

CONFERENCE

Reducing methane emissions - For cleaner air and climate

Date: 7 November 2019

Venue: Science 14, Rue de la Science 14b, 1040 Brussels, Belgium

President-elect Ursula von der Leyen committed to both make Europe a climate-neutral continent and to deliver environmental and health protection. A necessary step to take in order to achieve the above-mentioned objectives is to take tackle methane emissions.

Methane is a both a greenhouse gas and a precursor of air pollution. Methane has a big global warming potential and, once emitted, it can also react in the air (photochemical oxidation) resulting in carbon monoxide (CO) and ozone (O3). This ozone remains on ground level, where it not only impairs the production capacity of crops and forests, but also has severe impacts on human health. Ground-level ozone increases asthma, chronic respiratory diseases, allergies and cardiovascular diseases. Only in 2016, ozone was responsible for around 14,000 premature deaths within the EU Member states (EEA Air Quality Report 2019).

The European Environmental Bureau (EEB) and Environmental Action Germany (DUH) are hosting this conference together within the scope of the LIFE project Clean Air Farming. EEB is Europe's largest network of environmental citizens' organisations and brings together around 150 civil society organisations from more than 30 European countries. DUH is a non-profit organisation that has been working for the protection of nature, the environment and consumer rights for more than 30 years.

Our objective is to bring together policy makers, scientists and civil society representatives to exchange knowledge, explore solutions and identify opportunities to reduce methane emissions from all sources. It is fundamental to ensure that methane emissions specific reduction commitment is included in EU legislation .

Further information on the project can be found at:

www.clean-air-farming.eu

REGISTRATION

Register here: https://meta.eeb.org/methane-conference
Please register as soon as possible and by 31 October 2019 at the latest.*

* Personal data will be processed in compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation ((EU) 2016/679). Further information can be found here https://eeb.org/privacy-policy/.





PROGRAMME

moderated by Dorothee Saar, Head of Transport and Air Quality, Deutsche Umwelthilfe e.V. (Environmental Action Germany)

08:30	Welcome and Coffee
09:30 - 09:45	Welcome Speech: Why the EU needs to act now Patrick ten Brink, Director for EU Policy, European Environmental Bureau
09:45 – 10:30	Global trends of methane emissions and their impacts on ozone concentrations Dr. Rita Van Dingenen, Joint Research Centre
10:30 – 11:15	Harmful ozone concentrations for health and ecosystems and agricultural crops Dr. Kevin Hicks, Stockholm Environment Institute and York University
11:15 – 11:45	Coffee break
11:45 – 12:30	European and global emissions and reduction potential Dr. Lena Höglund Isaksson, Air Quality and Greenhouse Gases Programme, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)
12:30 – 13:45	Lunch break
13:45 – 14:30	Insights from the European Commission and possible next steps François Wakenhut, Clean Air, Head of Unit, DG ENV
14:30 – 15:00	Insights from the Task Force on Hemispheric Transport of Air Pollution (TF-HTAP) Prof. Dr. Tim Butler, Research Group Leader, Air quality modelling, Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies e.V. (IASS)
15:00 – 15:30	Coffee break
15:30 - 16:45	Panel Discussion – moderated by Rob Maas, Senior Scientific Advisor, Dutch National Institute for Public Health and the Environment
	Jannes Maes, President of the Council of Young Farmers
	Andreas Guth, Policy Director, Eurogas
	• Roald Wolters, clean air expert, Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment
	Margherita Tolotto, Air and Noise Policy Officer, European Environmental Bureau
	Poppy Kalesi, Director, Global Energy, Environmental Defense Fund
16:45 – 17:00	Wrap up and closing of the event
17:00	Cocktail

CONTACT

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