



What's up on work in agriculture?

2018/11-12

Realized by Priscila Malanski at 15/01/2019

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2019 HR Management program - applications open

If you are (or would like to be) advising dairy farmers on human resource management decisions, or you are implementing these decisions on a large dairy farm, this could be the course for you.

Read more about the program commencing in March 2019, including how to apply and costs.

Links : <https://www.thepeopleindairy.org.au/announcements/2019-HRM>

Tags : HRM

Barriers and opportunities for women milk traders in peri-urban Nairobi

In much of Africa, milk is not only an important dietary component, but a vital livelihood activity. Dairying provides income to many people, up and down the dairy value chain. In Nairobi's peri-urban resource-poor areas, informal milk trade dominates the market: most residents rely on it to source milk for consumption, and dairy traders rely on it to support their livelihoods.

Links : <https://news.ilri.org/2018/12/18/barriers-and-opportunities-for-women-milk-traders-in-peri-urban-nairobi/>

Tags : Gender

Migrants boost rural development in Senegal

Migration is an inherent part of the development process and a key component of livelihood strategies for millions of rural households. If well managed, migratory flows can be an engine of economic growth and innovation and can greatly contribute to sustainable development. Through its programmatic work on migration, FAO is committed to harness the potential of migrants as agents of rural development in countries of origin, transit and destination.

Links : <http://www.fao.org/rural-employment/resources/detail/en/c/1174347/>

Tags : Migration"

The right policies will create a future of work we want

The right policies will create a future of work we. ILO Director-General, Guy Ryder, outlined critical future of work issues in a session at the G20 Leaders' Summit on "Putting People First - Discussion Topics: Global economy; the future of work; women's empowerment."

Links : http://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/how-the-ilo-works/ilo-director-general/statements-and-speeches/WCMS_651975/lang--en/index.htm

New ILO figures show 164 million people are migrant workers



According to the 2nd edition of the ILO's Global Estimates on International Migrant Workers, which covers the period between 2013 and 2017, the majority of migrant workers - 96 million - are men, while 68 million are women. This represents an increase in the share of men among migrant workers, from 56 per cent to 58 per cent, and a decrease by two percentage points in women's share, from 44 per cent to 42 per cent.

Of the 164 million migrant workers worldwide, approximately 111.2 million (67.9 per cent) live in high-income countries, 30.5 million (18.6 per cent) in upper middle-income countries, 16.6 million (10.1 per cent) in lower middle-income countries and 5.6 million (3.4 per cent) in low-income countries. Migrant workers constitute 18.5 per cent of the workforce of high-income countries, but only 1.4 to 2.2 per cent in lower-income countries. From 2013 to 2017, the concentration of migrant workers in high-income countries fell from 74.7 to 67.9 per cent, while their share in upper middle-income countries increased.

Links : http://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/news/WCMS_652106/lang--en/index.htm

Tags : Migration

Landmark ILO Conference sets standards to measure new and invisible forms of work



The Conference agreed on new job classifications that take account of the blurred boundaries between dependent work - in a traditional employment relationship with one single employer - and self-employment, more individualized forms of work, and new forms of employment such as platforms, on-demand work, crowd-work, temporary employment and agency work. The Conference also took a detailed look at the issue of informality and ways better provide related policy advice.

"These new classifications you have agreed on will now cover all forms of work and provide national statisticians with much-needed alternative ways to make visible the emerging new forms of employment. This is going to allow better and more effective policies at the country level and will have a direct impact - and this is most important - on well-being for many people," ILO Director-General Guy Ryder said at the closing session.

Delegates also discussed the role of domestic work and how domestic workers could be included in the proposed new classifications of work relationships.

The Conference also addressed the role of women in the world of work by launching new tools that will support the use of the innovative statistical definitions and indicators adopted by the ICLS in 2013. It also agreed the first statistical definition of work that goes beyond the narrow definition of "employment" as work performed only for pay or profit. The new definition includes own-use production, unpaid work and volunteer work. These tools will help countries apply the new concepts in their labour force surveys, creating a basis for better-informed policy decisions.

Delegates discussed the issue of attributing economic value to unpaid work. The need to include workers who have until now been invisible in statistical terms - for example women doing unpaid household work or volunteers such as community or care workers - was also discussed in detail.

Links : http://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/news/WCMS_647540/lang--en/index.htm

The Vatican joins FAO to denounce labour abuses in fishing industry

Illegal and inhumane practices in the world's fishing sector must be stamped out and replaced with sustainable ones to support the livelihoods of one of every 10 people on the planet, FAO and the Vatican said today.

"We convey a joint message urging an end to the violation of human rights within the fishing sector, and we call for an end to illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing," FAO Director-General José Graziano da Silva said at an event celebrating World Fisheries Day.

