

PROLINNOVA

Promoting Local Innovation in Ecologically-Oriented Agriculture and
Natural Resource Management

2006 ANNUAL REPORT & PROGRAMME REPORT 2004-2006



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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACDEP	Association of Church Development Projects
ARC	Agricultural Research Council
ARD	Agriculture Research and/or Development
ARI	Animal Research Institute
ARTC	Agricultural Research and Technology Corporation
ASE	Agri-Service Ethiopia
CBO	Community-based Organisation
CEDAC	Cambodian Centre for the Study and Development of Agriculture
CGIAR	Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research
CIAT	Centro Internacional de Agricultura Tropical (International Centre for Tropical Agriculture)
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
CIS-VUA	Centre for International Cooperation, Free University Amsterdam
COMPAS	Comparing and Supporting Endogenous Development
CP	Country Programme
CRCE	Centre for Rural Community Empowerment
CRESA	Regional Centre for Specialised Education in Agriculture
CSO	Civil-Society Organisation
CTA	Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation
DAALI	Department of Agronomy and Agricultural Land Improvement
DAE	Department of Extension
DGIS	Directorate General for International Cooperation (The Netherlands)
DSA	Daily Subsistence Allowance
DURAS	Duras Project of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs
EARO	Ethiopian Agricultural Research Organisation
ECASARD	Ecumenical Association for Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development
EED	Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst / Church Development Service
FAIR	Farmer Access to Innovation Resources
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
FLD	Farmer-led Documentation
FSG	Farmer Support Group
FTC	Farmer Training Centre
GEF	Global Environmental Facility
GFAR	Global Forum on Agricultural Research
GOAN	Ghana Organic Agriculture Network
IAAS	Institute of Agriculture and Animal Sciences
IDRC	International Development Research Centre
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IIRR	International Institute of Rural Reconstruction
INADES	African Institute for Economic and Social Development
INR	Institute of Natural Resources
IPR	Intellectual Property Rights
IST	International Support Team
ITDG	Intermediate Technology Development Group
LBL	Landwirtschaftliche Beratungszentrale (Agricultural Extension Centre) Lindau
LI-BIRD	Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development
LISF	Local Innovation Support Fund
MAAIF	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industries and Fisheries
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MFS	<i>Medefinancierings Stelsel</i> (Co-financing window)
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MSP	Multi-stakeholder Platform
NAADS	National Agricultural Advisory Service (Uganda)
NARO	National Agricultural Research Organisation (Uganda)
NCC	National Coordinating Committee
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NGLWG	North Ghana LEISA Working Group
NRM	Natural Resource Management
NSC	National Steering Committee
NTH	Northern Typical Highlands (Ethiopia)
NWG	National Working Group
Nuffic	Netherlands Organisation for International Cooperation in Higher Education
PDA	Provincial Department of Agriculture
PELUM	Participatory Ecological Land Use Management
PID	Participatory Innovation Development

POG	PROLINNOVA Oversight Group
PPILDA	Projet de Promotion de l'Initiative Locale pour le Développement de l'Aguié
PROFEIS	Promoting Farmer Experimentation and Innovation in the Sahel
PROFIEET	Promoting Farmer Innovation and Experimentation in Ethiopia
PTD	Participatory Technology Development
PV	Participatory Video
R&D	Research and Development
SA	South Africa
SARI	Savannah Agricultural Research Institute
TMF	<i>Thematische medefinanciering</i> (Theme-based co-financing)
ToF	Training of Facilitators
ToR	Terms of Reference
ToT	Training of Trainers
TTEA	Technology Transfer and Extension Administration
WN	World Neighbors

INTRODUCTION

PROLINNOVA is an international programme to develop and institutionalise methodologies and partnerships that promote processes of local innovation in environmentally-sound use of natural resources.¹ It hopes to achieve that: 1) environmental and rural development policies in the countries involved give due importance to approaches that promote local innovation (Participatory Innovation Development, PID); 2) Natural Resource Management (NRM) programmes in these countries include PID components on a regular basis; and 3) sustainable multi-stakeholder partnerships are established for country-level planning and implementation of PID programmes and relevant policy design. PROLINNOVA is one of the Global Partnership Programmes that emerged from the consultations under the Global Forum for Agricultural Research.

