

# Environmental Footprinting of Food Value Chains in North America (13-17 May 2024)

## Instructor biographies

**Janjoris van Diepen, MS** is leading the US team of Mérieux NutriSciences | Blonk. He has a background in Mechanical Engineering, over 15 years of experience in sustainability consultancy and 6 years at Blonk involved in project management of environmental footprint assessments in the agri-food value chain and more recently leading the corporate footprint team at Blonk.

**Marty Heller, PhD** brings over 20 years of experience in LCA of agricultural and food systems to his role as senior consultant at Mérieux NutriSciences | Blonk, primarily in a US context. His academic training is in chemical engineering (PhD), and a personal farming background adds to his familiarity with agricultural production systems. Project involvements include sector-level footprinting, LCAs of specific CPG processed food products, US diet impact assessments, and academic explorations into packaging/food waste trade-off effects on environmental footprinting.

**Elena Koukouna, MS** is a sustainability consultant for Mérieux NutriSciences | Blonk, with 9 years working experience in consulting the food and feed industry through the performance of LCA studies. Besides her technical and consulting skills, she also has experience in performing trainings for industry experts as well as staff trainings. She has an educational background in Industrial Engineering and Industrial Ecology, which has motivated her to better understand multidisciplinary systems.

**Davide Lucherini, MS** is a sustainability consultant at Mérieux NutriSciences | Blonk since 2020. Davide graduated in Environmental Engineering and Sustainable Development. He started his career in the sustainability of the agri-food sector developing for a start up a carbon footprint database for the Dutch food market. At Blonk, he works on projects related to agricultural innovation, LCI database development, LCA trainings, and Excel tooling. On the side, he focuses on applying agroforestry and permaculture practices on his family's land in Tuscany.

**Eline Disselhorst, MS** is a consultant at Mérieux NutriSciences | Blonk, with a background in biology, plant breeding and (organic) crop cultivation. Her expertise lies in determining the environmental footprint of various food products, focusing on crop cultivation, and the pathways to reduction.

**Nicolò Braconi, MS** is a senior consultant at Mérieux NutriSciences | Blonk, with a background in sustainable food process engineering. His expertise entails LCA, LCI database development and software-product ownership, with a focus on animal production systems.

**Alessandra Grasso, MSPH, PhD** is a consultant at Mérieux NutriSciences | Blonk specialized in sustainable nutrition. As a public health nutrition practitioner, she brings expertise in dietary assessment and analysis and diet optimization, incorporating nutritional, environmental and cultural dimensions of sustainability. She holds a PhD in health sciences from the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam and a Master of Science in Public Health from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.