

# **Farms Multifunctionality, Households Incomes and Sustainable Rural Development**

**Marco Ballin\*, Andrea Mancini\*, Eduardo Pizzoli\***

**\* Istituto Nazionale di Statistica (Istat) Direzione delle statistiche economiche strutturali, Roma, Via Tuscolana 1782 00173; e-mail: [ballin@istat.it](mailto:ballin@istat.it); [anmancini@istat.it](mailto:anmancini@istat.it); [pizzoli@istat.it](mailto:pizzoli@istat.it)**

Sustainable rural development has become one of the main pillars of the Common Agricultural Policy in Europe. This creates new demands to the statistical system on agriculture and, in particular, new needs of further information on farms' economic results and on rural families incomes.

This paper deals with an assessment of statistical relationship among variables related to farms multifunctionality, farms economic performance and households off-farms incomes. The analysis is performed on micro-data gathered in Italy by the 2000 Farm Structural Survey and by the Farms' Economic Results survey. The latter is a sample survey on farms, Italian NSI has been carried out since 1998. The results of the statistical analysis are discussed in order to point out the strengths and weakness of the Italian approach implementing an integrated system of economic statistics applied to the agriculture sector.