



# Congress and Publications

2019/11

Realized by Priscila Malanski at 15/12/2019

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## Congress

### 2nd Symposium on Work in Agriculture qui aura lieu des 27 au 30 septembre 2020 - Clermont



L'IAWA (International Association on Work in Agriculture), l'INRA et l'Umr Territoires (Irstea, Inra, VetAgro Sup, AgroParisTech, Université Clermont Auvergne) organisent le 2nd Symposium on Work in Agriculture qui aura lieu des 27 au 30 septembre 2020 à Clermont Ferrand. Sont attendus entre 250 et 300 participants, dont une vingtaine d'invités, leaders scientifiques dans le domaine.

Links : <https://www.agreenium.fr/actualites/2nd-symposium-work-agriculture-27-30-septembre-2020-clermont-ferrand>

### People Management Course - Teagasc

How do you retain your labour? This is a four day course that takes place every Friday for four weeks. This course will take place on the 22nd and 29th of November and the 6th and 13th of December. All days are mandatory.

Attend this 4 day course with Dr. Nollaig Heffernan and learn how to manage your time and labour.

**22 November 2019**

**Event Time 10am**

**Venue The Newpark Hotel, Kilkenny**

Links : <https://www.teagasc.ie/news--events/national-events/events/people-management-course.php>

### Family Farm Health and Safety Awareness Day - Teagasc

This Event will focus on the following farm safety issues:

- New regulations and licencing laws applying to the road use of tractors, trailers and implements. The Garda traffic core will be on hand to give practical advice on these new regulations.
- Farm Machinery is one of the main contributors to, both fatal and non-fatal, farm accidents. The dangers associated with tractors, the visibility of tractors and people being knocked down or crushed, and around, farmyards will be demonstrated at this event.
- Risks associated in handling livestock. A lot of handling of cattle takes place at this time of the year and adequate facilities are needed to handle cattle safely.
- Health & Safety Authority (HSA) staff will be present to describe how to avoid accidents when working at heights, and safety with slurry.
- Teagasc staff will present practical aspects when using chainsaws and the correct protective wear to use.

- A Farm safety demonstration was held in conjunction with AgriKidsTM recently in Clondrohid National School. The winning Farm safety posters from this demo will be on display at the farm safety event on the 20th.

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

## L'avenir du travail - Cycle de séminaires

L'Organisation de coopération et de développement économiques (OCDE) a publié récemment l'édition 2019 des Perspectives de l'emploi de l'OCDE - L'avenir du travail, son rapport annuel sur l'emploi dans les pays de l'OCDE. À cette occasion, la Dares, la Direction générale du travail (DGT) et la Drees organisent une série de trois séminaires thématiques sur l'avenir du travail, et vous invitent à venir rencontrer les auteurs de l'OCDE.

Links : <https://dares.travail-emploi.gouv.fr/dares-etudes-et-statistiques/colloques-et-appels-a-projets/manifestations-et-colloques/a-venir/article/l-avenir-du-travail-cycle-de-seminaires>

## 3R - Rencontres autour des Recherches sur les Ruminants

Les ingénieurs et chercheurs francophones sont invités à présenter les résultats de leurs travaux de recherches aux 25e Rencontres autour des Recherches sur les Ruminants qui auront lieu les **2 et 3 décembre 2020** à Paris.

Les thèmes mis en avant en 2020

- \* Élevage et changement climatique
- \* Élevage de précision et numérique
- \* Compétitivité et Attractivité des filières d'élevage de viande et lait
- \* Efficience et Résilience alimentaires
- \* Le microbiome

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

## A Rede de Estudos Rurais lança edital para Grupos de Trabalhos do IX Encontro Nacional, em Brasília



A Rede de Estudos Rurais lançou edital destinado aos associados que tiverem interesse em apresentar propostas de Grupos de Trabalho (GT) para o IX Encontro da Rede de Estudos Rurais. O evento será realizado em Brasília, entre os dias **25 e 28 de agosto de 2020**, no campus Darcy Ribeiro, da Universidade de Brasília (UnB), e terá como tema central, nesta edição, “Desenvolvimento, Financeirização e Mercantilização da Natureza: desafios agroalimentares Globais”.

