

Young entrepreneurs - Engines of
innovation in rural areas
30 November - 1 December, Dublin | Ireland



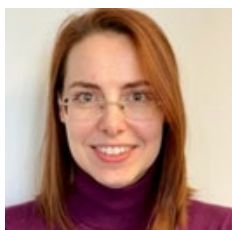
EU CAP Network workshop

Support Facility for Innovation and Knowledge exchange including
EIP-AGRI

Young entrepreneurs
Engines of innovation in rural areas

Speaker and facilitator bios

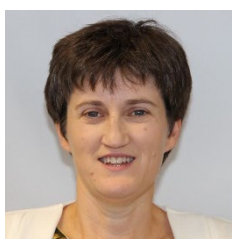
Plenary speakers (in order of the programme)



Magdalena Mach

European Commission, DG Agriculture and Rural Development

Magdalena Mach is a Policy Officer at the European Commission, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, Research & Innovation Unit. She holds a Master's degree in International Relations. Before joining the EC she worked for the Agriculture and Fisheries Section of the Permanent Representation of the Republic of Poland to the European Union and Polish Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development where for 6 years she was responsible for the implementation of LEADER approach under Rural Development Programme.



Corina Roe

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Dublin

Corina is the Head of the Managing Authority for Ireland's CAP Strategic Plan for the period 2023-2027, in the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine based in Dublin. She has led the development of Ireland's CAP Strategic Plan, which was among the first of the Member States plans to be approved by the European Commission in August 2022.

Her role involves managing the implementation of the CAP Strategic Plan, including the monitoring and evaluation, preparation of annual performance reports, and communications including the National CAP Network.

She previously served in policy and operational roles in the Department, including Rural Development, Food, EU, Human Resources and Services. She has a strong background in EU matters.



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She was involved in Ireland's Presidency of the EU, Lisbon Treaty and the negotiations on CAP Reforms in 2004, 2007 and 2020.

She is very familiar with agriculture, as she grew up on the family farm, with her siblings in the beautiful valley of Slievenamon, County Tipperary. The mixed enterprise of dairy, suckler and sheep farming has given her a broad experience of the many challenges facing farm families.

She has a strong history of involvement in community and rural development. She was an active member of Macra na Feirme (young farmers organisation) in her youth. She also worked in the community sector for a period.



Linda McNulty
Director of Operations, Dublin Chamber

Linda oversees the development and delivery of all member services in Dublin Chamber. Overall responsibility for the development, operational and financial delivery of the Chamber Member Services, Sales and Retention, Marketing and Communication activities.

She has many years of experience overseeing the delivery of European Commission SME support programmes, most notably Erasmus for New Entrepreneurs and the EEN, Enterprise Europe Network, support service for internationalising SMEs.

Dublin Chamber represents approx. 1300 member companies across all sectors ranging from micro to Corporate. The Chamber offers a range of services to assist companies build, scale and grow their business



DC Cahalane
Dogpatch labs

A veteran of Ireland's startup ecosystem, DC leads community and ecosystem at Dogpatch Labs, Ireland's largest startup hub.

Formally CMO at Trustev, VP Growth & Marketing at Teamwork.com and founder of Cork's Republic of Work, DC has been part of the startup scene in Ireland for 15+ years.

Recently appointed to the Irish Government's Enterprise Digital Advisory Forum, DC is also a member of the Government task force on SME Growth and Entrepreneurship and a founding member of Scale Ireland.

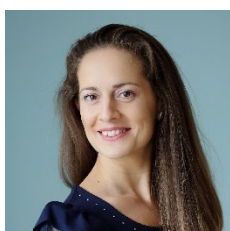




Barry Caslin
Teagasc

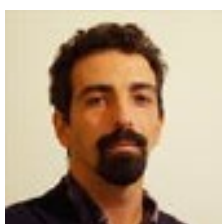
Barry Caslin is a graduate in Agricultural Science from UCD. As a Teagasc employee he has been involved in advisory and later as a Specialist on Energy and Rural Development. Barry have been involved in energy research and knowledge transfer for many years, first with energy crops and biomass heating systems. He coordinates numerous events on renewable energy technologies including the Energy and Farm Business Show at Gurteen Agricultural College. He participates in European Horizon 2020 projects on renewable energy. He coordinates the Teagasc national Farm Business Options programme which aims to give individuals a good understanding of how to turn an idea into a viable business. Barry is also represents Teagasc on the EU CAP Network.

Support Facility 'Innovation and knowledge exchange | EIP-AGRI' team



Marta Yonkova
Task manager

Marta is a Smart Farm Practices & Rural Development Officer at the EIP-AGRI Support Facility team. She has a Master degree in International Projects' Management and has studied Economics in Bulgaria and Italy. Experienced in Marketing and Consultancy in the agri-food sector, Marta has a rich portfolio, which includes a vast number of projects, social activities and even issuing an agricultural magazine. Her work experience includes working for one of the biggest NGOs in the agricultural sector in Bulgaria, several information campaigns and many initiatives aimed at farmers and their needs.



