

GHP & HACCP FACILITATORS BIOGRAPHIES



David Sodade

David works as a Senior Project Manager, Training-based in Brussels. A certified Trainer with 27 years of experience, a pedagogical/digital Expert and Instructional designer with a multi-sector technical expertise in agriculture, Environment/Energy, learning and development. He has designed, developed, and coordinated the development of several industry-specific training courses across the agricultural sector, specifically in the horticultural value chain, across Food Safety Quality Management, Business Development, Plant health, Agricultural Production and Processing and other related themes, utilising various applications and authoring tools. At COLEAD, he has led the development of training resources across the COLEAD departments and with external partners/ training institutions, including FAO and OECD. CABI, among others. He has conducted several Training of Trainers and facilitated the delivery of tutor-led training across the African, Caribbean and Pacific region. He has supported agribusinesses, regulatory authorities, and export-oriented enterprises in achieving improved food safety standards and market readiness.



Ernest Muzukutwa

An Agronomist by training and now a practicing Consultant, Trainer, and Auditor. Master trainer and trainer of trainers in training and auditing skills with technical experience in Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), integrated Crop/Pest Management Systems and Post-harvest technology and Food Safety & Quality Management Systems and in the development and establishment of in-company training units and systems. An expert in conducting both digital distance training and physical training. One of the COLEAD Experts and Consultants in various thematic areas, with a network of colleagues from the African, Caribbean, and Pacific regions.



Marie H el ene Kestemont

Marie H el ene Kestemont is a European Bioengineer expert in regulation and standards. She is best known for her leadership in developing and coordinating compliance frameworks related to European Union product legislation and sustainability initiatives. Her work bridges regulatory strategy, standardization, and stakeholder engagement across industries.

Key facts

- **Expertise:** EU regulation, standards, and compliance coordination
- **Specialization:** Phytosanitary, SPS, trade and sustainable products
- **Role:** Co-lead and advisor in regulation and standards projects
- **Affiliations:** European and international standardization bodies

Regulatory and Standards Leadership

Kestemont has played a co-lead role in EU-level initiatives that connect scientific assessment with legislative practice, ensuring alignment between industrial innovation and regulatory requirements. Her work frequently involves the interpretation and implementation of complex frameworks and product-safety directives, promoting harmonized standards.

Contribution to Sustainable Policy

She contributes to the integration of sustainability goals into technical standards and regulatory instruments. Through her coordination roles, she has facilitated stakeholder dialogue among regulators, standardization organizations, and industry representatives to ensure that evolving policies reflect both environmental protection and economic feasibility.

Influence and Recognition

Marie H el ene Kestemont's influence extends through her participation in European expert groups and committees shaping the regulatory landscape for circular economy and green-transition measures. Her expertise is valued for balancing legal rigor, technical detail, and cross-sectoral collaboration, making her a recognized authority in European regulation and standardization practice.



Dr. Martin van Brakel

Martin van Brakel is a Dutch expert in European regulatory and policy matters relating to fisheries and aquaculture. He works with COLEAD in Belgium, contributing to the organization's efforts to promote sustainable fisheries and aquaculture business through compliance with international and European standards.

Key facts

- Position: Expert in European policy and regulations (fish/fisheries)
- Organization: COLEAD (Belgium)
- Nationality: Dutch
- Education: Ph D. in aquaculture and master's in agriculture and natural environment
- Field: Fisheries sustainability and regulatory affairs

Role at COLEAD

Martin van Brakel is an EU policy and regulations expert specializing in fisheries and seafood trade at COLEAD, where he works on regulatory compliance, market access, and sustainable fisheries policies related to EU standards.

Professional focus

At COLEAD, within the [AGRINFO programme](#), he helps understand and apply complex EU legal frameworks governing sustainable fisheries and aquatic food safety. This involves advising partners on legislative developments, compliance requirements, and certification mechanisms that influence international market access for agricultural goods. His role contributes to ensuring that COLEAD's partner enterprises operate within sustainable and legally sound systems of production and trade.

Background and impact

Martin van Brakel has extensive international experience in fisheries, aquaculture, and sustainable development. He has worked with organizations such as Food and Agriculture Organization and WorldFish, where he contributed to projects on fisheries management, aquaculture development, and livelihoods improvement in developing countries. His work focuses on EU regulatory frameworks, sustainable trade, and supporting partner countries and industries in complying with EU food safety, fisheries, and environmental requirements for market access. His contributions enhance COLEAD's credibility as a technical partner for governments and producers seeking to navigate European regulatory landscapes. This expertise is particularly valuable in advancing the organization's goals of food safety, fair trade, and environmental stewardship across global agricultural and fisheries value chains.