This report is laid out in two parts. **Part A** is the regular Annual Report for 2006 which describes as usual the key achievements of PROLINNOVA in 2006. **Part B** is the PROLINNOVA programme report 2004-2006, the first TMF-funded formal phase of the programme, looks at progress not only at the level of output, but also at the level of outcome. A systematic comparison of achievements in relation to expected outputs and outcomes is done through the M&E protocol table in Annex 2.

The report concludes with some thoughts on the way forward.

The main purpose of this report is to document and share information on progress made among all partners and to inform the donors on programme development. It should be noted here that the original programme phase was to finish only at the end of 2007. However, a change in policies and funding mechanisms of the Netherlands Directorate General for International Cooperation (DGIS), the programme's main donor, led to an early termination of this first phase, at the end of December 2006.

Partners of the PROLINNOVA network jointly wrote and submitted a proposal to DGIS for continuity of support to the network for the next four years (2007-2010). In the second half of 2006, the network received the encouraging news that proposal was approved as part of the ETC proposal for MFS funding, ensuring continuity of the programme and space for further "innovation" during the ensuing four years.

At the end of 2005, all partners initiated a mid-term self-assessment with support from the International Institute of Rural Reconstruction (IIRR) in the Philippines, as foreseen in the work plan 2004-2006. These self-assessments were critically reviewed by an external consultant in early 2006. His report and suggestions were taken into account when planning for the next phase of PROLINNOVA (2007-2010), both at international as well as at national levels.

¹ For further general information, please refer to www.Prolinnova.net, and Annex 1.

PART A

PROLINNOVA ANNUAL REPORT 2006

This report consists of three main chapters. It starts with an overview of the country programmes in chapter 1, continues with activities at international level in chapter 2 and concludes with financial data in chapter 3. Summarised data across countries are included in the M&E protocol of Annex 2.

1. COUNTRY PROGRAMMES

1.1 Introduction

This chapter provides a summary of the activities realised by the nine PROLINNOVA Country Programmes (CPs) in 2006, in alphabetical order. It also describes the institutional set up within each country as of 2006. Details of activities and a systematic comparison with expected outputs are given in Annex 2. Annual progress reports per country are available from the CP coordinators and the PROLINNOVA International Secretariat at ETC.

To realise their activities, the CPs have appointed specific staff members for coordination and have mobilised funds, partly through DGIS.

The list of activities implemented in each country is not the same: it reflects the different work plans as developed by each CP. Within the overall PROLINNOVA framework, each CP finds specific ways to organise itself and to operationalise its activities. This allows flexibility in meeting local demands and interests.

In addition to the nine “core countries” of PROLINNOVA’s mentioned in the DGIS TMF proposal, partners in other countries and regions have started to organise themselves for building their own country/regional programmes. These include Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru in the Andes, the Solomon Islands in the Pacific, and Mozambique and Kenya in Africa. The developments in these countries are reported separately in section 1.11. The chapter concludes with the results of a number of activities or sub-programmes involving several countries.

1.2 Cambodia

Institutional set-up

PROLINNOVA Cambodia is organised around a “National Steering Committee (NSC)” and a “National Working Group” (NWG). The NWG is a broader assembly, in which every one of the 20 institutions involved at present has a seat. This includes four NGOs, nine Provincial Departments of Agriculture, the Department of Agricultural Extension of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, three educational institutions and one farmer network.

The smaller NSC, elected by the NWG, was set up to manage the PROLINNOVA activities in Cambodia. It started with three members: CEDAC (Cambodian Centre for the Study and Development of Agriculture), the Royal University of Agriculture and the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Takeo, and gradually expanded to include Srer Khmer (a NGO) and the National Farmer and Nature Net.

Achievements in 2006

In order to give continuity to previous efforts in capacity building, PROLINNOVA Cambodia organised, in September, a three-day follow-up training and meeting for previously trained PID trainers, in cooperation with the Kampong Cham National School of Agriculture.

The 26 participants (five of them women), represented NGOs, the Department of Agronomy and Agricultural Land Improvement (DAALI), 4 educational institutes, 6 provincial departments of agriculture and extension. They reviewed (in theory and practice) principles on farmer innovation and experimentation, and facilitation.

