



EUROPEAN UNION



EU-ASEAN Practitioner Talk series

EU-ASEAN Dialogue on GreenTech & Innovation Mapping
Green Technologies for Sustainable Manufacturing

Series 2: Sustainable Food Chain Online Event

Tuesday, November 30, 15:00 – 17:30 Indochina time (GMT+7) – Online event

15:00 – 17:30 Jakarta WIB time (GMT+7)

09:00 – 11:30 Brussels, Central European Time (GMT+1)

08:00 – 10:30 (UTC) Greenwich Mean Time, Western European Time

Enhanced Regional EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument (E-READI)

Background

Green technologies are key to sustainable new products, services and manufacturing processes, which are essential for realizing Green Growth. They combine the opportunity to fuel economic growth and socio-economic development with a high potential to contribute to sustainable development, environmental improvements, reduction of greenhouse gases, reduction or mitigation of the effects of climate change and achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The transfer of Green Technologies must address in particular the following needs:

- Identify green technologies which meet the specific needs and priorities of ASEAN member states and which are aligned with local issues;
- Analyse the feasibility of such green technologies in the ASEAN context and instigate their successful transfer;
- Identify in particular green technologies which contribute to the reduction of CO₂ and other green house gases in cities, rural areas, industry, SMEs, energy sector and traffic; while at the same time also creating economic benefits for enterprises and local communities and new sustainable employment;
- Embed such initiatives in ambitious development strategies which make new technologies available in response to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); and
- Support local capacity building to upgrade enterprises', researchers' and other stakeholders' technology levels and capability to apply such new green technologies successfully.

EU ASEAN Dialogue on Green Technology & Innovation Mapping

The Enhanced Regional EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument (E-READI) is an EU-funded programme that facilitates dialogue between the EU and ASEAN in priority policy areas of joint interest across all three ASEAN Community pillars: Political and Security, Economic and Socio-Cultural. The overall objective of E-READI is to support ASEAN integration aiming at poverty reduction and inclusive and sustainable growth, while the specific aim is to support the implementation of the ASEAN Community blue prints, drawing on European experience and know-how through sectoral policy dialogues.

E-READI supports the implementation of the EU-ASEAN Dialogue on Green Technology & Innovation Mapping GreenTech. In support of these objectives, GreenTech aims to contribute to sustainable green growth by fostering EU-ASEAN technology transfer, research cooperation and Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) capacity building in sustainable technologies.

For this, GreenTech aims at the instigation and development of the following in particular:

- Dialogue on technology-based cooperation between European and ASEAN technology innovators;
- Transfer of state-of-the art sustainable technologies between EU technology providers and multipliers in ASEAN Member and initiation of EU-ASEAN research collaboration; and
- Complementary contributions to capacity building.

The feasibility and value of this approach shall be proven in three pilot sectors: Sustainable Manufacturing, Plastic Wastes Management, and COVID-19 Pandemic Management. Specifically, it endeavours to:

- Create awareness and platforms for dialogues on technology markets and with innovators to promote EUASEAN technology cooperation and transfer in these pilot sectors;
- Raise awareness and promote EU-ASEAN green technology transfer among both European and ASEAN actors to create interest and joint commitment among stakeholders in the pilot sectors;
- Identify high-potential thematic topics and candidate organisations for EU-ASEAN green technology transfer and research collaboration, in sectors which offer the highest value potential for green growth; and
- Demonstrate the feasibility and sustainability of green technology transfer and cooperation and of related capacity building, competency and skills development in successful EU-ASEAN pilot projects where European and ASEAN researchers or industries agree to transfer such green technologies. These green technology transfer activities will be accompanied by sectoral application-related capacity development.

Webinar background and objectives

The objective of the Practitioner Talks is to amplify awareness, to create platforms for dialogues on technology markets and with innovators, and to promote EU-ASEAN technology cooperation and transfer. To realise this, the webinars offer a platform for dialogue between European and ASEAN stakeholders in the sustainable manufacturing domain, where state-of-the-art and future perspectives of the sustainable manufacturing value chain and its key elements are discussed, where new technologies and solutions are presented and where researchers, technology suppliers and users can meet to lay the grounds for future collaboration. These webinars are part of a pilot project on sustainable manufacturing, supported by the Ministry of Science and Technology of Vietnam (DOST), and implemented under E-READI dialogues on Green Technology Innovation and Mapping in close cooperation with the European Commission Directorate-General for Research and Innovation (DG RTD) and the ASEAN Secretariat's (ASEC) Science and Technology Division.

