



# What's up on work in agriculture?

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Realized by Priscila Malanski at 17/07/2019

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## African farmers increase yields and income with their smartphones

More farmers across Africa are set to turn to digital solutions within the next three years, which will boost productivity and, potentially, employment across the value chain, according to a new study.

The authors of the report state that digital solutions can be a game changer, boosting productivity and employment across the agricultural sector. While the sector currently lacks precise quantitative data or evidence on employment impacts, the authors of the report believe that digital solutions are likely to be a net job creator.

“In fact, it could even be a significant job creator, opening up hundreds of thousands of jobs in agricultural technology, digital solutions support, agricultural processing, and agricultural manufacturing jobs.”

Links : <https://spore.cta.int/en/press-reviews/article/african-farmers-increase-yields-and-income-with-their-smartphones-sid037026cbe-a386-49c1-b52e-1904ddf5c8b0>

Tags : Innovation

## Economic incentives may curb child labor in cocoa industry, Arkansas researchers think

The use of child labor in the cocoa industry is a complicated issue. Ghana is the second largest cocoa producer in the world, and its cocoa farmers are generally poor and without the means to hire additional adult labor. Children often work alongside their families to help support them financially. Recent statistics show more than 800,000 children are involved in producing the crop.

Links : [http://www.magnoliareporter.com/news\\_and\\_business/regional\\_news/article\\_c7716de2-958c-11e9-9db1-d3604f06d681.html](http://www.magnoliareporter.com/news_and_business/regional_news/article_c7716de2-958c-11e9-9db1-d3604f06d681.html)

Tags : Child labour

## Are agricultural value chains a driver for equality?

Agrinatura and the European Commission/DG DEVCO replied to this question during a project lab on VCA4D in the framework of the European Development Days 2019, whose focus this year was on the topic of inequalities in all its forms and in different sectors, including agriculture.

Out of more than 20 analyses already performed by the VCA4D project, Agrinatura presented the results and lessons learned from three value chains, focusing on the opportunities that agricultural value chains can bring as well as on the risks that might derive from value chain development, especially for the most vulnerable actors involved in the chain.

Gideon Onumah (agricultural economist from NRI), Froukje Kruijssen (fisheries economist from KIT), and Catherine Allen (social expert) presented findings respectively from the value chain analyses of eggs in Zambia, aquaculture in Zambia, and green beans in Kenya.

They explained how value chain dynamics impact on inequalities (increasing or reducing them), providing some insights on the role of policies in improving inclusiveness and on the added value of the VCA4D methodology to analyse the issue of inequality from a multidisciplinary perspective.

Links : <https://agrinatura-eu.eu/2019/07/edd-2019-are-agricultural-value-chains-a-driver-for-equality-vca4d-project-lab/>

Tags : Value chains

## International Labour Conference Centenary Session as it happened

The Centenary Conference of the International Labour Organization was attended by over 6000 delegates, representing Governments, workers and employers from around the world, including world leaders celebrating 100 years of the ILO. It ended with the adoption of a groundbreaking Convention to combat violence and harassment in the world of work, as well as a Declaration charting the way towards a human-centred future of work.

Links : [http://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/multimedia/video/video-interviews/WCMS\\_712431/lang--en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/multimedia/video/video-interviews/WCMS_712431/lang--en/index.htm)

## Digital networking boosts financial prospects for women agripreneurs

It might keep the world fed, but there is little appetite for financing farming and farmers. Women in farming count access to finance as top of their challenges. Many run informal businesses. Expanding them into large operations comes with a long list of demands, including access to funding, collateral, business skills and a record of farming accomplishment. Digital technologies can help to boost prospects for women agripreneurs.

Links : <https://www.cta.int/en/blog/all/article/digital-networking-boosts-financial-prospects-for-women-agripreneurs-sid03b388e61-b3b6-4895-9239-a47256e86419>

Tags : Gender, Skills and training, Value chains, Entrepreneur

## Promoting Farm Safety through Theatre at Teagasc Moorepark'19



Teagasc are promoting farm safety through theatre, at the Teagasc Moorepark'19 Dairy open day today, Wednesday 3 July. The safety theatre will take place at regular intervals as part of a major health and safety Exhibit at the Open Day.