Two new batches of trainers on PID were also formed in 2006. A five-day Training of Trainers was organised in August/September at the Battambang Provincial Department of Agriculture. A second training was organised in cooperation with the Kampong Thom Provincial Department of Agriculture. In total, 48 (12 of them women) trainees attended the two events. They came from NGOs, the Provincial Departments of Agriculture (PDA), educational institutions, DAALI and the Department of Extension (DAE).

In June 2006, a farmer trainer workshop on PID was organised in Prey Veng province, counting a total of 64 participants (17 women) – all farmer promoters, coming from 7 provinces. In October, PROLINNOVA members jointly organised a National Forum on local innovation aimed at sharing and documenting experiences on local innovation at the level of the national platform. In the meeting, attended by 85 people from diverse stakeholder groups (farmers, NGOs, government), 11 innovators had a chance of presenting their new ideas. The three “best farmer innovators” received awards (certificate, a small amount of cash and a small gift) from PROLINNOVA. The innovations presented at this forum were published in the farmer magazine and in a book on local innovation.

Following the process of documentation and training of development agents, PROLINNOVA Cambodia continued to work on further experimentation with farmer innovations. In 2006, a total of 15 farmer-led experiments were carried out, facilitated by educational institutions (Royal University of Agriculture, Prek Leap National School of Agriculture and Kampong Cham National School of Agriculture), one farmer organisation (Farmer and Nature Net), and 11 governmental institutions (PDA Takeo, Kampong Speu, Kampong Chhnang, Pursat, Battambang, Kampong Thom, Kampong Cham, Prey Veng, Svay Rieng, DAE, and DAALI). The results of these farmer-led experiments was presented at the annual review and planning workshop in December 2006 in Prey Veng province.

In addition, PROLINNOVA Cambodia coordinated several study visits and student internship programmes. In total, 11 groups of students, comprising 311 students and lecturers participated in these activities. These were, in general, study trips to expose students and teachers to PID and participatory rural development. In addition, a workshop on curriculum development was organised in December. The training focused on modes of cooperation between different stakeholder groups (educational institutes, farmers, private sector), and was attended by 11 lecturers. In a follow up to the workshop, these participating lecturers made presentations within their own institutions, involving 34 additional lecturers and 20 students, in in-house workshops.

Cambodia is one of the countries involved in piloting the Local Innovation Support Fund (LISF) through FAIR – Farmer Access to Innovation Resources, a programme financed by DURAS/French Government. Throughout this year, a feasibility study shed light on institutional and operational arrangements for the Fund. Three institutions are responsible for its implementation: the PDA in Takeo, Akphiwath Strey (an NGO) in Battambang and CEDAC in Kampong Thom. These institutions have organised awareness raising meetings with farmers and stakeholders in their respective areas. As a result, ten proposals were submitted, six of which were approved for funding. The farmer associations and groups which will be carrying out the experimentation, learning visits, etc, have agreed to use the money to start up an internal rotating fund.

In terms of documentation and dissemination, 95 new local innovations were documented, 60 innovations were published in a book, with 3000 copies distributed. In addition 12 issues of a 28-page farmer magazine were produced and distributed.

In 2006, PROLINNOVA Cambodia hosted the annual PROLINNOVA International partners' meeting, which brought together partners from all country programmes and international support organisations (see Chapter 2). It used the presence of partners from other countries to organise a session hosted by the Minister of Agriculture introducing PROLINNOVA and PID to staff of the ministry as well as other Phnom Penh-based organisations. Since then, the minister has been found stressing the importance of farmers own initiatives in some of his public addresses.

Finally, a National Workshop on PID was conducted late in December, in Prey Veng. Inaugurated by the Under Secretary of State for the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and the State Governor, it aimed to reassess the progress made by the programme over the last three years, and elaborate a strategic plan for 2007-2010. The event was attended by 65 participants from organisations that are partners of PROLINNOVA Cambodia.

1.3 Ethiopia

Institutional set-up

PROFIEET (Promoting Farmer Innovation and Experimentation in Ethiopia) is the name under which the PROLINNOVA programme operates in this country. A National Steering Committee (NSC) oversees programme implementation, while the coordinating NGO is ASE (Agri-Service Ethiopia).

