



## CONFERENCE

# Agri-food ETS – future climate action?

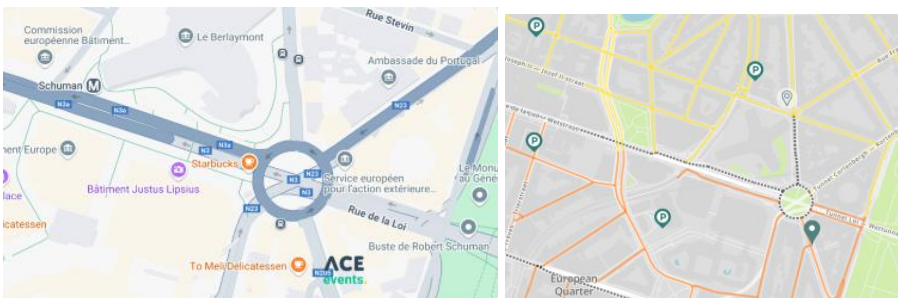
## Benefits, risks, alternatives

Brussels Monday 17th February 15-17.30 h

Location: Ace Events, Avenue d'Auderghem 22 Brussels T +32 (0)2 893 33 68

Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/agri-food-ets-future-climate-action-benefits-risk-alternatives-tickets-1210008149949?aff=oddttdtcreator> or mail to: [info@tappcoalitie.nl](mailto:info@tappcoalitie.nl)

- **Organising committee:** Alex Datema, director Food & Agri Rabobank, Katrin Heeren, Director Environment & Sustainability FoodDrinkEurope and Jeroom Remmers, director TAPP Coalition.
- **Number of people audience:** 100
- **Time:** 15-17.30 h with drinks afterwards; coffee & registration starts 14.30h.
- **Goal:** public dialogue on benefits and risks of a potential Agri-ETS, for the food and drink sector, meat and dairy production, and in view of CBAM import taxes
- **Subgoals:** exploring possible impacts of the Agri-ETS mentioned in the [Strategic Dialogue on the Future of Agriculture](#) and finding possible solutions and benefits for the sector
- **Chair:** Florence Ranson (Former Director Communication & Public Affairs FoodDrinkEurope)



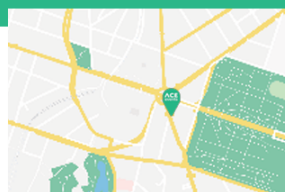
### ACCESS

**METRO + TRAIN:**  
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Location: Just 2 minutes walk from Metro station Schuman, next to Berlaymont, main building of the EU Commission; 5 parking stations in the European quarter

## **Draft Programme**

14.30-15.00 **Registration/ coffee**

15.00 h. **Introduction by moderator** Florence Ranson

15.05 h. **Key note** Valeria Forlin, *European Commission DG Clima Deputy Head of Unit*  
“Incentives for climate change mitigation along the agri-food value chain” (10 minutes)

15.15 h. Louise Wandahl Tavares, Fiscal Attaché from the Danish Ministry of Taxation, *The Danish Green Tripartite Agreement, incl. GHG-emission tax for agriculture.*

15.25 h. Bart Vandewaetere, *VP ESG Engagement Nestlé Europe* - How to become climate neutral; what is done and needs to be done? (10 min).

15.35 h. Jeroom Remmers, *Director TAPP Coalition* - advantages and disadvantages of an Agri-Food ETS for dairy factories and slaughterhouses with a CBAM EU import tax on meat/dairy - compared with other agri-climate policies

**15.50 h. Reaction by EU stakeholders (next 30 minutes)**

15.50 h. Amanda Bjorksell, Chair Working Party on Environment & Climate, *Copa-Cogeca*

15.58h. Alex Datema, *Director Agri & Food Rabobank*

16.06 h. Torsten Hasforth, Chief economist, Green Thinktank Concito - *The Danish Green Tripartite Agreement and the EU Agri-ETS downstream option*

16.13 h. Mathieu Mal, *Policy Officer for Agriculture, the European Environmental Bureau (EEB)*

