

## Speaker and facilitator bios (in order of the programme)

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**Teemu Hauhia**  
**Rural Network Support Unit of Finland**

Teemu Hauhia works as the Head of Unit at the Finnish Rural Support Unit and he is also a part-time farmer. He has extensive experience in rural development, innovation, and the farming sector, having previously worked as a project manager and teacher at an advisory center and a university of applied sciences.



**Elin Johnsson**  
**European Commission, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, D.1 Rural areas and networks**

Elin is a Policy Officer at the European Commission, DG AGRI, unit D.1 - Rural areas and networks, where she works in the EIP-AGRI/AKIS team. Before joining the Commission in 2022, she worked with rural development with a special commitment to environmental sustainability and climate action. Agronomist with an MSc in Rural Development and Natural Resource Management, originally from an organic family farm in the north of Sweden.



**Michael Losch**  
**European Commission, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, B.2 Environmental sustainability**

Dr. Michael Losch is principal administrator and coordinator for bioeconomy in DG Agriculture and Rural Development. He is an economist with a focus on industry and competition policy, competitiveness, innovation and energy transition. He studied at the Wirtschaftsuniversität Wien and at HEC in Paris.

Building on his doctoral thesis about “Competition-oriented Regulation of Electricity Supply Industries” Michael Losch became, in 1997, civil servant in the European Commission, starting in DG Energy and then five years as a Member of Cabinet of Agriculture Commissioner Franz Fischler. From 2004 to 2016 he served for twelve years as Austrian Director General for Economic Policy, Innovation and Technology,



covering a broad range of functions and policies ranging from EU Competitiveness Council, competition and state aid policy, to national innovation, venture capital and start-up promotion schemes. From 2016 to 2020 he served as Austrian Director General for Energy and Mining, where he initiated the “Hydrogen Initiative” during the Austrian EU Presidency 2018, contributed to the finalization of the “EU Clean Energy Package” and developed the “Austrian Renewable Energy Expansion Act”. From 2021 to June 2023 Michael Losch was Special Envoy for Green Industrial Policy at the Austrian Permanent Representation to the European Union, with the mission to develop and support, in the context of the European Green Deal, transition pathways for energy- and emission-intensive industries towards climate neutrality. Michael Losch is also board member of the Austrian Chapter of the Club of Rome, the World Energy Council Austria and the Institute for Advanced Studies - IHS.

### Nataša Lovric

**EU CAP Network, Support Facility ‘Innovation and Knowledge exchange | EIP-AGRI’**



I am a Senior Principal Scientist and Associate Professor in International and European Forest Bioeconomy, as well as Environmental Governance and Policy at the University of Eastern Finland in Joensuu. I hold a PhD degree from Freiburg University (Germany) in forestry, environmental and natural resources policy and governance. My expertise also lays in stakeholder participation, EU green science diplomacy, foresight and forest bioeconomy, socio-economic and political aspects of forestry.

### Laura Liepina

**European Commission, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, F.2 Research and innovation**



Laura Liepina is a Research Programme Officer at the Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development (DG AGRI) with an experience in agricultural policy, forestry, and bioeconomy. She holds an educational background in environmental science and forestry and began her career in Latvia’s national administration, focusing on climate change mitigation in agriculture, land use, and forestry sectors. Since joining the European Commission, she has worked on bioeconomy governance and the programming of research in forestry and bioeconomy.



## European Commission, Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development (DG AGRI)



**Magdalena Mach**  
Policy officer

Magdalena Mach is a Policy Officer at the European Commission, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, Rural Areas & Networks 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.

## EU CAP Network team

### 1. Support Facility 'Innovation & Knowledge exchange | EIP-AGRI' team



**Deborah Rim Moiso**  
Main facilitator

Deborah Rim Moiso is an Endorsed Facilitator with the IAF (International Association of Facilitators). She has been facilitating and training groups since 2009 mainly in the field of environmental management, climate change, and peace studies. She has also published a book on facilitation in Italian (Facilitiamoci! Prendersi cura di gruppi e comunità) and writes guides and articles on facilitation for the software company SessionLab -- you can find her tips and favorite methods in their blog. Deb lives in Perugia, Central Italy, and manages a smallholding inside a hilly oak forest, stewarding 160 olive tree plants, some vegetable gardens and fruit trees, family, cats, chickens and 3 friendly donkeys.



**Beatriz Guimarey Fernández**  
Task manager

Bea grew up on a small family farm in Galicia region (NW Spain), she is a Forestry Engineer and holds a Master in Sustainable Land Planning by the University of Santiago de Compostela (Spain). For the EU CAP Network | EIP-AGRI she contributes to the organisation and facilitation of networking



events and screening and analysis of innovative projects, mainly dealing with the socio-economic fabric of rural areas (e.g. bioeconomy, forestry, societal demands, business development). Furthermore, she works as a researcher at the University of Santiago de Compostela, in projects related to innovation in rural development, land use change or bioeconomy.

