

The 1st international scientific and practical  
Bioeconomy Forum

**«Bioeconomy for sustainable development  
of countries and regions»**

**Visit cards of key-speakers**

27-28 April, 2022, Samarkand (Uzbekistan)



# Shavkat Hasanov

Samarkand branch of  
Tashkent State Agrarian  
University

Moderator of the Forum



## Position:

An associated professor on agricultural economics, Director of Samarkand branch of TSAU.

## Experience and background:

- During the past 15 years was Head of the International Relation Department at Samarkand Agricultural Institute.
- Member of European and International Agricultural Economists Associations.
- More than 100 publications in Uzbek, Russian and English languages.
- A team member of several research and educational projects, as Erasmus - Mundus, Tempus and Erasmus+ education and research projects.
- Currently national coordinator of EU CBHE-BUZNET project and local coordinator of doctoral school in TIAME together with IAMO and the University of Giessen, Germany.
- The local coordinator of Tempus - UZHEALTH project (2013-2017), coordinator of Erasmus Mundus (mobility) projects: TOSCA and TOSCA II (Transfer of skills, knowledge and ideas to Central Asia-2009-2014); CASEU – (Central Asia and European Universities 2013-2018) projects. Coordinator of Erasmus + KA 1 projects: Alexandru Ioan Cuza University (Romania), Mobile+: University of Porto (Portugal) and University of Pisa, Italy.



Latvijas  
Lauksaimniecības  
universitāte

# Irina Pilvere

Latvia University of Life Sciences  
and Technologies, Latvia



## Position:

- Rector, Professor, Leading researcher, PhD in Economics.
- True Member of Latvian Academy of Science.
- Vice President of Latvian Academy of Agriculture and Forestry Science.
- Member of the European Union's Standing Committee for Agricultural Research (SCAR).
- BOVA university network Rector Board member.
- Member of the Nordic Association of Agricultural scientists (NJF).
- Member of the Latvian Rectors' Council, Member of Latvia Science Council Expert Commission etc.

## Experience and background:

- Scientific focus on: Agricultural and Rural Development, Land Use Efficiency, Common Agricultural Policy, Food Processing Development.
- Participation (leading) in 22 international and 75 national research projects.
- Published 302 scientific works, including 195 scientific paper, 6 scientific monographs, 31 books or book parts, 70 other.
- In the SCOPUS data bases indexed 68 articles, in the Web of Science (Clarivate) are indexed 76 articles.
- H-index=4 (in SCOPUS and in Web of Science).
- Defended 11 lead Doctoral Thesis.
- Researcher ID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8467-1949>;  
SCOPUS ID: 55392031600.



Ministry of  
Innovative development  
of the Republic of Uzbekistan

# Shahlo Turdikulova

The Ministry of Innovative  
development, Uzbekistan



## Position:

- Deputy Minister
- Director of Center for Advanced Technologies

## Experience and background:

- Scientific focus: biology, biotechnology (PhD, D.Sc. in biology).
- Published more than 160 scientific papers, including 2 textbooks and 2 monographs.
- More than 30 articles in the international scientific publications.
- H-index – 14.
- Statistics of citations by other scientists – 2291.
- The highest overall impact factor in the Republic of Uzbekistan - 149.5.
- Participant of several international institutions and foundations: NATO, FP-7.
- National representative of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the European Union's Horizon 2020 research program in the health sphere.



Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Latvia

# Edvards Ratnieks

The Ministry of Agriculture of the  
Republic of Latvia



## Position:

- Advisor to the Minister of Agriculture of the Republic of Latvia.
- Chairman of the Scientific Council of the Ministry.
- Member of the Board of the the Political Party National Alliance “All for Latvia!” – “For Fatherland and Freedom/LNNK”.
- Co-chairman of the Latvian Union of the Future.
- Member of the Board of Mērsrags Port.

## Experience and background:

- Former President of the Student Union of Latvia.
- Former Acting Vice-Rector of Ventspils University College.
- Education - Master of Laws at the University of Latvia.



**Digital  
Innovation  
Hub**



# Ira Raciņa

Latvian IT Cluster Digital  
Innovation Hub



## Position

- Liaison Officer for Digitalization and Internationalization.
- During the past 3 years responsible for the international projects both in the EU and outside of the EU.
- Previous experience in advisory and start-up community.

## Experience and background:

- A senior expert specialized in digitalization, cross industrial and supranational cooperation with gradual experience in international European Union programs and projects, like Interreg, Horizon, etc.
- While working for the leading auditors' company KPMG she gained comprehensive experience in targeting and market assessment for financial advisory and anti-money laundering services.
- Gained gradual international competences in the field of IT and Business Development in one of the leading Latvian banks.
- Acquired vast international and cross-cultural experience while helping start-ups in food and beverage industry to refine their innovative ideas, bring them to market and scale the business when she joined Food Start-up Accelerator Mabiuss with branch offices in Latvia, Russia, UK and China.