The approach of using theatre follows its success in USA where research shows it has potential to assist with changing values and practices regarding safety. The research by Professor Debbie Reed and Ms Debbie

Claunch of the University of Kentucky indicates that farmers identified with the real stories depicted by theatre and followed up on implementing the messages delivered.

In the USA study, forty two percent of participating farmers had made immediate positive follow-up changes related to safe work behaviour and 67% were “thinking about/intending” of making changes.

The farm safety theatre at Moorepark'19 is being directed by Michael Somers, Teagasc Forestry Development Officer and amateur dramatist.

Links : <https://www.teagasc.ie/news--events/news/2019/farm-safety-theatre.php>

Tags : Health and decent work

## Technology Transfer from Research Organisations Drives Socioeconomic Impact and EU Job Creation



Teagasc hosted the 12th Plenary Meeting of the European Technology Transfer Offices Circle, at Ashtown, Dublin on Thursday, 4 July, and Friday, 5 July. It was attended by over 60 senior representatives of the 30 largest research and technology organisations in Europe, together with representatives from different services of the European Commission.

The meeting was organised by the European TTO CIRCLE, a network developed by the European Commission's Joint Research Centre to promote collaboration on the transfer of technologies from research to business and society. This important network has gathered over 200,000 researchers, 35,000 patents, 5,000 software and 4,000 start-ups in Europe, since it was set up.

The meeting dealt with critical issues for the future of European research and technology development, starting with new trends and instruments to promote knowledge transfer in the food and agricultural sector, how to react to the growing role of China in research, technology and IPR, open Innovation and corporate venture, the simplification of the rules of State Aid in research, and the revision of the 2008 EU recommendations on knowledge transfer.

Links : <https://www.teagasc.ie/news--events/news/2019/12th-plenary-meeting-.php>

Tags : Innovation

## FAO Director-General in Mexico: "Migration must be optional and safe"

A joint action program to promote rural development and the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger so that migration becomes an option and not a necessity, is the objective of a High-level meeting on migration, development and food security in Mesoamerica that kicked-off in Mexico City today.

"Migration must be a voluntary act, and not a forced last resort," FAO Director-General José Graziano da Silva said at the event. "Poverty, hunger, climate change, insecurity - that is, severe underdevelopment - create a perfect storm in which thousands of people see only one way out: to emigrate. The fundamental solution to forced migration is development," he told over 100 delegates from El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico participating in a two-day meeting to discuss a joint proposal to tackle migration challenges in Mesoamerica through a comprehensive development plan.

Links : <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1200537/icode/>

Tags : Migration, Policy

## L'agriculture de groupe, une solution pour une production durable ?

Le débat mondial sur la sécurité alimentaire et la durabilité des systèmes agricoles oppose les petites fermes familiales aux grandes exploitations commerciales. Peu d'attention est accordée à l'agriculture de groupe, un modèle alternatif intermédiaire. Pourtant, la mutualisation des terres, du travail et du capital pourrait offrir des avantages économiques, environnementaux et sociaux. Cela en particulier dans de nombreux pays du Sud où la majorité des exploitations sont des micro-fermes extrêmement vulnérables. Alors que l'ONU vient de lancer la décennie de l'agriculture familiale, des recherches originales ont permis d'identifier des conditions favorables au développement d'un modèle unique au monde : le Groupement agricole d'exploitation en commun ou GAEC.

