



Event and literature monitoring

2018/05-01

Realized by Priscila Malanski at 22/05/2018

CONGRESS	2
XXVIII European Society for Rural Sociology Conference	2
ALERA National Conference: Under Pressure: The future of employment relations and regulation.....	2
IAMO Forum 2018	3
3R - Rencontres autour des Recherches sur les Ruminants	3
CALL FOR PAPERS	3
Visual Ergonomics	3
La grande exploitation agricole.....	3
PUBLICATIONS	4
Interrupted futures: co-operative labour and the changing forms of collective precarity in rural Andean Peru.....	4
A Consideration of innovation by women farmers	4
Women, work, and wage equity in agricultural labour in Saiss, Morocco	5
Why are fewer married women joining the work force in rural India? A decomposition analysis over two decades ..	5
Winters without women: social change, split households and gendered labour in rural Mongolia: Gender, Place & Culture.....	5

Rural electrification, gender and the labor market: A cross-country study of India and South Africa	6
Respiratory and Other Health Risks among Poultry Farm Workers and Evaluation of Management Practices in Poultry Farms.....	6
The 'blind spot' of agricultural research: Labour flexibility, composition and worker availability in the South West of England.....	4
Surplus agricultural labour and China's Lewis turning point	7
The effects of off-farm work on fertilizer and pesticide expenditures in China	7
Household Livelihood Differentiation and Vulnerability to Climate Hazards in Rural China	7
Toward a Political Ecology of Migration: Land, Labor Migration, and Climate Change in Northwestern Nicaragua	8
Rethinking identity in adaptation research: Performativity and livestock keeping practices in the Kenyan drylands .	8
Les facteurs de l'adoption des nouvelles technologies en agriculture en Afrique Subsaharienne: une revue de la littérature	9
De l'emploi stable au travail insoutenable. Trajectoires d'ouvrières agricoles en groupement d'employeurs	9

Congress

XXVIII European Society for Rural Sociology Conference

The XXVIII ESRS Congress will be held in Trondheim, Norway, on 25-28 June 2019.

The general theme of the congress is 'Rural futures in a complex world'.

Links : <http://www.ruralsociology.eu/?p=579>

ALERA National Conference: Under Pressure: The future of employment relations and regulation

SAVE THE DATE! - Thursday 18 October - Saturday 20 October 2018

Novotel Barossa Valley Resort, Barossa Valley, SA

Download the Program Summary.

Links : <https://www.alera.asn.au/news/2018-alera-national-conference>

Tags : Gender, Migration

IAMO Forum 2018

The temporary conference program is now available online:

Day 1. The (re-)emergence of large scale agriculture: Drivers and determinants.

Day 2. Can large-scale agriculture address stakeholder interests?

Day 3. Perspectives and challenges for large-scale agriculture

Links : <https://forum2018.iamo.de/conference-program/>

Tags : HRM

3R - Rencontres autour des Recherches sur les Ruminants

18 mai 2018 : date limite pour déposer vos propositions d’Affiches ou d’Expériences et Innovations de Terrain

Links : <http://www.journees3r.fr/>

Call for Papers

Visual Ergonomics

Visually demanding tasks are a feature of many workplaces (e.g. office work, control rooms, quality control, driving). If visual ergonomics elements are not addressed within these tasks, then this can affect safety, quality, productivity and comfort. The aim of this special issue of The International Journal of Industrial Ergonomics is to present cutting edge visual ergonomics research relevant to workplaces.

The portal for submitting a manuscript OPENS on the 1st September 2018 and CLOSES on the 1st December 2018.

Links : <https://www.journals.elsevier.com/international-journal-of-industrial-ergonomics/call-for-papers/visual-ergonomics>

La grande exploitation agricole

Les Journées Rurales 2018 du CNFG souhaitent s’interroger sur les enjeux scientifiques et sociétaux autour de la grande exploitation agricole. Il s’agit de réintroduire cette dernière en tant qu’acteur économique de la sécurité alimentaire et de l’aménagement dans ce nouveau temps du capitalisme agricole et des rapports villes-campagnes, de caractériser ses nouveaux contours et ses dynamiques les plus contemporaines, et en contrepoint questionner notre pratique de chercheur tout en suscitant des regards croisés entre Nords et Suds.

