PROLINNOVA INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS WORKSHOP
POKHARA, NEPAL, 8–11 MAY 2009

IPW participants and friends

Name	Sex	Organisation	Country	Entity	Email
Alex Lwakuba	M	Env. Alert	Uganda	CP	alwakuba@yahoo.com
Ann Waters-Bayer	F	ETC	Netherlands	IST	ann.waters-bayer@etcnl.nl
Anton Krone	M	SaveAct	South Africa	FAIR IST	anton@saveact.org.za
Anuja Shrestha	F	LI-BIRD	Nepal	CP	anuja@libird.org
Basanta Rana Bhat	M	Ecoscentre	Nepal	CP	ecoscentre@wlink.com.np
Bernard Triomphe	M	CIRAD	France	FAIR	triomphe@cirad.fr
Brigid Letty	F	INR	South Africa	CP	lettyb@ukzn.ac.za
Chesha Wettasinha	F	ETC	Netherlands	IST	c.wettasinha@etcnl.nl
Deepa Acharya	F	LI-BIRD	Nepal	CP	
Dharma Dangol	M	IAAS	Nepal	CP	dharmadangol@hotmail.com
Hector Velásquez	M	RAAA	Peru	CP/POG	hvelasquez@raaa.org.pe / halconazul_coris@hotmail.com
Jenny Reyes	F	IIRR	Philippines	IST	jennyreyes_gsb@yahoo.com
Laurent Kaburire	M	PELUM-Tz	Tanzania	CP	laurentkaburire@yahoo.co.uk
Madhav Paudel	M	Tuki Sunkoshi	Nepal	CP	tuki.sindhu@gmail.com
Magda Mirghani Mohamed Ahmed	F	UNIDO	Sudan	CP	yamahmed@yahoo.com
Nomaphelo (Nono) Ngubane	F	FSG	South Africa	FAIR	ngubanenn@ukzn.ac.za
Noureldin Ahmed	M	Practical Action	Sudan	CP	noureldina@practicalaction.org.sd / nour58@yahoo.com
Pratap Shrestha	M	LI-BIRD	Nepal	POG	pshrestha_libird@wlink.com.np / pshrestha@libird.org
Qureish Noordin	M	WN-East Africa	Kenya	CP	qnoordin@wneastafrica.org / q.noordin@yahoo.com
Rajju Malla Dhakal	F	LI-BIRD	Nepal	CP	rmdhakal@libird.org
Robert Solar	M	IIRR	Philippines	IST	robert.solar@iirr.org
Romuald Rutazihana	M	ADCR	Mozambique	CP	rutaromuald@hotmail.com
Sabina Di Prima	F	CIS-VUA	Netherlands	IST/POG	s.di_prima@dienst.vu.nl
Saidou Magagi	M	INRAN	Niger	CP/POG	saidmague@yahoo.fr / saidmag@refer.ne
Sam Vitou	M	CEDAC	Cambodia	CP	samvitou@online.com.kh
Scott Killough	M	WN	USA	POG	skillough@wn.org
Sharad Rai	M	Practical Action	Nepal	CP	sharad.rai@practicalaction.org.np
Suman Manandhar	M	LI-BIRD	Nepal	CP	suman_libird@wlink.com.np / smanandhar@libird.org
Susan Kaaria	F	Ford Foundation	Kenya	POG	s.kaaria@fordfound.org

Unable to attend:					
Demekech Gera	F	ASE	Ethiopia	CP	worku10@yahoo.com
Frank Adongo	M	ACDEP	Ghana	CP	adongofrank@yahoo.com
George Ofosu	M	ECASARD	Ghana	CP	ecasardghana@yahoo.com / fosuko@yahoo.com
Monica Kapiriri	F	c/o Env. Alert	Uganda	CP/POG	mkapiriri@yahoo.co.uk
Oliver Oliveros	M	Agropolis	France	POG	oliveros@agropolis.fr
Yemi Adeleye	M	DRIVE	Nigeria	CP	yemiolayemi@yahoo.com

PREAMBLE

PROLINNOVA (Promoting Local Innovation in ecologically-oriented agriculture and natural resource management) is a Global Partnership Programme initiated under the umbrella of the Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR) by the stakeholder group of non-governmental organisations (NGOs). This multi-stakeholder network receives core funding from the Netherlands Directorate for International Cooperation (DGIS) and co-funding from other donors for specific components.

This report covers the proceedings of the PROLINNOVA International Partners Workshop (IPW) that took place on 8–11 May 2009 in Pokhara, Nepal. It was shorter than the customary IPW, such as the one held last year in northern Ghana, because this one was held immediately after the Nepalese Farmer Innovation Fair (2–4 May) and the Innovation Asia-Pacific Symposium (4–7 May), which both demanded much time of the PROLINNOVA partners involved as organisers of and/or participants in these events.

The IPW 2009 was hosted jointly by the partners in PROLINNOVA–Nepal, with LI-BIRD (Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development) – the coordinating NGO in Nepal – being entrusted with the logistics. The International Secretariat arranged the workshop programme and facilitation. In most cases, each Country Programme (CP) was represented by one person, usually the CP coordinator. Unfortunately, participants from Ethiopia, Ghana and Nigeria could not attend because they could not obtain visas for Nepal. A total of 29 people took part (11 women, 18 men). These were: 20 partners from ten CPs, including nine from partner organisations in PROLINNOVA–Nepal; two independent members of the PROLINNOVA Oversight Group (POG) – the co-chairs Susan Kaaria and Scott Killough; three Netherlands-based members in the PROLINNOVA International Support Team (IST) – two from the International Secretariat at ETC EcoCulture plus Sabina Di Prima from the Centre for International Cooperation (CIS) at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VUA), who had come to the meeting of the (POG) to represent the IST; two Philippines-based members of the IST – Bob Solar and Jenny Reyes from the International Institute of Rural Reconstruction (IIRR); one South Africa-based member of the IST – Anton Krone, backstopping the FAIR (Farmer Access to Innovation Resources) sub-component to pilot Local Innovation Support Funds (LISFs); and Bernard Triomphe from CIRAD (French Agricultural Research Centre for Agricultural Development) in Montpellier, who is currently doing his sabbatical with PROLINNOVA), helping to develop a methodological framework for assessing the impact of LISFs.

On 8 May, the group travelled overland from Kathmandu to Pokhara, where LI-BIRD is based, at the foot of the beautiful Annapurna range of the Himalayas. A day of field visits in the Kaski area was followed by two very intensive days of discussions on various PROLINNOVA activities. A further day of reflection was focused on piloting LISFs. This one-day workshop devoted purely to FAIR, which is an integral part of PROLINNOVA activities, was co-financed by Rockefeller Foundation. The full report on this workshop can be found in Annex 6.

These meetings provided an opportunity for partners from different CPs to meet face-to-face, review their activities, share their experiences, learn from each other, discuss key issues and make plans for the short and longer term. A focus on this year's IPW was on PROLINNOVA beyond 2010.

The proceedings were recorded by the participants and by Bob and Jenny, who compiled the voluminous materials from the brief IPW into this volume.

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List of acronyms

ABCD	Asset-Based Community Development
ADCR	Association for Rural Community Development
AI	Appreciative Inquiry
APAARI	Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions
ARC	Agricultural Research Council
ARD	agricultural research and development
ARI	Agricultural Research Institute
CBO	community-based organisation
CD	curriculum development (also compact disk)
CDWG	Curriculum Development Working Group
CIAT	International Centre for Tropical Agriculture
CIS–VUA	Centre for International Cooperation, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
COMPAS	Comparing and Supporting Endogenous Development
CoP	Community of Practice
CP	Country Programme
DGIS	Netherlands Directorate General for International Cooperation
DNPWC	Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation
DPR	Department of Plant Resources
DRTE	Directorate of Research, Training and Extension
EC / EU	European Commission / European Union
ECASARD	Ecumenical Association for Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development
FARA	Forum on Agricultural Research in Africa
FFS	Farmer Field School
FLD	farmer-led documentation
FO	farmer organisation
GFP	Gender Focal Point
GO	governmental organisation
HAPID	HIV/AIDS and Participatory Innovation Development
IAAS	Institute of Agriculture and Animal Science
IAPS	Innovation Asia-Pacific Symposium
ICIMOD	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development
ICRA	International Centre for development-oriented Research in Agriculture
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IIED	Institute for Environment and Development
IIRR	International Institute of Rural Reconstruction
IK	indigenous knowledge
ILEIA	Information Centre for Low-External-Input and Sustainable Agriculture
INADES	African Institute for Economic and Social Development
INGO	international non-governmental organisation
INRAN	*Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique du Niger* – National Institute for Agronomic Research in Niger
IPGRI	International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (Bioversity)
IRDO	Ileje Rural Development Organisation
IST	International Support Team
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
JOLISAA	Joint Learning in Innovation Systems in African Agriculture
KARI	Kenya Agricultural Research Institute
KENDAT	Kenya Network for Dissemination of Agricultural Technologies

KENFAP	Kenya Federation of Agricultural Producers
KESSFF	Kenya Small-Scale Farmers' Forum
LGA	Local Government Authority
LI	local innovation
LI-BIRD	Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development
LRC	Livelihoods Resource Centre
M&E	monitoring and evaluation
MAFF	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
MSP	multi-stakeholder partnership
MVIWATA	National Network of Smallholder Farmers in Tanzania
NGO	non-governmental organisation
NPG	Nepal Permaculture Group
NRM	natural resource management
NSC	National Steering Committee
NW	North-West
NWG	National Working Group
PID	Participatory Innovation Development
PLWHA	persons living with HIV/AIDS
PM&E	participatory monitoring and evaluation
POG	PROLINNOVA Oversight Group
PPB	Participatory Plant Breeding
PROLINNOVA	Promoting Local Innovation in ecologically oriented agriculture and NRM
PTT	Provincial Task Team
PV	participatory video
R&D	research and development
RIU	Research Into Use
RP	Regional Programme
RUFORUM	Regional Universities forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture
SEI	Stockholm Environment Institute
SLM	sustainable land management
ToF	training of facilitators
ToRs	terms of reference
TRPAP	Tourism for Rural Poverty Alleviation Programme
UAC	University of Abomey-Calavi
UKZN	University of KwaZulu-Natal
UP	University of Pretoria
USC	Unity Service Cooperation
WN	World Neighbors
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature

By Anton Krone, Qureish Noordin and Hector Velasquez

Four abstracts submitted by PROLINNOVA partners were accepted to be presented at the Innovation Asia-Pacific Symposium (IAPS) "marketplace": Anton Krone and Qureish Noordin on piloting Local Innovation Support Funds, Hector Velasquez on women's innovation in water management in Peru, Dharma Dangol on integrating innovation systems approach into university curricula in Nepal, and Yemi Adeleye on innovation in the catfish enterprise in Nigeria (who, unfortunately, could not attend because of visa problems). Several partners from Nepal and Cambodia also attended the Symposium, as did Chesha Wettasinha and Ann Waters-Bayer from the PROLINNOVA International Secretariat. The non-Nepalese partners from Country Programmes gave their feedback on the IAPS to the participants in the International Partners Workshop IPW).

The IAPS was co-organised by the PROLINNOVA International Secretariat, the PROLINNOVA–Nepal partners LI-BIRD and Practical Action, CIAT–Asia (International Centre for Tropical Agriculture, Asia Regional Programme) and ICIMOD (International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development) and co-sponsored by these organisations and the UK-funded programme Research Into Use (RIU). It was held on 4–7 May 2009 in the Everest Hotel in Kathmandu. The opening session on Monday, 4 May 2009, included welcoming remarks and a keynote address by Jacqueline Ashby, Research and Policy Coordinator of the Andean Change Programme based at the International Potato Centre in Peru and Vice-Chair of the ICIMOD Board of Governors. Recognition was given to the winners (female and male) of the National Nepalese Innovation Prize, who then gave their remarks to the other IAPS participants. In the afternoon, the participants visited and interacted with innovators at the Nepalese Farmer Innovation Fair, which was organised by PROLINNOVA–Nepal on 2–4 May 2009 on the grounds of the Kathmandu City Hall.

IAPS outline

The symposium ran for three days and was organised into the following themes:

- Theme 1: Concepts and methods in innovation systems approaches
- Theme 2: Building and maintaining partnerships in innovation
- Theme 3: Strengthening adaptive capacities through local innovation processes
- Theme 4: Private-sector engagement for market-oriented innovation
- Theme 5: Building capacity and mainstreaming innovation systems approaches
- Theme 6: Policy dialogue and institutional change to support pro-poor innovation.

Facilitation / moderation of sessions

LI-BIRD – IAPS marketplace stand (Photo by Hector Velasquez)

There was an overall chairperson for each day and a chair and rapporteur for each session, which had a lead paper supported by three other papers. After each paper, there was an opportunity for questions, comments and points of clarification followed by a plenary discussion, where two issues were teased out for discussion during the "world café" on the final day.

In the late afternoon of each day, there was a marketplace presentation. This included the use of posters, DVDs, reports, books and models. The marketplace went over two days, with Day 1 covering

Themes 1, 2 and 3, and Day 2 covering Themes 4, 5 and 6. Before participants visited the individual stations, exhibitors were all given some time to market their presentations. On the last day of the IAPS, tables with specific theme issues were set out for the world café. Participants then deliberated on these, and table "leaders" presented the outcome of the deliberations in a plenary session.

Keynote address

The symposium was launched with an appropriate bang. The keynote address was made by Jacqueline Ashby, formerly Head of the Rural Innovation Institute at CIAT based in Colombia, which played an important role in enabling farmer innovation. The focus was on power relations and the eminently political nature of science, research and support for farmers. Her inputs were very timely for the IPW, given that key to the IPW is for country-level partners and the support teams to gather, reflect on their work and consider how to go forward. As the keynote address was particularly challenging and relevant to PROLINNOVA, its contents are summarised here.

System concepts:

  ✓ Change from linear pipeline research and development (R&D);
  ✓ New focus on multi-actor relationships.

Note: Innovation was described as a learning process involving cooperation, networks and partnerships.

Types of innovation introduced as:

  ✓ Product, e.g. a new crop variety;
  ✓ Process, e.g. a new system of producing, marketing etc;
  ✓ Organisational, e.g. a new form of collective marketing, accessing financial services.

  An innovation system is:

  "A set of interrelated agents, their interactions, and the institutions that condition the generation, diffusion and utilisation of knowledge and technology."

  Jacqueline Ashby – IAPS 2009

Power and politics:
  ✓ Policy should enable, through incentives, a form of compensation for innovation to different actors;
  ✓ Central to multi-actor relationship;
  ✓ Ignored in innovation systems analysis; but
  ✓ Political leaders and ruling elites are key to the creation of institutions (that in turn either hinder or enable innovation, just as they can hinder or enable the poor to climb out of poverty).

Jacqueline Ashby noted that there are few practical strategies or solutions to fostering innovation. There tends to be a narrow focus on the public sector and the supply side. Hence, could a focus on implementing good development practice principles not lead to more innovation than a focus on innovation?

  Study of farmer groups showed five group-formation strategies and drivers of participation:
  ✓ Farmer Field School (FFS) / group organisation;
  ✓ Research / marketing;

- ✓ Agro-enterprise groups / technology innovation;
- ✓ Savings and loans groups / financial services;
- ✓ Natural resource management (NRM).

All groups studied showed a grassroots drive to acquire these five skills sets. With this combination come the prospects of sustainable livelihoods through entrepreneurship.

A thread through the IAPS was the need to "unlearn" in order to enable innovation.

Markets, innovation and the poor – key comments from the presenters and the floor:

- ✓ Profit as a motivation for market innovation;
- ✓ Link producers (poor) to market (mainstream);
- ✓ Link income, social capital and access to food for innovation: these three are why markets are important for benefiting the poor;
- ✓ It is also for the poor all the way along the value chain;
- ✓ Role of government respective of subsidies and policies;
- ✓ Markets can bring innovators together;
- ✓ Need to empower poor to innovate, skills, connections, finance, learning;
- ✓ Hard business principles: when you use subsidies you need in communities to use very clear principles; subsidies can otherwise be negative;
- ✓ Do not propose any kinds of subsidies; if you arrive with money, you cannot see who really has potential;
- ✓ Incentive of being "green" – means different things in different contexts; in some, you can afford it more easily;
- ✓ Profit has to be there as a driver but it is not always enough;
- ✓ There was a big discussion on subsidies, and what kinds – not operational costs, but skills, technology, market access;
- ✓ We need to be open and aware of the unexpected, e.g. you may go in on rice but farmers / entrepreneurs may have another idea which is better;
- ✓ How do you select the product that you support? You choose like a venture capitalist – where the opportunities appear to be;
- ✓ The intermediary knows the community producers and the market, and that is valued by both producers and wholesalers;
- ✓ Traders tend to have high political power;
- ✓ Win-wins, leveraging and convergence are important; and
- ✓ Family and cultural ties are important.

Plenary session: Post-world café notes

Innovation systems
- ✓ We seem to replace one narrow paradigm with another as we try to enable innovation; and
- ✓ Incentives and motivation influence change.

Institutions and change
- ✓ Case histories are an important way of unlearning.

How does policy enhance innovation?
- ✓ Policy has intended and unintended consequences: incentives for innovation, access to finance, Intellectual Property Rights (protecting them can be a barrier to innovation), empowerment / community building;
- ✓ The policymaking process may be more important in the long run;
- ✓ We need to be more radical in policy;
- ✓ Governance is a prerequisite for policy to work to be effective;
- ✓ Freedom of information / transparency is important;
- ✓ Policy mainly responds to the formal economy, ignoring the informal;
- ✓ Active and passive hindrances;
- ✓ Social exclusion may apply: what are the implicit assumptions?
- ✓ 4 Rs: responsive, responsible, representative, reflective;
- ✓ Communities of learning are important; and
- ✓ Ownership of policy is important; beneficiaries are implicit too often;
- ✓ An open-innovation model is important to encourage; and
- ✓ In theory, there is no difference between policy and practice, only in practice.

Three assumptions about policymaking
- ✓ Technocracy;
- ✓ Hidden norms and control; and
- ✓ Selective perception (by design, they perceive an aspect of a problem rather than a system).

All emphasise ways in which a techno-centric system can become human-centric.

How can market-driven innovation assist the poor?
- ✓ Subsidies and incentives were highlighted;
- ✓ Market-driven innovation is important, as it can generate income and social capital, increase food security and allow for impact at scale;
- ✓ Markets tend to be self-sustained. They can be volatile. And markets can collapse, but people can get back on their feet sometimes in a different form;
- ✓ Innovation should be fostered *all along the value chain*, not only at the point of production. Innovation concepts in markets are, in many cases, collective;
- ✓ Advocacy / lobbying is important;
- ✓ Doing good sub-sector selection is so important; do this like a venture capitalist;
- ✓ Favour hard business principles. Subsidies are a last-resort mechanism. If they are used to attract actors, we lose the space to identify those with initiative;
- ✓ The prospect of profit must be there; we should not subsidise operational costs.

IAPS marketplace stand (Photos by Hector Velasquez)

2.0 INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS WORKSHOP FIELD VISITS

In order to experience local innovation in action, the IPW participants visited farmer groups in the Begnas area near Pokhara. The participants divided into three groups according to their own choice:

1. *Innovation in community-based wetland management, Rupa Lake Rehabilitation and Fisheries Cooperative*
2. *Innovation in Participatory Plant Breeding (PPB), group around the husband-and-wife team Surya and Saraswote Acthikari*
3. *On-farm management of agrobiodiversity through value addition and market linkages, Pratigya Cooperative, Chaur.*

The three groups met for a late lunch of traditional dishes in Chaur and exchanged their reflections on their visits. The Chaur Mothers Group offered a cultural programme of music and dance. The posters on the visits prepared in the evening by each group were displayed and discussed in the IPW marketplace.

2.1 Innovation in community-based wetland management, Kaski, Nepal

Site visit facilitators: Anuja Shrestha and Sriram Subedi (LI-BIRD)

Rupa Lake, Kaski, Nepal (Photo by Robert W. Solar)

What led to the innovation?

Recognising the degradation of the natural environment around Lake Rupa over the years, alarm had risen, given that this degradation impacted on the environmental services that the lake formally provided, e.g. water, food security and livelihood advancement. When actions were fielded, few coordinated efforts were made to address the situation holistically and effectively.

As an aquaculture livelihood project was introduced into the area, some residents started to focus on the lake as an asset, the question was how to develop, protect and conserve the lake as an asset for the surrounding communities. To exacerbate problems, there was talk of the lake coming under control of "outsiders". Those involved with the aquaculture initiative pushed the resident communities to think and act equitably on their own behalf and on that of the lake.

Central causes of degradation in Lake Rupa and its surroundings:
- ✓ Siltation;
- ✓ Poor water quality;
- ✓ Arrival of invasive species – water hyacinth;
- ✓ Landslides;
- ✓ Dropping water volume – perceived.

In 2001, the Rupa Lake Rehabilitation and Fisheries Cooperative was formed. Starting with 36 members /family households, within one month membership rose to 360. This remained steady for three years, afterward steadily rising to today's membership of 688. A fee of 5,100 Nepalese rupees was required in cash or in kind to become a member; in 2009, this fee has reached 13,000 rupees. Overall, income earned by the cooperative is divided into the following:

- 60% – running costs and savings;
- 15% – social groups, e.g. youth groups, women's groups, community education;
- 25% – initiatives for the protection and conservation of the lake (including watershed management and reforestation).

What initiatives / innovations caught the visiting group's attention?

Natural resource management
- ✓ Area under management has expanded to – and covers the existing natural assets and those that form; benefit from assets – no downstream complications over water control;
- ✓ Biodiversity assessment – forefront of efforts;
- ✓ Collective regulation /mechanism.

Livelihoods and cooperative implementation / regulation systems
- ✓ Scaling up aquaculture and fishing together – lake stocking;
- ✓ Benefit-sharing mechanism – collective fish harvesting, processing and marketing.

Exchange of ideas and life experiences in the building of a coop (Photo by Robert W. Solar)

Partnership / collaboration and interactions
- ✓ Community mobilisation /organising – promotion through local and district festival, awareness-building activities locally as part of the function of the cooperative;
- ✓ Men and women participation in cooperative movement;
- ✓ Multi-stakeholder collaboration: public sector, international NGO, researchers and donor;
- ✓ Collective understanding of pursuing economic, social and environmental goals and integrated action.

Plans of Rupa Lake Rehabilitation and Fisheries Cooperative

Natural resource management
- ✓ Advance watershed rehabilitation – reforestation is primary hill stabilisation;
- ✓ Build an "Eco-FRIENDLY" dam to maintain lake-water level;
- ✓ Advance biodiversity assessments – possible M&E system for environmental health indicators.

Livelihoods cooperative implementation / regulation systems
- ✓ Establish lake trial for eco-tourism purpose;
- ✓ Village enterprise development – diversification.

Partnerships / collaboration and interactions
- ✓ Still increase the membership – but maximum has been set 1000 members;
- ✓ Continue to tap public sector, international NGO, researchers and donors for technical support.

Risk perceived by the visiting group

Natural resource management
- ✓ Overloading of nutrients into the lake (human and animals) upsetting ecological balances – lake kill;
- ✓ Introduction of 14 foreign fish species ;
- ✓ Lack of monitoring the natural asset (biodiversity, siltation, deforestation etc).

Livelihoods and cooperative implementation/regulation systems
- ✓ Little diversification respective of enterprises (primarily aquaculture);
- ✓ Community-wide livelihood effort;
- ✓ Overlapping functions of enterprises and credit facilities.

Partnerships / collaboration
- ✓ Difficult to separate/address "risk" involved with the management of the asset and the enterprise being so intertwined;
- ✓ Membership size and growth – remaining together and learning together.

2.2 Innovation in Participatory Plant Breeding (PPB)

Site visit facilitators: Suman Manandhar and Kamal Khadka (Li-BIRD)

Innovative farmer in plant breeding, Saraswote Acthikari (Photo by Ann Waters-Bayer)

How it started

The farmers were taught how to do crossbreeding with rice plants; this stimulated innovation. They then tried out the same techniques for crossbreeding in other plants, such as tomato and coffee. Men were taught to do crossbreeding and they, in turn, taught their wives, who can do this fine and delicate work much better. The women who learned these new skills became the innovators in plant breeding.

Key innovations
- ✓ Process in farmer group to explore different crosses (traditional/wild/introduced rise varieties);
- ✓ Applying breeding techniques to other crops, e.g. tomato, coffee;
- ✓ Innovative ways to promote new varieties: group of farmer breeders walk long distance to other farmers: discuss, describe and share samples of seed.

Plant-breeding process
- ✓ Groupwork in the fields of individual farmers;
- ✓ Farmers observe and record in writing;

✓ Scientists in the National Agricultural Research Centre record traits which farmers feel they cannot do (e.g. disease-resistance traits).

Gender issues
✓ Actual crossbreeding done by women BUT the men are seen at the forefront as the "farmer scientists", and go to represent the group in innovation fairs;
✓ The women want to speak; they want to teach; BUT they have no opportunity to do so.

Plant-breeding aims
✓ Farmers seek biodiversity in terms of traits such as aroma, cooking quality, productivity, resistance to drought or water logging, length of growing season, quantity and quality of straw;
✓ Farmers not necessarily seeking to conserve a specific local variety in its "pure" form;
✓ Reasons why local varieties are at risk of being lost, e.g. much work for little yield → breeding to diminish unfavourable trait (low yield) but retain desired traits;
✓ Farmers not seeking one "perfect" variety; they want different varieties for different purposes – often for cultural reasons; but still they breed for multiple purposes, whereby straw for livestock plays an important role.

Observation / recommendation of visiting group
✓ Highlight and publicise women's role in PPB, i.e. experimentation and innovation are teamwork: husband +wife, mixed group, and not just by men.

Visiting the farm of Surya & Saraswote Acthikari, members of a farmer plant-breeding group (Photos by Ann Waters-Bayer)

2.3 Innovation in on-farm management of agrobiodiversity, Pratigya Cooperative

Site visit facilitator: Sudha Khadka
(LI-BIRD)

Pratigya Cooperative field site (Photo by Sabina Di Prima)

The Pratigya Cooperative is composed of 77 members: 39 women, 32 men and 6 institutions. The cooperative has the following objectives:
- ✓ Collection, processing and marketing;
- ✓ Mobilisation of funds;
- ✓ Maintaining community biodiversity and seedbank.

Their key areas of activities include:

Value addition
- Taro, medicinal plants, vegetables, local dishes.

Income generation
- Poultry, goats, beekeeping, fishery.

Communal fishery
- Decentralise community seedbank.

Milling
- Savings and credit.

Group farming
- Training for other communities.

Profile of the innovation
- ✓ From centralised to decentralised seedbank;
- ✓ Transformation from input-supply coop to processing and marketing coop;
- ✓ Entrepreneur as coop member leading to viable sales outlet;

- ✓ Inclusion of marginalised community members such as *Dalit* ("outcasts") and others;
- ✓ Linking cultural aspects of community life as a strategy to strengthen coop and mobilise community;
- ✓ Sub-committee of members organises and manages activities;
- ✓ Leasing land for group farming;
- ✓ Variable repayment scheme/products for savings and credit.

