

BIOGAS LAB

WEBINAR SERIES



Biogas: The Next Wave

OUR SPEAKERS

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

Harmen Dekker, EBA Director

10:00 – 10:45 DRIVING FORWARD THE RESEARCH ON BIOGAS

MODERATOR



Prof. Erik Meers,
*Gent University and
Executive Board
Member of EBA*

Prof. Erik Meers is associated to the Ghent University (Belgium) where he coordinates research in resource recovery. He is founder of the EU project cluster Biorefine Cluster Europe (www.biorefine.eu)

He also coordinated the Flemish biogas association, Biogas-E (www.biogas-e.be) from 2012-2016 and is currently board member in this local association representing Ghent University. In recent years, Erik Meers has supported EBA as chairman to the Scientific Advisory Council (SAC) and in that capacity organized the 2016 EBA conference in Ghent and supported the 2018 edition in Antwerp with research contributions. His main aims is to re-organize and increase the participation and involvement of research institutes into the activities of EBA to support the policy agenda and with the goal towards innovation-towards business implementation.



Dr. Oscar Schoumans,
*Wageningen University
& Research*

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. To date, he coordinates the H2020 project SYSTEMIC where industries and SME's implement and demonstrate innovative systems of nutrient recovery techniques on large scale biogas plants.



Angela Vesenmaier,
University of Stuttgart

Angela is Research Assistant at the Chair for Waste Management and Emissions Department of the University of Stuttgart. Currently, she works on research projects on methane emissions from biogas plants/ biowaste treatment plants.

Previously she was assistant at the Institute for Atmosphere and Environment of the Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany.

She holds a M.Sc. in Environmental Engineering.

11:00 – 11:45 *DEPLOYING NEW TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS*

MODERATOR



Harmen Dekker,
Director of the EBA

Harmen Dekker has worked for almost 15 years within the sustainability sector and is devoted to the mitigation of climate change. He has built his career in the water and gas sector, where he has held different management positions. He joined the EBA after 5 years of service at DMT Environmental Technology. As manager for business development, he worked on the expansion of the biogas sector in new geographic regions. During those years, he also focused on the implementation of new techniques for valorising biogas, such as bio-LNG. These responsibilities included the analysis of future opportunities to produce bio-Methanol and bioplastics.



Pere Margalef,
*Vice President of
Business Development
at FuelCell Energy*

Pere Margalef serves as Vice President of Business Development at FuelCell Energy. Pere holds a Ph.D. in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering and a M. Sc. in Environmental Engineering from the National Fuel Cell Research Center (NFCRC) at the University of California, Irvine. During his graduate studies, Pere helped to develop technology for the poly-generation of power, heat and fuels with high temperature fuel cells. He published multiple articles in peer-reviewed journals and a book chapter with his co-advisors, Professors Scott Samuelsen and Jack Brouwer.

Pere joined FuelCell Energy, Inc. in 2012, where he is paving the way to commercialization of advanced biogas fuel cell applications such as hydrogen generation, carbon capture and energy storage. In addition, he is responsible of developing the EU market for the SureSource® fuel cell systems for ultra-clean power and heat cogeneration.



Malek Mezni,
*Project Manager at
Azola*

Malek is a Petroleum and Natural Gas processing Engineer who also holds an advanced degree in Project Management.

He has worked for Eni S.p.A. as an oil production engineer, before joining Engie where he specialized in decentralized energy production and demand side management. Malek joined Azola in February 2020 where he was put in charge of the development of future Azola products and services.



Fabiana Fantinel,
*Chief Executive Officer
at Co2BioClean*

Dr. Fabiana Fantinel has a strong track record in the Life Science industry, spanning across innovation, strategy and operations management. She worked several years in Chemicals and Life Science landscape for BASF and LyondellBasell. She also led several projects in the area of innovation strategy and operational improvement for Life Science industry players, with a strong focus on bioeconomy. Currently she is Managing Director at CO2BioClean GmbH, a Bioetch start-up, with the mission to turn industrial CO2 emissions into biobased and biodegradable natural polymers. She holds a PhD in Chemistry from the University of Padua and an MBA from the Liverpool Business School, University of Liverpool.



Alena Fargere,
*Principal at
Swen Capital
Partners*

Passionate about climate change mitigation, Alena is renewable gas investor, hydrogen energy expert and energy transition economist. Since 2012 she accelerates the Energy Transition by developing economic, policy and financial tools with the global objective to abate 6 Gt of CO₂ annually, create 30 m jobs, and unlock the \$2.5 tr hydrogen market by 2050. Alena is part of the team that launched the first European impact investment fund dedicated to renewable gases, SWEN Impact Fund for Transition. With 6 years of industrial experience at Air Liquide, Alena advised the World Energy Council and the UN on sustainable energy, gas and mobility pathways. Her contribution to the energy transition success has been recognised by the Forbes 30 under 30 list and the Future Energy Leader nomination by the World Energy Council. Alena holds a PhD in Economics from Ecole Polytechnique, France, and Master's degrees both in Applied Mathematics and in Public Policy. In her spare time Alena leads projects to promote gender equality in the workplace and women's empowerment.