



Congress and publications

2019/03-01

Realized by Priscila Malanski at 15/03/2019

CONGRESS	3
XXII World Congress on Safety & Health at Work 2020 Toronto, Canada	3
Farm Safety Event - Teagasc	3
1st ALL AFRICA CONGRESS ON SYNTHETIC PESTICIDES, ENVIRONMENT, HUMAN AND ANIMAL HEALTH	3
Farming Systems Design	4
30ÈME CONGRÈS DE L'AGRH	4
Travail et libertés aujourd'hui.....	5
ÊtreS au Travail : un ouvrage, une exposition, un colloque.....	5
Journée 'Humanisme et Gestion' - 4 avril 2019	5
Congresso Abergó 2019	6
CALL FOR PAPERS	6
Transition numérique et innovation collaborative : une approche info-communicationnelle ?	6
Le travail en Éthiopie	7
PUBLICATIONS	7
Household livelihood diversification and gender: Panel evidence from rural Kenya	7

Understanding gender roles and practices in the household and on the farm: Implications for banana disease management innovation processes in Burundi.....	8
Female labor outcomes and large-scale agricultural land investments: Macro-micro evidence from Tanzania	8
Women's agricultural work and nutrition in South Asia: From pathways to a cross-disciplinary, grounded analytical framework.....	9
Mechanisms of invisibility: rethinking the concept of invisible work	9
How to Effectively Enhance Sustainable Livelihoods in Smallholder Systems: A Comparative Study from Western Kenya	10
Working holiday makers in Australian horticulture: labour market effect, exploitation and avenues for reform	10
Does rural labor outward migration reduce household forest investment? The experience of Jiangxi, China.....	10
Using a livelihoods framework to analyze farmer identity and decision making during the Central American coffee leaf rust outbreak: implications for addressing climate change and crop diversification	11
A farm-level assessment of labor and mechanization in Eastern and Southern Africa	11
China's agrarian transition: Peasants, property and politics, by René Trappel	12
Analysis on the Choice of Livelihood Strategy for Peasant Households Renting out Farmland: Evidence from Western Poverty-Stricken Areas in China.....	12
The Features of Rural Labor Transfer and Cultural Differences: Evidence from China's Southwest Mountainous Areas	13
Potatoes, Petty Commodity Producers and Livelihoods: Contract farming and agrarian change in Maharashtra, India	13
The relationship between micronutrient intake and labour productivity: Evidence from rice-farming households in Thailand	14
The food regime in late colonial Philippines: Pathways of appropriation and unpaid work	14
At Work in the Woods: Occupational Hazards of Harvesting Non-Timber Forest Products in the Pacific Northwest	15
Safety in steep slope logging operations.....	15
Travail politique et changement institutionnel : une grille d'analyse.....	15

Congress

XXII World Congress on Safety & Health at Work 2020 | Toronto, Canada

Prevention in the Connected Age: Global solutions to achieve safe and healthy work for all

The world today is highly connected. This connectivity has been enabled and accelerated through mechanisms such as global supply chains and technology allowing for the rapid exchange of data, knowledge, processes and practices that create challenges and opportunities for protecting the safety and health of workers. The Challenges include governance and regulation, the roles and responsibilities of workers, employers, designers, suppliers, importers and a growing number of other actors, to “systems based” approaches to prevention, and emerging work-related hazards, risks and new forms of work organization. The Opportunities include opportunities for greater collaboration bringing together diverse groups of actors to share knowledge, drive innovation and engage in collective action on global solutions to what are now global challenges.

The World Congress is a crucial global forum to explore the implications of these rapid changes and to build a world-wide vision and community for sustainable prevention

Links : <http://www.safety2020canada.com/programme/programme/>

Tags : Health and decent work

Farm Safety Event - Teagasc

Organised by Teagasc advisor Claire Mooney and forestry advisor Michael Somers, the event will highlight all the main safety risks around the farm, and the main health problems suffered by farmers.

Event Time 12pm

Venue Coorevin Farm, Borrisokane, Co. Tipperary

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

1st ALL AFRICA CONGRESS ON SYNTHETIC PESTICIDES, ENVIRONMENT, HUMAN AND ANIMAL HEALTH

World's Leading Scientists address the impact of synthetic pesticides on the African People, their Animals, and Environment.

