the University of Copenhagen and is studying for a PhD in Management studies at the University of Dundee, Scotland.



Dr. Klaus Heider

has been Director-General for Rural Development and Digital Innovation at the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture since March 2019. Previously, he was head of the Minister's Office and Political Staff from 2009 - 2014 and Director-General for Food and Nutrition Policy, Product Safety and Innovation from spring 2014. Klaus Heider began working for the then Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Forestry in 2001, following his degree in geodesy at the University of Bonn, a master's degree in urban and regional planning at Ohio State University (USA) and post-graduate civil service training in the Düsseldorf city administration.



Prof. Dr. Engel Hessel

is Commissioner for Digitalisation and Director for Digital Innovation at the German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture since 2018. She studied agriculture and received her doctorate in animal husbandry and animal breeding at the Kiel University. At the University of Göttingen she habilitated in agricultural engineering and is associate professor since 2011. In 2017, she became Director of the Thünen Institute of Agricultural Technology and was also appointed Professor for Digital Agriculture at the Technical University of Braunschweig.



Dr. Ivo Hostens

is a bio-engineer holding a PhD in Applied Biological Sciences, by the University of Leuven, BE. After several years in technical consultancy, he joined AGORIA the Belgian Federation for the Technological Industry as senior expert in horizontal technical legislation. In this function as of 2008 he also coordinated the technical work in CEMA. Since 2015 he works fulltime for CEMA as technical director and defends the interests of its 7,000 European agricultural machinery manufacturers. Since 2019 the function of secretary general of EurAgEng, the European Society for Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering is also part of his duties.



Christian Huyghe

PhD ENSA-Univ Rennes. Senior scientist in genetics and plant breeding. Research programs at Inra: genetics of seed yield of lupin, of biomass digestibility and seed production of alfalfa and genetic changes in temporary grasslands. More than 80 scientific papers and 20 books or book chapters. Head of a research Unit from 2001-2007. Chair of research centre Inra Poitou-Charentes 2008-2010. Today, Scientific Director Agriculture of Inrae, with main focus on changes of farming systems towards agroecology and partnerships for innovation with technical institutes (chair of the scientific committee of Acta). Leading Priority Research Programme of Ministry of Research “Cultiver et Protéger Autrement” and the European Research Alliance “Towards a chemical pesticide-free agriculture”. Coordination of PIA AKER on sugar beet genomics (2012-2020). Support to public policies on varieties and seeds (chair of scientific council of CTPS and chair of administrative board of GEVES) and on pesticides (chair of the Commission of Certificates for Economy of Plant Pesticides). Member of the Scientific Council of the European Public-Private Partnership «Bio-Based Industries Joint Undertaking» dedicated to Bioeconomy.



Dr. Anikó Juhász

is the deputy state secretary of the Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture from 2018. She was the general director of AKI (Research Institute of Agricultural Economics, Budapest, Hungary) between 2015-2018. Master's degree in Horticultural Engineering (1997) and PhD in Management and Business Administration (2010). Seventeen years of experience in food supply chains and related policy research. Project and programme evaluator of FP7 and H2020 calls since 2012. Co-chair of the European Union's Standing Committee on Agricultural Research (SCAR) Strategic Working Group on Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems (AKIS SWG) (2018-). Founder of Bioeast Initiative. Responsible for coordinating the development of the Hungarian CAP Strategic Plan and the development of the national bioeconomy strategy.



Oliver Jux

is head of the Division „Legal Affairs of Directorate-General 8, Rural Development and Digital Innovation, Regional Planning“ at the German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture. After studying law at the University of Cologne, Oliver Jux, since 1990, has been working in the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture in various departments: Personal Affairs, Agricultural Landlaw, Legislation in various agricultural markets (cereals, fiber plants, olive oil, wine, spirits). He also gained experience in the European Commission in Brussels during a stay in a cabinet of a German Commissioner in 1993. Between 2000 and 2004 he held positions as counsellor in the field of agricultural and environmental affairs in the Embassy of Germany in Madrid, Spain.