The NSC of PROFIEET is made up of major stakeholders involved in agricultural research and development in Ethiopia, with the exception of crop farmers: the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ethiopian Agricultural Research Organisation, the Commission for Science and Technology, Mekelle and Alemaya Universities, the Institute for Sustainable Development, SOS-Sahel, FARM-Africa, the Pastoral Forum Ethiopia and ASE. The NSC members serve primarily as an oversight committee, while the platform coordinator (ASE) carries out the routine tasks.

PROFIEET has divided the country into four distinct agro-ecological and social settings. The purpose of making this division was to help stakeholders focus on the major commodities and farming systems of each area as well as to use this classification for the formation of regional platforms. These regional platforms are relatively autonomous, implementing their own activities under regional supervision. The four zones identified by the NSC are: Typical Ethiopian Highlands (two regions were selected from this zone: Amhara and Tigray); Coffee-Growing Zone (including the vast majority of the Oromia Region); Enset-Growing Zone (most of the Southern Region); and Pastoralist Zone (including the pastoral and agropastoral parts of the country, among others, in Afar, Somalia and Borana).

Achievements in 2006

A capacity building and planning workshop for pastoralists and agro-pastoralists and support organisations was held in January in Dire Dawa. A total of 21 people, one woman and 20 men, including 10 pastoralists, took part in the workshop. Ten cases of local innovation were presented by the pastoralists. The other participants were drawn from various institutions: 2 from Dire Dawa Bureau of Agriculture, 3 from Harar Catholic Secretariat, 3 from Somali Agricultural Research Institute, 1 from Worer Research Center and 2 from the NGO Action for Development. Besides being a training course on Participatory Innovation Development (PID), the workshop also focused on identification and planning of PID activities.

A committee was formed from among the participants to serve as a jury, which set criteria for selecting innovations for further research through joint experimentation. These were then approved by the workshop participants, after which the committee made the selection accordingly. Three innovations were thus selected for further experimentation.

Farmer innovation activities in three agro-ecological zones were filmed by a professional filmmaker. The film covers innovations from the Ethiopian highland platform, coffee-based agricultural system platform and pastoralists platform. 12 innovators – three women and nine men -were featured in the film, entitled *Farmer Innovation in Ethiopia*.

A catalogue of farmer innovations was compiled using the data submitted from the regional platforms. Ten outstanding farmer innovations, two by women and the rest by men, are included in the full-colour catalogue, which had 500 copies printed and distributed.

In the coffee-growing zone, a meeting of stakeholders was carried out in order to organise the launching of joint experimentation on three farmer innovations that had been selected at the training and planning workshop in May 2005. A committee composed of the Extension Department of Jimma Zone, Melko Agricultural Research Center, Rural Technology Research Center and the coordinating institution, Jimma College of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine, was set up. Three proposals were submitted to and approved by the Secretariat.

A regional workshop of the Ethiopian Northern Typical Highlands (NTH) platform was held in May 2006 in Mekelle and Axum in Tigray Region. The main objective was to design a strategic plan for the NTH platform. It was also a launching workshop to officially start the PID process with four farmer innovations. Thirty-two participants attended the workshop. Twenty farmers, 5 women and 15 men took active part. The participants visited four farmer innovations in the field near Axum. The proposed plans for joint experiments were discussed and further developed.

The PROFIEET Secretariat submitted a proposal to Action Aid-Ethiopia on “Awareness Raising, Scaling out and Institutionalisation of Participatory Innovation Development in Ethiopia (ARSI-PID)”. The proposal was approved and will be implemented as of 2007. The central aim of the project is to institutionalise PID by enhancing the capacity of Farmer Training Centres (FTCs), which have recently been established by the government in all sub-districts of Ethiopia.

Ethiopia is one of the countries piloting LISF through FAIR. Two sites – Axum in the NTH zone and Amaro in the enset-growing zone – were selected for piloting the LISFs. A feasibility study was prepared to this end. A committee of farmer innovators for administrating the LISF, having five members, with one woman at each site, has been formed in the two pilot sites. Orientation on the basic concept of the FAIR project and the guidelines on implementation and procedures were given to innovative farmers on both sites.