June 18 - 20, 2019

Safari Park Hotel & Casino

Nairobi, Kenya

Links : <https://www.worldfoodpreservationcenterpesticidecongress.com/>

Farming Systems Design

On behalf of the Farming Systems Design community and the Universidad de la República (Uruguay), we are delighted to invite you to the **6th Farming Systems Design Conference (FSD6) in Montevideo, from the 18th to the 21st of August, 2019**. FSD is an informal interdisciplinary scientific community of practice that promotes research and capacity building on farming systems design. The research focus of the FSD community is the farm system, the interactions and feedbacks at lower and higher levels of integration and the tools and methods required for understanding and implementing multi-functional farming systems.

The theme of FSD6 conference is "**Agricultural systems designs sustained by nature**", seeking for designs that make more intelligent use of biological processes to support environmentally and socially friendly production systems. We want to promote process and system-level understanding and quantification of current efficiency of the use of land and other production factors at multiple scales (field, farm, landscape, regional). One specific target of the FSD6 is to widen the interdisciplinary coverage of the FSD community, beyond the original core of agronomists. We welcome contributions from crop and animal science (including fisheries), economics, social sciences, ecology, management science, knowledge science, computer science... provided they contribute to the advancement of the science on farming systems analysis, assessment or design.

Links : <http://www.farming-systems-design.org.uy/en/Pages/home>

30ÈME CONGRÈS DE L'AGRH

La GRH peut-elle sauver le travail ?

Le travail est attaqué de toute part. Les processus de néotaylorisation conduisent, dans certains secteurs et pour certains postes, une déqualification de son contenu et une perte de sens pour ceux qui ont déjà vécu, au-delà des métiers d'exécutions traditionnellement associés à cette tendance. L'abandon, le développement du freelance et les différentes formes d'externalisation menacent les fondements même du principe de localisation du travail de ces collectifs sociaux qui sont les entreprises et les autres formes structurelles.

Dans le même temps, les jeunes générations dans le monde, les professionnelles, dans l'insertion de différents éléments de la vie, dans le maintien de celui-ci, de différentes vies. A contrario, les entreprises déplorent les comportements opportunistes de leurs employés et de leur déficit de loyauté et d'engagement, alors que nous avons déjà passé un contrat de licence avec un nom de compte

Un autre niveau, les politiciens, y compris le plus haut niveau de l'Etat, régulièrement les récits polémiques sur la perte de la «valeur du travail» - et comment ils sont menacés de nos sociétés et individualistes et hédonistes - ou une quête de l'auto-discussion autour du revenu minimum universel. Enfin, des économistes rappellent le caractère inéluctable, malgré une tendance inverse, un mouvement multiséculaire vers une diminution du temps de travail, questionnant ainsi la place temporelle et donc, implicitement, la place symbolique du travail dans les identités individuelles et collectives.

Face à cette situation complexe et multi-facettes, de nombreuses questions restent sur le rôle de la fonction RH.

Calendrier:

18 février 2019: date limite d'envoi des intentions de communication, avec résumé

27 mars 2019: ouverture à la plateforme pour le dépôt des communications

8 avril 2019: date limite d'envoi des communications

Links : <https://www.agrh.fr/evenements/30me-congrs-de-lagr-h-bordeaux-13-au-15-novembre-2019>

Travail et libertés aujourd'hui

Le travail constitue de nos jours une blessure ouverte, une question en quête de réponse, un espoir à revitaliser pour la qualité de la vie en société. L'atelier de recherche « Travail et libertés » (ArTLib) organise sur ce thème quatre conférences à Marseille. ArtLib est un groupe interdisciplinaire et international - coordonné par Enrico Donaggio (professeur à l'université de Turin, senior fellow de l'IMéRA 2019-2021) - qui a pour objectif de discuter, articuler et diffuser d'une façon innovante des idées, des discours et des pratiques liées aux transformations profondes engendrées par le travail contemporain dans la sphère des libertés personnelles et collectives des individus.

Links : <https://calenda.org/585525>

ÊtreS au Travail : un ouvrage, une exposition, un colloque

L'Association Lumières sur le Travail et les 42 étudiants du Master 2 Professionnel Psychologie du Travail et Ergonomie de l'Université Paris Nanterre sont à l'initiative d'un nouveau projet : «ÊtreS au Travail ».

Cet événement se décline en :

- une exposition du 16 mars au 14 juillet sur les grilles du Jardin du Luxembourg à Paris
- un ouvrage qui paraîtra prochainement aux Éditions Intervalles
- un colloque au Sénat le 17 avril prochain après-midi

Nous vous espérons nombreux ...

