



West and Central Africa Prolinnova Platform (WeCAPP)

Plateforme Prolinnova d'Afrique Occidentale et Centrale (PPAOC)



BACK-TO-OFFICE REPORT – VISIT TO BURKINA FASO COUNTRY PLATFORM

16–20 JULY 2017

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1. Introduction

From 16 to 20 July 2017, I carried out a mission of contact and technical support to the PROLINNOVA platform of Burkina Faso (PROFEIS: Promoting Farmer Experimentation and Innovation in the Sahel). This visit, which was the first since I took office as PROLINNOVA Sub-Regional Coordinator (SRC) for West and Central Africa (WCA), aimed to lay the foundation for good collaboration with partners over the next three years. It also offered the opportunity to inform the Country Platform (CP) about the PROLINNOVA network's organisational and operational guidelines and to help correct any anomalies that exist. The specific objectives of the trip were as follows:

- Get to know the CP coordinators and partners
- Investigate the organisation and functioning of the CP
- Identify difficulties encountered by the CP
- Inform and sensitise the CP coordinators and partners with regard to PROLINNOVA's guidelines, the support they can expect from the SRC and the prospects and plans in terms of regionalisation and transfer of international PROLINNOVA bodies to the South
- Assess progress / monitor and backstop Proli-FaNS (Promoting local innovation for Food and Nutrition Security) field activities including PID.

2. Expected results

The expected results of this visit were:

- The CP and the SRC know each other better and the basis for their collaboration is clearly established
- Anomalies with regard to structure and functioning of the CP are identified and an action plan is jointly agreed with the CP coordinators and governance structures for their correction
- Difficulties of the CP with regards to platform activities and Proli-FaNS implementation are known and solutions are suggested
- The CP has a better knowledge of the PROLINNOVA guidelines and is in a better position to respect them
- The CP has a better knowledge of the challenges related to the regionalisation and Southernisation of PROLINNOVA, and undertakes to play its roles to overcome these challenges

3. Activities performed and results achieved

Apart from the two days of travel (16 and 20 July 2017), the mission in Burkina Faso was spread over three days. The mission programme is summarised in Table 1.

Table 1: Burkina Faso mission progress programme

Days	Activities
Sunday 16	Arrival and installation at the hotel
Monday 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Meeting with members of the National Steering Committee extended to the members of the National Coordination Team ■ Information and exchanges on the organization and functioning of the CP ■ Exchanges on the Proli-FaNS project
Tuesday 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Field trip to Gomponsom and Gourcy ■ Visit to some farmer innovations ■ Exchanges with the local multi-stakeholder platforms
Wednesday 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Debriefing in Ouagadougou / conclusion, recommendations ■ Prospects ■ Open space
Thursday 20	Return trip to Benin

3.1. Monday 17 July 2017

I held a more or less formal meeting at the headquarters of Réseau MARP with the newly established National Steering Committee (NSC) of the Burkina Faso CP (Photo 1). This meeting was extended to the members of the National Coordination Team (NCT). During this session, I gave a presentation on the regionalisation of PROLINNOVA, the mission of the SRC, the PROLINNOVA network's guidelines and the collaboration at the subregional level. The leaders of the Burkina Faso CP also took the opportunity to explain to me more about the organisation and the functioning of their platform.



Photo 1: Meeting with the leaders of PROFEIS Burkina Faso

The newly reconstituted governance and coordination bodies were presented to me, which served as a springboard to discuss more specifically the implementation of the Proli-FaNS and Farmer-led Research Networks (FaReNe) projects, as well as the difficulties encountered and the support needed to achieve the projects' objectives. The partners had the opportunity to briefly introduce their individual organisations, their contributions to the promotion of farmer innovation and related issues. I summarise here below the main points raised by the partners.

3.1.1. Réseau MARP

Réseau MARP is an association created in Burkina Faso in 1992, which became official in 1998 before acquiring the status of national public utility organisation in 2008. It is involved in capacity building, particularly through training. Since 2004, the network has changed paradigm, becoming more involved in field activities. It develops projects and programmes using participatory approaches and invests heavily in the revitalisation of local networks of innovative farmers in the northern region of Burkina Faso. It initiates joint experiments in the sector of agro-sylvo-pastoral production. In recent years, Réseau MARP has evolved from simply developing local innovations to spreading and scaling up the results of experiments. In this context, local farmer networks were set up in six regions of the country. The main sectors in which Réseau MARP operates are: production of bio-inputs (biofertilizers and biopesticides), promotion of locally improved farmer seeds and innovative farming practices (e.g. traditional and mechanised *zai*) and promotion of improved livestock breeding practices (with support from researchers and veterinarians).