In terms of policy dialogue, some key events are worth mentioning: in May, the PROFIEET coordinator briefed the new Director General of the Ethiopian Science and Technology Agency on the principles of PID and activities being undertaken by PROFIEET. In April, PROFIEET representatives met with the new State Minister of Agriculture.

PROFIEET also participated of the Agricultural Technologies and Marketing Strategy Exhibition, held in March in Mekelle, Tigray Region. At the exhibition, several innovative farmers showed their own technologies. The exhibition was organised by the Bureau of Agriculture and Rural Development of Tigray Region and the Improving Productivity by Marketing Success project of the International Livestock Research Institute.

In December 2006, a workshop was held in Ambo to develop a longer term strategic plan for PROFIEET. The purpose of this strategic planning workshop was to review the functioning and achievements of the network and, on the basis of this joint analysis, to devise a strategic plan for the coming four years. Participants came from the federal level as well as from the regional PROFIEET platforms. There was a good balance of representatives from state and non-state agencies of research, extension, development and education, as well as one international research centre (IFPRI-ISNAR). A total of 22 participants attended the meeting of which two were woman.

1.4 Ghana

Institutional set-up

A nine-member National Coordinating Committee (NCC) provides oversight in Ghana, chaired by the former Director of Agricultural Extension of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA). Members are Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, Roots and Tubers Improvement Programme (an IFAD project), FONG (NGO network), VEPEAG, GOAN (Ghana Organic Agriculture Network), ACDEP (Association of Church Development Projects), and ECASARD (Ecumenical Association for Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development).

PROLINNOVA Ghana was initially organised in three zones: the Southern, Middle Belt and Northern Zone. Each had a working group or team, responsible for day-to-day operations. The overall coordination of the programme at the national level was the responsibility of ECASARD, which also coordinated the activities in the Southern Zone, while those in the North were coordinated by ACDEP and in the Middle Belt by GOAN.

In 2005, on account of problems in communication between the different zones and with the PROLINNOVA Secretariat, resulting in a temporary slowdown of activities, the Ghana programme was reorganised under guidance of the Chair of the PROLINNOVA Ghana NCC. A short transition contract was drafted to enable the NCC to act in this matter and to consolidate a few selected activities in 2005. Ghana now has two sub-programmes, Ghana North and Ghana South, each with a direct contract with ETC, with the NCC providing oversight to both. The Northern zone is coordinated by ACDEP, the Southern zone by ECASARD. This allows the two zones to work more effectively, with greater differences in terms of progress and strategies followed. In 2006, ETC signed a separate MoU with ACDEP for the implementations of activities in the North and continued consultations with ECASARD in preparing for a new agreement in 2007.

Achievements in 2006

As mentioned above, these achievements refer only to the Northern Ghana programme in 2006. In order to organise its work, planning meetings were held in February and May, involving six participants of the existing Northern Ghana LEISA Working Group (NGLWG). This included representatives of partner institutions: ACDEP, Animal Research Institute (ARI), Savanna Agricultural Research Institute (SARI), the University for Development Studies and the Ministry of Food and Agriculture.

In its first year, Ghana North decided to focus on two innovations identified by partners in previous work: a local mineral lick called "Siella" and a cereal locally called "fonio". The work to promote and further develop Siella was led by the ARI and conducted in two communities in the Saboba-Chereponi District. It included interaction with the communities to review local knowledge and uses of Siella, and a three-day participatory training-cum documentation of farmers' innovations on Siella. Fifteen farmers and three extension staff of MoFA participated

in the activity. Farmers filmed their own stories and innovations on Siella, and produced two video films. Reviewing these with the farmers will be the starting point for defining a research and development agenda by the farmers.

In 2006, PROLINNOVA work on Fonio, a highly nutritional local cereal under threat, consisted of on-farm experimentation to improve yields. This will be followed, in 2007 and beyond, by documentation of local innovation on its utilisation, and enterprise-related promotion. This activity is led by SARI, and conducted in the Naturi community in Chereponi. It started in April and by November, all trial plots had been harvested and data analysed in preparation for a field day, to be organized in 2007.