O encontro tem como objetivo discutir sobre o desenvolvimento levando em consideração as tendências rentistas e especulativas do capitalismo global contemporâneo e suas repercussões para o rural e o urbano.

Os interessados deverão encaminhar suas **propostas de GT no período de 05 de novembro a 11 de dezembro 2019**, através de formulário eletrônico disponível no link: <https://redesrurais.org.br/ixencontro/envio-gts>.

Links : <https://redesrurais.org.br/rede-de-estudos-rurais-lanca-edital-para-grupos-de-trabalhos-do-ix-encontro-nacional-em-brasilia/>

## Call For Papers

### Call for submissions for special issue

The special issue focuses on regional labour markets and welcomes theoretical, empirical and policy-oriented submissions related to the strength of static and dynamic agglomeration effects, the causes and consequences of agglomeration effects, regional disparities, the regional impact of globalisation and digitalisation, the role of firm and worker mobility, and the role of firms' productivity, productivity growth and innovation in shaping regional labour markets.

You can submit your papers for the special issue here. When submitting, you need to make sure that you do so for the article collection "Spatial Dimensions of the Labour Market" which you will be asked for during the submission process under "Additional information".

**The submission deadline: 28 February 2020**

Links : <https://ersa.org/2019/11/25/call-for-submissions-for-special-issue/>

### Call for Papers Agri Food Markets

Agri-Food Markets towards Sustainable Patterns: Trends, Drivers and Challenges

The range of suitable contributions for this special issue is wide: case studies, experiments and other forms of empirical evidence, as well as application of theoretical concepts. More specifically, we welcome manuscripts that help to outline sustainable horizons of the future agri-food market, dealing with:

- "green" changes in consumer demand
- sustainability and innovation along the agri-food chains (ecopreneurship; vertical integration and horizontal alliances; farming associationism)
- efficiency and inclusiveness of sustainable agri-food systems (agri-ecology and organic farming; small producers; safeguard of the natural and cultural heritage; relationship between food, gastronomy and territory; neocalism; alternative agri food networks)
- interaction between the agri-food market and agrienvironmental policies
- market regulation instruments (public policies and national and international governance; impact of specific free trade agreements and trade tariffs; food sovereignty and sovereignism)

- tools to prevent risks which may jeopardise agrifood markets.

Links : [https://rss.memberclicks.net/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=560:-asfs--call-for-papers-agri-food-markets&catid=23:call-for-papers&Itemid=134](https://rss.memberclicks.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=560:-asfs--call-for-papers-agri-food-markets&catid=23:call-for-papers&Itemid=134)

## IRSA2020

Abstracts are welcome on any topic of relevance to rural sociologists although proposals that address the theme of rural sustainability in the urban century are encouraged.

Abstracts must be submitted to one of the sub-themes listed below - Rural identities, Rural transitions, Agrifood transitions, Environments, Policy and governance, and Innovations in rural research.

Submitting authors should indicate whether they wish to be considered for one of the named sessions within each sub-theme or for an open session within the sub-themes.

The Program Committee reserves the right to transfer abstracts from the nominated session to any other session.

The Program Committee also reserves the right to reject any abstract that fails to establish its relevance to rural sociology or which fails to meet acceptable standards of quality.

Links : <http://www.irs2020.com/program/session-themes/>

## The Conversation needs you! - Appel à articles

Voici les grands thèmes pour lesquels The Conversation a besoin d'expert.e.s enseignant.e.s-chercheur.euse.s... et d'articles de 6 000 à 8000 signes (1 000 mots environ) fondés sur de la recherche, des travaux ou des des expériences.

