

2018 Annual Report Contribution: PROLINNOVA–South Africa

FUNCTIONING OF THE COUNTRY PLATFORM

2018 was a quiet year for PROLINNOVA–South Africa (SA), although the Country Platform (CP) has been represented in a number of fora. Brigid Letty, currently the focal point for the South African CP, attended the Regional Meeting of African CPs in May 2018 in Nairobi, Kenya, which focused on the Proli-FANS (Promoting local innovation in Food and Nutrition Security) project.

ESAPP TASK TEAM

Prolinnova–SA is represented on the Eastern and Southern African PROLINNOVA Platform (ESAPP). In addition, Brigid was nominated for the role of chairperson of ESAPP, and will be looking at ways to strengthen the operation of the regional platform.

HOSTING OF STUDENTS FROM UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

Two students, Hope Neuling and Jessica Anderson, joined the Institute of Natural Resources for a 6-week period in June. This arrangement is likely to continue, as it was an effective way for the students to gain experience of the South African context. They worked on a number of different rural agricultural projects.

BACKSTOPPING TO PROLINNOVA–MOZAMBIQUE

Brigid Letty provided backstopping support to the PROLINNOVA team in Mozambique. She travelled to Maputo in February 2018 and met with the members of the National Steering Committee to look at mechanisms to revive the platform. As a result of the efforts that followed, the group in Mozambique was designated a functioning CP once more.

PREPARATION OF HORIZON 2020 CONCEPT NOTE

Brigid Letty worked with various organisations in Europe and Africa, coordinated by the University of Hohenheim in Germany, to develop a concept note that was submitted to the European Union in response to their call for submissions. The proposal is called Co-creating sustainable and healthy African diets in multi-actor labs (AFRIDIETS-LAB) and will look at how more diverse production systems can lead to healthier diets. Other PROLINNOVA CPs involved in this proposal are those in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. The collaborating organisations had a face-to-face meeting in May 2018 in Germany that Brigid was able to attend thanks to the generosity of University of Hohenheim. She also attended the St Ulrich Group (PTD Forum) meeting in the Black Forest, which allowed for some discussion about PID and other participatory approaches that participants have used or are currently using.

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