

14:00-14:10



Welcome by Tom Jones

Tom Jones is a recent member of the Welsh Government's Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 Advisory Committee and a Bureau Member of the EESC NAT [Agri, rural and environment Section]. Beef and sheep farmer with 330ha of land from river valley to high mountain in Mid Wales, his farm is in an agri-environment scheme – Glastir. In addition, he is Vice President of the Wales Council for Voluntary Action – the umbrella body for 3rd sector organisations in Wales – and member of the Edwards Review of National Parks in England and Wales. Holder of an OBE for services to rural Wales and a degree in History from Aberystwyth University, Tom Jones was also President of Wales YOUNG Farmers Movement, former vice President of the Farmers Union of Wales, former member of the Countryside Commission Committee for Wales, and former Councillor of the Countryside Council for Wales.



Introduction by Tobias Plieninger

Tobias Plieninger is Associate Professor in Countryside Planning. He was previously head of the Ecosystem Services Research Group at the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities and research fellow at the Geography Department of Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. He holds a degree in forestry and a PhD in forest and environmental sciences from the University of Göttingen and the University of Freiburg. He is interested in the study of the driving forces, processes, and patterns of changes in human-shaped landscapes. His research integrates natural and social science approaches to landscape management, ecology, and conservation, including conservation biology, vegetation ecology, and regional development. Key topics are ecosystem services, cultural landscape, and social-ecological resilience. He is coordinator of the EU FP7 project HERCULES (Sustainable futures for Europe's heritage in cultural landscapes) and work-package leader in the EU FP7 project AGFORWARD (Agroforestry that will forward rural development).

14:10-14:25



María García Martín

María García Martín is a geographer and holds a Master in Land Planning and Sustainable Local Development (Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Spain). At the moment she is a PhD student at the Chair for Landscape Management, University of Freiburg. At the same time she collaborates with the International Scientific Committee on Cultural Landscapes ICOMOS-IFLA in the World Rural Landscapes initiative.

Tom Jones

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Birgit de Boissezon

Birgit de Boissezon is the Senior Head of Unit for 'Sustainable Management of Natural Resources' at the DG Research & Innovation of the European Commission (EC). Supported by Horizon 2020, her unit works on defining and implementing objectives and priorities for nature-based solutions which increase economic, social and environmental resilience and improve risk management. These include re-naturing cities, adapting to climate change, restoring biodiversity and ecosystems, and valorising cultural heritage. Before becoming Senior Head of Unit, Birgit de Boissezon held several EC positions related to strategy and policy coordination, and evaluation and planning of the EU research framework programs (FP), notably in the field of environment. For three years, she served as research counsellor at the Danish Permanent Representation to the EU in Brussels, after six years in the Danish Ministry of Research in charge of EU research FP coordination at national level and of initiatives for dissemination and use of S/T information. A biologist by training, she started her career in the French organization for milk producers and transformers CNIEL/CIDIL, in Paris, where she was in charge of its Information and Documentation Centre.



Costa Carras

Costa Carras is, together with his wife Lydia, the founder of Greece's leading environmental organization, Elliniki Etairia (Society for the Environment and Cultural Heritage). He has served twice as its Chairman, from 1972 to 1975 and again from 2001 to 2008. He has represented Elliniki Etairia in Europa Nostra since the London AGM of 1973 and was first elected Vice President in 1976, serving actively since then. He also served at a crucial period in the early 1980s as Europa Nostra's Treasurer. He continues to be active both in Elliniki Etairia as Chairman of the Committee for the Sustainable Aegean Programme, and in Europa Nostra, preparing the 50th Anniversary Conference in Athens and serving on the Advisory Board of the 7 Most Endangered. He is also a founding Board Member of the Center for Democracy and Reconciliation in Southeast Europe, responsible for the Joint History Project and the resulting four history workbooks, Greek Coordinator of the Greek Turkish Forum, and founding Board Member of Friends of Cyprus in England, the country where he was educated in philosophy, ancient history and classical languages and literature at Oxford University.

