

Nepal CP: 10 Years Experience

International Partners Workshop,

Suman Manandhar, 12 May, 2014

Phnom Penh, Cambodia



**Local Initiatives for Biodiversity,
Research and Development (LI-BIRD)**

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Overall Timeline of PROLINNOVA Nepal Programme:



- **2003 – 2005: Inception and Planning**
- **2006 – 2007: Piloting of Ideas and Consolidation**
- **2008 – 2010: Growth, Expansion and Results**
- **2011 – 2014: Regional Project Development**

Strategies to achieve the objective:

1. Identification, Documentation of Local Innovation(s).
2. Participatory Innovation Development / Farmer led- experimentation
3. Dissemination of Local Innovations
4. Capacity building and knowledge exchange
5. Policy advocacy
6. Institutionalization

- Nearly 200 innovations from across the country got documented.
- Gave recognition to the farmers about their innovation(s).
- Information was widely disseminated and led to more awareness about farmer creativity.
- These information were used as evidence for capacity building

- Nearly 50 innovations were supported by PID
- This kind of support by PID improved the livelihood (income) of the innovators.
- Approximately 30% of the innovators supported by PID to commercialize (eg. Roman Neopane, Krishna B.K, dissemination of One ox plough).
- Innovators sharing their knowledge and innovation with others (no data available)
- Community level impact not known.

LISF Support through different Programmes:



<i>Funding Source</i>	<i>No. of Innovations</i>	<i>Amount, NRs.</i>
LI-BIRD CORE Fund	7	271,480.00
PROLINNOVA Regular	13	108,192.00
FAIR 2	30	1,136,517.00
Total	50	1,516,189.00

- Within LIBIRD the approach of LI/ PID internalized.
- Other CP partners, Ecoscentre, TUKI, Practical Action, DoA also used the concept of LI/ PID.
- IAAS incorporated the LI/ PID concept into undergraduate and postgraduate curricula
- Awareness provided to numerous organizations through PID training (no information on outcome/ impact)

- Large number of farmers, staffs of local NGO/ CSOs, CP partners gained the skills to support the LI/ PID process.
- A key competence developed was the abilities/ need to look "through innovative lens".
- The trainees could also use the skills into their day-to-day work.
- Innovators got inspired from each other

- Various approaches were used:
 - Print media, electronic media, video documentary, farmer to farmer sharing, innovation fairs, Radio Programme
- Information on LI disseminated to larger audience
- Received many requests for information on innovations
- Few innovators were invited to provide training to community level farmers to share the experiences (One Ox plough)

Working approach

National Steering Committee
(NSC)

Dept. of Agriculture
IAAS
Practical Action Nepal
DADO Mustang
Ecoscentre
LI-BIRD
TUKI Sunkoshi
Farmer Representative (1)
CSO

National Working Group
(NWG)

DADO Mustang Pract Act. IAAS ECOS LI-BIRD TUKI

LWG LWG LWG LWG LWG LWG

LWG = Local Working Group

Local research and development stakeholders

- Not all the farmers got financial gain from their innovations but got recognition.
- Roman Neopane, innovator for thresher, received many offers for making paddy thresher. After he was supported through PID process, he was able to design the thresher as per the demand of the farmers. He sold at least 100 pieces of threshers in 3 years @ Nrs. 25,000. (almost 250 US\$)

- The Fair was successful enough to create awareness among policy makers especially from Ministry of Agriculture Development who was quite positive towards taking up and supporting innovative farmers.
- The Department of Agriculture decided to print 500 copies of Innovations from their own funding.
- These fairs created more awareness among others including the general public, especially air time on national TV. The public knew about local innovation. Those who had chance to watch the live Tv show appreciated the PROLINNOVA CP's effort in promoting local innovation.
- The participating farmer /innovators got to know from other framers innovation. They had an interaction programme during the fair where all innovators would interact with each other.
- The innovators were contacted by various interested people increasing self-confidence of the innovators.
- The first national innovation fair initiated awarding Innovative farmers

Organizations mainstreaming PID:



- LI-BIRD: Training to almost every field level technical staffs. Staffs bring new innovations from their sites. All the projects have been asked to put documenting local innovation in their action plan.
- Ecoscenter and TUKI have integrated the PID in their regular programme. The best innovative farmer/ group awardee in Nov 2012 were from these two organizations.

Challenges and Opportunities



- No fund allocated for monitoring of the innovations after the support and PID has been over.
- Working modality in consortium approach (NGO, INGO , GO, INGO cannot accept fund from NGO)
- Inadequate Financial Resources
- Different Capacities of Working Partners
- Most of the partners looking at PROLINNOVA as a project and not as a programme and not fully internalized
- NSC composition (hierarchy problem)
- Local Innovations are climate-change friendly
- LIs generate employment at local level

Lessons Learnt:



- Local Innovations are sustainable (due to low cost and ownership) and can contribute a lot to livelihood
- Local Innovators are researchers
- With little support Local Innovations can add value a lot
- Local Innovators are empowered
- Appropriate multi-partnership can bring more synergy

- Local Innovation should be recognized by the Government System
- Local Innovation should be national research agenda
- Local Innovation needs to be mainstreamed and inbuilt within state internal programme by Gos and by INGOs/ NGOs
- Local Innovations should be women-friendly
- PROLINNOVA Nepal Network should be enlarged and strengthened

Celebrating...



United Nations Decade on Biodiversity



Thank You

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