

Mainstreaming Participatory Approaches into ARD in Tanzania

PROLINNOVA IPW 2011

21st to 25th March 2011

Dar Es salaam

Tanzania

Introduction

- A national network for learning and advocacy in promoting local innovation in ecologically-oriented agriculture and NRM
- Started in January 2005
- Hosted and coordinated by PELUM Tanzania
- A multi-stakeholder partnership implemented by through POs

Introduction (cont....)

- Focuses on recognizing the dynamics of indigenous knowledge (IK) and how to strengthen the capacities of farmers to adjust to changing conditions
- PROLINNOVA builds on and seeks to scale up farmer-Led R&D approaches that start with discovering how farmers carry out their informal experimentations
- Gives central attention to the promotion & institutionalization of participatory research and development approach (Participatory Innovation Development (PID))

Challenges addressed by PROLINNOVA

- Inadequate recognition and acknowledgement of the contribution of farmer innovations by scientific community
- Poor linkages & collaboration: farmer-extension-researcher
- Inadequate capacities and effectiveness of ARD actors to facilitate farmer – led participatory approaches
- Institutionalization of Participatory approaches to farmer-led innovation and experimentation
- Policy & Institutional supportive to the innovation systems development
- Lack of forum for reflection, analysis and learning

What do we want to achieve?

- Mindset change, development of strong AR&D partnerships
- Enhance land users capacities to have control over priorities setting and resources management
- Enhanced Human and Financial Resource management through decentralization process,
- Establishment of strong multi-stakeholder partnerships to enhance more accountability towards clients orientation and other partners
- Ensure quality services delivery and management, implementation, M&E
- Develop for up-scaling/out-scaling for successful local innovations

How is the process implemented?

- Implemented through a Multi-stakeholder partnership process
- To enhance the capacities of ARD actors to facilitate institutionalization of participatory approaches into relevant ARD institutions
- To encourage continuous action learning, innovation development and dissemination of successful local innovations for wider use:
 - to improve the livelihood of resource-poor farmers.
 - Safeguard the environment

Current PROLINNOVA Partners

- PROLINNOVA has a membership of 18 NGOs in 9 regions of Tanzania Mainland
- Farmers/farmer groups collaborating with our local partners
- Academic Institutions (SUA & MUCoBS)
- Crop and Livestock research institutions (5): Central and SHLs Zones
- LGAs in Dodoma & Mbeya Regions: 9 Districts
- Decision makers at Ministry level: MoAFC - DRT and MLDF – DRTE, and other ALMs
- Linking to PROLINNOVA International : Africa, Asia, Latine America and Europe

Mainstreaming & Institutionalization PID into ARD

- PID constitutes one of the four Block of CORDEMA program to improve research and extension service delivery towards client orientation and mind set change
- Member of the National team of trainers on CORDEMA and Technical Adviser for ZARDEF in Central Zonal
- Partners applying PID principles to implement their activities
- SUA-DAEE planning to integrate PID concepts into university training curricula
- MSP and Client orientation are the pre-requisite for proposal writing for funding through ZARDEF
- LGAs providing financial support to PROLINNOVA initiatives undertaken by our partners
- LGAs adapting PID to implement FFS

Lessons

- Change of mindset and attitude is a gradual process.
- Integration of modern technologies and scientific knowledge into local innovations lead to hybrid innovations.
- Learning from seeing and doing is more effective way than training in development of capacities

Challenges/recommendations

- Systematic analysis of the innovation development process, documentation and sharing of experience
- Inadequate resources to implement program activities while involving more partners
- Need for national innovation support trust funds to support local innovation development process & mainstreaming
- Need for ARD institutional support to PROLINNOVA: conducive policy environment to promote PID, mainstreaming and institutionalization into ARD