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Editorial

With this issue, we close the Volume 22 of *Economia agro-alimentare / Food Economy*, the first one using the Open Access publishing model. The publication is now partly supported by authors, instead of readers, through the article-processing charges (APC), but it is still strongly supported by the Italian Society of Agri-food Economics (SIEA). The APC only partially covers the publication cost of the journal incurred by SIEA, which also give a full waiver of the APC to its members.

The switch into the new publication model has been rather seamless, thanks to the dedication of the publisher FrancoAngeli Edizioni that provided access to the published articles on its Open Access platform (https://ojs.francoangeli.it/_ojs/index.php/ecagoa/index) and created a new page dedicated to the Open Access edition on its Institutional website (<https://www.francoangeli.it/riviste/Sommario.aspx?idRivista=214&lingua=EN>).

In this issue, we feature seven regular Articles, all written in English. The authors are affiliated to Institutions based in Italy, Argentina, Ireland, Bangladesh, USA, Croatia. The range of the analysis spans from local, to national, to international. The topics span from the relationship between the Mediterranean diet and obesity to food security for young students, from rural development to sustainability policies, from the preservation of traditional farming systems to consumer preferences and product information.

Danijel Nestic and Tomislav Vukina, in the article “Examining the Prevalence of Obesity in Croatia: The Story of the Mediterranean Diet”, aim to assess the relationships between Mediterranean diet and various measures of overweightness (body mass index, waist-to-hip ratio and obesity) using the Croatian Adult Health Survey 2003 data. Empirical findings highlight that there is a significant relationship between the BMI and the Mediterranean diet. The waist-to-hip ratio and obesity are significant when considering specifically the ten food elements which constitute the aggregate index of Mediterranean diet.

In the article “The food insecurity and the young generations’ perception: A systematic review”, Muslima Zahan and Alessandro Bonadonna address a relatively new and emerging theme within the scientific community: the effects of food (in)security on University students all over the world. They conduct a systematic literature review of 29 papers identified in the Web of Science (Clarivate Analytics) and Scopus (Elsevier) databases and categorise them according to five main research topics. Students are considered a weak category in terms of access to food due to various issues, situations and conditions affecting the availability and price of food products. Food insecurity has effects on students’ physical and mental health and on their academic performance. The review identifies the research gaps in the academic literature, and comparative studies on food insecurity among University and/or college students in developed and developing countries are suggested as a potential future research topic to understand this global problem better.

Angela Polito, Elena Azzini, Lorenzo Barnaba, Milena Verrascina, Barbara Zanetti, Alessandro Monteleone, Federica Intorre, Donatella Ciarapica, Stefano Tomassini, and Laura Guidarelli, in their paper “Socio-economic drivers in productive rural activities and their impact on the eating habits, lifestyle and nutritional status of people living in a rural area: the Majella National Park as a case study”, analyse the relationship between food system dynamics and consumer behaviours in an Italian protected mountain area. The study, using a combination of qualitative and quantitative methods, involved different local actors such as farmers, local authorities, and inhabitants. The results indicate that local products are widely known and consumed, even if price levels are not always cheaper. However, local consumption seems to be strongly influenced by global products, which will lead to homogenisation of eating behaviour and this could affect the erosion of plant and animal heritage and local traditions in the mountains and the most rural marginal areas. Though, some consumer groups appear to be health-conscious and believe that food, nutrition and physical activity could improve their health. The study indicates the need for joint action among the different institutional players for regional dissemination of the importance of maintaining the biodiversity of local products and a balanced diet for a healthy life.

In the article “Insights in overcoming the non-adoption of voluntary agricultural GHG mitigation measures in Ireland”, Lucie Adenaeuer, James Breen and Anne Hayden investigate, through a systematic review of the literature, the non-price determinants of the voluntary adoption of greenhouse gas (GHG) mitigation measures in the Irish agriculture, forestry and land use (AFOLU) sector. The authors assess the adjusted AFOLU abatement potential for each mitigation measure, identify which measures tend to be impacted

the most and evaluate the influence of non-price determinants. The article provides recommendations to overcome the non-adoption of voluntary agricultural GHG mitigation measures.

Graziella Benedetto and Maria Bonaventura Forleo, in the article “Foodies’ movement fostering stakeholders’ network: a regional case study” analyse the phenomenon of foodies’ movement and its relationship with the local stakeholders through a case study conducted in Alghero (Italy). The analysis revealed the existing barriers and opportunities related to the networks between local stakeholders and how the awareness and belief of local actors play a crucial role in the requalification of the supply of typical products.