Links : <https://ergonomie-self.org/2019/03/03/etres-au-travail-un-ouvrage-une-exposition-un-colloque/>

Journée 'Humanisme et Gestion' - 4 avril 2019

Qui, dans sa vie professionnelle n'a pas eu à réfléchir sur la problématique « administration des choses » ou « gouvernement des personnes » ?

La réponse peut être manichéenne, en choisissant une voie exclusive de l'autre. « L'administration des choses » fait de l'acteur un agent sans histoire ni passion et le réduit, au mieux, à un simple objet de calcul économique. « Le gouvernement des personnes » rompt avec cette logique instrumentale et positiviste du management.

Plusieurs conséquences découlent du choix. Les **16èmes journées d'Humanisme et Gestion** seront l'occasion d'une réflexion et d'un débat entre chercheurs et praticiens autour de la problématique identifiée ci-dessus et plus précisément sur les questions suivantes, non exhaustives :

- En quoi la question de la « raison d'être » est-elle consubstantielle à la « recherche du sens ».
- Quel contenu conviendrait-il de donner à un projet « raison d'être »
- Quels sont les signes de perte de sens ?
- Quelles conditions permettraient aux acteurs de rebondir ?

- Quels sont les outils de création de sens dans une entreprise ?
- En quoi les dispositifs des textes portant RSE favorisent-ils le débat sur les raisons d'être de (dans) l'entreprise ?

Links

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/55d3760ee4b0b49feaf080a3/t/5c4c4cac7ba7fc11fdcef757/1548504250462/AC.pdf>

Tags : HRM

Congresso ABERGO 2019

É com grande satisfação que a Associação Brasileira de Ergonomia - ABERGO convida a comunidade de Ergonomistas e interessados neste tema para participar ativamente no **XIX Congresso Brasileiro de Ergonomia**. O mesmo será realizado no período de 28 de maio a 01 de junho de 2019, no **Estação Eventos em Curitiba - Paraná - Brasil**. Nesse evento, estarão reunidos professores, pesquisadores, profissionais de ergonomia e áreas afins, para apresentar os desenvolvimentos recentes no campo técnico científico e refletir sobre a temática central do evento: "A Ergonomia em Tempos de Transformação: ESocial, Indústria 4.0 e Reforma Trabalhista".

Links : https://congressoabergo.com.br/?utm_campaign=25102018_-_abergo_-_inscricoes&utm_medium=email&utm_source=RD%20Station

Tags : Health and decent work

Call for Papers

Transition numérique et innovation collaborative : une approche info-communicationnelle ?

La « transition numérique » des organisations est une tendance lourde depuis plusieurs années. Elle ne se confond pas avec le long procès d'informatisation de la production industrielle et tertiaire qui se poursuit en parallèle. Elle correspond à une triple transformation des filières, du management et du travail :

Au niveau des filières de production, l'irruption des nouveaux acteurs du numérique dont les fameux GAFAM, impose un repositionnement stratégique à de très nombreuses entreprises privées, publiques, sociales et solidaires. Celle-ci doivent transformer leurs modèles d'affaire et repenser leurs relations au sein de nouvelles dynamiques servicielles exploitant les réseaux numériques.

Au niveau du management - entendu ici comme relatif à l'organisation des entreprises et aux modalités de coordination, de contrôle, de régulation et d'incitation des salariés et des partenaires - la généralisation des dispositifs info-communicationnels numériques et les transformations culturelles associées ont changé la donne comme en témoignent les nombreuses publications professionnelles sur les « nouvelles générations » et l'agilité. Le management doit aujourd'hui s'appuyer sur des agencements collectifs explicitement revendiqués, réseaux, communautés d'intérêt, de pratique ou d'action (Galibert 2016), groupes de travail en mode agile, qui utilisent ces dispositifs pour renouveler les formes d'influence et de coopération (Alemanno 2015, Zacklad 2015).

Enfin, au niveau du travail et de l'activité, médiatisés sur les plans cognitif et affectif par des dispositifs info-communicationnels mêlant des aspects liés à la tâche et les aspects sociaux, de nombreuses évolutions apparaissent. Elles mettent l'accent sur les dimensions créatives et relationnelles des performances professionnelles via des médiations sensibles ancrées dans des dispositifs transmédia de plus en plus sophistiqués (espaces collaboratifs, laboratoires d'innovation, etc.) qui articulent outils numériques et ancrage dans les espaces des milieux d'activité (Zacklad 2018). C'est aussi à ce niveau que se lisent les enjeux d'acceptabilité située (Bobiller-Chaumon & Clot 2016) et que l'on peut évaluer ce que les dispositifs numériques apportent à l'activité mais aussi ce qu'ils empêchent et défont.