Les propositions sont attendues pour le 20 juin.

Links : <https://socioeco.hypotheses.org/4480>

Tags : Family work, Hired work, Work organisation

Publications

The ‘blind spot’ of agricultural research: Labour flexibility, composition and worker availability in the South West of England

Agriculture in the UK faces a number of long-term challenges as the global marketplace continues to expand, world population grows, and an increasing pressure is exerted upon natural resources. It needs to ensure its place as a competitive, resilient, and environmentally sustainable industry both locally and in the global arena. A key constraint which ties in with all of the above is the availability of labour. Both governmental departments in their statistical analyses of agriculture in the country, as well as academic research, largely ignore the existence of certain actors performing farm labour who are not the farmer, particularly agricultural contractors, and as a result, have missed the emergence of significant patterns occurring within the farm workforce. Accuracy of data concerning labour use in agriculture has, therefore, been extremely limited. This paper identifies the composition of labour on farm holdings in the South West of England today and recognises the increasing prevalence of flexible labour sources. It determines both current and anticipated future staffing needs of the holdings studied, which provides an indicator as to the gravity of agriculture’s labour crisis in the South West.

Links : <https://www.cahiersagricultures.fr/articles/cagri/abs/2018/03/cagri170128/cagri170128.html>

Tags : Rural Employment, Entrepreneur

Interrupted futures: co-operative labour and the changing forms of collective precarity in rural Andean Peru

Sociological interest in precarious labour has focused on the existential insecurity associated with the discontinuous work relations of contemporary modes of production and the difficulties produced for the formation of effective modes of social and political solidarity. This essay, by contrast, explores the continuities of precarious living in the Southern Peruvian Andes over the past century, with a focus on how the affective force of social obligations and responsibilities to wider collectives (such as the family, the peasant community, or the co-operative) both support and interrupt the search for more stable personal and collective futures. Approaching precarity as a relational condition, the essay traces how precarity takes form in the movements between formal and informal labour practices.

Links : <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/1467-9655.12803>

A Consideration of innovation by women farmers

Japanese women farmers have improved their skills in food processing and direct marketing with the help of agents of cooperative extension service offices after World War 2. These became the driving forces for entrepreneurship for women in rural areas. Women farm entrepreneurs have become more active year by year, and these activities have shown that farming is an industry which includes not only agricultural production but also processing and marketing. On the other hand, there are some independent women farmers who have started their own businesses without participating in these cooperative activities. What they have in common is that they have faced challenges such as weak sales and the purpose of their entrepreneurship was to overcome those difficulties. Also, it has been revealed that an increasing number

of farming corporations have utilized women resources in various fields dealing with environmental and welfare activities.

Links : https://www.jstage.jst.go.jp/article/fmsj/55/1/55_23/article/-char/en

Tags : Gender, Value chains, Entrepreneur

Women, work, and wage equity in agricultural labour in Saiss, Morocco

This article documents wages and working conditions for landless female and male agricultural labourers in Morocco. We found that higher-paid, equipment-intensive tasks were predominantly assigned to men, whereas women often performed lower-paid, time-intensive tasks. Women were systematically paid less than men even when they performed the same tasks. Enforcing existing legislation in Morocco to ensure equal pay for women is an essential first step towards enabling women to benefit equitably with men from their agricultural labour contributions. A revalorisation of the importance of agriculture is also necessary so that agricultural labour is not perceived as an occupation of last resort.

Links : <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/09614524.2018.1449813>

Tags : Gender, Family work

Why are fewer married women joining the work force in rural India? A decomposition analysis over two decades

In contrast with global trends, India has witnessed a secular decline in women's employment rates over the past few decades. We investigate this decline in rural areas, where the majority of Indian women reside. Using parametric and semi-parametric decomposition techniques, we show that changes in individual and household attributes fully account for the fall in women's labor force participation in 1987-1999 and account for more than half of the decline in 1999-2011. Our findings underscore increasing education levels among rural married women and the men in their households as the most prominent attributes contributing to this decline. We provide suggestive evidence that changes in more educated women's relative returns to home production compared with market production may have adversely affected female labor force participation in rural India.