Also in November, the Northern Ghana PROLINNOVA programme held a two-day strategic planning workshop to develop a long-term PROLINNOVA strategy for the region. A total of 16 NGLWG members (two of them women) from 5 partner institutions attended the workshop. A significant achievement of the workshop was the development of a collaboration plan between PROLINNOVA and COMPAS.

A NCC meeting was held in July, in which members reviewed progress in the North and South and contributed with suggestions on improvements of the country's performance.

1.5 Nepal

Institutional set-up

In Nepal, five organisations share the day-to-day implementation of PROLINNOVA. Together, they form the National Working Group (NWG): Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development (LI-BIRD), which coordinates the programme in the country; Practical Action (formerly ITDG); Ecological Service Centre (EcoScentre), CARE Nepal and the Institute of Agriculture and Animal Sciences of the Tribhuvan University (IAAS). The Sustainable Soil Management Programme implemented by Helvetas in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture was part of the group in 2004 only.

The Nepali partners invested considerable time in formalising the partnership to be able to move and use funds, and establish a clear division of roles and responsibilities. By the end of 2005, all partners signed a MoU with LI-BIRD, the NGO that serves as PROLINNOVA Nepal Secretariat.

A NSC comprising senior decision-makers was called to oversee the "PROLINNOVA Nepal Initiatives", as the programme is called locally. The NSC includes members from the Nepal Agricultural Research Council, Department of Agriculture, Department of Forest, Department of Soil Conservation and Watershed Management, National Planning Commission, Ministry of Local Development, and one representative from the five PROLINNOVA Nepal working group organisations. In Nepal, however, the NSC hasn't been active since 2005, as the NWG felt they needed to establish the programme first to be able to attract the interest of the NSC members. In view of experiences in other countries this was re-discussed at the end of 2006. Partners decided to re-establish and/or re-activate the NSC and also to add at least one governmental organisation to the NWG.

Achievements in 2006

Nepal faced a political and social turmoil in the first half of the year. The situation deteriorated to the point that most non-governmental organisations had to close their offices for almost a whole month. Field work could not be undertaken in this period. This meant that the Nepal CP suffered a delay in implementation of its 2006 work plan.

Despite these setbacks in field implementation, all the partner organisations proceeded with internal awareness raising and training of their staff and field partners (including local NGOs, CBOs and extensionists). The CP focused on broadening its initial inventory of local innovations, and documented an additional 107 innovations. This was done in three different ways by the different partners: through local NGOs staff members, through local community members and with the support of an MSc student. 20 selected innovations were published in an Innovation Catalogue, both in English and Nepali languages. Posters depicting some of these innovations and innovators, also in English and Nepali, were also produced. Several of these innovations were selected for improvement through further experimentation.

Two members of PROLINNOVA Nepal were trained as facilitators at the Training of Trainers course in Uganda. They in turn organised a five-day residential training in PID in Nepal in November. 25 participants (6 women and 19 men) from government as well as non-governmental organisations benefited from this course and will continue as PID resource persons within Nepal.

One member of PROLINNOVA Nepal participated at the international policy advocacy training in Tanzania in August 2006. He took the lead in organising an innovation policy workshop and innovators interaction programme for PROLINNOVA Nepal in December 2006. 14 farmer innovators (12 men and 2 women) were invited to share their ideas with the participants of the workshop, several of who are involved in policy-related work. The farmers worked in a small group and provided their views on how policies could be formulated or adjusted to support the process of local innovation.

IAAS has included PID as part of on-going university courses (Ethnobotany, Conservation Ecology). The IAAS member in the PROLINNOVA core group has drafted both MSc and BSc course outlines on PID/Local innovation. He is presently undertaking internal consultations to try to incorporate these courses into the academic curriculum. In addition, PROLINNOVA Nepal has set up a Local Knowledge Resource Centre at IAAS to provide teaching/ knowledge resources for these new courses.

Nepal is part of PROLINNOVA efforts in experimenting with LISFs, although it does not receive direct support from DURAS. Nepal's own LISF started two years ago (initially outside PROLINNOVA). It is now being incorporated into the PROLINNOVA Nepal work plan, so that all PID can be financed (and selected) through this fund. Operating guidelines for the LISF have been prepared.

