

MEET THE SPEAKERS



**EUROPEAN
BIOGAS
CONFERENCE**

25 — 26 OCTOBER 2022

25 October



Sasha Twining (moderator) - Television and radio presenter

Sasha Twining is a well respected television and radio presenter. She is currently presenting for the BBC on both radio and television. On radio, she works for the BBC World Service, presenting their high profile show 'Business Matters' (broadcast on BBC Radio 4 in the UK) and also 'World Business Report'. Her current TV work includes consumer champion show 'Inside Out' and the Politics Show for BBC South.



Anders Mathiasson - EBA President

Anders started his professional career in the construction sector after a master's degree in civil engineering. A little more than 25 years ago, he entered the energy and gas industry. In the mid 1990s he started to work for the energy company Öresundskraft in Southern Sweden as Managing Director of their marketing and sales company, then as CEO of the Swedish Gas Association between 2004 and 2016. Today he is an independent consultant and senior advisor to the Swedish Gas Association.



Harmen Dekker - EBA CEO

Harmen Dekker has worked for almost 15 years within the sustainability sector and is devoted to the mitigation of climate change. With both a technical as well as a business administration background he has built his career in the water and gas sector, where he has held various management positions. He joined the EBA after being involved in the biogas sector for over 5 years. During those years, he not only focused on the expansion of biogas and in particular biomethane, but also on the implementation of techniques such as bio-LNG, bio-Methanol, bio-Hydrogen and bioplastics.



Giulia Laura Cancian - EBA Secretary General

Giulia Cancian is the Secretary General at the European Biogas association. Before joining the EBA in 2022, Giulia led Bioenergy Europe's advocacy strategy, coordinated the delivery of policy reports, and the organization of several working groups. She gained experience on sustainability, energy and transports working with the biodiesel, non-ferrous metals and hydropower European trade associations in Brussels. Giulia holds a MA in International Relation from the University of Rome and a MSc in European Affairs from the Free University of Brussels.



Frans Timmermans, Vice-President of the European Commission



Mechthild Wörsdörfer, Deputy Director European Commission DG Energy

Mechthild Wörsdörfer has been appointed deputy director general for the European Commission Director General for Energy (DG ENER). Previously, she was director sustainability, technology and outlooks at the International Energy Agency. Previously, Wörsdörfer was head of policy unit on the 2030 Energy and Climate Framework. From 1999 to 2004, she served in the Cabinet of Erkki Liikanen, European Commissioner for Enterprise Policy and Information Society. Wörsdörfer studied Economics at the University of Heidelberg and the University of Montpellier and completed her studies with a MA in European Economics at the Free University of Brussels.



Jan Dusik, State Secretary of Climate, Czech Republic

- 06/2022 - Ministry of the Environment - Deputy Minister for Climate Protection
- 2020 - 2022 - World Wide Fund for Nature Arctic Programme (WWF) – most recently as Acting Director



Lisbet Ølgaard, Head of Division Centre for Renewables at the Danish Energy Agency



Dinand Drankier, Programme Manager at Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate of the Netherlands



Sophie Grenade, Policy Adviser at industriAll Europe

Sophie Grenade is Policy Advisor for industriAll European Trade Union. She has more than 10 years of trade union work at national, European and international level. Before joining industriAll Europe, she was advisor on European affairs within the Belgian Trade Union Confederation FGTB. Sophie holds a Research Master's degree in Political Sociology from EHESS (Paris, France) and a masters' degree in Sociology (University of Liège, Belgium).



Emmanuelle Causse, Secretary General of the International Union of Property Owners (UIPI)

Emmanuelle has been Director of UIPI since 2009, when she settled the UIPI Representation in Brussels. Her role is to lead the Brussels office, act as a representative toward EU institutions and prepare as well as defend the positions of the organisation on all EU topics relevant for private property owners. In February 2020, she was also elected Secretary General.



Elsi Katainen, Member of the European Parliament TRAN Committee



Aurélie Beauvais, Managing Director at Euroheat & Power

Aurélie Beauvais is the Managing Director of Euroheat & Power (EHP), the international network for district energy, promoting sustainable heating and cooling in Europe and beyond. Euroheat & Power represents 130+ members (National DHC associations, utilities, manufacturers, universities, research institutes and consultancies) across 30 countries. Aurélie brings over a decade of experience in political strategy, advocacy and EU energy & climate policies. She previously held the position of Deputy CEO and Policy Director of SolarPower Europe from 2017 to 2021. She also headed the European Affairs department of the French Union of Electricity from 2012 to 2017.



Goher-Ur-Rehman Mir, Global Policy Manager Sustainable Fuels at SHV Energy

Goher Ur Rehman Mir is an experienced energy professional with expertise covering energy policy, energy markets and renewable energy technologies with a focus on renewable gases. At SHV Energy, he is leading discussions on energy policy dossiers that are being revised as part of the EU Green Deal to enable a Just Energy Transition where recognition for low carbon and renewable gases such as renewable LPG and bioLPG, bioLNG as well as rDME – dimethylether- is crucial. Goher currently leads the industry led renewable LPG project at the World LPG Association which explores innovative pathways that can contribute to the sector's defossilization journey.