During the meeting, Réseau MARP raised the difficulty of collaboration of the Burkina Faso CP with the research actors to implement joint experiments. In fact, it appears very difficult in the national context to obtain the availability of researchers or academics for conducting PID. Even in the cases where they are available, the costs of their services are usually far above the endowments of the CP or its member organisations, so that it is often impossible to involve them in joint experiments. In some cases, the administrative burden in research institutions makes very complicated this much desired partnership between innovative farmers and those actors whose expertise could undoubtedly contribute to the success of PID. In other cases, local discoveries and innovations do not match well with scientific principles. For example, the various products innovated by farmers to treat Newcastle disease run counter to the scientific knowledge that perceives this disease as incurable, dedicating systematically the animals affected to slaughter. All these difficulties were mentioned so that, at the subregional level, mechanisms could be developed to resolve them in order to strengthen networking, policy dialogue and institutionalisation of PID.

3.1.2. DIOBASS

This is an association created in 1998 and which became a national utility organisation in 2009. It is a space for mutual learning and exchange that brings together 50 local organisations and networks, as well as resource persons. Diobass balances endogenous and scientific knowledge, seeking to help farmers find solutions to their problems in a participatory way, promoting partnerships between farmers, researchers, advisory services and other relevant stakeholders. An approach geared towards finding local solutions is implemented in 11 provinces and seven regions across Burkina Faso. Interventions in the agro-sylvo-pastoral field led to the establishment of 75 proven agricultural innovations and more than 175 innovations undergoing experimentation or improvement. Agricultural bio-inputs (biofertilizers and biopesticides) constitute the majority of the promoted innovations.

In the livestock sector, around 40 innovations have been developed, especially on animal healthcare issues. Various local products have been innovated against avian diseases, ruminant diarrhoea, sheep pox, Newcastle disease, etc. Dietary supplements, natural incubators based on gourds or millet stems etc. have also been innovated. Local agroforestry dynamics have also led to the establishment of forest and village plantations by farmers as part of a better exploitation of fallow lands. Women in the Diobass network are particularly active in setting up nutritious gardens and producing fresh vegetables. Food-processing activities and socio-institutional innovations in food and nutrition security and farmer education centres are also an important element of local innovation in Burkina Faso. All the innovations developed are disseminated and scaled up through a snowball strategy whereby farmers who have tried them share the good results with the others.

During the Ouagadougou meeting, Diobass shared the difficulties associated with the reluctance of many innovative farmers to share their innovations so that they could be the subject of joint experiments. These suspicious innovators are willing to share their innovative products with others, but are unwilling to share the recipes, so as not to lose the “secret”. This refers to the issue of property rights and mechanisms to be developed at the national or subregional level to put local innovators in trust, in order to undertake PID on a larger number of local innovations. Although considerable effort has been made within the network, documentation remains a major issue that still requires new approaches and resources.

3.1.3. World Neighbors

World Neighbors is an American organisation which operates in Burkina Faso since 1978 in several sectors grouped into three priority axes: (i) sustainable agriculture and livelihoods, (ii) community-based management of natural resources, and (iii) community and reproductive health. The organisation gives an important place to building capacity of local actors in a holistic and participatory approach implemented in several regions in Burkina Faso and Mali. In terms of local innovation, World

Neighbors has implemented several projects in the fields of soil fertilization and agroforestry. Some actions carried out or to come as part of the FaReNe project hosted by World Neighbors under the umbrella of PROLINNOVA were also presented during the meeting. Significant efforts have been made to document experiences in agriculture, animal husbandry and agri-food processing. *However, this documentation remains incomplete with regard to the achievements of the organisation, which expressed support needs in terms of documentation and dissemination of innovations at the national and subregional levels.*

3.1.4. Bioprotech

Bioprotech is an economic interest group involved in the promotion of organic farming. It supports farmers for better integration into the market. In this context, rural biocomposting units have been set up in many villages. The upscaling of best practices is an important dimension of the organisation's actions that promote income-generating activities around various local innovations. As a result, local demonstration and training are important tools in Bioprotech's approach. For example, more than 3400 farmers have been trained on the formulation of various locally innovated inputs for land fertilization and control of various crop pests and diseases. These efforts bring encouraging results by significantly contributing to the resilience of farming communities in a context of climate change. During the year 2016, about 18,550 family farms supported by Bioprotech produced about 5000 tons of bio-compost and about 7500 litres of bio-pesticides for various crops.

The support to women farmers also gives quite positive results with an approach that gives a large place to the gender dimension. The 27 women monitored by Bioprotech produced in 2016 more than 200 tons of biocompost for vegetable production at the community level. Initiatives to promote market access are also undertaken through home-delivery mechanisms for organic products and the establishment of sales outlets. Through a labelling system, several producers listed as innovators have received "certificates of recognition" that reinforce their motivation to innovate. All these local initiatives have helped to increase yields, diversify crops in smallholder farms, strengthen the sustainability of local production systems, facilitate local market access, and improve farmer incomes, socio-economic conditions and self-confidence.