Accomplishments
- ✓ Accumulation of assets: 300,000 Nepalese rupees, building, 0.5 ha land, human capital, mill;
- ✓ Register of local genetic resources (seed plus knowledge);
- ✓ Replication of coop model to other communities;
- ✓ Transfer of knowledge and skills to younger generation;
- ✓ Empowerment of women;
- ✓ Inclusion of *Dalit* and other marginalised members into group;
- ✓ Diversification of marketing outlets increases income.

Challenges
- ✓ Lack of transport, especially for products;
- ✓ Want more opportunities to learn from others / be exposed to other experiences;
- ✓ Limited involvement of younger generation in activities.

Future plans
- ✓ Expand organic farming and marketing;
- ✓ Reach other markets beyond Pokhara;
- ✓ See individuals benefiting more in terms of income.

Findings and observations of visiting group
- ✓ Integration between local knowledge and science-based knowledge;
- ✓ Active women leadership;
- ✓ Could capitalise their savings and credit funds to strengthen the marketing outreach;
- ✓ Finding ways of diversifying to other products, especially non-perishable ones;
- ✓ LI-BIRD action to welcome Participatory Innovation Development (PID) and Farmer-Led Documentation (FLD) with coop, especially for areas of interest for the future (organic farming);
- ✓ Systematic capacity building and knowledge sharing for scaling up;
- ✓ Coop's photos could be included in the plant genetic resource registry.

3.0 ASSET-BASED CITIZEN-LED DEVELOPMENT (ABCD) AND PARTICIPATORY INNOVATION DEVELOPMENT (PID), where citizens meet

Qureish Noordin from World Neighbors, a partner in PROLINNOVA–Kenya, and Amanuel Assefa, from AgriService Ethiopia, the NGO that coordinates PROLINNOVA–Ethiopia, attended an ABCD training workshop at the Coady International Institute in Nova Scotia in late 2008. They saw strong commonalities with PROLINNOVA's approach, and therefore prepared a presentation on ABCD, given by Qureish.

> *Some other names for the ABCD approach:*
> - Asset-Based Community Development
> - Asset-Based Community-driven Development
> - Asset-Based Citizen-led Development

What is ABCD?

- ✓ An approach where citizens self-mobilise and undertake development initiatives / innovation with no / little assistance (at least initially) from outside / external players;
- ✓ Focuses on assets and opportunities rather than problems, needs and deficits;
- ✓ Citizen agency to mobilise and leverage assets; and
- ✓ Recognition of the existence of a multitude of assets in even the poorest communities.

Basic methodology in the approach

Discovering Strengths	Organizing and Mapping	Linking and Mobilizing	Community Driven Initiatives	Sustaining the Process
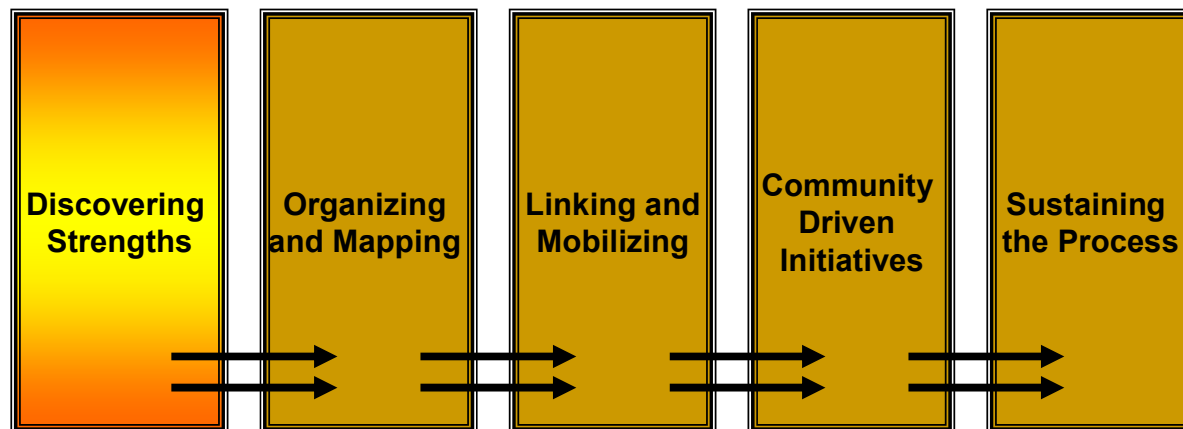
Coady International Institute, February 2009

What is meant by "asset"?

- *Resources for making livelihoods and coping with life's setbacks*
- *Something that provide us with a sense of identity and meaningful engagement with the world*
- *Something that has emancipation value by providing us with capacity to act*
- *Can be "catalyst" for civic involvement and enterprise development*

Source: Antony Bebbington (1999). Capitals and capabilities: a framework for analyzing peasant viability, rural livelihoods and poverty. *World Development* 27 (12): 2021–44.

Community assets include stories, capacities, talents and skills, local institutions, physical assets and natural resources, cultural assets, rights and entitlements.

Tools and methods to stimulate ABCD

- ✓ Appreciative inquiry through storytelling (experiences and stories of past organising efforts or past successes that result in harnessing of capacities to innovate socially and technically through the blending of local knowledge with new knowledge);
- ✓ Mapping individual and community skills, talents, knowledge, attitudes etc;
- ✓ Mapping associations and institutions (see **Annex 3** for an example);
- ✓ Mapping community resources;
- ✓ Mapping natural and physical resources;
- ✓ Analysis of local economy – the 'leaky bucket' tool, for example;
- ✓ Opportunities (link assets with opportunities), e.g. capacities to organise and meet new opportunities in the marketplace or in the policy environment
- ✓ Formulation of an action plan (incl. organising committee).

APPRECIATIVE INQUIRY (AI) is a fresh approach to examining human interactions and the meanings people communicate to each other. Widely popularised by David Cooperrider (Cooperrider & Whitney 2000), AI poses the challenge of rethinking human experiences to better capture a vision of paths to the future. As a methodology, AI brings to the core all the positive ideals of human thinking and imbues it with affirmations of what people and society are capable of.

Cooperrider & Whitney (2000) thus characterise each of the terms in Appreciative Inquiry:

'Ap-pre-ci-ate' — v., 1. valuing; the act of recognizing the best in people or the world around us; affirming past and present strengths, success, and potentials; to preserve those things that give life (health, vitality, excellence) to living systems. 2. to increase in value, e.g., the economy has appreciated in value. Synonyms: VALUING, PRIZING, ESTEEMING and HONORING.'

'In-quire' (kwir) — v., 1. the act of exploration and discovery. 2. To ask questions; to be open to seeing new potentials and possibilities. Synonyms: DISCOVERY, SEARCH, SYSTEMATIC EXPLORATION and STUDY.

Taken together, AI is a process of searching that is filled with optimism and hope; it advocates for an overhaul of people's negative mindsets and constructs, highlighting attitude changes for the better.

Reference: Cooperrider, D., & Whitney, D. (2000). A Positive Revolution in Change: Appreciative Inquiry. In D. Cooperrider, J. Peter F. Sorensen, D. Whitney & et.al. (Eds.), *Appreciative Inquiry: Rethinking Human Organization Toward a Positive Theory of Change* (pp. 328). Champaign, IL: Stipes Publishing.

Where ABCD and PID converge

- ✓ The entry point for both ABCD and PID are local innovation / initiatives and not problems
- ✓ Ownership by innovators / community members
- ✓ Champions
- ✓ Build upon local innovation / initiatives
- ✓ Emphasis on process leading to sustainability
- ✓ Multi-stakeholder platforms and linkages
- ✓ Recognising community champions – local innovators
- ✓ Use of local resources
- ✓ Joint action plans where local organisations take lead in implementation
- ✓ Enterprise development.

> **WHERE ABCD IS HAPPENING**
>
> - Ethiopia road construction
> - Village grain banks Ecuador
> - Jambi Kiwa Women's Group Kenya
> - "Merry-go–round" transforming into village banks
> - HIV/AIDS support group Nepal
> - Pratigya Cooperative, Chaur village

ABCD and PID opportunities

- ✓ Information sharing
- ✓ Joint activities where partners implement both ABCD and PID/LISF, e.g. PROLINNOVA–Ethiopia ASE / PROLINNOVA–Kenya/World Neighbors
- ✓ Documentation of processes
- ✓ Farmer-led documentation
- ✓ July 2009 event at Coady Institute (Scott Killough can introduce PROLINNOVA)

4.0 KEY CHALLENGES FOR PROLINNOVA AT INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

To "set the tone" at the beginning of the IPW, participants compiled their ideas (discussed previously within their CPs) about the key challenges at the international level. These were identified as follows:

Challenges

- **Small-scale vs. global**
  Globalisation, involvement of high-level technologies.

- **Partnership: Geographical / across CPs with other organisations**
  1. Connection with other international partners
  2. Open network to increased collaboration with formal R&D institutions and networks
  3. Collaboration with diverse nature of partners
  4. Management of the network due to increased interest of ARD to join
  5. Expansion vis-à-vis coordination
  6. Should focus on existing CPs rather expanding number of CPs
  7. Effective support to new CPs
  8. Inclusion of new countries / phasing out of "old" countries
  9. Sustaining the partnerships and/or CP networks
  10. Gaining flexibility – yet remaining a cohesive community of practice.

- **Sustaining of funding**
  1. Funding beyond 2010 for both old and new countries (CPs)
  2. Diversified and increased funding
  3. Secure long-term support and funding (get out of project mode)
  4. Secure long-term funding, e.g. 5 years.

- **Ownership**
  1. Ownership of international agenda at country level
  2. Co-ownership of the programme

- **Communication challenges**
  1. No exchange of innovations between countries
  2. Lack of knowledge of innovations in other countries
  3. Achieving effective communication between countries
  4. Networking and communication
  5. Flow of information / communication to be improved
  6. Coordination and smooth flow of information
  7. Absence of vibrant dialogue on good practice.

5.0 KEY CHALLENGES FOR COUNTRY PROGRAMMES: LEARNING AND SHARING

The participants then looked at strengths and weaknesses at the level of CPs, highlighting areas where they could either offer or benefit from each other's support. As further topics were covered later in the workshop, this session of reflection focused on:

- *facilitating multi-stakeholder partnerships (MSPs) / engaging with farmer organisations (FOs)*
- *roles of CP coordinator / coordinating organisation*
- *capacity strengthening*
- *publications / communication*
- *joint experimentation*
- *policy dialogue / institutionalisation*
- *monitoring and evaluation (M&E)*
- *funding.*

They wrote the strengths/offers and weaknesses/needs on cards, which were clustered for four "world café" discussion tables, where CP partners could identify potential for mutual learning.

Table 1. Elements of facilitating multi-stakeholder partnerships (MSPs) amongst country programmes.

Strengths	Need to learn more	Recommendations
Cambodia >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> Strong involvement with different stakeholders, especially FOs		o Documentation of CP experiences in MSP o Suggestions re support from other CPs/IST to learn to address these aspects o Workshop for capacity development on sustaining MSPs
Kenya >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> o Inclusion of public/ government officials in National Steering Committee (NSC)	o How to maintain interest/ energy of key partners o How to manage and sustain PROLINNOVA at national and sub-national (province, district) level including structures	
Mozambique >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> o How to deal with language barrier for engaging with farmers and their partner organisations	o Organisation of NSC and clear definition of its tasks	
Nepal >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> o Diverse, strategic sectoral partnership (GOs, INGOs, NGOs, CBOs and academic institutions o Transparent and participatory decision-making process	o Need to be linked with research organisation (Nepal Agricultural Research Council)	

Niger >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>
- o Strong MSP built and farmer groups, taking gender into account in implementing some activities
- o Roles and responsibilities shared

South Africa >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> o Recruiting of individuals (influential/ targeted organisations) to NSC, Provincial Task Teams (PTTs) etc	o Difficult to maintain energy and involvement of individual and organisation o Lack of institutions sharing PROLINNOVA visions
Sudan >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> o Internal partnership with Practical Action o Knowledge and communication in Practical Action programme o Facilitating participation of potential partners (National Research Centre, pastoralist society, 2 universities etc)	o Engagement of farmer unions at the federal level
Tanzania >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> o Farmers' participation in the governance and implementation of PROLINNOVA o Stakeholders and NSC participation in planning + M&E. o Collaboration with different partners: NGO, LGA, research, academic and Central Government (e.g. DRTE)	
Uganda >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> o Ability to put together diverse, relevant and high-profile government and NGO partners... in theory!	o How to effectively engage partners (core team) ... in practice!

Table 2. Understanding the roles of CP coordinators / coordinating organisations amongst country programmes.

Strengths	Need to learn more	Recommendations
Andes >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>	o Strategic connection with other countries	o Clarify roles and responsibilities.
Cambodia >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> o Membership fee (US$20/ year) o Decentralisation of tasks with partners (network members/ budget)		o Incentives for CPs to function effectively ("part-time CPs")
Kenya >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> o How to change non-performing host organisation without causing "chaos"	o Effective feedback mechanisms to a large number of partners/ members	*Note: CPs are capable of strategising/ initialising actions but a gap appears between CPs' strengths and learning needs respective of institutionalisation processes.*
Mozambique >>>>>>>>>>>>>>	o Definition of CP Coordinator's job/ tasks o How hosting organisation coordinates PROLINNOVA activities	
Nepal >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> o Quality and commitment of CP coordinator and coordinating organisation	o Quality time management of other CPs	
Niger >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> o Getting-started funds management decentralisation: Pole East and Pole West.	o Weak PID institutionalisation (e.g. curriculum development)	
South Africa >>>>>>>>>>>>> o Sharing of funds with organisations that want to implement PROLINNOVA activities	o CC still required to drive activities in some provinces, despite PTTs	
Sudan >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> o Coordination through the sets of programme committees, e.g. Gender Sub-Committee and CP Subgroup and R&D Subgroup etc	o To mobilise the current partners and outreach to more relevant partners o To focus on the field-level activities (farmers, pastoralists, fishers etc) through CBOs	
Uganda >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> o Environmental Alert (EA) well-established NGO and good at mobilising partners	o Lack of decentralisation of CP activities	

Table 3. Elements of capacity strengthening amongst country programmes.

Strengths	Need to learn more	Recommendations
Andes >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> o Development of curricular programme for agro-ecology, ecotourism with universities	o Inter-change of experiences in development and application of PID with farmers	o Mapping of resource persons in PID and use them in international, regional and national training o Follow-up assessment of training programmes o If they no longer stay, continue to consider them as resource persons o Provide mentoring/ orientation to new resource persons o Iterative process for content development of ToF (e.g. new themes of climate change, gender) o ToRs: short- and long-term activities/ responsibilities for ToF participation (get input from ToF participants in August '09) o Encourage regional PID training using available resource persons o Continue international training giving focus on gender balance and with proper TOR for trainees
Cambodia >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>	o Need to have more members trained on international level in PID	
Kenya >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> o Local steering committees ToRs/ tasks/ responsibilities		
Nepal >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> o Thematic focal person concept	o Impact assessment of capacity-building activities	
Niger >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> o Active and motivated PID facilitator o Partners trained in PID, joint experimentation, FLD, illiteracy		
South Africa >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> o Nature of courses/ workshops is changing as needs change o PID documentation and experimentation o Happening as part of systematic intervention at community level	o Many workshop participants fall away afterwards	
Sudan >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>	o Lack of trained women (e.g. in PID facilitation) o The new CP members (women) are not yet trained in PROLINNOVA issues	
Uganda >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> o Successful experience in the identification of innovation	o Need to strengthen capacity of CP partners in advocacy and PM&E	

Table 4. Exploring publication and communication strengths and needs amongst country programmes.

Strengths	Need to learn more	Recommendations
Andes >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>	o Participatory video (PV) for reporting and communication	o CP/IST to support capacity building in documentation and publication (PV, writeshops etc)
Cambodia >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>	o Need to strengthen in publication ("writeshop")	
Kenya >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>	o Documenting innovation related to processes	o Host country/IST to facilitate sharing of lessons, publication of multi-country sub-programmes (Wiki??)
Nepal >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> o Rich participatory publications	o Interaction among National Working Group (NWG) members	
Niger >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> o Good management and information flow o Diversity of reports (posters, CDs, photos, PV, PPT – English and French		o IST to initiate, analyse, synthesise and disseminate appropriate publications, extracts etc
South Africa >>>>>>>>>>>>>>> o Have supported member organisations to print documents that meet the agendas of both PROLINNOVA and them		
Sudan >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> o 2 web-based magazines, sharing and *harambi* (Swahili for "mutual help")	o Video documentation was not yet used	

Table 5. Exploring elements of joint experimentation amongst country programmes.

Strengths	Need to learn more	Recommendations
Cambodia >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>	o Some institutions/members still confuse joint experimentation – same as field demo	o CPs/IST to facilitate the process of documentation of successful (or less) joint experimentation to CPs requiring support. (e.g. protocols, experiment sheets, cases)
Kenya >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>	o How to develop experimentation protocols with farmers for PID o Partnerships with universities to participate in PID	
Nepal >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>	o Implementation mechanism	o CPs/IST to support other CPs on concepts and process of joint experimentation
Niger >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>	o Insufficient budget	
South Africa >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>	o Joint experimentation cases not always strong enough evidence that tool is effective, because implementers still learning o Researchers/ fieldworkers difficult to build capacity for planning and implementing joint experiments	o Emphasis on standardisation of joint experimentation concepts and practices
Sudan >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> o Farmer-led experimentation is ongoing activity o Well planned with farmers, monitored and results documented and disseminated		

Table 6. Dealing with policy dialogue and institutionalisation processes amongst country programmes.

Strengths	Need to learn more	Recommendations
Andes >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> ○ We have experience in promoting policy for agriculture and environment with municipalities and local government.		○ Evidence-based policy change ○ Regional exposure in countries with successful policy dialogue
Cambodia >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> ○ Strong relationship with MAFF and other GO institutions		
Nepal >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> ○ Internalisation within partner organisations ○ Development of PID in curriculum	○ Mainstreaming in public sector at national level	
Niger >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> ○ Good evidence of PID institutionalisation & mainstreaming by research education, development agents and CBOs		
South Africa >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> ○ Have worked with divisions of organisations that are more aligned	○ Difficult to influence policy; requires "criticising" management of organisations ○ How do we show tangible benefits from being a PROLINNOVA member to keep people involved?	
Sudan >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> ○ The government took the initiative to recognise small-scale farming		
Tanzania >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> ○ Linkage with policymakers ○ Integration of PID / agricultural innovation systems into government research, training and extension		
Uganda >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> ○ Successfully initiated policy dialogue	○ How to sustain dialogue and fully institutionalise PROLINNOVA approach	

Table 7. Aspects of monitoring and evaluation amongst country programmes.

Strengths	Need to learn more	Recommendations
Andes >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>	o Need training in evaluation of impacts and M&E	o Develop capacity-development strategy to address needs (training and mentoring)
Cambodia >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> o Members of NSC involved in M&E	o Need to strengthen systematic M&E	
Kenya >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> o Organising workshop / forum to develop farmer-based M&E systems / protocols	o Impact assessment of innovation (to livelihoods, social capital)	o CP-level assessment to identify specific needs o Include a farmer-level M&E process as well
Nepal >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>	o Systematic participatory monitoring and evaluation (PM&E) framework/ mechanism	o PM&E can be conducted in partnership with research organisation or other organisation
Niger >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> o Use of PM&E tools and methods in collecting outcomes and impacts	o Needs of training in PM&E	o M&E should be a process for learning (not only filling in forms for donors)
South Africa >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>	o Challenge to collect necessary info from provinces for M&E (also time required)	o "Participatory" M&E that includes stakeholders
Sudan >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>	o Only recently was a focal point for PM&E (NSC member) nominated	o ToF from each CP (identify key people from CPs)
Tanzania >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>	o Effective ways of monitoring the impact from the proposal at the target-community level	
Uganda >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>	o How to operationalise PM&E?	

Table 8. Funding strengths, needs, and recommendations amongst country programmes.

Strengths	Need to learn more	Recommendations
o Initiatives in seeking funds through proposals and diversification of innovative methods (FLD, cross-visits, climate-change adaptation)	**Niger** o Funds to sustain initiated innovative methods (FLD, cross-visit, participatory climate-change adaptation development) o Insufficient funding to PID institutionalisation **South Africa** o Underspending: limited amounts and limited demand	o Identify countries that have raised funds from other sources (not through ETC)

RECAP

This exercise identified strengths within CPs that could be shared to fit the needs of other CPs. This should improve the functioning and impact of PROLINNOVA initiatives. It was strongly suggested that, within CPs, those with "expertise" in the "need" areas be identified to share their skills. This includes making better use of the IST in required areas.

It is clear that the CPs are able to bring together a diverse set of actors (multi-stakeholder engagements) that can gain acceptance in and interest in PROLINNOVA initiatives. Where efforts are now needed is to enhance CPs' ability to maintain these initiatives (enhanced activity) with a focus on institutionalisation as an end goal. There is also a need to promote joint experimentation among CPs and continue training of PID facilitators (ToF) on various scales. Participants expressed the need to strengthen their ability and capacities in areas of documentation for sharing and joint learning and showing impact. In all, these efforts would be enhanced by integrating M&E as a learning framework at all levels of PROLINNOVA.

6.0 UPDATE ON MULTI-COUNTRY SUB-PROGRAMMES

CPs reported briefly on progress and experiences related to HIV/AIDS and PID (HAPID), farmer-led documentation, local innovation and climate change, and curriculum development. The "marketplace" during the extended tea break and in the late afternoon allowed partners to discuss these activities more informally and to view posters, publications, slides and videos about them. Summary reports from the various CPs involved in these activities were circulated by email to all participants before the IPW.

6.1 HIV/AIDS + PID (HAPID)

6.1.1 Introduction *(by Brigid Letty)*

Who is involved?
- ✓ Ghana South – George Ofosu (ECASARD)
- ✓ Mozambique – Romuald Rutazihana (ADCR)
- ✓ South Africa – Maxwell Mudhara (Farmer Support Group, FSG / UKZN)
- ✓ Coordinator – Brigid Letty (*originally was to be Romuald*)
- ✓ International support – Michael Loevinsohn, Carolien Aantjes (ETC Crystal), Ann Waters-Bayer

Timeframe: Planned two years (Oct 07 – Sept 09), but now plan to be complete by end of Dec 09. HAPID project activities officially started on 12 December 2007 with appointment of HAPID coordinator.

Key activities to be undertaken
- ✓ Building partnerships (HIV/AIDS and agriculture/NRM focus) – inventory, inception meeting, capacity building
  - Developing an understanding of the role that local innovation (LI) and PID play in preventing infection / mitigating effects of HIV/AIDS
  - Analysis and policy development (national and international workshops)
  - Sharing of outcomes (national and international).

Some impacts of AIDS	A link between poverty and HIV
• Loss of productivity • Loss of income • Smaller areas cultivated so reduced yields • Selling of assets (especially livestock) • Child-headed households, child farmers etc • Community structures failing.	• The spread of HIV increases when rural livelihoods are disrupted (e.g. poverty and inequalities can force women to turn to survival sex) • Illness following HIV infection causes rural livelihoods to break down (e.g. loss of labour and unexpected health / funeral costs lead to selling of assets)

Country Programme actions taken

- ✓ Developed overall proposal
- ✓ Called for proposals from interested CPs
- ✓ Prepared guidelines for specific activities as well as international review paper (by Michael)
- ✓ Individual countries then initiated activities:
  - Developed inventories of organisations involved with HIV/AIDS work
  - Held inception meetings to introduce concept and invited organisations to participate in study
  - Held capacity-building workshops to create equal footing among participants (impacts of HIV/AIDS and PID)
  - Now busy with study – identification and documentation of cases of LI related to HIV/AIDS, either reducing risk of infection or mitigating the impact of HIV

See **Annex 4** for diagram showing HIV/AIDS causes, consequences and responses.

6.1.2 Case of HAPID in PROLINNOVA–Mozambique *(by Romuald Rutazihana)*

Project inception

The project is being implemented in Gaza Province, Southern Mozambique, in four districts: Chokwe, Xai-Xai, Chibuto and Guija. There are three main reasons for selecting these sites:

- ✓ All PROLINNOVA–Mozambique partners, including the hosting organisation (ADCR), have their main offices and ongoing projects in Gaza Province.
- ✓ Gaza Province is the hardest-hit province with an estimated HIV/AIDS prevalence rate of 27% (the national average prevalence rate is 16%).
- ✓ The four districts are said to be the worst hit in the whole province.

Methodology – inception workshop

During the workshop, participants agreed how to undertake the study in the four districts:

- ✓ Two or three non-PROLINNOVA organisations (supporting HIV/AIDS-affected communities) per district;
- ✓ Coordinating organisation / district must be PROLINNOVA partner;
- ✓ The non-PROLINNOVA organisations have taken part in both workshop or at least in the capacity-building and planning workshop;
- ✓ The non-PROLINNOVA organisations expressed willingness to take part in the study;
- ✓ The implementing organisations would receive some support from ADCR from the HAPID funds (1000 Euro / district).

Next steps
- ✓ Final in-country workshop: share experiences – What are implications for partner organisations? How can they integrate this approach into their work? Do they think it is worthwhile?
- ✓ International(regional) workshop
    - • Have developed a funding concept note and had discussions with possible funders; and
    - • Alternative – feedback and strategy development at next IPW.

Activities and timeframes
- ✓ Meeting of team at district level – February 2009
- ✓ Meeting with community – March 2009
- ✓ Identification of innovations (March–May 2009)
- ✓ Documentation and passing on to responsible party (early June 2009)
- ✓ Compilation by responsible party and passing on to ADCR (early July 2009)
- ✓ ADCR to compile and prepare for sharing workshop (July–early August 2009)
- ✓ In-country sharing workshop (late August 2009).

Lessons learnt	
• Organisations within PROLINNOVA–Mozambique themselves not conversant with PID concept • Difficulties for many participants to see the link between HIV/AIDS and LI	• Better involve few organisations in the study from the onset in inventory, workshops… • Change of hosting organisation had negative impact on HAPID activities (particularly on inventory of organisations)

Challenges
• Frequent question asked by participants: What benefits do organisations get from being PROLINNOVA partner? A clear/correct response is needed for establishing strong partnerships. • Where is this leading to – identifying cases of LI is only the start – how do we fund next steps of supporting innovation?	• Trying to create a reasonable level of understanding of LI and PID in a short time with new partners • How can we improve sharing with other CPs?

RECAP

This presentation highlighted what role PID can have in addressing HIV/AIDS work, and ponders how HIV/AIDS impacts development work in general. Clearly made in the presentation is the link between poverty and HIV/AIDS, as well as the potential benefits of cross-learning between "health work" and "PID" as fields of study. However, it was suggested that the topic may be too "hot" at the moment to link these two fields of study together… thus, questions if PID can be a useful entry point in communities where HIV/AIDS needs to be addressed. Nevertheless, partners from other CPs not involved in the HAPID pilots (e.g. in Kenya and Sudan) saw possibilities for working on local innovations that could benefit persons living with HIV/AIDS. They felt this should be given more attention in the "regular" PROLINNOVA work.

