

Assegno di Ricerca

"ExpEcon2 - Experimental Methods in Agri-Food Economics and Management"

Progetto di Ricerca

Introduction

The project "H2020 AgriFoodBoost - Boosting Excellence in Experimental Research for Agri-Food Economics and Management" is a 3-year project focusing on the use of experimental economics applied to agriculture, food and the environment. It is a Coordination and Support Action and has been designed to improve the research capacity of the Faculty of Agriculture of Zagreb (FAZ), in partnership with 3 partners from Italy (University of Bologna), Greece (Agricultural University of Athens) and Sweden (Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences). The AgriFoodBoost project will help FAZ to become a regionally leading Centre for experimental agri-food economics and management. AgriFoodBoost activities include researchers' exchanges, thematic summer schools and workshops, expert visits, participation at conferences, the establishment of a laboratory for experimental economics and a research HUB with a role in bringing together universities, industry and public administration. Special attention has been devoted to early-stage researchers, including long-term visits and double mentoring, participation in summer schools, workshops and PhD conferences. Communication, dissemination and exploitation activities include efforts to increase awareness of the scientific community in Croatia and the neighbouring region on recent developments in experimental economics. Furthermore, these activities are targeted toward businesses, policymakers, and the general public, promoting experimental economics as support for rational and responsible decision-making to achieve a positive societal and economic impact.

Objectives

The goals of the project are:

- to enhance the scientific excellence and technological capacity of the Faculty of Agriculture in Zagreb (FAZ) in experimental research for agri-food economics and management
- to raise the research profile of FAZ and its scientists by increasing their knowledge and expanding their research capacity regarding economic experiments and decision-making in the agri-food sector that can be translated into effective and efficient practice
- to address the existing networking gap by increasing the exchange of knowledge and expanding collaboration among partner institutions and researchers familiar with challenges in using experimental economics in the agri-food sector.

Data & methods

The researcher will contribute to the following activities foreseen in the Workplan:

WP1 - Coordination and project management

Objectives:

- 1.1. To administrate and coordinate the project resources, including budget spent and utilised efforts.
- 1.2. To manage legal, financial, administrative, scientific/technical and ethical aspects of the project, including promoting gender equality while emphasising quality assurance.
- 1.3. To monitor and control the envisaged project's work plan and coordinate the work of WP leaders
- 1.4. To identify, manage and resolve potential risks, unforeseen problems and conflicts connected to the implementation of the work plan
- 1.5. To build up international project management experience

A specific task for the incumbent will be the maintenance and update of the Data Management Plan.

WP2: Enhancement of scientific excellence in experimental economics

The aim of this WP is to increase the partners' scientific excellence by rising its researchers' knowledge and skills in doing experiments in the field of agri-food economics. More specifically:

2.1 To increase the researchers' understanding of the role of experiments in economic theory testing and theory suggesting

2.2 To advance the know-how of researchers in the design of economics experiments in the field and laboratory settings

2.3 To build the know-how of researchers in experimental methods (e.g. choice experiments and experimental auctions, bargaining experiments)

2.4 To improve the researchers' skills in experimental data analysis by using experiment management software (Z-tree) and statistical software packages (e.g. Stata or R)

The incumbent will specifically participate in T2.1 and T2.2, and provide assistance in T2.3 and T2.4.

WP3: Visibility and networking

This WP aims to use synergies of the project partnership for increasing visibility of agri-food economics research, as well as for broadening networks with the business sector, supporting the creation of:

- Strong linkages with the business sector, that can provide research topics and challenges as well as sources of data for high-quality research work
- Researchers and business people networks, that can provide the most efficient way for transfer of research results and newly created knowledge in general.

The incumbent will participate in the following tasks:

3.1. To develop a plan for enhancing visibility and networking in research and innovation within and between the scientific and business community

3.2. To write high-end scientific papers for publishing in leading scientific peer reviewed journals

3.3. To prepare joint scientific project proposals for H2020 or similar funding programmes

3.4. To participate in international scientific events with emphasis on those which connect science and business

Other projects and activities

The researcher will be involved in other funded research projects, in collaboration with other members of the research team:

- INFO-CSO (Informazione fruibile per lo sviluppo del Sistema ortofrutticolo Regionale dell'Emilia Romagna) funded under the RDP program 2014-2020, Measure 16.2.01, by Emilia-Romagna Region
- SMART³ (SMART SENSOR x SMART WORKING x SMART FARM) funded under the RDP program 2014-2020, Measure 16.2.01, by Emilia-Romagna Region.
- Horizon Europe "ALLIANCE - A hoListic framework in the quality Labelled food supply chain systems' management towards enhanced data Integrity and verAcity, interoperability, traNsparenCy, and tracEability "

Finally, the researcher will also be involved in assisting the team leader in teaching activities and to assist bachelor and master students with the preparation of their theses.

Assegno di Ricerca

"ExpEcon2 - Experimental Methods in Agri-Food Economics and Management"

Piano di formazione dettagliato

Il progetto formativo, che accompagna quello di ricerca sopra descritto, ha due obiettivi principali:

- OF1 - fornire competenze sia generali, sia specifiche, riguardanti l'argomento della ricerca;
- OF2 - fornire competenze circa la gestione, l'organizzazione e la proposta di progetti di ricerca.

I due obiettivi formativi saranno perseguiti come segue.

L'OF1 consegue direttamente dall'obiettivo del progetto di ricerca e degli studi in esso previsti. Tali competenze saranno ottenute mediante lo studio di materiali appropriati, la collaborazione scientifica con i componenti del gruppo di ricerca, la partecipazione a eventi formativi, seminari e conferenze nazionali ed internazionali.

Le tematiche oggetto di approfondimento indicate nei seguenti punti saranno approfondite tramite documentazione bibliografica e la realizzazione di indagini dirette:

- 1) Conoscenze generali e specifiche riguardo il disegno di studi di economia sperimentale
- 2) Conoscenze generali e specifiche di analisi dati con strumenti software come R e ngene
- 3) Conoscenze generali e specifiche delle tematiche relative al marketing agro-alimentare ed al comportamento del consumatore

L'OF2 sarà ottenuto inserendo l'Assegnista di ricerca nelle attività scientifica del gruppo di ricerca del Tutor proponente. L'Assegnista sarà coinvolto nelle future attività di ricerca congiunta con ricercatori del settore economico-agrario, operanti presso il Dipartimento di Scienze e Tecnologie Agro-Alimentari, in particolare lavorerà nell'ambito dei progetti INFO-CSO (Informazione fruibile per lo sviluppo del Sistema ortofrutticolo Regionale dell'Emilia Romagna), SMART3 (SMART SENSOR x SMART WORKING x SMART FARM) e ALLIANCE.