Bioprotech has revealed a central question about the promotion of local seeds and farmer seed conservation systems. This appears to be essential in the context of the Sahel and even in the coastal countries of the subregion, to avoid the current and future dependence of farmers on the world economic powers for the acquisition of crop seeds.

3.1.5. Innovative farmers of Gourcy

Francine Sawadogo is a woman farmer innovator of Gourcy, member of the NSC of PROFEIS Burkina Faso. She is a member of a local network of innovative women involved in the exploitation of non-timber forest products and the promotion of individuals and local groups of innovators. The women's innovations in PROFEIS Burkina Faso concern several fields: production of soaps and other cosmetic products based on shea butter; production of mustards and other cooking ingredients from *nére* seeds (*Parkia biglobosa*); production of food and health products based on the roots, leaves, flowers and seeds of moringa; and promotion of other plants used in food and nutrition and healthcare. The women helped set up vegetable gardens (nutritious gardens) in 26 villages, with the ambition to gradually cover 620 other villages in the province of Gourcy. The community's interest in the actions of Gourcy's innovative women encourages them to engage in joint research and experimentation on local innovations.

Francine expressed that women innovators have a strong need of support, especially with respect to use of innovative products, necessary dosages of local ingredients, easier and more profitable processing practices, time management in economic activities, access to market, management of non-timber forest products sales shops and various local innovations. She also highlighted women's difficulties in sharing and documenting their innovations. This hinders the dissemination of innovations and thereby limits resource mobilisation capacity for the implementation of joint experiments.

3.1.6. President of innovative farmers of Zondoma

The village chief of Zondoma, Boureima Ouedraogo, also member of the NSC, is leading a local network of innovative farmers who are developing several strategies for restoring soil fertility. Some techniques developed concern the use of shea leaves in mulching and traditional, dyke-based and mechanical *zai*. The Zondoma network has become a new resource of persons solicited throughout the Gourcy Province and beyond to backstop other innovators and to train other farming communities.

During our meeting, the chief on behalf of the network raised difficulties in capitalising, documenting and disseminating the developed innovations. Innovative farmers are receptive to subregional initiatives to document, disseminate and scale up local innovations.

3.2. Tuesday 18 July 2017

The second day of my mission in Burkina Faso was entirely devoted to field visits, in particular to Gomponsom and Gourcy, where local multi-stakeholder platforms were set up, and where the Proli-FaNS and FaReNe projects are also implemented. At both sites, I briefly presented the purpose of my

mission and exchanged with local actors on their activities, outcomes and challenges. Some innovations related to Proli-FaNS and FaReNe were also visited.

3.2.1. Meeting with innovators in Gomponsom

This meeting mobilised around 30 participants including 12 women, members of local multi-stakeholder platforms engaged in participatory action research and agricultural production for resilience and adaptation to climate change (Photo 2 & Photo 3). The initiatives of local actors are oriented towards recovery of degraded lands, improvement of agricultural production techniques, promotion of agro-ecological practices, and establishment of medicinal forest and botanical and nutritious gardens etc. The actors benefit from the respective support of World Neighbors through the FaReNe project and of Diobass through the Proli-FaNS project. The women took advantage of this meeting to exhibit their various bio-inputs (biofertilizers and biopesticides) intended to boost vegetable production (Photo 4). *They expressed needs of support for materials and equipment for carrying out joint experiments, and also for joint training and learning, through exchange visits at the subregional level. I took advantage of my presence in Gomponsom to visit a Proli-FaNS action-learning site (Photo 5).*



Photo 2: Participants in the Gomponsom meeting



Photo 3: Indoor discussions in Gomponsom



Photo 4: Innovations exhibited by Gomponsom's innovative women



Photo 5: Visit to a Proli-FaNS action-learning site in Gomponsom

3.2.2. Meeting with innovators in Gourcy

About seven groups and networks of innovators' associations were represented at this meeting, which mobilised about 20 participants including about 11 women (Photo 4 & Photo 5). The activities of these innovators have a lot to do with market gardening, child nutrition and exploitation of non-timber forest products. In the field of market gardening, women are more involved in the production of biocomposts and biopesticides, both used by them in their production strategy, but also sold on the local and regional markets. They encounter a lot of problems, especially in connection with the marketing of locally manufactured products. Nutrition recovery initiatives for malnourished children are diverse and successful in the Gourcy region. Some women within the framework of a village farmer cooperative mix millet, sorghum, milk and other ingredients to make flour for providing quality food for the children. They plan to improve this flour through PID, adding a certain amount of moringa leaves to improve its nutritional value. Other women's associations are developing varieties of local meals that they use to improve the health and nutritional status of children diagnosed as malnourished. All these initiatives have already yielded convincing results across the region, and this justifies the enthusiasm of innovators to get involved in PID in order to improve the quality of their products and to have a better knowledge of the dosages of local ingredients to mix for optimum results. *Difficulties in*

accessing materials and equipment, packaging, transport and marketing have been revealed by women innovators in the food and nutrition sector.



