

Editoriale

In order to pursue our goal to widen the international scope of *Economia agro-alimentare*, the present issue of the journal hosts a special section dedicated to a selection of papers presented during the annual meeting 2012 of the Working Group “*Ländlicher Raum*” in the German Society for Geography (*Deutschen Gesellschaft für Geographie*) that was held on November 9-10, 2012 at the Philipps-Universität Marburg. The meeting was focused on the Value-adding Chains in the Countryside (*Wertschöpfungsketten in Ländlichen Räumen*), which we recognized as a highly relevant and interesting topic for our readership. Therefore, we have been very happy to offer to the organizers of the meeting, Martin Franz and Florian Warburg, the opportunity to serve as guest editors for the special section and to manage the selection, evaluation and peer-review process of the candidate papers. We are grateful to them for their commitment and dedication in carrying out the hard job of the guest editor, since we are well aware of the great effort it requires. The result of this partnership has been very positive and the readers of *Economia agro-alimentare* will surely appreciate reading both the presentation made by the guest editors and the articles they selected. On our side, we just wish to thank the guest editors and the authors who agreed to share with our readers the results of their research.

In addition to the special section, we present three regular articles on highly relevant topics in a changing agri-food system.

The article authored by Tatiana Bouzdine-Chameeva, Coralie Rames-Briois, and Philippe Barbe, deals with the distribution channels of organic wines in France. Organic wine showed a strong growing trend in France, which is opposed to mainstream wine. The authors study the viability of the classic wine distribution channels for French bio wine producers on the basis

of personal in-depth interviews analyzed using content analysis and cognitive mapping technique. The article is written in French and it provides useful information to practitioners who wants to better shape their wine distribution strategies.

The article authored by Pasquale Lombardi and Fabio Verneau deals with the analysis of the data provided by the ISTAT survey on households consumption with the purpose to highlight the dynamics of food consumption and eating habits. They analyze the structure of food consumption both at national and regional level, showing the main changes in the food basket, comparing the basket at the beginning and at the end of the period 1973-2009. A hierarchical cluster analysis is used to identify common paths in the evolution of food consumption.

The article authored by Giuseppe Marotta, Concetta Nazzaro and Mariarosaria Simeone deals with an analysis of short supply chain experiences in the diversified and multifunctional wine-producing firms, located in the inner reaches of the Campania region. Investigation has been carried out on the variables which most influence the implementation of short supply chains, with specific reference to the composition and quality of human and social capital. To this end, empirical analysis has aimed to examine the manner in which the quality of human capital affects the efficiency of relational networks and may have an impact upon the overall performance of the short supply chain, enhancing its value creation capacity for the benefit of both the firm and the territory.

In the editorial that opened the current volume of *Economia agro-alimentare* we committed ourselves to extend the scope to the journal, especially widening the geographical coverage and increasing the number of articles published in a language other than Italian. We are happy to point out that already during the current year we have published several articles in English and one article in French, which reflects the attribute “multilingual” associated to our journal. We look forward to receive submissions written in Italian, French or Spanish, but manuscripts written in English are especially welcome because they are accessible to a wider audience.

The Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) changed slightly: Silvio Menghini was elected in the Presidential Board of SIEA, the Italian Society of Agri-food Economics that promotes the publication of this journal, therefore he steps down the SAB. In accordance with the SIEA President, we decided to increase the share of non- SIEA members and we welcome the new SAB member John Wilkinson (Universidade Federal Rural do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil); we are grateful he accepted our proposal and he allows us to rely upon his scientific background in economic sociology and in his expertise in agriculture, food, and biofuels. We seize the chance to thank all the SAB members for the support they provided so far and for continuing in the future.

In addition, the journal has been submitted to the scientific journal database Index Copernicus, for the inclusion in the IC Journal Master List that currently contains over 8,000 journals from all over the world and is a source of reference especially for scientists in Eastern Europe. The journal has been positively evaluated and included in the 2012 IC Journal Master List, with an icv score of 4.90.

We also obtained the inclusion of our journal in CAB Abstracts and in a number of the CAB International literature database and abstracting services, such as the Agricultural Economics Database, the World Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology Abstracts, the Leisure and Tourism Database, the Nutrition and Food Sciences Database, just to mention a few.

While other applications to literature databases are still under evaluation, the events described above are encouraging steps forward towards the goal of making *Economia agro-alimentare* consolidate and strengthen its position in the international scientific literature. We close the volume xv of the journal with a grateful acknowledgement of the outstanding efforts of the colleagues who assisted the editorial team reviewing the manuscripts submitted to the journal. A list of the colleagues who served as peer reviewers during the year 2013 is provided at the end of the issue.

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