Links : <https://www.cirad.fr/actualites/toutes-les-actualites/articles/2019/science/agriculture-de-groupe-pour-une-production-durable>

## Vers une pénurie de main-d'œuvre en agriculture aux États-Unis ?

Ce constat, publié en juin 2019 dans le magazine Choices, a été posé à partir de la modélisation de l'offre de travail des ouvriers mexicains, représentant actuellement 68 % de la main-d'œuvre employée dans les exploitations aux États-Unis. Compte tenu de l'évolution démographique et sociale du Mexique (forte baisse de la natalité en zones rurales, progression du niveau d'éducation), la principale source d'ouvriers agricoles se réduit régulièrement, alors que les exploitations américaines recrutent principalement de jeunes hommes d'origine agricole ou rurale, et faiblement éduqués. Les actifs ruraux se détournent donc de l'agriculture, profitant de la tertiarisation de l'économie mexicaine, et l'absence d'investissements dans la mécanisation des travaux agricoles aux États-Unis pourrait à terme poser d'importants problèmes.

Links : <http://veilleagri.hautetfort.com/archive/2019/07/05/vers-une-penurie-de-main-d-oeuvre-en-agriculture-aux-etats-u-6162822.html>

Tags : Rural Employment, Hired work, Migration

## Quels agriculteurs utilisent un smartphone, et pour quoi faire ? Des résultats intéressants d'une enquête allemande

Les résultats d'une enquête sur l'usage de smartphones, menée sur plus de 800 agriculteurs allemands, ont été publiés récemment dans Precision Agriculture. Alors que leur utilisation comme interface en agriculture de précision, dans les pays en développement, font régulièrement l'objet de publications, ce n'est pas le cas dans les pays développés où les infrastructures et les micro-ordinateurs sont largement répandus. Les auteurs ont cherché à vérifier si les critères de recours aux smartphones étaient similaires à ceux déjà repérés pour l'agriculture de précision : type d'exploitation, degré de familiarisation avec les TIC, capital humain, localisation, etc. Au-delà du profil type de l'agriculteur utilisateur, ils ont également déterminé les usages qui en étaient faits.

Links : <http://veilleagri.hautetfort.com/archive/2019/07/05/quels-agriculteurs-utilisent-un-smartphone-et-pour-quoi-fair-6162831.html>

Tags : Innovation

## La digitalisation de l'agriculture en Afrique n'est qu'à 6% de son potentiel

Le chiffre d'affaires annuel du digital agricole en Afrique sub-saharienne -drones, capteurs sur le terrain, mégadonnées, apprentissage automatique, etc- serait de € 127 millions, alors que son marché "exploitable" serait de € 2,3 milliards. En 2019, 390 "solutions D4Ag" ont été recensées à travers le continent, ce qui peut paraître, a priori, faible mais considérable lorsqu'on note que 60% ont été lancés depuis trois ans seulement et 20% depuis 2018 ; 33 millions de petits agriculteurs et éleveurs, soit 13% de leur nombre total, ont eu recours à un moment ou un autre au digital, et jusqu'à 45% des foyers paysans. Le nombre de fermes impacté par le phénomène a progressé de 44% en moyenne chaque année depuis trois ans

Links : <https://spore.cta.int/en/press-reviews/article/la-digitalisation-de-l-agriculture-en-afrique-n-est-qu-a-6-de-son-potentiel-sid002e98cd8-9ccc-4d90-98c4-6968db9dc7bd>

Tags : Innovation

## Ségrégation professionnelle entre les femmes et les hommes : quels liens avec le temps partiel ?

La ségrégation professionnelle entre les femmes et les hommes et la concentration du temps partiel dans les métiers féminisés questionnent sur les rôles respectifs des facteurs liés à la demande et à l'offre de travail. Les femmes et les hommes exercent-ils des métiers différents en raison de leurs préférences et attitudes différenciées ou plutôt en raison de mécanismes de sélection sur le marché du travail ? Les femmes exercent-elles de façon privilégiée certaines professions parce qu'elles leur offrent la possibilité de travailler à temps partiel ou est-ce plutôt parce que les femmes exercent majoritairement certaines professions que le temps partiel y est plus répandu ?

Links : <https://dares.travail-emploi.gouv.fr/dares-etudes-et-statistiques/etudes-et-syntheses/document-d-etudes/article/segregation-professionnelle-entre-les-femmes-et-les-hommes-quels-liens-avec-le>

Tags : Gender