Merci d'envoyer vos propositions d'intervention (titre et quelques lignes avec courte bibliographie) avant le 18 mars

Links : <https://calenda.org/576599>

Tags : Innovation

Le travail en Éthiopie

Si le travail est loin d'être absent de la recherche sur la Corne de l'Afrique, il n'est cependant pas traité comme un objet à part entière mais subordonné à une analyse du développement. La notion de développement est associée en Éthiopie à la fois à une perception « optimiste » qui met en exergue les réussites du modèle de developmental state mis en œuvre dans le pays, et à une version « pessimiste » du pays qui se concentre sur la réduction de la pauvreté.

Date limite de soumission des articles : 15 mai 2019

Links : <https://calenda.org/575746>

Publications

Household livelihood diversification and gender: Panel evidence from rural Kenya

There are high hopes that livelihood diversification could contribute to goals of poverty reduction in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). This study uses household panel data collected in 2008 and 2013, combined with a mixed methodology to examine the regional and gender disparities, as well as the determinants of change in livelihood diversification in the agricultural regions of Nyeri and Kakamega in rural Kenya. The study period was characterised by important structural changes in the composition and sources of household cash incomes, with farm incomes declining significantly, pushing female headed households into absolute poverty. Whereas the contribution of nonfarm income to total household cash incomes increased significantly, especially in Kakamega. The econometric results show that there is a positive and significant relationship between changes in household asset wealth and changes in livelihood diversification at the regional level, implying that diversification is mainly an accumulation strategy for wealthier farm households. In addition, changes in livelihood diversification are significantly correlated with the initial level of diversification, household demographic characteristics such as age, gender, education level, and hiring labour. Furthermore, increased access to agricultural input credit and more secure land rights seem to promote specialisation in farming rather than diversification. Whereas poverty has a negative and significant effect on change in livelihood diversification. The results have implications for development

policy in rural Kenya - highlighting the need to harness the positive aspects of livelihood diversification for poverty reduction, while reducing the negative effects on poorer households by reducing asset entry barriers into remunerative activities.

Links : https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S074301671730205X?dgcid=rss_sd_all

Tags : Gender

Understanding gender roles and practices in the household and on the farm: Implications for banana disease management innovation processes in Burundi

Banana and plantain are one of the most important staple food crops and a significant source of income to smallholder farmers in the East African Great Lakes Region. Banana Xanthomonas Wilt (BXW) is a devastating bacterial disease that threatens smallholder production and livelihoods. We use a systems approach to describe how gender shapes roles and practices in the household, on the farm and in innovation processes. We draw on a case study in Burundi, where single disease stem removal (SDSR) has been introduced as a labour-saving package to reduce BXW incidence. Banana is grown by an estimated 90% of farmers, and BXW poses a critical threat to food security. We use qualitative data that include focus group discussions, interviews and transcripts from farmer learning group (FLG) discussions to describe gender norms, roles and practices and implications for awareness and uptake of SDSR in households. We identify gender patterns in innovation process, namely that men gain higher levels of access to information in FLGs than women and men are also primarily responsible for implementing SDSR. These patterns reflect gender-differentiated norms, roles and practices that are common in the household and in banana-based farming systems, thus demonstrating the ways that innovation processes perpetuate and reinforce common gender roles and practices. Women's participation in FLGs, albeit lower than men, increases the potential of women to implement specific practices of the SDSR package. Systems approaches may be similarly used in different contexts where awareness and uptake of banana disease management packages, and other technical innovations, are not well understood. We found that gender norms, roles and practices significantly influence uptake of SDSR practices and warrant further investigation across the region, where smallholder uptake remains a pressing challenge to establish household food security.

Links : <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0030727019831704>

Tags : Gender, Family work, Work organisation, Innovation

Female labor outcomes and large-scale agricultural land investments: Macro-micro evidence from Tanzania

This paper examined the extent to which Large-scale Agricultural Land Investments (LALIs) has delivered on its promises (e.g. increased productivity, job creation, and rural development, particularly for rural women). We conducted empirical analyses using the Living Standards Measurement Study-Integrated Surveys on Agriculture (LSMS-ISA) dataset (macro evidence), which was complemented with two case studies of LALIs in Kilombero district, Morogoro region, Tanzania (micro evidence). The findings from the study revealed that the LALIs have limited effect on agricultural wage. However, the results show that LALIs have a negative association with the welfare of female-headed households located in communities with LALIs. On the micro evidence, we found that female-headed households working in the LALIs earned

slightly lower agricultural wage compared to those not working in the LALIs. This implies that the use of LALIs in Tanzania to drive agricultural transformation requires specific targeting of potential beneficiaries.