Photo 5: Participants in the Gourcy meeting



Photo 4: Indoor discussions with innovators in Gourcy



Photo 4: Innovations exhibited by Gourcy's innovative women

3.3. Wednesday 19 July 2017

This third day was devoted to the debriefing at the headquarters of Réseau MARP in Ouagadougou. During this meeting, I shared with the partners my field observations and notes taken from the discussions I had with the innovators, men and women, groups and individuals. Irregularities observed in the identification, characterisation and validation of innovations for PID within the Proli-FaNS project were shared with partners and advice was subsequently provided. Our main points of discussion were as follows:

3.3.1. Functioning of the Country Platform

PROFEIS Burkina Faso began to recover from a certain “lethargy” which affected the normal functioning of its governance and coordination bodies. I congratulated the partners for their efforts to restructure and relaunch the activities of their CP, while encouraging the new leaders to work towards ensuring that the PROLINNOVA guidelines are followed, and that the minimum commitments and requirements are met. Although the new configuration of the CP is more or less clear, details are lacking on how the partners plan to run their platform. The lack of clear guidelines on the functioning of the CP led me to suggest to PROFEIS Burkina Faso the elaboration of a manual or an operating

guide for their platform. This document will present more clearly the organisational chart of the platform, while clarifying the functions and responsibilities of members. It should also include the general operating conditions of the network (roles of steering committee, coordination team and local multi-stakeholder platforms etc.). *Christophe was made responsible to take care of this issue within three months.*

3.3.2. Diversity of types of actors within the Country Platform

The Burkina Faso CP looks like a network of NGOs working with innovative farmers and farmer organisations. Apart from the individual collaborations of the partner organisations with the research and extension sectors, the CP does not seem to collaborate much with researchers or extension officers in its various activities, including PID implementation. I shared this remark with the Burkina Faso partners, who explained to me all the difficulties they have encountered in recent years to work with these actors. In fact, the cumbersome administrative procedures, the excessive bureaucracy and the very high cost of services have been major obstacles to the platform's cooperation with researchers, academics and extension staff.

However, the platform's leaders have made the commitment to search within the limits of available resources to solicit the collaboration of some resource persons interested in promoting local innovation. The partners promised to get in touch with some researchers and professors from universities with whom they had collaborated in the past and also to reach out to new researchers and academics who might be interested in promoting local innovation and who would agree to accompany the CP without requiring large amounts of money. To maintain a long-term collaboration with research stakeholders, the Burkina Faso partners have also considered involving the assistants of some researchers and academics, and also some students through practical training courses related to the various projects initiated on local innovations.

The coordinators of the FaReNe and Proli-FaNS projects, respectively Christophe and Bangali, were charged with involving more government actors in the activities of the platform, as they are already doing at the local level, for example by involving agents from decentralised collectives in the formation of local multi-stakeholder platforms. Additional efforts must be made to ensure that PROLINNOVA Burkina Faso does not continue to appear as a network of NGOs. The diversity of the types of actors should be observed more in the future composition of the NSC, the national coordination team and the local platforms of actors.

3.3.3. Common activities as a Country Platform

I pointed out to the leaders of the Burkina Faso platform that there are no joint activities that mobilise them and give them the opportunity to work together and make themselves known as a CP. In this

context, I brought to their attention a number of questions: What to do together to mark their existence as PROLINNOVA platform? Is it possible to make efforts towards showcasing the enthusiasm of the partners to move forward and advance together as a platform? Faced with these questions, the Burkina Faso partners have expressed their willingness to work more together within the limits of the resources available in their respective member organisations. In reality, it is not that common actions were totally lacking between the member structures of the Burkina Faso CP, but each member organisation of the CP implements its own activities by associating if possible the others, within the limits of the resources provided by its donors. Collaboration of this kind exists, but is not placed under the umbrella of PROLINNOVA.

Some common lines of action were analysed during the meeting to facilitate collective action. Depending on the proximity of their interventions, Diobass and Bioprotech can for example initiate an awareness-raising campaign and associate other structures on the negative impacts of chemical pesticides in their zones of intervention. Réseau MARP and World Neighbors can undertake actions on agro-ecology, training and capacity building on participatory research and development approaches. Diobass, Bioprotech, Réseau MARP and World Neighbors can initiate a memorandum on sustainable agriculture in Burkina Faso, and can implement together with other structures trainings, joint experiments, mutual learning and sharing experience on various topics that may serve as a bridge for concerted actions as a CP.