- Le monde agricole aujourd'hui
- Les revenus des agriculteurs
- Néo-ruraux vs locaux: une incompréhension mutuelle?
- Accessibilité des services sociaux, connections (internet), transports: état des lieux
- l'immigration (légal ou non) parmi les ouvriers agricoles
- Peut-on encore parler d'une "diagonale du vide"?
- Soulèvements paysans dans le monde: quel poids politique?
- Comment les formations à l'agriculture changent avec les impératifs de développement durable
- Enfants d'agriculteurs : reprendre ou non l'exploitation familiale
- Histoires des lycées agricoles
- Image des métiers agricoles auprès des jeunes

Envoyez écrire : [jennifer.galle@theconversation.fr](mailto:jennifer.galle@theconversation.fr)

Links : <http://recherche.cnam.fr/agenda-actus/appel-a-articles-pour-the-conversation-1119675.kjsp>

## CIER 2020

É aberta a chamada para submissão de propostas de apresentações para o XIII Congreso Ibero-Latinoamericano de Estudios Rurales CIER.

As propostas devem contemplar um título, palavras-chave e possuir um máximo de 500 palavras. A submissão será realizada no sistema de registro, selecionando a área temática de interesse. Todas as questões, dúvidas e preocupações devem ser remetidas ao e-mail [contacto@cier2020.cl](mailto:contacto@cier2020.cl), e serão respondidas em breve.

O prazo máximo para o envio das propostas é o dia 15 de março de 2020.

Links : <https://www.cier2020.cl/announcement/papers/>

## Publications

### Circular labor migration and land-livelihood dynamics in Southeast Asia's concession landscapes

Labor migration and large-scale land enclosures are increasingly central to the story of agrarian change throughout the Global South. Nonetheless, there remain limited understandings of how recent explosions of mobile labor and new sources of smallholder capital shape and are shaped by ongoing land use and property transformations. This article reviews this gap in Southeast Asia - a region where labor and capital are highly mobile and where the expansion of industrial agriculture and forestry has been particularly rapid. We begin by synthesizing recent labor migration trends in Southeast Asia and discussing key conceptual frameworks for studying labor mobility and agrarian transformations. We then summarize shifts in land use, land control, and labor relations linked to both labor mobility and large-scale land enclosures. We conclude by highlighting two questions deserving of further study. First, how do large-scale industrial agriculture and forest concessions affect rates and patterns of labor migration out of nearby communities? Second, how do new patterns of household resource control and labor allocation from labor migration affect land use and land cover, particularly in sites dominated by large-scale commodity concessions? These questions cannot yet be answered fully though work has begun to address them both directly or indirectly. We use the existing literature to highlight directions for future research on these themes.

Links : [https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0743016719304310?dgcid=rss\\_sd\\_all](https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0743016719304310?dgcid=rss_sd_all)

Tags : Migration

### Sustainability, Vol. 11, Pages 6764: Migration of Rural Residents to Urban Areas Drives Grassland Vegetation Increase in China's Loess Plateau

Human activities are critical factors influencing ecosystem sustainability. However, knowledge on regarding the mechanisms underlying the response of vegetation dynamics to human activities remains

limited. To detect the driving factors and their individual contribution to the grassland vegetation dynamics in China's Loess Plateau, a structural equation model (SEM) and a principal component regression model were built. The SEM showed that population change and urbanization, temperature and humidity, and agriculture and economy accounted for 62.5%, 31.2%, and 7.7%, respectively, of the overall impact directly affecting grassland vegetation dynamics. Furthermore, the principal component regression model demonstrated that the effects of the urbanization rate on the grassland above-ground biomass exceeded those of the other factors. The agriculture population had the maximum negative effect on grassland area. The higher the urbanization rate means the higher the number of residents migrates from rural to urban areas. Following this argument, the disturbances of human activities to grassland vegetation were expected to gradually decrease in rural areas, where the vast majority of the Loess Plateau is located. The migration of rural residents to urban areas promoted the increase in biomass and areas of grassland vegetation. Our findings suggest that the effect of urbanization should be considered when assessing vegetation change.

