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EXCELLENCE IN SOCIAL SECURITY

MSA's Scientific Project to meet the challenges of social protection in agriculture

Pr Jean-Marc Soulat, National Doctor and Member of the Board, Central Agricultural Workers and Farmers' Mutual Benefit Fund (CCMSA)

MSA, France

Rural workers and social security in Europe

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MSA's Scientific Project: a tool for innovation in social protection

- **MSA implements a scientific project to innovate in social protection support and respond to the new challenges of rural areas**
- **Objectives:**
 - to develop services for agricultural populations in rural areas
 - to defend a human, efficient and proactive service relationship
 - to improve performance in order to develop new activities

What are the targeted topics?

- **The health sector**

- public health, relevance of care and good practices in health, support for the provision of care, prevention and health at work...

- **Services**

- good governance, quality of services, information and communication technologies, prevention of occupational risks, health promotion in the workplace (ISSA's major topics)

- **Social and economic aspects**

- vulnerable/at-risk populations, social inequalities...

What are the scientific bodies?

- **Scientific Council (SC) / Scientific Orientation Council (SOC)**
- **These 2 bodies help to design, analysis and/or interpretation of data produced by scientific studies financed by MSA**
- **Three colleges:**
 - college of MSA's employees
 - college of MSA's elected representatives
 - college of external personalities

Implementation 1: Call for research projects

- **Process for awarding a grant, based on several research themes chosen by MSA's SC and SOC**
- **Grant awarded to French research teams**
- **Objectives :**
 - to produce scientific knowledge which benefits are exploitable by MSA
 - to formulate concrete recommendations for improving professional practices and support for MSA's members
 - to provide solid scientific answers and perspectives on priority issues
 - To develop new methodologies for the exploitation of MSA databases

Implementation 2: the Studies & Research report

- Annual public publication edited by MSA
- Promotes all scientific studies and innovative tools
- Objectives:
 - to capitalise on the knowledge produced in the network of MSA funds
 - to give visibility to innovation and experimentation of social support tools
 - to promote local and national MSA's initiatives to meet the new challenges of transition in rural areas
- [Rapport E&R 2019](#)
- [Rapport E&R 2020](#)

Initiatives to improve prevention services

- **Example 1: “Socio-anthropological study regarding the effect on shepherds and farmers health of the presence of wolve”** (project completed)
 - Better understanding of the types of effects on physical and mental health
 - Better knowledge of changes in professional agricultural practices
- **Example 2: call to project MSA 2020 "Measuring the effectiveness of prevention actions carried out by MSA"** (2 ongoing projects)
 - EVIDENCE "Evaluating to produce what type of knowledge? On the social relevance of evidence"
 - Vit'All "Validation of a safety climate score in viticulture through the evaluation of a training action"

Initiatives to strengthen social protection

- **Example: "Understanding the effects of an experimental social and health support system aimed at improving access to health care for precarious agricultural populations" COMEFFAS** (ongoing project)
 - Experimentation set up by the MSA Poitou fund for precarious working people with problems accessing to health care
 - Analysis of the effects of this experimental device for its beneficiaries
 - Highlighting the effects on access to health care for the people supported
 - Highlighting existing actions in the area to determine the degree of adequacy between the expected effects and the effects obtained

Initiatives to respond to change

- **Example 1: call to project 2022 (ongoing) "Study of the effects of climatic, economic, social and/or political systems on agricultural practices and on the health of professionals"**

- **Example 2: call to project 2020 "Studying the health impacts of the agro-ecological transition on agricultural professions (3 ongoing projects)"**
 - Better understanding of the types of effects on professional practices and health
 - Better knowledge of the social and health issues of agricultural populations
 - Projects:
 - ✧ MENTAGRO "Mental health of farmers in agro-ecological transition"
 - ✧ ELTA2W "Breeders as slaughterhouse workers. A double job"
 - ✧ TraSAD "Sustainable work in sustainable agriculture. What transformations in working conditions on farms undertaking an agroecological transition?"

Initiatives to prevent the general malaise of the agricultural population

- **Example: call to project MSA 2020: priority axis "Improving the understanding of the occurrence of suicide in agricultural professions"** (2 ongoing projects)
 - Better knowledge of psycho-social risks, working conditions
 - Taking into account the results to improve MSA prevention services according to territorial specificities and at national level
 - Projects:
 - ✧ MOSA "Reasons for suicide in agriculture: between anticipatory socialisation and absence of family succession"
 - ✧ STOP "Suicides among agricultural workers: observing and understanding risk factors to act preventively"

Initiatives to improve support for the population

- **Example 1: "Identification and prevention of criminal practices in the employment of seasonal workers in agriculture" SAISAGRI (ongoing project)**
 - Employment of migrant seasonal workers in the agricultural sector
 - Study of the misuse of legal provisions for the use of seasonal workers
 - Better understanding of working conditions / migration policies
- **Example 2: "Health of immigrants in rural areas. Understanding the needs of an unrecognised population" SANTIM (ongoing project)**
 - Better understanding of the needs and use of health institutions of immigrant populations in rural areas
 - Study of exposure to occupational and mental health risks
 - To feed the analysis of the transformations of rural worlds, by questioning the formation of new inter and intra-territorial inequalities

Conclusion

The MSA scientific project allows :

- Innovation in prevention and support in social protection
- Understanding the new challenges of rural areas
- The production of knowledge in partnership with scientists



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