Links : <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs00148-017-0671-y>

Tags : Gender

Winters without women: social change, split households and gendered labour in rural Mongolia: Gender, Place & Culture

In this article, I use absence as a lens to explore social change and masculinity in rural Mongolia, with a focus on household splitting during winter months. Since the breakdown in state-sponsored dormitory systems, many mobile pastoralists split their households to accommodate children during the school year. This results in women moving to settled centres while men remain in pastures to care for livestock. In critical reflections on rural work, both male and female herders have underscored concerns around the absence of women in rural homes. In Mongolia, absence has different implications for men and women,

gendered division of labour and social roles, which are tied to household economies and pastoralist work practices. Drawing from ethnographic field research, the cases contribute to understandings of the co-constitutive nature of space and society, and attempts to dislodge ideas about the fixed nature of households in rural Mongolia.

Links : <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/0966369X.2018.1443910?journalCode=cgpc20>

Tags : Gender, Family work

Rural electrification, gender and the labor market: A cross-country study of India and South Africa

This cross-country study estimates the effect of household electrification on labor market outcomes for rural individuals in India and South Africa, two developing countries that have implemented large-scale rural electrification schemes in recent decades. Two identification strategies are used: propensity score matching and panel fixed effects estimation. We focus on three indicators of labor market success: employment, earnings and hours worked. We find that electrification raises the annual incomes earned by those who work in paid employment, for both men and women in both countries. For India, both genders work fewer hours, suggesting that electricity raises productivity. For South Africa, where the labor market has less absorptive capacity, there is no employment benefit of electrification. But women who work benefit the most from the productivity gains of electrification: they have greater increases in earnings than men. Our findings suggest that the benefits of electrification do not accrue universally, but rather depend on gender roles, supporting policies and the labor absorptive capacity of the economy

Links : <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0305750X18301645>

Tags : Gender, Family work, Policy, Innovation

Respiratory and Other Health Risks among Poultry Farm Workers and Evaluation of Management Practices in Poultry Farms

The current study was conducted on eight poultry farms in Lahore and Sheikhpura to monitor environmental conditions, determine workers' health status and assess the implementation of standard management practices. Environmental monitoring, a health questionnaire survey and a respiratory function test were carried out. Seventy-one respondents were selected for the health assessment survey and lung function test. The results showed that the evaluated air-quality parameters, except for temperature and humidity, were well below the permissible occupational limits. Maximum temperature recorded was 32.75 degrees C, while the highest humidity level was 85.5%. Farms were shown to be compliant with standard guidelines and management practices. The workers' health survey indicated lower prevalence of work-related symptoms as compared to previous studies. However, most workers were not subjected to overall physical hazards, 21.1% of workers suffered from heat-induced dermatosis, and 38% suffered from heat exhaustion. Eye problems (watery, redness and itchiness) were experienced by 16.9% to 31%. Reported respiratory symptoms included wheezing during colds (18.3%), wheezing other than during colds (1.4%), chest tightness (16.9%), shortness of breath along with chest tightness (9.9%), regular breathing difficulties (14.1%), and coughing (15.5%). Observed lung function pattern, as measured by FEV1/FVC ratio, was 87 +/- 17.7, with 65% workers having 'restrictive' disorder and 21% normal lung function pattern, while 21% presented 'obstructive' lung function. The study concludes an overall better health and safety management in the selected poultry farms.

Links : <http://www.scielo.br/pdf/rbca/v20n1/1516-635X-rbca-20-01-00111.pdf>

Tags : Health and decent work

Surplus agricultural labour and China's Lewis turning point

Official data are criticized for over-reported agricultural labour statistics. We derive an alternative series of labour participated in agriculture with the information of production cost and revenue. Using parametric stochastic frontier approach, labour requirement functions are estimated for 30 farm and animal husbandry products in rural China. The estimated required amount of labour is compared with our newly-derived observed agricultural labour to obtain the surplus labour. This surplus ranges from 18% to 12% of agricultural labour between 2001 and 2013. Our results reveal that China was relatively successful in reducing redundant labour in rice production. Equally important, the trends of our estimated surplus place China in the second stage of transition under the Lewis-Fei-Ranis framework, moving in the direction of full commercialization or the so-called Lewis turning point.