Target audience

- Business and industry, particularly in EU-ASEAN, which are involved in sustainable manufacturing and its technologies, including emerging relevant new innovation areas like Robotics, Mechatronics, Automation, Sensors, Artificial Intelligence and digital manufacturing;
 - Academics and researchers working in these domains;
 - Government agencies, local government units;
 - Non-governmental organizations, other interested parties.
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What happens after the Practitioner Talk?

Interested participants will have the opportunity to

- be informed about and invited to the following Practitioner Talks on related Sustainable Manufacturing topics
- become a member of our practitioner community for exchanging information and receiving updates on ground-breaking research and innovation projects and funding opportunities in the EU and ASEAN.
- participate in initiatives to develop EU-ASEAN research and technology transfer cooperation opportunities, for example under Europe's new Flagship program HORIZON EUROPE and bring forward your own project ideas and interests to meet international partners and to collaborate.

How do I join the Practitioner Talk?

Please proceed to our 30.11. Practitioner Talk's registration page here:



<https://bit.ly/3r2DPxf>

If you have questions or would like to discuss a project idea or partner need, please contact us at:

<https://greentechtransfers.eu>

email: info@greentechtransfers.eu

Series 2: Sustainable Food Chain

Tuesday, November 30, 2021, 15:30 – 18:00 (GMT+7) | Online Event

Agenda

Time (Indochina time Vietnam, Thailand) Topic / Presenter / Discussant

14:45 – 15:00 Registration / Log-in

OPENING SESSION AND STAKEHOLDER PERSPECTIVES

15:00 – 15:05 Welcome and opening

09:00 - 09:05 CET **Le Thi Viet Lam**
Deputy Director General – Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Science and Technology of the Socialist Republic Vietnam

15:05 – 15:10 Europe's "Farm-to-Fork" strategy for a fair, healthy and environmentally-friendly food system

09:05 - 09:10 CET **Natalia Brzezina**
Senior Policy Officer, DG Agriculture, European Commission

15:10 – 15:15 Opening remarks ASEAN

09:10 - 09:15 CET **Dr. Zurina Moktar**
Assistant Director Science & Technology Division, ASEAN Secretariat

15:15 – 15:25 Vision & Strategic Plan for ASEAN Cooperation in Food, Agriculture & Forestry

09:15 - 09:25 CET **Dr. Pham Quang Minh**
Assistant Director Food, Agriculture & Forestry Division, ASEAN Secretariat

15:25 – 15:30 Opening Remarks Delegation of the European Union to ASEAN

09:25 - 09:30 CET **Lukáš Gajdoš**
Deputy Head of Delegation of the European Union to ASEAN.

15:30 – 15:40 Private Sector perspective: Regeneration from Farm to Fork and beyond

09:30 - 09:40 CET **Arlene Tan Bantoto**
Head of Public Affairs, Communications & Sustainability, Nestlé S.A., Philippines

15:40 – 15:45 GreenTech initiative for ASEAN-EU cooperation in Sustainable Food Chain and upcoming HORIZON EUROPE calls on sustainable food chain

09:40 - 09:45 CET **Dr. Michael Braun**
Senior Non Key Expert E-READi GreenTech

SESSION 1: Upstream perspective – Food processing and packaging

15:45 – 15:55 Extracting and valorising value from food processing residues

09:45 - 09:55 CET **Assoc. Prof. Nguyen Minh Tan**
Hanoi University of Science and Technology, Vietnam

15:55 – 16:05 Food Processing Waste to High Value Ingredients

09:55 - 10:05 CET **Prof. Anil Kumal Anal**
Asian Institute of Technology, Department of Food Agriculture and Bioresources, Bangkok, Thailand

16:05 – 16:15 Recent advance in edible coating and its effect on fresh/fresh-cut fruits quality