PROLINNOVA Nepal made considerable progress in documentation and publication this year. This included, in addition to the publications mentioned above, a PID training guide in Nepali, guidelines for documentation of local innovation processes, a review of studies and documents on local knowledge/innovation in Nepal and a documentary film on the PROLINNOVA Nepal programme.

Four NWG meetings were held during the year. The meeting in November focused on strategic planning for the next four years. The areas of concentration and the geographical coverage of each partner organisation were defined together with the core activities they would be involved in.

1.6 Niger

Institutional set-up

The Niger CP has specific dynamics, as funding of its activities were foreseen by a new IFAD-supported project (PPILDA: Projet de Promotion de l'Initiative Locale pour le Développement de l'Aguié) with strong characteristics of promoting local innovation. When

the new project was delayed and accessing its resources became complicated, funds were made available through ETC in early 2005, to co-fund key activities.

PROLINNOVA Niger is coordinated by CRESA, a regional training institute within the University of Niamey. A National Steering Committee is functioning since mid 2006. It includes CRESA (as CP coordinator and NSC Secretariat), PPILDA, INRAN (National Agriculture Research Institute), FAC AGRO (educational institution), Tattali (NGO), and one representative of farmer innovators (yet to be nominated).

The activities of PROLINNOVA Niger are implemented in two areas called 'Pole' West (regions of Tillabéri et Dosso) and 'Pole' East (regions of Maradi et Zinder). Each pole is managed by a working group. An INRAN staff member has been appointed coordinator of the working group of 'Pole' West, while the NGO Democratie 2000 spearheads the work in the field. In 'Pole' East, PPILDA serves as head of the working group and the NGO Tattali coordinates the work in the field.

Until the sister programme of PROLINNOVA in West Africa (see 1.12 below) gets underway, Niger will continue to operate within the DGIS-funded PROLINNOVA programme.

Achievements in 2006

A training of facilitators in PID was organised in Maradi in June. A total of 16 participants from eight different institutions – NGOs, governmental research and extension, education – and farmers attended the training (five of them, women). A brochure on PROLINNOVA Niger (in English and French) was also produced and distributed.

In July, the first meeting of the NSC took place, and provided an opportunity to review progress and plan for new activities, as well as to strengthen partnerships among the institutions present. At this meeting, participants decided on the creation of two zones, or poles as they are called.

Throughout the year, documentation of innovation took place. Appropriate working methodologies and tools for inventory were identified, harmonised and adopted by the two poles. Trainers capacitated at the training of facilitators participated actively in producing this inventory. Twelve innovations and innovators were identified and documented (3 innovations by pole East and 9 innovations by pole West).

During the national workshop In December, participants looked closely at the identified innovations. Seven of these innovations were selected for experimentation, documentation and/or promotion in 2007. They also jointly planned activities for the years to follow.

1.7 South Africa

Institutional set-up

PROLINNOVA South Africa has operated from 2004 to 2006 with a core team comprised of the Farmer Support Group (FSG – coordinator), Institute of Natural Resources (INR), KwaZulu-Natal Department of Agriculture and Environmental Affairs, Centre for Rural Community Empowerment (CRCE) – University of Limpopo, Biowatch, CAP, Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Council, Human Sciences Research Council, South African Endogenous Development Programme (linked to COMPAS),

MIDNET, a network of NGOs, hosted the Secretariat of the programme in 2004 and part of 2005. Since mid 2005 the Institute of Natural Resources (INR) provides the programme coordinator and secretariat under overall responsibility of FSG.

At the end of 2006 a review and planning meeting of the core team decided on important changes in the institutional set up of PROLINNOVA South Africa. From 2007 onwards, three regional task forces (in Kwazulu Natal, Limpopo and Mpumalanga) will have greater flexibility in planning and implementing activities at regional level. Each will be coordinated by one NGO and a government representative. INR will now take responsibility for the overall coordination of the programme in South Africa, and the core-team will be replaced by a NSC, with a somewhat different composition.

Achievements in 2006

Following a request voiced by farmers in 2005, a one-day basic photography training course for farmers took place in the province in March, in conjunction with the PID follow-up workshop (see below). The course was attended by 3 KwaZulu-Natal farmers (all men), 3 Limpopo farmers (1 man, two women) and one female extension officer from Limpopo Department of Agriculture. Returning from this workshop, the farmers, through their local groups, have started to take photos as a means to document a number of experiences for wider sharing.