Since most of the organisations support innovators in improving various agricultural and livestock products, it would also be interesting to think of events that will be devoted to the joint promotion of each other's products, for example a day or a half-day of farmer innovation fair giving the opportunity to the partners to present their innovations. Days of farmer innovations and innovative farmers can be thought of at village, communal, departmental / provincial / regional and national level to celebrate the creativity of the Burkinabe men and women innovative farmers under the umbrella of PROLINNOVA. All of these actions and events will contribute to the promotion of policy dialogue for PID institutionalisation. This is why the platform leaders have charged their member structures to plan a budget line in the projects financed by their various donors, if possible, in order to facilitate the implementation of collective actions. I was also invited to accompany the platform in the mobilisation of resources for the financing of collective activities and initiatives in Burkina Faso.

3.3.4. The wide variety of fields of intervention of the partners

I noted the great diversity of the sectors of intervention of the member organisations of PROFEIS Burkina Faso, which seems to me as an important asset, especially if it is used to create a synergy of actions between the partners; which is not yet the case. In the areas of promoting resilience and

adaptation to climate change and food and nutrition security, the following subfields may be considered:

- Soil restoration and regeneration: production of biocompost, promotion of agro-ecological practices, *zai* and various local fertilizing plants;
- Biological control: promotion of biopesticides, especially in the vegetable gardening sector;
- Exploitation of non-timber forest products: promotion of shea and its derivatives, *nééré* (*Parkia Biglobosa*) and its derivatives, various types of herbal teas, various types of foods and combination of local foods;
- Creation of multipurpose village forests: promotion of pharmacopoeia, carbon sinks that can favour access to carbon funds;
- Market gardening: promotion of vegetable farming as supported by the production and marketing of biopesticides, biofertilizers and improved farmer seeds;
- Agri-food processing: promotion of local food processing as supported by economic or social initiatives (e.g. cases of Misola and *Maman Lumière* associations in Gourcy);
- Training and capacity building: formalisation of farmer organisations, training on research-action approaches and PID, backstopping and other forms of support etc;
- Integration/access to the market: commendable efforts are being made in this sector, but the needs of local actors are still great to facilitate the marketing of local products. The sale point and shop approach by innovative women in Gourcy and the Bioprotech's experimental home-delivery approach are inspiring.

Discussions with women members of Misola, Bio-Composte and Maman Lumière associations revealed a crucial need to encourage socio-institutional innovations that favour market integration. The lack of access to the market undermines the promotion of local innovation, since the products of innovation are not well sold to improve women's incomes and conditions. This also requires local innovators to communicate and exchange ideas to avoid partitioning and fears of having one's innovation stolen. For example, there should be some "complementarity" between Misola women who produce enriched flours and Mamans Lumières who make use of various flours to produce foods for nutritional recovery of malnourished and sick children. The latter should be for example an outlet market for the former.

Why is it not possible for the Mamans Lumières to try Misola's recipes and flours on the children they follow? Why is it not possible for the Misola women to start from the recipes and foods of the Mamans Lumières to the children to improve and diversify their flours? Why not engage in joint experiments both associations which operate in the same area to strengthen child nutrition? Based on these questions that I shared with Burkina Faso partners, we had rich discussions that led to the conclusion that we must prevent PROLINNOVA's support from being held hostage by MONGOs (My Own NGOs) of actors posing as associations to capture resources for their personal business. The support of

FaReNe and Proli-FaNS must benefit the greatest number of people and effectively promote innovation by women and men farmers willing to partner with other actors to improve and develop their innovations. In sum, Burkina Faso partners have agreed to find from now on some links in their different areas of intervention, and to make efforts towards joint activities within the platform. I was asked for sharing information on funding opportunities in relevant sectors with the platform leaders and members. The partners wish that mutual learning through cross-visits be strengthened at the subregional level.

3.3.5. Dissemination and upscaling of innovations

Burkina Faso partners have made considerable efforts to ensure widespread dissemination of innovations developed locally. Bioprotech's approach to making innovations known from one region to another, and Diobass's experience with farmer trainer experts, and other similar initiatives, have yielded satisfying results in scaling up local innovations. However, much remains to be done to improve the diffusion and upscaling of innovations. The innovative women in Gourcy have complained that they are still struggling to find solutions to certain local problems, while solutions are already available in other regions of Burkina Faso. In the same way, they have already found for other issues some effective solutions that could be simply tried out elsewhere and scaled up throughout the country.