### **Pedro Naves**

#### **Co-task manager**



Pedro Naves is a research and innovation officer within the EIP-AGRI Support Facility team. Biologist, working as a scientific researcher in the fields of plant protection, pest control, and taxonomy of agricultural and forest insects and mites, participating in scientific projects and author of scientific publications. Other activities include training and technical/scientific assistance, consulting and dissemination, organization of technical and scientific events, and education.

### **Rasa Pakeltiene**

#### **Co-task manager**



Rasa serves as the Knowledge and Innovation Officer at the EU CAP Network - Innovation and Knowledge Exchange Support Facility. She is also an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Bioeconomy Development at Vytautas Magnus University (VMU) and coordinates AKIS activities at VMU's Business and Social Partnership Center, as well as the Lithuanian Bioeconomy HUB. Since 2014, she has been the Editor-in-Chief of the scientific journal Management Theories and Studies for Rural Business and Infrastructure Development. As a researcher, Rasa frequently publishes scientific work in areas such as circular bioeconomy, rural development, innovation assessment methodologies, rural social infrastructure, and environmental management. She actively participates in both national and international research and study projects and is a dedicated member of various scientific associations and thematic networks.

### **Tine Defour**

#### **Event communication officer**



Within the EIP-AGRI Support Facility's communication team, Tine writes and coordinates publications, including the yearly Agrinnovation magazine. She loves whipping words into publishable shape. Tine contributes to the contents of the EU CAP Network website, the EU CAP magazine, and the newsletter on Innovation & Knowledge exchange | EIP-AGRI. She coordinates social media and offers support for events.



From 2014 to 2021, she was a member of the EIP-AGRI Service Point team. Tine has an academic background, with a PhD in English linguistics. From 2003 to 2014 she was a researcher and lecturer at Ghent University (BE), where she gained experience in international networking and organising events. During that time she also worked as editorial assistant and proofreader for a peer-reviewed academic journal.

### **Pacôme Elouna Eyenga**

#### **Team leader**



Team Leader of the EU CAP Network Support Facility for Innovation & Knowledge Exchange | EIP-AGRI. Previously, Team Leader of the EIP-AGRI Service Point.

### **Martin Jamrich**

#### **Facilitator**



Martin is a Smart Farm Practices & Rural Development Officer at the EIP-AGRI Support Facility team. He holds a Master's in Quantitative Methods in Economics and a PhD in Economics and Management of Agriculture and Food Processing, focusing on household consumption and unfair trading practices in Slovakia's dairy supply chain. Since 2021, he has worked as a project and public manager, coordinating and enhancing communication between farmers, researchers, advisors, national networks, and rural innovation actors.

### **Tajana Radić**

#### **Facilitator**



Tajana Radić serves as the Smart Farm Practices & Rural Development Officer in Division D "Strengthening the socio-economic fabric of rural areas" at the EIP-AGRI. In this role, she focuses on activities that aim to attract young farmers, promote employment, local development including the bioeconomy, and sustainable forestry. Her work also aims to enhance the EU's agriculture response to societal demands on food and health, encompassing safe, nutritious, and sustainable food as well as animal welfare policies. With a Ph.D. in Agricultural Science and 15 years of experience in agriculture and rural development, she previously held the position of Head of the Policy, Innovation, and International Cooperation Department at the Croatian Chamber of Agriculture. Her experience includes work as a project manager on numerous Horizon and Interreg projects as well as IMCAP projects funded by the European Commission, such as 'CAP for you' and 'CAP for us'.





**Aleksandra Zlateva**  
**Facilitator**

Currently a Knowledge and Innovation Officer in the EIP-AGRI Support Facility, Aleksandra has a background in environmental sciences and sustainable development studies which has only added to her curiosity and drive in improving socio-environmental dynamics, including in the field of agriculture.

## 2. Communications and Events Support



**Anne-Fleur Labbé**  
**Events team leader**

Anne-Fleur, Managing Partner at Phrenos, is a multilingual professional with 18 years of experience in events and communication. She is currently the Events Team Leader for the Logistical & Communication Support for Networking Activities of the CAP (Lot 4) for DG AGRI.

She graduated from the London School of Economics with a MSc in History of International Relations, and from Université Paris II – Panthéon Assas with a MSc in Banking & Finance. At INSEAD, she completed a certification in “Strategy in the Age of AI and Digital Disruption”, “Design Thinking and Creativity for Business”, as well as one in “Leadership in a Crisis”. She speaks French, English, Italian, and German.



**Irene Sánchez Valdovinos**  
**Junior events organiser**

Irene graduated in Protocol, Event Organisation, and Corporate Communication at Universidad Rey Juan Carlos in Madrid. Before graduating, she spent a year in the U.S., which sparked her passion for travel and cultural exchange. After completing her studies, she moved to Brussels for her Erasmus program and internship. Since then, Irene has been living and working in Brussels in events.