Currently his working unit is responsible within the Ministry for a number of legal topics in the fields of Digital Innovation, Rural Development, Regional Planning, Tenancy Law, Social Housing, Urban Development, Water Association Law and all other legal affairs of the above mentioned Directorate-General.



Prof. Tom Kelly

is Director of Knowledge Transfer in Teagasc since 2010. He is an Agricultural Science graduate, with both Masters and PhD awarded by University College Dublin. He completed an MBA through University of Limerick in 1998. Tom has worked in range of roles in advisory and education. He currently leads the agricultural education and farm advisory services in Teagasc. He is a founding board member and former chairman of EUFRAS (European Forum for Agricultural and Rural Advisory Services) 2013-2019. He was appointed Adjunct Associate Professor of Agricultural Extension at University College Dublin in 2017. In 2019 he was appointed an International Fellow of the Royal Swedish Academy for Agriculture and Forestry. Participant in EU-EIP Assembly and innovation subgroup, EU research projects (Agrispin, LIAISON, FAIRshare and i2connect).



Dr. Katarzyna Kosior

Researcher at the Institute of Agricultural and Food Economics – National Research Institute in Warsaw (Department of Agribusiness and Bioeconomy). Graduate of the Jagiellonian University and the European University Viadrina. Between 2013-2017 held a position of the Dean of the Applied Social Sciences Department at the Tischner European University in Cracow. Her research interests include economic, social and legal aspects of digital transformation in the agri-food sector, and in particular framework conditions for furthering socially responsible data-driven innovations, data platforms, Artificial Intelligence and distributed ledger technologies in the sector. Currently working as an external consultant in the project “Passports for Polish food” initiated by the National Support Centre for Agriculture (KOWR) to provide blockchain-based solutions for increasing transparency, traceability, quality and safety in agri-food supply chains in Poland.



Dr. Pierre Labarthe

is economist and senior researcher at INRAE, the French National Research Institute for Agriculture, Food and Environment. His research deals with the transformation of R&D in the agricultural sector. He is the coordinator of the H2020 project AgriLink (“Agricultural Knowledge: linking farmers, researchers and advisors to boost innovation”). The aim of this project (2017-2021, 16 partners, 5M€) is to stimulate transitions towards more sustainable European agricultures by furthering the understanding of the roles played by a wide range of advisory organisations in farmer decision-making and enhancing their contribution to learning and innovation (<https://www.agrilink2020.eu/>). The research of Dr. Labarthe also explores the consequences of the digitalization of agriculture, from the perspective of social sciences. He has recently published a literature review on this topic together with Dr. Laurens Klerkx and Emma Jakku (<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.njas.2019.100315>).



Dr. Doris Marquardt

European Commission, Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development, Unit B2, Research and Innovation.

Dr. Doris Marquardt works for the European Commission, in the Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development since July 2019 focussing on the digitalisation of the agricultural sector and rural areas and at Research and Innovation. She completed her PhD in agricultural policies at the Martin-Luther University, Halle-Wittenberg, Germany and holds a diploma (Msc) in Environmental Planning from the Technical University of Munich, Weihenstephan.

She held positions at the European Environment Agency, the German Permanent Representation, the German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture, the European Network for Rural Development Contact Point, the Germany-based Leibniz Institute for Agricultural Development in Central and Eastern Europe, the Center of Rural Economy in Newcastle, United Kingdom, and the European Academy in Bolzano, Italy.

She has experiences in the implementation of the Common Agricultural Policy in several EU Member States, including Romania, Italy and Germany. She served as expert in policy design, agriculture, and rural and regional development in projects commissioned by, e.g. the World Bank, UNEP and FAO.