6.2 Farmer-led documentation (FLD)

In the latter part of 2007, a general call was sent around inviting CPs to send in FLD proposals. Several CPS responded to this call and four of them submitted proposals which were funded. Implementation of the FLD pilots – Niger, South Africa, Ethiopia and Burkina Faso (PROFEIS CP) – began in 2008. In preparation for the IPW 2009, these CPs were requested to submit a short write-up on the progress and findings of the FLD pilots. Three of the four CPs prepared such write-ups, which were circulated to IPW participants as preparatory reading for the meeting. The three CPs were also requested to prepare short presentations for sharing their FLD experiences in the IPW. Since Demekech Gera from Ethiopia was unable to obtain a visa to attend the IPW, the Ethiopia case could not be presented. Niger and South Africa made short presentations highlighting challenges faced and lessons learned.

6.2.1. Supporting farmers in documenting and sharing local innovations in Niger
Prepared by Saidou Magagi, Adam Toudou, Chaibou Gagara and Tondo Zeinabou; presented by Saidou

Introduction

Farmers in Takalafia, Garin Bourtou and Boumba Kaina villages showed interest to document their innovations and joint experimentation in their own ways and to share outcomes with others. They were always asking for their photographs to see themselves and to show them to others. They requested a video camera to record voices and actions. To satisfy this farmer demand, we introduced in 2008 FLD activities in the three above-mentioned villages. The main purpose of this presentation is to share outcomes, lessons learnt and challenges related to FLD in Niger.

Objectives
- ✓ Train innovative farmer groups and stakeholders in FLD practices
- ✓ Document by farmer groups joint experimentation processes on local innovations in the villages of Boumba Kaina, Garin Bourtou and Takalahia
- ✓ Create opportunities of internal learning (within the community) and exchange between communities (horizontal sharing), development agents and policymakers (vertical)

Methodology
- ✓ Development of FLD proposal by PROLINNOVA–Niger and its selection by an external committee;
- ✓ Organisation of awareness-raising and sharing meetings in three villages in Poles West and East;
- ✓ FLD training workshop for farmer groups and stakeholders;
- ✓ Farmer groups taking the lead in producing photographs, PV and writing drafts for farmer-led magazine and publications.

What we achieved

1. Thirty participants (farmers, development agents and municipality counsellors), among them 15 women, trained in techniques of photographing and video making; night video screening and market information on sharing farmer innovations organised in December 2008.

2. Strong FLD multi-stakeholder partnerships built at community level and mechanisms of functioning jointly defined by partners:
   - ✓ Farmer leaders and monitors selected to keep digital cameras, record minutes of community meetings, document selected innovations and ideas, and do local monitoring and follow-up of FLD activities;
   - ✓ Development agents and counsellors enabled to borrow digital camera from nearest farmer group on presenting written letter to the community concerned;
   - ✓ Farmer groups allowed to offer private paid services to individuals, if needed;
   - ✓ Partners jointly fixed price for private paid services using community digital camera;
   - ✓ Development agent to provide guidance, training and follow-up to FLD activities;
   - ✓ PROLINNOVA–Niger to control overall monitoring and follow-up agreements and to provide support for printing photos, editing PV and *Farmer Innovators Magazine*

3. Three ways of documenting local innovations mainstreamed by farmers and partners:
   - ✓ Photography
   - ✓ Participatory video (PV)
   - ✓ Community press (magazine)

4. Four video films edited (1 is compilation of the proceedings of FLD training workshop and 3 were made by three farmer groups in Boumba Kaina, Garin Bourtou and Takalahia)

5. Two hundred farmer-made photographs printed and three community photograph albums compiled and kept by farmer leaders for reminding, training and advocacy

6. Guidelines and 3 committees set up for writing drafts (village level), reading (local partners) and editing (by NSC) *Farmer Innovators Magazine* in Hausa and Djerma (local languages)

7. One "Innovative Farmer Organization" created and chaired by 5-member elected committee board (3 men and 2 women) to coordinate and support FLD.

Lessons learnt	
• Organising FLD training in Boumba village increased awareness, understanding and confidence of villagers and community leaders about PROLINNOVA activities and approach • Increased interest and concentration of learners: farmers, development agents and municipality counsellors witnessed being exposed to digital cameras for the first time	• The level of academic training received earlier by development agents did not influence and intimidate farmers' participation and learning. Farmers were very active during plenary and groupwork.
Challenges	
• Requirements in time and funds for M&E and sustaining the process • Lack of electricity to charge or replace quality batteries in villages	• Distance from towns and management of risk in managing cameras

6.2.2. FLD pilot in South Africa

Prepared by Brigid Letty, Michael Malinga and Ineke Vorster; presented by Brigid

The FLD pilot took place in North-West (NW) Province in Miga, Magogwane, Tsetse and Ikopeleng villages. NW was chosen because of a desire to initiate PROLINNOVA activities there and because the existing food-security initiative of the Agricultural Research Council (ARC) could benefit from FLD.

Objectives
- ✓ To create a focus for the NW Provincial Task Team;
- ✓ To create awareness of PROLINNOVA; and
- ✓ To integrate FLD into a project of the ARC – opportunity for institutionalisation – by supporting farmers to document their activities.

Who was involved
- ✓ Michael Malinga (Farmer Support Group – UKZN) – experience from earlier Potshini pilot;
- ✓ Ineke Vorster (ARC) – supporting food-security project;
- ✓ Tebogo Serapelwane (ARC) – former member of NSC and based in NW; and
- ✓ Norman Thebe (NW Dept of Agriculture) – local extension officer.

Activities
- ✓ Introductory workshop – August 2008
- ✓ Support during ARC project-support visits
- ✓ Follow-up visits by Michael in November 08 and March 09
- ✓ Provision of technical support
- ✓ Guidance in terms of the process – what to photograph etc
- ✓ Final sharing workshop – April 2009.

Challenges and lessons learnt	
• On-the-ground support was poor, so support had to be provided from afar (KwaZulu-Natal mainly) • Farmers needed more time in discussion to understand the purpose of the exercise - why were they taking pictures and what was the end product?	• How do you make it farmer-led when its an externally driven idea? • Difficult to ensure a focus on PID when it was integrated into the food-security project.
Positive outcomes	
• Ineke presenting a paper on the experience at the extension conference next week • NW University has an Indigenous Knowledge System Centre; a researcher from there attended the workshop and would like to engage with the farmers – opportunity for further PROLINNOVA-related activities.	• Farmers finally understood what it was all about and enjoyed sharing at the workshop – "we thought we were just playing, but now we see how the pictures can be used".

RECAP

In South Africa, the farmers needed some time to understand why they were taking pictures and what the end product of an FLD initiative was supposed to be. The presentation also highlighted the difficulties experienced in ensuring a focus on PID when it was integrated into the food-security project.

In Niger, the training in FLD led to increased awareness, understanding and confidence among the stakeholders. It was noteworthy that the level of "academic training" did not influence and intimidate farmers' participation and learning. FLD became more that just documentation; it led to interest in learning, promoted activity on the ground and built social capital.

The example of FLD in South Africa seemed to be externally initiated (although trying to make it farmer-led) whereas, in Niger, farmers involved in PID had asked for assistance in doing their own documentation, i.e. it was farmer-initiated.

The IPW participants stressed the need to integrate the FLD work into PID activities.

6.3 Local innovation in adaptation to climate change

Prepared by Mariana Wongtschowski, Miranda Verburg and Ann Waters-Bayer, based on studies by Yohannes GebreMichael and Mebratu Kifle (Ethiopia); Lalita Thapa, Suman Manandhar and Anuja Shrestha (Nepal) and Magagi Saidou, Abdou Dan Gomma et al (Niger); presented by Saidou

Introduction

The clear evidence that climate change is already a reality calls for action not just to try to slow down the process by reducing the effects of human activity on the global climate (mitigation) but also to assist those affected or threatened to cope with the changes taking place (adaptation). As a result, governments and international bodies started paying increased attention to measures aimed at adaptation. In most cases, this is done by supporting externally driven processes often dominated by high-tech, exogenous and large-scale "innovations".

While in certain parts of the developing countries such initiatives will be needed and useful, most of the adaptation efforts will have to take place at the local level. For local people directly suffering the results of climate change, international and macro policies are meaningful (if at all) only when accompanied by local, micro-level initiatives that help them to innovate and adapt, to face the challenge posed by the changing climate. Few of the many organisations and stakeholders involved in the climate-change debate know how to do this effectively.

Therefore PROLINNOVA started an study in Ethiopia, Nepal and Niger in January 2008 to explore the relevance of local adaptation/ innovation and the PID approach to climate-change adaptation at local level. More specifically, the study tries to:

- ✓ Systematically document local experimentation processes which come about as a response to a felt need to adapt to climate change;
- ✓ Understand local communities' perceptions of "climate change";
- ✓ Stimulate documentation of local innovation (processes) at local level; and
- ✓ Draw lessons on the potential impact/influence of local innovation processes on climate-change adaptation policies and programmes.

Discussion

The distinction between local innovation and traditional practices is not always clear. That is also due to the dynamic character of traditional practices, their different application in different areas and, last but not least, the fact that practices might have been there for centuries, but had not been perceived by outsiders until they started to give more attention to how to deal with climate change. In this sense, the present study provided partners with a good opportunity to notice these local practices and their improvements over time, calling their attention to local capacity to create, innovate, adapt and cope. In addition, it is not always evident that these practices are innovations or adaptations that come about as a direct response to perceived climate change. Some of them might be a response to climate variability – a normal phenomenon in arid environments – rather than long-term change. Moreover, changes come about as a response to an ensemble of intertwined factors.

As pointed out in the Ethiopia study report (Yohannes & Mebratu 2009[1]), in the arid and semi-arid areas, drought is part of a normal cycle and pastoralists have developed some strategies to cope with it, such as mobility, livestock species diversity, reciprocity in use of resources, territorial fluidity and social safety nets. However, the vulnerability of pastoralists to drought is very complex and diverse. Some claim that drought as such is not making pastoralists vulnerable. Rather, the increasing marginalisation of their drought-response mechanisms is (Devereux 2006[2]). Restriction on mobility of people and animals, intensification of conflicts and stricter control of cross-border trade are some of the threats (Hesse & MacGregor 2006[3], Yohannes & Waters-Bayer 2002[4]). Some authors underlined that the prolonged droughts combined with environmental degradation and increasing sedentarisation have led to deterioration of pastoral livelihoods (e.g. Ayelew 2001[5]). Others consider the frequency of drought as a crisis of pastoralism and predict that this way of life and production will not be viable; they therefore recommend sedentarisation of pastoral communities (e.g. Devereux 2006[6]). In the same line, Niger is among the fastest-growing countries in Africa in terms of population, with a growth rate estimated in 2.88%/yr (CIA 2008[7]). That, of course, means that many more people are using water than in the 1960s and 1970s, which exacerbates the consequences of a drier environment.

Several issues are raised here: the first is that vulnerability is complex. Vulnerability is determined by a combination of factors and events (erosion, demographic changes, macro policies,

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[1] Yohannes GebreMichael & Mebratu Kifle. 2009. Local innovation in climate-change adaptation by Ethiopian pastoralists. Addis Ababa: Pastoral Forum Ethiopia / PROLINNOVA–Ethiopia.
[2] Devereux S. 2006. Vulnerable livelihoods in Somali Region, Ethiopia. IDS Research Report 57. Brighton: Institute of Development Studies
[3] Hesse C & MacGregor J. 2006. Pastoralism: drylands' invisible asset? IIED Issue Paper 142. London: IIED.
[4] Yohannes GebreMichael & Waters-Bayer A. 2002. Evaluation of natural resource management programme in the pastoral area of Somalia Region, Study commissioned by NOVIB, Addis Ababa, unpublished.
[5] Ayelew Gebre. 2001. Pastoralism under pressure: land alienation and pastoral transformations among the Karayu of Eastern Ethiopia, 1941 to the present. Maastricht, Shaker.
[6] Devereux, *op. cit.*
[7] CIA. 2008. World Fact Book. At: https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/fields/2002.html.

market changes etc). And this means that consequences of climate change cannot be clearly separated from those of other events. The point of the present study is to understand the relevance of local adaptation and innovation to climate-change adaptation at local level. Even if climate change is not an isolated factor, the studies in the three countries show that local capacities to innovate and adapt to changing conditions is an important element in reducing vulnerability.

Here, the issue of making a difference between local innovations *per se* and the use of traditional practices lose much of its importance. One advantage of the "climate-change alarm" is that external actors (scientists, extensionists etc) are now beginning to value local practices which have been used for a long time and are, under uncertain climatic conditions, more suitable than many introduced techniques. They are also more commonly trying to build on these practices and understand the current efforts of local communities for coping with and adapting to climate change or variability. This, as such, is a step forward towards more participatory and farmer-centred local development.

That is not to say that local innovation and creativity is all one needs to adapt to climate change. As said before, other factors affect people's vulnerability than their intrinsic capacity to innovate. Farmers' adaptation to climate change is an inherent part of their social dynamics, but that it also has limits, and should not be romanticised. It is here that other stakeholders have an important role to play: in recognising local capacities and resilience, and helping local farmers to recuperate, strengthen and put their knowledge and creativity into practice. This has been the principle behind PROLINNOVA – one that we argue also fits into the climate-change debate.

Conclusions
There seems to be a clear need to continue investigating the way local practices and innovation respond to challenges of climate change, if only to better inform policymakers and other stakeholders of the potential role local capacities can play in local adaptation, and to trigger a process of recognition and reflection. The focus here is not on specific innovations, but rather on documenting local innovation as a process. Though, at local level, farmers might be able to benefit from knowing what other farmers are doing to cope – adapting their innovations and practices to their own situations – the documentation of innovations (understood as specific techniques, ideas and technologies) is not an end in itself. It remains, nevertheless, important as a symbol of the local capacity to create and react to local problems. In this same line, the multi-stakeholder workshop held in Ethiopia in late 2008 came up with a recommendation to establish and strengthen a documentation and information centre, making data and information available for various audiences.

At the present political moment, we risk treating climate change much as agricultural research and development has been in the past, i.e. in a rather top-down way. This paper advocates for a bottom-up approach (complementary to macro policies, which have a role to play), in which local capacities are taken as a starting point. Adaptation to climate change demands a multi-stakeholder approach (just as agricultural research and development does), building on the strengths of each stakeholder group.
Exchanging information and actually working together with different stakeholders demands much stronger communication than what is presently observed in the three countries that took part of this study and at international level. It demands bringing together environmental and agricultural (including livestock) organisations. At country level, if climate-change adaptation is to play an important role, PROLINNOVA platforms should be broadened to include actors who are actively implementing climate-change adaptation programmes.

As part of an international programme, we clearly see the need to learn from others' experiences and similar studies and to share with them our own. This pilot shows that results coming

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out of this and similar studies are potentially good material for advocacy at country and international level, towards a more participatory approach to climate-change adaptation.

In fact, the network still must learn to make the most of the fact that what PROLINNOVA does within and outside the scope of this study (i.e. supporting local innovation) is largely directly related to strengthening local capacities to adapt and therefore cope with climate change.

> **RECAP**
>
> It is clear that communities have a long history of dealing with change and have developed local innovations, which may eventually became traditional practices, in order to cope. The study created the opportunity for policymakers and donors alike to take notice and partner in support of local initiatives.
>
> Overall many IPW participants looked at climate change from the community perspective and noted that perception is based on the experienced element… and local communities are responding. There was much discussion on the difficulty of distinguishing between traditional practice and local innovation to deal with climate change. Local people living in marginal environments (e.g. pastoralists) are used to adapting to high climatic variability, and are therefore better able than people in better-endowed areas to adapt to climate change by slightly adjusting or reviving traditional practices.
>
> The danger was also noted that the work on climate-change adaptation may not be well integrated into other PROLINNOVA activities.

6.4 Curriculum development (CD)

Rapporteurs: Dharma Raj Dangol, Sam Vitou and Sabina Di Prima

Discussions of Curriculum development were opened by **Sabina** with a brief outline of the chronological steps that preceded the CD activities in Uganda, in particular the two consecutive attempts to have the proposal PROMOTED funded under the EU-EDULINK programme. She also highlighted the challenges faced in re-establishing the network after the previous CD focal person (Bram Büscher) had left. Some initiatives to mainstream PID into the curricula of institutions of higher learning had taken place in a number of CPs, but the people involved had not been communicating with each other. The other main challenges in setting up the activities were: a) gender imbalance; and b) misunderstanding about the nature of the CD sub-programme: not creation of new curricula but rather integration of PID into existing ones.

Dharma led the main core of the presentation, which focused on the CD workshop and its follow-up. Dharma reported that, in addition to sharing lessons and experiences, the workshop offered the opportunity to discuss and make some progress in the following areas: PID framework course, "Community of Practice" (CoP) on PID in universities and development of proposals for fund raising. Dharma described the structure of the PID framework course developed by the participants (four content components to be taught at various levels of detail in three course types of different lengths). He presented the action points agreed by the group in order to strengthen the CoP around CD and set the basis for a diversified fund raising strategy. It was mentioned that in Uganda a CD Working Group was formed to spearhead the group. Dharma ended his part of the presentation with a brief overview of the workshop follow-up in Nepal with special emphasis on the on-going preparation of the newly approved Master's course in Participatory Innovation Research and Development Studies.

Vitou provided an update of PROLINNOVA CD initiatives in Cambodia where the Cambodian Centre for Study and Development in Agriculture (CEDAC) plays a fundamental role. Vitou mentioned that most of the CEDAC founders are lecturers at the Royal University of Agriculture. They had realized that the great majority of the students have only theoretical knowledge but no field experience. As a

result, CEDAC staff decided to set up training programmes of six months duration to expose graduate students from the university and school of agriculture to both theory and field practice. During the six months the student have the opportunity to work with CEDAC staff and stay in the villages where they can learn directly from farmers. Furthermore, Vitou mentioned that most lecturers have included participatory approaches and PID in their respective courses.

PROLINNOVA **Cambodia** has supported the process by giving all education institution partners the opportunity to access funds which allowed students and lecturers to participate in exchange visits aimed at learning from farmers. These activities were found to be mutually beneficial. Students learnt a lot and farmers felt proud of the fact that they could share their experience with the students and lecturers. PROLINNOVA funds were also used by the lecturers of the Royal University of Agriculture (RUA), Kampong Cham National School of Agriculture (KCNSA) and Prek Leap National School of Agriculture (PNSA) to conduct joint-experimentation with farmers. Most lecturers fed the field experience into their teaching. PROLINNOVA Cambodia has also supported lecturers and students in organizing workshops aimed at reviewing learning and teaching processes. In these workshops, lecturers shared their experiences in lecturing and then discussed together with the students and other lecturers how lectures can be improved. According to Vitou the main strength of PROLINNOVA Cambodia in CD is the adoption of what he defined "the triangle strategy" which implies mutual learning of all the involved parties: farmers, students and lecturers.

Sabina closed the presentation with a summary of the follow-up to the March CD activities in other countries. It was mentioned that most participants compiled back-to-office reports and arranged seminars in their home countries. The full report on the CD workshop, with the main action points, was distributed electronically to the participants as well as the involved CPs and IST. The summary report was circulated to IPW participants and POG members.

For PROLINNOVA **Tanzania**, Amon Mattee shared the decisions of the Kampala workshop with his colleagues of the Department of Agricultural Education and Extension at Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA). They all agreed on the need to highlight PID issues more strongly in their trainings. A seminar of more than 30 participants, including staff and some postgraduate students, was organized at SUA on the 24th April. Laurens van Veldhuizen, Laurent Kaburire and Tibamanywa took part in it and respectively presented about the general PROLINNOVA programme and the PID concept, PROLINNOVA Tanzania programme and PELUM. At the seminar, the importance of mainstreaming PID into university teaching was acknowledged; but, there was consensus that the Department of Agricultural Education and Extension organizes a short stand alone course on PID for Extension staff already working in the field. Amon Mattee and his colleagues were asked to promptly prepare a draft of the course.

For PROLINNOVA **Sudan**, Abdel Aziz Karamalla Gaiballa gave prompt follow up to the CD workshop action points and drafted the statement of the Community of Practice (CoP) on PID in universities. It was pointed out that the draft statement has to be finalised in collaboration with the other members of the Curriculum Development Working Group (CDWG) and extended CD team. Abdel Aziz also took the chance to present the CD workshop main outputs at the meeting of the PROLINNOVA Sudan National Committee, which was attended also by Jean-Marie Diop (backstopper PROLINNOVA Sudan). In that context, he discussed the proposed national CD program activities:

✓ The organization of a national CD workshop to be implemented by the Institute for Family and Community Development– Sudan University of Science and Technology. Raising the profile of the CD theme could be one of the outcomes of the national CD workshop;
✓ The development of teaching materials, for instance a book, about participatory approaches and PID for universities and research;

✓ The raising of funding in order to support the activities of the national CD group; and
✓ The setting up of PID training workshops/courses.

Abdel Aziz was asked to explore funding possibilities for the above-mentioned activities and assess the potential of local contributions also from universities. Results should be presented in a concept note.

Sabina closed the presentation with a final remark on the importance but also the unsustainability of relying exclusively on "champions". She stressed that, so far, the most successful cases of integration of PID into existing university curricula were due to the prominent role of driven individuals (e.g. the Cambodia and Nepal cases). The lack of support and involvement of other colleagues could in the future undermine the continuation of the process and loss of the built capacity. Pratap Shrestha (PROLINNOVA-Nepal Country Coordinator) mentioned that, to gain institutional commitment, Dharma Dangol has identified two other persons to work with him in a CD team at Tribhuvan University.

Presentations were followed by a round of questions and clarifications. Valid suggestions were provided to the CD team both during the discussion as well as in informal talks just after the presentation. The main suggestions were:

- Bernard Triomphe suggested tapping into experiences many years ago in integrating Farming Systems Research (FSR) into university curricula, to provide lessons for the CD work within PROLINNOVA.
- Susan Kaaria suggested taking up contact with: IDRC (International Development Research Centre), which is interested in participatory research within natural resource management; RUFORUM; Wageningen University in particular Paul Richards and Conny Almekinders; Rockfeller Foundation in relation to the programme on Participatory Approaches and Upscaling (PAU).
- Scott Killough advised considering NUFFIC and Ford Foundation as potential interesting donors.
- Chesha suggested exploring what the funding opportunities for students are.
- Magda Mirghani Mohamed Ahmed suggested making contact with the working group on "Learning and Teaching Participation in Higher Education" at the Institute for Development Studies (IDS), Sussex University, UK. The chair of this group is Peter Taylor.

6.4.1 Uganda workshop on CD

Presented by Sabina Di Prima

In March 2009, two major activities were conducted in Uganda under the auspices of the PROLINNOVA CD thematic area: 1) Sustainable Land Management (SLM) training; and 2) Curriculum Development (CD) workshop. The activities were attended by representatives, mostly lecturers, of nine PROLINNOVA CPs (Cambodia, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Nepal, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda). They were sponsored by PROLINNOVA with co-contribution from the represented nine CPs. A full account of these activities and a compilation of related documents are presented, respectively, in Section I (SLM training) and Section II (CD workshop) of the report on the CD workshop. Below is a synthesis of the activities, their objectives, implementation and main outcomes.

SLM training

Coordinated by Ronald Lutalo (Environmental Alert) and Moses Tenywa (Makerere University's Agricultural Institute, Kabanyolo), the course entitled "Sustainable Land Management" that is given annually at VUA by Will Critchley and Sabina Di Prima was piloted in Uganda over four full days with an optional field trip to Kikandwa Environmental Association on the fifth day. The SLM course took place at the Faculty of Food Science and Technology at Makerere University, Kampala.

The SLM course had multiple objectives:
* To provide training in SLM to PROLINNOVA members as well as to Makerere University students, staff and others
* To offer a concrete example of integration of PID and participatory methodologies into university curricula
* To demonstrate the practical use of teaching methodologies and material
* To share teaching and learning material with peer lecturers as part of the PROLINNOVA International CD experience
* To provide first-hand experience on the presented topics, e.g. SLM techniques, indigenous knowledge (IK), farmer innovation, through a field trip.

The course was attended by 29 participants, of whom 12 were associated with PROLINNOVA, including delegates from eight CPs (Kenya was not represented). It was a great success, as testified to by the course evaluation.

Curriculum Development Workshop

The CD workshop took place on the 9–11 March 2009 at the same venue. It brought together university representatives from the nine PROLINNOVA CPs mentioned above, three IST members (Laurens van Veldhuizen, Will Critchley and Sabina Di Prima) and Ronald Lutalo as host. The workshop aimed to:
1. Share lessons and best practices on integration of PID approaches into agricultural education and training curricula
2. Develop a framework course on Participatory Approaches in Agricultural and NRM focusing on PID methodology
3. Discuss the way ahead for the development of the PROLINNOVA CD sub-programme
4. Strengthen the PROLINNOVA network / communication around the thematic area of CD.

These objectives were largely mirrored in the expectations expressed by the participants at the beginning of the workshop:
* Share experiences and materials
* Create a "Community of Practice" (CoP)

- Discuss how best to institutionalise and scale out PID in universities
- Develop the general framework for a PID course
- Discuss opportunities for a joint project.

The first two days of the workshop were devoted to presenting experiences from various countries, discussion and analysis of cases. Key lessons, best practices, challenges and opportunities derived by each case were highlighted, written on cards and discussed. Two cases (Tribhuvan University, Nepal, and Limpopo University, South Africa) fully focused on experiences with incorporating PID in university curricula, whereas the others presented related experiences and served to show opportunities as well as constraints for integrating PID in university teaching and research.

During the third day, a first round of group discussions looked at a possible framework for PID courses, ways for institutionalising and scaling out PID in universities. While no innovative ideas came out from the discussions on the latter two points, a considerable step forward was made in the development of a PID framework course. With the use of effective visualisation, the group in charge of this theme presented a framework with four content components:
   (i)   Evolution of approaches towards PID
   (ii) Local / farmer innovation concepts
   (iii) Methodology
   (iv) Institutionalisation and scaling of PID / LI.

These components are to be taught at various levels of detail in three course types (A. Introductory; B. Expanded; C. Specialised). The PID framework course was well accepted by all participants, and constructive comments were made on how to make it operational.

A second round of group discussions fed into action planning related to ways to build a CoP on PID in universities and the development of a new proposal for fundraising. As a result of the plenary discussion, the participants agreed on a number of (action) points.

"Community of Practice" on PID in universities

a. The CoP already exists but should include potentially other CPs not represented at the workshop (e.g. Nigeria, Niger, Peru and Bolivia).
b. There is the need to draft the CoP statement of objectives and Terms of Reference (ToRs); responsible person = Abdelaziz Karamalla Gaiballa (Sudan).
c. A Curriculum Development Working Group (CDWG) was formed.
d. CDWG members are Dharma Raj Dangol (Nepal), Abdelaziz Karamalla Gaiballa (Sudan), Pamela Marinda (Kenya), Paul Kwami Adraki (Ghana) and Sabina Di Prima (focal person CIS–VUA).
e. ToRs for the CDWG should be developed and include the following responsibilities:
    - coordinate the process
    - "gatekeep" website resources
    - stimulate design/development and circulation of joint materials ("copyleft")
    - facilitate events (partners workshops at various levels)
    - prepare donors' overview
    - develop joint project proposal.
f. The ToRs for the CDWG should be drafted; responsible persons = CDWG members.
g. Decisions should be made in relation to the contents of the CD page on the PROLINNOVA website and contacts should be established with IIRR (webmaster); responsible persons = CDWG members.
h. There is need to create a dedicated CD yahoo group based on an inventory of contacts at CP level; responsible persons = all workshop participants.