**16.20 h. Coffee / tea break 10 minutes**

**16.30 h. Panel (45 minutes) with other stakeholders and questions of the audience**

- Long Lam, *Senior Consultant, Trinomics*
- Katrin Heeren, *Director Environment and Sustainability FoodDrinkEurope*
- Bert Urlings, *Director Public Affairs, Vion Food Group*
- Jeroom Remmers, *TAPP Coalition Director*

**17.15h. Q&A with audience (15 minutes)**

**17.30 h** End : drinks/snacks till 18.30 h.

## About the organisers:

**Rabobank** is a cooperative bank active in 37 countries with € 114.8 billion loans to the Food & Agri sector worldwide. Rabobank's choice is true value as a financial model. True value means that the costs and benefits of the environment, climate, health and animal welfare are factored into the price of our food. Rabobank started the Rabo Carbon Bank to contribute to a transformation our food system into net carbon neutral and biodiverse value chains by developing and selling high-quality and nature-based carbon-credits. Rabobank is positive on rewarding farmers financially to reduce GHG emissions and pricing of emissions. If the EU would choose for an Agri ETS it should be kept separate from the existing ETS for industry.

**FoodDrinkEurope** represents the interests of food and drink companies, national food and drink federations, and specific sectoral associations based in Europe, promoting the ideas and policies that enable the European food and drink industry to make products that are not only safe but also contribute to a greener planet, healthier living and a thriving economy. FoodDrinkEurope's permanent secretariat, based in Brussels, maintains close contacts with European and international institutions. FoodDrinkEurope coordinates the work of more than 700 experts through its Committees and Expert Groups around four themes: food and consumer policy (food safety and science, nutrition and health), environmental sustainability and competitiveness.

**TAPP Coalition** is a network focusing on fair prices for meat and dairy, of 80 food companies and organisations working in agriculture, health, animal welfare, environment or youth, representing 2,4 million people and 5000 companies, mostly in Europe. They wrote a [letter](#) to Ursula von der Leyen and other EU Commissioners on a downstream Agri-ETS, co-signed by many other EU-stakeholders.

## About the speakers (confirmed)



**Florence Ranson** has been active in European communications circles for some 30 years. She started her career as Communication Project Manager for the European Commission. She then was Head of Communications at the European Banking Federation for 12 years. Florence became Director of Communications for FoodDrinkEurope in 2014, until 2018. She was awarded a 2018 ProPR Award for her contribution to the European communication profession. She regularly speaks at and moderates events throughout Europe.



**Alex Datema** is responsible for the agrofood vision in his role as director Food & Agri Netherlands at Rabobank. Datema has been committed to an economically and ecologically sustainable future for agriculture. In addition, he has been a dairy farmer since 1988 and has 120 dairy cows and 70 hectares of grassland. He is a member of the Scientific Council for Integrated Sustainable Agriculture. He is also a co-initiator of the Delta Plan for Biodiversity Restoration. From 2016 until his arrival at Rabobank in 2023, he was chairman of BoerenNatuur, an association committed to agricultural nature and landscape management and to more nature-inclusive agriculture.



**Jeroom Remmers** is the director of the TAPP Coalition, focusing on Agri-Food fiscal and subsidy reforms and fair food prices. TAPP Coalition has 80 partners (mainly European), from farmers, food companies and NGO's working on health, environment, animal welfare and youth, representing 2,4 million people and 5000 companies. TAPP Coalition proved public majority support GHG-emission pricing or taxing of meat and dairy in EU countries, on some conditions. Their proposals are increasingly influencing the thinking of NGOs, EU Commission, World Bank, IPCC and FAO. Jeroom Remmers won several environmental prizes and the prestigious Sabre Award for best Public Affairs campaign in 2021 in Europe: the fair meat prize campaign.



**Katrin Heeren** is Director Environment & Sustainability at FoodDrinkEurope. She joined FoodDrinkEurope in December 2024. Katrin has 20+ years of experience in environmental policy, projects, funding and strategic partnership management at national, EU and international level, working for governments, consultancies, NGOs, companies, academia and think tanks. At FoodDrinkEurope, she oversees the department for Environment & Sustainability, leading on issues ranging from climate action, deforestation, environmental protection, water management, food waste, sustainable packaging and more.



