

## SESSION REPORT I

The conference started with four papers belonging to authors from different countries. The first paper that opened the conference belongs to Popescu Gabriel, PhD Professor of the Bucharest University of Economic Studies, The title of the paper was **About Peasants, Tractors and Land Reforms**, where the author presented the main objectives of the National Strategic Plan (NSP). Also, the author considers that a realistic knowledge of the state of food security is likely to contribute to the proper design of the reforms aiming to increase the sustainability of the agricultural sector.

The second paper was written by the PhD Professor Jonel Subic from the Institute of Agricultural Economics in Serbia, PhD Biljana Grujić and PhD Svetlana Roljević Nikolić, with the title **Ecological Agricultural Production – Opinions and Practices of Producers in Serbia**. The author declared that the results showed that for 66% of farmers the priority in production is controlled and reduced application of agrochemicals in relation to high yield of vegetables, and also even 90% of producers are ready to shift from conventional to the ecologically acceptable production of vegetables. About 60% of surveyed farmers declared that by using the direct payments and rural development measures, the concept of ecologically acceptable production can be spread.

The third paper belongs to PhD Professor Dan Boboc, PhD Senior Lecturer Georgiana Raluca Lădaru and PhD Florian Marin, having the title **The Influence in the Wine Taste of Various Microclimate in Romanian Vineyards**. The authors presented the main microclimate factors which influence the wine production and taste. Knowledge related to this relationship as well as the monitoring of different environmental factors could allow to manage this issue.

The fourth paper belongs to PhD Professor Mirela Stoian and PhD Student Daniela Mărcăine, about **The evolution of agri-food chains and the markets globalization**. The authors said that the agri-food supply chain today faces perhaps unprecedented demands and challenges and is evolving rapidly in response to them. Such coordination is strongly linked to the market's demands for products that are increasingly complex and multidimensional in their characteristics.

The next paper **Ways of Organizing Local Communities-Leader Approach, Impact of Implementation on Rural Development- PNDR 2014-2020 Results** was presented by PhD Student Dana Rebeaga. The author provides an overview of the LEADER programme, as well as the implementation results of the National Rural Development Programme in Romania. This study aiming to capture the particularities and challenges recorded, as well as the adequacy level of the measures described for rural society.

## SESSION REPORT II

First paper of the session – **The Impact of the Short Supply Chain on the Competitiveness of the Agri-Food Sector** was presented by Mr. Adrian Chesnoiu from Romania's Agency for Rural Investment Financing – In this article the author tries to analyze the impact the short supply chain may have, in general, on the agri-food sector and especially on the local agri-food sector. The analysis has three components as central conceptual support: the urban-rural partnership, the short supply chain and the competitiveness in the agri-food sector. The author starting from the main features of the short supply chain analyzed the impact on the competitiveness in the agri-food sector. The urban-rural symbiosis can be more easily understood by the short chain supply, an instrument with multiple effects both for urban and for rural areas.

Second paper – **Risk Management as an Important Part of Agricultural Policy and the Czech Experience** was presented by Ing. Václav Vilhelm from Institute of Agricultural Economics and Information, Czech Republic. The paper presents the agricultural risk management tools in the Czech Republic. The management of agricultural risks is often important part of agricultural policy in many countries in the world including the EU member states and is thus supported to various extents and in various ways from public sources, in the case of the EU somewhere using CAP funds, often using national or regional resources. It makes sense, on the one hand, to study country-based approaches to addressing agricultural risks but, on the other hand, it is not possible to transfer experience and knowledge from other countries with different farms or production structures for optimum risk management in a country's agriculture. This is also the reason for the relatively difficult and, so far, less successful implementation of EU risk management tools under the CAP.

The third paper – **Premises for Eco-Innovation in Romania's Agrofood Sector** was presented by PhD Associate Professor Raluca Ignat and PhD Associate Professor Carmen Trică. The paper emphasized the need of the Romanian agrofood sector for eco-innovation in order to become more competitive and more efficient. Even if the small agofood companies seems to be vulnerable, by proper funding allocation and implementation of the innovation results, their chances to become more competitive increase considerably.

The fourth paper – **The Ecological, Economic and Social Consequences of Climate Changes** was presented by PhD Lecturer Elena Preda. The paper highlighted the direct and indirect effects of climate changes in different vulnerable sectors. In order to mitigate these consequences, important recommendations for adaptation to climate change have been revealed.