Prof. Dr. José Martínez

is Director of the Institute for Agricultural Law and Director of the Department of International and Comparative Law at the Institute of Public Law of the Georg-August-University Göttingen. He is Visiting Professor at the University of Nanjing (China) and at the University Santo Tomás of Bogota (Colombia). He is a member of the Scientific Advisory Board on Agricultural Policy, Food and Consumer Health Protection (WBAE) at the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Vice-President of the German Society for Agricultural Law and Vice-President of the European Council for Rural Law (CEDR).



Georg Mayerhofer

had won the CeresAward in 2017, the German Agricultural Publishing House wrote that, for Mayerhofer, being a farmer was “not just a job, but both a passion and a vocation”. Since then, Mayerhofer has been trying all the harder to bridge the gap between the farming industry and society. “It is all about explaining and further advancing agriculture.” And this further advancement is a task he also wants to engage in. “We need regional value chains as well as greater appreciation and increased added value for our sector. Digitalisation can help us a lot in this regard.” Mayerhofer already uses digital technologies in the stalls and in the fields and believes they offer great opportunities. He studied agricultural economics at the Weihenstephan University of Applied Science. The long-standing family-owned company Mayerhofer Agrar engages in classic arable farming and pig fattening and operates a biogas plant.



Claudia Mittermayr

Known as Austria's first female agricultural drone pilot, innovations in agriculture and forestry have been Claudia's passion for many years. Claudia manages the activities of the AIL, building the bridge between corporations and the StartUp world.

Work Experience:

06/2020 – Present CEO

Agro Innovation Lab GmbH – www.agroinnovationlab.com

Detect new agricultural trends for market implementation in AT and CEE; Bridge builder between warehouses and Agtech startups; Offering Co-Innovation programs & Acceleration programs.

01/2017 - 06/2020 – Head of Farming Innovations

Raiffeisen Ware Austria AG – www.rwa.at

Implementing Ag-Innovations in Austria and CEE; Project management for new services or products in cooperation with warehouses and farmers;

Further development or existing services as drones and soil sampling.

01/2016 - 12/2016 – Project Leader Agro Innovations

Agro Innovation Lab GmbH – www.agroinnovationlab.com

Setting up the first Accelerator for agriculture in Europe; Maintaining the scouting and selecting process of Start-ups; Processing the Acceleration Program 2016;

Taking responsibility of existing innovations as drones and soil sampling.

Education:

Master Program in Organic Farming - University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna, Austria & University Milan, Italy.

Bachelor Program in Agricultural Sciences - University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna, Austria.

She runs a small arable farm in Upper Austria.



Drs. Krijn J. Poppe

Economist, Policy advisor on agriculture and food systems, semi-retired. Krijn Poppe studied business economics in Amsterdam (BA) and Rotterdam (Erasmus Universiteit, MSc, 1981). Until summer 2020 he worked for nearly 40 years with the Agricultural Economics Research Institute (LEI) in The Hague that after its merger with Wageningen UR was renamed as Wageningen Economic Research.

He was involved in the management of the institute as well as European projects and advised policy makers, especially the Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality and the European Commission. His work focused on supporting decision makers in policy and business to understand and act upon trends in agri & food, based in science. His own research interests focused ICT, research-infrastructure, knowledge and innovation systems, accounting, the Common Agriculture Policy and food policy. On these topics he wrote many accessible papers in the national press and in international scientific journals. Within Wageningen UR he managed research programs on Transitions and on Resilience.

From 2009-2011 he worked part-time in the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality as Chief Science Officer.

Since 2016 Krijn Poppe works 1 day per week as Member of the Council for the Environment and Infrastructure. This council provides strategic advice to the Dutch ministers and the parliament on complex societal challenges.

Poppe is also a member of the Provincial Advisory Committee for the Environment of the Province of South Holland and he chairs the Agro-Expert Council of the Province Flevoland. He is a member of the board of the Foundation Skal Biocontrole, that certifies the organic farms. He is also honorary secretary-treasurer of the European Agricultural and Applied Economics Publications Foundation, that publishes scientific journals.

