

## **POLLUTEC 2023 – 10-13 OCTOBER** **FIRST SPEAKERS ANNOUNCED**

**Exclusive: Pollutec, the leading environmental solutions show for industry, cities and regions, announces its first guest speakers**

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**Polar POD**, Jean-Louis Etienne  
**EcoAct**, Émilie Alberola  
**Banlieues Climat**, Férís Barkat  
**Verkor**, Caroline Mini  
**Member of French Parliament for Rhône**, Jean-Luc Fugit  
**Vice-president of Lyon Métropole**, Emeline Baume  
**Lhyfe**, Matthieu Guesné

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The 2023 edition of the show will be designed around the central theme of “**decompartmentalisation**” to improve the way we understand and address the major environmental challenges of today and tomorrow.

Once again, the event will cover a wide range of topics – from reindustrialisation, agriculture and the urgency of adaptation to investment in public infrastructure, to name just a few.

Pollutec is exclusively announcing the first guest speakers in the show's conference space. They will cover a wide range of cross-cutting themes reflecting the four pillars of this year's edition: Resources, Adaptation, Engagement and Employment.

**Jean-Louis Etienne, Expedition leader, Polar POD, will be on the Tribune stage on Wednesday 11 October (11.00-11.30) to present the Polar POD and the implications of its findings (Engagement pillar).**

A **doctor** by training and a **renowned explorer**, Jean-Louis Etienne was the **first man** to reach the **North Pole solo** in **1986** and completed the **first full crossing of Antarctica** in 1989-90. He is a committed **environmentalist** and his many **education-oriented scientific** expeditions aim to raise **awareness** about the **Polar** regions and to learn more about their impact on the Earth's **climate** and **life** forms. In **2025**, he will embark on a pioneering exploration of the **Southern Ocean**, on board the oceanographic station **Polar POD**. He has also written around **30 books**.

**Émilie Alberola, Director, EcoAct South Europe (an Eviden company), will be speaking at the session on “Decarbonising and reindustrialising France – the same agenda” (Adaptation pillar) on Tuesday 10 October (11.45-12.30).**

Émilie Alberola has a PhD in Economics and is an **expert on climate policy** and a **member of the Economic Council for Sustainable Development at the French Ministry of Ecological Transition**. With over 15 years' experience, Émilie is a **respected expert on climate finance and carbon pricing**. Before being appointed Director of EcoAct South Europe, she was Director for R&I and Head of Climate Policy and Market Mechanisms at EcoAct.

**Féris Barkat, Founder, Banlieues Climat, will speak about young people and their environmental commitment (Engagement pillar; Employment pillar) on Thursday 12 October (10.15-11.45).**

At the age of 21, Féris Barkat was studying Politics and Philosophy at the London School of Economics. He decided to abandon his studies to **educate his generation about climate issues**, mainly on Tiktok, on the radio and in working-class neighbourhoods. As a co-founder of *Banlieues Climat*, he aims to **promote “eco-emancipation” in working-class neighbourhoods**. He also gives talks as a winner of the award *À voix Haute pour la Biodiversité* (“Speaking up for Biodiversity”) and, as part of the Youth CNR (National Council for Reform), he has made **recommendations to the Prime Minister** on climate adaptation and education. He has recently been nominated as one of the 30 under 30 environmentalists to follow by Usbek & Rica/NOWU.

**Caroline Mini, Sustainability Manager, Verkor, will be speaking at the session on “Strategic metals – how can we balance increasing demand with limited resources?” (Resources pillar; Employment pillar) on Wednesday 11 October (11.45-12.30).**

Caroline Mini is a **civil engineer with a PhD from the University of California**, Los Angeles, and a former consultant for Accenture. Since September 2022, she has been the **Sustainability Manager** for Verkor.

Founded in July 2020, Verkor is fast-tracking the **production of low-carbon batteries in France and in Europe**, to respond to the continent's growing demand for electric vehicles, e-mobility and stationary storage. Verkor will open its fully digital 4.0 pilot line in 2023, as part of the Gigafactory project due in 2025.

**Jean-Luc Fugit, Member of Parliament for the 11th constituency of the Rhône and President of the French Energy Council, will speak about water resource management and usage, where it is essential to break out of silos (Resources pillar) on Tuesday 10 October (15.00-16.00).**

Jean-Luc Fugit has a PhD in chemistry and works as a lecturer and researcher focusing on **environment, energy and air pollution**. He was elected **Member of Parliament for the 11th constituency of the Rhône** in June 2017, at the age of 47, and was re-elected in June 2022. He is **President of the French Energy Council, Vice-president of the Parliamentary Office for the Evaluation of Scientific and Technological Choices**, and a member of the **Sustainable Development, Spatial and Regional Planning Committee** of the French National Assembly.

**Emeline Baume, Vice-President of Lyon Métropole with responsibility for the Economy, Employment, Trade, Digital Technologies and Public Procurement will speak at the session on “The textile industry: societal changes and environmental impact” on Wednesday 11 October (16.45-17.45).**

Emeline Baume has been a **green politician** since 2008. Initially **responsible for Green Spaces and the Social Economy** in Lyon's 1st *arrondissement*, she then became metropolitan councillor for **Circular Economy and Waste Prevention** and led the city's “Zero-waste territory” initiative. She is **President of the National Circular Economy Council**. Since July 2020, she has been Vice-President of **Lyon Métropole** with responsibility for the Economy, Employment, Trade, Digital Technologies and Public Procurement.

**Matthieu Guesné, CEO and co-founder of Lhyfe, will be discussing how hydrogen could support a transition to regional, low-carbon energy (Resources pillar; Employment pillar) on Wednesday 11 October (16.15-17.15).**

Matthieu Guesné is an **electronics and IT engineer**. He is a **specialist in batteries and electricity storage**.

Co-founded in 2017 by Matthieu Guesné and Nolwenn Belléguic, Lhyfe is a European group dedicated to the **energy transition, as a producer and supplier of green and renewable hydrogen**.

Its production sites aim to provide access to green and renewable hydrogen in **industrial quantities**, and to move to a clean energy model allowing **entire sections of industry and mobility to decarbonise**.

Tickets are available at: <https://www.pollutec.com/en-gb/registration.html>.

For media accreditation, please email [pollutec-presse@looksharp.fr](mailto:pollutec-presse@looksharp.fr) with **the name of your media outlet and your job title**.

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## **About Pollutec**

Pollutec is the leading environmental solutions show for industry, cities and regions. Over four days the show brings together professionals from every sector to present their innovative solutions to industrial, public sector and other economic actors as they work together to address the major challenges facing the planet: biodiversity erosion, pollution and climate change. To see the full programme and stay up to date with show news, visit Pollutec's website at: <https://www.pollutec.com/en-gb.html> and [@pollutec](https://twitter.com/pollutec)

## **About RX**

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