

What's up on Work in Agriculture?

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The Women's Empowerment in Livestock Index: Indicators for the start of a global, badly needed, conversation

Empowering women has been an implicit and explicit goal in sustainable development for decades. Full gender equality was made one of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development that was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in Sep 2015.

The case for focusing on women is as much about efficacy as equity: Not only are women, and rural women in particular, deprived relative to men, but helping them sets the next generation on the right foot, as women generally place greater emphasis than men on the nutritional and educational needs of their children. But whereas measuring progress towards meeting some of the Sustainable Development Goals is fairly straightforward, women's empowerment is a relatively complex and amorphous goal, bound up, for example, in a variety of domains and indicators that are context specific, and in individual empowerment pathways that are difficult to generalize.

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To address these challenges, the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) developed in 2012 a Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI).

Links: https://news.ilri.org/2018/06/29/the-womens-empowerment-in-livestock-index-indicators-for-the-start-of-a-global-badly-needed-conversation/

Tags: Gender

Improving control of a chicken disease supports the livelihoods of Kenya's women

Women play critical roles in the small-scale livestock systems that remain ubiquitous in the developing world. While these women typically face severe inequities in being able to own or even access land, capital and other productive resources, they often own or at least manage their household's farm animals, particularly chickens and other small stock. Requiring little space and start-up capital, poultry farming in Kenya is growing rapidly and remains largely dominated by women, who typically invest most of their earnings in feeding their families and educating their children. That is why controlling major poultry diseases, which can wipe out whole flocks, is so important.

Links: https://news.ilri.org/2018/07/02/improving-control-of-a-chicken-disease-supports-the-livelihoods-of-kenyas-women/

Tags: Gender

American farmers are killing themselves in staggering numbers

"Think about trying to live today on the income you had 15 years ago." That's how agriculture expert Chris Hurt describes the plight facing U.S. farmers today. The unequal economy that's emerged over the past decade, combined with patchy access to health care in rural areas, have had a severe impact on the people growing America's food. Recent data shows just how much. Farmers are dying by suicide at a higher rate than any other occupational group, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The suicide rate in the field of farming, fishing and forestry is 84.5 per 100,000 people—more than five times that of the population as a whole. That's even as the nation overall has seen an increase in suicide rates over the last 30 years

Links : https://www.myndnow.com/news/bismarck-news/american-farmers-are-killing-themselves-in-staggering-numbers/1264525865

Tags: Health and decent work

ISU farm survey: Nearly 60 percent of Iowa farmland owners don't farm

Nearly 60 percent of Iowa farmland owners don't actively farm, a new Iowa State University survey shows, and about one-third of owners have no farming experience at all. Twenty-four percent of those owners

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are retired farmers, according to the ISU Farmland Ownership Tenure Survey that looked at trends from 2012 to 2017. Iowa has about 30 million farm acres, or nearly 90 percent of the state.

Links : https://eu.desmoinesregister.com/story/money/agriculture/2018/06/28/iowa-state-isu-farmland-farm-facts-ownership-tenure-survey-owners-debt-land-rent-family-income/742159002/

Tags: Entrepreneur

Harmonised Unemployment Rates, OECD - Updated: July 2018

The OECD unemployment rate fell in May 2018 by 0.1 percentage point for the second consecutive month, to 5.2%. Across the OECD area (now including Lithuania[1]), 33.2 million people were unemployed, 0.5 million more than in April 2008[2], but 16.1 million less than at its peak in January 2013.

In the euro area, the unemployment rate was stable in May (at 8.4%), with rates declining by 0.3 percentage point in Italy (to 10.7%) and by 0.2 percentage point in Austria (to 4.6%) and Spain (to 15.8%). By contrast, it increased by 0.1 percentage point (to 7.3%) in Portugal.

Links: http://www.oecd.org/employment/harmonised-unemployment-rates-oecd-update-july-2018.htm

Au Rwanda : agriculture, industrie et tourisme, des perspectives prometteuses dans un pays où beaucoup reste à faire

L'économie rwandaise présente une croissance solide du produit intérieur brut (PIB)qui s'établit à 6,1 % en 2017, tirée par une progression à la fois des secteurs agricole, industriel et des services mais aussi par une augmentation des investissements. L'agriculture revêt en effet une importance prépondérante dans l'économie du Rwanda : elle absorbe encore plus de 65 % des actifs (contre près de 90 % au début des années 2000) et les deux tiers de la surface du pays sont des terres agricoles. Kigali a fait de la croissance agricole l'un de ses principaux objectifs, en cherchant à maximiser les rendements des cultures et à se diriger vers une autosuffisance alimentaire. Ainsi, la valeur ajoutée par actif agricole a progressé de près de 40 % sur les 15 dernières années, et l'Union africaine a évalué qu'il s'agissait du pays le plus performant d'Afrique dans l'objectif d'atteindre l'autosuffisance alimentaire.

Links: http://www.fondation-farm.org/zoe.php?s=blogfarm