

EU COST Action: Safety Culture and Risk Management in Agriculture (SACURIMA)

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Keywords: Agriculture, safety culture, risk management

1. Overview : EU COST is the longest-running European framework supporting trans-national cooperation among researchers, engineers and scholars across Europe. Further information can be found at: <http://www.cost.eu/>

2. Introduction: Agriculture is one of the most hazardous industries in Europe, measured by work-related injuries, diseases, disabilities and deaths. Statistics and studies show great differences in national injury and occupational disease rates, as well as approaches and support for prevention of these adverse outcomes. This EU-COST Action explores reasons why agriculture lags behind other sectors, and why some countries have been more successful than others in reducing agricultural injuries and diseases.

3. Approach: The EU COST Action SACURIMA commenced on 17th March 2017 and runs for 4 years. It will use the following methodologies: 1) Evaluation of health and safety programmes and approaches on the national level, 2) identification of knowledge, attitudes, behaviors and priorities among farmers regarding safety, health and risk management, 3) identification of effective measures for training and integrating vulnerable populations (including refugees) into the agricultural workforce, 4) development of indicators for monitoring progress and evaluating the impact of interventions on occupational injuries and diseases in agriculture,

5. Discussion : This action is currently in progress; previous Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST) Actions, like Monitoring Occupational Diseases and tracing New and Emerging Risks in a Network (MODERNET) show that such multidisciplinary, international focused exchange programmes are effective to trigger awareness raising and preventive actions.

Picture 1:
Farmer with Farm Accident acquired disability at work



5. Participation: EU COST Action has participation from 30 European Countries, 1 Near Neighbour Country and 2 International Partner Countries. Further information can be found at: http://www.cost.eu/COST_Actions/ca/CA16123

Picture 2: SACURIMA Management Committee



6. Future Results: The EU COST Action SACURIMA will lead to benchmarked and evidence-based recommendations will be developed to inform and guide national initiatives and efforts. Results will be disseminated to stakeholders and the agricultural community.

