



# BIOECONOMY CHANGEMAKERS FESTIVAL

Youth as driver of transformative change

High-level event

*Achieving the green and fair transition through competitive sustainability*



📍 **Thon Hotel City Centre**  
Av. Du Boulevard 17, 1210 **Brussels**

## EVENT AGENDA

**Day 1 – 13 March 2024**

**Master of Ceremonies: Tamsin ROSE**

TIME (GMT+01:00)	SESSION TITLE & SPEAKERS
8:30-9:00	Welcome & registration
9:00-10:30	<b>HIGH-LEVEL OPENING</b>  <b>Keynotes</b>  <b>Iliana IVANOVA</b> <i>European Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth</i>  <b>Adélaïde CHARLIER</b> <i>Co-Founder Youth for Climate, Belgium</i>  <b>Joanna DRAKE</b> <i>Deputy Director-General, DG Research &amp; Innovation, European Commission</i>  <b>Elisabeth WERNER</b> <i>Deputy Secretary-General, DG Secretariat-General, European Commission</i>

Research and  
Innovation

### **"Building the Bioeconomy of Tomorrow"**

*Interactive **discussion** with experts*

#### **Iris LEWANDOWSKI**

*Chair of the department 'Biobased Resources in the Bioeconomy' and Chief Bioeconomy Officer, University of Hohenheim, Germany*

#### **Isabella GARCÍA CAFFARO**

*Bioeconomy Youth Champion, International Advisory Council on Global Bioeconomy, Guatemala*

### **Pitches from satellite events**

#### **Victor FALGUERA**

*Biohubcat Awareness Event, Spain*

#### **Ioannis FALLAS**

*BioChange Fest Kozani, Greece*

#### **Kristina ŠERMUKŠNYTĖ-ALEŠIŪNIENĖ**

*Green Horizons Summit, Lithuania*

**10:30-11:00**

*Coffee Break*

**11:00-12:45**

### **THE VOICE OF YOUTH IN BIOECONOMY:**

#### **Bioeconomy Youth Vision & Youth Assembly**

*EU Bioeconomy Youth Ambassadors will present their Bioeconomy Youth Vision and discuss it with youth representatives from across the EU, and with stakeholders.*

#### **Keynotes**

**Bioeconomy Youth Ambassadors:** Stefano BERTACCHI, Daragh COGLEY, Hailey CIANTAR, Rita ESCÓRCIO, Olivia MROZINSKI, Pieter NACHTERGAELE

#### **Interventions from youth representatives during Youth Assembly**

##### **Cristina CIPRIANO**

*Global Youth Biodiversity Network Europe*

##### **Conor HAUGH**

*Biorbic/ Generation Glas, Ireland*

##### **Mahaut ISAAC**

*EADA Sustainability Club Barcelona, Spain*

##### **Giorgia IVAN**

*She is a Scientist, Italy*

##### **Johann LIEBETON**

*Bioeconomy Youth Champion, Germany*

##### **German VIGHI**

*Genesprout Initiative*

***Interventions from satellite events during Youth Assembly***

**Wilhelm THOMSEN and Matilde DYDENSBORG**

*Time for a green revolution: the European Bioeconomy of The Future, Denmark*

**Nicola PARFITT**

*P2GREEN International Conference, EU*

**12:45-14:15**

*Buffet lunch & Networking*

**14:15-15:35**

**SUPPORTING YOUNG CHANGEMAKERS  
TO DEVELOP AND SCALE SOLUTIONS**

*In this session we will hear from organisations how they support young changemakers to develop and scale innovative solutions for the bioeconomy.*

***Keynote***

**Jens NIELSEN**

*CEO, Biolnnovation Institute, Denmark*

***Interventions from organisations, young changemakers, satellite events***

**Tom CURRAN**

*Coordinator of Biobee-project*

**Katrin JÕGI**

*Sustainability manager, Fibenol, Estonia*

**Dana PESKOVICOVA**

*Director, National Agricultural and Food Centre, Slovakia*

**Chiara POCATERRA**

*Coordinator of GenB-project*

**Natalia TARAZONA LIZCANO**

*Research Group Leader, Helmholtz-Zentrum Hereon, Germany*

**Fernanda THIMOTEO**

*BISC-E prize winner, France*

**Philip TIGGES**

*Managing director, Infinite Roots, Germany*

**Jasmine VERSYCK**

*Business Developer Bioeconomics , B2BE Facilitator, Belgium*

**15:35-16:00**

*Refreshment break*

**16:00-17:15**

## **GOING FROM NICHE TO NORM: views from industry and civil society**

*In this panel debate, industry and civil society representatives will reflect on the Bioeconomy Youth Vision and share what they think is essential to bring the bioeconomy from niche to norm.*

### **Rob BEEKERS**

*Chair of the Board, Bio-based Industries Consortium*

### **Peter GERHARDT**

*Director, Denkhaus Bremen*

### **Fanny-Pomme LANGUE**

*European Bioeconomy Alliance*

### **Laura MARAGNA**

*Coordinator, EU4Algae*

### **Oana NEAGU**

*Director of General Affairs, COPA COGECA*

### **Will van den TWEEL**

*Co-Founder, Food Fermentation Europe*

**17:15-17:45**

## **CLOSING OF DAY 1**

### ***Closing speeches & outline of DAY 2***

### **Norbert LINS**

*Member of the European Parliament, Chair of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development, Germany*