Links : <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0264837718313279?via%3Dihub>

Tags : Gender, Policy

Women's agricultural work and nutrition in South Asia: From pathways to a cross-disciplinary, grounded analytical framework

In this systematic review, we aim to examine the impact of women's work in agriculture on maternal and child nutrition in South Asia. Building on previous reviews supported under the Leveraging Agriculture for Nutrition in South Asia (LANSA) consortium, and recent published literature, we include findings from new LANSAs research. While mapping literature onto the gender-nutrition pathways linking agriculture to nutrition (Kadiyala et al., 2014), we also point to conceptual and methodological directions for further exploration emerging from our work. Key amongst these are a focus on seasonality, poverty, and gender relations, moving beyond both an exclusive focus on women as a unified and homogenous group, and agriculture as an unchanging and common set of activities and production processes. Our analysis suggests the need for a more contextualised approach, and for a richer cross-disciplinary framework for effectively addressing the ways in which women's work mediates agriculture's role in improving child and maternal nutrition in South Asia.

Links : <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0306919218308339?via%3Dihub>

Tags : Gender

Mechanisms of invisibility: rethinking the concept of invisible work

In the mid-1980s, Daniels coined the term 'invisible work' to characterize those types of women's unpaid labour - housework and volunteer work - which had been culturally and economically devalued. Scholars have since applied this term to many types of labour, yet there is little clarity or consensus as to what 'invisibility' means and what mechanisms produce it. Through an in-depth analysis of this far-reaching literature, the present article seeks to reconstruct 'invisible work' as a more robust analytical concept. It argues that work is made invisible through three intersecting sociological mechanisms - here identified as cultural, legal and spatial mechanisms of invisibility. Though they differ in function and degree, each of these mechanisms obscures the fact that work is performed and therefore contributes to its economic devaluation. Ultimately, this revised concept of invisible work offers scholars a new analytic tool to untangle the systems that produce and reproduce disadvantage for workers.

Personal comments : Non-agricultural sector

Links : <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/0950017016674894>

Tags : Gender

How to Effectively Enhance Sustainable Livelihoods in Smallholder Systems: A Comparative Study from Western Kenya

Increasing communities' adaptive capacity is crucial to enhancing the sustainability of livelihoods and landscapes in smallholder systems. This study evaluates the contributions of an asset-based community-driven local development project, which has an objective to enhance farmer livelihoods through context-specific agricultural and agroforestry training, in line with farmers' identities, interests, and preferences. The project was implemented in two areas of the wider Nyando river basin: the Lower and Middle Nyando sites. The project effects on farmer livelihoods were evaluated by analyzing overall income enhancement through the adoption of climate-smart agricultural practices via the computation of total values of harvest. Socioeconomic data from 183 households, half of which were involved in the project, were considered. The findings showed that locality played an important role in the adoption and success of good agricultural practices. Additional significant positive factors included project participation, size of land operated, horticulture farming, livestock ownership, ownership of a title deed, hours worked, and crop species richness. The number of years farmed had a significant negative correlation with the value of harvest. Considering the stark differences in livelihood effects in both sites, researchers conclude that external support for climate-smart agriculture uptake needs to be considerate of, and respond to, biophysical and socioeconomic context.

Links : <https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/11/6/1564>

Tags : Work productivity

Working holiday makers in Australian horticulture: labour market effect, exploitation and avenues for reform

Using a mixed-method analysis, this paper examines the effect of working holiday makers (WHMs) on the labour market for low-skilled work in the horticulture industry. Since the inception of the WHM visa in 1975, the horticulture industry has come to rely increasingly on WHMs as the core source of labour for picking and packing fruit and vegetables. This reliance has altered employers' expectations of labour flexibility, cost and productivity and has limited the role of local workers in the industry in many locations. At the same time, there is evidence of widespread exploitation of WHMs in the industry. There is a difficult policy challenge of how to address the problems of exploitation while maintaining a reliable labour supply for the industry. The article draws on the growing literature considering the role of temporary labour migration on national labour markets to frame the analysis of WHMs in Australian horticulture, and concludes with suggestions for how the horticulture labour market can be reformed through appropriate, targeted regulation of temporary migrants in the industry.