10:05 - 10:15 CET **Prof. Norhashila Hashim**
Department Head Biological and Agricultural Engineering, Universiti Putra Malaysia

16:15 – 16:25 EU project SYMBIO-TIC: Symbiotic Human-Robot Collaboration and its application to food processing and packaging

10:15 - 10:25 CET **Prof. Xi Wang**
Department of Production Engineering, KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm

16:25 – 16:35 10:25 - 10:35 CET Discussion

16:35 – 16:45 10:35- 10:45 CET **BREAK**

SESSION 2: Downstream perspective – Sustainable and secure food chains

16:45 – 16:55	EU project TrustEat – Building a trusty future food system by using blockchain by using blockchain technology based on the use of innovative devices, sensors and materials
10:45 - 10:55 CET	Prof. Lorenzo Pastrana International Iberian Nanotechnology Laboratory, Braga, Portugal
16:55 – 17:05	TraceThai – Thai Food and agricultural products traceability system using Blockchain technology
10:55 - 11:05 CET	Nalintib Homvisetvongsa Trade System Policy Division of Trade Strategy and Policy Office (TPSO), Ministry of Commerce, Thailand
17:05 – 17:15	EU project GOLF – EC-Asia Research Network on Integration of Global and Local Agri-Food Supply Chains Towards Sustainable Food Security
11:05 - 11:15 CET	Dr. Dong Li University of Liverpool
17:15 – 17:25 11:15 - 11:25 CET	Discussion

WRAP-UP

17:25 – 17:30 11:25 - 11:30 CET	Concluding remarks (recorded) Pierrick Fillon-Ashida ASEAN Desk Officer, European Commission, DG RTD
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MODERATOR

DR. MICHAEL BRAUN

SENIOR NK EXPERT, EU-ASEAN GREENTECH AND INNOVATION MAPPING DIALOGUE

SPEAKERS



Le Thi Viet Lam

Deputy Director General

Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Science and Technology

Le Thi Viet Lam is a Deputy Director General of Department of International Cooperation under the Ministry of Science and Technology. She works towards promoting the cooperation in science, technology and innovation between Viet Nam and international partners. Specialized in external economies and public policy, she has 20 years' experience of working in state management, mainly in science and technology.



Natalia Brzezina

Policy Officer at the European Commission's Directorate General Research and Innovation Unit

Natalia Brzezina is a Policy Officer at the European Commission's Directorate General Research and Innovation Unit where she is working to ensure the role of Research and Innovation in the Green Deal, with focus on the Farm-to-Fork Strategy and on HORIZON EUROPE's Cluster 6 Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture and Environment with focus on the Intervention Area Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Areas. Ms. Brzezina graduated from the Warsaw University of Life Sciences and holds a master Degree from Cranfield University a PhD from Katholieke Universiteit Leuven.



Dr. Zurina Moktar

Assistant Director Science & Technology Division, ASEAN Secretariat

Dr. Zurina Moktar works at the ASEAN Secretariat as the Assistant Director/Head of Science and Technology Division. She previously served at the Ministry of Environment and Water of Malaysia as the Principal Assistant Secretary. Prior to that she was the Special Officer to the Deputy Minister of Energy, Science, Technology and Climate Change, Malaysia. She previously served at the National Institute of Public Administration, Malaysia as a training consultant) and trained more than 1,000 government officials in the area of public policy. She obtained her MPhil and PhD from the University of Cambridge.

Dr. Zurina once developed a Capacity Development Needs Assessment Tool for UN Environment, and the tool has been operationalised worldwide. She has also been attached with the Permanent Mission of Malaysia to the United Nations, New York, and the Innovation Agency of Malaysia. In the UK, Dr. Zurina was the Deputy Director for Cambridge i-Teams, assisting the commercialisation of more than 20 new technologies and she was awarded the 2018 Innovative Youth Incubator Award in Washington DC.



