

Current research interests include agricultural economics and rural appraisal with specific topics regarding circular economy, sustainability assessment of agri-food production processes, life cycle methodologies - life cycle assessment, life cycle costing, social life cycle assessment - data envelopment analysis, q methodology, decision support systems, multicriteria analysis, rural development, alternative food networks.

#### **Academic career and work experience in research activities**

- 2020 - 2029** National Scientific Qualification as Full Professor of Agricultural Economics and Rural Appraisal (SDS AGR/01).
- 2020** Associate professor of Agricultural Economics and Rural Appraisal (SDS AGR/01), Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria, Department of Agriculture (AGRARIA).
- 2017-2020** "Tenure-track" Senior Researcher (RTDb) in Agricultural Economics and Rural Appraisal (SDS AGR/01), Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria, Department of Agriculture (AGRARIA).
- 2013 - 2017** "Non-tenured" Junior Researcher (RTDa) in Agricultural Economics and Rural Appraisal (SDS AGR/01), Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria, Department of Agriculture (AGRARIA).
- 2009 - 2013** Research Fellow in Agricultural Economics and Rural Appraisal (SDS AGR/01), Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria, Department of Agriculture (AGRARIA).
- 2008 - 2009** Research Traineeship within the "High education program" of Calabria Region, Department 11 in agreement with Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria.
- 2003 - 2008** Occasional employment contracts for collaboration in research activities, Department of Agro-Forestry and Environmental Sciences and Technologies (STAfA) - Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria (Italy), Department of Agricultural Economics and Policy - University of Studies of Naples "Federico II" (Italy).

#### **Education**

- 2009** Advanced Master degree in "Government of regions and local entities", Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria (Italy) - Faculty of Law.
- 2007** PhD in Agricultural Economics and Policy, University of Palermo.
- 2005** Participation to European Master (M.Sc.) "Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness", Wageningen Agricultural University (NL). Modules attended: Rural Economic Analysis (dr. L.H.G. Slangen, dr. C. Gardebroek, dr. R. Schipper); Rural Development Projects and Programmes (dr. P.A. de Vries; dr. R. Ruben); Quantitative Research Methodology and Statistics (dr. I. van der Lans); Agricultural and Rural Policy Analysis (dr. A. Burrel, dr. J. Peerlings); Understanding Rural Development: Theories, Practices and Methodologies (dr. H. Wiskerke); Econometrics (F.F. Kuipers, C. Gardebroek); Decision Science I (dr. T. Hendriks).

- 2004** Participation to short-course in “Econometric models with dependent discrete variables: theory, practices, application to marketing and natural resources economics and transports”, prof. Riccardo Scarpa (University of York, UK), organized by Center for training in Economics and Politics of Rural Development - Portici, University of Naples “Federico II” (Italy).
- 2004** Advanced Master degree in Agricultural Economics and Policy, Centre for Advanced Training and Research in Agricultural Economics, Portici, University of Naples “Federico II” (Italy).
- 2002** Degree in Agricultural Sciences and Technologies *summa cum laude* (110 e lode), Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria (Italy).

### **Academic Appointments**

- 2024 to now** Deputy Head of Department of Agriculture, University Mediterranea of Reggio Calabria.
- 2022 to now** Deputy Head of PhD Course of Agricultural Sciences Food and Forestry, University Mediterranea of Reggio Calabria.
- From 2019** Member of the Academic Board of the PhD in “Law and Economics”, Department of Law, Economics and Human Sciences (DiGiES), Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria.
- From 2015** Member of the Joint students-professors Commission in the Quality Assurance process of the Department of Law, Economics and Human Sciences (DiGiES), Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria.
- From 2015** Member of the Commission for Quality Assurance and Research of the Department of Agriculture (AGRARIA), Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria.
- From 2016** Member of the Forestry and Environmental Sciences Master's Degree Council, Department of Agriculture (AGRARIA), Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria.
- From 2015** Member of the Council of the Master's Degree Course in Economics, Department of Law, Economics and Human Sciences (DiGiES), Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria.
- From 2013** Member of the Council of the Department of Agriculture (AGRARIA), Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria.