### **John BELL**

*Director, Healthy Planet, DG Research & Innovation, European Commission*

**17:45-18:30**

*Cocktail reception*

## Day 2 – 14 March 2024

Master of Ceremonies: Tamsin ROSE

TIME (GMT+01:00)	SESSION TITLE & SPEAKERS
8:30-9:00	Welcome & registration
9:00-10:45	<p><b>HIGH-LEVEL OPENING:</b></p> <p><b>“WHAT IS NEXT FOR THE BIOECONOMY STRATEGY?”</b></p> <p><i>40 years innovation, paving the way for the bioeconomy, small talk between directors</i></p> <p><b>Christian PATERMANN</b> Bioeconomy expert and advisor; former Director at DG Research &amp; Innovation, European Commission; first “Bioeconomy” Director</p> <p><b>John BELL</b> Director, Healthy Planet, DG Research &amp; Innovation, European Commission</p> <p><b>“Ambitious &amp; coherent EU policies in support of the bioeconomy”</b> <i>High Level Panel debate</i></p> <p><b>Florika FINK-HOOIJER</b> Director-General, DG Environment, European Commission</p> <p><b>Christian HOLZLEITNER</b> Head of Unit, DG Climate Action, European Commission</p> <p><b>Marc LEMAÎTRE</b> Director-General, DG Research &amp; Innovation, European Commission</p> <p><b>Michael NIEJAHR</b> Acting Deputy Director-General, DG Agriculture &amp; Rural Development, European Commission</p> <p><b>Salla SAASTAMOINEN</b> Deputy Director-General, Joint Research Centre, European Commission</p> <p><b>Kristin SCHREIBER</b> Director, DG Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship &amp; SMEs, European Commission</p>
10:45-11:15	Coffee Break
11:15-12:25	<p><b>BREAK-OUT SESSIONS:</b></p> <p><b>PRIORITY ACTION AREAS FOR EU BIOECONOMY STRATEGY</b></p> <p><i>These sessions will allow a more in-depth discussion on key aspects of the EU Bioeconomy, with the help of leading experts.</i></p> <p><i>Session 1. <b>Dealing with multiple pressures and biosphere stewardship</b></i> <i>Towards a nature-positive economy? How to effectively deal with trade-offs? How to put cascading principle in practice? Is sustainable intensification the answer?</i></p> <p><b>Sarah MUBAREKA (Moderator)</b>, Science for Policy Officer, Joint Research Centre, European Commission</p> <p><b>Sevim AKTAS</b>, Policy Officer, DG Climate Action, European Commission</p> <p><b>Marilda DHASKALI</b>, EU Agriculture &amp; Bioenergy Policy Officer, BirdLife Europe and Central Asia</p>

**Marta GOMEZ SANJUAN**, Senior Expert, Climate, Biodiversity and Environment Division, Food and Agriculture Organization

**Arno ROSEMARIN**, Senior Research Fellow, Stockholm Environment Institute, Sweden

*Session 2. **Sustainable consumption: what will it take?***

*How sustainable is the EU consumption? What are the trends and issues? Can we do more with less? Can the biobased sector incentivize to consume differently?*

**William NEALE (Moderator)**, Adviser for Circular Economy, DG Environment, European Commission

**Ida AUKEN**, Member of Danish Parliament, Denmark

**Luka JUVANČIČ**, Co-Chair, Bioeconomy Strategic Working Group, Standing Committee on Agricultural Research; Associate Professor, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

**Bernhard KASTNER**, Senior Scientist, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna, Austria

*Session 3. **Biomanufacturing & biotechnology as a driver for solutions***

*Are these critical game-changing (bio)technologies and solutions? How to scale these solutions? How to balance innovation and precaution in a world that needs change?*

**Virginia PUZZOLO (Moderator)**, Head of Programme Unit, Circular Bio-based Europe Joint Undertaking

**Francisco CASTRO ALVES**, Biomanufacturing platform coordinator, EuropaBio

**Piergiuseppe MORONE**, Vice-chair of the CBE-JU Scientific Committee; Professor of Economic Policy, Unitelma Sapienza University of Rome, Italy

**Jérôme VAN BIERVLIET**, Managing Director, VIB, Belgium

*Session 4. **Deploying bioeconomy for the 'next EU'***

*What is the potential of the bioeconomy to deliver sustainable benefits and opportunities for rural, coastal, regional and urban areas across European countries and regions, especially in the light of Widening countries and the EU enlargement framework? How to stimulate research activities in countries and regions with unexploited R&I capacity in bioeconomy?*

**Tamsin ROSE (Moderator)**

**John BELL**, Director, Healthy Planet, DG Research & Innovation, European Commission

**Barna KOVACS**, Secretary -General, BIOEAST Initiative

**Sari TASA**, Chair, Circular Bio-based Europe Joint Undertaking States' Representatives Group

**Olga TROFIMTSEVA**, Agrifood Team Lead at Mykolaiv Water Hub, Former Acting Minister of Agricultural policy and Food, Ukraine

12:35-13:15

## CLOSING OF THE EVENT

*Keynotes by the European Commission and the Presidencies of the EU Council*

**Maroš ŠEFČOVIČ**

*European Commission Executive Vice-President for European Green Deal, Interinstitutional Relations and Foresight*

**Jo BROUNS**

*Flemish Minister for Economy, Innovation, Work, Social Economy and Agriculture, Belgium*

**Anikó RAISZ,**

*State Secretary, Ministry of Energy, Hungary*

**Peter WEHRHEIM,**

*Head of Unit, Unit Bioeconomy & Food Systems, DG Research & Innovation, European Commission*

13:15-14:30

*Buffet lunch & Networking*