Links : <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1043951X17300184>

Tags : Rural Employment

The effects of off-farm work on fertilizer and pesticide expenditures in China

This study examines the effects of participation in off-farm work on farm expenditures on fertilizer and pesticide, using farm household survey data from China. Simple mean value comparisons reveal no statistically significant differences in fertilizer and pesticide expenditures between off-farm work participants and nonparticipants. However, econometric estimation with a treatment effects model shows a negative selection bias. After controlling for this bias, the empirical results show that participation in off-farm work exerts a positive and statistically significant impact on fertilizer and pesticide expenditures. Our findings generally suggest that the income effect of off-farm work stimulates agricultural production by increasing investments in productivity-enhancing inputs.

Links : <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/rode.12354>

Household Livelihood Differentiation and Vulnerability to Climate Hazards in Rural China

Rural households in the developing world increasingly participate in urban and broader economies. While nonfarm income may reduce their dependence on climate-reliant agricultural activities, how the diversification of income and livelihoods affects rural households' vulnerability is complex because of many interacting stressors at play. This study uses household survey data collected in the Poyang Lake area of China—a region historically vulnerable to flooding—to analyze rural vulnerability against the background of state-led development. We look at the three components of climate vulnerability: exposure, sensitivity, and adaptive capacity, and focus on examining households' allocations of assets and labor to illustrate the complex processes that affect rural livelihoods and households' adaptive capacity. We find that overall sensitivity to flooding has been reduced, particularly for those households with relatively high exposure. These changes suggest increased adaptive capacity and reduced flood vulnerability relative to the commune period and are the result of two main processes. First, the livelihoods of rural households have become

increasingly differentiated amid broad industrial and urban development; and second, the presence of regional flood risk management has reduced exposure for agriculture-oriented households.

Links : <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0305750X17303431>

Tags : Work organisation

Toward a Political Ecology of Migration: Land, Labor Migration, and Climate Change in Northwestern Nicaragua

Smallholder labor migration and its relationship to climate change adaptation has received increasing attention, with migration often represented either as part of successful adaptive livelihood diversification or as symptomatic of a lack of in-place adaptive capacity. Using a case study, we focus on the relationship between labor migration, agrarian livelihood diversification, and climate change to further a more nuanced understanding of “migration as adaptation” than is implied by a simple dichotomy of success versus failure. Smallholder diversification, both on- and off-farm, has largely been framed as a risk-spreading practice that lowers climate change vulnerability. But after decades of advocating livelihood diversification, with labor migration now increasingly a part of smallholder livelihood activities, it is urgent to pose a number of questions: Why do smallholders migrate? How does labor migration unfold for them and with what outcomes? Our primary goal here is to explore the nature of the relationship of labor migration to climate change and climate change adaptation. Through empirical fieldwork in northwestern Nicaragua, we explore the role of labor migration in smallholder household production and reproduction, as families confront increasingly difficult climatic conditions for agricultural production and a relative absence of the state within a neoliberal political economy. Our analysis draws on household surveys and qualitative interviews and focus groups we carried out in the municipality of Somotillo, in northwestern Nicaragua, over three years (2013–15). Our findings demonstrate that household labor migration neither facilitates adaptation to climate change nor reflects a failure to adapt, but rather reflects the weak position of smallholders in interlocking relations of power and the relative land scarcity experienced by many. We argue that labor migration barely maintains semi-subsistence agricultural production and reinforces existing social inequalities, raising questions regarding a conceptualization of “migration as adaptation” and the benefits of this type of livelihood diversification.