### **Editorial Appointments**

- From 2021** Associate Editor of *Italian Review of Agricultural Economics (REA)*, <https://oajournals.fupress.net/index.php/rea/about/editorialTeam>  
Member of Scientific Advisory Board of *Food Economy (Economia agro-alimentare)* (ISSN 1126-1668), <https://www.economiaagroalimentare.it/home/editorial-board/>
- From 2020** Member of Editorial Board of *Geography* (ISSN 2673-7086), MDPI, Basel Switzerland, <https://www.mdpi.com/journal/geographies/editors>
- From 2019** Member of Editorial Board of *Sustainability* (ISSN 2071-1050), MDPI, Basel Switzerland, [https://www.mdpi.com/journal/sustainability/sectioneditors/agriculture\\_food\\_and\\_wildlifes](https://www.mdpi.com/journal/sustainability/sectioneditors/agriculture_food_and_wildlifes)
- 2019** Guest Editor for the Special Issue “Life Cycle Sustainability Assessment within the Theoretical Framework of Circular Economy: Methodological Challenges and Epistemological Implications for Agro-Food Sector”, *Sustainability* (ISSN 2071-1050), MDPI, Basel Switzerland.
- 2017** Guest Editor for the Special Issue “Innovative Farm Management to Enhance Agricultural Sustainability”, *International Journal of Agronomy* (ISSN 1687-8159), Hindawi Publishing.

**Membership** Agricultural Economics Society (AES); European Association of Agricultural Economists (EAAE); Italian Association of Agricultural and Applied Economics (AIEAA); Italian Society of Agricultural Economics (SIDEA), Register of Expert Peer Reviewers for Italian Scientific Evaluation (REPRISE), Italian Network of Life Cycle Assessment (LCA).

### **Academic Courses taught**

**AY from 2020/2021 to now** *Economic evaluation of forest and environmental goods and services* (54 hours), Master degree in Forestry Sciences, Department of Agriculture (AGRARIA), Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria; *Management and enhancement of Mediterranean gastronomy* (54 hours), Master degree in Food Sciences and Technologies, Department of Agriculture (AGRARIA), Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria.

**AAYY 2019/2020, 2017/2018, 2016/2017** *Economics and Environmental appraisal* (54 hours), Master degree in Forestry Sciences, Department of Agriculture (AGRARIA), Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria;

**AAYY 2018/2019, 2017/2018, 2016/2017, 2015/2016** *Economics and Management of Agri-food Enterprises* (54 hours), Master degree in Economics, Department of Law, Economics and Human Sciences (DiGiES), Mediterranean University of Reggio Calabria.

**Supervision of the following PhD dissertations:**

- Title: Biodiversity as additional environmental information in Product Environmental Footprint (PEF) studies. Environmental Footprint (PEF). PhD Student: SOLDATI CRISTIAN; Phd Course in Agricultural Food and Forestry Sciences - XXXVI Cycle, University Mediterranea of Reggio Calabria, Italy (ongoing from 2021 to 2024).
- Title: Circularity and sustainability for a new model of agro-food supply chains: application of Life Cycle methodologies to closed-loop scenarios in the olive-oil sector. PhD Student: SPADA EMANUELE; Phd Course in Agricultural Food and Forestry Sciences - XXXV Cycle, University Mediterranea of Reggio Calabria, Italy (ongoing from 2019 to 2022).
- Title: Assessing the effectiveness of rural development policies in Southern Italy using Data Envelopment Analysis (DEA). PhD: DE GIROLAMO CLAUDIO; Phd Course in Agricultural Food and Forestry Sciences - XXXII Cycle, University Mediterranea of Reggio Calabria, Italy (2016 to 2019).
- Title: Paradigmatic stances and methodological issues in Social Life Cycle Assessment. Comparison of two different methodological proposals applied to agricultural products. PhD: IOFRIDA NATHALIE; Phd Course in Agricultural, Agri-Food and Environmental Sciences and Technologies - XXXVIII Cycle and Issuance of Additional Mention of Doctor Europaeus, University Mediterranea of Reggio Calabria, Italy (2012 to 2015).