Links : <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/10383441.2018.1482814?journalCode=rlaw20>

Tags : Rural Employment, Migration

Does rural labor outward migration reduce household forest investment? The experience of Jiangxi, China

This study examines the impact of rural labor outward migration, a prominent phenomenon in China, on household forest management using the appropriate economic theory and survey data of 500 households over seven years (2011-2017) in Jiangxi. We measured households' investment in forest management in

terms of labor use and cash outlay. Considering the potential endogeneity of labor migration and periodicity of forestry, we built our Tobit models using the instrumental variable method, which was easily accommodated with our panel data. Our results indicated that households were more cautious on cash outlay in forest management, compared with their labor use, and that migration had an overall negative effect on both labor use and cash outlay. Further, migration of the household head and the number of migrants negatively influenced forest investment. The off-farm income positively affected labor use in forestry, while it negatively affected cash outlay. In addition, households with more labor, more forestland, and more forestry income invested more in forest management. Village factors, such as a larger population and better transportation, promoted households' investment in forest management. Our analysis provides important insights for policymakers to formulate and implement more pertinent policies to support rural forest management.

Links : <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1389934119300371?via%3Dihub>

Tags : Migration

Using a livelihoods framework to analyze farmer identity and decision making during the Central American coffee leaf rust outbreak: implications for addressing climate change and crop diversification

This qualitative study of one Guatemalan coffee cooperative examined the decision making process of smallholder farmers as they struggled to preserve their livelihoods during an outbreak of coffee leaf rust (CLR). The results revealed that although the cooperative members viewed the CLR as a threat to livelihoods, it was no greater a threat than other crises such as low coffee prices, extreme weather events, and persistent food insecurity. In response, members suspended organic coffee production, borrowed money to purchase food, sought off-farm employment, and grew limited subsistence crops. Yet most interestingly, for the long-term, they remained fully committed to producing high quality arabica coffee even though the cooperative was aware a future CLR outbreak could again devastate production. These findings question the underlying assumption of crop diversification initiatives which rarely consider the importance of farmer identity. Crop diversification and off-farm employment schemes seek to mitigate environmental threats (e.g., climate change) that smallholder farmers face, however this research shows that farmer identity can be just as, if not more, important than crop yields or even income generation. The authors propose a three-stage smallholder producer vulnerability framework to better understand and analyze future livelihoods disruptions of smallholder producers.

Links :

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/21683565.2019.1566191?scroll=top&needAccess=true>

Tags : Identity

A farm-level assessment of labor and mechanization in Eastern and Southern Africa

Once again, agricultural mechanization is top on the policy, research, and development agendas in sub-Saharan Africa. However, whether labor is limiting in this region—and mechanization is in demand—remains debated. The hypothesis of this study is that labor is a major limiting factor to the productivity of

most farming systems in Africa. We used farm-level data (including detailed labor data) from eight sites dominated by smallholder agriculture and spanning four countries in Eastern and Southern Africa, and analyzed this unique dataset using multivariate methods (generalized linear models, boundary line analysis, and binary classification and regression trees). Labor and/or other sources of farm power (draught power or tractor power) were found to limit land productivity in all study sites. We also found that the overall contribution of female labor to farming was much lower than commonly stated—between 7 and 35%—and that the labor intensity experienced by women in agriculture was dependent to a large degree on men's tasks. Our results reveal a much higher demand for mechanization than previously found by macroeconomic analyses, and point to a problem of access rather than demand. Our results also add to recent evidence debunking the persistent myth that women provide the bulk of the farming labor, and demonstrate that reducing labor intensity experienced by women in farming depends to a large degree upon understanding labor intensity experienced by men, rather than poorly founded generalizations about how women are overworked. This is the first time farm-level data containing detailed labor assessment and spanning four countries are used to assess mechanization demand in Africa. This paper also plays a pioneering role in debunking a number of myths related to labor in African smallholder agriculture, with implications for the mechanization agenda of the region.