Development of a new proposal for fundraising
- ✓ Raise profile of CD theme in preparation for new overall PROLINNOVA proposal to be submitted to DGIS (Netherlands Directorate-General for International Cooperation); responsible persons = all workshop participants; by 31 March 2009
- ✓ Strengthen links with potential allies (e.g. RUFORUM, FARA, APAARI, Practical Action)
- ✓ Explore funding opportunities as ongoing process; responsible persons + all workshop participants + others (extended CDWG).

Overall, the workshop went very well. It achieved its original objectives and met participants' expectations. All participants confirmed their commitment towards the realisation of the common goal: mainstreaming PID in university curricula. Those responsible for undertaking "action points" assured the group that they would follow up immediately on return to their home countries.

6.4.2 Integrating innovation-systems approach into academic institution and capacity-building: experiences of IAAS, Nepal

Presented by Dharma Raj Dangol

Introduction
Among the partners of the PROLINNOVA–Nepal programme, the Institute of Agriculture and Animal Science (IAAS) of Tribhuvan University is the only academic institution. This is the institute responsible for producing skilled human resources on agriculture and NRM through education. It offers Bachelor, Master and PhD degrees in agriculture. This institute entered in 2005 as partner organisation in PROLINNOVA–Nepal and conducted its activities of integrating the innovation-systems approach in its academic curriculum and initiated capacity-building of institute, faculties and students.

Activities performed: Integrating PID in agricultural education

I. Develop and get approval of course curriculum on PID in BSc Ag and MSc Ag
- In-house consultation to explore possibility of including PID in Academic Course Curriculum
- Consultation with concerned international PROLINNOVA partners to draw ideas and experience
- Preparing draft outlines for course curriculum to include promotion of local innovation
- Sharing draft outline of course curriculum among NWG members
- Approval from Subject Matter Committee 2007 (BSc and MSc)
- Approval from Faculty Board on 25 Februay 2009 (MSc course).

II. Integrating PID in existing courses for building capacity of students
Besides developing a new course curriculum, local innovation was also integrated in different courses of undergraduate and graduate programmes. Some examples of integration of PID activities are given below:

- **Agro-ecotourism:** Term paper: Linking local innovation with agro-ecotourism – 2008 – Nima Acharya
- **Applied Ethnobiology:** Application of local innovation and knowledge for community development – 2007 – Keshab Thapa)
- **Fundamentals of Ethnobiology:** Inventory of local innovations – 2007 in practical; PROLINNOVA–Nepal programme is important for strengthening ethnobiology/ethnobotany education at IAAS
- **Ecological Research Methods:** BSc Ag. Students (conservation ecology) met Suman Manandhar in 2007.

III. Preparing teaching materials and other facilities
> Course pack preparation (2008)
> Books, reports and articles
> Charts, pamphlets, brochure, posters
> Computer and printer
> Whiteboard and panel board.

IV. Capacity building of faculty members
- Participation in seminar and talk programmes – 2006
- Participation in workshop and interaction programmes – 2006
- Study visit: 2 faculties – 2007
- PROLINNOVA International Meeting – 2007
- PID training of facilitators – 2007
- CP cross-visit – 7–14 September 2008
- Participation in NWG meetings (2006–09)
- Participation in SLM and CD workshop in Uganda (March 2009).

V. Capacity building of students in PID through thesis scheme
2008 Academic year (2006–08)
- MSc Student identified: Ram Hari Timsina
- Advisors: Badri Bahadur Singh Dongol, Dharma Dangol and Narayan Joshi

2009 Academic year (2007–09)
- MSc Students identified: 2 (one is conducting thesis research in Mustang)
- Advisors: JP Datta, PP Regmi and Dharma Dangol

VI. Capacity building of students in PID
- Participation in talk programme and seminars (many students attended the seminar of Dr Pratap, Mariana and Suman) – 2006
- Participation in PID training (4 students) – 2006
- Participation in Policy Workshop and Innovators Interaction Programmes (8 students) – 2006
- Participation in NWG meeting (1 student) – 2007
- Through thesis scheme (2 students).

VII. PID course pack preparation
- **Participatory Innovation Research and Development Studies**: Educational Resource Book for Theory Classes IN PREPARATION 2009
- **Participatory Innovation Research and Development Studies**: Educational Resource Book for Practical Exercises FIRST DRAFT PREPARED 2008

Faculties were also involved in different activities, including review work of local innovations and knowledge in Nepal. This also helped build capacity of writing and understanding the status of local innovation systems in Nepal's different organisations.

VIII. Establishing a Knowledge Centre for the promotion of local innovation
A Local Knowledge and Innovation Resource Centre is an important asset for teaching, research and promotion of local knowledge and farmer innovations. This resource centre creates opportunities for farmer innovators, educators, researchers, planners, policymakers and students to students to work on local innovation. The centre will have the following components or units:
- ✓ Museum / local innovation collections
- ✓ Ethnobotanical garden (Ecological Agricultural Park)

- ✓ Art gallery (innovators and their innovations / promoters)
- ✓ Library and Documentation Unit
  - Important publications of Care Nepal, Ecological Services Centre, IAAS (journals, reports, theses, term papers), LI-BIRD, Practical Action, PROLINNOVA International, COMPAS, ILEIA, IPGRI, TRPAP, USC Nepal, IUCN, WWF, ICIMOD, DNPWC, DPR, NPG
- ✓ Research and Training Unit (educators, research associates)
- ✓ Resource persons: research associates, faculties, focal persons of PROLINNOVA–Nepal, students, local innovators
- ✓ Training courses: Documentation process, Joint experimentation, Intellectual Property Rights, Proposal development, Fund management.

IX. Ideas for coming days

- New building for Local Knowledge and Innovation Resource Centre
- Large-scale collection of information on local knowledge and innovation(s) from all over Nepal
- Train young faculties and students through academic and non-academic approaches
- Longitudinal participatory research on local knowledge and innovation development.

RECAP

   PID can be taught of various levels, ranging from a short-term introductory course to a more robust Masters course. As much is happening in the field of CD and PID, much effort is still needed to institutionalise and scale up PID and LI both within and outside of university systems. To do so, champions and supportive people must be developed and fostered to carry the idea forward.

A suggestion was made to tap into the many years' experience in integrating Farming Systems Research into university curricula, in order to learn for the CD work within PROLINNOVA. It was interesting to note that, in Tanzania, efforts are also being made by Sokoine University to incorporate innovation systems thinking into secondary education.

   To keep in mind: There is a need for multi-disciplinary skills related to PID to ensure the approach and application can reach more and more areas of development.

8.0 GENDER: LESSONS FROM NOVEMBER '08 WORKSHOP, CP ACTION PLANS, INTERNATIONAL ACTION PLAN

In November 2008, people from several CPs – mainly the Gender Focal Points (GFPs) – met in Uganda, together with members of the COMPAS (Comparing and Supporting Endogenous Development) network to review experiences of incorporating gender concerns into our work. The PROLINNOVA participants drew up a strategic plan for "genderising PID in PROLINNOVA", including actions plans at CP and international level. During the IPW in Nepal, these plans were reviewed to see where we are now. CP and IST participants wrote cards on what had been done, what is in the process of being done and what is still planned in 2009, to be inserted into the planning matrix as a kind of M&E exercise.

The ensuing discussion brought out the importance that both women and men address gender issues, looking particularly at how innovations affect men, women, young and old, and at gender balance in terms of power, creating more space for women to play decisive roles. Rajju from LI-BIRD noted that all GFPs are women and thought it might be strategic to have men as GFPs because "when men talk, men listen". Many of the CPs gave examples of how they are giving attention to gender in their work related both to PROLINNOVA and to their organisations. Alex brought some lessons from the earlier Promoting Farmer Innovation (PFI) project in Uganda: because many land-based innovations are dominated by men, one should look deliberately into activities in which women are involved (e.g. related to livestock-keeping, food processing, use of natural resources) and also to consider family innovations and the roles played by men, women and children in innovation. He suggested encouraging both husband and wife to attend workshops on local innovation and farmer-led research.

Table 9. Strategic plan for genderising PID in PROLINNOVA (*with updates by IPW 2009 participants in italics*)

FOCUS AREAS	SPECIFIC GENDER OUTCOMES	ACTIVITIES	BY WHOM	INDICATORS / TARGETS	*Done*	*Yet to be done*	*Plans for 2009*
Documenting and Promoting Innovations	1a) Range of innovations in the productive, reproductive and community domains, including IK 1b) Innovations from men and women (from different age groups) in each domain. And include household and community innovations. 1c) Innovations have no negative gender	1.1 Catalogue of female innovators 1.2 Engender all publications at all levels	CP partners with Gender Focal Points (GFPs) CP/IST	By 2010, all CPs have published a catalogue of female innovators (from different age groups) By 2010, at least 1/3 of identified, documented and/or promoted innovations are by women innovators, including different age groups By 2010, at least 1/3 of identified, documented and/or promoted innovations are in reproductive and community domains, including IK Documentation of PID process provides evidence that there are no negative gender or cultural impacts	*Sudan* *1.1 Innovation have been pick-up and documented now catalogue is in the production process;* *A Gender driven PID case study already discussed with the backstopping and the NSC* *Four (4) women are included in the SC of Sudan program (9 out of 15)*	*Cambodia* *1.1 Catalogue of women innovators* *Niger* *1.3 Genderise all publications*	*Kenya* *1.1 Catalogue of women innovators* *1.2 Genderise all publication at all levels* *Niger* *1.1 Catalogue of women innovators* *IST Gender* *1.1 Being done continuously* *South Africa* *1.2 Integrate gender into all activities* *Tanzania* *1.2 See 2009 plan*

PID Process	2. Gendered PID (joint experimentation) process (continuously improved)	2.1 Complete/get comments on Gender and PID case studies 2.2 Complete/get comments on workshop document (manual) to engender LI/PID 2.3 Communicate outcomes of gender workshop to all CPs and IST 2.4 Share findings and follow-up plans of gender workshop with CP partners and NWG	Participants writeshop /Chesha AWB/CW GF/CW Participants writeshop	Improved Gender and PID case studies by end of Jan 2009 Gender and PID workshop document (manual) revised with comments of all CPs and IST by March 2009 Gender action plans presented and approved by NSCs for incorporation into CP plans by end 2008	*Nepal* *2.1 Completed/got comments on Gender and PID case study* *2.2 Completed/got comments on workshop document (manual) to gender LI/PID* *2.3 Communicated outcomes of gender workshop to all CPs and NWG* *2.4 Shared findings and follow-up plans of gender workshop* *IST Gender* *2.1 & 2.2 Report completed and distributed to participants* *Niger* *2.3 Outcomes of gender workshop to CP members* *South Africa* *2.4 Done at NSC meeting*	*Kenya* *2.1 Complete/get comments on Gender and PID case study* *2.4 Share findings of workshop with CP*	*Sudan* *2.0 Regional workshop to identify and document women innovations with emphasis on pastoralists women* *IST Gender* *2.3 Will be posted on the website*

Impact on R&D						
3. Women innovators actively involved in setting agricultural research agenda	3.1 Initiate PID/joint experiments with female innovators, involve women in (mixed and/or same gender) innovator platforms 3.2 Genderise local innovation messages and ensure gender balance in partnerships (and meetings) with stakeholders in R&D	CPs / GFPs	By 2010, at least 1/3 of joint experiments are based on women's innovations and led by woman innovator(s) (from different age groups) and are reflected in all promotional materials (posters, radio, innovation fairs and publications)	*Niger* *3.1 PID joint experiences*	*Nepal* *3.1 Initiate PID with female innovators*	*Kenya* *3.1 Initiative PID with female innovators* *3.2 Genderise local innovation messages and ensure gender balance in partnerships and meetings with stakeholders in R&D* *Cambodia* *3.1 Try to have a balance of female innovators involved in joint experimentation* *South Africa* *3.1 Check representation of women innovators* *3.2 Platforms at provincial and national level* *Tanzania* *3.1 Ongoing* *3.2 Ongoing*

| PID Capacity | 4. PID practitioners apply gendered PID (joint experimentation) processes | 4.1 Document and train in gender-sensitive facilitation techniques

4.2 All GFPs to attend engendered PID training of facilitators

4.3 Specific gender training and coaching

4.4 Improve gender content in PID training (international/national) | Trainers / GFPs / Gender Group / other gender experts | Each CP sends a male and female participant, including GFP, to International training of PID facilitators

Gendered PID process and gender-sensitive facilitation techniques are included in PID training workshops at national and International level

Note: Training should result in outcomes under 1 | *Nepal*
4.4 Improved gender content in PID training

Tanzania
4.1 Was done for some partners with support of PELUM regional desk

Sudan
4.4 All our activities are now gender sensitive e.g. working participants, innovations and innovators | *Kenya*
4.1 Document and train in gender-sensitive facilitation techniques
Cambodia
4. 3 Gender-specific training in PID

South Africa
4.2 New GFP still to be named

Tanzania
4.1 Yet to be done for all PROLINNOVA partners

4.2 Identify GFP in the CWP

Sudan
4.3 Still we don't have any trained female in gender sensitive facilitation techniques and PID

Specific Gender training not yet | *Nepal*
4.1 Document and train in gender-sensitive facilitation techniques

Niger
4.1 Training workshop on gender

Nepal
4.2 GFP to attend engendered training of PID facilitators

4.3 Specific gender training and coaching; developing gender-mainstreaming framework

South Africa
4.2 Ask Ann to provide input at PID workshop

4.1 Ongoing at MD/PO level and CP level |

					Kenya	Nepal	Kenya
R&D Partnerships	5. Balanced gender representation in MSPs (NWGs, NSCs etc)	5.1 Expertise in gender as criteria for selection of CP coordinators 5.2 More women PID facilitators 5.3 Organisation with Gender in Development expertise to be a member of NWG	NSC/NWG CP coordinators, GFPs	By end 2009, all CPs have a Gender Organisation as partner in country multi-stakeholder platforms By end 2009, at least 1/3 of PID facilitators are female By end 2009, at least 1/3 of NWG and/or NSC members are female	*Kenya* *5.3 Organisation in gender development expertise to be a member of NWG* *South Africa* *5.2 Ongoing but plan to train additional female* *5.3 Monique / individual not organisation*	*Nepal* *5.2 More women PID facilitators*	*Kenya* *5.1 More women PID facilitators* *Cambodia* *5.1 Try to involve at least one woman in NSC*
Planning	6. Genderise CP action plans and budgets (including FAIR project) to reflect Points 1–5	6.1 Include gender activities in 2009 CP plans and budgets 6.2 Country backstoppers to ensure that gender activities are reflected in 2009 action plans and budgets 6.3 No continued funding for CPs unless gender is integrated 6.4 Special funding for genderising activities at international and country level	Backstoppers/IST, CP coordinator, GFP	From 2009 onwards, country action plans and budgets of at least 9 CPs reflect/include gender-related activities, with support from backstoppers Gender work is included in next-round DGIS funding proposal end 2009 By 2010, additional funds are raised to support further genderising work at all levels	*Niger* *6.1 Gender activity in 2009 action plan* *South Africa* *6.1 Done* *IST Gender* *6.2 Backstoppers have done this to the extent possible*	*Niger* *6.4 Special funding*	*Kenya* *6.1 Include gender activities in 2009 CP plan and budget* *Cambodia* *6.1 At least 30% of farmer innovators identified are women* *IST Gender* *6.3 Will look at CP plan and decide* *6.4 Being integrated into proposal for next phase*

Global Impact	7. Global Partnership Programme can show positive gender impacts	7.1 Develop a working definition for gender in the context of PROLINNOVA 7.2 Genderise mission and vision statements 7.3 Include gender outputs and outcomes into M&E system 7.4 Gender discussed as main point on agenda (not as side event) of IPWs 7.5 Revisit and restructure Gender Group formed at Ghana IPW	IST / Gender Group / GFPs	Mission, vision and working definition of gender enable all PROLINNOVA partners to understand and work with gender IST has read and commented on the Gender and PID workshop document, and supports the CPs and IPW in integrating gender. Gender Group is restructured to effectively integrate gender at all levels, and to provide support to GFPs	*Niger* *7.3 Outputs activities in PM&E system* *IST Gender* *7.2 Incorporated Gender into vision* *7.4 Gender discussions integrated in IPW 09*	*IST Gender* *7.1 Not yet done* *7.3 Not yet done* *7.5 Gender working group to be formed/confirmed on this IPW 09*	*Niger* *7.3 Outputs, outcomes in PM&E*

9.0 PROLINNOVA OVERSIGHT GROUP: SUMMARY REPORT

As was the case in previous IPWs, the PROLINNOVA Oversight Group (POG) reported on its actions and decisions over the past year, particularly during the most recent POG meeting. This presentation was prepared by the POG co-chairs Susan Kaaria and Scott Killough, and presented by Scott.

Introduction

The POG held its 8th meeting on 7 May 2009 at the Hotel Greenwich in Kathmandu, Nepal. The members continued and concluded their meeting during the evening of 8 May 2009 at the Hotel Pokhara Grande in Pokhara. The meeting was linked to the 2009 annual IIPW.

Members attending were: Hector Velasquez (Andes); Pratap Shrestha (Asia-Pacific); Sabina Di Prima (IST); Saidou Magagi (francophone Africa); Scott Killough (Independent); Susan Kaaria (Independent); and Ann Waters-Bayer (Secretariat). Qureish Noordin participated in the meeting as a substitute for Monica Kapiriri (POG member for the rest of Africa), who was unable to attend; Oliver Oliveros (Independent) was also unable to attend. (Note: Both Oliver and Monica sent written inputs to the POG Secretariat/Chair related to specific agenda prior to the meeting; Oliver also called into the meeting and provided some additional inputs in a conversation with the POG Chair.)

This report is a summary report of the key outcomes, decisions and actions taken during the POG meeting to be shared with / communicated to PROLINNOVA partners. This report is not intended as formal minutes of the meeting; the POG maintains a separate set of meeting minutes.

Key outcomes, decisions and actions taken

1. **New members to the POG** who had been recently elected (effective Feb 2009) were welcomed, specifically Saidou, Hector, Sabina and Susan.

2. **Minutes from the 7th POG meeting** held at the 2008 IPW in Tamale, Ghana were approved, and follow-up to action points from that meeting were reviewed and updated.

3. The members present discussed and affirmed the **(draft) "Strategic Plan Genderising PID in PROLINNOVA"** prepared by a working group from a Nov 2008 workshop held in Uganda. The POG strongly agreed that the plan merits full implementation, after the scheduled round of Country Programme (CP) feedback during the 2009 IPW. The members appreciated the high-quality of the plan, noting the comprehensive set of activities that had been developed, and the useful set of strong and specific indicators. The need to devote attention to resource requirements for implementation of the plan was highlighted during the discussion.

4. The POG then devoted considerable time to review and revise a number of elements of the **POG Terms of Reference (ToRs) document**.

   a. The members decided to change the language designating the "External" members as "Independent" members instead.

   b. To address feedback and concerns related to the representation vs. perspective function of the CP/RP (Regional Programme) members to POG (recently raised during both the e-

evaluation as well as the external evaluation), the members discussed the matter and formulated specific language which was revised and adopted; specifically:

"The independent members of the POG act in a personal capacity, as experienced persons committed to the goals of PROLINNOVA – but will, ideally, be acting with the backing of their respective organisations. The POG members from the CPs do not represent their particular institution or CP but rather **all the CPs in their region**, and bring perspectives from that region into the POG. The representative from the IST brings in the perspectives of all IST members. The CP and IST representatives are expected to:

- ✓ Be knowledgeable about what is happening in their region / IST;
- ✓ Consult CPs in their region / members of the IST about their concerns and bring these into the agenda of the POG;
- ✓ Be able to present clearly issues to the POG that have come up in the region / IST;
- ✓ Contribute to the good functioning and well-being of PROLINNOVA; and
- ✓ Feed back outcomes of the POG discussions to the CPs in their region / members of the IST."

c. To address feedback and concerns related to interactions and communications of POG with the CP/RP partners (recently raised during both the e-evaluation as well as the external evaluation), the members discussed and agreed to specific mechanisms to address this; specifically:

- ✓ Agenda items of planned POG meetings to be shared with CPs/RPs one month prior to the meeting to seek their inputs as to items to be considered at the meeting
- ✓ Written summary report of POG meeting decisions reported to / shared with all CPs/RPs after each meeting
- ✓ POG to prepare oral summary POG report and share with all PROLINNOVA partners during the annual IPW; and
- ✓ POG members will continue to participate in the IPW to help ensure engagement with CPs/RPs. One suggestion (yet to be implemented) would be to allocate time/sessions at every other annual IPW for POG-CP-IST substantive discussions and/or decision-making.

d. The mechanism of POG operating with two Co-Chairs, rather than with a single Chair was reviewed and formalised as an element of the ToRs. A selection process was outlined, and then applied during the meeting to select Susan Kaaria as the new Co-Chair.

e. The members discussed the section of the ToRs related to POG meetings held between the annual IPW (during which the POG also meets). The need for these additional meetings was re-affirmed and the process outlined in the ToRs was refined. Though POG decisions must be based on quorum, POG meetings attended by a group of members which is less than quorum can still conduct business and reach decisions. However, virtual communication with a quorum of POG members will be required in order to confirm (or reject) decisions reached at such POG meetings. The members also affirmed the mechanism for POG decision-making exclusively through virtual/E-mail consultation.

f. At the 5th POG meeting in March 2007, sub-committees were established – with an initial ToRs – for division of tasks within the POG. The usefulness of the sub-committee mechanism was reviewed during the meeting. The group affirmed the value of working POG sub-committees. The original list of sub-committees was revised, dropping some (Fundraising; New CPs/RPs) and adding others (Gender; Farmer organisations). New sub-committee members were constituted:

- International policy dialogue: Monica Kapiriri / Pratap Shrestha;
- Publications: Sabina Di Prima / Scott Killough;
- M&E: Oliver Oliveros / Sabina Di Prima / Susan Kaaria;
- Financial matters: Scott Killough / Saidou Magagi;
- Gender: Susan Kaaria / Hector Velasquez; and
- Farmer organisations: Hector Velasquez / Saidou Magagi.

(Note: Though the Fundraising sub-committee was discontinued, the POG recognises that __all__ members are expected to contribute to and play a role in identifying funding opportunities and fostering donor relationships.)

The ToRs for the sub-committees was discussed and reviewed during the meeting, and the elements of the initial ToRs were affirmed; these are:

- ✓ To maintain an overview of the PROLINNOVA activities under that theme;
- ✓ To bring relevant information into the POG discussions;
- ✓ To highlight issues or decision points that may be required at the POG level;
- ✓ To coordinate with relevant focal persons within the IST;
- ✓ To respond to relevant communications coming from the programme to the POG; and
- ✓ To provide advisory support where necessary.

IST members can directly contact the sub-committee members about issues relevant to each sub-committee, with cc: to the Co-Chairs.

5. The **programme annual report** was shared with the members. Progress at CP and international level – including multi-country initiatives and outreach/policy dialogue activities – was briefly reviewed and appreciated by the members. There was more in-depth discussion on a few key points. First, a small number of concerns re: specific CPs and IST dynamics and issues were presented and discussed; some concrete action steps were identified. Also, there was some concern expressed on the continuing need to balance spread vs. focus of limited programme activities and resources.

6. An **interim and incomplete financial report for 2008** (prepared by the IST) was shared and assessed. The POG members expressed concern that a number of financial statements for 2008 are still incomplete four months into the new fiscal year – and one month *after* the submission deadline. (It was noted that there was no review at all of a PROLINNOVA 2007 financial report at last year's POG meeting for the same reason.) POG strongly re-affirmed the need to maintain timely financial reporting – by CPs/RPs, IST and the Secretariat, in order to fulfil donors' requirements and ensure the prompt re-allocation of funds (if necessary).

It was also noted that PROLINNOVA was required to return programme funds to DGIS (~€ 65,000) from the previous programme phase (in 2007) due to under-spending of funds at the CP level. POG affirmed the new practice of minimising the amount of unused CP programme funds that can be 'rolled-over' from year-to-year to no more than 20% of the annual budget. In 2008, this new practice has already meant nearly €10,000 available for re-allocation during 2009. The POG requested the IST to develop a process and priorities for re-allocation of these funds for this and future years. The POG identified what it suggests as priority areas to which these funds could be re-allocated (in order of descending priority):

     i.   CP-to-CP backstopping and exchanges
     ii.   New CPs/RPs that are already demonstrating strong results
     iii.   Multi-country initiatives (e.g. gender, HAPID, climate-change adaptation)
     iv.   Augment existing CP/RP budgets.

7.   The members then reviewed, discussed and identified follow-up points related to **three key documents recently derived from the PROLINNOVA programme:** 1) the annual e-evaluation of PROLINNOVA partners (conducted in January 2009); 2) the external evaluation report to DGIS (completed in March 2009); and 3) the *"PROLINNOVA beyond 2010"* concept paper (initiated by the IST in late 2008), with additional CP and IST inputs.

    a. *Annual e-evaluation* – The POG discussion recognised the value of the interactions and the quality of the documentation and analysis from this annual exercise. However, the discussion raised the question of whether the CP/RP inputs made to the e-evaluation are inclusive of multiple CP views or are only limited to a very few (e.g. CP coordinators). The members noted the specific e-evaluation concerns/feedback re: CP–POG interactions, and agreed that the POG feels that these have now been addressed through the recent revisions to the POG ToRs, as mentioned previously in this report.

    b. *External evaluation* – The members reviewed and discussed the key findings and all recommendations (short term and longer term) from the external evaluation. It was acknowledged that many recommendations have already been taken on board by the programme (e.g. prioritising gender, improving POG communications with CPs/RPs, representation of CPs/RPs in the POG). The members agreed that many of the findings / recommendations will be taken forward into the *"PROLINNOVA beyond 2010"* discussions and plans for the future. The Secretariat was requested to inform POG of the final review and approval by DGIS of the evaluation report.

    c. *"PROLINNOVA beyond 2010" concept paper* – POG members had an initial discussion on some of the critical issues outlined in the concept paper. POG strongly agreed that future strategic directions for the PROLINNOVA programme should be driven by a clear articulation of our own vision, mission and strategic directions. POG affirmed a set of near-term steps for programme review, discussion and prioritisation of future programme directions, based on the concept paper, to be initiated at the upcoming IPW. The group also outlined an indicative timeline for POG monitoring/inputs to be included into the formulation of future programme directions and strategies. POG also recognised the specific timeline for the DGIS funding opportunity to potentially support future work.