**Scientific coordination or responsibility within international or national research project**

- 2025-2027** Scientific Responsible of WP4 “Socio-economic and Life-Cycle assessment of the Nature Based Solutions” within the European project **NBS4AQUAMMISSION – Nature Based Systems Mission for Aquatic Biodiversity Enhancement: Reducing Pharmaceutical Products Pollution in Urban and Rural Environments; European Biodiversity Partnership co-funded by European Union**; Biodiversa+ 2023 Call for Proposals “Better knowledge to develop, deploy and assess nature-based solutions (BiodivNBS)”; partners: University of Jaen, SPAIN (Coordinator); Aarhus University, DENMARK; Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research, NORWAY; University College Dublin, IRELAND; Gebze Technical University, TURKEY; Kilian Water Aps. Kilian, DENMARK.
- 2019-2023** Scientific Responsible of WP5 “Socio Economic and Life Cycle Assessment” within the international project **“SUSTAINOLIVE - Novel approaches to promote the SUSTAINability of OLIVE groves in the Mediterranean”**, funded by **PRIMA Foundation and EU Horizon2020** and with the involvement of University of Jaen (Spain), University of Abdelmalek Essaâdi, Tetouan (Morocco), Alma Mater Studiorum - University of Bologna (Italy), University of Granada (Spain), University of Évora (Portugal), Universidad Pablo de Olavide (Spain), University of Parma (Italy), Hellenic Agricultural Organization “DEMETER” (Greece), Andalusian Institute of Agricultural, Fisheries, Agrifood and Organic Production Research and Training (Spain).
- 2019-2022** Scientific Responsible of WP4 “Impact Assessment” within the **PRIN project “DRASTIC - Driving the Italian Agri-Food System into a Circular Economy Model”**, funded by MIUR and with the involvement the Universities of Naples, Catania and Bari.
- 2017-2020** Scientific Responsible of Task 5.1. “Life Cycle analysis to sustainability assessment of WP2 technological innovations in EVOO production processes”, within the project **“Sustainability Olive Oil System” S-O-S, funded by Cariplo foundation, call “Ager PROJECT - Second Edition**. Partnership with the Universities of Bari “Aldo Moro”, Milano, Parma, Sassari, Teramo, Reggio Calabria.

**2013-2016** Scientific Coordinator of the **MIUR research program FIRB 2012 “Multidisciplinary and Innovative Methodologies for the sustainable management of agricultural systems”** (Code: RBFR12B2K4, Intervention n. 2 – Directorial decree of 12 January 2012 n. 3/ric; funded with Directorial decree of 21 November 2012 n. 789; Score obtained 122/130, Total cost: 926.965 €; Granted Fund: 744.005 €. Partnership with the Universities of Sassari, Bologna, Catania, Reggio Calabria.

**Indexed publications (Latest 5 years)** - Overall impact measured by synthetic bibliometric indicators (SCOPUS based): H-Index: 23; Documents: 63; Total Citations: 1612.

- 1 Spada E., Carlucci D., Cembalo L., Chinnici G., D'Amico M., Falcone G., Giannoccaro G., Gulisano G., Iofrida N., Stempfle S., De Luca A.I. (2025). Evaluating Circular Strategies for the Resilience of Agri-Food Business: Evidence From the Olive Oil Supply Chain. *Business Strategy and the Environment*, 34 (3), pp. 2748 - 2764, DOI: 10.1002/bse.4121.
- 2 Cellura M., De Luca A.I., Iofrida N., Mistretta M. (2024). Chapter 17 - Social Life Cycle Assessment of Batteries. In Passerini S., Barelli L., Baumann M., Peters J., Weil M. (eds.). *Emerging Battery Technologies to Boost the Clean Energy Transition. Cost, Sustainability, and Performance Analysis. The Materials Research Society Series*, Springer, 340 pp. ISBN 978-3-031-48358-5.
- 3 Cellura M., De Luca A.I., Iofrida N., Mistretta M. (2024) Sustainability impacts: Multicriteria decision-making and weighting factors. *Handbook on Life Cycle Sustainability Assessment*, pp. 232 – 251.
- 4 Spada E., Falcone G., Carlucci D., Cembalo L., Chinnici G., D'Amico M., Giannoccaro G., De Luca A.I. (2024). Olive Oil Production and Circularity Pathways in South Italy: A Life Cycle Costing (LCC) View into Economic Performance and Benefits. *Lecture Notes in Networks and Systems*, 1188, pp. 308 - 320, Cited. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-031-74716-8\_31
- 5 Iofrida N., Saez de Bikuña Salinas K., Mistretta M., Falcone G., Spada E., Gulisano G., De Luca A.I. (2024). Social life cycle assessment of garments production using the psychosocial risk factors impact pathway. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 458, art. no. 142448. DOI: 10.1016/j.jclepro.2024.142448.
- 6 Iofrida N., Spada E., Gulisano G., De Luca A.I., Falcone G. (2024). The social impacts of circular economy: disclosing epistemological stances and methodological practices. *Environment, Development and Sustainability*, DOI: 10.1007/s10668-024-05438-z.
- 7 Iofrida N., Falcone G., Spada E., De Luca A.I. (2024). Social Life Cycle Assessment of Italian Olive Growing: Comparison Between Conventional and Agroecological Practices. *Lecture Notes in Networks and Systems*, 1188, pp. 289 - 299. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-031-74716-8\_29.
- 8 De Luca A.I., Iofrida N., González de Molina M., Spada E., Domouso P., Falcone G., Gulisano G., García Ruiz R. (2023). A methodological proposal of the Sustainolive international research project to drive Mediterranean olive ecosystems toward sustainability. *Frontiers in Sustainable Food Systems*, 7, art. no. 1207972. DOI: 10.3389/fsufs.2023.1207972.
- 9 Soldati C., De Luca A.I., Iofrida N., Spada E., Gulisano G., Falcone G. (2023). Ecosystem services and biodiversity appraisals by means of life cycle tools: state-of-art in agri-food and forestry field. *Agriculture and Food Security*, 12 (1), art. no. 33, DOI: 10.1186/s40066-023-00438-0.
- 10 Iofrida N., De Luca A.I., Zanchini R., D'Amico M., Ferretti M., Gulisano G., Di Vita G. (2022). Italians' behavior when dining out: Main drivers for restaurant selection and customers segmentation. *International Journal of Gastronomy and Food Science*, 28, art. no. 100518. DOI: 10.1016/j.ijgfs.2022.100518
- 11 Bernardi B., Macrì G., Falcone G., Stillitano T., Benalia S., De Luca A.I. (2022). Assessment and Sustainability of Logging Operations in Calabrian Pine High Forests. *Forests*, 13 (3), art. no. 403. DOI: 10.3390/f13030403.
- 12 Falcone G., Stillitano T., Iofrida N., Spada E., Bernardi B., Gulisano G., De Luca A.I. (2022). Life cycle and circularity metrics to measure the sustainability of closed-loop agri-food pathways. *Frontiers in Sustainable Food Systems*, 6, art. no. 1014228. DOI: 10.3389/fsufs.2022.1014228.
- 13 Spada E., Stillitano T., Falcone G., Iofrida N., Gulisano G., De Luca A.I. (2022) Economic sustainability assessment of Mediterranean crops: A comparative Life Cycle Costing (LCC) analysis. *Frontiers in Sustainable Food Systems*, 6, art. no. 1004065. DOI: 10.3389/fsufs.2022.1004065.

