

**IT IS OUR PLEASURE TO PRESENT  
KEYNOTE SPEAKERS AT**

**15<sup>th</sup> CASEE Conference**  
***„Green Transitions in  
Agriculture, Forestry,  
Veterinary Medicine and  
Food Systems Under a  
Changing Climate“***



**Samantha Wisely,  
University of Florida,  
United States of  
America**

Planning for emerging  
pathogens of  
veterinary importance  
in Central and South

Eastern Europe

Samantha Wisely, Ph.D., is a professor of wildlife ecology at the University of Florida where she directs the Cervidae Health Research Initiative (CHeRI). CHeRI uses a multidisciplinary approach to understand and mitigate the pathogens and parasites that most impact deer health and production in the United States. Her research program investigates how global changes in climate, land use and species distributions alter disease transmission dynamics.



**Branko Ćupina,  
University of Novi Sad,  
Faculty of Agriculture,  
Serbia**

**Challenges in research  
and education in  
agriculture and life  
science**

Dr Branko Ćupina is a professor at the University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Agriculture. His research program is focused on cover crops and intercropping as well as legume based cropping system. Dr. Ćupina applied research program advances the knowledge of the farming and scientific community on cover cropping system management practices that generate positive nutrient cycling efficiency, and competitive crop productivity. He has been coordinating few national and international projects supported by both national and international funds. Out of more than 400 references, 40 are published in referee journals. He also published few chapters in books edited by Springer, Elsevier, CABI and Nova Publisher. Prof. Ćupina is an assistant editor in few journals, reviewer in several peer review journals and member of several scientific societies.

## **Irena Benešová, Czech University of Life Sciences, Czechia**

### **Green transitions: economic impacts and gender equity in sustainable agriculture**

Irena Benešová specializes in agricultural markets, sustainability, and economic integration in Central and Eastern Europe. Her research addresses trade competitiveness, economic convergence, and comparative advantage between the post-Soviet countries and the EU. She investigates agricultural market dynamics, policy impacts, and market efficiency. She also examines sustainability issues, including environmental resilience and gender equity in agriculture.

She has been teaching, supervising, and engaging in project activities at the Department of Economics, Czech University of Life Sciences Prague, since 2006. She collaborated on scientific projects at the Czech Technical University's Faculty of Architecture (2006–2023). She completed her PhD in Enterprises and Sectoral Economics in 2009 at the Czech University of Life Sciences, Prague, focusing on regional integration in Africa.

Irena Benešová has actively contributed to

numerous national and European research projects focusing on agriculture, spatial planning, and socio-economic policy assessments. Her current projects include precision agriculture and digitalization in the Czech Republic, as well as EU-funded Horizon initiatives such as BrightSpace, addressing sustainable agriculture strategies, and BETTER Life, enhancing socially engaged research in life sciences. Her past involvement includes significant contributions to spatial planning and territorial development projects like POLYCE and RePUS, as well as studies evaluating the dual structure of Czech agriculture and economic resource management within multifunctional agri-food systems.