

Preface

The Association for Applied Statistics (ASA) and the Department of Statistics, Computer Science, Applications DiSIA “*Giuseppe Parenti*” of the University of Florence, jointly with the partners AICQ-CN (Italian Association for Quality Culture North and Centre of Italy), AISS (Italian Academy for Six Sigma), ASSIRM (Italian Association for Marketing, Social and Opinion Research), Comune di Firenze (the Florence Municipality), SIS (the Italian Statistical Society), Regione Toscana (the Tuscany Region) and Valmon – Evaluation & Monitoring Ltd, have organised a scientific conference titled “*Statistics and Information Systems for Policy Evaluation*”, aimed at promoting new statistical methods and applications for the evaluation of policies.

Due to the health emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Scientific and the Local Organizing Committees decided to reschedule the conference appointment in two different scientific events: an on-line Opening Conference held in February and March 2021 and a postponed on-site Conference held in September 2021.

This Book includes 40 peer-reviewed short papers discussed during the on-site Scientific Conference. This event was spread over 3 days and organized in thematic sessions; each session, led by a chair, collected works on the following homogeneous issues: “Evaluation Of Educational Systems”, “Decision Making”, “Health and Well-Being”, “Tourism and Gastronomy”. The papers published in this book are organized in those sessions.

On behalf of the Scientific Program Committee, we would like to thank the authors for submitting and presenting their interesting and inspiring works in the context of the evaluation of policies, the partners, the chairs, the discussants and the Local Organizing Committee. Finally, we are thankful to the members of the Scientific Committee for helping with the peer-reviewing process.

Florence (Italy), October 2021

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