14:55-15:20 – Open Discussion



Moderator: Andrew Lewer

Andrew Lewer (Conservative Party) is a Member of the European Parliament for the East Midlands region (Eastern England), appointed to the Regional Development Committee and the Culture Committee as spokesperson for the European Conservative and Reformists Group in 2014. After successful studies at Newcastle and Cambridge Universities, he became the Leader of the Derbyshire County Council Conservative Group. He was awarded the MBE (Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire) for his services to local government after leading the Derbyshire County Council from 2009 to 2013.

15:20-15:35



Christopher Raymond

Dr Christopher Raymond is an interdisciplinary social scientist who has over ten years of experience in designing, leading and conducting social-ecological systems research. He is currently an Assistant Professor at the Department of Geosciences and Natural Resource Management, University of Copenhagen and Adjunct Senior Research Fellow at the Barbara Hardy Institute, University of South Australia. Between 2005 and 2008, Dr Raymond was a Project Officer in NRM Social Applications at the then Department of Water, Land and Biodiversity Conservation (South Australia). He then established and successfully ran an environmental consulting company named Enviroconnect whilst also completing a PhD in Philosophy at the University of South Australia (2009-2011). Since 2012, he has been involved in a range of research fellowships, at the University of Adelaide (2011-12) and the University of Tasmania (2012-14).

15:35-16:05 – Discussion



Frederik van Everdingen

Frederik Nicolaas van Everdingen is since 2008 director of Blond Breeding, the family's 1100ha owned estate. After completing his master's degree in business administration and agribusiness at the Hogeschool Inholland of Delft (Netherlands), he became Project Manager Hilton in the Czech and Slovak branch of the international retailer Ahold N.V. Between 2004 and 2007, he occupied several key positions in the Czech affiliate of Ahold N.V. (Category Manager Meat and Product Manager Meat), before working for Hilton Foods Poland as well as being Key Account Manager for Ahold Czech Republic and Slovakia from 2007 to 2008.



Peter van der Goot

Peter van der Goot is based at the European Centre for Nature Conservation (ECNC) as adviser from DLG, Land and Water service of the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs. He is also a coordinator of the Tri Partite cooperation between Flanders, North Rhine Westphalia and the Netherlands regarding land consolidation. After a BSc in Rural Development at IAHL International Agricultural College Larenstein in Velp (Netherlands), he started his career in the Dutch Ministry of Agriculture. Later on he moved to the province of Limburg, to become policy adviser in the field of spatial planning and agriculture. In 2000, he was appointed head of the Paying Agency of the Dutch Rural Development Program in Limburg. From 2005 on, Peter van der Goot was general manager of DLG Land and Water service of the Ministry of Economic Affairs in both Limburg and Noord-Brabant provinces.



Vujadin Kovacevic

Vujadin Kovacevic is a policy officer for biodiversity at the Directorate General for Environment of the European Commission. His current responsibilities include the development and implementation of the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020, namely the integration of biodiversity into regional and agricultural policies. He is a biologist with experience in ecology, renewable energy and environmental economics, having completed two Masters – of Science in Marine Biology at the University of Zagreb (Croatia), and of Environmental Science, Economics and Natural Resources Management at the Wageningen University (Netherlands).

16:05-16:30 – Open Discussion



Moderator: David King

David King worked for 40 years on policy and sustainability issues in national and international farmers' organizations. He started as economist with the Canadian Federation of Agriculture in Ottawa in 1973. He moved to Paris to join the International Federation of Agricultural Producers in 1978, and was named Secretary General from 1988-2010. His role was to promote the views of farmers in international forums, including the UN CSD, FAO, WTO, World Bank ILO, OECD, and the Council of Europe). Before 'retiring' at the end of 2013, David also served as Head of International Relations at the French farmers' think-tank, SAF, and as a member of the Policy Group of the European Landowners' Organization (ELO) from 2010-2013. He continues as a Board member and Secretary of EcoAgriculture Partners, an organisation based in Washington D.C. that promotes an integrated ecosystem approach to the development of agricultural landscapes. David is also policy advisor to the ELO, a member of the strategy group of the French Committee against hunger and malnutrition (ECFM), and a member of the jury for selecting candidates for Nuffield farming scholarships in France.