

NIPU-EJD PROJECT FINAL EVENT

February, 2025 – Le CLICK – University of Mons

"Developing and marketing innovative chemistries and materials in the frame of sustainability"



Preliminary programme (29 Jan 2025)

18 Feb 25

10:30 – 13:00 Welcome and lunch

- 10:30-11:00 Welcome and coffee
- 11:00-11:45 Introduction to the event & to the sessions, [A. Goldberg](#), NIPU project manager, UMONS
- 11:45-13:00 Lunch

13:00 – 15:15 Sustainability and Chemistry – scientific conference (1)

- 13:00-13h15 Introduction to the session – Discussion panels
- 13:15-14:15 Panel with MSCA Fellows – **What did we learn during our fellowship?**
- 14:15-15:15 Panel with PhD supervisors, industrial partners and MSCA Fellows
 - **Did we exhaust the topic?**
 - **Can principles of NIPU's technologies be applied to other scientific topics, other chemistries?**

15:15-15:45 Break

15:45 – 17:15 Sustainability and Chemistry – scientific conference (2)

- 15:45-17:15 Interactive Workshop (facilitator: [D. Debecker](#), Sustainability Champion, former Solvay and Syensqo)
 - **NIPU's technologies: new questions with sustainability lens, new answers**

17:15 Closure of the day

19 Feb 25

9:00-9:15 Introduction to the day, Prof. [J.M. Raquez](#), UMONS

9:15-10h45 Sustainability : the big picture

- 9:15-10:45 Sustainability, its challenges and stakes at the global level
- Let's talk with Prof. [E. Cantillon](#), (ULB)

10:45-11:15 Break

11:15-12:45 Sustainability and Innovation in practice in the chemical and materials industry

- 11:15-12:00 How to embed Sustainable Development and Circular economy principles into company processes/business ? [D. Debecker](#) (Sustainability Champion)
- 12:00-12:45 Fostering circularity in SMEs within the plastic value chain, [R. Giordano](#) (PlastiWin)

12:45-13:45 Lunch

13:45-15:15 Business cases as concrete examples of addressing sustainability in the chemical and materials industry (1)

- 13:45-14:15 How to move towards more sustainable polyurethane foams at Carpenter, [L. Imbernon](#) (Sustainable innovation expert, Carpenter)
- 14:15-14:45 Implementation of sustainability at Henkel (Title to be confirmed), [O. Hartmann](#) (Scientific Principal, Henkel)
- 14:45-15:15 EstoGel® M success story: from polyurethane molecule to cosmetic product, [T. Chaparro](#), (R&D project manager, PolymerExpert)

15:15-15:45 Break

15:45-17:15 Business cases as concrete examples of addressing sustainability in the chemical and materials industry (2)

- 15:45-17:15 Discussion panel with PhD supervisors, industrial partners and MSCA Fellows and dialogue with the audience (facilitator: [R. Moreau](#), former Solvay Business school, Board member)
 - Today's externalities are tomorrow risks and losses/Today's externalities are the driver for innovation and a more livable and sustainable future

17:15 Closure of the day

20 Feb 25

9:00-9:10 Introduction to the day

9:10-10:00 Business cases as concrete examples of addressing sustainability in the chemical and materials industry

- 9:10-9:40 Innovation, ideation and collaboration in the chemical industry, [M. Johnson](#) (Director Innovation, Perstorp Group)
- 9:40-10:10 Embedding circular economy principles into products and business models in plastics, [O. Talon](#) (Coordinator R&D, Materia Nova)

10:10-10:40 Break

10:40-11:40 Funding mechanisms and opportunities for sustainability and innovation

- 10:40-11:40 Discussion panel facilitated by [D. Debecker](#), Sustainability Champion, with the participation of [P. Vanlaeke](#) (Cleantech venture capital investor), [S. Demoulin](#) (IMBC) and 2 other panelists

11:40-12:45 Sustainability, innovation and business models in the chemical and materials industry

- Dialogue between panelists (funds, industries, universities, Fellows) and audience (facilitator: [D. Debecker](#), Sustainability Champion)
 - Sustainable business models: derisking (future-proofed) and superior economic value creation on short, mid and long terms
 - Reach the full potential of sustainable business models

12:45-13:00 Closure of the "Sustainability and Innovation" sessions, Prof. [Ph. Dubois](#), Rector of UMONS

13:00-14:00 Lunch

14:00-17:00 Private consortium meeting

21 Feb 25

9:00-9:05 Introduction to the day

9:05-11:45 Future career prospects for MSCA Fellows and other young scientists/graduated (1)

- 9:05-10:15 Testimonials of the NIPU project MSCA Fellows
 - What did we learn from a soft skills/educational viewpoint?

10:15-10:45 Break

10:45-12:15 Future career prospects for MSCA Fellows and other young scientists/graduated (2)

- 10:45-11:15 How to become an entrepreneur? (TBD)
- 11:15-12:15 Testimonials of young and senior researchers/scientists
 - [A. Brunetti](#), alumni MSCA Fellows, founder of iQrypto
 - [A. Goldberg](#), NIPU project manager, UMONS
 - [A.C. Van Cranem](#), Researcher, ATC AGC - AGC Technovation Center
 - ...

12:15-12:30 Closure of the final event of NIPU-EJD project

12:30-13:30 Lunch

14:00-16:00 Visit to Materia Nova

In practice

- **When?** From February 18 to February 21, 2025 (registration is possible for the entire event or for individual days)
- **Where?** The CLICK - Boulevard Initialis 30, 7000 Mons
- **No registration fee** but [Registration is mandatory before February 10, 2025](#)
- **Possibilities to register per individual sessions or to the whole conference**
- *For your information, we do not handle hotel reservations; you can find information about accommodation suggestions on the [website](#) itself.*

More information : Dr. Anne Goldberg - contact@nipu-ejd.eu - Laboratory of Polymeric And Composite Materials (UMONS)

NIPU project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement n° 955700.