

Cooperative Management

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The Book Series on Cooperative Management provides an invaluable forum for creative and scholarship work on cooperative economics, organizational, financial and marketing aspects of business cooperatives and development of cooperative communities throughout the Mediterranean region and worldwide. The main objectives of this book series are to advance knowledge related to cooperative entrepreneurship as well as to generate theoretical knowledge aiming to promoting research within various sectors wherein cooperatives operate (agriculture, banking, real estate, insurance, and other forms). Scholarly edited volumes and monographs should relate to one of these areas, should have a theoretical and/or empirical problem orientation, and should demonstrate innovation in theoretical and empirical analyses, methodologies, and applications. Analyses of cooperative economic problems and phenomena pertinent to managerial research, extension, and teaching (e.g., case studies) regarding cooperative entrepreneurship are equally encouraged.

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Gert van Dijk • George Baourakis •
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Editors

Sustainable Food Chains and Ecosystems

Cooperative Approaches for a Changing
World

 Springer

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Preface

The role of cooperative management implies the formulation and execution of operating policies that are feasible, sustainable, and sound from a financial, social, and environmental perspective. Thus, the book series on “Cooperative Management” creates a helpful framework for creative and scholarly work on economics, policy, organizational, financial, and marketing aspects. The main objectives of this book are to advance knowledge related to sustainable food chains and ecosystems, as well as to provide the theoretical background for promoting research within various sectors such as the food industry, EU agricultural policy, trade, and hotel chain management. Papers appearing in this series are related to the abovementioned fields and demonstrate innovation in theoretical and empirical analyses, methodologies, and applications. Furthermore, this series encourages inter-disciplinary and cross-disciplinary research from a broad spectrum of disciplines, ranging from economic studies to policy studies, as well as research related to the resilience and ecosystem services of agro-food chains.

The aim of this volume is to bring together studies from the agriculture and food sectors to make a contribution to issues regarding food chain sustainability and provision of ecosystem services. In light of global warming and the limitations of natural resources, it is crucial to build resilient agro-food chains that ensure food security and the integrity of ecosystems. Under this view, an analysis of the economic impacts of climate change on agriculture in Kazakhstan and Turkey is presented, while a framework is proposed to analyze agro-food chain resilience (in the olive oil chain) and its impacts in terms of ecosystem services. The positive economic influences of value-added food chains, which can contribute in preserving the sustainable development of small farms located in mountainous and less favored regions, will be demonstrated by applying an empirical mathematical approach. The volume also focuses on the profile of the agro-food manufacturing industry across the EU member states to highlight the changes in performance.

In terms of European agriculture, the common agricultural policy (CAP) has suffered many revamping attempts to reorganize it, in order to promote an equivalent income support for European producers, to strengthen the competitiveness of

agricultural products, and to promote more sustainable agricultural practices. In this context, the impacts of the CAP reform (2003) on the selling points of agricultural supplies and the local economy will be illustrated. Moreover, a short retrospective view of the EU policy reforms in the olive oil sector is presented and the impacts related to these reforms are mentioned.

Beyond the policy measures that foster the adoption of agricultural systems which combine food production with the protection and provision of agricultural public goods, the trade of agro-food products between developing countries and the EU remains the first priority. A comprehensive evaluation of agricultural exports from four Arab countries (Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco, and Sudan) will highlight the importance of the coordination and integration of export policies in order to raise their competitiveness in the European markets.

In addition, a statistical analysis was performed on the hospitality industry to analyze the impact of the commission structure of online travel agents (OTAs) on hotels' revenue management. Moreover, the level of OTAs' use by hotels and the fairness of the commission rates, the bargaining power with OTAs, the efficiency of OTAs' marketing strategies, and the effectiveness of commission rates on pricing policy are identified. Finally, an interactive and participatory tool able to implement governance for sustainability, namely the Sustainability Compass, is presented.

Hence, this book will be of interest to scholars, practitioners, and policy actors working in the fields of economics, trade, environment, food, the hotel industry, and agricultural policy.

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