The fifth paper **Human Pressure On Air Quality In Bucharest** by Phd Senior Lecturer Carmen Radulescu and Phd Lecturer Sorin Burlacu from The Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania – The paper mainly highlights the effects of human pressure on the air quality in Bucharest. This locality was chosen because it has the highest population density in Romania. Sustainable development involves the relation of the human being with the environment and the responsibilities of the present generation to the next generation. For the Earth to remain a living planet, human interests must be correlated with the laws of nature.

The last paper – **Unlocking Bioeconomy Potential In Romanian Agrifood Sector** by Researcher Steliana Rodino, Phd Alina Butu, Phd Senior Lecturer Raluca Andreea Ion And Phd Marian Butu from National Research Institute for Biological Sciences; The Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania. – The present study encompasses a general overview on bioeconomy potential in Romania, pointing specific issues regarding the challenges and opportunities for environmental protection and for agricultural activities. From a methodological point of view, the indirect research methods were used, reviewing specialized literature published until now: scientific articles and press releases. Extraction, observation, analysis and comparison of data provided by official databases was also applied.

**In the second part of this session** the following papers have been presented:

**Agrotourism In Vojvodina – Exploring The Views Of Agrarian Household Owners About The State Of Agritourism** – Authors: PhD Professor Drago Cvijanović, PhD Assistant Professor Tamara Gajić, PhD Associate Professor Goran Maksimović

**Supporting Healthy Environment by Livestock** – Authors: PhD Professor Mariana Bran, PhD Senior Lecturer Simona Roxana Pătărlăgeanu, PhD Assistant Professor Mihai Dinu, PhD Lecturer Silviu Ionuț Beia

**Using Artificial Intelligence to Increase Agricultural Productivity** – Authors: PhD Dumitru Alexandru Bodislav, PhD Senior Lecturer Carmen Radulescu

**The Contribution of the Agricultural Sector to Economic Growth in Romania** – Authors: PhD Senior Lecturer Raluca Drăcea, PhD Assistant Professor Laura Ciobanu

**Requirements for Achieving a Sustainable Rural Future** – Authors: PhD Senior Researcher Simona Bara, PhD Lecturer Elena Preda, PhD Student Raluca Nicoleta Jianu

**Marketing Strategies on Sunflower Market at National and European Level** – Author: PhD Student Ruxandra Eugenia Pop

**Study on the Economic Efficiency of the Main Oleaginous Cultures in Romania** – Authors: PhD Student Laurentiu Petre & PhD Senior Lecturer Iuliana Dobre

## SESSION REPORT III

First paper of the session **Climate Change Threat: Where Are We Heading?** was presented by PhD Student Ciprian Rotaru and PhD Student Victor Marian Dumitrache. The paper showed that our century is facing a major challenge, with implications that can endanger the existence of humanity - climate change. In Romania, the negative consequences of natural hazards and climate change have an increasing effect. Large areas in the south of the country are affected by drought and soil degradation processes, with extremely negative economic consequences.

The second paper written by PhD Student Maria Nica and PhD Student Laurentiu Petre focused on the **Impact of Romania's Accession on Food Security**. This paper evaluated the impact that Romania's accession to the European Union had on food security. With the help of FAO indicators on food security, the levels in Romania was analyzed compared to neighboring countries, both EU and non-EU members, with a view to ensuring food or energy consumption. Through these comparative analyzes, differences can be observed, or not, in terms of ensuring physical access to food both before and after joining the EU.

Next paper was **The Evolution of the Economic Manifestation of the Property**, presented by PhD Student Elzebet Olariu. The author states that each property has an economic potential and the manifestation of this potential, is analyzed in the form of a system which has a support base and three power plans.

The fourth paper **The Evolution of the Pork Market in Romania** by PhD Student Bianca Soare had the main objective to analyze the evolution of the pork market in Romania, between 2013-2018, the meat sector being an important one both globally and in Romania where pork is a sought after market, but the sector has been affected by the current problems. The domestic market is dependent on import. The trade balance is a negative one during the whole period analyzed, the deficit is increasing and it doubled in the period studied.

PhD Student Ilie Marinela presented the paper **Smart Farming in Corn Culture** analyzing all costs, cost prognosis for smart farming in corn culture and also the benefits using smart farming in corn culture, stating that there advantages of using smart farming are immense in all aspects. There is no more mechanized agricultural process that does not benefit from computerized assistance that optimizes working parameters and obtain qualitative indices of lifting, comfort and safety in the process of increased work for the user, low fuel consumption and manpower and low negative impact on the environment.