On the basis of this remark, the Burkina Faso partners and I agreed to find within the platform a mechanism to improve access to information. The crucial issue of copyright or property rights was raised by some participants who also suggested that information and training sessions be further considered within the PROLINNOVA network to inform local actors. Many innovators do not want to share their knowledge, or even avoid getting involved into PID as long as they do not have the guarantee of the security of their copyright and the benefits that this could bring to them. Faced with the reluctance of actors in relation to the preservation of their rights, some structures such as Bioprotech have set up a labelling mechanism through the establishment of a directory of innovators and the issuance of certificates of recognition, and this has encouraged many innovators to put their know-how in the public domain. However, this is not yet a panacea, it is important to enlighten people on copyright issues. I have been asked to organise a discussion forum or a training session at the subregional level, as much as the resources will allow in the coming months.

Burkina Faso partners have also asked me to develop at the subregional level spaces for reflection in order to develop project ideas on the issue of resilience to climate change and the promotion of local innovation. As part of improving the dissemination of local innovations, a subregional innovation documentation project was discussed and Burkina Faso partners agreed to send me within three months a list of five effective farmer innovations and five other innovations to be submitted to PID for

improvement. This documentation will be useful for assuring recognition of innovators and to prevent patenting by others. Opportunities must also be multiplied at subregional level to better discuss the “copyleft” approach.

3.3.6. Proposals and funding

PROFEIS Burkina Faso is in a restructuring and reform phase. At the moment, there are no joint activities beyond FaReNe and Proli-FaNS. There are many innovative products for vegetable and livestock production in the regions of intervention, but the actors need to pool their efforts and resources together to achieve greater results. We explored together how the platform could target existing products, and experiment with different mixtures and dosages, and diversify samples and regions, in order to achieve even more effective products that cover a larger geographical scale. Joint experiments of this kind could be envisaged in the context of a synergy of resources and skills. It is to this end that I invited the Burkina Faso partners.

In the specific context of Proli-FaNS, for example, a common PID could be envisaged for Misola, Maman Lumière and other women’s associations involved in similar initiatives, which overlap in one way or another. There are innovations for which the issues to be explored in PID are not yet very clear. This is the case for “Bio-Composte” and “Maman Lumière” associations. I urged the Proli-FaNS project coordinators to better identify research problems and better define the objectives of joint experiments so that the project’s resources are not swallowed up in innovations whose authors do not envisage any possible improvement, but are simply seeking funds to pursue their own agendas. This is why requests for equipment and materials that are recalled on all occasions must be taken with caution. I urged the partners responsible for the various projects under way in Burkina Faso to ensure that the materials to be acquired are really useful for the development of local innovations and the implementation of PID.

4. Conclusion

The general impression that emerges from my visit to Burkina Faso is that this platform is composed of actors very experienced in promoting local innovation and implementing participatory approaches to innovation. It has been somewhat lethargic over time due to the lack of funding for PID activities, but its involvement in the Proli-FaNS and FaReNe projects has helped to re-mobilise the various actors for the cause of promoting local innovation. I had a good impression of the efforts made by the partners to revive their platform and update its components according to the minimum requirements of PROLINNOVA. The updating of the governance and coordination bodies a few days before my mission also helped to see on this occasion a reconstituted platform, with partners very motivated to play their

part in achieving the objectives of the various projects in progress, as well as the effectiveness of the regionalisation of PROLINNOVA in the West and Central Africa subregion.

I encouraged them to quickly finalise within three months the points concerning the structure of their platform and to define more clearly the terms of reference (ToR) for its operation. I also urged them to work more together, even when resources are insufficient to sustainably promote local innovation and PID. Prospects have been put forward for better collaboration between PROLINNOVA Burkina Faso and the PROLINNOVA subregional platform for West and Central Africa. Everyone is committed to playing his or her part for a better visibility of our subregional network. These mutual commitments were summarised by the anecdote of the thorns shared by the NSC chair of PROFEIS Burkina Faso, Mathieu Ouedraogo: *“Once upon a time, it was proposed to a man who had thorns in both buttocks and feet, to remove the thorns that are in his feet to allow him to go about his business and move forward in life. The latter rejected the offer and asked his benefactor to rather remove the thorns that are in his buttocks, which will allow him to sit down well to remove by himself the thorns of the feet and finally overcome misery and fatefulness”*. The Burkina Faso partners expect subregional coordination to provide the necessary conditions for the CPs within the West and Central Africa subregion to be well strengthened and backstopped to participate themselves in a sustainable way in the promotion of local innovation and the institutionalisation of PID.