8. **Next meetings** – The members confirmed that the next regular POG meeting would be at the 2010 IPW (location still to be determined). The members also discussed possibilities for an interim meeting before next year's IPW. POG members were requested to send their individual travel plans (even if tentative) to the Secretariat and to the co-chairs to explore possible times/ locations when a 'critical mass' of POG members might be able to come together for a meeting. The strong possibility for a meeting to be linked to the August '09 PID training of facilitators (ToF) event was identified.

10.0 Cross-visits and other forms of inter-CP learning and mutual support

In September 2008, PROLINNOVA–Nepal made a week-long cross-visit to Cambodia. In October 2008, PROLINNOVA–Niger made a 10-day cross-visit to Ghana North. Representatives from the visiting and host CPs reported these two cross-visits, which were funded partly out of the international budget and partly out of the budgets of the two CPs involved in each visit.

10.1 Niger CP cross-visit to Ghana North

Prepared by Saidou Magagi (Niger), Frank Adongo (Ghana), Adam Toudou (Niger) & Joe Nchor (Ghana); presented by Saidou

Cross visit participants – Niger and Ghana

Introduction

Writings showed that PROLINNOVA–Ghana has good experience in documenting Local Innovation (LI) and participatory methods and approaches such as FLD and LISF pilots. The two CPs have similarities in terms of management and governance bodies (NSC, core team, national coordination, zones and poles). The two CPs are also located in West Africa and linked by a regional economic organisation ECOWAS/CEDEAO (Economic Community of West African States) and similar cultural contexts.

Objectives
- ✓ Strengthen MSPs between the two PROLINNOVA countries
- ✓ Build partners' capacities through mutual learning and sharing
- ✓ Share outcomes and lessons at national, regional and international level

Guidelines and modalities of the cross-visit
- ✓ Participation of various stakeholders and gender balance
    - Four representatives of partners + one driver visited Ghana North
    - Female participants: 2 women from Niger and 1 woman from Ghana

- ✓ Representative and multi-disciplinary cross-visit group
    - One representative of farmer innovators/experimenters organisation
    - One representative of agricultural research (INRAN, National Institute for Agronomic Research)
    - One representative of development services
    - One representative of Faculty of Agronomy, University Abdou Moumouni, Niamey.

- ✓ Effective time management
    - 10 days (4 days road travel Niamey–Tamale–Niamey and 6 days field visit, sharing and learning workshop and debriefing meeting in Tamale).

- ✓ Local partners' contribution (Niger and Ghana North) to PROLINNOVA International budget.

- ✓ Detailed and comprehensive information-exchange programmes for the cross-visits.

Accomplishments
- ✓ Institutional visits and partnerships
  - ACDEP (Association of Church Development Projects): PROLINNOVA–Ghana North coordination;
  - Presbyterian Church NGO;
  - University for Development Studies (UDS) / Faculty of Agriculture;
  - Savannah Agricultural Research Institute (SARI);
  - Municipal Directorate of Agriculture (MDA), Tamale; and
  - Animal Research Institute (ARI)
  - Evangelical Presbyterian Development and Relief Agency (EPDRA), Yendi.

- ✓ Mutual learning and sharing workshop: presentations by the two CPs and debates.

- ✓ Field visits to:
  - Golinga Farmer Group: conventional and modern practices to cure animal diseases;
  - Zakoli Farmer Group: saltlick; and
  - Wapuli Farmer Group: saltlick blocks.

- ✓ Debriefing meeting and farewell ceremony.

What we learnt from this cross-visit
- ✓ PID experiences: We are using Wapuli farmers' saltlick-block experiences to train Garin Bourtou women in making natron lick blocks besides liquid natron extraction;

- ✓ Ghana FLD and LISF are weak and offer no practical evidence. We are building FLD Niger on participatory strategic ways and lessons from Ghana North;
- ✓ Methods and approaches in facilitating MSPs and solving CPs' functioning and governance problems;
- ✓ Simplicity and partners undertaken in Niger PID experiences on joint experimentation on fish smoking in Banda. Ghanaians used lessons for replication;
- ✓ Use of adult literacy training in Niger to facilitate PID and FLD activities;
- ✓ Travelling by road facilitated dialogue between Niger participants, helped in fund management and successful organisation of the cross-visit.

Challenges
- ✓ How the host country will satisfy learning expectations of visitors, avoid lateness and keep to time?
- ✓ Can PROLINNOVA–Ghana North make necessary efforts to visit Niger in 2009?
- ✓ How to sustain MSPs built between the two countries? Experts can use ICT (email, phone, Skype etc), but what can poor and illiterate farmers do?

Way forward
- ✓ Sharing outcomes and organisation of Ghana North participants' visit to Niger.

10.2 Nepal CP cross-visit to Cambodia

Presented by Suman Manandhar (Nepal); Sami Vitou (Cambodia) and Sharad Rai (Kenya)

A group of eight persons (one woman and seven men, including one farmer) from PROLINNOVA–Nepal visited Cambodia on 7–14 September 2008, primarily to learn about that CP's experience in integrating PID approaches into government institutions.

Cross visit participants – Nepal and Cambodia

Key observations and lessons
- ✓ Involvement of young / youth groups in agricultural enterprises;
- ✓ Replicable (innovative) practices in the context of Nepal – vegetative reproduction of papaya; backyard fish farming; coconut shells used as thermos flasks; floating seedbeds to protect seedlings from rodent/ant attacks;
- ✓ Active participation of women in all activities; also being articulate;
- ✓ Innovations linked with enterprise development and income-generating initiatives;
- ✓ Good contacts and working relationships with GOs (provincial departments of agriculture);
- ✓ Large network (20 members in NWG);
- ✓ Incorporating LI / PID aspects into the rural development curricula of three universities;
- ✓ Interesting techniques / practices: rainwater harvesting, floating seedbeds (for rice seedlings), and community shop.

Suggestions and recommendations
- ✓ Concept of Innovation / Development to be institutionalised by partners – GOs in particular;
- ✓ Scientific / systematic M&E mechanism for keeping track of PID process (e.g. chicken raising in 2 batches);
- ✓ Enhanced role of government stakeholders;
- ✓ Explore opportunity for Roman Neupane to visit Cambodia for 2 weeks to train Cambodian farmers / small manufacturers in making water pumps and paddy thresher (groundwork required: resources, technical feasibility, cost-benefit assessment).

10.3 Other ways of sharing and mutual learning between CPs

In buzz-groups, the participants brainstormed on ways to enhance learning directly between CPs. This exercise yielded numerous ideas, grouped and listed below. However, the participants stressed the importance of continuing and expanding cross-visits for inter-CP learning: "Personal interaction CP-to-CP is crucial for all of us to be a PROLINNOVA family".

Through joint actions
1. Share interesting case studies on the documentation, joint experimentation/ PID and M&E processes in IPWs
2. Joint proposal for regional programme (meeting)
3. Exchange of videos that introduce programmes and then focus on topics or evolve into other forms of exchange
4. Inventory of individuals in CPs with different areas of expertise (from any stakeholder group – not only for training)
5. Inviting innovators and sharing knowledge and skills
6. Exchange-visits of faculties and students in regional universities
7. Continue exchange-visits with increased participation of local innovators
8. Backstopping – CP members, POG at regional level
9. Backstopping CP–CP (after requests and developing ToRs)
10. POG member sharing at regional level (to CPs)
11. Technical backstopping by individuals from CP with expertise to meet expressed need of other CP; starts with expressed need
12. Regional exchange of information through CP backstopper visit and websites on areas of interest.

Through Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs)
13. Use of visual tools to facilitate mutual learning (e.g. videos, slides, posters, drama, YouTube)
14. Sharing through: Wikispaces, YouTube, Skype / Yahoo Messenger calls / conferences
15. Tele-centre (VKEC)
16. Thematic chat rooms
17. Scheduled video conferencing
18. Virtual sharing (emails, e-groups) on case studies, reports, protocols etc.

11.0 EXTERNAL EVALUATION: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Scott summarised the assessment and recommendations made by the two-person team (Martin Adams and Priyanthi Fernando) who carried out an external evaluation of PROLINNOVA in late 2008 and early 2009. This summary is drawn from the evaluation report that was finalised in March 2009.

Background

- ✓ Two-person evaluation team
    - Gender and geographic balance (North/South)
- ✓ Mid-term evaluation (rather than *ex post*), with emphasis on processes and their orientation, rather than on measurement of results
- ✓ Principal methods used
    - Review of PROLINNOVA documents
    - Consultations with
        - Country Programme (CP) coordinators
        - ETC/PROLINNOVA International Secretariat
        - International Support Team (IST)
        - Members of the PROLINNOVA Oversight Group (POG)
        - Knowledgeable stakeholders indirectly involved with the programme or in other related work
    - CP cross-visits (by Uganda and Nepal)
- ✓ Evaluation objectives
    - to assess the performance of the programme at country and international level in mainstreaming participatory approaches to farmer innovation
    - to make recommendations for strengthening the programme in the short term (2009–10), and indicating strategic directions for the longer term
- ✓ Programme was assessed in terms of Dutch aid policy and DGIS criteria

Key findings

- ✓ CP coordinating NGOs (and two academic institutions) have provided foundation for PROLINNOVA's country-level activities, and have been able to mobilise a number of likeminded organisations around the PROLINNOVA agenda
    - No doubt that the focus on farmer innovation has added value to the work of these organisations
- ✓ Less clear that there has yet been any major reorientation in other organisations involved in PROLINNOVA MSPs
    - Comparable institutional shifts within the public agricultural research and extension agencies have yet to be achieved
    - Attitudes towards farmer knowledge and innovation may be more sympathetic, but there is little evidence yet to show major policy or institutional changes (though such changes may not be far off in three or four countries)

- ✓ The PROLINNOVA strategy to get government on board is clearly most successful in countries where government support to research and extension for poor farmers, small-scale agriculture and NRM is strong

- ✓ Challenges of developing effective methodologies applicable to various settings:
    - At international level, ETC/PROLINNOVA International Secretariat has developed seemingly effective policy and implementation guidelines for country partners
    - But in practice, at the local level, outputs and outcomes can and do deviate from those intended:
        - Can be a lack of adherence to the agreed LI assessment framework and a technology bias at the expense of less tangible processes when selecting innovations for joint experimentation
        - The neglect of local innovation by women and by communities was also identified

- ✓ The scale of programme operation is very small in the countries involved, although commensurate with the very limited resources available

- ✓ The international training of PID facilitators is clearly of a high standard and well received by partners and participants

- ✓ The resulting country-level training provided at the local level involving farmers, communities, NGOs and GOs is expected to have a significant impact on increasing awareness of the importance of farmer innovation

- ✓ Issues relating to the training strategy and how it might better contribute to changes expected to be achieved include
    - apparently high post-training dropout rate
    - gender imbalance among trainees
    - apparent lack of follow-up courses necessary to capitalise on the initial investment

- ✓ Strategies being adopted by CPs in Cambodia, Ethiopia, Niger and Tanzania seem to be effective in mainstreaming and institutionalising the PID approach
    - The major factor appears to be the close alignment of NGO and the government agricultural policies

- ✓ Some CPs have also been successful in persuading universities and colleges that the concepts and principles of PID should be introduced into course-work/curricula for students of agriculture and NRM

- ✓ Scaling and mainstreaming at international level – evidence of modest progress was seen, but this is proving the most challenging area to demonstrate achievements

- ✓ Much of programme's apparent success is due to its organisational structure and its multi-stakeholder mode of operating – joint ownership, diverse contributions, talents and connections

- ✓ Able to reach agreement with national coordinating NGOs of great strength and credibility
    - willing to incorporate PID into their own work
    - able to mobilise likeminded organisations and to recruit influential officials for the NSCs

- ✓ NGO partners have also demonstrated their capacity to operate at the local level and interact effectively with local government

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✓ The programme has been effectively managed and administered by ETC/Prolinnova International Secretariat assisted by the IST who have shown strong loyalty and commitment, despite the scarcity of funds

✓ The execution of programme activities at the level of the ETC/ Prolinnova International Secretariat and the IST is managed with a high regard to cost efficiency and with planned expenditure in accordance with planned outputs

✓ Decentralised planning by NGO partners results in stronger CP-level/national ownership

✓ Judging by the feedback from the great majority of CP coordinators, there is a strong message that, while welcoming the allocations received from the International Secretariat, they are not sufficient for the task expected

✓ The instructions handed down by DGIS that the MFS subsidy must be backed by an own contribution are being put into effect

✓ The cost efficiency of the programme has been mentioned as one of its strengths
  • On the basis of the evidence available, Prolinnova represents a justifiable use of resources
  • Efficiency gains are being achieved by the very successful leveraging of the funds and knowledge of partners in support of the in-country programme initiatives
  • At the international level, modest co-funding is being obtained from a wide range of donors and programme partners for international/regional meetings and workshops for sub-programmes such as LISF, formerly funded by DURAS and now by Rockefeller

✓ The annual cycle of programme activities is being well managed

✓ No indication that an alternative mode of implementation would be more efficient in the use of scarce programme resources

Short-term recommendations (2009–10)

1. Make a renewed effort to obtain the support of all country partners for the comprehensive implementation of a reliable PM&E system at CP and international level
   ▪ This should include the rigorous recording of programme impacts (recognising that "no verifiable impact so far" is a result of concern to programme management)
   ▪ Consider establishing a web page for PM&E on the Prolinnova website to make the process more transparent

2. Ensure that the Strategic Plan for Genderising PID is implemented in all seven focus areas of the plan and in line with the planned schedule
   ▪ Consider establishing a web page for the country partners to track progress with the implementation of the Gender Strategic Plan

3. Review the international MSP and explore alternatives which will encourage greater involvement and mutual ownership of the learning process, one which is more demand-led

4. Develop an information / communication strategy that identifies audiences and the types of changes that Prolinnova expects the information to stimulate

5. PID (including LISF) should be applied to more components of the agricultural system (e.g. input supply and marketing, savings and credit), not only to production technology
   ▪ A change in focus could lead to the identification of more women innovators

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- PID should focus not only on individuals but also on innovation by communities

6. More attention should be paid to collecting evidence of the benefits of PID through action research at community level

7. Field activities should be located where they are accessible to policymakers, agricultural research stations etc, since an important objective is to share evidence of successful experience with public-sector organisations through networking, training and joint experimentation

8. Review current backstopping process with a view to developing a system which is more inclusive of CP expertise, more cross-country and target specific, and one which does not perpetuate centre-periphery/North-South hierarchies

9. Review the international training programme and consider widening its scope and deepening its content, not only for PID

10. Consider producing training modules on the following topics:
    - Integrating PM&E with annual programme planning, budgeting and progress reporting
    - Funding sources and preparing proposals for national and international grants

11. Assess the demand for an annual international PID ToF refresher workshop so as to obtain feedback from facilitators and share experiences across countries

12. International Secretariat members should be wary of "wearing too many hats" at the same time – clearer division should be made between the IST's technical support function and the Secretariat's management function

13. The International Secretariat should have clear terms of reference setting out their roles, responsibilities and relationships

14. Efforts should be made to resolve the ambiguities relating to the election and representation of regional POG members

15. A mechanism should be developed to include CP representation in the POG, perhaps on a biennial rotating basis

16. ETC/PROLINNOVA International Secretariat should aim to modify its current role to one which is better geared to developing a more acceptable learning network (i.e. more demand-led)
    - If CPs could be assisted in obtaining independent funding for their activities, this should allow ETC/PROLINNOVA International Secretariat to gradually step back from its central management role

Long-term suggestions

- ✓ PROLINNOVA should concentrate its efforts in those countries in which state agricultural policies are more conducive to success, recognising that – in those poor countries in which PROLINNOVA can claim some success during Phase 3 with mainstreaming PID (e.g. Cambodia, Ethiopia, Niger and Tanzania) – the scale of the programme's operations is still very modest

- ✓ PROLINNOVA support is likely to be needed for a further 5–10 years at least, during which time the programme should continue to build on what it has begun, adapting its strategy in support of people-centred agricultural research
    - This will require scaling up operations from an NGO to a GO scale in partnership with government

- ✓ Credible examples of the success of PID at community level will be needed if a critical mass of researchers (national and international) is to be persuaded of the merits of the PID approach

- ✓ Over the next five years, ETC/PROLINNOVA International Secretariat should aim to change its role from that of the global manager / coordinator of the programme to one of research coordinator in support of regional and country programmes

- ✓ The scope should include:
    - Applied research
    - Technical support
    - Knowledge and information management
    - Documentation and publication
    - Training and capacity-building for PID research and extension.

12.0 PROLINNOVA BEYOND 2010

Scott opened the session with a synthesis (structure, process and content) of the "PROLINNOVA beyond 2010" concept paper, which was initiated by the IST and shared with the CPs for comments/ inputs in October 2008. Feedback was received from four CPs (Cambodia, Nepal, South Africa and Tanzania). The concept paper leads through key sets of questions from assessment to reflection to looking at the future.

Main issues/questions raised in the concept paper:
- ✓ Need and rationale for continued PROLINNOVA work.
- ✓ Do we need to renew/revise our vision and mission?
- ✓ What should be our strategic directions (areas of focus):
  - ▪ Institutionalising PID
  - ▪ Role of country-level MSPs, including farmers
  - ▪ Capacity building of farmers and FOs
  - ▪ Curriculum development (CD)
  - ▪ Thematic areas of interest (climate change, HIV/AIDS etc)
  - ▪ New approaches and tools
  - ▪ LISF
  - ▪ Gender and other excluded, marginalised groups
- ✓ Organisation, structure, governance:
  - ▪ Legal entity?
  - ▪ Southern-driven
  - ▪ CP running independent programmes
  - ▪ Growth in depth and or breadth
  - ▪ Learning and dialogue (especially South–South learning and exchange)
- ✓ Role of IST Secretariat
- ✓ Funding, resource mobilisation

Key questions were selected for groupwork

1) What should PROLINNOVA focus on beyond 2010 (thematic areas, strategies)?
2) Is there a need to review our vision and mission? If so, what would be the key elements?
3) How should we re-organise ourselves and what will be our responsibilities at different levels (CP, International Secretariat, IST)?

All groups were asked to answer an additional question: What specific approaches and mechanisms will make PROLINNOVA more Southern-driven?

Group 1: PROLINNOVA **focus on beyond 2010 (thematic areas and strategies)**

Target: Poor and vulnerable groups; this target should be made clear and visible in PROLINNOVA's vision and mission as well as any other relevant documents.

Thematic strategies:
- Policy dialogue or policy advocacy (where GO partnerships at CP level are not possible)
- Interaction and sharing with wider R&D community; PROLINNOVA's focus on NGOs may have precluded this interaction in the past
- Documentation of cases (successes and failures)
- Education and learning at different levels
- PID in research, extension and academic practice

Thematic areas:
- Payment for environmental services
- Urban and peri-urban agriculture
- Marketing / value chain development

Concepts and approaches:
- Local innovation for development
- Innovation as part of development process
- Diversify conceptual framework for innovation
- Spatial dimension of livelihoods and innovation
- Tools and methods for enhanced joint learning
- Diversify tools and methods for tackling innovation at various levels
- Truly diverse MSPs, less emphasis on NGOs, greater attention to role of farmer organisations in MSPs, at national and regional level.

These complement the areas of focus that were mentioned at the beginning of the session (see above).

Discussion:
- More attention to environmental services; farming has to respond to the agenda of a more urban society. We would need to bring these other organisations, concerned with rural-urban linkages and advocacy, into the MSPs.
- Marketing is more an approach rather than a thematic area; it could be part of a larger more issue-based thematic area, looking at innovation that is not only focused on production but is also related to marketing.

Group 2: PROLINNOVA **vision and mission**

Current vision and mission:
- Vision: A world in which women and men farmers play decisive roles in ARD for sustainable livelihoods
- Mission: To foster a culture of mutual learning and synergy in local innovation processes in agriculture and NRM.

Suggested changes:
- Vision:
    - Replace "ARD" by "agricultural and NRM innovation processes" (to broaden the horizon)
    - Ensure that the term "farmers" means also pastoralists, artisans, fisherfolk, forest-users, homestead managers, processors etc.
- Mission:
    - Should be worded in a more pro-active way, in order to stimulate partners to engage with formal ARD systems
    - Become crusaders; not just a soft approach (debating with formal research and development partners as well as policymakers)
    - Move out of "comfort zone"
    - Targeted approach towards policymakers and research institutions
    - Ability to demonstrate evidence.

Specific approaches and mechanisms to make PROLINNOVA more Southern-driven:
- South–South exchange and learning
- More participation / engagement of farmers / FOs in MSPs in the countries
- Further capacity-building in certain areas to create, develop and utilise expertise
- More involvement of southern organisations in the IST
- Regional platforms so that programme can gain more visibility in regional fora
- Southern partners seeking own funding to drive their agendas (more support to CPs in acquiring funding)
- More Southern-driven efforts in mainstreaming PID in formal system, to gain more recognition.

Discussion:
- Add words to mission statement to make it inclusive of poor, vulnerable, marginalised groups; make this highly visible.
- What term to use instead of "farmers"? "local people"?
- What does "out of comfort zone" mean? Pro-active, targeted action should be reflected in the mission statement, not sitting back and letting partnerships grow but actively ensuring that partnerships grow, creating a favourable policy platform; however, it may be better to reflect this more in our strategies rather than at the high level of the mission statement.
- Strong southern organisations should be part of the IST.
- Negative remarks should not be included in the mission statement but the need to do more should be made clear.

Group 3: **How to re-organise ourselves**

Structure:
- 5 virtual regional networks (Asia, Eastern Africa, Francophone Africa, Southern Africa and South America) with ETC at the centre
- Virtual secretariat within each region
- Regions with a lower number of CPs may need to attract additional countries (e.g. Asia)

Roles and responsibilities at different levels:
- Backstopping roles at international (ETC), regional and CP level; more emphasis on backstopping between CPs
- Fundraising as responsibility at international (ETC), regional and CP level; partnerships in proposals are envisioned between regional networks and ETC as well between CPs
- Policy advocacy and M&E at all levels
- Fund management at CP level but for multi-country activities at level of regional secretariat; this could allow collaboration with other regions
- Capacity-building and strategy development at regional and CP level in collaboration with ETC
- Implementation of activities at CP level

Discussion:
- Need to consider the cost of an alternative structure
- Where should the regional secretariats be located? Such a decision could create some friction
- In order to have decentralised fund management, we need to foster decentralised fundraising
- CPs should allocate (paid) time for fundraising in order to make it effective
- Need to be sensitive to what donors appreciate; some flexibility is required even if guidelines are drawn up
- Having ETC as partners to access funds available only through, e.g. Netherlands civil-society programme
- PROLINNOVA is already Southern-driven but we need to enhance it more and more especially when it comes to decision-making

Group 4: **How to reorganise ourselves?**
- Throughout the years, skills and capacity have been developed within CPs. They can be used to address the training needs of network. Hence, the IST should not be looked at as first trainers but rather as a skill coordination unit.
- Enhanced role of POG; POG should work closely with CPs to gain funds from alternative sources; capacity-building for proposal development and fundraising from IST members and CP partners with this capacity
- Re-organise financial compensation for specific roles and responsibilities across the board equitably
- Regional coordinators operating on yearly rotational basis among CPs (burden sharing)
- Decentralise and delegate more responsibilities to South.
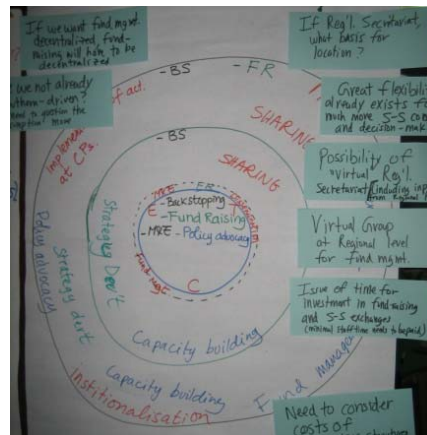
Discussion:

- Look at experience with regional secretariats in other programmes and learn from them. Such structures have been criticised as a hierarchical model that creates too many layers and could become very bureaucratic, less flexible, less efficient and more costly. Initiatives can come from anywhere, and donors may have requirements that do not fit this structure. We should seek to cooperate at regional level, rather than try to make regional structures. Several layers of secretariat could complicate fund flow, M&E and assessing action plans. If a secretariat is given all the means it needs (salaries, office etc), 5–6 regional secretariats would consume a lot of money.

- If we want to be more Southern-driven and increase the decision-making power of CPs, we cannot expect ETC to do all the fundraising and expect the South to have control. CPs need to start seeking own funds (responsibility in both management and fundraising).
- An institution needs to have a mandate to dedicate time to fundraise for different activities outside of the normal mandate area. There needs to be a person at this institution who can dedicate time to this. It would have to be negotiated with the institution to accept that time is spent in this way.
- What will drive establishment of these secretariats? Where would they be?
- It was meant more in the sense of decentralisation, that regions take a role in building capacities of the NSCs. The IST could coordinate this skill building.
- There are other sources of training for proposal development; the IST could give links to these.
- This is not a fight between northern- and Southern-driven. How did the evaluators come to this conclusion that PROLINNOVA is not Southern-driven? This is not how we see it. We should work on additional elements that can make the existing network more Southern-driven (e.g. increased involvement of FOs).
- It is not about who is leading the process. It is not meant to be a hierarchical structure but rather to build in regional mechanisms or platforms for interactive learning, sharing and backstopping, something that could be built up in the next five years, to consolidate learning at regional level and internationally. Otherwise, how can we be self-reliant in own work? It would be a virtual group to allow for sharing.
- A secretariat can be virtual (no legal entity). The regional POG member could play a big role in regional coordination.
- Equitable distribution of resources is needed so that PROLINNOVA activities can be part of the workplan of the institutions involved, and not just a sideline.
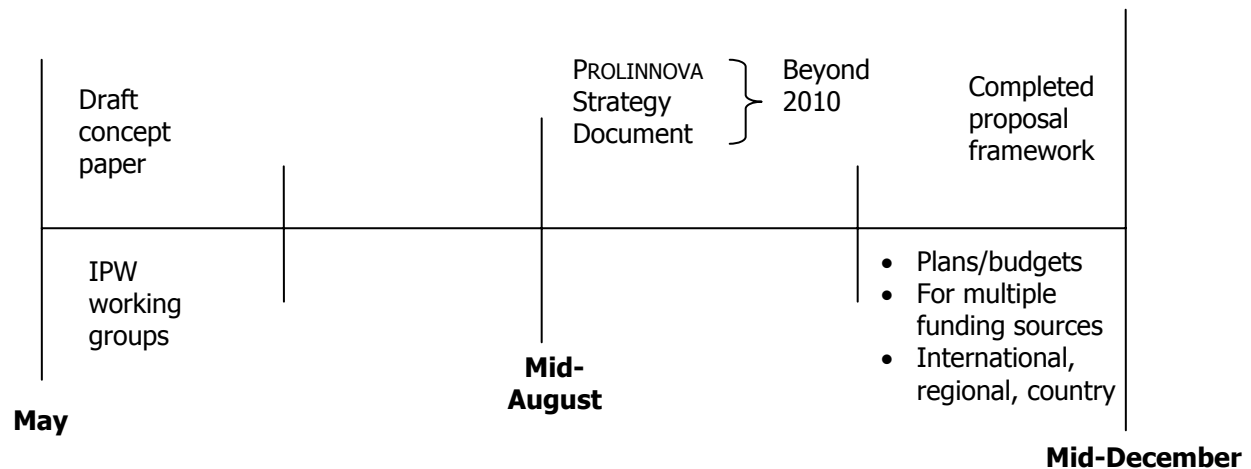
Milestones and timeline:

- Draft concept paper written in 2008
- May 2009: IPW discussion of concept paper, establishment of working group, working towards completion of proposal framework, workplans and budgets by the end of 2009, intended for multiple funding sources, can be adapted for use at international, regional and/or country level.
- Mid-August 2009 (3 months from now): PROLINNOVA strategy document developed
- End of 2009: proposal framework, workplans and budget finalised.