Krijn Poppe is a much invited speaker for a broad range of audiences. He is an active user of social media for science communication and economic insights.



Bernd Rauch

works as a researcher and project manager at the Fraunhofer Institute for Experimental Software Engineering IESE in Kaiserslautern, Germany. While his main areas of research comprise digital ecosystems and the platform economy, his most recent activities focus on agricultural projects. As a project manager for the Fraunhofer lighthouse project “Cognitive Agriculture” (www.cognitive-agriculture), he and his team are researching and developing concepts for an Agricultural Data Space (ADS), addressing challenges like digital sovereignty for farmers and interoperability of data and services. Bernd Rauch has a German Diplom degree in Computer Science (from Saarland University) and an MBA in General Management, Leadership & Communication (from TU München). Based on his educational background and his longstanding experience as a software architect, he is convinced that a suitable solution requires both a holistic approach and a variety of different perspectives.



Kerstin Rosenow

is Head of Unit 'Research & Innovation' in DG AGRI, European Commission where she is responsible for programming, managing and monitoring research on agriculture, forests and rural areas and the European Partnership for Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability (EIP-AGRI). The digital transformation of agriculture and rural areas forms a central element of the work of her unit's work, including the development and implementation of Horizon 2020 themes boosting precision farming and EIP-AGRI initiatives on digital skills.

Previously she was Head of Unit in the EC Research Executive Agency (REA) managing the implementation of the project portfolio for Horizon 2020 Societal Challenge 2 (food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine, maritime, and inland water research and the bioeconomy).

She's been working in the EC for over 17 years after covering a managerial position in the German administration (Representation of the State of Hessen to the EU). For DG AGRI she coordinated negotiations with pre-accession and candidate countries and the preparation of the 2014-2020 CAP legislative framework. She studied law, politics and administration in Marburg, Grenoble and Bruges.



Andreas Schweikert

is head of digital farming at Bitkom, Germany's digital association. Growing up in the Stuttgart region, he studied political and administrative science in Konstanz, Grenoble and Utrecht and gained work experience at the European Parliament and the federal ministry of food and agriculture. Before joining Bitkom, he worked at the World Food Programme in Rome and South Sudan, where he coordinated humanitarian crisis operations. In his current role, he promotes the exchange between agricultural and digital companies, startups, science and politics and considers the digitalisation in agriculture as an opportunity for more sustainability, biodiversity and animal welfare.



Prof. Dr. Nesli Sözer

is a research professor in smart and sustainable food production at VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland. She has more than 20 years expertise on food material science and food ingredient/product design. Nesli is passionate in immersing food science and technology into novel concepts. Currently, she is leading projects focusing on sustainable and decentralized personalized food production. Nesli is the chair of Healthgrain Forum (<https://healthgrain.org/>) an association whose vision is to promote science based concepts fully unlocking the health promoting potential in the entire grain food production chain to obtain healthy, convenient and appealing foods.



Milica Trajkovic

is a certified PMI project manager, focused on Digital Agriculture and development of ICTs for AgriFood value chain. As a Head of Business Development Department at the BioSense Institute, she is responsible for building new and maintaining a fruitful partnership network of the Institute both with industry and academia across Europe. Milica manages multi-national and cross-sectoral consortia, supports the Institute in new project preparations (from an idea to design and proposal establishment) and fosters entrepreneurial mentality among the Institutes' employees. She facilitates business acceleration for high-tech startups and SMEs and web entrepreneurs from the region with the main aim to bring start-up tech community closer to the AgriFood sector.