Dr. Pham Quang Minh

Assistant Director Food, Agriculture & Forestry Division, ASEAN Secretariat

Dr. Pham Quang Minh accomplished his doctoral thesis at the National University of Ha Noi, Viet Nam in 2012. His research focused on WTO's agricultural policies, including the Agreement on Agriculture (AoA) and the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement). In 2000-2013, Dr. Minh worked in the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Viet Nam as a Senior Agricultural Official in the Department of Planning. From 2013 to present, as Assistant Director, and Head of the Food, Agriculture, and Forestry (FAF) Division, ASEAN Economic Community Department of the ASEAN Secretariat, Dr. Minh has worked with the ASEAN Member States, various international and dialogue partners to promote ASEAN cooperation on food, agriculture, and forestry to conduct related policies and measures under ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Blueprint, and promote the international relationship between ASEAN and international/ dialogue partners in the FAF sector. He supported ASEAN Member States to develop and implement various regional documents and programmes such as: (i) Vision and Strategic Plan for ASEAN Cooperation in Food, Agriculture and Forestry (2016-2025), (ii) ASEAN Integrated Food Security (AIFS) Framework and Strategic Plan of Action on Food Security in the ASEAN Region (SPA-FS), 2021-2025, (iii) ASEAN Regional Guidelines on Food Security and Nutrition Policy, (iv) ASEAN Guidelines on Promoting Responsible Investment in Food, Agriculture and Forestry Sectors and (v) ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF)'s Approach to gender mainstreaming in the Food, Agriculture and Forestry Sectors.

SPEAKERS



Lukáš Gajdoš

Deputy Head of Delegation of the European Union to ASEAN

Education

2010 – 2012

Master of Chinese Studies, University of Edinburgh

2006 – 2010

MA (Hons) International Relations, University of Edinburgh

Professional experience

09/2020 – present

Deputy Head of Mission, Mission of the European Union to ASEAN

07/2016 – 08/2020

Third Secretary (Political), Embassy of the Slovak Republic to the People's Republic of China

06/2013 – 06/2016

Desk Officer, Department for East Asia and the Pacific, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic

10/2012 – 02/2013

Schuman Trainee, Policy Department, DG External Policy, European Parliament *vitae purus venenatis*



Arlene Tan Bantoto

Senior Vice President, Head of Corporate Affairs, Communication and Sustainability, Nestlé Philippines, Inc

Arlene Tan-Bantoto is Nestlé Philippines' Head of Corporate Affairs, Communications and Sustainability. In this capacity, she spearheads public affairs including government and industry relations, corporate communications, and leads the sustainability and Creating Shared Value initiatives of Nestlé Philippines.

Prior to this appointment, she was the Business Unit Head of Nestlé Infant Nutrition in the country.

Ms. Bantoto started her career in Nestlé as a management trainee in 1993 and took on roles in sales and brand management. Her assignments have included expatriate stints in the Greater China Region (China, Hong Kong and Taiwan) and the Nestlé Headquarters in Vevey, Switzerland. She has also managed the Nestlé Health Science business and was the Chief Innovation Officer for the company in the Philippines.

She graduated from the University of the Philippines with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Economics. Arlene is professional and life coach. She is married with two children.



Dr. Michael Braun

Senior Non Key Expert E-READi GreenTech

Michael has gained over 25 years of experience in research, technology and innovation management for research institutions, private sector enterprises and policy makers worldwide as a Vice President with responsibility for this sector in a leading global consultancy and as co-founder of a successful new service provider in this domain. 2010, he moved to South-East Asia, where he has served among other as an Integrated International Expert in Vietnam's Ministry of Science and Technology, as founder and leader of a university-based technology transfer center and as project manager of a World Bank project dedicated to creating and supporting entrepreneurship in technologies for climate innovation

SPEAKERS



Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nguyen Minh Tan

Hanoi University of Science and Technology, Vietnam

Nguyen Minh Tan is an associate Professor in Process Engineering at Hanoi University of Science and Technology, where she has been since 1996. From 2012 she serves as Director of the Institute for Research and Development of Natural Products (INAPRO). During 2014–2016 she was a visiting scholar at the Johannes Kepler University Linz (Austria). Between 2018 and 2019, she was visiting faculty at Technical University Dresden (Germany). She received a B.S. in 1990 and an M.S. in 1999 from Hanoi University of Science and Technology. She received her PhD in Process Engineering from the Technical University Dresden (Germany) in 2004.