Remedies, solutions and international legal instruments such as the FAO Port State Measures Agreement exist to safeguard a sector that offers a wealth of high-value opportunities yet too often hurts the most vulnerable, he added.

"Fish workers are crying out for help ... and we cannot shut our ears and we cannot remain silent," said Cardinal Peter Turkson, the prefect of the Vatican's Dicastery for the Promotion of Integral Human Development.

Noting frequent reports of forced labor, human trafficking and disappearance at sea, he added: "We see direct links between all these abuses and the use of flags of convenience, IUU fishing, and transnational crime."

The jointly-organized event was held to emphasize that labor rights are human rights and explore ways to coordinate the fight against trafficking and forced labor in the fishing sector.

"Fraudulent recruitment practices, child labor, absence of written agreements, withholding of wages, blacklisting, violence, intimidation and other abusive working conditions" are rife in the sector and undermine the efforts of industry players who respect the rules, said Moussa Oumarou, Deputy Director-General of the International Labour Organization.

Links : <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1171134/icode/>

Tags : Youth, Child labour, Health and decent work

Minister Breen: 'industry-led drives are key to improving farm safety' - Teagasc



The theme of the conference was 'Safe Farming in Challenging Times' with contributions from national and international experts on farm safety and health.

Farm leaders were also in attendance with Joe Healy, IFA President, Pat McCormack, ICMSA President and Denis Duggan, CEO of Macra Na Feirme each taking turns to chair the discussions throughout the day.

Minister of State for Trade, Employment, Business, EU Digital Single Market and Data Protection, Pat Breen TD made the opening address. The Minister called on farmers to drive behavioural change from within the industry:

“Agriculture is among the most hazardous occupations in Ireland with the sector consistently having the highest number of fatalities compared with other work activities. Regrettably, 17 people have lost their lives this year due to farm accidents. Remarkably this single sector accounts for almost 45% of all deaths that have occurred in all workplaces this year. While I see some evidence of an increase in awareness and engagement with farm safety, there is still clearly much work still to be done. To achieve a lasting and significant reduction in accident rates, a change in mind-set in relation to safety, health and welfare across all elements of the sector will need to occur. This happened in the construction sector in the 1990s and I hope that the same industry-led drive for safety is now taking root in the agriculture sector.”

Links : <https://www.teagasc.ie/news--events/news/2018/minister-breen-industry.php>

Tags : Health and decent work

Increasing global food demand provides opportunities for young African entrepreneurs



In this year's group of 20 fellows selected for the African Leadership Academy's Anzisha Prize (presented in partnership with the Mastercard Foundation), there are four young entrepreneurs (hailing from Uganda, Kenya, Benin and Cameroon) who also firmly believe that the future holds promise for African agripreneurs.

Links : <https://agrinatura-eu.eu/2018/10/increasing-global-food-demand-provides-opportunities-for-young-african-entrepreneurs/>

Tags : Youth, Entrepreneur

Back to the future: ICA cultivates the young generation of farmers

Youth around the world are increasingly turning away from agriculture. Traditionally requiring tough manual labour and offering low wages, agriculture is not appealing to new generations who often prefer to try their luck finding jobs in cities. Yet, agriculture, the world's oldest and most entrenched industry, has the greatest potential of all sectors to reduce unemployment and poverty.

As part of its efforts to foster decent rural employment, FAO is working with countries to show that, with the right national policy environment, solid entrepreneurial skills and ICTs applied to the agricultural domain can lead to successful agribusinesses and the prospect of a stable and fulfilling future in rural areas.

Links : <http://www.fao.org/rural-employment/resources/detail/en/c/1160826/>

Tags : Rural Employment, Youth

MAKING GENDER DATA VISIBLE

Achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) requires integrated action on social, environmental, and economic challenges within all countries. According to a 2017 report from the UN Development Programme, the implementation of the SDGs also presents a strategic opportunity to build on the momentum of the data revolution to bring about a shift in the way governments, as well as the public and private sectors, use data and statistics. At the 2018 CGIAR Big Data in Agriculture Convention, discussions around leveraging the data revolution for achieving the SDGs included a special focus on one of the goals: gender equality (SDG 5). Read here about the gender discussion as compiled by Grace Waithira, one of the Youth in Data media delegate at the convention and Communications Assistant at AWARD.

Links : <https://awardfellowships.org/updates/whats-new/news/article/making-gender-data-visible/5bcf1ce746057doc1558057171/>

Tags : Gender, Innovation"

Empowering researchers to undertake gender responsive agricultural research in Ethiopia

In 2017, the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT), with support from ILRI and ICARDA, led a gender audit of EIAR in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, to assess gender mainstreaming in the organization and its capacity to conduct the same.

