



MARA PETRUZZELLI

01 September 1995 | Italian

Phone: +393485931684

[LinkedIn](#) | [Scopus](#) | [Google Scholar](#)

Email: mara.petruzzelli@agroscope.admin.ch

Summary of competencies:

- Track record of scientific analysis on sustainability assessment of food systems
- Interdisciplinary background and system-based analytical approach
- Experience in European and international projects
- Working knowledge of Italian, English, French and Spanish

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Research Scientist in the Sustainability Assessment of Foods 2025-Current
Agroscope, Zurich

- Integration of social, environmental and nutritional methodologies for the sustainability assessment food products
- Implementation of life-cycle approaches to consumption and dietary patterns
- Priority matrix for food waste prevention and reduction

Senior Officer for School Feeding Programmes March 2024-March 2025
Milan Urban Food Policy Pact Secretariat (MUFPP), Milan

- Development, coordination and monitoring of MUFPP international projects on school feeding programmes
- Knowledge transfer and communication activities between MUFPP cities, national governments, international organisations and civil-society
- Data collection and preparation of dossiers.

PhD in Agricultural, Environmental, Food Science and Technology 2020-July 2024
University of Bologna - Department of Agricultural and Food Sciences

Thesis: *“From farm to school: investigating the potential of school food environments to transform the food system”*

Supervisors: Prof. Matteo Vittuari, Prof. Rico Ihle (Wageningen University)

Visiting PhD at Wageningen University (NL) May-October 2022
Agricultural Economics and Rural Policy Group

Research Fellow for Horizon2020 FoodE project 2020
Department of Agricultural and Food Sciences, University of Bologna
Development of sustainability assessment tools of City/Region Food Systems using Life Cycle Thinking approaches.

EDUCATION

MSc in Economics and Management - Food System Management 2017-2019

University of Bologna, 110/110 cum laude | Thesis: *“Understanding opportunities to improve the cost effectiveness and environmental impact of school canteens while ensuring healthy diets”* | Supervisor: Prof. Matteo Vittuari

Erasmus+ Semester at Wageningen University & Research
Major: Sustainable Assessment of Animal Systems

PARTICIPATION IN PROJECTS

- Horizon2020 [FoodE](#) (Food System in European Cities) specifically on WP2 ‘*Methodological framework development and case studies sustainability assessment*’;
- Horizon Europe [FOODCoST](#) (FOOD Costing and Internalisation of Externalities for System Transition) specifically on WP6 ‘*Impact Assessment*’;
- Coordination of the UniBo-led living lab ‘[Laboratory for sustainable public caterings](#)’ to co-design solutions for sustainable public procurement practices and draft policy guidance.

PUBLICATIONS

Most important scientific articles

- **Petruzzelli M.**, Iori E., Ihle R., Vittuari M. (2025) Can changing the meal sequence in school canteens reduce vegetable food waste? A cluster randomized control trial, «*FOOD POLICY*», 130, 102784. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.foodpol.2024.102784>
- **Petruzzelli M.**, Amadori S., Ihle R., Fridel M., Vittuari M. Monitoring nutritional, environmental and social sustainability in school food settings: A three-dimensional score-based assessment tool «*JOURNAL OF CLEANER PRODUCTION*», 519, 146015. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2025.146015>
- **Petruzzelli M.**, Ihle R., Colitti S., Vittuari M. (2023) The role of short food supply chains in advancing the global agenda for sustainable food systems transitions, «*CITIES*», 141, 104496, pp. 1 – 8. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cities.2023.104496>.
- Specht K., et al. (2025) Measuring the social impact of City-region food system initiatives (CRFSIs): A systematic review of indicators and metrics, «*SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND SOCIETIES*», 128, 106462. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scs.2025.106462>
- Cirone F., **Petruzzelli M.** et al. (2023) A sustainability scoring system to assess food initiatives in city regions, «*SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION*», 36, pp. 88 – 99. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.spc.2022.12.022>
- **Petruzzelli M.**, Garcia-Herrero L., De Menna F., Vittuari M. (2023) Towards sustainable school meals: integrating environmental and cost implications for nutritious diets through optimisation modelling, «*SUSTAINABILITY SCIENCE*», 35, pp. 1 – 16. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s11625-023-01346-9>.