5. Annex

5.1. Lists of members of governing and coordinating bodies of PROFEIS Burkina Faso

5.1.1. List of members of the National Steering Committee

No.	Surnames	Firstnames	Structures	Contacts
1	OUEDRAOGO	Mathieu	RMARP	ouedraogom.mathieu@yahoo.fr
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3	TRAORE	Oumarou	World Neighbors	mtraore@wn.org
4	SAWADOGO	Martine	Bioprotech	panierbioprotech@gmail.com
5	SAWADOGO	Francine	Woman farmer innovator	francinesavad@yahoo.fr
6	OUEDRAOGO	Boureima	Innovative Farmer President of Zondoma (Gourcy)	
7	KONKOBO	Christophe	Secrétaire général de l'Association Kombi Nam de Gomponsom pour le Sahel (AKNGS)	konkobokito@yahoo.fr
8	OUATTARA	Do Christophe	World Neighbors (Ex-officio)	ouattara_do@hotmail.com, ochristophe@wn.org Coordonnateur PP Burkina Faso

5.1.2. List of members of the National Coordination Team

No.	Surnames	Firstnames	Structures	Contacts
1	OUEDRAOGO	N. Julien	RMARP	onimbrata@yahoo.fr
2	OUEDRAOGO	Tasséré	RMARP	tassereouedraogo52@yahoo.fr
3	BANGALI	Siaka	Diobass	siakabangali@yahoo.fr
4	ZIDOUEMBA	Drassane	Diobass	ziddras@yahoo.fr

5.2. Lists of members of the Proli-FaNS multi-stakeholder platforms in Burkina Faso

5.2.1. List of the local multi-stakeholder platform members in Gomponsom

No.	Surnames	Firstnames	Structures	Contacts & status
1	Sanfo	Abdoulaye	Association Koumbi Naam de Gomponsom pour le Sahel	00226 +70 03 27 55 Chair
2	Ouédraogo	P Salam	Groupe de recherche Action Kolgowéogo	00226 +74 57 66 05 member
3	Zida	Mahama	Groupement de recherche action Semence	00226 +75 01 87 44 member
4	Konfé	Soungalo	Association SEMUS	00226 +78 85 54 37 member
5	Yaméogo	Daniel	Service technique de l'Agriculture de la commune de Gomponsom	00226 +78 07 79 06 member


6	Kouda	Raogo	Conseiller municipal de Gomponsom	00226 +78 04 63 02 member
7	Ouédraogo	Oumarou	Président de comité de développement villageois de Tingolga	00226 +74 3 15 55 member
8	Mme Zida	Asséta	Groupe de Recherche Action Goama de Gomponsom	
9	Mme Ouédraogo	Rasmata	Groupe de Recherche Action Zaawanwoudou de Gomponsom	

2.2. List of the local multi-stakeholder platform members in Gourcy

No.	Surnames	Firstnames	Structures	Contacts & status
1	Mme Tiébili	Salimata	Association Pagli-yidgri Sulli	00226 +70190656 member
2	Ouédraogo/ Sawadogo	Azeto	Association Burkinabè des Unité Musola (MISOLA)	00226 +7075214 member
3	Ouédraogo	Aminata	Groupement Tegawendé du village de Niéssega	00226 +70 75 21 6 4 member
4	Savadogo	Sayouba	Association Monde Rural (AMR/Gourcy)	00226 +78 61 10 77 member
5	Guiro	Sayouba	Association Bayiri Maguere Zamaana (ABMZ)	00226 +70 10 01 55 member
6	Gansoré	Idrissa	Réseau des Paysans Innovateurs du Zandoma	00226 +74 58 8 37 member
7	Ouédraogo	Tasséré	Groupe Teed -Beogo (GTB)	00226 +71 24 30 73 Chair


5.3. Lists of attendance at various meetings held during the mission

5.3.1. Attendance list of the Ouagadougou session of 17/07/2017.


**LISTE DE PRESENCE A LA RENCONTRE DE LA SUPERVISION DU
COORDONNATEUR REGIONAL (PROLI-FANS)**
Ouagadougou, le 17/07/2017

NOM & PRENOMS	STRUCTURE	CONTACT	EMARGEMENT
OUEDRAOGO MATHIEU	RMAP	70 14 666	
OUATTARA Jo Christophe	Voisins Mandiana	70 72 722	
JOEHI Georges	Problema	229 61 04 10	
TRAORE Dumarou	Voisins Mandiana	70 37 8750	
OUEDRAOGO M. Julien HORE SAVADOGO / Boukourga / Nantou	RMAP Bioprote ct	70 32 579 70 85 3070	
Francis Zouadogo	Membre de la plateforme des regions frontalières	70 22 6858 71 12 21 72 26 6725	
Ouedraogo Bourcime	Président de des pays frontalières des régions frontalières	7 6 24 9856	
BANGALI Sidi	SE - Abofian 157	76 73 0700	

