



# EUBCE 2026

34th European Biomass Conference & Exhibition

## EUBCE Conference Opening

Tuesday, 19 May 2026

World Forum, The Hague, The Netherlands

*Coffee service available outside the plenary hall from 10:00 onwards.*

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08:00 – 09:00

**Registration**

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09:00 – 09:50

**Opening Plenary Session**

**Applications of Science in Industry**

**Chairpersons**

- **Nicolae Scarlat**, European Commission Joint Research Centre (JRC),  
EUBCE Technical Programme Chair
- **Christian Thiel**, European Commission JRC

**Glaucia Mendes Souza**

University of São Paulo, Brazil

*Biomass, Biofuels and the Global Transitions: Scale, Security and Sustainability*

**Maria Georgiadou**

European Commission DG Research

*Building Industrial Capacity for Advanced Biofuels in the EU*

**Urszula Szalkowska**

Managing Director Europe, EcoEngineers, an LRQA Company

*Designing a Bioeconomy That Works: How Science, Policy, and Industry Learn from Each Other*

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09:50 – 10:00

## Report on the High-Level Roundtable on SAF

### **Kyriakos Maniatis**

Former European Commission DG Energy, EUBCE Industry Track & EUBCE/SAF Roundtable Coordinator

*Summary of outcomes from the high-level SAF roundtable held the previous day in conjunction with EUBCE*

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10:00 – 10:20

## Presentation of the Prizes

### Chairpersons

- **David Chiaramonti**, Linneborn Committee Chair
- **Kyriakos Maniatis**, Giuliano Grassi Committee Chair

### Linneborn Prize

### Giuliano Grassi Prize

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10:20 – 11:30

## Opening Addresses

### **Kees Kwant**

Conference General Chair, Former Netherlands Enterprise Agency, Ministry of Economic Affairs, The Netherlands

### **Kirsten Steinbusch**

Conference General Co-Chair, Programme Director NGF BioBased Circular, Co-founder of DAB.bio and ChainCraft

### Speakers

- **Bernard Magenmann**, Director-General, European Commission JRC
- **Michel Heijdra**, Director-General for Climate & Energy, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy, The Netherlands

- **Aurel Ciobanu-Dordea**, Director for Competitive Circular Economy & Clean Industrial Policy, Directorate-General for Environment, European Commission
  - **Nicolò Giacomuzzi-Moore**, Executive Director, Circular Bio-based Europe Joint Undertaking (CBE JU)
  - **Marisa Gerards**, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to India, Nepal and Bhutan
  - **Tom van Aken**, CEO, Avantium, The Netherlands
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11:30 – 12:45

### Moderated Panel Discussion

#### Energy Security and Diversification

##### Moderator

**Paolo Frankl**, Head of Renewable Energies Division, International Energy Agency (IEA)

##### Panelists

- **Michel Heijdra**, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy, The Netherlands
  - **Santanu Gupta**, Executive Director, Indian Oil Corporation and Technical Director, Global Biofuels Alliance, India
  - **Marinus Tabak**, Chief Operating Officer, RWE Generation SE, The Netherlands
  - **Virpi Amoedo**, Vice President Sustainability & Public Affairs, Neste Renewable Products, The Netherlands
  - **Tobias Block**, Chief Strategy Officer, eFuel Alliance, Germany
  - **Rebecca Groen**, Komercon, The Netherlands
  - **David Chiaramonti**, Chair, Biofuture Initiative
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18:30 – 19:30

### Welcome Reception

The Welcome Reception will open with remarks by:

- **Rogier van Tooren**, Head of International Financing and Emerging Markets, International Enterprise Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The Netherlands
- **Nicolae Scarlat**, EUBCE Technical Programme Chair, European Commission JRC
- **Kees Kwant**, Conference General Chair, Former Netherlands Enterprise Agency, Ministry of Economic Affairs, The Netherlands