Links : <https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/11/23/6764>

Tags : Migration

## Who's there? - Inclusive growth, 'white rurality' and reconstructing rural labour markets

The rural Swedish north is under reconstruction. The challenges of living and working in the region are dealt with through the regional growth policy area. In this article, the applications that received funds from the EU's regional structural funding programme directed towards the Swedish north are studied. Distributions of such funds are, of course, evaluated and audited by all established rules and regulation. Evaluations that every year conclude that labour market sectors that traditionally employ women get less funding than sectors that employ men and that no significant change in this pattern has been seen over the years. How can this be understood? The funded projects applications are thematically structured using topic modelling, and after that, analysed using deconstructive policy analysis to understand how different subject positions are discursively constructed in the implementation of the regional growth policy. Concluding that, despite the high ambition, the policy that is supposed to enable opportunities for everyone to live and earn a living throughout the entire country, risks instead of being part of recreating established norms and traditional labour market patterns in the Swedish rural north.

Links : [https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0743016719300245?dgcid=rss\\_sd\\_all](https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0743016719300245?dgcid=rss_sd_all)

Tags : Gender, Rural Employment, Policy

## Diversity of Mental Health Issues in Agriculture

Early agricultural safety and health researchers recognized the potential impact of occupational stress on the mental health of farmers.<sup>2-4</sup> While there has been a somewhat consistent sprinkling of agriculture mental health research in the literature in the past 30 years, there is a renewed and growing concern for agricultural producers and workers mental health, fueled perhaps in part by unfavorable market conditions, stories of farmer suicide, and the number of farm bankruptcies. The increased interest is evident in this current issue of the Journal of Agromedicine, which includes six articles that explore, describe, and analyze a variety of mental health experiences in agricultural populations.

Links : <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/1059924X.2020.1694821?af=R>



Tags : Health and decent work

## Child labour

Sustainable Development Goal target 8.7 aims to eradicate child labour in all its forms by 2025. Ten years before this deadline, the objective is far from being achieved since in 2016, about one-in-ten children (152 million in total) aged 5 to 17 were engaged in child labour worldwide, many of them as unpaid family workers in agriculture. Nearly half of the children in child labour were in hazardous work and exposed to serious health and safety risks. Moreover, about one-third of children in child labour do not attend school at all; the others go to school, but not all the time. Children in child labour are more likely to leave school early, before grade completion, and underperform in school tests.

This paper reviews child labour trends, and the literature on its causes and consequences. It also discusses policies to combat child labour based on the lessons of the available evidence. Countries must combat child labour by addressing it from all its “demand” and “supply” side dimensions: by strengthening social protection to combat extreme poverty, by investing in the education to make it an affordable alternative to child labour, and by encouraging the diffusion of technologies that make it possible to do without child labour. While most countries have adopted laws that prohibit child labour, the paper argues that countries can do more to enforce these laws and regulations, where necessary strengthen labour inspections and monitoring systems, and promote responsible business practices.

Links : [https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/social-issues-migration-health/child-labour\\_f6883e26-en](https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/social-issues-migration-health/child-labour_f6883e26-en)

Tags : Child labour

## Work and income changes after cancer in rural China: A cross-sectional survey - Su - - Cancer Medicine - Wiley Online Library

### Background

The present study aimed to first describe the work-related outcomes of cancer survivors and to then identify those characteristics that influenced the decision to stop working in rural China.

### Methods

We assessed 752 cancer survivors (residents of rural areas, working at the time of diagnosis, >1 year since completing treatment) from the cross-sectional study “China Survey of Experiences with Cancer”. Participants reported changes in employment status, income, and the ability to perform physical jobs due to cancer, as well as the work-related outcomes of their informal caregivers. Logistic regression analyses were used to examine the association between sociodemographic characteristics, cancer characteristics, and changes in work (ie, continue to work vs not working).