Dr. Simone van der Burg

is affiliated to Wageningen University and Research as project leader and senior researcher in ethics and responsible research and innovation. The goal of her research is to contribute to the societal acceptability of innovation, by broadening the reflection of innovators on the societal end ethical impacts it may have on society during the innovation process. At the moment she leads a workpackage on ethics in a large European innovation project Internet of Food and Farm2020 (IOF2020) and is involved as a project leader and researcher in numerous other projects on self-learning robots in the agrofood domain and on digital twins. She is co-founder and associate editor of the Journal of Responsible Innovation and member of Cogem which advises the Dutch government about ethical and societal aspects of genetic modification of human beings, animals and plants. Her publications can be found at: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Simone_Van_Der_Burg



Dr. Jürgen Vangeyte

is scientific director at ILVO. ILVO performs multidisciplinary, innovative and independent research aimed at economically, ecologically and socially sustainable agriculture and fisheries in a from farm to fork approach. He is the head of the department Agrifood Technology. The group exists of more than 30 researchers and innovators supported by specialised technical staff. He organizes, coordinates, and manages the research, development and innovation activities to support the implementation of the research and innovation. He has a PhD in Bioscience Engineering at the Catholic University of Leuven, on the topic 'Development and validation of a low-cost technique to predict spread patterns of centrifugal fertiliser spreaders'. He coordinates national research projects and is work package leader in several large European projects, like IOF2020, Smart Agri Hubs and Cybele. Jürgen Vangeyte was an expert in the EIP-AGRI Focus Group 'Mainstreaming precision agriculture' and commits himself as an enthusiastic ambassador for the digitalization in Agrifood.



Prof. Dr. Cornelia Weltzien

is head of ATB Department “Engineering for Crop Production” and chair of Agro Mechatronics at the TU Berlin since 2015. After studying agricultural engineering at the University of Applied Sciences Cologne she completed her postgraduate studies in mechanical engineering at Technical University Braunschweig in 2006. In 2008 Prof. Dr.-Ing. Weltzien obtains her doctorate at the Institute for Agricultural Machinery and Fluid Technology with the thesis “Assistance System for the Overloading Process with a selfpropelled Forage Harvester”. Before joining ATB she was part of interdisciplinary advanced engineering teams in the industry, developing electro hydraulic control systems for mobile working machinery. Her expertise are precision agriculture, automation of agricultural processes, smart systems, digitalisation in agriculture. Prof. Dr.-Ing. Weltzien is a nationally and internationally recognized elite researcher in the field of digital agriculture.



Prof. Leanne Wiseman

is Professor of Law at Griffith University, Brisbane Australia and Associate Director of Australian Centre for Intellectual Property in Agriculture (ACIPA). Leanne is an interdisciplinary scholar whose research lies at the intersections of law, science and digital technologies. Her research expertise focuses on the intersection between intellectual property law and new technologies, with particular attention to the intersection of copyright and new digital technologies and the legal dimensions of their adoption and uptake in a wide range of industries. She has most recently focused on the legal and trust issues (including privacy and security) arising from the adoption and uptake of digital technologies in agricultural industries in national and international contexts. Leanne was the lead Legal researcher on a large Australian Commonwealth Government funded research grant: Accelerating Precision Agriculture to Decision Agriculture, 2016-2018. The collaborative project designed a solution for the use of big data in agriculture increasing the profitability of producers, providing clarity about data ownership and access rights, and improving digital strategies and governance within Australian agriculture. Her current research focusses on balancing IP rights with genuine access to information, whether that be in the field of agricultural digital technologies or more generally. She is currently researching legal and regulatory responses to the emerging International Right to Repair movement, with particular interest of its impact within agriculture and the broader community.

Vincent-Immanuel Herr and Martin Speer

Vincent is an author, activist, and public speaker from Berlin. He has published op-ed pieces in numerous German and international news media, and has written two books. A third book, zeroing in on the future of the European project, will be published with his co-author Martin Speer in August 2021.

Martin is an author, activist, and political consultant from Berlin. Martin advises political decision makers and organizations on questions of political communication and strategy.

Together Vincent and Martin are HERR & SPEER. Their work is guided by a strong commitment to European integration, gender equality, and a more inclusive understanding of political processes. They have successfully lobbied the European Commission to introduce a mobility program for European youths, and have been awarded, among others, the Jean Monnet Prize for European Integration.