A working group – Brigid, Pratap, Qureish and Saidou, with Scott providing coordination – will take what we have now (draft concept paper), pull together what was provided as written feedback from the CPs and what was discussed at this IPW, and transform it into a strategy document. Once the strategy document is completed, the situation will be assessed and decisions will be made on the concrete steps towards the finalisation of the proposal framework.

Further support for the working group: Anton would be prepared to comment in August; Bob could comment after August. Someone from Bolivia could also be involved; Hector will check this out. Mariana, who compiled the original concept paper, would probably be prepared to play a role after she returns to work from maternity leave (i.e. after the strategy document has been developed).

It would be necessary to ask people in the three CPs that could not attend the IPW if and how they want to contribute to developing the strategy document. To draw in other levels within the CPs, the draft could go on the PROLINNOVA wiki for broader comments.

Draft concept paper		PROLINNOVA Strategy Document	Beyond 2010	Completed proposal framework
IPW working groups		**Mid-August**		• Plans/budgets • For multiple funding sources • International, regional, country

May

Mid-December

13.0 PLANNING: REVIEW OF 2008–09 INTERNATIONAL ACTION PLAN AND PLANNING INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN 2009–10

Topic	Activities	By whom?	By when?
Facilitating MSPs	• Documentation of CP experiences on MSPs for sharing/learning • Share MSP cases from Cambodia + Tanzania within network • Workshop for capacity-building on sustaining MSPs: develop content and identify funding opportunities	• Vitou + Laurent • Vitou + Laurent • Bob/IIRR + Vitou	• End of 2009 • End of 2009 • After Cambodia case is ready – early 2010
Capacity strengthening in PID	• Continue international PID training of facilitators (ToF) • Follow-up assessment of ToF programme • Include emerging themes and issues in PID training (climate change, gender etc) • Encourage regional PID training	• IST (Jean-Marie, Chesha + Bob/IIRR) conducting PID ToF refresher workshop	• Late August 2009 • Further discuss at August ToF workshop
Skills and resource-person mapping (international and within CPs)	• Mapping of resource persons in PID + use them in international, regional and national PID training • Provide mentoring to new resource persons	• Sabine (CIS–VUA)	• End of 2009
Policy dialogue and institutionalisation	• Share experiences with policy dialogue within the region • Involvement of FOs	• Mariana (IST) + Noureldin • Ann + POG members on FO sub-committee (Monica, Hector,Pratap)	• Ongoing • Ongoing / needs systematic follow-up
Publications and communication	• Capacity building in documentation and publication (written and visual) • First: identify needs / resources available • Keep track of how CPs are exchanging information • Orient new people about available publications	• Chesha + Ann (IST) + Pratap • Laurent + Tesfahun • CPs and IST	• Ongoing • Ongoing / data end of year for annual report • Ongoing
Monitoring and evaluation	• Assess M&E needs in each CP • Ensure participation of diverse stakeholders in M&E • Possible capacity-building event on M&E (co-design course by partners who are resource persons)	• Charles (IIRR) • Anton + Charles? (thru Bob) + Susan (POG) • Charles + Vitou	• Ongoing

	• Update M&E templates based on comments of CPs	• Charles	
Joint experimentation	• Documentation of PID examples (successes and failures) including management systems: Tanzania, Niger, Andes, Uganda	• Laurent, Saidou, Hector, Stella	• Case study from Niger by July 2009
	• Share common guidelines for JE (concepts + practices)	• CPs and IST	• Ongoing
	• Post documents as Working Papers; compile book when sufficient number of good-quality cases	• Chesha + Ann	• Ongoing
Strategy development beyond 2010	• Develop strategy paper • Develop proposal and budget framework	• Brigid, Qureish, Pratap, Saidou, Scott	• Mid-August • End of 2009
Fundraising	• Capacity-building on fundraising and proposal development	• Anton + Scott	
	• Share any new proposals (e.g. JOLISAA)	• CPs and IST	• Bernard (JOLISAA) as soon as possible
CP coordination	• Clarify roles and responsibilities of CP coordinators (referring also to existing examples)	Brigid + Ann	
Ongoing activities	• CD Working Group / FLD / HAPID / FAIR / CC / Gender	• As agreed	• Own schedules

14.0 INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS WORKSHOP 2009 EVALUATION

Facilitated by Qureish Noordin, Nono Ngubane and Basanta Rana Bhat

ITEMS	FAIR	GOOD	GREAT
Logistics / management		1	18
Field visit		4	20
Content		1	13
Facilitation / methods		1	17
Participation		8	11
Marketplace	5	8	5
Duration of IPW	4	12	0
Social events (e.g. sunrise trip)*	18	0	0

* After the dancing performances and participation on the final evening, a re-evaluation on this point produced top scores!

Comments in open space
- Scale out content to include farmer organisation representation to offer cases
- Bring representatives from farmer organisations and policymakers in IPW
- Banners of IPW
- Increase social events
- Workshop sheet
- IPW one day longer
- Increase number of days
- Programme was too short – 4 days is better
- How to conduct assessment of Bernard's jokes?
- Good suggestions but the reviews will only benefit if they are put into action

Annex 1. IPW final programme

Fri. 8 May	Topic / Activity	Form	Responsible
06:30–07:30	*Breakfast*		
07:30–16:00	Travel Kathmandu–Pokhara	By bus; lunch on the way	LI-BIRD
16:00–17:30	Checking / Settling into hotel		
17:30–19:00	Welcome / Introductions	Plenary	Suman
	Brief feedback from IAPS		Anton, Hector & Qureish
	Workshop programme / tasks (reporting, evaluation)		Chesha / Ann
	Preparing for field study		Suman
19:00–20:00	*Supper*		
20:00–21:00	Preparation for field study (cont'd)	Plenary and subgroups	Suman
21:00–21:30	Information on website and web-based tools	Plenary	Jenny
	Parallel:: Continuation of POG meeting		Ann
21:30–	Informal exchange		

Sat. 9 May	Topic / Activity	Form	Responsible
06:30–07:30	*Breakfast*		
07:30–13:00	Field study	Visit to Begnas area; participants in 3 groups	Suman
13:00–14:00	*Lunch*		
14:00–17:00	Field study (cont'd) / Exchange between groups	Begnas area	
19:00–20:00	*Supper*		
21:00–21:30	Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) and linkages with PROLINNOVA approach	Plenary	Qureish
20:00–21:00	Preparing posters on field studies	Groups	
21:30–	Informal exchange / Start setting up market exhibits	Informal	

Sun. 10 May	Topic / Activity	Form	Responsible
05:00–07:00	*Sunrise trip to Sarangkot*	*Bus*	*Suman*
08:00–09:00	*Breakfast*		

Time	Activity	Method	Facilitator
09:00–09:30	To set tone for exchange and planning: key challenges for PROLINNOVA *at international level* (from Jan `09 internal e-evaluation and external evaluation)	Writing and self-clustering cards of key challenges from viewpoint of CPs and IST	Ann / Chesha
09:30–10:15	***Sharing and learning about PROLINNOVA:*** What can we offer and what do we want to learn from other CPs about addressing challenges *at national level* related to, e.g.: 1) facilitating multi-stakeholder partnerships 2) role of CP coordinator / coordinating organisation 3) capacity strengthening 4) publications / communication 5) joint experimentation 6) policy dialogue / institutionalisation 7) monitoring and evaluation 8) other ….	Individuals or pairs writing cards (the content to be prepared beforehand in each CP)	
10:15–10:45	*Tea*		
10:45–12:00	Mutual reflection and advice on work in CPs	World Café	Ann / Chesha
12:00–12:30	Out of the discussions, main suggestions about ***support from other CPs and IST*** for these aspects of CP work	Plenary: feedback from tables	
12:30–14:00	*Lunch* (+ last chance to set up market exhibits)		
14:00–15:00	**Update on multi-country sub-programmes:** - HIV/AIDS + PID (coordinated by Brigid) - Farmer-led documentation (coordinated by Chesha)	Plenary: - process, outcomes, lessons, plans at CP level - comments and questions from other CPs	Chair: Noureldin
15:00–16:00	*Tea break* including "market tour" of documentation from multi-country sub-programmes	Posters and other documentation by CPs involved	Market managed by Suman
16:00–17:00	Update on multi-country sub-programmes (cont'd): - Climate change & local innovation (coordinated by Saidou) - Curriculum development (coordinated by Sabine & Dharma)	Plenary: - process, outcomes, lessons, plans at CP level - comments and questions from other CPs	Chair: Noureldin

17:00–18:00	Continuation of market with "tour" of documentation from multi-country sub-programmes	Posters and other documentation by CPs involved	Market managed by Suman
19:00–20:00	*Supper*		
Evening	**Regional exchange** between CPs	Informal	CP coordinators
	Continuation of market, including ICT booth by IIRR		

Mon. 11 May	**Topic / Activity**	**Form**	**Responsible**
07:00–08:00	*Breakfast*		
08:15–08:30	Recap of Day 1	Plenary presentation	Bob / Jenny
08:30–09:30	**Gender**: Lessons from Nov08 workshop, CP action plans, international action plan	Table on wall with action plans from Nov 08 workshop: CPs and IST add cards showing what was done, underway and planned	Chesha
09:30–10:00	Report from POG	Plenary	Scott
10:00–10:30	*Tea*		
10:30–11:30	**Cross-visits** and other forms of inter-CP learning and mutual support	Plenary: intro and update on cross-visits Niger–Ghana and Nepal–Cambodia visits Buzz groups: enhancing inter-CP learning Plenary on main points from buzz groups	Chesha (with Saidou, Suman and Vitou)
11:30–12:00	**External evaluation:** summary of findings and recommendations	Plenary presentation	Scott
12:00–13:00	*Lunch*		
13:00–16:00 (incl. tea break)	**PROLINNOVA beyond 2010**	State of discussion on concept paper World Café on critical issues Plenary: feedback on key statements from tables; identification of working group	Scott + Susan (Ann + Sabina recording)
16:00–17:15	**Planning:** Review of 2008–09 international action plan and planning international activities in 2009–10	Plenary	Bernard (Brigid recording)
17:15–17:30	Evaluation of IPW	Matrix and open space for comments	Qureish, Nono & Basanta
17:30	Closure	Plenary	Pratap
17:30–19:00	*Traditional music and dancing*		*LI-BIRD*
19:00–21:00	*Farewell supper*		*LI-BIRD*

Annex 2. The Wiki: How to use the web-based information and editing tool

What is a Wiki?

Wiki is a Hawaiian word for "fast". It is a collection of Web pages designed to enable anyone with access to contribute or modify content by using basic work-processor-style tools. Wiki is normally used to create collaborative websites and to power community websites. In business, it used for intranet and knowledge management systems. It is very intuitive and easy to use.
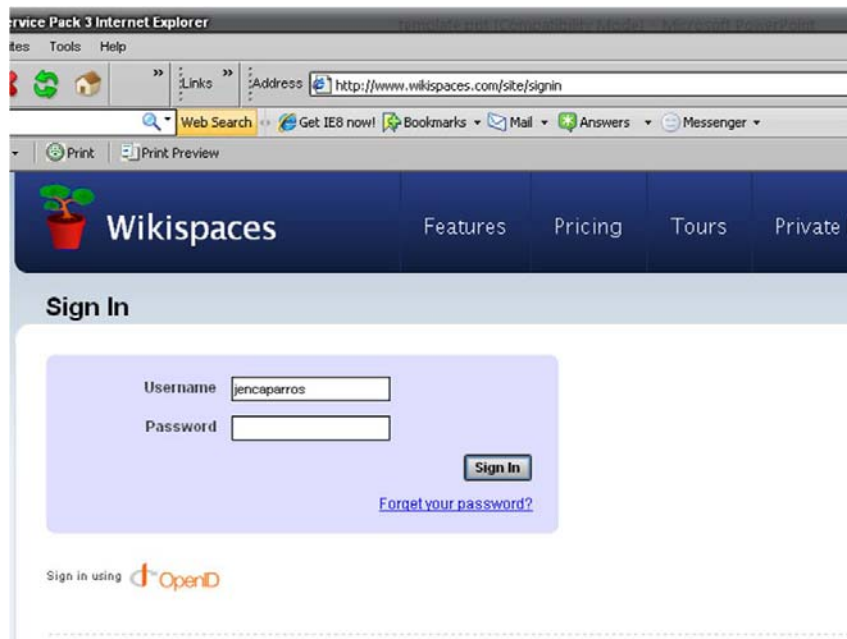
How to use the Wiki

1. **Accept the Wiki invitation sent to your email**. If you haven't received the invitation, please email: annie.secretario@iirr.org or jennyreyes_gsb@yahoo.com

2. **Log-in to PROLINNOVA Wiki.**
   a. Visit www.prolinnova.wikispaces.com
   b. Click "Visit PROLINNOVA Wikipage" from the PROLINNOVA website

3. **Click Sign-In.**
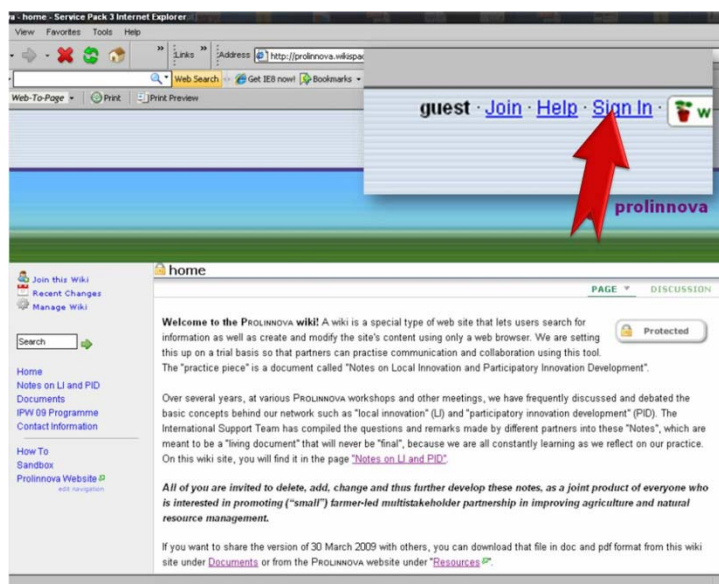
4. Input your username and password.

5. Practise in the SANDBOX

Click SANDBOX from the left NAVIGATION pane.

Sandbox is built to help new users get acquainted with using the Wiki. Playrooms are pages you can use to practise. Practise in one of the playrooms.

Click on one the playrooms from the left navigation pane.

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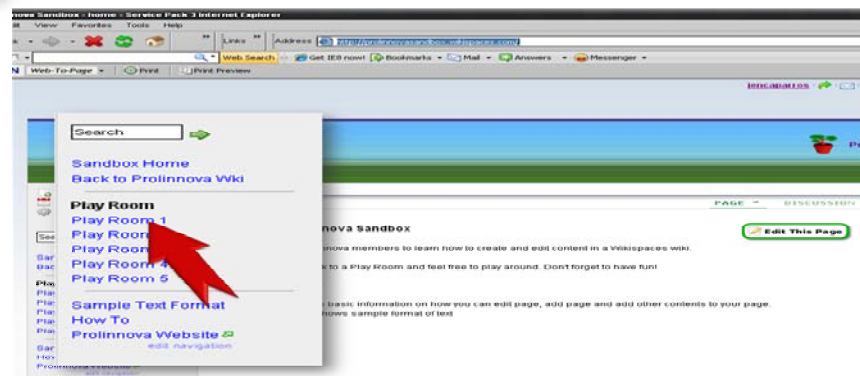
6. **To edit page, click EDIT PAGE.**

   Click EDIT THIS PAGE. The Visual Editor Toolbar will appear. Use the toolbar to format the page. Formatting a Wiki Page is like formatting a Word Document.
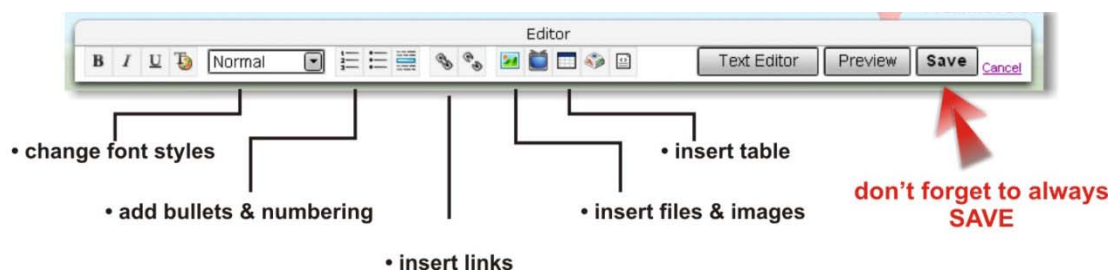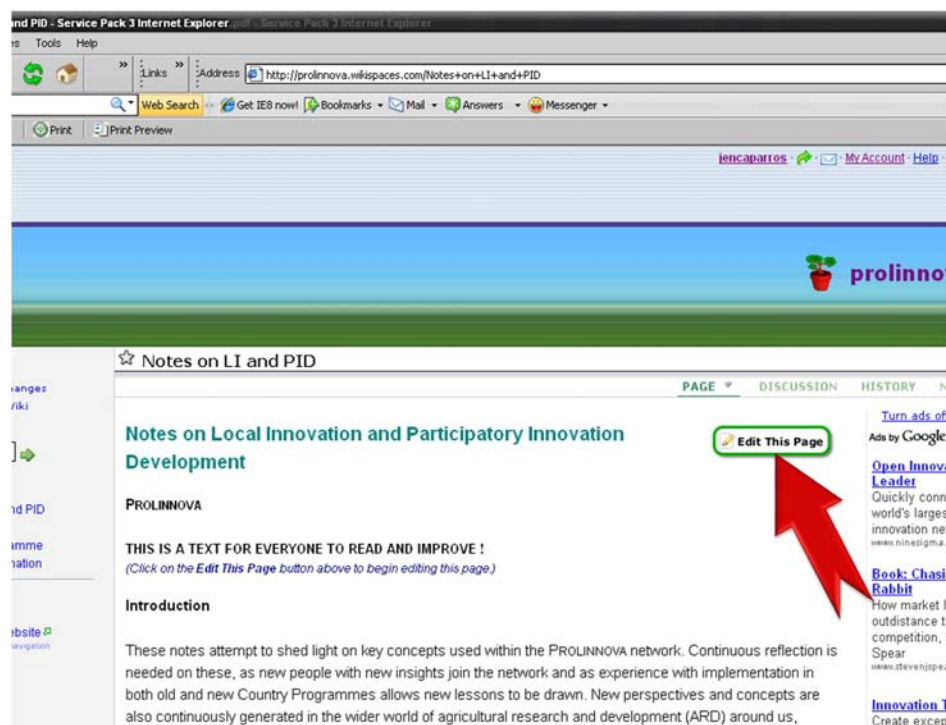
7. **Document versioning**

   Wiki is open for editing for those who have permission. It also means that, when you contribute to a wiki, others may actually edit the changes you have made. One cool feature of wiki is its ability to track history. Each time the text is changed, a new version is saved. Anyone can go back later and see previous versions. Click on "History Tab" at the top of the page.
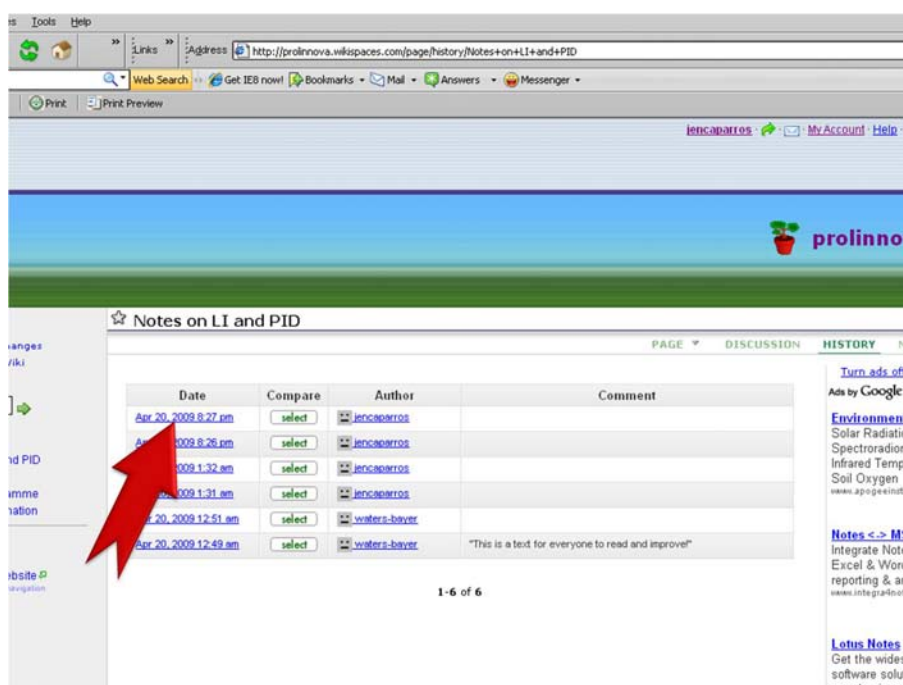
In the History Tab, you will see the different versions of documents. It maintains a journal of the progress of each document. If you want to see the previous versions, just click on the dates and another page will open.

You can also compare two versions; just select the two dates you want to compare.
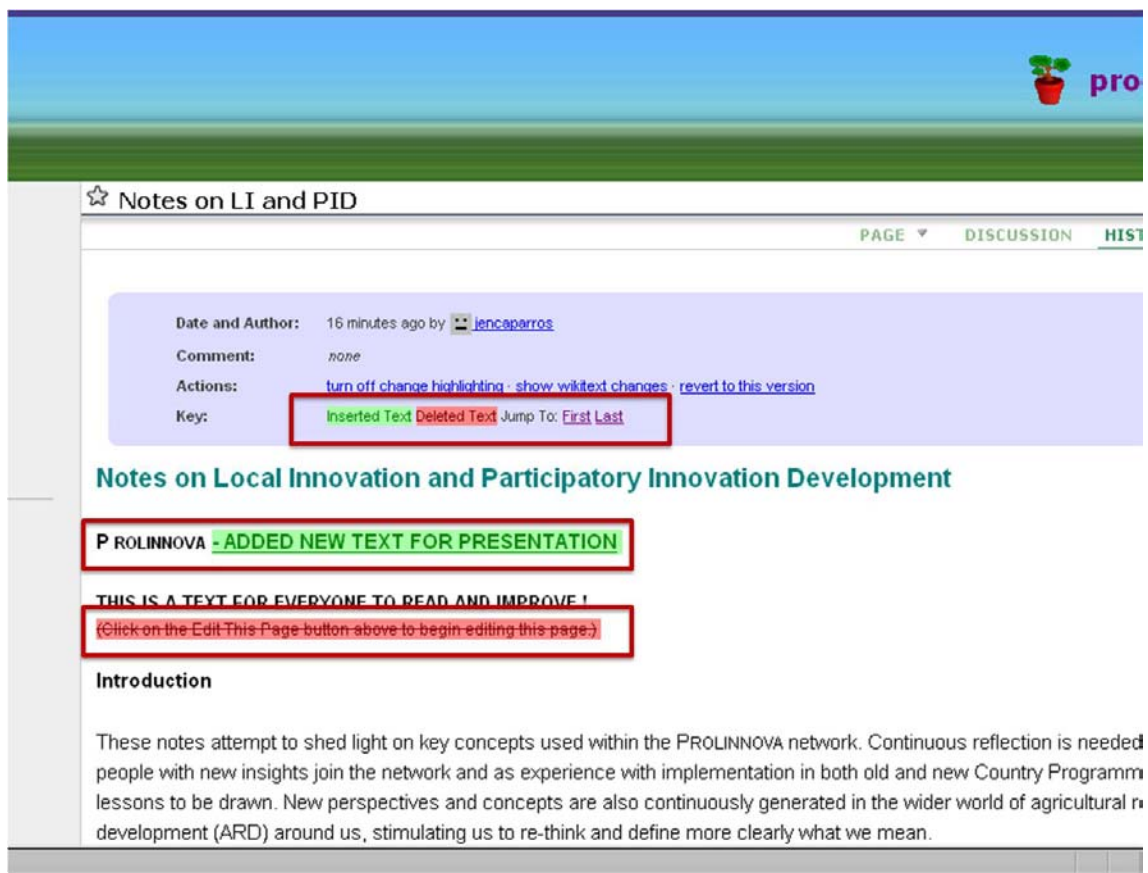
The previous versions will show what text were deleted or inserted. But it will not show the changes in format made to the document. There is also an option to revert to the previous version.

8. **Uploading files / inserting images and files**

   Images & Files is a repository for various types of files that can be added to the wiki. To add files one by one, click on "Edit This Page" and then click on the "Insert Image" icon, which looks like a picture frame, in the editor toolbar.
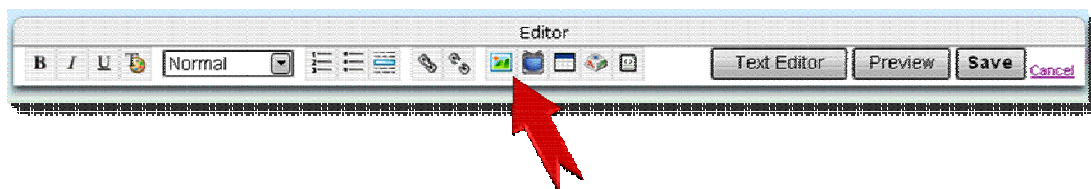
Use "Upload New File" to retrieve a file from your computer or "Insert External Image by URL" to add a file via its Web address.
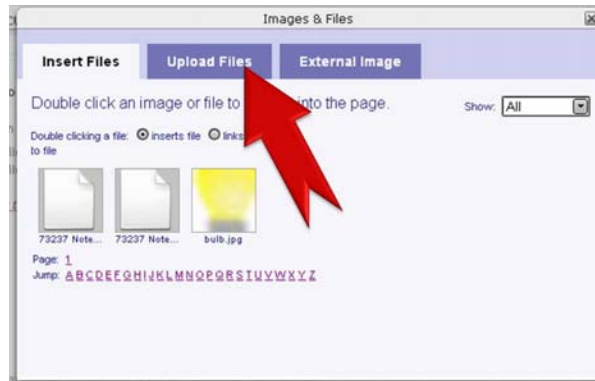
After uploading a file to the Images & Files repository, you can add it to a
wiki page. In the page editor, position the cursor in the place where you would like to
place the file. Click the "Insert Image" icon and double click the file or image from the
Images & Files repository. Click "Save."