# Annimari Lehtomäki

Jamk University of Applied Sciences



## Position:

- Senior Specialist at the Institute of Bioeconomy of JAMK University of Applied Sciences.
- My role is to develop the service and operating model of the Bioeconomy Business Accelerator, BioPaavo by JAMK, and to promote our R&D&I and business development cooperation with companies.

## Experience and background:

- 15+ years of experience from strategic and tactical business development in growth ventures, developing bioeconomy and circular economy businesses and commercializing innovations in various companies.
- Strong background in project management, coordination of advanced R&D&I projects and demanding public/private sector co-development projects.
- Ph.D. degree in Environmental Sciences and Energy technology, further studies in International Business, Entrepreneurship, Business Economics, Corporate Environmental Management, Organizational Communication.



VYTAUTAS  
MAGNUS  
UNIVERSITY  
M C M X X I I

# Vlada Vitunskiene

Vytautas Magnus University  
(VMU), Lithuania



## **Position:**

- Professor of the Department of Applied Economics, Finance and Accounting, Vytautas Magnus University.
- Expert of the Rural Development Programme for Lithuania under the Rural Development Programme under the EU CAP Pillar II.

## **Experience and background:**

- Research experience in agri-food sector competitiveness, sustainability and policy, and development of sustainable bioeconomy.
- Experience in implementation and management of 25 international and national research projects.
- Currently is the national coordinator of the H2020 project “Advancing Sustainable Circular Bioeconomy in Central and Eastern European countries” (BIOEASTsUP) and the HorizonEU project „Accelerating circular bio-based solutions integration in European rural areas“ (BioRural).
- Currently is the leader of national R&D project “Establishment of criteria for sustainable production in the agricultural, food and fisheries sectors and development of control system for assessing compliance with these criteria“.



# Minna Lappalainen

Jamk University of Applied Sciences



## Position:

- Director at JAMK Institute of Bioeconomy.
- Member of the National Bioeconomy Panel 2020-2022 lead by the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment and Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry in Finland.
- Leading a multidisciplinary team of over 50 professionals for education and R&D in the field of bioeconomy.

## Experience and background:

- PhD in Economics.
- Strong business background in various management and marketing positions in Finnish forest industry and in a start-up company focused on supply chain solutions and forest harvesting technologies.
- Member of the supervisory board at Osk. Keskimaa (retail corporation, turnover 670 million €) (2019 -).
- Member of the supervisory board at Lähi-Tapiola Central Finland (insurance company, turnover 45 million €) (2020-).
- Member of the Board at Finnish Forest Centre (2012-2017).

# Kirsi Knuuttila

Jamk University of Applied Sciences



## **Position:**

- Team leader on Forest bioeconomy, project manager in the Institute of Bioeconomy of JAMK University of Applied Sciences.
- The tasks include management, development and training activities related to regional, national and international level the field of bioeconomy, circular economy and sustainable development.
- Certified project manager (IPMA) having experience about European project management since 2001.

## **Experience and background:**

- Representative of JAMK University of Applied Sciences in many regional and national networks related to sustainability and circular economy, e.g. the Jyväskylä resource wisdom group, Sustainable way of living in Central Finland and acting as regional coordinator of Industrial Symbiosis network.
- Memberships in City Council and Regional Council (2013-2020), Board of regional waste management company Mustankorkea Ltd (2015-20) and Board in regional energy supplier Jyväskylän energia (2009-2010).
- Participation in International Leadership Programme – Climate Change and Clean Energies (IVPL) in 2010.
- EU Project expert training in 2000.
- Master degree of Environmental Sciences (Tech.) in Helsinki University of Technology (Aalto University) .



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**SIA "AUGU SPĒKS"**



# Dina Popluga

- SIA «AUGU SPĒKS»
- Latvia University of Life Sciences and Technologies



## **Position:**

- Associate professor on agrarian economics.
- Vice Dean of Science and International Studies in Faculty of Economics and Social Development, LLU
- Director of PhD programme “Agrarian and Regional Economics”.
- Managing member of company SIA «Augu spēks».

## **Experience and background:**

- 10 years experience as a researcher in projects covering such fields as bioeconomy, climate friendly agriculture, socio-economic aspects of climate neutrality, alternative development options for rural areas.
- 8 years experience as vice-dean in promotion and development of research activities, strengthen and expansion of international relation.
- PhD in economics and Master in biology.
- 3 years experience in managing business in the field of bioeconomy.



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# Jelena Zagorska

Latvia University of Life Sciences  
and Technologies



## Position:

- Associated professor, leading researcher, project leader.
- Member of council of Latvia University of Life Sciences and Technologies.
- Member of the Council of the Faculty of Food Technology.
- Member of Latvia Professor Association.
- Member of Latvian Academia of Agricultural and Forestry Science.
- Expert in Latvia Scientific Council.

