



Bioeconomy Symposium:

Advancing Sustainable Innovation

PROGRAMM

12:00-12:45	Check In and Lunch Buffet: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Networking opportunity during lunch - Polaroid & profile sheets
12:45 – 13:00 Festsaal	Opening: Dr. Dana Strauß , Directing Manager JenaVersum e.V. Prof. Dr. Thomas Pertsch , Vice President for Research and Innovation, Uni Jena
13:00 – 13:30 Festsaal	Keynote Roman Hinz , University of Kassel: <i>"How Sustainable is it? State and Trends of the German Bioeconomy"</i>
13:30 – 13:40 Festsaal	Workshop Pitch: Brief introduction to the workshops
	ROOM CHANGE
13:45 – 14:30	Parallel Interactive Workshops: The workshops are at the heart of the symposium, offering hands-on opportunities to explore cutting-edge bioeconomy topics: exchange of ideas, development of projects outlines, formation of consortia to apply for third-party funding
Room 1	Dr. Sarah Ann Hofbrucker MacKenzie , FlulDect, Jena <i>„Monitoring of bioprocesses - Specific and quantitative determination of protein concentrations in protein fermentation with an at-line biosensor technology“</i>
Room 2	Prof. Dr. Michael Stelter , Chair for Environmental Engineering, Uni Jena and Deputy Director of Fraunhofer IKTS, Hermsdorf Dr. Franziska Scheffler , Glass Chemistry, Uni Jena, Jena: <i>„Functional Materials for Vertical Farms“</i>
Room 3	Prof. Dr. Christoph Koch , Technical and Environmental Chemistry, Ernst Abbe University of Applied Sciences Jena: <i>„From waste to fuel, fertilizer, feed, and biopolymers“</i>
14:30 – 15:00 Festsaal	Coffee Break and Profile Sheets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Networking opportunity during coffee break - Polaroid & profile sheets

<p>15:00 – 16:15 Festsaal</p>	<p>Lightning talks and Discussions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Perspectives on research and innovation in bioeconomy, encouraging interdisciplinary exchange <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. Dr. Miriam Agler-Rosenbaum, Leibniz-Institut für Naturstoff-Forschung und Infektionsbiologie e. V. Hans-Knöll-Institut, Jena: <i>“The Bio Pilot Plant”</i> • bioeconomy e.V. - Outcome of workshops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Sarah Ann Hofbrucker MacKenzie • Prof. Dr. Michael Stelter, Dr. Franziska Scheffler • Prof. Dr. Christoph Koch - Discussion on Workshop Results
<p>16:15 – 16:30 Festsaal</p>	<p>Closing Remarks</p>

INFORMATION ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS

	<p>M. Sc. Roman Hinz is an environmental and resource economist at the Kassel Institute for Sustainability, University of Kassel. His research examines land system dynamics – spanning agriculture, forestry, and resource use – at the intersection of climate change, food security, and rural transformation. By integrating land use modeling and participatory approaches, he assesses policy effectiveness and pathways to sustainable innovation. He has conducted research in Germany, West Africa, Latin America, and India, analyzing the socio-environmental impacts of land use change, rural development programs, and governance interventions. As part of the BMBF-funded SYMOBIO 2.0 project, he contributes to agricultural land footprint analyses and climate impact assessments of the German bioeconomy. His current work in Africa and Latin America focuses on agroforestry and conservation incentives as tools for landscape resilience. Before academia, he worked as a sustainability consultant, advising multinational corporations on responsible supply chains and sustainability strategies.</p>
	<p>Dr. Sarah Ann Hofbrucker MacKenzie is a biomedical scientist and biochemist specialising in membrane protein interaction and synaptic plasticity. She earned her MSc in Biomedical Sciences (Pharmacology) from the University of Aberdeen and completed her PhD at Friedrich Schiller University Jena in protein biochemistry. Her research focused on membrane interactions and synaptic long-term depression using advanced imaging techniques and protein fermentation. After her PhD in 2022, Dr. Hofbrucker MacKenzie started as Chief Laboratory Manager at FluDect GmbH and is now a Product Owner.</p>



Prof. Dr. Michael Stelter holds a chair for Environmental Engineering in Jena and is Deputy Director of Fraunhofer IKTS, after several leading positions in the automotive industry. He is an expert in the application of ceramic functional materials in the fields of water treatment, energy storage, hydrogen and other fields of environmental technology. His work encompasses functional material synthesis, shaping and component design up to complete system integration and validation. Current research interests are focused on bio-economy, specifically the improvement of energy and water efficiency of vertical plant farming.



Dr. Franziska Scheffler studied geosciences at the University of Potsdam, specialising in mineralogy, petrology and geochemistry. She completed her PhD in mineralogy with a focus on metamorphic processes during continental plate subduction and climate signals in rocks. After her PhD she moved to Jena and specialised in glass chemistry. She started her research in the field of bioactive glasses before moving to the Chair of Glass Chemistry of Prof. Lothar Wondraczek. Her current research focuses on the use of glass in the agricultural sector, in particular the development of fertiliser glasses for sustainable plant nutrition.



Prof. Dr. Christoph Koch completed his PhD in environmental analysis and ecotoxicology at the University of Duisburg-Essen in 2019. During his doctorate, he worked for the Danish stone wool manufacturer Rockwool. In 2021, he was appointed Professor of Technical and Environmental Chemistry at the Ernst Abbe University of Applied Sciences Jena. Following projects in the field of environmental analysis and citizen science, he is now increasingly devoting himself to technical chemistry, with a focus on the conversion of waste into sustainable products.