The capacity assessment component of the audit showed an absence of capacity to adequately mainstream gender at the workplace and in research, and a lack of capacity to conduct qualitative studies with a gender lens. Some of the audit findings revealed negative attitudes towards gender equality, norms of behaviour (e.g. facing ridicule when raising gender issues), and a lack of technical and leadership support.

It was evident that the gender focal people at EIAR, who are generalists that dedicate 20-50% of their time to gender mainstreaming, are not adequately trained or resourced. Few staff felt they had the knowledge or skills to work with gender tools, and some of those who had been trained did not feel they could implement what they have learnt.

Links : <https://livelihoods-gender.ilri.org/2018/10/15/empowering-researchers-to-undertake-gender-responsive-agricultural-research-in-ethiopia/>

Tags : Gender, Skills and training

QUIZZ - What you didn't know about migration?

There are many misconceptions about migration. Test your knowledge!

Links : <http://www.fao.org/state-of-food-agriculture/en/>

Tags : Migration

Policies should not stem migration, but maximize its potential and minimize negatives

"We cannot ignore the challenges and costs associated with migration," FAO Director-General José Graziano da Silva notes in his forward to the report. "The objective must be to make migration a choice, not a necessity, and to maximize the positive impacts while minimizing the negative ones."

"In many situations it makes sense to facilitate migration and help prospective migrants overcome the constraints they might face, allowing them to take advantage of the opportunities that migration offers. At the same time, it also means providing attractive alternative opportunities to prospective rural migrants, not least by promoting development in rural areas or in their proximity," Graziano da Silva adds.

International migration makes the most news headlines, but the report shows that internal migration is a significantly larger phenomenon: more than 1 billion people living in developing countries have moved internally, with 80 percent of moves involving a rural area. The report shows that migration between developing countries is slightly greater than movements from developing to developed countries, and in low-income countries, internal migrants are five times more likely to migrate internationally than people who have not moved.

Links : <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1157141/icode/>

Tags : Migration

Harnessing the power of livestock to drive sustainable development

A new FAO report highlights the multiple contributions made by the global livestock sector – especially to the lives of millions of poor, animal-dependent small-scale producers in developing countries – but also says that changes in policies and practices are needed in order to optimize those contributions.

According to World Livestock: Transforming the livestock sector through the Sustainable Development Goals, the debate around livestock production has so far been largely focused on how the sector can produce more to satisfy surging demand for animal products and feed a growing global population while at the same time reducing its environmental footprint.

Links : <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1157729/icode/>

Tags : Rural Employment

Employment situation, second quarter 2018, OECD

The increase in the OECD area employment level reflects a further improvement of employment in services in the second quarter of 2018, while employment was almost stable in industry, and decreased in agriculture. As a result, the share of services in total OECD employment increased (to 73.4%), while it decreased for industry (to 22.1%) and agriculture (to 4.4%). The share of employment in industry was higher in the euro area and Japan than in Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States. In the latter countries, employment in services was around 80% of total employment.

Links : <http://www.oecd.org/employment/employment-situation-second-quarter-2018-oecd.htm>

Tags : Rural Employment

Yapasa: Developing youth-led enterprises in rural areas of Zambia

FAO, ILO and the Zambian Government have worked together for the past 5 years to address youth employment issues through the USD7.6 million Yapasa Project, funded by the Government of Sweden. The intervention aims at facilitating the creation of sustainable employment opportunities for young women and men in rural areas of Zambia, through the promotion of sustainable micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME).

The Project has proven successful, creating and improving nearly 3,000 jobs for rural youth in Zambia, and improved enterprise performance of over 5,000 youth-led rural enterprises. By doing so, Yapasa established innovative approaches to decent jobs creation for youth in the agribusiness sector in Zambia. In particular, it focused on collective actions in support of more sustainable MSME business practices, including cooperation between different value chains players and linking small growers to larger agribusinesses. The project initially focused on two value chains: soybeans and aquaculture, but later diversified into other value chains (i.e. horticulture).

Links : <http://www.fao.org/rural-employment/resources/detail/en/c/1157805/>

Tags : Gender, Rural Employment, Youth, Health and decent work, Value chains

Boosting farm productivity in Africa through the sustainable use of machines

5 October 2018, Rome - FAO and the African Union today launched a new framework document that aims to increase agricultural efficiency and reduce drudgery by helping countries in Africa to develop strategies for sustainable farm mechanization. The Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization: A Framework for Africa(SAMA) is the result of discussions with policy makers from AU member states, the AU Commission, FAO and key partners. "Farmers in Africa should be able to use modern agricultural technology, both digital and mechanical, to boost the agricultural sector in a sustainable way," said FAO Deputy Director-General Maria Helena Semedo.