### Results

The participants were largely farmers (96%), women (56%), younger than 65 years old (69%), and diagnosed with colorectal (31%) and breast cancer (31%). Thirty-nine percent reported reducing working hours, and 40% reported stopping work altogether. Approximately 7% of informal caregivers also stopped working in order to take care of those diagnosed with cancer. Thirty-three percent of cancer survivors and 5% of their informal caregivers had no source of income following treatment. Controlling for other variables, lower educational attainment, physical limitations in work, and different cancer sites were significantly

associated with ending employment in both men and women, while among men specifically, we observed that older age, being unmarried, and being diagnosed at later stages were significantly associated with an end to working.

#### Conclusion

Rural cancer survivors are at a high risk for stopping work after completing treatment, and many survivors and their caregivers experience poor work-related outcomes and economic hardship. These results highlight the importance of paying attention to the work experiences of cancer survivors in rural China.

Links : <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/cam4.2627>

Tags : Health and decent work

## Women's Labour and Sustainable Agriculture

This article looks at the participation of women in irrigated agriculture in 32 districts of Tamil Nadu and found exceptional involvement in these three districts, which are topographically different from each other, namely Kanyakumari, Nilgiris and South Arcot. The study asked—how does contemporary agriculture support female participation and in turn how does this keep agricultural labour supply and food security sustainable? A range of research methods were used to explore the rationale for exceptional female participation in irrigated agriculture. It concluded that such participation arises because of the existing pattern of labour supply primarily by landowning farm women and labourers. This as a result of male preference for widespread skilled jobs, subsequent changing labour pattern due to male migration, matrilineal property ownership, cropping intensity, multi-tasking of women and the coordinated effort of women's groups (SHGs) in accessing micro-credits. Finally, subsidies and incentives have further altered and effected greater labour supply of women in agriculture.

Links : <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/0971521519861190>

Tags : Gender

## Aging of Agricultural Labor Force and Technical Efficiency in Tea Production: Evidence from Meitan County, China

While the aging of agricultural labor force and its impact on agricultural production have been attracting extensive attention, little is known about the relationship between aging of agricultural labor force and technical efficiency in tea production. Using the stochastic frontier analysis and cross-sectional survey data covering 241 tea-producing farmers in Meitan County in China, this study attempts to investigate the impact of aging of tea-producing farmers on technical efficiency in tea production in the mountainous areas of southwestern China. The results show that the average technical efficiency in tea production is 0.581, implying a great room for improving technical efficiency in tea production in Meitan County. While there might exist an inverted U-shaped relationship between farmers' age and technical efficiency, the aging of tea-producing farmers would exert negative impact on technical efficiency in tea production. In addition, rural-urban migration experience, number of household laborers, distance from home to village committee, and township location are also significantly related with technical efficiency. The findings in this study are proved to be robust. Hence, several policy implications for meeting the challenges from aging of agricultural labor force and improving technical efficiency in tea production in the mountainous areas of southwestern China are also discussed

Links : <https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/11/22/6246>

Tags : Work productivity

## **The Fifth International Fishing Industry Safety and Health Conference (IFISH 5): A Gathering of International Safety and Health Experts in Commercial Fishing, Aquaculture and Seafood Processing**

Seeing the need for an international dialog between researchers, industry, and worker organizations to decrease injury and illness in the seafood industry, the United States National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) created the International Fishing Industry Safety and Health Conference (IFISH) in 2000. Since then, IFISH continues to be the only international gathering of fishing safety experts and researchers - and this dialog has been critical to advancing safety and health research in the industry. The field of commercial fishing safety and health has expanded considerably in the past few years. We have seen innovations in technology, training curriculum, standards evaluation, fisheries management, and behavior change approaches. For the fifth IFISH conference (IFISH 5), we expanded from focusing only on commercial fishing to also include sessions on occupational safety and health in seafood processing and aquaculture. IFISH gives us the chance to share these success stories, discuss research methods, and brainstorm solutions for addressing continuing barriers.

Links : <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/1059924X.2019.1662652?af=R>

Tags : Health and decent work

## **Data for development: FAO statistical pocketbook 2019**

This pocketbook presents, at a glance, selected key indicators on agriculture and food security, and is meant to serve as an easy-to-access and quick reference for all stakeholders and partners involved in policy formulation or decision-making processes.

