

Sustainable Innovation 2021

Accelerating Sustainability in Fashion, Clothing, Sportswear & Accessories

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University for the Creative Arts

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Dr Laurent Bontoux, Member, Cabinet for Vice-President Sefcovic, European Commission, Belgium

Dr. Laurent Bontoux holds a food technology engineering degree from ENSIA (Paris) and a DEA from the Technological University in Compiègne as well as a MS and PhD in environmental engineering from the University of California at Berkeley (USA).

Laurent started his professional career ensuring the environmental safety of household products at Procter & Gamble in Brussels. After joining the European Commission, he was mostly dealing with science to inform policy making, especially regarding risk assessment. At DG JRC he worked on issues such as environmental technologies foresight, environment & health issues (e.g. wastewater reuse, endocrine disruptors) and life-cycle assessment. At DG SANCO he managed the independent Scientific Committee for Emerging and Newly Identified Health Risks (SCENIHR) and dealt with nanotechnologies, antimicrobial resistance and the health effects of electromagnetic fields. He also worked at DG RTD in the Environment & Health area. After having been heavily involved in bringing future oriented systemic thinking into EU policymaking in a practical way on the ground, Laurent has now joined the Cabinet of European Commission Vice-President Maroš Šefčovič to make the use of foresight for EU policymaking more systematic.