Links : <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0305750X17301341>

Tags : Migration

Rethinking identity in adaptation research: Performativity and livestock keeping practices in the Kenyan drylands

Adaptation research often uses identity categories. This article argues that a performativity approach allows us to understand identity in ways that are important for adaptation. Performativity sees identity as constructed through practices in an ongoing process of negotiation and renegotiation. Individuals and groups can thus be understood as having the agency to redefine identity by changing their everyday practices; changed practices, in turn, can influence the construction of identity. Drawing on ethnographic fieldwork conducted with pastoral and agro-pastoral livestock keepers in West Pokot County, Kenya, the article focuses on one set of identity-linked and adaptation-relevant practices: those involved in ensuring that livestock receive water regularly. Practices of livestock keeping reveal how identity is both implicated by and constructs the social context - between and within individuals, families, and communities, but also in

relation to livestock and wider biophysical phenomena. By focusing on the changing practices of livestock watering within a changing social and biophysical context, it is possible to extract not only normative practices, but also a number of practices that disturb settled patterns, contesting or resisting identity constructs. This agency to change practices and identity has important implications for adaptation, which also requires changes in practice and behaviour. As this diversity and fluidity of identity as constructed and practised in the present emerges, so do the different ideas of what it can and will mean to be a livestock keeper in relation to the contextual challenges of today and the future.

Links : <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0305750X18300482>

Tags : Identity

Les facteurs de l'adoption des nouvelles technologies en agriculture en Afrique Subsaharienne: une revue de la littérature

L'Afrique Subsaharienne n'a pas assez bénéficié des grandes révolutions connues du monde agricole qui ont permis d'accroître les productivités. Malgré l'existence des nouvelles technologies, les niveaux des productivités agricoles demeurent faibles et inférieurs à ceux d'autres régions en développement. Un certain nombre de facteurs, dont les contraintes à l'adoption des nouvelles technologies, pourraient expliquer ces faibles productivités. En effet, l'adoption des nouvelles technologies en agriculture en Afrique Subsaharienne connaît l'influence de plusieurs facteurs dont les caractéristiques socioéconomiques des ménages, le mode de fonctionnement et de gestion des productions, les pratiques marchandes, les caractéristiques de transformation, le degré de sensibilisation et les réseaux sociaux. La prise en compte de ces facteurs est primordiale pour la réussite des nouveaux programmes et projets d'introduction et de diffusion des nouvelles technologies. Ce qui contribuerait à accroître les productivités et réduire la pauvreté et l'insécurité alimentaire à l'échelle du continent.

Links : <http://afjare.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/3.-Teno-et-al.pdf>

Tags : Gender, Family work, Skills and training, Work productivity, Innovation

De l'emploi stable au travail insoutenable. Trajectoires d'ouvrières agricoles en groupement d'employeurs

De façon complémentaire à une sociologie de la précarité qui s'interroge principalement sur la soutenabilité de l'emploi discontinu, le document de travail propose une réflexion sur le rôle du contrat à durée indéterminée et à temps plein dans l'insoutenabilité du travail. Analysées à partir d'une enquête biographique et longitudinale, les trajectoires d'ouvrières agricoles embauchées dans un groupement d'employeurs montrent comment la stabilité de l'emploi peut participer, singulièrement pour les membres des classes populaires, à un mécanisme d'« engrenage ». Ce terme, utilisé par une enquêtée, rend compte de l'enfermement dans une condition pensée préalablement comme transitoire et qui devient de plus en plus difficile à supporter. Les causes résident dans la pénibilité d'un travail faisant l'objet d'une intensification, où l'exploitation ouvrière se combine à une domination masculine. La défection intervient lorsque la souffrance au travail atteint un point de saturation et qu'elle est reconnue légalement et économiquement, révélant par-là ce qui limitait cette possibilité. Les potentialités de l'emploi discontinu, autorisant la mise à distance d'une telle situation, prennent alors tout leur sens, et invitent à s'interroger

sur l'emploi stable et à temps plein comme norme dominante d'intégration sociale pour l'ensemble des salariés.

Links : <http://www.cee-recherche.fr/publications/document-de-travail/de-lemploi-stable-au-travail-insoutenable-trajectoires-douvrieres-agricoles-en-groupement>

Tags : Gender, Rural Employment, Hired work, Health and decent work