

Visions, opportunities and challenges for the bioeconomy in Southern Europe

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San Sebastián, Spain

Speakers

Esko Aho



Esko Aho served as Prime Minister of Finland during 1991-1995, and as Member of the Parliament between 1983-2003. He is currently Executive Chairman of East Office of Finnish Industries representing the leading Finnish corporations in Russia, Chairman of the Board of the Skolkava Foundation in Moscow and Executive in Residence of Aalto University in Helsinki. He is also Senior Fellow at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University where he pursues research on the changing role of the state in maintaining welfare and global competitiveness.

Marc Palahí



Marc Palahí is the Director of the European Forest Institute and responsible for leading the organisation towards an acknowledged pan-European science-policy platform. Previously he led EFI's policy support activities and during this time was instrumental in launching ThinkForest, a European high-level science forum on the future of forests. He has also worked as Head of EFI's Mediterranean Regional Office, EFIMED. He has a PhD in forestry and economics and an MSc in forestry engineering.

Andreas Kleinschmit von Lengefeld



Andreas Kleinschmit von Lengefeld is the Director Innovation / Research at the French Institute of Technology FCBA. Before FCBA, he held the position of Director at the European Forest-Based Sector Technology Platform and was the RTDI Manager at CEI-Bois. Since spring 2016, he is the coordinator for the Focus Group 20 "Sustainable Mobilisation of Forest Biomass" under the EIP AGRI. The European Hardwoods Innovation Alliance (EHIA) is co-coordinated by him under the umbrella of InnoWood. He studied forestry sciences at Ludwig-Maximilians-University of Munich and holds a PhD from Technical University of Munich.

Angel Landabaso



Ángel Landabaso is the Advisor for the Basque Government on Science and Technology. He has over 20 years' experience in the public and private sectors in S&T, External relations, Energy and Innovation policies. He is also a Senior Official at the European Commission Directorate General for Research and Innovation (DG RTD) where he works on the implementation of EU research and innovation policy to help achieve the goals of the Europe 2020 strategy for growth and sustainability and the Innovation Union.

Risto Poutiainen



Risto Poutiainen is an acting Region Mayor of the Region of North Karelia. He is leading the regional office and its activities. Mr. Poutiainen has a long work experience at the regional level in North Karelia (Finland). Prior to becoming the Region Mayor, he was responsible for regional strategies and structural fund programmes since the mid-1990's. He holds a degree in Engineering (Master of Science) from the Helsinki University of Technology, Finland.

Simão Soares



Simão Soares is the CEO of SilicoLife, a company working on the powerful combination of algorithms and biological knowledge to design optimised microbial strains and novel pathways for the production of compounds such as chemicals, food ingredients or biopolymers. He holds a MSc in Bioinformatics from the University of Minho and a postgraduate in management from NOVA School of Business and Economics. Simão is also consultant for international organisations in industrial biotechnology and a board member of P-BIO, Portugal's Biotechnology Industry Association.

Leire Salaberria



Leire Salaberria is the Managing Director of "Union de Selvicultores del Sur de Europa" (the Union of Forest Owners of Southern Europe), which represents several forest owners' associations from Portugal, France, Spain and the Basque Country. She comes from a forest owners' family, and has been working as a specialized commercial and corporate lawyer in international trade issues for more than 10 years before being assigned as the Managing Director of USSE.

Piotr Borkowski



Piotr Borkowski is the Executive Director of the European State Forest Association (EUSTAFOR) in Brussels. He holds an MSc in Forestry from Warsaw University. After working for Polish State Forests he became Chief Forestry Specialist at the Ministry of Environment. He also led the Liaison Unit of the Ministerial Conference on Protection of Forests in Europe (MCPFE) and the Foreign co-operation department of the General Directorate of State Forests in Warsaw. More recently he was a Forestry expert at DG Agriculture and Rural Development of the European Commission.

Mariana Ferreira



Mariana Ferreira is a member of the Board of RB Group, a multinational structure based in Brazil, dedicated to pine forest development and management and the exploitation of pine forest related by-products. Mariana is currently the group's representative in Europe and she integrates Luresa Resinas' team, RB Group's subsidiary in Spain, former La Unión Resinera Española.

Jesus Gamiz



Jesús Gámiz is the CEO of Grupo Gámiz, an engineered wood company with a strong R&D focus. At the beginning of his professional career he worked as a lawyer in Vitoria, after which started working in various departments the family company, from administration to buying and sourcing. Under his lead, Grupo Gamiz has continued expanding with new technology, new machinery, thus specialising in the manufacture of more elaborate and innovative products.

Christian Pinaudau



Christian Pinaudau holds a degree in Compared Commercial Law by (DEA). He is Director of Maison de la Forêt (House of the Forest) since 1977 and Secretary-General of the Syndicate of Forest Growers (Silviculture) of the South-West of France since 1977. He is also Secretary General of the Union of Forest Growers of the South of Europe since 1989, the date of its constitution.

Oskar Azkarate



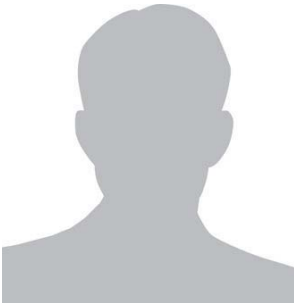
Oskar Azkarate is the director of BaskEgur, a professional association representing the Basque Country forest and wood sector. As an Agricultural Engineer (Public University of Navarra), he has spent his entire professional career focussing on the wood sector, from the early projects in Itsas Mendikoi, to his position in the commercial direction of the Holtza Group, a pioneer company in wood construction in southern Europe. In recent years he has been working on the development of the Basque forest-wood sector, promoting all strategic areas.

Ghislain Gosse



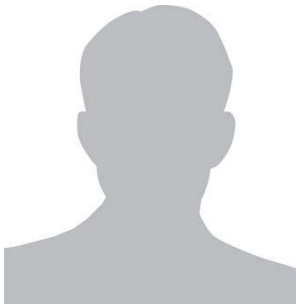
Ghislain Gosse is a scientist with an agronomical background applied to crop productivity modelling with a special focus on non-food crops. He was chairman of Inra-North of France (National Agronomic Research Institute). He was responsible of the Renewable Carbon Strategy of Inra. He is now chairman of AGT-RT (Agro-Transfer Resources and Territory), promoting innovation and research transfer in Agriculture. He is also chairman of the strategic commission on biomass resources of the IAR cluster (Industry and Agro-Resources).

Javier Arregui



Javier Arregui is Chief Financial & Corporate Development Officer at Ence (Energía y Celulosa SA), an important company operating in the field of energy and cellulose and the largest private forest management company in Spain. He is on the Board of Directors at ENCE and Foresta Terrenos SL. He was previously employed as Controller & Head-Purchasing by Campo Noble SA and served on the board at Compañía Española de Sistemas Aeronáuticos SA, Foresta Capital SA, and Grupo Guascor SL.

Miguel Angel Tapiador



Miguel Angel Tapiador is the Finance and Purchasing Director of IBERPAPEL, a group operating in the paper industry, and one of the largest Spanish companies in the field of printing and writing paper. He is also a member of the Junta del Colegio Vasco de Economistas and of the managing board of BaskEgur. He holds a degree in Economics from UPV, a Postgraduate qualification in Foreign Trade (Gipiuzkoa Chamber of Commerce) and a university Diploma in International Sales Management.

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