

Session Cross-cutting: April 11th 15.45 hrs

5s2: The environmental and economic consequences of adoptig circularity at different spatial scales

Transition to a circular society: can circular food build on 40 years of circular non-food experience?

Cindy Hoetmer 1)

1) Pixelfarming Robotics

Transition to a circular society: can circular food build on 40 years of circular non-food experience?

Currently, buying used goods or vintage products is common in the Netherlands. Over 1700 stores sell more than 150 million kilograms of used goods directly to approximately 14 million consumers. And this is just the direct to consumer market of non-food, household related products.

A lot of these companies were founded in the 1980s, when used goods were considered trash by the majority. A lot has changed in the industry that has developed over time. Reuse, recycling, upcycling and online marketplaces take their positions and helped building the circular non-food society.

So how can we take advantage of this experience in evolving to a full circular society?

What practical elements can we reuse to speed up our circulair food system? And how can we turn smart technology and AI into smart biology that can be used to support our transition?

In this talk Arend takes you through 40 years of development of the circular non-food system in The Netherlands and the current projects that are undertaken to reuse knowledge for the circular food system.

Arend Koekkoek is founder of KPRS and Pixelfarming Robotics. KPRS is a leading software solution on product registration, valuation, and short supply chain logistics in the Netherlands and Belgium.

Pixelfarming Robotics is a supplier of agricultural robots that offers an alternative approach for implementing digital technology and robotics in agriculture.

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