The final paper **Social Innovation – Sustainable Solution to Tackle Energy Poverty in Urban Area** presented by PhD Student Răzvan Aurelian Munteanu is a synthesis of a pilot project, with a target of 35-50 private houses selected to create a heterogeneous case study of different zones from district 1 of the Bucharest city. The pilot project representing social innovation for local authorities from the urban area, is an experimental one to test the best solutions to learn during the implementation process and to adapt it for larger spatial scale.

## POSTER SESSION REPORT

The first paper, **Impact of Rural Agriculture: The Southern Model of Agriculture in Bulgaria in the Context of EU Membership** presented by PhD Professor Julia Doitchinova, PhD Professor Albena Miteva and PhD Professor Ivan Kanchev highlighted the results of a survey based on statistical data and information for the period 2007-2018 and expert evaluation related to agriculture and territorial development in the five districts (NUTS 3) of South Central Planning region (NUTS 2). The purpose of this study was to assess changes in the model of agriculture and its impacts on rural development.

The third paper was **Traditional Foods as A Driver for Rural Development through Local Resources Utilization** by PhD Ioana Todirică which highlighted the importance of small producers to provide a solution that can lead to the development of rural areas through local resources utilization. The main outcome of the study underlines the positive impact, from an economic standpoint, that small producers have at local level and their role in maintaining food diversity.

The next paper was the **Impact of Taxation on Agricultural Revenue of Farmers** presented by PhD Researcher Anca Izvoranu. The research results showed that taxation is involved in all areas, respectively economic, social and cultural ones. In this context it is very important to know their effects on the economic and social area, respectively on the state budget and the taxpayers.

The paper **Study on the Role of Land Leasing in Increasing the Size of Agricultural Holdings** by PhD Student Alina Stancu, PhD Student Radu Antohe, PhD Student Nicolae Suvorov and PhD Student Lăcrămioara Vasile (Drăcea) analyzed the role and importance of land leasing by studying the average size of the agricultural exploitation of the last decade, registered at the level of the development area South-Muntenia, especially in Calarasi county. The result of the research serves to demonstrate the role of the lease, which the lack of agrarian policy cannot prove its effectiveness having a non-stimulatory character for the owner.

In the paper **The Role of Local Action Groups in the Context of Sustainable Development** by PhD Student Alina Stancu, PhD Student Nicolae Suvorov and PhD Student Lăcrămioara Drăcea was performed an analysis regarding the interest expressed by the local actors regarding the LEADER axis and the way of elaborating the rural development strategies approached by the Local Action Groups through a comparative study of the development regions of Romania. The result of the research could be a foundation for a sustainable partnerships regarding Local Action Groups activities in disadvantaged rural areas.

The paper **Study of the Emerging Market of Eco-Vegetable** by PhD Student Maria Girip investigates the dynamics of the Romanian market of organic farming, its importance in a world where pollution is a global problem together with the depletion of resources, the emergence of new diseases and health problems. At the microeconomic level, this paper analyzes the evolution of request and demand in Romania.

The paper **The Evolution of Romanian Pork Meat Consumption in the Globalization Context** presented by PhD Student Lăcrămioara Alina Vasile (Drăcea), PhD Student Alina Mădălina Stancu and PhD Student Nicolae Suvorov analyzed the latest trends related to the consumption of swine meat that has been manifested in Romania during the last years marked by major imbalances regarding the commercial balance. The growing trend of the consumption of pork meat makes it to remain a basic food, which can provide a sufficient level of nutrients for a diet rich in protein.

PhD Student Ioana Panait and PhD Student Catalin Marian Cucu presented the paper **Organic Farming – A Vector of Influence in the Sustainable Development of the Romanian Agricultural Sector** aiming to outline an overview of the market for organic food products, as well as the progress made by Romania in the transition to organic farming. The authors draw attention to the current situation of organic farming in the EU, but especially that of Romania.

The last paper was **Supporting the Development of the Agricultural Sector. Considerations regarding Improving the Ecological and Environmental Performance of Agriculture** by PhD Student Popescu Lavinia and PhD Safta Adela Sorinela. The authors gave a general overview on the agricultural economy and its role in the rural space development. The focus was on the knowledge and awareness improvement related to new and upgraded production models which consider more environmentally responsible methods.