André Vizinho
Lead facilitator

André Vizinho is a participatory action researcher and project coordinator in the Faculty of Sciences of Lisbon University (FCUL), a private consultant on agroforestry, participatory planning and facilitation and also a co-founder a rural multisectoral cooperative that supports rural entrepreneurship for local regenerative development (Regenerativa Cooperativa Integral). In his work in participatory action research work he has worked and focused since 2012, using FP7, LIFE, EEA Grant and Erasmus, on the climate adaptation of



agroforestry systems of the Mediterranean climate regions, its planning and implementation, but also on the participatory planning of climate adaptation at farm level and municipal level, both on the agriculture and forestry sectors but also on coastal adaptation and community development. One of his most interesting present ventures is the facilitation of a Consortium Benchmarking with farmers leading to a community of practice on the topic regenerative pastures, using Keyline design and Holistic Management. In the recent years he has co-lead and co-developed interesting works such as: i) planning the climate adaptation of the agriculture and forestry on one municipality (Mértola); ii) planning three and managing two large conservation agroforestry farms (FCUL, Micélio, and EDIA); iii) developing, testing and publishing new frameworks and participatory methods for adaptation planning of agriculture and forests; iv) developing a landscape plan for a village condominium, with the community for fire prevention (with TerraCrua); v) training and coaching a H2020 consortium to implement Consortium Benchmarking on energy communities (in ECOLISE). As main facilitator he collaborates with EIP AGRI since 2019, namely in the Agri-innovation Summit 2019 entitled "EIP leading the Transition to Agroecology", EIP AGRI workshops "Shaping the EU mission 'Caring for soil is caring for life'" (2020) and "Towards Carbon Neutral Agriculture" (2021). André Vizinho has co-published 30 papers, technical reports and books in his PhD studies and research work, after graduating in Environmental Engineering (2003) and obtaining a master on economic viability of the sustainable management of cork oak forests.



Colm O'Driscoll
Coordinating expert

Environmental consultant with specific project development, management and business innovation, development (also according to "lean method") assessment experience. In Etifor, Colm manages the international business development portfolio. Colm has international experience in forest management and sustainable development (in the United States, Ireland, Madagascar and Nepal). Also works in forestry and environmental consulting SME development, capacity building and training, more specifically in business innovation and development in the forestry sector. He has worked on international forest policy analysis and development. He has developed and led a wide range of Etifor's international portfolio of projects, with clients including: World Bank-funded projects specifically related to REDD+ programmes in Thailand and Sudan; EC-funded projects (innovation and entrepreneurship in the forest sector); FSC International; FAO; and UNECE.



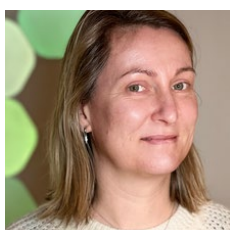
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Konstantin Mihhejev
Co-task manager

Konstantin is a Smart and resilient agriculture and food security Officer at the EIP-AGRI Support Facility team. He studied at the Estonian University of Life sciences and has a master in Animal Husbandry and primary production. Konstantin worked for 5 years for the Estonian Ministry of Rural Affairs as a responsible officer for implementation of Leader-measure under Rural Development Programme. Last seven years he is working for National Rural Network Estonia, being connected with national EIP Contact Point. He participates in many EU projects on Agricultural knowledge and storage of data in digital reservoirs.



Ina Van Hoya
Communication officer

Ina Van Hoya is communication manager at the EIP-AGRI Support Facility, coordinating the communication unit. She is responsible for the communication action plan, contributes to all communication tools, including social media and press, and takes up the role of event communication officer. Ina Van Hoya is a communication expert who has more than 20 years communication experience. From 2013 until 2021 she was the coordinating communication officer at the EIP-AGRI Service Point. She is founding board member of a cooperative regenerative farm Pomona Puur Natuur and founding board member of the non-profit organisation Pomona vzw to promote regenerative farming and to support farms in setting up cooperative regenerative farms. Previously she was involved in several regional and European projects for the Flemish Government, Waterwegen en Zeekanaal NV to support them in their communication for several Sigma Plan projects.



Pacôme Elouna Eyenga
Team leader EIP-AGRI Support Facility

Pacôme Elouna Eyenga is Belgian and was born in Yaoundé, Cameroon. He graduated as agronomist in the field of rural economy and sociology, at Gembloux Agro-Bio Tech / Université de Liège in Belgium. Since July 2021, he is the Team Leader of the Support Facility for 'Innovation & Knowledge Exchange | EIP-AGRI. From 2013 until May 2021, he has been Deputy Team Leader and then Team Leader of the EIP-AGRI Service Point established by the European Commission - DG AGRI.