9. **To create a link to an external website or other pages within the Wiki**
    There are two basic methods for creating links. First, you can simply paste the URL into a wiki
    page and it will become an active link when the page is saved. Second, you can select a word or
    phrase that will link to an external site or wiki page.

    In the page editor, highlight the text that you want to use as a link. Click "Insert Link," located in
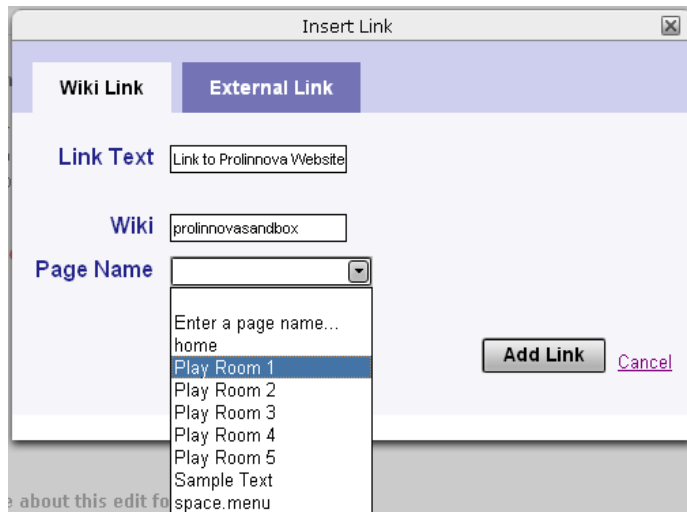   the editor toolbar.

To link to an external web page
In the dialogue box, select "External Link." Type or paste the URL in the text box. Click "OK." The
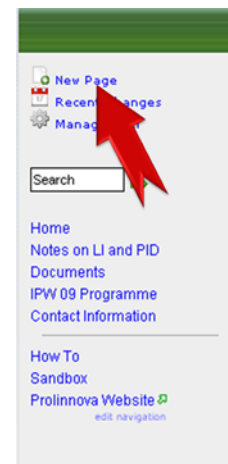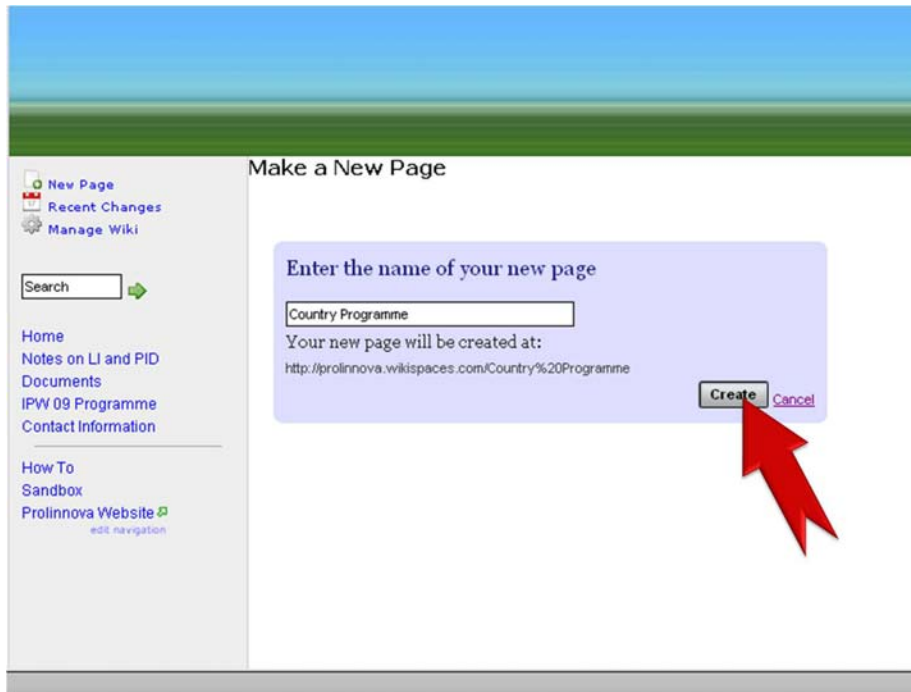link will then become active. Click "Save" and then test your link.

To link to an internal web page
In the dialogue box, select "Wiki Link." Select the page from the drop-down menu. Click "OK."
Click "Save" and then test your link.

10. **Creating a new page**
    Click on "New Page" from the menu on the
    left. Enter the name of your new page.
   Click "Create."

When you create a new page, make sure to link it to the home page or another page to prevent it from becoming an "orphan." You can also see all the pages by selecting "List All Pages" from the left menu.

Annex 3. Mapping external relationships with associations and institutions: A tool used in Asset-Based Citizen-led Development (ABCD), Jambi Kiwa, Ecuador.
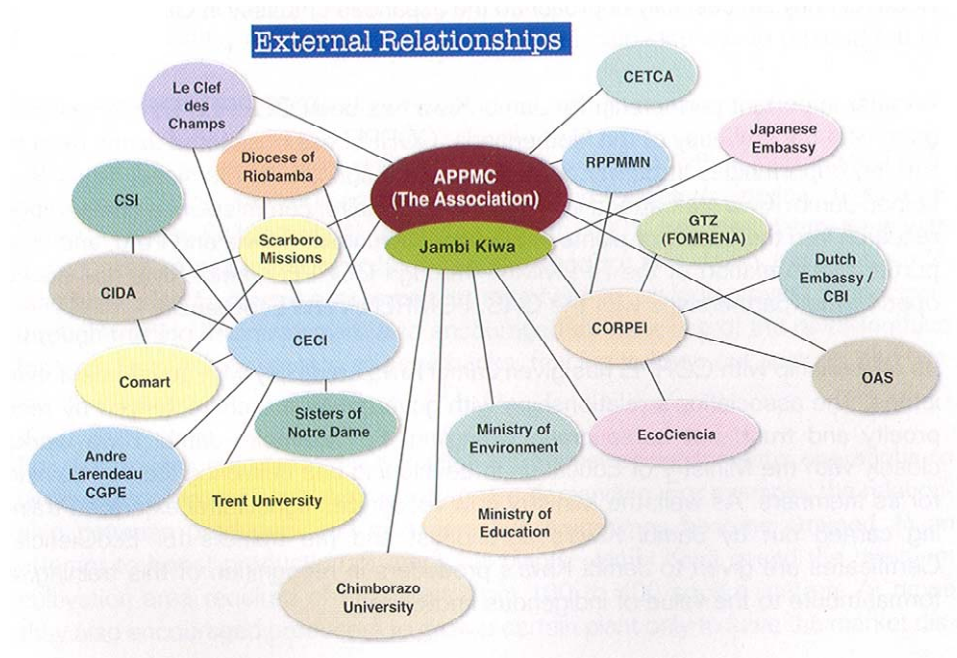
Annex 4. AIDS map: causes, consequences and responses.
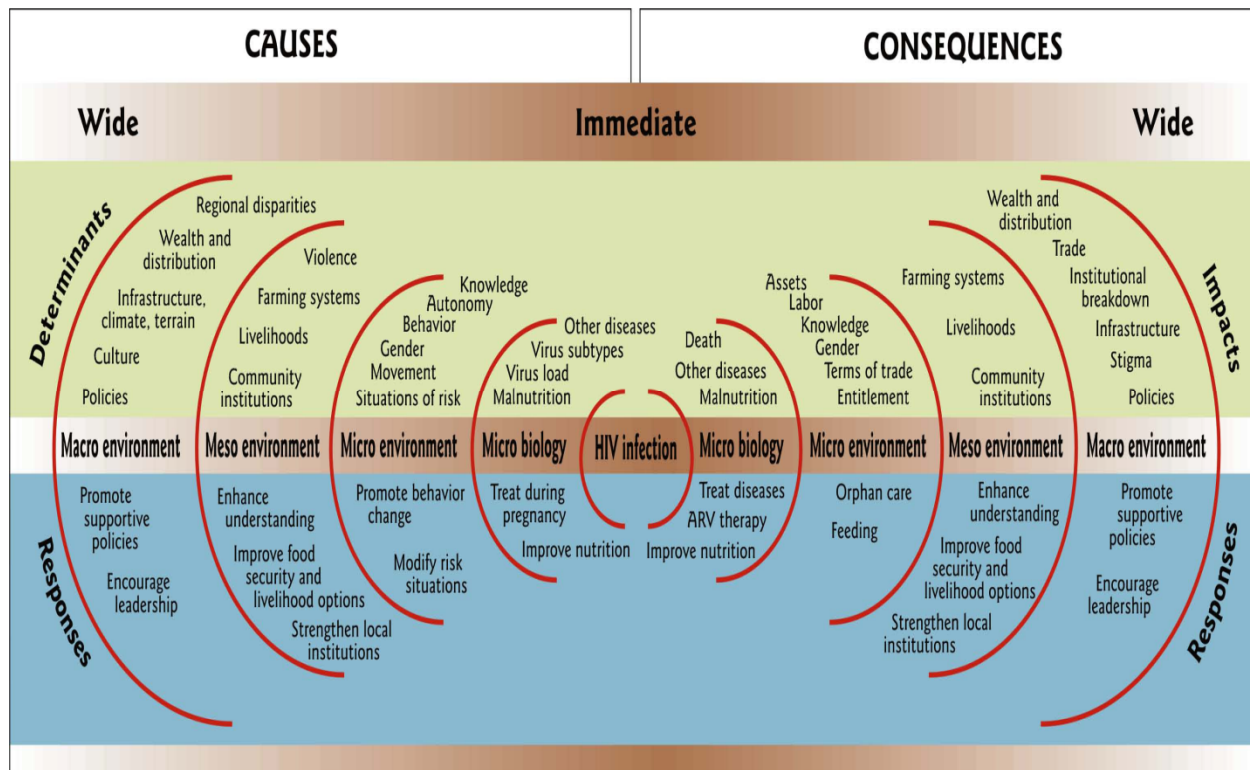
Source: Loevinsohn M & Gillespie S. 2003. *HIV/AIDS, food security and rural livelihoods: understanding and responding*. RENEWAL Working Paper 2 / IFPRI Discussion Paper 157 (www.ifpri.org/themes/hiv/hivpubs.asp)

In an evening meeting with people from the African CPs, Bernard explained the research project "Joint Learning in Innovation Systems in African Agriculture" (JOLISAA), in which PROLINNOVA partners in Africa will be involved. JOLISAA will be funded by the European Commission (EC) and will be led by Bernard from CIRAD, France, in collaboration with ETC EcoCulture / PROLINNOVA, ICRA (International Centre for development-oriented Research in Agriculture), Wageningen University and decentralised networks coordinated in West, East and Southern Africa by University of Abomey-Calavi (UAC) in Benin, Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI) and University of Pretoria (UP) in South Africa, respectively.

JOLISAA aims to increase understanding of agricultural innovation systems focusing on smallholders' livelihoods and integrating local and global knowledge. Lessons learnt about past and ongoing experiences with agricultural innovation in small-scale farming in sub-Saharan Africa will be synthesised by combining joint case-study assessment with capacity-strengthening and networking. Joint learning will be fostered by engaging diverse stakeholders, including researchers, development practitioners and policymakers, in comparing and analysing these cases. The project aims to deliver recommendations to the EC and African decision-makers for future research, practice and policy in agricultural research and development (ARD).

JOLISAA will make an inventory of relevant experiences with multi-stakeholder innovation processes in small-scale farming. During workshops in Benin, Kenya, South Africa and an international meeting, several innovation cases will be selected for assessment. These will include 10–15 "light" case studies per country/region, relying on available information in formal and grey literature, and 3–5 in-depth case studies per country/region. The latter will involve more intensive data collection and will be conducted with the help of local and foreign students.

Capacity strengthening in assessing innovation processes will be coordinated by ICRA and will take place through training, mentoring and exchange-and-learning workshops. Lessons on the potentials and limitations of the innovation processes studied will be drawn in national and international meetings involving not only those involved in making the case studies but also other stakeholders.

For PROLINNOVA, the networking activities to stimulate joint learning and sharing of lessons are particularly important. There will be three main circles for networking:
1) a global outreach circle for information sharing and dissemination of outputs;
2) an international learning platform involving key resource persons engaged in discussion of project findings and lessons learnt; and
3) a national-level networking and learning circle in Benin, Kenya and South Africa, respectively.

ETC EocCulture will facilitate networking within the first two circles, while UAC (Benin), KARI (Kenya) and UP (South Africa) will facilitate networking within the third circle.

The project will build on existing networks, including PROLINNOVA, to seek synergies. It is hoped that many PROLINNOVA partners, also in countries other than the three focus countries, will engage in the information-exchange and joint-learning activities within JOLISAA, e.g. by suggesting interesting cases for the studies of innovation processes in small-scale farming and providing documentation on these cases. Some resources will be available to support participation of PROLINNOVA partners in the learning and sharing activities. Project negotiations are underway. JOLISAA will probably start in January 2010 and will run for 30 months.

1.0 Opening statements

Good morning, we do have a good opportunity to share experiences being together at this time, for it may be yet another year before we have a chance to meet again. Unfortunately, FAIR representatives from Ethiopia, Uganda, and Ghana are not with us, but they will be given the proceedings of the day and follow-up support could be part of this. (Anton)

The agenda was discussed and adopted.

2.0 Identification of the key issues and challenges

Participants were asked to identify opportunities and challenges they are seeing within the FAIR initiative. These were captured on cards and categorised. These are summarised in 2.1 and 2.2 below.

2.1 Aggregation of issues and challenges

Theme	From the cards
Organisations	• Forming an effective MSP has been a challenge – *South Africa* • Group dynamics: understanding FAIR, and maturity – *Tanzania* • Embedding Local Innovation Support Funds (LISFs) within local development process/ organisations • How to connect better between piloting LISFs and other PID activities in Country Programme (CP)? –*Ethiopia* • How to build capacities of local groups to organise themselves better (including financial management)? – *Ethiopia*
Understanding of participatory innovation	• Local communities do not understand the PID concepts – need training – *South Africa* • Support genuine innovations – *Uganda* • How to support local innovation processes – best LISF mechanism – *Nepal* • Difficulty in locating and documenting local innovations - *Nepal*
Formal research & development	• How to find formal researchers willing to work with farmer researchers receiving LISF grants? – Ethiopia • Links with formal agricultural research and development (ARD) (input/ feedback) • Input of other partners (researchers, extensionists etc) into farmers' proposals, e.g. budget requirements – Kenya • Difficulty in finding likeminded partners – Nepal • Timing of researchers – Uganda
Scale	• Scattered geographical coverage – Nepal • Challenges to cover wide areas in diverse agro-ecological zones – Nepal
Framework/ Approach	• Establishment of common understanding on LISF framework

Processing applications	• It takes time to do screening because there are many proposals sent to the secretariat – Cambodia • It seems that fund from FAIR has difficult procedure to access by community – Cambodia • Responding feedback to many proposals even those that do not follow guidelines/ format – Kenya • Limited capacity of the screening committee to process proposals
Sustainability	• Sustaining and mainstreaming LISF in national system – Nepal • Limited fund – Nepal • Sustainability - Uganda
Input costs	• There is still confusion of some farmers and partner staff in using fund for expanding farm rather than experimentation – Cambodia • Farmers/ local groups still putting lots of emphasis on "investments" for farming rather than innovation – Kenya • Deviation from the proposals – Tanzania • Farmers understanding of experiment design and budget for proposal (support needed)
M&E	• Unclear M&E and follow-up framework to farmer groups (lead implementers) – Tanzania • Mechanisms for implementing M&E at the local level (structure, committees, volunteers etc) – Kenya
Other	• Delays in implementation/ reporting – how do we catch up?

Supporting notes from the floor:
Much conversation was generated around the theme of '**Processing Applications**'.
 ✓ When applications are turned down, it is good to let the local partners know to bring minds together to find alternatives/ support to keep initiatives moving forward and it is not generally desirable to simply decline an application. Rather, options to take forward that initiative should be provided.
 ✓ It is critical for support organisations to engage farmers/ local organisations in the development of proposals
 ✓ It is key to appropriately communicate to 'applicants' the scope of the use of funds (management) and the intention of the fund (implementation)
 ✓ PID should be in place in the community before applications to LISF are made and during the experimentation process. PID will usually improve the design and implementation of the application.

With respect to **M&E** – although few cards were placed compared to the IPW, much conversation was generated from the floor. Key points are:
 ✓ M&E of fund use – capacity building in this area is needed
 ✓ Key challenge is to ensure that the intention of the applicant and the proposal is followed in the field
 ✓ Challenges are experienced in follow-on actions when funds are misused or not paid back – recommended that lead organisations are to engage in this difficulty and take responsibility for the shortfall, i.e. improving the linkage between the supporting organisation and the 'applicant'
 ✓ There is a strong need to develop a multi-tiered M&E system to monitor the use of funds

- ✓ A key challenge is to ensure that there is access to the LISF and efforts should be made to linked its sustainability to government support
- ✓ Can extension work be part of experimentation? This is to be encouraged. In some cases where extension is a gap, local representatives/ experimenters have been trained to also do extension work.

Understanding participatory innovation
- ✓ There is still a need for all actors to better understand what PID is, how it is applied and the benefits to be derived
- ✓ There is a need to bring in capacity building in PID
- ✓ Advice – never assume someone or someone else will do the work!

Scale: There are movements to establish regional bodies to facilitate the management of LISF initiatives (Nepal)… see notes under Nepal's presentation. Suggestions have been made to ensure that funds move directly from the management body to community groups – a matter of efficiency in cost.

(Uncategorised card – What is needed to move initiatives forward when they are stalled or moving slowly, e.g. reporting. Responses – let someone know the situation; which will allow advice or even support to get the process moving… guidelines for reporting are very helpful.)

2.2 Aggregation of opportunities

Theme	From the cards
Enabling policy and institutional environments	• FAIR complement to ongoing government initiatives/ effort ASAP – Tanzania • Emerging support from Local Government Authorities (LGAs) through the district agricultural extension grant – Tanzania • MAFF is willing to set up fund for Farmer Research and Exchange – Cambodia • Converting LISF into national system – Nepal • Tapping into locally available funds to complement/ sustain LISFs • Both individual and institutional support – Tanzania • Presence of other funds that take care of farm investments (e.g. Njaa Marufuku) – Kenya • Favourable /supportive government development policy – Uganda • LISF at widen scales (communities to higher)
Farmer organisations	• Development of local innovators network – Nepal • Presence of apex/networks of farmer organisations, e.g. Farmer Field School (FFS) networks, KENFAP (Kenya Federation on Agricultural Producers) – Kenya
Farmer encouragement to link with demand	• Big boost for farmers' confidence to approach other actors and ask for their collaboration – Ethiopia • Encouragement to local innovators – Nepal • Forum provides a space to create demand for PID funds - South Africa
Funding	• Ford funds can be used to address institutional training needs – South Africa
Existing farmer innovation experimentation experience	• A lot of innovations exist – Uganda • Farmer experience with experimentation (FFS, farmer-led, adaptive) – Kenya

Interested partners	• Motivation and willingness of partners to implement the project – Tanzania • Willing partners to host local steering committees – Kenya • Many organisations with interest in local innovation (LI) / indigenous knowledge (IK) – Uganda • Experienced NGOs/ government institutions in MSPs – Kenya

Supporting notes from the floor:

In Nepal, enabling policies have moved LISFs towards a national-level fund where any donors may place funds. From this point, these funds will be administered at national-, district- and local-level bodies to improve access for applicants – note that this is a farmer-managed body/s to encourage farmer ownership and responsibility over the fund, i.e. multi-tiered system. This is a move towards institutionalising the LISF concept.

Farmer organisations – it is important to note that LISFs should only be a component to a broader framework of interventions, and not the central focus of the organisation. A good example of where this kind of balance is found is in Cambodia – CEDAC can be tapped to understand how 'experimentation' can fit with 'extension' work.

2.3 Action points suggested
- ✓ There is a need for an inventory of opportunities for sustaining an LISF, in addition to a plan towards realising these opportunities
- ✓ A request was made from new CPs for responses to queries to come from more experienced CPs (e.g. through email)
- ✓ Based on the technical difficulties experienced with the last phone conference people expressed a need to rethink the telephone conferencing format (email stream, *Skype 'chatting' may prove a more engaging option*). It was agreed to try out this option.
- ✓ Compile (or a listing) of LISF experiences and lessons learned from countries moving forward at faster rates, e.g. why have some countries moved forward and others have not?; this can help people contact specific people in a targeted country to ask specific questions/ get advice
- ✓ Note: *Yahoo groups on piloting LISF – only PROLINNOVA members will participate in this group.*

3.0 Country partner presentations

Nepal – key elements from the presentation and the floor

History of LISFs in Nepal
- LI-BIRD first coined the concept of LISF in 2004 in Nepal, which was later on taken by PROLINNOVA as good practice
- FAIR-1 DURAS funds did not cover Nepal
- FAIR-2 funded by Rockefeller covers Nepal
- Before FAIR 2, LI-BIRD supported 21 innovations
- FAIR 2:
    - Agreement signed in Sept 2008
    - Feasibility study made during November–December 2008
    - Inception meeting held mid-February 2009 and MoU
    - 15 NGOs (3 per development region) in FAIR-2 partnership
    - There are Regional LISF Committees, with one of the three partners taking lead.

Situation and challenges that the organisation/ partnership seeks to deal with

Situation:
- Feasibility study carried out
- Inception planning meeting (stakeholder meeting) held
- Partners for FAIR-2 identified.

Challenges:
- Difficulty in finding like-minded partners for FAIR-2
- There is a limited budget for partners
- There is difficulty in locating local innovations/ ideas for experimentation
- How to support local innovation processes – what is the best LISF mechanism?
- There is a need to enable mechanisms that can sustain themselves at community level without much external input.

How has this, and your organisation's/ partnership's experiences/ knowledge practice, shaped what your programme is doing in the LISF support areas?
- ✓ Partners have just been identified; not considerable achievement in the LISF support areas during FAIR-2
- ✓ All the activities are decided and implemented in a participatory approach.

Do you have a developmental framework that guides your project design and practice?
- ✓ Not yet
- ✓ LISF guidelines have already been developed and improvement on them is in process
- ✓ Guidelines for documentation and PID have been developed, and dissemination of effective/improved innovation has been initiated for possible wider replication.

Summarise the interventions in the LISF area that are in place. How do they link?
- ✓ Intervention in the LISF area in the form of financial support for joint experimentation
- ✓ Dissemination of innovation

- ✓ Direct fund (local innovation fund) for innovator group
- ✓ Improving local innovations
- ✓ Scaling up
- ✓ Market linkage of innovations
- ✓ Publicising.

Key notes:
- ✓ Important to note that, for the Innovation Fair, few applications/ submissions to participate were submitted and it was difficult to identify and secure participation of exhibitors – this has a implications for the gaining of support from the national level to continue/ expand LISFs
- ✓ Difficulty has been experienced in relation to building partners – out of 15 identified partners, 5 or 6 have signed on to the programme. To resolve this shortfall, is it of value to have a development framework for the LISF process? Two ways in going about this are: (1) ensure access to funds for all by linking innovators to organisations; (2) link scattered organisations across the nation. This would mean decentralising the LISF process into regions, undertaken by a lead organisation as a central and compensated task within the organisation. This would increase accountability of the 'farmer' and applications would have to be endorsed by a local organisation to further improve on accountability. Overall, the central agency in FAIR/LISF would now tend to focus more on policy-related matters.

Cambodia - key elements from the presentation and the floor

- ✓ Current efforts on the way are those with three government and two NGO entities piloting LISF. In June 2008 a review was done where experiences in piloting LISF were shared
- ✓ From the government extension services side, it is known that the current extension system is not working; thus, a movement towards finding farmers capable of doing extension work with farmer groups is in progress
- ✓ Currently, farmer groups are not using the fund as a grant, rather a loan, where interest of 2–4% per year is added to the loan, which is then repaid into a revolving loan scheme. Farmers are required to pay back the loan with interest with various conditions: (1) no interest payment during experimentation, and (2) no payment of interest if the experiment fails. This has meant that if farmers fail they tend to try again on their own, using the lessons learned. For those that succeed they tend to undertake spin-off innovation work to further the process.
- ✓ Currently, it is a national farmers group that manages the fund; PROLINNOVA partners take an advisory role
- ✓ Under negotiation (agreed in principle) is that the Ministry of Agriculture will set up an LISF-like initiative on a national scale.

Lessons identified
- ✓ It is important to share PROLINNOVA lessons with LISF actors – that is the reason for the national interest
- ✓ It is important in Cambodia that the LISF be connected to groups and can show benefit to groups to take up the opportunity – this also moves M&E needs forward
- ✓ In cases where farmer groups are not formed for FAIR/LISF, sustainability of the process has proven difficult
- ✓ With experimentation, risks are high… why then is there such a demand? The research is considered as a contribution to the community, rather than to the individual

✓ Can FAIR/LISF piggyback on local government funds? Local government funding will not work well because these funds are mostly allocated to infrastructure… this adds to the attractiveness of the current LISF system for farmer groups.

Uganda – key elements from the presentation and the floor

✓ Starting in 2006, through a government framework, the LISF concept has reached four areas within Central Uganda. Focus is on food security, natural resource management (NRM) and community empowerment. Current actions are:
  • Feasibility study on initiatives similar to LISF
  • Selection and mobilisation, March 2007
  • Assessment of capacity to handle funds
  • Sensitisation visits to beneficiaries
  • Guidelines on managing funds
  • Development of rules and regulations (NGOs)
  • Contracts signed with 4 community-based organisations (CBOs)
  • Funds were disbursed from August 2008, will run for 2 ½ years.

Lessons learned and situations experienced
  • Administrative costs are lower with direct funding
  • Immediate results were experienced
  • LISF promotes innovativeness
  • Group work is promoted
  • Some innovations raised income
  • Groups established revolving funds
  • Some groups initiated documentation
  • Unsuccessful applicants may split group (out of 20 screened, 4 were selected for funding)
  • High probability of diversion of funds, if not well monitored
  • Conflict of interest happens between the ideas of government researchers (involved with LISF communities) and local innovators if the two meet while local innovation is well on its way – the ideal is to have both start together to head off conflict (i.e. this is a timing problem).

Challenges
  ✓ Supporting true innovation
  ✓ Lack of involvement of Researchers has been a problem
  ✓ Lack of well-established M&E
  ✓ Sustainability of groups without extension or experimentation resources.

Way forward
  ✓ Need to continue training beneficiaries in group dynamics, financial management, reporting and documentation
  ✓ Need to forge partnerships with local government and other service providers
  ✓ Need serious documentation.

Tanzania – key elements from the presentation and the floor

LISFs institutional set-up for Tanzania
- ✓ National policy level: PELUM Board and PROLINNOVA-Tanzania National Steering Committee (NSC)
- ✓ National implementation level: implementation team: PELUM-Tanzania Coordinator, the PROLINNOVA Coordinator and the Project Officers
- ✓ Regional level: implementation team: coordinating CSOs (INADES and IRDO), MVIWATA, research scientists from ARIs (Hombolo & Uyole) and LRCs (Mpwapwa & Uyole), extension workers in the districts and one leader from each of the piloting CBOs/farmer groups.

