



AgriFoodBoost

Project title
**Boosting Excellence in Experimental Research
for Agri-Food Economics and Management**

Deliverable 4.3

2nd year report on WP4 activities

Due date of deliverable: 30/09/2022

Actual submission date: 30/09/2022

Grant agreement number: 952303

Lead contractor: FAZ

Start date of project: 01/10/2020

Duration: 36 Months

Project leader: Marija Cerjak

WP4 – Early stage researchers

WP4 Leaders Responsible: Leader: Marija Cerjak (FAZ)

Twin-Leader: Andreas Drichoutis (AUA)

Deliverable responsibility: Marija Cerjak (FAZ)

Other Contributors: Tajana Čop (FAZ), Mateja Pečina (FAZ), Gabriela Sušac (FAZ)

This project has received funding from the H2020 -Coordination and support action - Spreading Excellence, Widening Participation (H2020-WIDESPREAD-2018-2020 / H2020-WIDESPREAD-2020-5) under grant agreement No. 952303		
Dissemination Level		
PU	Public	X
PP	Restricted to other programme participants (including the	
RE	Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the	
CO	Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services)	





This report is a summary of all WP4 activities performed in the second year of the project (Early stage researchers' mentoring exercise, Building scientific know-how of early stage researchers, Building capacity of early stage researchers in educational, scientific and business communication).

Period covered by the report: **from 01/10/2021 to 30/09/2022**

Abbreviations used in the text:

AUA - Geononiko Panepistimion Athinon

ESR – Early stage researcher

FAZ - Sveučilište u Zagrebu Agronomski fakultet

SLU - Sveriges Lantbruksuniversitet

UNIBO - Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna

Introduction to the project

The University of Zagreb Faculty of Agriculture (FAZ) has qualified scientists in the field of agri-food who are willing to improve their scientific, innovative and academic capacities in order to become competitive in the scientific market, but also to offer new expertise to the agri-food sector. For this reason, a 3-year project was developed in collaboration with 3 partners from Italy, Greece and Sweden, focusing on the application of experimental economics to the agriculture, food and environment sectors. The project was developed in collaboration with the University of Bologna (UNIBO), Agricultural University of Athens (AUA) and Swedish University of Agricultural Science (SLU). The AgriFoodBoost project will support FAZ to become a regional leading Centre for experimental agri-food economics and management. The project is aligned with the EU and Croatian Smart Specialisation Strategies and addresses sectors that are among the most competitive in Croatia. AgriFoodBoost activities include researcher exchanges, thematic summer schools and workshops, expert visits, participation in conferences, the establishment of an experimental economics laboratory and a research HUB, which aims to bring together universities, industry and public administration. Special attention has been given to early stage researchers, including long-term visits and dual supervision, participation in summer schools, workshops and PhD conferences. A specific task will help improve the project management/administration skills of FAZ researchers and administrative staff. Communication, dissemination and exploitation activities include efforts to raise awareness of recent developments in experimental economics among the scientific community in Croatia and the neighbouring region. In addition, these activities target businesses and policy makers with the aim of improving their awareness and understanding of the purposes of the experimental economy, its potential areas of application and its benefits. It also aims to promote experimental economics to the general public as a support for rational and responsible decision-making in order to achieve positive social and economic impacts on society.



Objectives of WP4 “Early stage researchers”

The main objective of this WP4 is to promote the involvement of early stage researchers/doctoral students in FAZ and the international scientific environment.

The specific objectives of this work package are:

- 4.1 Improve early stage researchers' career plans, advise on PhD research, review and co-mentor PhD theses
- 4.2 Improve early stage researchers' skills in scientific communication
- 4.3 Develop early stage researchers skills for effective transfer of knowledge and research ideas towards industry/companies
- 4.4 Support early-stage- researchers to network and integrate into interdisciplinary research teams both at universities and in industry
- 4.5 Ensure sustainability of the research group.

Explanation of the work carried out within the framework of WP4 (M1-M12)

WP4 is divided into 3 tasks:

Task number	Task name	Month
Task 4.1	Early stage researchers' mentoring exercise	M 3-36
Task 4.2	Building scientific know-how of early stage researchers	M 6-32
Task 4.3	Building capacity of early stage researchers in educational, scientific and business communication	M 6-35

This report covers activities related to three early stage researchers/PhD students at FAZ (Tajana Čop, Mateja Pećina, Gabriela Sušac).

T4.1 Early stage researchers' mentoring exercise

Tajana Čop, Mateja Pećina continued their work with their FAZ (assoc. prof. Josip Juračak and ass. prof. Marina Tomić Maksan, respectfully) and international mentors (prof. Maurizio Canavari and prof. Maria Teresa Rodriguez Estrada, UNIBO) in the second year of the project.

Tajana Čop completed her PhD studies in September 2022 and defended her thesis entitled “Agricultural income insurance as an innovation for risk management – a discrete choice experiment with winegrowers and winemakers in Adriatic Croatia”.

Gabriela Sušac joined the project in October 2021, when she began her doctoral studies and work as a research assistant at FAZ. During her first year at FAZ, Gabriela Sušac developed the basic idea for her doctoral thesis together with her FAZ mentor, Prof. Marija Cerjak. Based on this idea,

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant agreement No 952303”





prof. Marija Cerjak agreed with prof. Carl-Johan Lagerkvist (SLU) in September 2022 that he would be her international co-mentor.