5.3.2. Attendance list of the Gomponsom meeting of 18/07/2017



**LISTE DE PRESENCE A LA RENCONTRE DE LA SUPERVISION DU
COORDONNATEUR REGIONAL (PROLI-FANS)**
Gomponsom, le 18/07/2017

NOM & PRENOMS	STRUCTURE	CONTACT	EMARGEMENT
Konkobo Pascal	Treasuriere	79 16 8748	
Zida Boukouré	Membre	78 42 0325	un
Zida Mahama	Membre	75 01 8744	
Ouedraogo Bourmoaya Salam	i	74 87 6605	
Bamogo Jean Marie	Membre		+
Ouedraogo Adama	Membre	65 53 0734	un
Ouedraogo Dumarou		74 13 1555	un
Ouedraogo Assata	Secrétaire	76 91 7159	

Sawadogo Assata	Présidente		un
Sankoua Lizeta	Membre	66 00 9456	un
Zida Assata	Treasuriere	68 73 1165	
Ouedraogo Habibou	Membre		
Belem Hariam	Membre		
Dianta Fati	Membre		
Rabo Fati	Membre		un
Ouedraogo Lizeta	Membre		un
Konkobo Christophe	Membre	76 55 3859	
Zoukhou Benadette	Membre		
Zida Rasmata	Membre	78 36 1955	
Zouli Mamouata	Membre		

Konkoto Christophe	Secrétaire général AKNOS	78351138 Konkoto Koto @ Yahoo.fr	<i>[Signature]</i>
Konkoto P. Domingue	Membre de GAA Koglewéogo	77658981	T
Banfeli Haka	Dir. San. SF	76730700	<i>[Signature]</i>
Quattara Do Christophe	Vic. M. Mondou	70.723088	:
JOHY Geoff	PROLINOVA	22960400	-

5.3.3. Attendance list of the Gourcy meeting of 18/07/2017



**LISTE DE PRÉSENCE A LA RENCONTRE DE LA SUPERVISION DU
COORDONNATEUR REGIONAL (PROLI-FANS)**
 Gourcy le 18/07/2017

NOM & PRENOMS	STRUCTURE	CONTACT	EMARGEMENT
SARADOGO Sayouba	ATA Association Monde Rural Groupe Tec- Seogo	75738835	<i>[Signature]</i>
Quédraogo Oumarou	G.T.B	70291673	<i>[Signature]</i>
Quédraogo N. Antoine	G.T.B	701125306	<i>[Signature]</i>
Gambouze Adouma	parc san. Irai	76596837	<i>[Signature]</i>
Quédraogo Aminata	Composte Bio Niseta	79335579	<i>[Signature]</i>
Quédraogo/Souleymane	Jeune agricole	70752166	<i>[Signature]</i>
Saradogo Aminata	Composte Bio		+
Doukhan Azela	Composte Bio		+

Vikouma Gant	Niseta	74506050	<i>[Signature]</i>
Kouyogo Poulou	Niseta	60353454 74506682 74506682	<i>[Signature]</i>
Quédraogo Salimata	Hamam Lumière	70190656	<i>[Signature]</i>
Quédraogo Aminata	Maman Lumière	70353937	<i>[Signature]</i>
Quédraogo Kadata	Hamam Association Bayr Makou Zoum	75376562	<i>[Signature]</i>
Guino Sayouba	ABM Z	70100155	<i>[Signature]</i>
JOHY Georges	Indinava	+22961041010	<i>[Signature]</i>
QUATTARA Do Christophe	Vicins Mondoua	70727288	<i>[Signature]</i>
QUEDRAOGO Tassine	ATEP Région Parc Bamkoma	71263073	<i>[Signature]</i>
Naba Tigre Quédraogo Bourina	Zai dijette	76249056	<i>[Signature]</i>
Banfeli Haka	Dir. San. SF	76730700	<i>[Signature]</i>

5.3.4. Attendance list of the Ouagadougou session of 19/07/2017

Liste de présence du 19/07/2017 du Comité National de Pilotage et de la Coordination pour PROFEÏS Burkina

N°	Nom & Prénom	Structures	Fonction	Contact et Email	Emargement
1	BANGALI Siaka	DIO boum BF	Responsable des h.-réalisés	76 730 700 siakaboufali@yahoo.fr	
2	OUEDRAOGO N. Julien	RNARP	Directeur Technique	70 325 739 ouedraogo@yahoofr	
3	TOUMOUA TISSOU	RNARP		71 84 30 73 tissou@yahoofr	
4	TRAORE Dumou	Voisins Mondiaux	chargé de Programme	70 3787 50 mtraore@vwm.org	
5	DJICHY Georges	Proalinnava	Coordinateur AOC	+229 6104 1610 gdjichy@gmail.com	
6	ELHATRA de christophe	Voisins Mondiaux	Chargé de Service	70 72 72 88 ochristophe@vwm.org	
7	MAHOUA MATHIEU	RNARP	Président	70 14 46 62 mahoua@yahoofr	
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