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Karl Vrancken is Chief Sustainability Officer with Indaver, a leading European company in the field of sustainable waste and materials management.

He has a part-time assignment as associate professor at the University of Antwerp (Dept. Bioengineering), where he teaches sustainable resources management. He has over 25 years of experience with VITO as a research manager, project and team manager in projects on circular economy, waste management and treatment, recycling, secondary raw materials, best available techniques (BAT) and integrated pollution prevention and control. He was appointed as PFAS commissioner for the Flemish Government to bring coordination and communication in the pollution crisis in 2021-2022. He worked as a Detached National Expert with the European IPPC Bureau in Seville (Spain) and was co-founder and interim Chief Operations Officer (iCOO) of the knowledge and innovation community (KIC) EIT Raw Materials (Berlin, Germany). He is a respected expert and speaker on circular economy in the media and at various national and international conferences.

Public Service

Member of European Environment Agency (EEA) Scientific Committee, Member of Wuppertal Institute for Energy and Environment International Advisory Board, former consortium chairman of the EEA European Topic Centre for Waste and Materials in a Green Economy (EEA ETC-WMGE).

Some publications

Berg, H., Sebestyén, J., Bendix, P., Le Blévennec, K., Vrancken, K., Digital Waste Management, Eionet Report – ETC/WMGE 2020/4 European Circular Economy Research Alliance, Digital circular Economy, a cornerstone of a sustainable European industry transformation, white paper, via https://vito.be/en/news/ecera-european-circular-economy-research-alliance, accessed 17 Dec 2020.

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Alaerts, L., Van Acker, K., Rousseau, S., De Jaeger, S., Moraga, G.L., Dewulf, J., De Meester, S., Van Passel, S., Compernolle, T., Bachus, K., Vrancken, K., Eyckmans, J., Towards a more direct policy feedback in circular economy monitoring via a societal needs perspective, Rerources, Conservation and Recycling, 149, 2019, 363-371

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Nelen, D., Manshoven, S., Peeters, J.R., Vanegas, P., D'Haese, N., Vrancken, K. A Multi-dimensional indicator set to assess the benefits of WEEE material recycling. Journal of Cleaner Production, 88, 2014, 305-316.