**Louise Wandahl Tavares** is a Fiscal Counsellor at the Danish Permanent Representation to the EU, where she represents Denmark in the council workgroup for tax questions. She is highly knowledgeable about the (upcoming) CO<sub>2</sub>e tax on agriculture. Louise began her career at the Ministry of Taxation in 2011 as a student. After graduating as an economist, she was employed as a clerk and is now a special consultant. Louise then became an SNE for DG REFORM in EU-Commission, where she used her background as a consultant to support the EU member states in their reform work. She looks forward to being able to use her insight into the EU when she returns to Denmark in 2024.



**Valeria Forlin** is Deputy Head of Unit at European Commission (DG CLIMA Unit for Land Economy and Carbon Removals). She is specialized in the land sector's pivotal role in combating climate change. Valeria Forlin focuses on reducing agricultural emissions, enhancing carbon sinks in soils and forests and providing sustainable food. With a background in environmental economics, she previously contributed to European space policies at UCLouvain and worked extensively in microeconomics, industrial organization, and public economics.



**Amanda Bjorksell** is Chair Working Party on Environment & Climate, Copa-Cogeca Copa. She works for the Federation of Swedish Farmers as an expert on climate change and biodiversity and represented the organisation in Brussels and at international climate conferences. She is a rural development agronomist who combines work with a passionate non-profit commitment. With a focus on natural resource management and food production, she has worked both locally, nationally and internationally - from the farm to UN negotiations.



**Bart Vandewaetere** has been in charge of Corporate Communications and ESG Engagement for Nestlé Zone Europe since 2017. He leads and coordinates Nestlé's contributions and communications on policies and societal debates with stakeholders and citizens across the region.



**Mathieu Mal** works at the European Environmental Bureau (EEB), Europe's largest network of environmental citizens' organisations in a role as Policy Officer for Agriculture and Climate. Based in Brussels, he engages with policy makers, politicians, civil society organizations, and others. He leads in the EEB policy and strategy on agriculture and climate, coordinates the policy work in a European research project on carbon farming, co-leads the climate work of the EU Food Policy Coalition, and is a member of the EU Commission's Expert Group on Carbon Removals.



**Bert Urlings** is Director Public Affairs, Vion Food Group, where he also worked for 22 years as Director Quality Assurance. Vion is an international producer of meat, meat products and plant based alternatives with production locations in the Netherlands, Germany and Belgium. Vion has sales support offices and representatives in sixteen countries worldwide, with headquarters in [Boxtel, Netherlands](#). It is among the largest meat producers in Europe. For six years he was an appointed member of Dutch Council for Animal Affairs. From 2004 till 2014 he was a Professor Supply Chain Management in Animal Production at Wageningen University.





**Long Lam**, Senior Consultant at Trinomics is involved in writing reports for the EU Commission on Agri-ETS, climate standards and carbon removals in the agri-food sector. Long has supported the private and public sector on strategic and technical matters on climate policy, carbon pricing, upscaling GHG mitigation action, industrial competitiveness, international industrial GHG mitigation policy and capacity building. At Trinomics he is working with various clients including the European Commission and Dutch government on climate policy and carbon pricing topics such as the EU Green Deal, the EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) and the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism. He worked at Guidehouse (previously called Navigant / Ecofys), leading numerous carbon pricing and climate policy projects. There he led the World Bank's annual State and Trends of Carbon Pricing reports (S&T) of 2016 to 2020 and was involved as one of the main authors since 2013.



**Torsten Hasforth** is CONCITO's Chief Economist. CONCITO is a Danish green think tank. Torsten's particular focus is on how to regulate the green transition. He has spent the last two years working intensely with the Danish effort to tax emissions from agriculture and the process leading up to it. He has also followed Concito's work on analysing the scope and potential for an AgriETS. Before his work at CONCITO, Torsten was employed by energy organisations and the Ministry of Climate and Energy.