

Sowing Seeds of Knowledge: 10th EAAE PhD workshop in Budapest, Hungary, 2024 attendance report.

I am pleased to share my experiences and the benefits I gained from attending the EAAE PhD Workshop in the enchanting city of Budapest in June this year. This great opportunity was made possible by the generous funding provided by the Agriculture Economics Society (AES).

The 10th edition of the workshop was held this year in the beautiful city of Budapest. The workshop ran for three days and featured a series of networking sessions, presentations and keynotes that were both informative and inspiring. Social activities were organised at the end of each day to further strengthen the networking bonds. Judit Fekete's keynote on "Grants and Projects for Early Career Researchers" was particularly impactful, providing valuable insights into the opportunities and steps researchers can take to secure funding and manage research projects effectively. One of the highlights was also the opportunity to attend a mentoring session, where participants had the chance to meet with experienced researchers on a one-to-one basis. This session was incredibly useful for discussing career development concerns and receiving personalised advice from experts in the field for one of my PhD papers.

New knowledge and skills: The workshop provided a wealth of information on the latest research trends and methodologies in agricultural economics. I gained new knowledge about publishing papers, securing grants and exploring the opportunities available to me after completing my PhD.

Networking opportunities: The event was an excellent platform for networking with fellow researchers and professionals. I had the opportunity to meet many PhD students working on similar topics at other universities, which could lead to potential collaborations in the future.

Research insights: The presentations and discussions provided new insights and ideas that will be beneficial to my ongoing research. The presentations provided the opportunity to critically discuss with peers and experts ways to improve the methodological and theoretical frameworks of our work. I am particularly looking forward to exploring some of the approaches that were discussed and suggested during the feedback session following my presentation.

Beyond the enriching academic experience, Budapest itself was a delight to explore. From the art in the National Gallery to the stunning views from the Fisherman's Bastion, the beauty of the city is truly captivating. The boat dinner cruise on the Danube, organised as part of the workshop's social activities, was particularly magical. It provided the perfect backdrop for informal networking and relaxation with stunning views.

Overall, the workshop exceeded my expectations. The sessions were well-organised, the speakers were highly knowledgeable, and the networking opportunities were invaluable. I am extremely grateful to AES for providing the funding that made this experience possible. The knowledge, skills, and connections gained will undoubtedly have a positive impact on my future research and career trajectory.



Enjoying the view from our boat tour dinner organised as part of the workshop's social activities.



Views from our walk to the university building

I would strongly encourage other PhD students to attend this workshop next year. It is an exceptional opportunity to gain valuable insights, develop professionally, and build a network of contacts in the field of agricultural economics. This workshop offers a unique blend of academic enrichment and practical career guidance that is invaluable for early career researchers.

Kind regards,

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