## Experience and background:

- Scientific focus on: Food Processing, Milk quality, Dairy products quality and new product development, Shelf-life of food.
- Participation (leading) in 5 international and 15 national research projects.
- Published 38 scientific paper, 3 scientific monograph
- In the SCOPUS data bases indexed 23 articles, in the Web of Science (Clarivate) are indexed 25 articles.
- H-index=5 (in SCOPUS and in Web of Science).
- Supervisor of 3 Doctoral Thesis.
- Researcher ID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8187-9154>  
SCOPUS ID: 55210935400.



# Toms Auškāps

Major egg producer in  
Northern Europe



## Position:

- Board Member BATICOVO.
- Head of development and communication at BALTICOVO.
- Chairman of supervisory board at RIGA FORESTS.
- Member of supervisory board at Latvian Food Producers Federation.

## Experience and background:

- Holds MBA degree from University of Latvia and Executive MBA degree from Stockholm School of Economics in Riga.
- Graduate of Baltic Institute of Corporate Governance.
- Vast experience in business:
  - Shipping of oil products,
  - Banking, Telecommunications,
  - Multipartner loyalty programmes,
  - food production.
- Founding Member of Latvian Exporters Association.
- Member of executive chapter BNI Morbergs.

# Reinholds Sprukulis

Dairy company “Vecsiljāņi”

Photo

## **Position:**

Managing member of company “Vecsiljāņi”

## **Experience and background:**



# Baiba Rosicka

SIA Getliņi Eko, Latvia



## Position

- Head of the Environmental Management Department at SIA «Getliņi EKO».
- Riga Technical University, Social science master degree in economics, Environment economics.

## Experience and background:

- As Head of the Environmental Management Department at SIA «Getliņi EKO» experience in overall environmental management and waste management project development in biggest landfill in Baltic States.
- Expert with experience in municipal and hazardous waste management projects and environmental policy in Latvia.
- Diploma in environmental economics from Riga Technical University as well as knowledge in environmental engineering science from exchange studies in University of Iceland.
- Wide range of project has developed skills in full cycle project management in waste management sector – starting from planning and feasibility studies up to the verification of the results achieved by the waste management development projects.



VYTAUTAS  
MAGNUS  
UNIVERSITY  
M C M X X I I

# Daiva Makutėnienė

Vytautas Magnus University  
(VMU), Lithuania



## Position:

- Associate professor of agricultural economics, Department of Applied Economics, Finance and Accounting, VMU Agriculture Academy.
- Member of Lithuanian Academy of Sciences Division of Agricultural and Forestry Sciences Section of Agrarian Economics and Sociology.
- Member of Lithuanian Association of Economists.
- Member of the Master's program „Agricultural Economics«.

## Experience and background:

- Research interests: Sustainable development of bioeconomy; Agricultural and food products' markets and competitiveness; Agriculture and rural development.
- More than 50 scientific publications.
- Developer and executor of more than 20 research and study projects.
- Executor of „Lithuanian Bioeconomy Development Feasibility Study“ (2017).
- 30 years of pedagogical experience.



# Kristians Grundstoks

Ltd. "Polylabs", Latvia



## **Position:**

Founder, CEO of the Ltd. "Polylabs".

## **Experience and background:**

- Polylabs is an innovative chemical production company.
- Our main area of expertise is the development and production of bio polyols from renewable and sustainable resources.
- We produce high-quality bio polyols from industrial-grade pine chemicals and rapeseed oils.
- Inventions by our scientific partner Institute of wood chemistry of Latvia were used in the Soviet Union's spacecraft program, and the European Space Agency is presently working with the Institute on projects to develop polyurethane insulation materials for spaceship carriers.
- We can proudly say that our bio polyols are true to their word and contain up to 83% bio content!

[www.polylabs.eu](http://www.polylabs.eu)



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# Aleksejs Zacepins

Latvia University of Life  
Sciences and Technologies  
(LLU)



## **Position:**

- Associate professor and lead researcher.
- Director of the Bachelor programme «Computer control and computer science».

## **Experience and background:**

- Works at Faculty of Information Technologies at Latvia University of Life Sciences and Technologies as an associated professor, lead researcher and scientific project manager.
- Leads several Horizon 2020 projects related to the Precision Beekeeping and Precision Agriculture.
- Defeated doctoral thesis about "Model based precision computer control of the multiobject biosystem" where made practical experiments in the bee colony wintering building.
- Leads the small scientific group which has more than 10 years scientific and industrial experience in the IT sector.
- Group has implemented different IT solutions in different scientific projects in various agricultural and multi-discipline fields. Scientific group previously focused on design and implementation of automated systems for data processing and analysis.