

Dr. Jože Podgoršek

ŽIVLJENJEPIS

Dr. Jože Podgoršek se je rodil 17. 3. 1974 kot četrti otrok tradicionalne kmečke družine in je tudi odraščal na domači kmetiji. Glede na prirojen občutek za kmetijstvo in za delo z zemljo je svojo izobrazbeno pot pričel na Srednji kmetijski šoli Grm in študij nadaljeval na Biotehniški fakulteti, kjer je po diplomi študij nadaljeval in doktoriral s področja agrarne ekonomike.

Svojo poklicno pot je pričel v gospodarskem sektorju, kjer je intenzivno spoznal področje pridelave zelenjave in tudi sektor zelenjadarstva v Sloveniji. V letih dela v podjetju Zeleni hit d.o.o. od leta 1997 do 2004 je skupaj s sodelavci razvijal pridelavo zelenjave in vnašal nove tehnološke rešitve do slovenskih zelenjadarskih kmetij.

Od leta 2004 do 2018 je bil zaposlen na zavodu Grm Novo mesto – center biotehnike in turizma (nekdanja Kmetijska šola Grm), kjer je spoznal tudi delovanje javnega sektorja. Na šoli je v tem obdobju vodil skupino za prenovu izobraževalnih programov na področju kmetijstva, sodeloval pri ustanovitvi in kasneje vodil Medpodjetniški izobraževalni center Grm, sodeloval pri ustanovitvi Razvojno raziskovalnega inštituta in ga do septembra 2018 tudi vodil, vodil delovno skupino za pripravo vsebinskih izhodišč za ustanovitev Visoke šole za upravljanje podeželja Grm Novo mesto, ki jo je do nastopa funkcije državnega sekretarja vodil kot prvi dekan s polnimi pooblastili.

Marca 2015 je bil imenovan za prvega varuha odnosov v verigi preskrbe s hrano. Med njegovimi glavnimi nalogami so bili spremljanje ravnanja deležnikov v verigi preskrbe s hrano, ozaveščanje kupcev hrane v verigi preskrbe s hrano o zakonskih določbah in moralnih merilih pri odkupu hrane ter ozaveščanje pridelovalcev in predelovalcev kot vmesnih členov v verigi preskrbe s hrano o zakonskih okvirih pri prodaji in odkupu hrane in pravicah prodajalcev hrane.

Septembra 2018 je bil imenovan na mesto državnega sekretarja na Ministrstvu za kmetijstvo, gozdarstvo in prehrano. Funkcijo je opravljal do oktobra 2020, ko je bil imenovan za ministra za kmetijstvo, gozdarstvo in prehrano.



CURRICULUM VITAE

Dr Jože Podgoršek was born on 17 March 1974 as the fourth child in a traditional farming family and grew up on the family farm. Having an innate understanding of agriculture and working with the soil, he began his education at the Grm Secondary School of Agriculture and continued his studies at the Biotechnical Faculty, where he obtained his doctoral degree in agricultural economics.

He began his professional career in the economic sector, where he became well acquainted with vegetable production and the vegetable cultivation sector in Slovenia. While working at the company Zeleni hit d.o.o. from 1997 to 2004, he developed, together with his colleagues, the production of vegetables and introduced new technological solutions to Slovenian vegetable growing farms.

From 2004 to 2018 he was employed at Grm Novo Mesto – Centre for Biotechnics and Tourism (the former Grm School of Agriculture), where he became familiar with the functioning of the public sector. During his time at the school he headed a group for the reform of educational programmes in agriculture, helped establish and subsequently became head of the Grm Inter-Company Educational Centre, helped establish the Grm Research and Development Institute and was head of this Institute until September 2018, headed a working group for the preparation of starting points for the establishment of the Grm Landscape Governance College in Novo Mesto, where he served as the first Dean with full powers until his appointment as State Secretary.

In March 2015 he assumed the position of the first Food Supply Chain Relationships Ombudsman. His main tasks included monitoring actions by stakeholders in the food supply chain, raising awareness among purchasers of food in the food supply chain with regard to the legislative provisions and moral principles that apply to the purchase of food, raising awareness among producers and processors as intermediaries in the food supply chain with regard to the legislative frameworks for the sale and purchase of food and the rights of food sellers.

In September 2018 he was appointed State Secretary at the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food. He served until October 2020, when he was appointed Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Food.