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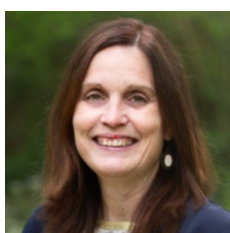
Margarida Ambar
Facilitator

Margarida Ambar is one of the Knowledge and Innovation officers in the EIP-AGRI Support Facility, and her main tasks are related to AKIS, networking and stakeholders management. Margarida Ambar studied Agricultural Engineering at the Technical University of Lisbon and has a master in Territorial Management and Urbanism, focusing on stakeholders' involvement. She worked fulltime as part of the EIP-AGRI Service Point from 2013 until 2021, and worked for over 20 years for the Portuguese Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. Prior to becoming part of the EIP-AGRI Service Point team, she had already gained experience in international cooperation projects and networks aiming at knowledge exchange.



Beatriz Guimarey Fernandez
Facilitator

Grown up on a small family farm in Galicia region (NW Spain), Beatriz Guimarey is Forestry Engineer and has a Master in Sustainable Land Planning by the University of Santiago de Compostela (Spain). She's Sustainable Forestry Management Officer at the EIP-AGRI and her main duties involve the organisation and facilitation of EIP-AGRI events, screening of projects and initiatives for their analysis and providing content for communication products. Furthermore, at the University of Santiago de Compostela, she works as a researcher at the Land Laboratory and Territorial Information System Platform. There, she participates in projects related to spatial planning, rural development and land use change.



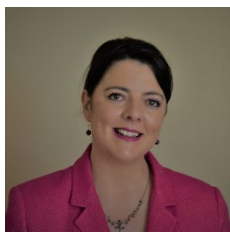
Céline Karasinski
Facilitator

From 2014-2021 she was policy officer for EIP-AGRI Service Point. She is working non-permanent for the EIP-AGRI Support Facility. She works since 2009 for Chamber of Agriculture network in France. She was involved in rural development. From June 2017 to March 2020, she managed a LEADER programme in her country and facilitated a Local Action Group. Since 2019, she works as facilitator for the Nouvelle-Aquitaine Regional Rural Network. In this unit, she is responsible for the organisation of meetings and conferences, coordination of working groups and help to the cooperation projects of the Local Action Group. She participates in the French rural network's meetings and conferences. Céline Karasinski is Agricultural engineer, specialist of environment and ecology; she studied at the Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Agronomie of Toulouse (France).



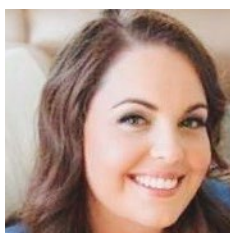
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Anne Kinsella
Facilitator

Anne Kinsella is an economist in the Rural Economy and Development Programme, Teagasc (the Agriculture and Food Development Authority, Ireland). In recent years, she has taken on an additional EIP-AGRI role with Division B: “Fostering a smart and resilient agricultural sector and food security”. Anne compliments her economics research with her professional qualification as a chartered certified accountant (ACCA) and also holds a Master of Science from University College, Dublin. She is the Teagasc Principal Investigator on the Ruralization research project, funded under the Horizon 2020 programme and on forthcoming FLIARA, Female-led innovation in agriculture and rural areas Horizon Europe project. Anne is the Irish representative on the OECD International Network for Farm Level Analysis and the International agri benchmark Network. She is a member of numerous national steering committees, groups and professional bodies which include Farming for Nature, National Rural Network and Agricultural Economics Society of Ireland. Anne is currently the Chairperson of the Board of Directors, Galway Rural Development clg, the largest local development company in Ireland, who administers several programmes including the LEADER Programme. She is also the Teagasc representative on the Board of Directors of Comhar na nOileán CTR, the integrated local development company with responsibility for the offshore islands of Ireland, and is joint treasurer of Embrace farm, an organisation who provides a caring and supportive network for all those affected by farm accidents in Ireland.



Tajana Radić
Facilitator

Tajana Radić is a Head of Division D “Strengthening the Socio-economic fabric of rural areas” in EIP-AGRI. Her main work is coordination of the activities that aim to attract young farmers, promote employment, local development including bioeconomy and sustainable forestry and to improve the response of EU agriculture to societal demands on food and health, including safe, nutritious and sustainable food, as well as animal welfare policy. She holds a Ph.D. degree in Agricultural Science and 12 years of experience in the field of agriculture and rural development as a Head of the Policy, Innovation and International Cooperation Department of the Croatian Chamber of Agriculture. She was managing the projects funded by the European Commission (Information measures relating to the Common Agricultural Policy Programme) “CAP for you” and “CAP for us” that were focused on showing the benefits of the Common Agricultural Policy and synergy among stakeholders.



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