Oscar Baroncelli, Global Tractors Product Management Leader, New Holland Agriculture



Magnus Folkelid, Global Sales Manager at Wärtsilä Gas Solutions – Biogas Solutions

Global Sales Manager at Wärtsilä Gas Solutions for the biogas sector that provide process plants for biogas upgrading and liquefaction. MSc Mechanical Engineering Energy System who wants to be "on the right side of the history". 10 years of business development experience related to renewable gases within both the biogas (anaerobic digestion) and the thermal gasification industry.



Riaan van Kralingen – Biofuel Broker at Olyx



Victor Bernabeu, Senior Policy Advisor at Eurogas

Victor Bernabeu is Senior Policy Advisor at Eurogas. He oversees the association's working groups on transport, renewable & decarbonised gases, wholesale markets, and carbon capture. Prior to joining Eurogas, Victor was Senior Manager for Technical & Regulatory Affairs at ePURE, the association representing ethanol producers. At ePURE, he was fully dedicated to transport, energy and climate issues, involved in all the major EU policies. Victor is a French engineer, holds a MSc. in Chemistry for Chimie ParisTech, a MSc. in Chemical Engineering from PSL Research University and a MSc. in Energy & Products from the IFP School.



Gabrielle Gauthey, Senior VP for European Public Affairs at TotalEnergies



Laura Cozzi, Chief Energy Modeler at the International Energy Agency

As Chief Energy Modeller Ms. Cozzi oversees the Agency's work on outlooks and forecasts and is in charge of overall consistency of modelling work and resulting messages. Ms. Cozzi is also Head of the Demand Outlook Division with responsibility of producing the annual World Energy Outlook, the IEA flagship publication. Ms Cozzi joined the IEA in 1999, and has been leading several editions of the Outlook, and has been co-author of multiple editions of the report. Prior to joining the IEA, Ms. Cozzi worked for the Italian energy company ENI S.p.A. She holds a Master Degree in Environmental Engineering (from Polytechnic Milan) and a Master Degree in Energy and Environmental Economics (from Eni Corporate University)



Sabrina Soussan, CEO of Suez

Sabrina Soussan is a graduate of Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Mécanique et d'Aéronautique. After starting her career at Renault (France), Sabrina Soussan held a variety of management and operations positions at the global level for Siemens Automotive, Siemens Building Technologies, and Siemens Mobility from 2013. In 2017, Sabrina was appointed CEO of Siemens group's Mobility subsidiary. In early 2021, she was nominated CEO of global Swiss-based group, dormakaba. Sabrina has served as a director on the Board of US group, ITT, since 2018.



André Faaij, Director of Science Unit "Energy Transition" at TNO, Professor at Utrecht University, Member at IPCC

André P.C. Faaij (1969) is appointed as Director of Science of TNO Energy Transition. He combines this position with a part time chairs as Distinguished Professor Energy System Analysis at the University of Groningen (RUG) and Utrecht University (UU). Being part of IPCC, he was jointly awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007. Furthermore, he was appointed Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum and 2015 he received The Linneborn Prize; established in 1994 for outstanding contributions to the development of energy from biomass.



Pierre Bascou, Director - Sustainability Directorate, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission

Pierre Bascou is the Director for Sustainability, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission. Between 2010 and 2014 he was Head of the Unit responsible for Agricultural Policy Analysis and Perspectives. From 2003 until 2009 he was heading the Unit in charge of the economic analysis of EU agriculture for the conception, the management and the evaluation of the Common Agricultural Policy. He received his PhD in Agricultural Economics (1989) from the Imperial College London, UK) and Ingénieur" in agronomy from ESA Toulouse in 1986.



Torben Brabo, President at GIE

GIE President and Chairman of GIE Board and GIE General Assembly. Torben Brabo is SVP on International Relations in Energinet Group, the Danish national transmission system operator for electricity and gas. He has more than 25 years of experience in the energy and gas sector in Denmark and abroad. Part of that as CEO in more than 10 years for the Gas TSO and Gas Storage Denmark (GSD). Besides of being GIE's President, he is engaged as Board member in ENTSO-G (European Network of Transmission System Operators for Gas) and the European gas capacity trading platform PRISMA, and promoting ERGAR. Moreover, he participates in several decarbonisation projects, such as Gas for Climate (GfC) and the European Hydrogen Backbone (EHB).

Riccardo Galletta, Policy Officer - Gas Markets and Energy Retail at the Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators



Cillian O'Donoghue, Policy Director at Eurelectric

With a professional background in journalism, Cillian has over 10 years of experience in EU energy and climate legislation, with proven expertise around the EU Emissions Trading System, EU State Aid frameworks and industrial electrification.

