

Rolf L, 23 January, 2024

Linking water & agriculture science to policy

Mini - Conference, Brussels 6 March, 2024



Dear NN,

You are kindly invited to attend the one-day conference on water and agriculture:

Date and time: 6 March, 2024, 8.30 – 16.00
Location: Nordic House, Rue du Luxembourg 3, Brussels
Agenda: Full agenda included in pdf version of this document
Fee: Free attendance, lunch included.
Sign up: <https://forms.gle/iDgMv95B4Y422RSc9> (will close on 14 February)
Info: Rolf. Larsson@tvrl.lth.se

About the conference:

- Keynote speeches by **DG AGRI**, and **DG ENV**
- Short talks by researchers from seven universities in Europe
- Screening of the short film *“One Day we will Dance with you”*
- Possibility to play the innovative serious game *AgriLemma*
- Panel discussion: *“Linking Policies to Practice”*

Your participation would be most valuable.

On behalf of WATERAGRI, funded by EU Horizon 2020

Inviters name



Linking water & agriculture science to policy - Agenda

Date: 6 March 2024

Location: Nordic House, Rue du Luxembourg 3

Time	Item	People*/See next page
08.30 – 09.00	Registration and morning coffee	Brussels Office team, Sebastian Puculec
09.00 – 09.10	Welcome and Introduction Opening remarks and overview of the meeting's objectives and relevance to the EC	Moderator NN Rolf Larsson
09.10 – 09.35	Keynote Presentation, Part I: The longer term needs for water by agriculture and how the Water Framework Directive may help	Saskia Onnink DG ENV
09.35 – 10.30	Strategies for the effective implementation of the WFD in Agricultural Contexts. Case studies on integrated water management in small agricultural catchments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modern tools for Integrated Water Management - WATERAGRI Framework • Sustainable methods for Water and Nutrient Retention - Wetlands • Innovative ways of Stakeholders' Engagement - Serious game, AgriLemma - Film, "One Day we will dance with You" • Natural Water Retention Measures on a catchment scale - (OPTAIN) 	Philip Brunner Stevo Lavrnjic Zoran Kapelan Kate Adams Martin Volk
10:30 – 10:40	Movie Screening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "One Day We Will Dance with You" <i>more about the film, see next page</i> 	Kate Adams
10.40 – 11.00	Coffee break	
11.00 - 11.30	Key note presentation Part II: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential future EU legislation and actions to support sustainable water management in agriculture 	Patrick Kelly, DG AGRI
11.30 - 11.50	Policy Brief presentation:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Constructed Wetlands: Enhancing Sustainable Water Management in Agriculture" • "Integrating Gender Perspectives in Agricultural Water Management" 	Rolf Larsson, Nidhi Nagabhatla, Tamara Avellan**, Alba Canet Marti, Eriona Canga**
11.50 - 12.30	Panel Discussion: Linking Policies to Practice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bridging the Gap: From Research to EU Policies to On-Ground Implementation. 	Rolf Larsson, Martin Volk, Ilyas Masih Tamara Avellan Nidhi Nagabhatla Luis Sanchez-Alvarez DG AGRI
12.30 – 14.00	Lunch and Networking	All
14.00 - 16.00	Serious Game AgriLemma / <i>more about AgriLemma on next page</i> Possibility to play the game	Aashna Mittal Sebastian Puculec

* List of speakers with affiliation, see next page

** On-line participation



ABOUT THIS MINI-CONFERENCE

The aim of this meeting is to discuss innovative methods for achieving positive impact at farm level in EU, with regards to water sustainability in agriculture. In order to reach this impact, it is pro primo necessary to have a selection of scientifically proven methods which can be applied at different scales and in the different climatic zones of Europe. Pro secundo, the pathway “research – policy – farming” must be streamlined and, when suitable, the possibility to bypass policy should be explored. Both methods and impact are on the agenda of this mini-conference.

ABOUT THE FILM – which will be shown

The film is called “One Day we will Dance with you” and is inspired by the Water Molecule Dance from the play “Water is Attracted to Water”. The film is about human bonds and molecular bonds, at a time when floods and droughts have become part of everyday life. It was made in collaboration with WATERAGRI, an EU funded research project trialling sustainable and nature based approaches to using water in agriculture. The producer, Kate Adams, will introduce the film at our mini-conference.

Festivals and awards (selection):

Best Laboratory Short:	Make Art not Fear, Portugal.
Environment & Climate short award:	
Best Eco Film:	
Best Eco Work:	Masters of Cinema, Italy.
Best Eco Film:	Amsterdam Freedom Independent IFF, Holland.
Dancing Story Award:	USA.

ABOUT AGRILEMMA – the game which will be played

The serious game AgriLemma is about farming in Europe in the 21st century. It is a game to increase awareness about the complicated context in which an EU farmer operates, and at the same time the game introduces WATERAGRI solutions. The game engages players to test different water retention and nutrient retentions solutions considering different tradeoffs involved in selecting solutions under uncertainties.

The game has been play-tested with different categories of players. It was always received very well. Especially, learning institutions have shown great interest in AriLemma. In Poland, for example, the game has been produced, upon request, in 30 sets which have been distributed to schools and colleges.

LIST OF SPEAKERS, alphabetical order by first name

Aashna Mittal , Ph.D. researcher	TU Delft, Netherlands
Alba Canet Marti , MSc.	Universität für Bodenkultur, Wien, Austria
Ilyas Masih , Dr.	IHE Delft Institute for Water Education, Netherlands
Eriona Canga , Dr.	alchemia-nova GmbH, Wien, Austria
Kate Adams , Dr.	University of Salford, UK
Luis Sanchez-Alvarez , Head of Sector R&I	DG Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission
Martin Volk , Prof. Dr.	Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research, Leipzig, Germany
Nidhi Nagabhatla , sr. res. fellow	UN University UNU-CRIS, Brugge, Belgium
Patrick Kelly , Policy Officer	DG Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission
Philip Brunner , Prof.	University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland
Rolf Larsson , Prof.	Lund University, Sweden
Saskia Onnink , Policy Officer	DG Environment, European Commission
Sebastian Puculec , Project manager	Lund University, Sweden
Stevo Lavrnic , Assistant Prof.	University of Bologna, Italy
Tamara Avellan , docent	University of Oulu, Finland
Zoran Kapelan , Prof.	TU Delft, Netherlands

