



## POLICY ROUND TABLE

### *POLICY ROUND TABLE – Horizon4Proteins*

#### ***Unlocking the potential of alternative proteins in the EU: Diversification, environmental performance and competitiveness***

**Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> May 2023 / 10:00 – 13:00 CEST**

**Online: [Teams link shared in invitation](#)**

#### **Goal**

To share expert advice and bring together key stakeholders to engage in a conversation on pathways to address the environmental, socioeconomic and governance challenges to the sustainable development of alternative proteins in Europe.

#### **Specific objectives**

1. Introduce Horizon4Proteins collaboration and selected project findings on alternative proteins environmental sustainability, socioeconomics and policy frameworks, relevant to the ambition set in the European Green Deal and the Farm to Fork Strategy.
2. Exchange viewpoints and experiences on governance challenges relevant to emerging and established alternative proteins sub-sectors and their associated value chains.
3. Learn about the EU Policy landscape in area cross cutting the Food 2030 strategy.
4. Discuss actions needed to accelerate a transition towards the diversification and sustainable development of alternative proteins value chains in Europe, to further inform and refine the project's areas of policy recommendations and next steps.



## POLICY ROUND TABLE

### Participants to the Policy Roundtable

- (1) DG-AGRI : Laurent Mercier and Amalia Junco (Protein strategy) and Paola Alejandra Eulalio (R&I on protein crops)
- (2) DG-CLIMA: Marie Pouliquen (Protein strategy)
- (3) DG-EMPL : Melisa Duman (Protein strategy)
- (4) DG GROW: Blaga Valentinova Popova (Industry) and Jonas Lazaro Mojica (food industry)
- (5) DG-SANTE : Alice Pignacca (Farm to Fork Strategy)
- (6) DG-RTD: Cindy Schoumacher (Food 2030 and R&I on food systems)
- (7) REA: Paul Webb (Head of Department – Green Europe), Matthias Langemeyer (Head of Unit), Dominika Trzaska (Head of Sector), Zuleika Saz Parkinson and Amanda Ozin-Hofsaess (project officers of Horizon4Proteins projects), Lucia Pacillo (Project officer)
- (8) EFSA: Ermolaos Ververis (Novel Foods team)
- (9) Horizon4Proteins projects
  - NextGenProteins: Sveinn Agnarsson (Policy and regulatory expert) and Marie Shrestha (Stakeholder engagement)
  - ProFuture: Massimo Castellari (Project coordinator), Fabio Fanari (Project manager), Dario Dongo (Policy and regulatory expert) and Joao Navalho (Microalgae producers representant)
  - Smart Protein: Emanuele Zannini (Project coordinator), Jacqueline Lyons (Project manager), Mathilde Alexandre and Paloma Nosten (Dissemination manager) and Lucia Hortelano (ProVeg EU Policy Officer)
  - Susinchain: Teun Veldkamp (Project coordinator) and Ine Fels-Klerx (Project manager)
  - Giant leaps: Paul Vos (Project coordinator) and Hans Verhagen (Policy lead)
  - Like-a-Pro: Morena Silvestrini (Project coordinator), Manon Richard (Policy advocacy), Ainhoa Bilbao (Regulatory compliance) and Arlind Xhelili (Consumer engagement and empowerment)

***Note:** The meeting will be recorded for internal use in the Horizon4Proteins projects. Interested Horizon4Proteins consortium members have been invited to listen to the discussion and will be invited to interact through poll on specific questions.*



## AGENDA – POLICY ROUNDTABLE, 17<sup>th</sup> May 2023

### 10:00–10:40 Introduction and opening session

<b>Welcome</b>	<i>Paul Webb (REA)</i>
<b>Introduction</b> Horizon4Proteins collaboration Objectives and expected outcomes of the Policy Round table	<i>Marie Shrestha (NextGenProteins)</i>
<b>Tour de Table</b>	
<b>Presentation of the EU policy scene (5min. each)</b> Protein strategy Farm to Fork strategy Food 2030	<i>Laurent Mercier (DG-AGRI)</i> <i>Alice Pignacca (DG-SANTE)</i> <i>Cindy Schoumacher (DG-RTD)</i>
<b>Presentation of the Horizon4Proteins projects (3min. each)</b> NextGenProteins ProFuture Smart Protein Susinchain Giant leaps Like-a-Pro	<i>Sveinn Agnarsson (NextGenProteins)</i> <i>Massimo Castellari (ProFuture)</i> <i>Emanuele Zannini (smart protein)</i> <i>Teun Veldkamp (Susinchain)</i> <i>Paul Vos (Giant Leaps)</i> <i>Morena Silvestrini (Like-a-Pro)</i>

### 10:40-12:45 Policy implications of Horizon4Proteins work and beyond, framing the discussion

#### 10:40-11:20 Plenary discussion Theme 1: Protein diversification

Should we further encourage **consumers** to diversify their protein sources, and if so, **who are the appropriate bodies** to deliver this message?

How can **farmers** be encouraged to diversify their protein production (i.e. to consider moving from animal to plant protein production?) **Should this transition be incentivised** by the EU?

**Industry partners** are responding to consumer demand for protein diversification. Is regulation required to ensure alternative protein products are both **nutritious** and **sustainably produced** as standard?

*Chair:*  
*Jacqueline Lyons (smart protein)*

#### Coffee break (5min.)

#### 11:25-12:05 Plenary discussion Theme 2: Policy support

What does policy need in terms of research, data and methods to support policy making in Europe to increase the production and consumption of alternative proteins in Europe? Often there is a lack of LCA and PEF data for given solutions? And if so, are more of such data useful, or other data? In other

*Chair: Ine Fels-Klerx (SUSINCHAIN)*



## POLICY ROUND TABLE

words, where lie the priorities for science, from the policy making point of view?

How can we integrate management perspectives / domains across policy areas to make use of the benefits of alternative proteins?

What kind of policy instruments could be applied to increase sustainable production and consumption of alternative proteins in Europe?

### 12:05-12:45 **Plenary discussion Theme 3: Economic development**

Limited investment power of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises and the high level of risk represented by consumer acceptance are big obstacles in the process of scaling up and commercialization of innovative protein-rich ingredients and foods. What would be the best approach to follow for these companies and what the institutions can do or already do to support and encourage this process?

How differences among EU, member states and other countries regulations could influence the innovation and competitiveness level of EU companies?

Usually, sustainable production implies higher costs which are reflected in the final product price, making sustainable foods niche products. What actions are required to ensure sustainable development and at the same time the alternative protein sector's growth?

*Chair: Fabio Fanari (ProFuture)*

### 12:45-13:00 **Closing remarks and next steps**

Closing remarks

*Paul Vos (Giant leaps) and Morena Silvestrini (Like-a-Pro)*

Next steps

*Amanda Ozin-Hofsaess (REA) and Cindy Schoumacher (DG-RTD)*

Result of the audience poll