Most important project deliverables

- Musso V., et al. (2025). [Scenarios Building of Integrated Policy Recommendations and Business Models and Strategies to Internalise Externalities](#). *HorizonEurope - FoodCoST*
- **Petruzzelli M.**, et al. (2022). [Life cycle assessment, life cycle costing and social LCA of 100+ CRFSI](#). *H2020 FoodE – Food Systems in European Cities*.
- **Petruzzelli M.** et al. (2022) [Extensive life cycle assessment, life cycle costing and social LCA of pilots and self-assessment tool](#). *H2020 FoodE – Food Systems in European Cities*.
- De Menna F., Rufi Salís M., **Petruzzelli M.** et al. (2022) [Methodological Framework to develop Life Cycle](#). *H2020 FoodE – Food Systems in European Cities*.

- Graamans L., Rufi Salís M., **Petruzzelli M.**, et al. (2022). [Data Collection Protocol](#). *H2020 FoodE – Food Systems in European Cities*.
- Graamans L., Rufi Salís M., **Petruzzelli M.**, et al. (2022). [Data Inventory](#). *H2020 FoodE – Food Systems in European Cities*.
- Rufi-Salís M., **Petruzzelli M.** et al. (2022) [Pilot Decision Support Tool](#). *H2020 FoodE – Food Systems in European Cities*.

CONFERENCES

- LX SIDEA (Italian Society of Agricultural Economists) Congress, 2024, Capri (IT) – **Paper presentation**.
- Summer School ‘*Spreading Experiences and Knowledge on School Meals Programmes in ASEAN Cities*’, 2024, Bandung, Indonesia – **Organiser and presenter**. Full programme [here](#).
- European Conference ‘*The Power of Public Food Procurement*’, 2024, Copenhagen (DK) – **Organiser**. Full programme [here](#).
- Emilia-Romagna Regional Conference “*New perspectives on school food. Inform, Involve and Collaborate to measure food quality and sustainability*” 2023, Bologna (IT) – **Organised and presenter**. Full program [here](#).
- XXVI European Association of Agricultural Economists (EAAE) Congress, 2023, Rennes (FR) – **Author of an [organised session](#)**. Invited speakers include the “Deputy Head of Unit of the European Commission - Governance of agri-food markets DG AGRI”.
- SCORAI-ERSCP-WUR Conference, 2023, Wageningen (NL) – **Paper presentation**
- LIX SIDEA (Italian Society of Agricultural Economists) Congress, 2023, Marina di Orosei (IT) – **Paper presentation**.

ONLINE VIDEOS AND PODCAST ON MY RESEARCH

University of Bologna, 3 minutes research presentation, YouTube Channel: available [here](#)
 Spotify episode of the ‘*OnFoods – Food and Politics*’ series [in italian], available [here](#)

LANGUAGES

Italian: Mother tongue

English: C1 Cambridge IELTS | Final Grade: 8/9

French: B2 DELF | Final Grade: 94/100

Spanish: B2 proficiency, plus B1 certificate by Colegio de Salamanca

PRIZES

- 1st Prize Winner of the “*Youth in Action for SDGs | 2020 Edition*” Call for Ideas, Powered by Fondazione Italiana Accenture.
- Winner MARCO POLO program, an Italian funding grant to support doctoral research activities abroad.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

- **Team Leader at Slow Food Unisg** - Events organisation and crowdfunding management for humanitarian projects, Bra (Italy), 2015-2017.
- **Scout Educator – Agesci** - Leading educational projects to empower vulnerable people and improve cultural sensitivity among communities, Turin (Italy), 2013-2016.

In compliance with the Italian Legislative Decree no.196, I authorise the use and process of my personal details.