Prof. Carl-Johan Lagerkvist (SLU) held in-person consultations with 3 early stage researcher during his expert visit to FAZ, in September 2022. In these consultations, they discussed in detail the suitability of different experimental methods and possible modelling and estimation approaches for further scientific research. One of the topics was also their work routine and the PhD programmes at their two universities. Prof. Lagerkvist provided contacts of some of his colleagues for possible further cooperation.



Expert visit, Zagreb, September 2022

T4.2. Building scientific know-how of early stage researchers

Early stage researchers participated in several educational events organised as part of the AgriFoodBoost project (table below).

Early stage researcher	Name of the event	Summer school leaders	Dates	Location
Summer schools				
Tajana Čop Mateja Pečina Gabriela Sušac	Autumn school on experimental economics methods for preference elicitation	Prof. Andreas Dricoutis, AUA	2-5 November 2021	Zagreb
Tajana Čop Mateja Pečina Gabriela Sušac	Measuring Sensory Preferences of Consumers	Prof. Tullia Gallina, UNIBO	6-10 June 2022	Bologna
Gabriela Sušac	Summer School on Choice Experiments, basic concepts	Prof. Maurizio Canavari, dr. Vilma Xhakollari, UNIBO	18 – 20 July 2022	Zagreb
Gabriela Sušac	An Introduction to Behavioural Economics	Dr. Achilleas Vassilopoulos, AUA	20 – 23 September 2022	Athens





Workshops				
Tajana Čop Mateja Pečina Gabriela Sušac	Hands-on workshop on statistical tools in social and economic sciences applied to agriculture, food and the environment	Dr. Jens Rommel, Dr. Julian Sagebiel and Jacob Dalgaard Christensen, SLU	19 - 22 October 2021	Zagreb
Tajana Čop Mateja Pečina	Workshop on Study Designs and Analyses of Experimental Data	Prof. Carl-Johan Lagerkvist, dr. Jens Rommel, dr. Anna Kristina Edenbrandt and dr. Julian Sagebiel, SLU	7 – 9 March 2022	Uppsala



1st workshop, Zagreb



2nd workshop, Uppsala



1st autumn school, Zagreb



2nd summer school, Bologna

This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant agreement No 952303”





Task 4.3. Building capacity of early stage researchers in educational, scientific and business communication

Tajana Čop presented a paper „Farmers’ acceptance of income stabilization tool scheme: A discrete choice experiment“ at the 183rd EAAE seminar, in Zagreb in September 2022. In 2022 she published several articles in scientific journals:



- Čop, T., Njavro, M. (2022). Application of Discrete Choice Experiment in Agricultural Risk Management: A Review. *Sustainability*, 14(17): 1-17.
- Čop, T., Njavro, M. (2022). Risk management of Dalmatian grape and wine producers facing climate change. *Journal of Central European agriculture*, 23 (1): 232-245
- Čop, T., Njavro, M. (2022). Income risk and income stabilization tool in Croatian horticulture, *Journal of Central European agriculture*, 23 (1): 464-476
- M. Njavro, I. Paola Palić, T. Čop (2022). Risk mapping in the time of COVID-19 pandemic a case study in the vegetable sector, *Glasnik Zaštite Bilja* 45 (4.), 108-117
- M. Njavro, T. Čop, M. de Vries, L. Neidhardt, M. Hand, C. Genillard (2022). Development of Innovative Risk Management Tool–Agricultural Risk Metrics Platform, *Proceedings in Food System Dynamics*, 156-166

Mateja Pečina has been active in scientific work, but more in the field of animal sciences together with researchers from her department (co-author of 4 papers in 2022). However, she is working on a joint research with Tajana Čop, which will be related to experimental economics.

Gabriela Sušac presented her work on three conferences:

- Marija Cerjak, Nikolina Barbarić, Iva Jurilj, Lea Kunštović, Marino Mikić, Matea Sušanj, Nikolina Škrebilin, Gabriela Sušac (2021). Mišljenje mladih o dijeljenju hrane (Young people’s opinion on food sharing) , *Inovacije i agrobiznis*, Hrvatsko agroekonomsko društvo, Zagreb, 26.11.2021.
- Gabriela Sušac, Ante Ivanković, Maurizio Canavari, Marija Cerjak (2022). Attitudes on biodiversity and willingness to support local breed conservation - the case of the Istrian donkey, 57th Croatian and 17th International Symposium on Agriculture, Vodice, June 2022
- Marija Cerjak, Maurizio Canavari, Gabriela Sušac (2022). The influence of information on the willingness of young people to participate in preservation of biodiversity - the case of the Istrian donkey, 183rd EAAE seminar – Experimental and Behavioural Economics Research in Agri-Food and the Environment / Cerjak, Marija (ur.), Zagreb: Croatian Society of Agricultural Economists, 2022.

One of these contributions was published at the scientific journal:

- Marija Cerjak, Nikolina Barbarić, Iva Jurilj, Lea Kunštović, Marino Mikić, Matea Sušanj, Nikolina Škrebilin, Gabriela Sušac.(2021). Mišljenje mladih o dijeljenju hrane. *Agroeconomia Croatica*, 11(1), pp.1-10.

Gabriela Sušac was a member of the Local organizing committee of the 183rd EAAE seminar (esign and creation of the visual identity of the seminar).

This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant agreement No 952303”