Key initiatives
- Selection of research institutions to collaborate with zonal implementers and help in M&E
- Selection of two zonal teams to support the implementation process (FO, CBO, NGO, government research, extension)
- Organised and facilitated FAIR project activities at national and zonal levels (capacity-building workshops, feasibility study)
- Feasibility study recommended to link LISF with already existing decentralised funding systems in Tanzania
- There is a signed MoU between PELUM-Tz and implementing organisations and identification of pilot CBOs
- Fund disbursement has been made to lead implementers (INADES and IRDO)
- Four capacity-building workshops and one meeting were organised at national and zonal levels
- Fund disbursement to approved proposals (5 groups selected from many in the area with equal amount of funds)
- Awareness creation on FAIR project:
    - Production of educational materials (1 poster – 300 copies produced and distributed to partners)
    - Formal and informal contacts with different partners; contacted partners include ARD institutions and LGAs.

As result: three district agricultural and livestock extension officers from Dodoma Municipality, Kongwa and Ileje Districts, where LISF pilots are being implemented, have promised to collaborate with PELUM-Tanzania and local implementers for support.

M&E
- Have PELUM-Tz Board and the NSC platforms
- Have the national stakeholders meeting platform for reflection, review and recommendation on the ongoing activities
- Have two zonal teams to support implementing NGO in the design and M&E
- Designed framework for the M&E activity at zonal and national levels. (Who will be filling the register, how data from the two zones will be collected and put together?)
- Acquired the register, but the file had initial data and could not filled with LISF Tanzania data.

Types of innovation supported by FAIR Tanzania – All group proposals
- Compatibility of manure and fertiliser to different seed types and studies on seed storage using local herbs and cultural practices
- Effects of manure application methods on crop performance and soils fertility management

- To assess the performance and market opportunities of vegetables produced during dry season
- To assess the efficacies of local herbs and thermo-stable vaccine and chicken-brooding techniques under local conditions.

LISF and a developmental framework
- ✓ Sustainable agriculture (crop and soil management)
- ✓ Food security/ improving community livelihoods
- ✓ Environmental conservation/ NRM
- ✓ Facilitating farmer access to markets.

Major issues from the backstopping mission requiring follow-up actions
- ✓ Deviations from the LISF applications (applicants are implementing things that are not in the ToRs)
- ✓ Late disbursement (off-cropping season)
- ✓ Money was used as revolving fund through loans given to group members with small interest
- ✓ What if they fail to pay back the loans, who will be accountable for that?
- ✓ There is a need for involvement of all group members in proposal writing and for equal understanding of local innovation perspectives and purposes of FAIR
- ✓ Groups dynamics in term of maturity (different level of experience in participatory research and development)
- ✓ Decentralisation process/ management of a network within a network: in Tanzania, PROLINNOVA and LISF are platforms/ networks hosted by a network. There was misunderstanding why government institutions who are being given money from a local NGO, while the government was supposed to support us because we are complementing the government efforts.

Issues to be addressed
- ✓ Farmers' capacity development on PID and LISF concepts (why the project, purpose, what the money should be used for)
- ✓ Need for systematic M&E and backstopping to help farmers not lose the track in the implementation of LISF
- ✓ Develop Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) between farmer groups and the implementing organisation to ensure accountability, proper fund management, reporting and information sharing
- ✓ Encouraging both individual, family and group applications depending on the nature of the innovation / idea
- ✓ The implementing organisation needs to ensure that all potential partners are motivated (transparency and decentralisation processes)
- ✓ Proper selection of partners to collaborate within the programme
- ✓ Through the existing linkages with the government, to ensure that PROLINNOVA and LISF funds are complementing the ongoing ARD (effectiveness and lobby)
- ✓ Due to ongoing government effort on farmer-driven research and development interventions (Client-Oriented Research Development and Management Approach, CORDEMA), FFS approach used by the national extension system, FAIR should be an input model to such government efforts towards farmer empowerment
- ✓ To simplify the current application form to make it more comprehensible, so that it can be easily filled in by farmers without more support.

Opportunities
- ✓ Motivation and willingness of partners to implement FAIR
- ✓ There is both individual and institutional support to the initiative
- ✓ Room for financial support from the existing district extension grants
- ✓ Link between PROLINNOVA and ongoing government initiatives to enhance agricultural innovation systems in the country
- ✓ FAIR can be a complement to ongoing government initiatives
- ✓ Existing PROLINNOVA multi-stakeholder partnership.

South Africa – key elements from the presentation and the floor

Situation & Challenges
- ✓ Poverty stricken communities (vulnerable and poor beneficiaries)
- ✓ High unemployment in the area
- ✓ Households affected by HIVAIDS
- ✓ Low levels of entrepreneurship
- ✓ Highly dependent on government social security, i.e. child grant, pension, disability, etc.

Response
- ✓ From 2006–2008 FAIR/LISF activities have focused on one district encompassing four communities
- ✓ Areas have been chosen to complement other programmes where the need existed to create a conducive environment for innovation to take place
- ✓ A stakeholder review has been conducted related to FAIR/LISF, and students have been orientated on the programme through the use of PID to develop further partnerships
- ✓ An Innovation Fair held at the local level 30 April 2009 was conducted to create demand in areas where FAIR activities do not operate
- ✓ Use Ford Foundation funding to create a more enabling environment that could stimulate innovation and the appropriate use of LISFs.

Needs and insights
- ✓ Move towards collaborative efforts with government departments, especially in areas of M&E and research and extension
- ✓ Need for a brochure on extension processes to promote and guide FAIR/LISF activities
- ✓ Framework for LISF guidelines and criteria to screen applicants – group or individual
- ✓ The people are engaged in more than agriculture, so the project focuses on other livelihood supporting activities such as financial services (savings & credit, economic, social security funds)
- ✓ Local structure to work according to their action plans (to include administration, innovation, M&E, etc); it is thought that this will have a positive impact on community-based processes.

Developmental Framework
- ✓ Locally developed strategic plans and work plans
  IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS use the following approaches:
- ✓ Application of Action Research Approach & Participatory Methodologies
- ✓ Multi-stakeholder participation
- ✓ Financial services and micro-enterprise initiatives

✓ Criteria for assessing innovations in place.

Summary of Interventions
✓ Agricultural extension & PID
✓ Local action planning
✓ Capacity building for local structures
✓ Farmer Learning Groups and Savings and Credit Groups are most important local vehicles for action
✓ Supported by an inter-area forum and LISF
✓ Financial services managed by residents
✓ Enterprise development training.

Challenges
✓ Documentation of innovation
✓ Clear understanding of the role of the fund amongst potential applicants
✓ Demand for the funds
✓ There is a need to strengthen the multi-partner partnership
✓ There is need to develop a structured relationship with a research institution.

Kenya – key elements from the presentation and the floor

Introduction
✓ FAIR project initiated in May 2008
✓ Overall coordination: World Neighbors (WN)
✓ Pilot areas: Eastern Kenya (KENDAT), Western Kenya (WN)
✓ Local steering committees at district level
✓ Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI): overall M&E.

Situation and challenges
✓ Both pilot sites are in rural areas
✓ Poor (over 60%) below poverty line
✓ Vulnerable groups: PLWHA (persons living with HIV/AIDS), orphans, vulnerable children, widows
✓ Hunger/food insecurity, including malnutrition
✓ Fragile environment
✓ Functioning but overstretched government services
✓ Functional CBOs (women, youth groups, savings and credit, common-interest groups etc)
✓ CBO experience with farmer experimentation (WN, KENDAT, KARI, ICRAF)
✓ Apex farmer organisations in the areas (FFS networks, KENFAP, KESSFF – Kenya Small-Scale Farmers' Forum)
✓ Innovation taking place but not fully recognised, appreciated
✓ Good capacity in proposal development at local level
✓ Available government funding to farmers to support farming (Njaa Marufuku, Kenya Agricultural Productivity Project/KAPP)
✓ Varied impact from existing investment funds (mainly low), and project mode funding not usually mainstreamed
✓ Funding to support innovation not available.

Shaping/informing programme initiatives
- ✓ Clear communication on LISF-objectives, LI
- ✓ Awareness creation strategies (innovators' exhibition)
- ✓ Local ownership of process for call and vetting proposals
- ✓ Facilitation/organising LISF at national and local level
- ✓ Capacity-building CBOs (organisational, technical, M&E)
- ✓ Integrating LISF in multi-stakeholder platforms
- ✓ Leveraging complementary funding, and link to government innovation fund recently launched
- ✓ Alignment to existing government policies/practices and other development approaches
- ✓ Promote action by community volunteers, especially in M&E.

Developmental framework
- ✓ KENDAT and WN have their own frameworks
- ✓ LISF – still working out the modalities
- ✓ Take into consideration prevailing circumstances (food security, health issues, innovation, knowledge etc)
- ✓ Strengthen capacity of local institutions and local steering committee
- ✓ Existing opportunities/structures: Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD), self-financing FFS/ networks
- ✓ Promoting PID (incl. PLWHA, social aspects, marketing etc) within development perspectives, including savings and credit, enterprise development
- ✓ LI/PID creating impact at various levels (household, community)
- ✓ Linkages with apex farmer organisations
- ✓ Stimulating innovation and scaling up
- ✓ Mainstreaming in local-level partnerships (incl. national level).

Interventions in LISF area
- ✓ Awareness creation and buy-in (incl. innovators' exhibitions)
- ✓ Local steering committees link with other platforms
- ✓ Capacity building (proposal development, vetting, M&E, PID)
- ✓ Links with FFS network, KESSFF and KENFAP
- ✓ Links with government-facilitated multi-stakeholder platforms
- ✓ Linking individual farmers to groups----CBOs---farmer organisations
- ✓ Links with other initiatives: ABCD in process
- ✓ Participatory development of M&E frameworks, tools, methods, at local level
- ✓ Proposal screening.

Supporting notes
- ✓ The Kenya programme is still learning and trying to open up to all CBOs and government channels – however, these are not coordinated well to date
- ✓ Funds are still being mobilised via projects that are short term, but there is not movement towards institutionalisation
- ✓ Key challenge is to bring consensus to a development framework because of the multiple actors involved – thus, once PROLINNOVA is registered as a national entity, this will bring about a lot of benefits and turn challenges into opportunities

- ✓ Innovation is taking place with respect to HIV/AIDS, over how the burden is dealt with by the living, e.g. focus on livelihood, nutrition, physical related technologies, and savings and credit to deal with death
- ✓ Progress is being made linking many development mechanisms to LISF-related initiatives.

4.0 Gaps and areas for following through on FAIR country-level programmes

- ✓ Need to look at project-level inputs – to identify plausible points of intervention that correspond to developmental frameworks of supporting donors
- ✓ Is LISF working in a vacuum? Or is there a perception of this? There is need to scale up and integrate other governing bodies and partnerships in relation to LISF – lends to complications in a unified development framework, i.e. moving from piloting to scaling up and out (also to include, or moving towards, multi-stakeholder engagements). Jacqueline Ashby (2009), in the IAPS in Kathmandu, referred to a study of innovation in farmer organisations. Looking at forty groups in three countries they discovered that farmers talked of a combination of five skill sets that members of these grassroots organisations (FFSs, savings and credit groups etc) sought out, and which were seen as key to the achievement of sustainable livelihoods. These were described as:
  1. Group organisation
  2. Financial (savings and credit)
  3. Marketing
  4. Technology innovation
  5. Natural resource management/ conservation.

  It is important to consider the relevance of this to our pilots and whether certain of these should be promoted to assist farmers in developing their activities and enhancing their innovation capacity.
- ✓ What are we scaling out, LISF or PID…? Answer: PID, with LISF as a supporting mechanism to PID
- ✓ Partner selection should not be because you are working on the same kind of initiative; it would be best to chose partners that are working on other areas that are in line with an integrated framework, e.g. savings and credit, HIV/AIDS, agricultural innovation, NRM, institutional building and livelihood etc; hence, the building of partnerships should be guided by the goal/ objectives of the programme and the capacities/ effectiveness of the prospective partner
- ✓ Need to ensure that the LISF operates efficiently within the PROLINNOVA framework – and PROLINNOVA operates with a coherent and focused development framework on greater scales.

5.0 M&E frameworks and country-level M&E

The following is a collection of important experiences from the various CPs respective of achievements and challenges in M&E.

Ethiopia
Community-based institutions are a good example of a community-driven development process that makes for a situation conducive to an LISF to operate in an environment where there is strong capacity to not only manage the LISF well but also ensure that that other important elements such as PID and farmer-driven research is well-developed. M&E includes standard information/ indicators, but they have also incorporated alternative information and impact indicators from the farmer perspectives, e.g. telling stories for advocacy purposes, use at the donor level, and at the institutional level for extension workers to inform stakeholders and interested parties what is possible.

Stated was also the importance of bringing 'research' institutions on board to heed M&E needs – tentatively – a workshop on participatory M&E in the context of LISF is planned for.

South Africa
As far as general capacity for M&E in the case of SaveAct a specific person was appointed to handle M&E. This was to ensure that it was handled more effectively as there has been a tendency for NGOs not to adequately address this area of work. SaveAct has quite an elaborate framework that includes the conducting of detailed baseline surveys of households participating in the programme. Data is collected and follow up surveys done of that household some 12 to 18 months later. Noted is the importance of having baseline information that looks at not only income parameters, but also indicators of change with respect to living conditions. Focus group discussions and semi-structured interviews are also conducted to get detailed feedback and to capture specific narrative quotes. By way of example a specific brochure of stories of participants' experiences was shared. The selection of stories was enabled through the semi-structured interviews. The response to this brochure from donors such as the Ford Foundation has been very positive; it was suggested that PROLINNOVA needed to see if it could not produce something similar to promote PID and FAIR. In FAIR more specifically in South Africa training for the community-level groups on M&E is envisaged. This is mainly in order to assist these structures to monitor progress on their action plans.

SaveAct and FSG are to explore the use of Photo-Voice as an M&E tool to try to understand better the links between savings and credit and its associated social capital, with: initiative, entrepreneurship, innovation and demand for local innovation funds. A video conference is scheduled for 4th June with University of California – Davis, to explore the training of people in South Africa to test out this methodology. If circumstances allowed this could be opened up to other PROLINNOVA partners.

Uganda
Uganda has a core of team members of PROLINNOVA to handle M&E needs; they operate as an LISF Oversight Group. The purpose of doing this was to try and move M&E to a more institutional/ institutionalisation effort. The role of the oversight group is to screen CBO applications, draft guidelines for the budget purposes, and monitoring and evaluation. Note that this was only marginally effective; only three people were committed to their roles. Time constraints were noted as the primary obstacle.

More recently there is a move to contract NARO to undertake M&E on a contracted basis. NARO is interested and this looks to be a promising route.

Kenya (similar to Ethiopian processes)
Kenya has made strategic use of the Ethiopia programme in building its M&E framework. The system covers national-level operations/ initiatives related to PROLINNOVA, which feeds into the LISF through a steering committee, i.e. into the LISF registry. Note that suggested/ planned is a review of the process through a training workshop format. One goal is to formulate M&E tools to be used at the local/ informal level and others at the formal/ institutional level.

Those that receive funds are mandated to develop a CBO monitoring plan and to coordinate this with the steering committee. M&E can include the photo–voice technique that builds stories to help promote innovation and access funds – the main purpose is to document most significant change.

6.0 Impact evaluation – towards an LISF assessment framework

6.1 Objective of the initiative
To co-design and test an impact assessment framework / guidelines for general use by FAIR participants
- ✓ There will be a two-country focus for contrast (Cambodia and another to be determined after the Cambodia effort is complete)
- ✓ 6-week effort in Cambodia starting mid-May to end of June
- ✓ Analysis and reporting on the Cambodia initiative is targeted for the end of August – completion
- ✓ 2nd country visit (October or November)
- ✓ Final report: end of 09 or early 2010.

6.2 Objectives of today's session
- ✓ Brainstorm on an appropriate impact assessment framework
- ✓ Brainstorm on an action plan for Cambodia.

6.3 Designing impact assessment guidelines for LISF – key areas to assess

Example – types of impact
- Expected / unexpected
- Direct or indirect
  - o e.g. LISF-triggered activities not supported by LISF grant
- Positive or negative
- Tangible / intangible
  - o increased capacity to access information / services / partners
  - o productivity / income

Example – types of scale:
- Field
- Household
- Group

Example – type of beneficiaries
- Individual innovator or household / group / community / beyond community
- Wealth / gender / age
- Issue of replicability?

6.4 CBO/NGO involvement in LISF, and the influence of LISF on how they work (geared towards LISF process and its internal / local appropriation)

Function of ARD (Note that there has been debate on the use of ARD – perhaps considered RD)
- Any influence yet on how local / national ARD thinks / works?
  - o any scepticism / criticism of LISF?
  - o which aspects?
- Enrolling / attracting new partners and institutions into LISF functioning
  - o who?
  - o on what aspects?

- Complementary to conventional funding?
- Any avenue for institutionalising LISF within ARD functioning?
  - how to make LISF attractive to them?

LISF and PID
- Which relationships?
  - see overall framework
- Does LISF work actually involve MSPs?
  - such as joint experimentation of some kind?
  - which stakeholders, with which role?

Understanding of LISF – key criteria to take into account for impact assessment

Use the 'SMART' criteria
- ✓ Relatively cheap (time, $$)
- ✓ Fairly simple
  - no expert skills necessary
- ✓ Covers both output and process – formal and informal?
- ✓ Allows for local partners to take part in it, e.g. farmers associations, NGOs, Local Government and other stakeholders involved in the innovation process
- ✓ Can be built into the LISF's existing M&E system and into an ACCESS register, but use should not be restricted/ aligned to the LISF register only! The system/ guidelines should also allow space for the use of non-written, non-quantitative formats (videos, photographs, life stories etc)

Provide reliable information for different purposes and publics
- ✓ From local farmers to ARD institutions to policymakers and donors
  - qualitative and quantitative aspects
  - measured / estimated how?
- ✓ Profit or income generation by applying innovation
- ✓ Number of people applying
- ✓ Define for each target audience what makes credible evidence.

Be able to apply the core guidelines to specific country / site context – adaptation

6.5 Main outcomes from discussion
The following is based on Bernard's perceptions and his own notes:
- ✓ Terminology: not impact assessment *per se* but rather part of a ongoing M&E of PID / PROLINNOVA activities with a view to contributing to longer-term impact assessment
- ✓ Target audience in the short term: a range, from CBOs and implementing NGOs, to Government, to donors
  - Provide evidence of early signs of impact
- ✓ Keep it simple and operational is the key, if CPs are to take it on board and implement it
- ✓ Choice of second country to be clarified later, based on progress achieved in Cambodia; any CP can come forward at any time to express interest
- ✓ Creation of a specific wiki space and a yahoo FAIR group to share early progress from Cambodia and get feedback from interested CPs / individuals.

6.6 Statements and questions from the floor
- ✓ Question on ARD function (often refers to the formal research system which seldom refers to "local innovation systems". Innovation encompasses many actors and the interactions between actors develop better ways of doing things – including impacts. Hence, making the guidelines perfect from the start/ complicated and lengthy may lead to later disaster. It should be simple enough.
- ✓ Should we be using the word 'impact' at this point? Is this something we will use down the line?
- ✓ In the beginning, looking at these guidelines from the view of M&E; we will know if we are having an impact or if we need to adjust something. Note that 'impact' needs longer time frames to show indications of change, so is this an appropriate time to be using this for the LISF?
- ✓ We need to advance the use of M&E in the LISF to be able to fully understand the use of the 'impact' guidelines and make use of these
- ✓ For the time being, it has been agreed to not use the term 'impact assessment' while the guidelines are being developed and refined
- ✓ We should look at what's happening now… monitoring the impact… so what kinds of records do we want to keep? If its internal and ongoing, then 'impact assessment' is not 'right', but really monitoring the impact is what the short-term need is
- ✓ What are needed are indicators of what we are doing so that, anytime somebody asks what we are doing, then we have something to show
- ✓ All agree that there is a need for Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation at all levels

Criteria for 'impact assessment' framework
- ✓ What are the terms of reference to deliver something useful for FAIR use?
- ✓ Those that are involved in doing the 'impact assessment' should also be involved in the M&E process
- ✓ There should be something that indicates signs of impact for farmers, policymakers, and donors – the key focus… hence we need input from these people, i.e. from the people who will actually use it
- ✓ The impact assessment must not be limited to things that can be counted
- ✓ Given current opportunities in changing and supporting policy environments in various countries (national government interest in institutionalising FAIR/LISF), the output should be capable of influencing decision-makers at the national level and donors alike
- ✓ The process should not only use figures or text, but also use pictures and life stories etc.

Other
- ✓ A comparative study of impact assessment guidelines and other CP initiatives related to the given topic was suggested by Alex, but it cannot be included in Bernard's study
- ✓ The other country is still to be identified; waiting for other interested CP; other CP will be expected to shoulder all expenses
- ✓ *If a CP is interested, it should indicate why it wants to do it, and what it can contribute.*

Action to be taken – *A workspace on the wiki for the initiative will be set up – including the use of a new FAIR-LISF yahoo group (IIRR).*

7.0 Other business

   a. *Media distribution (posters and brochures) –*
      a. Posters to be distributed to different countries and ETC EcoCulture
      b. 2000 brochures were printed.

   b. *Financial literacy proposal (for Africa)*
- The Financial Education Fund (FEF) focused only on Africa, hence the geographical focus of the proposal that was submitted.
  a. Is there a need for financial literacy? What kind of responses can PROLINNOVA partners provide to the poor? Are the available financial services effective and pro-poor? To consider and address these questions does not mean that all partners should be involved in financial literacy. Are these issues relevant to the ultimate goal of where we want to get to?
  b. Is it also possible to have financial interventions aside from financial literacy? Not necessarily setting up microfinance organisations.
  c. Qureish – It is relevant. Reporting from the local level is slow, they need knowledge about accounting for reporting purposes.
  d. There is need to clarify what we will cover: financial literacy, financial services, financial management
  e. Nono – It is very relevant and critical. People need to learn about this, to enable them get access to financial resources and equip them with the knowledge on how to access these services.
  f. A suggestion is for local partners to see if they have local capacity to provide inputs on financial literacy and financial services. And if not , then maybe PROLINNOVA can provide training for trainers.
  g. Tanzania – is also interested.
  h. Vitou – Based on experience, for financial management an accountant provided them a template to do financial reporting. They followed it and found it simple. Guidelines may be provided.
  i. Uganda – Welcomes idea of financial literacy. Question on what is the package (it should be demand-driven).
  j. Part of the intervention could be to assess what are the accessible services available in the region, and to see if there are other forms that can be provided by the group.
  k. One donor that appears quite interested in supporting this type of work is the Ford Foundation.
  l. There would be a need to look for support for Asian partners, and therefore a need to pursue different networks.
  m. Pratap: Question on how to use the funds: on development or innovation? This is a grey area. LISFs are not funding development. We're not providing loans but grants. There are many funding mechanisms taking place in developing countries (micro-financing etc); how do we differentiate? Do we need to differentiate?
  n. We should provide alternative sources of support if it is a development project. So that we can help people get out of poverty. We should not be the end of the line.

o. Is there somebody who can look at Asian funding sources – supplementary funding on FAIR-2 programme?
p. There is a need to have a concept note that has several sections.

c. *Action planning*
   a. *Preparation of 2-page concept paper note for fundraising purposes as part of PROLINNOVA programme:*
      i. *To build capacity in financial management, literacy and or services*
      ii. *Institutionalisation of LISFs at country level*
      iii. *Use proposals for FEF/Rockefeller Foundation.*
   b. Ann has good connections with Ford Foundation in Beijing; may be able to provide links to other Ford Foundation people.
      - Question: are we going to broaden this?
      - Focus on funding part, question on how to sustain it?
      - Rockefeller funds are for FAIR projects and PROLINNOVA
      - *To draft notes: Anton, Pratap and Laurent (end of June) – circulate on LISF yahoo group.*
   c. Joint experimentation
      i. The question of demand for joint experimentation involving possibly larger grants to cover additional expertise and inputs was explored briefly.
      ii. Such joint experimentation is being pursued in a couple of LISF supported processes in South Africa. Nono – The farmer contributes to the budget as follows:
         1. Tangible innovation – 25% contribution
         2. Intangible innovation – 10% on inputs
      The distinction between funding farmer innovation vs PID: is this clearly understood? PID should be in place alongside the LISF support but experiment may often require PID as part of its implementation
      Tanzania – there is no problem with this, because participants in LISF and PID are the same.

8.0 Workshop evaluation

Item	Fair	Good	Excellent
Content relevance			11
Cards exercise		5	6
Country presentations		8	3
Gaps & follow-up		10	1
M&E frameworks		10	1
Impact		9	2
Any other business		11	
Facilitation		6	5

9.0 Refresher orientation to the use of the LISF Register

Working with a current version of the Register, Laurent and Nono were kindly assisted by Vitou to deal with various queries that they had. This was found to be useful.

10.0   In attendance

Name	Sex	Organisation	Country	Entity	Email
Alex Lwakuba	M	Env. Alert	Uganda	CP	alwakuba@yahoo.com
Ann Waters-Bayer	F	ETC	Netherlands	IST	ann.waters-bayer@etcnl.nl
Anton Krone	M	SaveAct	South Africa	FAIR IST	anton@saveact.org.za
Anuja Shrestha	F	LI-BIRD	Nepal	CP	anuja@libird.org
Basanta Rana Bhat	M	Ecoscentre	Nepal	CP	ecoscentre@wlink.com.np
Bernard Triomphe	M	CIRAD	France	FAIR	triomphe@cirad.fr
Brigid Letty	F	INR	South Africa	CP	lettyb@ukzn.ac.za
Chesha Wettasinha	F	ETC	Netherlands	IST	c.wettasinha@etcnl.nl
Deepa Acharya	F	LI-BIRD	Nepal	CP	
Laurent Kaburire	M	PELUM-Tz	Tanzania	CP	laurentkaburire@yahoo.co.uk
Madhav Paudel	M	Tuki Sunkoshi	Nepal	CP	tuki.sindhu@gmail.com
Nomaphelo (Nono) Ngubane	F	FSG	South Africa	FAIR	ngubanenn@ukzn.ac.za
Pratap Shrestha	M	LI-BIRD	Nepal	POG	pshrestha_libird@wlink.com.np / pshrestha@libird.org
Qureish Noordin	M	WN-East Africa	Kenya	CP	qnoordin@wneastafrica.org / q.noordin@yahoo.com
Sam Vitou	M	CEDAC	Cambodia	CP	samvitou@online.com.kh
Scott Killough	M	WN	USA	POG	skillough@wn.org
Sharad Rai	M	Practical Action	Nepal	CP	sharad.rai@practicalaction.org.np
Suman Manandhar	M	LI-BIRD	Nepal	CP	suman_libird@wlink.com.np / smanandhar@libird.org
Documentors					
Jenny Reyes	F	IIRR	Philippines	IST	jennyreyes_gsb@yahoo.com
Robert Solar	M	IIRR	Philippines	IST	robert.solar@iirr.org