Her research interests span from advanced separation and purification of technical complex systems to advanced oxidation processes. Much of her work has been on improving the understanding, design, scaling-up and performance of separation/purification and oxidation processes, mainly through dynamic modelling and performance evaluation.

Associate Professor Nguyen Minh Tan is the author and co-author of over fifty papers on process engineering. She has given numerous invited talks and tutorials. She is a founder of and consultant to companies involved in the processing of fruit and vegetables and advanced water treatment technologies. Since January 2020, associate Professor Tan has been a fellow of the International Development Peer Review College of Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) within the U.K. Research and Innovation (UKRI).

Her Juice Evaporation (JEVA) technology won the Best Innovation Award of Asia Innovation Award 2020, awarded by The Hitachi Global Foundation (Japan). On 29th October 2021, her startup SMOJEVA - The Smart and Mobile Fruit Processing has reached Top 16 Winner of Global Grand Final 2021 of ClimateLaunchPad - The world's largest green business ideas competition.



Prof. Anil Kumal Anal

Asian Institute of Technology, Department of Food Agriculture and Bioresources, Bangkok

Dr. Anil Kumar Anal is the Professor of the Food Engineering and Bioprocess Technology and Food Innovation, Nutrition, and Health program at the Department of Food Agriculture and Bioresources in the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Thailand. His major research focuses on Food Safety, Food and Nutrition Security, Food- and Bioprocessing and Preservation, and Circular Bioeconomy. While at the same time, Prof. Anil specializes in the valorisation of food waste and agro-residues for High Value, Antimicrobial Resistance and Risk Analysis, and delivery systems for enhanced bioavailability and bioaccessibility. Prof. Anil invented a patented encapsulation System for Probiotics and the process has been commercialised to encapsulate probiotics and bio-nutrients. He has authored more than 130 referred international journal articles, 47 book chapters, one authored book, 9 edited books, and several International conference proceedings. He has been invited as Keynote Speaker and Expert in various Food, Biotechnology, Agro-Industrial Processing, and Veterinary as well as Life Sciences based conferences and workshops organized by national, regional and international agencies. Prof. Anil has been serving as Advisory members, Associate Editor, Members of Editorial Board of various Regional and International peer-reviewed Journal publications. Prof. Anil has experience on conducting various innovative research and product developments funded by various donor agencies, including Newton Fund, ADB, European Union, FAO, Various Government Agencies, CTCN, USAID, and various food and biotech industries. Prof. Anil has also working experiences as academician and researcher at University of Otago and Massey University of New Zealand.

SPEAKERS



Prof. Norhashila Hashim

Department Head Biological and Agricultural Engineering, Universiti Putra Malaysia

Dr. Norhashila Hashim is currently an associate professor and the Head of Department at the Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM). She received her Ph.D in Biomechanical Engineering from UPM in 2013. Her research interest includes postharvest engineering, agricultural process engineering and precision agriculture. Throughout her career, she has significantly contributed to the development of curriculum and scientific research with outstanding achievements. Until now, she has authored more than 100 scientific publications including high impact factor journals and proceeding papers. Apart from academic and research, she actively involved in professional bodies and societies, locally and internationally, to name a few; a Professional Engineer which is awarded by the Board of Engineers Malaysia, a Chartered Engineer by The Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET), UK; a corporate member of The Institution of Engineers Malaysia (IEM), a professional member of Malaysian Society of Agricultural Engineers (MSAE); a member of American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE); a life member of Asia-Pacific Chemical, Biological & Environmental Engineering Society (APCBEEES).



Prof. Xi Wang

Department of Production Engineering, KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm

Xi (Vincent) Wang is an Associate Professor in the IIP Department of Production Engineering, KTH Sweden. He is working with the division of Sustainable Manufacturing Systems (SPS). In 2021 Vincent received his Docentship from KTH. He received his PhD and Bachelor degrees in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Auckland (New Zealand) and Tianjin University (China), respectively in 2013 and 2008. Vincent's main research focus includes Cloud-based manufacturing, sustainable manufacturing, robotics, digital twin, computer-aided design, and manufacturing systems. He also serves as the Managing Editor of the International Journal of Manufacturing Research (IJMR), Associate Editor of SME Journal of Manufacturing Systems (JMS), and Array – Open Access Journal by Elsevier, and Editorial Board Member of other 3 international journals.