- 14 Stillitano T., Falcone G., Iofrida N., Spada E., Gulisano G., De Luca A.I. (2022). A customized multi-cycle model for measuring the sustainability of circular pathways in agri-food supply chains. *Science of the Total Environment*, 844, art. no. 157229. DOI: 10.1016/j.scitotenv.2022.157229.
- 15 Stillitano, T., Spada, E., Iofrida, N., Falcone, G., De Luca, A.I. (2021). Sustainable Agri-Food Processes and Circular Economy Pathways in a Life Cycle Perspective: State of the Art of Applicative Research. *Sustainability*. 13, 2472. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su13052472>.
- 16 Benalia S., Falcone G., Stillitano T., De Luca A.I., Strano A., Gulisano G., Zimbalatti G., Bernardi B. (2021). Increasing the content of olive mill wastewater in biogas reactors for a sustainable recovery: Methane productivity and life cycle analyses of the process. *Foods*, 10 (5), art. no. 1029
- 17 Bernardi, B., Falcone, G., Stillitano, T., Benalia, S., Bacenetti, J., De Luca, A.I. (2021). Harvesting system sustainability in Mediterranean olive cultivation: Other principal cultivar. *Science of the Total Environment*, 766, art. no. 142508. DOI: 10.1016/j.scitotenv.2020.142508
- 18 Iofrida, N., Stillitano, T., Falcone, G., Gulisano, G., Francesco Nicolò, B., Irene De Luca, A. (2020) The socio-economic impacts of organic and conventional olive growing in Italy. *New Medit*, 19 (1), pp. 117-131. DOI: 10.30682/nm2001h
- 19 Falcone, G., Stillitano, T., De Luca, A.I., Di Vita, G., Iofrida, N., Strano, A., Gulisano, G., Pecorino, B., D'Amico, M. Energetic and economic analyses for agricultural management models: The Calabria PGI clementine case study (2020) *Energies*, 13 (5), art. no. 1289. DOI: 10.3390/en13051289
- 20 Falcone, G., Iofrida, N., Stillitano, T., De Luca, A.I. Impacts of food and diets' life cycle: A brief review (2020) *Current Opinion in Environmental Science and Health*, 13, pp. 75-79. DOI: 10.1016/j.coesh.2019.12.002



Signature  
*Anna Irene De Luca*