Editorial

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Biographical notes: Thomas Bournaris is an Associate Professor in the Department of Agricultural Economics at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece. He is also the Head of the Laboratory of Informatics in Agriculture. He received his BSc and MSc in Agricultural Economics both from the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. His PhD thesis was about a platform for farm management and e-goverment services. He works and has interests in agricultural economics, farm management and regional planning, sustainability in agriculture and management of agricultural resources, e-government, decision support systems and ICT in agriculture and impact assessment of common agricultural policy. His recent publications include papers in *Agronomy*, *Sustainability*, *Energies* and *Land* journals (MDPI), *Journal of Environmental Management*, *Land Use Policy* and *Environmental Monitoring and Assessment*. From March 2021, he is the President of the Hellenic Association for Information and Communication Technologies in Agriculture, Food and Environment (HAICTA).

Konstantinos Parisis is a Professor at the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering of University of Western Macedonia, with the subject automatic control systems. He received his diploma in 1980 and PhD in 1994 from the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering of AUTh. He worked for five years in the industry as the Head of Maintenance and Supervising Engineer of Electromechanical Installations and for seven years as Director of the Technical Services of the University of Macedonia. His scientific and research work focuses mainly on decentralised control of interconnected systems, control of electrical systems energy, mechatronic systems, precision agriculture, energy saving, energy efficiency and policy. He has participated in ten national and European research projects, while he was scientifically responsible for four of them. He has published several original articles in internationally recognised scientific journals, conference proceedings and book chapters.

The aim of this special issue of the *International Journal of Sustainable Agricultural Management and Informatics* (*IJSAMI*) is to share and publish the results of latest developments and applications of information and communication technologies (ICTs) in agriculture, forestry, food and environment. The papers published, after double blind reviewing, were selected from the HAICTA 2020 Conference held in Thessaloniki, Greece in September 2020, and revised according to journal writing rules. They mainly represent academic research viewpoints in new tools techniques and methodologies of ICTs applications. The papers constitute updated and extended versions of the papers presented in the conference organised by the Hellenic Association for Information and Communication Technologies in Agriculture Food and Environment (HAICTA). HAICTA is the Greek branch of the European Federation for Information Technology in Agriculture (EFITA).

The special issue consists of six papers representing all issues covered by HAICTA 2020, while demonstrating the wide-ranging variety of interests on ICT implications in agriculture, forestry, food, and the environment. More specifically, a community capitals framework for assessing digital technologies is presented in paper 1, for a case study in southern rural Manitoba, Canada. The concept for an integrated internet of things (IoT)-based traceability platform introduced in paper 2. The evaluation of a satellite drought indicator approach and its potential for agricultural drought prediction and crop loss assessment is analysed in paper 3. Paper 4 focuses on DANIA, the new Italian web database to support irrigation investment policies. Paper 5 introduces an application of an integrated methodology for spatial classification of the environmental flow in the Bulgarian-Greek Rhodope Mountain Range. Finally, the business object relation modelling (BORM) was used for the cultural heritage protection against flood in paper 6.