

RESEARCH & INNOVATION: HOW HORIZON EUROPE IMPACTS THE FOOD & AGRICULTURE SECTOR



MONDAY, 14 DECEMBER, 10 AM CET
@VIRTUAL DISCUSSION

HOSTED BY
HEALTH & NUTRITION WORKING GROUP
SME CONNECT



PROGRAMME

WELCOME

DR. PAUL RÜBIG ret. MEP

Member of the Governing Board of the EIT,
Member of the EESC, President SME Connect

OPENING

JOANNA KOPCIŃSKA MEP (tbc)

Vice Chair Special Committee on Beating Cancer,
ENVI Committee

KEYNOTES

PASCAL CANFIN MEP (tbc)

Chair Committee on the Environment, Public
Health and Food Safety

CARLOS FERREIRA DE MORAIS PIRES (tbc)

Member Cabinet Innovation, Research,
Culture Education & Youth, Commissioner
Mariya Gabriel, European Commission

INTERVENTIONS

PATRICK COPPENS

Director Scientific and Regulatory Affairs,
Food Supplements Europe

JOHANN SANDERS

President Fedima; Chief Product Officer
Dawn Foods Global

JEROEN WOUTERS

Director International Food Valley NL

ABOUT THIS EVENT

This event is moderated by **DR. HORST HEITZ**, Chair of the Steering Committee, SME Connect. The Horizon Europe Programme supports European partnerships, Member States and stakeholder from private sectors to tackle global challenges and industrial modernisation through research and innovation. In this programme, the second pillar includes the mission of food, bioeconomy, natural resources, agriculture and environment. The ecosystem and natural resources such as soil, water, air and biodiversity are under high pressure. There is an urgent need for more circular production and consumption patterns as otherwise the demand of natural resources is estimated to double between 2015 and 2050. Therefore, Horizon Europe focusses on the mission to raise the awareness of the importance of soil and will develop solutions for restoring its health and functions. Hence, impact the European Green Deal directly. This strategy will create opportunities for a sustainable and competitive agri-food industry through research and innovation. Thus, will help contributing to achieve healthy diets, food security and safety for all Europeans that also might eradicate hunger worldwide

This event will bring together stakeholder from the agri-food industry, research experts and policymaker to discuss the impact of the Horizon Europe Framework Programme on the agriculture and food sector and will highlight research and innovation opportunities to ensure the access to affordable safe and healthy food with high quality whilst ensuring that the European agri-food industry is capable of developing its full growth potential, creating new jobs and remaining competitive in the global market and at the same time protecting the environment.

ABOUT SME CONNECT

[SME Connect](#), founded in 2017, is now a vast network and an umbrella organization for SMEs and their supporters seeking to maximise the impact of SMEs on national levels. SME Connect is non-political but advised by a non-profit board of politicians made up of all constructive political groups.

[The Working Group on Health & Nutrition](#) was established to bring together SME actors of the food sector, stakeholders and policymakers to raise the awareness of the role of nutrition in tackling health challenges as well as the need for more significant investments in innovation to promote sustainable agri-food production systems, whilst also ensuring our food safety systems work for SMEs.