Links : <http://www.fao.org/publications/highlights-detail/en/c/1245439/>

## **The impact of sugarcane expansion in Brazil: Local stakeholders' perceptions**

Sugarcane expansion in Brazil during the 2000s was partly restricted by several discussions about the sustainability aspects of its cultivation. These discussions were mainly based on surveys that sometimes use highly aggregated data not including local perspectives and particularities, and sometimes used case studies with small samples which, while listening to local perspectives, cannot be considered representative of the whole sector. This work aims at filling this gap by considering both the perceptions of the local community, which add primary data on impact, and a large sample, to increase the research representativeness. To do so, we present the results of 353 interviews, covering 33 municipalities in five states of the Center-South region of Brazil (the largest cultivation area in the country). The results show that the expansion of biofuels has generated conflict mostly related to environmental and social issues, although there is good acceptance of the sugarcane mills in general. Our conclusions point to the importance of including local voices for a deeper understanding of the advantages and limitations of the expansion of biofuels.

Links : [https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0743016719301688?dgcid=rss\\_sd\\_all](https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0743016719301688?dgcid=rss_sd_all)

Tags : Rural Employment, Health and decent work

## **Knowledge and Practices to Avoid Heat-Related Illness among Hispanic Farmworkers along the Florida-Georgia Line**

**Objectives:** Farmworkers who harvest and weed field crops are at increased risk for heat exposure and heat-related illness (HRI). The study objectives were to: (1) train crew leaders to use the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) heat safety tool app and evaluate the utility of the app from a crew leader perspective; and (2) characterize heat safety knowledge, preventive practices, and perceptions of HRI risk among Hispanic farmworkers.

**Methods:** Before harvest season, six crew leaders completed a 2-hour OSHA heat illness prevention training, including evaluation of a heat safety mobile app. Between August and October 2018, 101 Hispanic farmworkers participated in cross-sectional surveys about heat safety. Survey participants responded to questions about HRI prevention, HRI knowledge, and sociodemographics.

**Results:** Crew leaders using the heat safety app rated the app very highly on relevance, functionality, value and privacy. Farmworkers did not report being overly concerned about HRI based on their survey responses. Nevertheless, 19% of farmworkers had experienced nonspecific symptoms from working in the heat, such as headache, dizziness, and nausea. In the multivariate linear regression model, farmworkers had lower heat safety knowledge scores if they were H-2A visa holders, female, and only “a little bit concerned,” compared to others who were “very concerned” about working in the heat.

**Conclusion:** The results of this study indicate the need for continued heat safety training for both crew leaders and farmworkers to reduce the risk of HRI, especially among less experienced farmworkers.

Links : <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/1059924X.2019.1670312>

Tags : Migration, Health and decent work

## **More children nutrition distribution, less labor incentive: Evidence from Chinese collective agriculture**

Distribution system will affect the labor incentive that has been heatedly discussed by recent literatures. Using a unique micro dataset, this paper demonstrates that the equalitarian distribution system is one of the reasons for the insufficient labor incentive during the Chinese Collective Agriculture period. Specifically speaking, in the distribution of basic rations, the proportion for children (aged 1-3 and 4-7 years) was often beyond their nutrition demand, resulting the dissatisfaction of other families with more laborers and less children, thus these households will reduce their labor supply gradually. At the same time, the existence of outstanding accounts makes it a failure to use work points to buy distributions, which is the mechanism of the distribution system and insufficient labor incentive. All the results have been accepted by the robustness tests. The study will help to understand the distribution system and labor incentive, as well as the failure of the Chinese collective agriculture.