The framework notes that successful national mechanization strategies will address key sustainability issues including gender, youth, environmental protection and the overarching principle that farming must be profitable. It also emphasizes that these strategies should cover the entire agrifood value chain, including harvesting, handling, processing and food safety aspects, with an eye to reducing food losses, boosting rural employment and bolstering the links between farmers and consumers.

Links : <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1155662/icode/>

Tags : Gender, Rural Employment, Youth, Skills and training, Policy, Innovation

Évaluation de l'impact de la PAC sur les flux de main-d'œuvre agricole

Les auteurs montrent que, en moyenne sur l'Union européenne (UE) et sur la décennie étudiée, les subventions de la PAC ont ralenti, de façon faible mais néanmoins significative, les départs d'actifs agricoles du secteur. Dans l'ensemble des pays, cet effet est largement attribué aux paiements découplés du premier pilier. Il se révèle toutefois moins fort dans les « anciens » États membres (UE-15) que dans les

« nouveaux ». Pour les auteurs, ce résultat s'explique par le fait que les paiements découplés améliorent la productivité agricole, et donc la survie des exploitations. Les paiements couplés du premier pilier n'ont eu quant à eux aucun effet sur l'emploi, quelle que soit la zone considérée (anciens ou nouveaux membres)

Links : <http://veilleagri.hautetfort.com/archive/2018/10/16/evaluation-de-l-impact-de-la-pac-sur-les-flux-de-main-d-oeuv-6097472.html>

Tags : Rural Employment, Policy

Le problème agricole : leçon des Etats-Unis

« Après plus de 80 ans d'intervention publique dans l'agriculture, le problème demeure : en 2018, le revenu agricole [aux Etats-Unis] devrait tomber, en valeur réelle, à son plus bas niveau depuis presque deux décennies. Cet échec est révélateur d'une incompréhension fondamentale, par les décideurs politiques, du problème du profit », écrit Steven C. Blank, professeur émérite d'économie agricole des universités de California-Davis et de Virginia Tech, dans un article récent de Choices[1]. Son analyse porte sur l'agriculture américaine, mais les questions qu'elle soulève vont bien au-delà.

Les agriculteurs peuvent bien sûr accroître leur revenu grâce au progrès technique, qui leur permet de diminuer leurs coûts de production unitaires. Mais l'amélioration de la productivité n'apporte qu'un répit temporaire ; les nouvelles techniques ne bénéficient qu'à ceux qui sont les premiers à les adopter. Lorsqu'elles se diffusent à grande échelle et deviennent la norme, la production augmente, les prix chutent et les profits retombent. C'est la théorie du « tapis roulant technologique », énoncée par Willard Cochrane il y a soixante ans[4].

Alors, que faire ? Selon S. C. Blank, il n'y a que deux solutions possibles. S'ils veulent conserver un nombre relativement élevé d'agriculteurs, avec un niveau de vie décent, les gouvernements doivent soutenir les revenus agricoles, mais sans lier les aides à telle ou telle production (aux Etats-Unis, les subventions sont essentiellement réservées aux producteurs de grandes cultures et de lait). Mieux vaut des aides visant à assurer un revenu minimum, dont le versement serait soumis à certains seuils. Notons que le soutien budgétaire aux revenus agricoles, traditionnellement en vigueur dans les pays riches, est coûteux pour les finances publiques, même si plusieurs pays émergents, dont la Chine, l'ont mis en œuvre ces dernières années. Pour la plupart des pays africains, cette option reste hors d'atteinte.

Links : <http://www.fondation-farm.org/zoe.php?s=blogfarm&w=wt&idt=3630>

Conditions de travail : édition 2019

L'enquête Conditions de travail 2019 est la 8e édition de cette enquête historique de la Dares. Reconduite depuis 40 ans, tous les 7 ans de 1978 à 2013 et tous les 3 ans depuis 2013, il s'agit de la seule enquête de cette ampleur sur les conditions de travail menée auprès de l'ensemble des actifs occupés. Elle vise à obtenir une description concrète du travail, de son organisation et de ses conditions selon divers angles : horaires, rythmes de travail, efforts physiques ou risques encourus, pénibilité, organisation du travail, sécurité, coopération, conflits...

Comme les éditions de 2013 et 2016, l'enquête comprend deux volets : un volet « Individus » (collecte réalisée par l'Insee du 1er octobre 2018 au 31 mai 2019), et un volet « Employeurs » (collecte réalisée par IPSOS-Observer du 1er novembre 2018 au 31 décembre 2019).

L'enquête a été reconnue par le Cnis d'intérêt général et de qualité statistique à caractère obligatoire. Elle sera renouvelée en 2022-2023, avec un volet plus spécifique sur les risques psychosociaux.

Links : <https://dares.travail-emploi.gouv.fr/dares-etudes-et-statistiques/enquetes-de-a-a-z/article/conditions-de-travail-edition-2019>

Tags : Health and decent work