The paper by Made Ika Prastyadewi, Indah Susilowati, and Deden Dinar Iskandar about “Preserving the Existence of Subak in Bali” is focusing on the increasing population in Bali that threatens the existence of current farming systems, agricultural land and institutions. The authors investigate the existence of Subak, a farming system and form of local wisdom listed as World Cultural Heritage in Bali, Indonesia, which needs protection due to pressure on land from an increasing population and tourism. By using a mixed-method approach, this paper looks into farmers perception of Subak as a World Cultural Heritage, and it analyses the role of institutions in maintaining the existence of Subak. The authors show that most farmers do not plan to sell their agricultural land since agricultural land is regarded as heritage that must be preserved. Finding further indicate that customary institutions play a dominant role both socially, culturally and economically in maintaining Subak so that it continues to function locally on the Island. However, regulation is needed when agricultural land is converted to non-agricultural activities. Therefore, support from the government to conserve Subak is needed.

Julieta Alejandra Rodriguez, Elsa Mirta Margarita Rodríguez, Beatríz Lupín in their paper “Consumers’ assessment of labelled and packaged fresh potato: Evidence from an Experimental Auction” identify the attributes that influence the assessment that consumers make of a potato with differentiated quality. Quantitative analysis by a Vickrey Second Price Experimental Auction and Multiple Correspondence Analysis were applied to data collected from a sample of Argentine students. The results indicate that potato is an important element in a healthy, balanced diet. After receiving information about the culinary aptitude of the differentiated potato and its production method, consumers were willing to pay a higher price for the product. Moreover, participants opted for a higher price of potato when it was presented in a labelled package. This analysis gives producers information on what consumers value when buying. Regarding potato variety, it would be apt for producers to gradually incorporate other potato varieties and offer a wider

range of potato with diverse culinary characteristics. Producers should also label the potato grown in an eco-friendly environment.

Like every year since 2011, we made some changes in the Scientific Advisory Board, substituting some of the members, to ensure that more scholars have the opportunity to contribute to the scientific development of our journal's community of practice. We express our warmest appreciation to those SAB members who have served until 2020 and now leave the Board. The contribution to the development of the journal of all the SAB members has been invaluable, especially for their help in reviewing, suggesting reviewers, and evaluating the papers published in the previous year as candidates to the "Best Paper Award".

Regarding the "Best Paper Award" for the papers published in the English language in 2019, the SAB selected the article authored by Pappalardo, Di Vita, La Via, Romano, Vastola, Cozzi, & D'Amico, titled "Exploring gender differences in the Italian traditional pizza consumption".

We also welcome the new SAB members for the year 2021. With their appointment, the new SAB maintains and improves its strong international character. The updated full list of SAB members is available in the journal front matter and on the website <http://www.economiaagroalimentare.it>. The Editor-in-Chief and the Editorial Board look forward to working with our new Scientific Advisory Board during the next year.

We also have some updates regarding the journal's Editorial Board. With this issue, Christine Mauracher and John L. Stanton conclude their fruitful collaboration with the journal. The editors and the SIEA Presidential Board are very grateful for their dedication and commitment during the last years; they gave a substantial contribution as managing editors of numerous submissions and supported the process that led to the acceptance of *Economia agro-alimentare* in the Scopus database. Starting from the next issue, we welcome three new members of the Editorial Board: Alessio Cavicchi, Catherine Chan, and Maro Vlachopoulou. They were already members of the Scientific Advisory Board, and have already joined our team, collaborating to manage manuscripts currently in the pipeline. We are grateful to them for being available to serve as Associate Editors and to broaden the expertise available in our team.

We express our heartfelt gratitude to the new SIEA Presidential Board, elected during the last Annual Congress of SIEA on "Agri-food enterprises in a changing international context" that took place in Parma on September 24-25, 2020. We appreciate that the new President Biagio Pecorino and the whole Presidential Board decided to renew their trust in the current Editorial Board of the journal.

We also wish to thank once again the staff of FrancoAngeli Edizioni for the hard work they continued to do during the hard times we all experienced

in the year 2020, making sure that our journal has been published timely and complying with the usual high-quality standards. We look forward to continuing to work with them also next year.

As usual, we appreciate the support of our community of authors and readers, and in this last issue of Volume 22, we express our special gratitude to the reviewers who helped us to evaluate the papers submitted to *Economia agro-alimentare / Food Economy* during the year 2020; the complete list is available at the end of the issue.

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