Links : <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2095311919627334?via%3Dihub>

Tags : Policy

## **Non-farm Income Generating Activities of Rural Households in Abia State, Nigeria**

The study analysed the non-farm activities of rural households in Abia State, Nigeria. Specifically, the study described the socio-economic characteristics of rural households, ascertained the various forms of non-farm income generating activities engaged by rural households, estimated the income earned from the non-farm activities and identified the constraints to participation in non-farm income generating activities among rural households. A multi-stage sampling procedure was used in selecting 160 respondents. Primary data used for the study were obtained through the use of a structured questionnaire and interview schedule. Frequency, percentage and means were used in analysing the data. Findings reveal that Most (55.0%) of the respondents were engaged in nonfarm activities under service category. Trade and commerce non-farm category gave the highest income with the mean estimated annual income of N482,891.89. The major constraints to participation in non-farm income generating activities in the study area include increasing cost of fuel and other needed materials, lack or inadequate fund, bad state of the roads, and lack of credit facilities. The study recommended improvement in access to credit by rural households intending to venture into non-farm income generating activities, establishment of skills acquisition and entrepreneurial centres, encouraging of rural dwellers to venture into the more productive and lucrative non-farm activities, provision or improvement of basic infrastructures

Links : <https://www.ajol.info/index.php/jae/article/view/190234>

## **Topographic heterogeneity, rural labour transfer and cultivated land use: An empirical study of plain and low-hill areas in China**

The relationship between rural labour transfer and cultivated land use has always been a hot topic in academic field and government management. Here, by using the large-scale survey data of 1,868 farmers from 37 villages in Jiangnan Plain and the low-hill areas in southeastern Hubei province, we investigated the relationship between rural labour force transfer and decision-making in cultivated land use from the perspective of terrain heterogeneity. The findings indicate that under different terrain conditions, there are significant differences in the decision-making of farmers concerning cultivated land use, leading to different land use efficiencies in different areas. Specifically, rural labour force transfer enhances land use efficiency in plain areas; however, it does not affect that in the low-hill areas. In addition, we found that in the plain areas, improving the quality of rural household labour can increase the cultivated land use efficiency, while in low-hill areas, enhancement of geographical accessibility is the key to improving land use efficiency

Links : <https://rsaiconnect.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/pirs.12444>

## **Sustainability labels on food products: Consumer motivation, understanding and use**

This study investigates the relationship between consumer motivation, understanding and use of sustainability labels on food products (both environmental and ethical labels), which are increasingly appearing on food products. Data was collected by means of an online survey implemented in the UK, France, Germany, Spain, Sweden, and Poland, with a total sample size of 4408 respondents. Respondents expressed medium high to high levels of concern with sustainability issues at the general level, but lower levels of concern in the context of concrete food product choices. Understanding of the concept of

sustainability was limited, but understanding of four selected labels (Fair Trade, Rainforest Alliance, Carbon Footprint, and Animal Welfare) was better, as some of them seem to be self-explanatory. The results indicated a low level of use, no matter whether use was measured as self-reported use of different types of information available on food labels or as use inferred from the results of a choice-based conjoint analysis. Hierarchical regression indicated that use is related to both motivation and understanding, and that both motivation, understanding and use are affected by demographic characteristics, human values as measured by the Schwartz value domains, and country differences. The results imply that sustainability labels currently do not play a major role in consumers' food choices, and future use of these labels will depend on the extent to which consumers' general concern about sustainability can be turned into actual behaviour.

Links : <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0306919213001796>

Tags : Child labour, Health and decent work, Value chains

## The commuting rural labour forces revealed by mobile phone trace data

Many rural labour forces are involved in non-farm employment and follow a non-traditional lifestyle in developing countries. Among the different types of new livelihoods, rural-urban commuting has received relatively scant research. To fill this gap, this study takes advantage of mobile phone trace data, which has been widely used in urban studies but less so in rural topics. From one week's mobile phone trace data in the city of Chengdu, China, the study identifies the home and work locations of 819,047 members of the rural labour force and visualizes the home-work location pairs. The graphic shows that 7% of the rural labour force commute to urban areas to work almost every day. Although the number is not large in itself, it reveals a shifting livelihood and lifestyle in developing countries which is worthy of attention in rural policy-making.

Links : <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/0308518X18810874>

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