Prof. Lorenzo Pastrana

International Iberian Nanotechnology Laboratory, Braga, Portugal

Food Processing and Nutrition Group at INL.

Professor Lorenzo Pastrana is currently Chair of the Research Office (Scientific Directorate) and Group Leader of the Food Processing Group, at the International Iberian Nanotechnology Laboratory (INL). He is also Professor of Food Science at the University of Vigo and visiting Professor at Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (Italy) and Universidade Federal Rural de Pernambuco (Brasil). He was the Director of the Centre of Research transference and Innovation (CITI) and Head of Knowledge Transfer Office (2009-2010) at the University of Vigo. He founded the Galician Agri-Food Technology Platform (2006) engaging academic institutions and companies to pave the clusterization of the sector. Currently, he takes part of the scientific board of the Portugal Foods innovation cluster. In 2015 he joins the INL as Head of the Department of Life Sciences that included three Research Units, namely Food, Environment and Health. At INL his research is marked oriented with a multidisciplinary approach integrating methods and concepts of the biotechnology, nanotechnology and mathematical modelling. Currently he is working in three main research lines: Food Structure with emphasis in 3D printing materials, encapsulation technologies for improving functional foods and food personalization and active and intelligent food packaging. He is author of more than 200 scientific contributions and 4 licenced patents relating the development of new food products and process. He was the PI of more than 30 National and European research projects and contracts and founder of the startup Suevia Foods for replacing TiO_2 in foodstuffs.

SPEAKERS



Nalintib Homvisetvongsa

**Trade System Policy Division of Trade Strategy and Policy Office (TPSO),
Ministry of Commerce, Thailand**

After extensive experience as Minister Counsellor of the Office of Commercial Affairs, Ms. Nalintib Homvisetvongsa is now the director of the Trade System Policy Division of Trade Strategy and Policy Office (TPSO), Ministry of Commerce, Thailand. In this role, she focuses specifically on TPSO's task to encourage research to foster commercial innovation, proactive trade development and increased competitiveness. This includes the responsibility for the Trace Thai initiative to implement a Thai Food and agricultural products traceability system using Blockchain technology



Dr. Dong Li

University of Liverpool

Dong Li, PhD, is Reader in Operations and Supply Chain Management at the University of Liverpool, UK. He is a well-established researcher in Supply Chain Management, particularly in sustainability, food supply chains, digital technology enabled innovation and green logistics. He has intensively published in internationally leading journals in supply chain management and highly ranked in Thomson Reuters Web of Science in the food supply chain management area. He has been awarded as research project leaders by EC H2020, FP7, ERDF and UK Newton, EPSRC, TSB programmes for research in his areas in the last decade and is presently leading an over €1M EC H2020 project on sustainable food security research. He has been an active researcher engaged in research activities: Book authoring and editing; Invited keynote speech in international conferences; Invited for guest speech to BBC radio; Awarded Best Paper Prize in conferences; Leading guest editor for international journal special issues; Advisory investigator of European projects; Member of assessment board of international research programmes, etc. in the food security and sustainability area.



Pierrick Fillon-Ashida

**ASEAN Desk Officer, European Commission Directorate General for Research
and Innovation (DG RTD)**

Pierrick Fillon-Ashida works at the European Commission, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation (DG RTD), International Cooperation Affairs, in charge of the relations with South East Asia. He also supervises sector issues related to international affairs on infrastructure, innovation, and Information and Communication Technologies (ICT). Mr. Fillon-Ashida has been working for more than twenty years within the EU Institutions, as Head of Science and Technology (S&T) Section at the Delegation of the European Union to Japan where he was involved in international negotiation agreements, in particular in relation to large infrastructure projects such as International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) on nuclear fusion. Earlier career at the Commission included the Directorate-General Information Society and Media (DG INFSO) in the field of health and telecom (telemedicine, mobile devices), and policy drafting on corporate governance in telecom sector.

He also worked at the Directorate-General Enterprise and Industry (DG-ENTR) (ESPRIT programme) in the field of digital libraries and corresponding large repositories bridging the gap between users, tech providers, and policy makers.