
Mitigating Agricultural Methane: Relevance, Potential and Policy Options

Wednesday, 14 October 2026, 10:00–18:30 (CET) followed by a reception

Representation of the State of Baden-Württemberg, Tiergartenstraße 15, Berlin

Methane emissions are becoming increasingly central to climate policy debates. Methane is a potent greenhouse gas with a relatively short atmospheric lifetime. Reducing methane emissions not only contributes to climate neutrality but can also slow warming in the coming decades. For this reason, more than 100 countries launched the Global Methane Pledge in 2021, committing to reducing global methane emissions by 30 percent by 2030. Major dairy producers and food companies have likewise announced ambitious methane reduction targets.

Agriculture is the largest source of methane emissions in the European Union (EU), primarily from livestock production. While emissions from the sector declined during the 1990s and early 2000s, progress has stalled over the past decade. Currently, there is a lively discussion on how the contribution of agricultural methane to warming should be understood and reflected in climate and agricultural policies.

With this conference, we aim to address three key elements of this debate:

- the relevance of biogenic methane for global warming, including possible implications for greenhouse gas accounting,
- the mitigation potential of technologies and practices as part of a methane reduction strategy,
- the policy frameworks needed to incentivise methane mitigation in the EU livestock sector and create economically viable pathways for farmers and businesses.

This conference will bring together scientists, policymakers and representatives from the farming sector, food industries and civil society organisations for a solution-oriented dialogue on the role of agricultural methane in climate change, the practical potential to reduce on-farm emissions through technologies and practices and how to design policies that create a business case for methane mitigation.

Registration

Participation in this event is free of charge. You can register [here](#).

Translation

The event will be available in English and German.

Preliminary programme

09:00 **Arrival and refreshments**

10:00 **Welcome and introduction**

Moderation by: Petra Bindl

10:15 **Keynote: Why methane matters**

Andy Reisinger, Commissioner at the New Zealand Climate Change Commission

10:45 **Scientific panel: The role of agricultural methane in climate change**

Myles Allen, Head of Atmospheric, Oceanic and Planetary Physics in the Department of Physics, University of Oxford

Vera Eory, Reader in Sustainable Agriculture, Scotland's Rural College | Member of the European Scientific Advisory Board on Climate Change

Andy Reisinger, Commissioner at the New Zealand Climate Change Commission

Facilitation: Christine Chemnitz and Harald Grethe, Co-Directors, Agora Agriculture

12:00 **Lunch**

13:15 **Presentation: The potential of on-farm mitigation measures**

Agora Agriculture presentation of the preliminary results of a study on the methane reduction potential of applying mitigation technologies and practices across the European Union

13:45 **Insight: Farmers' experiences with mitigating methane emissions on farm**

Insights and recommendations from active farmers drawing on experiences with using mitigation technologies and practices on farm

Jana Gäbert, dairy farmer, Managing Director, agt Agrar GmbH, Germany

Katharina Schobersberger, pig farmer, Vice President, European Council of Young Farmers (CEJA), Austria

Jesper Arnth Stampe, dairy farmer, Chairman Sector for Cattle, Danish Agriculture and Food Council, Denmark

14:30 Debate: How to create a business case for reducing methane on farms?

Stefan Haensel, Global Head of Quality & Sustainability, Lidl International

Carla Henckel, Head of Communications and Public Affairs, Arla Foods Deutschland

Thordis Moeller, Sustainability Director Continental Europe, OSI Europe

Niels Peter Nørring, Director of Climate and EU Policy, Danish Agriculture and Food Council

Nina Wenzl, Corporate Affairs Director Central Europe, Mars

15:45 Refreshments

16:30 Impulse and exchange: The relevance of enabling policies for reducing methane emissions in the agricultural sector

Speakers to be announced soon

17:15 Policy panel: Ingredients of an enabling policy mix (preliminary configuration and timing)

Chris Adamo, Head of Global Sustainability Impact & B Corp, Danone

Pierre-Marie Aubert, Director of the Agriculture and Food Policies Programme, Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI)

Christian Holzleitner, Head of Unit Land Economy and Carbon Removals, European Commission, Directorate-General for Climate Action (DG CLIMA)

Sebastian von Keyserlingk, Head of Division, German Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Regional Identity

Odón Sobrino, Head of the Livestock Environmental Management Division, Deputy Directorate-General for Livestock Production Resources, Spanish Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

DBV - German Farmers' Association (name **tbc**)

18:30 Reception
