

3w1: Start-ups and Spin-offs make the wheels of circular economy turn

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We offer this workshop as an interactive discussion on the role of young, new and disruptive entrepreneurs for the circular economy. We start with an introduction of our ecosystems revolving around start-ups and spin-offs that are developed at Wageningen University and Research. From the screening and scouting of novel and inventive ideas towards education and the development of entrepreneurial skills to supporting students and PhD candidates in finding funding and to the take-off of new ventures in the circular economy. Nowadays, students and PhD candidates have a keen appetite for creating value for society by actually implementing their green-tech, bio-based circular knowhow and scientific insights through their own start-up. We actively support this trend with our own facilities but also in (inter)national collaborations and initiatives such as the national Thematic Technology Transfer program between all 4 technical universities and TNO on the Circular Economy. To illustrate our ecosystem, we have invited 3 young entrepreneurs to inspire us with their stories. They take us to on their journey - how they started, what their inspiration is, the fallbacks and hurdles they had to take. Based on their stories and experiences, we will start an interactive discussion with the audience on their (sometimes provocative) statements and views on how to make the circular economy a reality.