Links : <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s13593-019-0563-5>

Tags : Gender, Innovation

China's agrarian transition: Peasants, property and politics, by René Trappel

One of the most interesting arguments that Trappel put forward in the book relates to the commodification of farmland. The author highlights that the transfer of farmland to large commercial agricultural entities is also in the interest of peasants because of the differentiation of the peasantry and the devaluation of farmland. Due to the growing demand for monetary income and the inability of small land holdings to generate such income, peasants have left farmland en masse to work in cities as migrant labour. This created the conditions for the development of large-scale commercial agriculture. Critical of conventional wisdom that peasants value and fight for their land, René Trappel contends that the rights to small plots of farmland have become a burden rather than an asset to Chinese peasants and that peasants are therefore willing to rent such land out or leave it unused or underused. He further invokes “the tragedy of the anticommons,” a term coined by Michael Heller (1998), to describe the Chinese farmland system. Under the HRS, multiple actors hold conflicting exclusive claims over the farmland, and this has contributed to the underuse of the farmland. The underuse of farmland motivates small holders to rent the land out despite unfavourable contract terms.

Links : <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/joac.12307>

Tags : Rural Employment

Analysis on the Choice of Livelihood Strategy for Peasant Households Renting out Farmland: Evidence from Western Poverty-Stricken Areas in China

Investigating the choice of livelihood strategies has great significance for improving the living standards of peasant households who rent out farmland. This study evaluates the impact of renting-out land on

households' livelihood strategies in China's western poverty-stricken areas. Data were obtained from cross sectional survey of 585 field survey data from peasant households who rent out land. The K-means clustering method was used to classify the livelihood strategies of the sample households. In view of sustainable livelihood framework, this paper used combination weighting model based on game theory to calculate the quo of households' livelihood capital. The Multinomial Logistic Regression was used to explore the relationship between livelihood capitals and livelihood strategies. Results show that: livelihood strategy of households who rent out the land can be divided into "agricultural-led" livelihood strategy, "working-oriented" livelihood strategy and "part-time" livelihood strategy. Additionally, the results of Multinomial Logistic Regression show that the households with high human capital and financial capital tend to choose the "working-oriented" livelihood strategy and the households with high natural capital tend to choose the "agricultural-led" livelihood strategy. Therefore, in order to realize the sustainable livelihood of these households, different policy support should be proposed based on the heterogeneity of households in the process of land transfer.

Links : <https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/11/5/1424>

Tags : Work organisation

The Features of Rural Labor Transfer and Cultural Differences: Evidence from China's Southwest Mountainous Areas

Large-scale rural labor transfer is considered an important means of promoting urbanization and poverty alleviation; however, it has been difficult to fully reveal the complexity of mountain labor transfer using traditional theory. In this study, macrostatistics and microsurvey data were employed to conduct an empirical analysis of rural labor transfer in Xichang, highlighting the regional features of rural labor transfer in the southwest mountainous areas of China. The results show that the employment structure of rural labor is dominated by agriculture; however, its proportion is decreasing annually. The development of secondary and tertiary industries significantly contributes to the non-agricultural employment of rural laborers, who transfer mainly to the building, industry, and consumption fields—especially consumption, which has the greatest ability to absorb surplus rural labor. Migration of the population and farmers' per capita net income promotes rural labor transfer, while the amount of rural labor, the urbanization rate in townships, agricultural development, and the topography have lagged effects on the process. This study argues that rural labor transfer in the mountains has regionality, multi-pattern, and gradient features; therefore, the promotion of rural labor transfer should consider local urbanization and poverty alleviation in such a manner that aligns with the local natural and socioeconomic conditions of the mountainous areas

Links : <https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/11/6/1522>

Tags : Rural Employment

Potatoes, Petty Commodity Producers and Livelihoods: Contract farming and agrarian change in Maharashtra, India

This paper explores the implications of contract farming for patterns of agrarian change in India. The paper draws on a detailed analysis of primary qualitative data from a case study of potato contract farming in the state of Maharashtra. It argues that debates on contract farming are often ideological in nature, leading to overly simplified narratives of "win-win" or "win-lose." Instead, by combining the strengths of agrarian political economy and rural livelihood analysis, the paper offers a concrete exploration of the intersections between contract farming, livelihoods, and agrarian change. It finds that

contract farming activities in the case study villages are focused on a group of petty commodity producers. However, rather than sparking dynamic new processes of accumulation among contract farmers or leading to new forms of exploitation, the paper argues that contract farming is contributing to processes of agrarian change “already under way.” These processes are intimately connected to livelihood diversification and the struggles of new classes of fragmented labour.