He joins Eurelectric in 2022 after serving as Director Climate & Energy of Eurometaux for over five years. Prior to Eurometaux, Cillian was senior account manager in the Climate and Energy Practice of Fleishman Hillard.

Cillian holds a law degree from Dublin City university, a master's degree in International Relations and European Studies from the Central European University in Budapest and a master's degree in International Economics and Political Systems from Charles University in Prague.



Felicia Mester, Director of Public Affairs at Hydrogen Europe

After studies focused on economics, finance and international relations Felicia Mester went on to specialise in regulation and energy. After working for the non-banking financial regulator of Moldova on the MD-EU Association Agenda, she joined the energy sector via her position with the Global Solar Council. Following this, she joined Eurogas where she regularly represented the European gas sector at high level conferences and expert panels. Felicia Mester joined Hydrogen Europe in February 2021 responsible for carbon market reform, hydrogen regulatory framework and infrastructure development as well as renewable energy policy files. She assumed the role of Director of Public Affairs continuing to focus on policy position making and engaging with the European Institutions.

Gemma Toop, Associate Director-Energy, Sustainability & Infrastructure at Guidehouse

Galin Gentchev, Deputy Head of Unit Decarbonisation and Sustainability of Energy Sources, DG ENER, European commission



Nicolas Spilliaert, Strategy Advisor, Corporate & Biogas development at Storengy - ENGIE

Sacha Alberici, Associate Director - Energy, Sustainability and Infrastructure at Guidehouse

Sacha is a biofuels/low carbon fuels expert who advises a wide range of organizations in the public and private sectors. He focuses in biofuels sustainability and voluntary scheme certification, feedstock potential assessment (focusing on wastes and residues), market studies and advanced biofuels (including synthetic fuels).

Sacha has supported the European Commission since 2010 on the practical implementation of the sustainability requirements of the Renewable Energy Directive. For the UK Department of Transport, he provided technical support on carbon and sustainability policy development with respect to the UK Renewable Transport Fuel Obligation (RTFO), leading a review of the UK biofuel industry and waste oil markets and contributed to an assessment of the sustainability implications of introducing novel low carbon fuels into the RTFO.



Lorenzo Maggioni, Head of R&D, Consorzio Italiano Biogas

Lorenzo Maggioni, PhD, is an expert of the biomethane sector. Since 2011 he is Head of R&D of CIB, where he led several European funded projects. Currently he is participating in the EU founded projects SABANA, REGATRACE and BIKE. He is the coordinator of the hydrogen and of the biomethane working groups of the CIB. Every year he participates as a speaker at numerous international conferences.

Theodora Nikolakopoulou, Head of Unit, DG GROW, European Commission



João Pacheco, Senior Fellow of Farm Europe

Former Deputy Director General in DG AGRI, João is a prominent partner and contributor to Farm Europe. Joao has held multiple top-level positions in the European Commission in DG AGRI. He has also served as European Union Ambassador to Brazil. Joao has extensive experience in multilateral and bilateral trade relations. He brings over 30 years of top European government trade and agriculture policy as well as private sector experience.



Gregory Reuland, PhD Researcher, Bioscience Engineering Faculty ,Ghent University

Gregory Reuland holds an MSc in Environmental Engineering and a Master's degree in International Relations. His keen interest in sustainable development and waste recovery led him to take part in research projects geared towards the improvement of lignocellulose biodegradability and methane production (South America and Europe) before landing an opportunity as PhD researcher at the Bioscience Engineering Faculty (Ghent University). Gregory's main focus within Nutri2Cycle is to assess the carbon and nutrient cycling through the use of digestate in a 3-year field trial and assess the fertiliser replacement value of such recycling-derived fertilisers.



Paolo Di Stefano, Head of Brussels Office of Coldiretti



Agata Prządka, Project Manager Innovation Fund at CINEA - European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency



James McGreer, Director of the Renewable Gas Forum Ireland

James McGreer is Director of the Renewable Gas Forum Ireland. He is actively involved in the development and implementation of 'commercialisation road-maps' with an expansive technical involvement in anaerobic digestion, biomethane purification and hydrogen generation, transportation and storage technology. James McGreer is also involved in a number of other sustainable projects in the agricultural sector including managing Ulster University's Intelligent Total Energy Management in Dairying project.



Marina Pasteris, Technical Project Officer, European Biogas Association

Marina Pasteris started working at EBA as Technical and Project Officer in October 2021. She works on diverse biogas related EU projects, on the applications of biogas and biomethane in the transport sector and collaborates with the technical aspects of EBA working teams. Marina has earned technical expertise on the biogas production and anaerobic digestion during her doctoral studies at the Leibniz Institute for Agricultural Engineering and Bioeconomy (Germany) as well as during her work at the EEAOC (Argentina). She graduated in 2014 as a biotechnologist at the National University of Tucuman and is finishing her PhD at the Technical University of Berlin.



Giorgio Copelli, Director Industry & Renewables, ECOSPRAY