Links : <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/joac.12273>

Tags : Entrepreneur

The relationship between micronutrient intake and labour productivity: Evidence from rice-farming households in Thailand

Unreliable access to a sufficient quantity of nutritious food is a major cause of undernourishment and malnutrition and may lead to reduced worker capacity and low productivity in developing countries. This study examines the impact of micronutrient intake on the labour productivity of rice-producing households in Thailand in 2011. A semi-log wage equation and Cobb-Douglas production function are estimated using two-stage least squares and non-linear two-stage least squares methods, respectively. The results show that higher intakes of calcium, vitamin A and iron increase household earnings and farm output. However, calorie intake only contributes to a higher farm output. Enhancing micronutrient consumption is an investment for improving productivity.

Links : <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0030727019829080>

Tags : Health and decent work, Work productivity

The food regime in late colonial Philippines: Pathways of appropriation and unpaid work

I argue that food regimes need to take into account the production relations of paid and unpaid work. As an angle of vision, I use the historical geography of late colonial Philippines (1901-1941) to show how paid and unpaid work in food production was not discrete and separated processes but rather conjoined moments of capital accumulation. The colonial regime—in this context, American colonial government, U.S. agribusinesses, and Filipino landed elites—utilized state power, customary land relations, and commodity-specific characteristics to appropriate vast amounts of unpaid work from agrarian classes of Philippine labour and draft animals towards the exploitation of commodified labour power. These processes not only produced considerable quantities of coconut and sugar products that were exported to the American consumer market, sold at cheaper prices, and contributed to the profitability of U.S. agribusiness elites but also allowed the colonial regime to efficiently expand commodity production across the islands. The more the American capitalists and Philippine elites invested in Philippine agriculture, the more they appropriated unpaid work from the agrarian classes of labour.

Links : <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/joac.12269>

Tags : Rural Employment, Hired work

At Work in the Woods: Occupational Hazards of Harvesting Non-Timber Forest Products in the Pacific Northwest

Harvesting timber for lumber produces is among the most dangerous occupations in the United States. While not exhaustive, the literature on these dangers is substantial. However, several other smaller harvesting forest based industries put workers at risk in unique ways. Relatively little research has been published on these activities, but preliminary exploratory research, summarized here, suggests that besides the risks inherent in being in the forest, workers face some unique workplace risks, the frequency and consequences of which are augmented by the social determinants that characterize the workforce. This paper provides a brief overview of the workplace safety risks to forest green and mushroom harvesters and cedar block cutters in the Northwest. We also point out the social characteristics of these workforces that potentially aggravate these risks and the health impacts therefrom.

Links : <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/1059924X.2019.1578140?af=R>

Tags : Health and decent work

Safety in steep slope logging operations

Partial results of a NIOSH-funded study for “Protecting the Logging Workforce: Development of Innovative Logging Techniques for a Safer Work Environment” by a team of researchers at Oregon State University are presented that review safety in steep slope logging. Comparisons are made for hazards and exposures of “conventional” and new technologies for steep slopes. Hazards of new technologies are identified. Safety assessments are addressed for forestry sectors internationally, for the firm and for workers. Important questions of technical feasibility, economic viability and environmental performance are raised. Ongoing research on operators using tethered and untethered systems are described. Results will help inform training and selecting operators. New Best Operating Practices and safety code regulations will result from the research. New technologies will reduce worker hazards and exposures for steep slope logging.

Links : <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/1059924X.2019.1581115?af=R>

Tags : Health and decent work

Travail politique et changement institutionnel : une grille d'analyse

Afin d'étudier en profondeur et de façon systématique l'origine des mutations institutionnelles, cet article propose une re-conceptualisation de la notion de « travail politique ». En tirant profit de ses usages antérieurs, notamment par les spécialistes du « métier politique », de la sociologie du travail et de l'analyse des politiques publiques, on propose de le définir comme un processus incarné impliquant la construction de « problèmes » et d'instruments d'action publique. Ce faisant, la légitimation des acteurs concernés, ainsi que celle de leurs objectifs, stratégies et relations sociales, est placée au cœur de la recherche. Le schéma d'analyse qui en découle est illustré par deux études de cas : l'une part de l'observation d'un acteur (le commissaire européen Leon Brittan) pour analyser l'institutionnalisation de la régulation de la concurrence communautaire, l'autre est centrée sur un ensemble d'acteurs écossais qui ont cherché à mobiliser la dévolution britannique pour recadrer l'industrie du Scotch Whisky. En

réinvestissant le concept de travail politique, l'article vise à ouvrir un dialogue avec tous les chercheurs en sciences sociales intéressés par la sociologie du changement et de la reproduction des institutions.

Personal comments : Non-agricultural case

Links : <https://journals.openedition.org/sdt/14661>

Tags : Policy