Two PID sharing and learning workshops were organised in 2006. The first took place in Mpumalanga Province from in July/August and was mainly aimed at Agricultural Research Council staff. Workshop participants totalled 23 (11 women) and also included representatives from universities, NGO, and government extension departments. The training of ARC staff is a big step towards institutionalising PID and the appreciation of local innovation within government research institutions in South Africa. The second workshop was held in Polokwane, Limpopo Province in March. It was attended by 34 participants (11 women), from NGOs, Department of Agriculture, Research Councils, farmers (10), farmer network (1) and university.

Partnerships between farmers, Provincial Department of Agriculture staff, ARC staff and NGO staff were formed to take five of the innovations forward through a PID process. Moreover, some research has been initiated by CRCE and the Limpopo Department of Agriculture to investigate the potential for cross breeding indigenous fowls and broilers, a concept introduced by a farmer at the Limpopo workshop.

Farmers involved in 2005 PROLINNOVA activities raised issues regarding the identification and documentation of innovations and about the support they required from extensionists in terms of developing them further. As a result, steps have been taken to set up platforms for farmers in Limpopo and KwaZulu-Natal, the former linked to the East Africa Farmers Federation. Meetings of farmers have taken place with support from CRCE, attended also by farmers from Kwazulu Natal.

Financial assistance has been provided to an extension officer of the Limpopo Department of Agriculture to undertake research on documentation of ethnoveterinary medicine practices used by cattle farmers in the Mutale area.

A briefing document that investigates the need to promote and protect farmers' rights has been developed. It focuses on farmers' rights related to the preservation of plant genetic resources. This document will form the basis for discussions on farmers' rights with government departments.

South Africa is one of the countries involved in piloting Local Innovation Support Funds under FAIR. As part of this sub-component of PROLINNOVA, an innovation market was arranged as a mechanism for drawing farmers together to create awareness around local innovation. This took place in October in Northern Drakensberg, one of the areas in which the FAIR project is being piloted. It was attended by 20 people from supporting organisations (government departments, university and NGOs) and 65 farmers. Six farmers (1 woman, 5 men) gave

presentations on their innovations. At the market, three community representatives (all women) were identified by farmers to be involved in the application screening process which is part of the LISF. The LISF feasibility study was finalised and discussed with the relevant stakeholders. In addition, three farmer learning groups have been established at the pilot site, these being points of entry to create awareness about FAIR and to provide support for local innovation.

1.8 Sudan

Institutional set-up

Practical Action-Sudan acts as the coordinating NGO for the country programme, and works closely with the Technology Transfer and Extension Administration (TTEA) and the Agricultural Research and Technology Corporation (ARTC). Jointly, they facilitated the formation of a NSC, presently comprising members of the following organisations: TTEA, ARTC, Sudanese Environment Conservation Society and Sudanese Society for Organic Agriculture (both local NGOs), Sudan University for Science and Technology, FAO, IFAD, Pastoralist Union, Farmer Union, Forest Research Centre and Practical Action-Sudan.

PROLINNOVA Sudan is in the process of decentralising part of its activities to selected regions and thereby encouraging local stakeholder groups to organise themselves for involvement in Prolinnova. Because Sudan was among the last set of countries to start as part of the staggered initiation of the PROLINNOVA country programmes and because of an important change in staffing in the course of 2005, this process has not advanced yet as far as in other countries.

Achievements in 2006

The staff change still had its impact on achievements for 2006, as the programme budget and work plan were approved only in June 2006. Nevertheless, important achievements were made in 2006.

PROLINNOVA Sudan and PID were introduced to stakeholders in two more regions: Central and North Sudan. This was done through introductory workshops. In Central Sudan, 50 participants (13 of them women) attended the one day introductory workshop in Sinja. The participants represented different stakeholders (Departments of the State Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Wealth and Irrigation, producers unions, academic institutions). In North Sudan, the introductory workshop was held in Dongola, and was attended by 57 people (20 women), representing the State Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Wealth and Irrigation, the Dongola Agricultural Research Station, academic institutions and producers unions. State Ministers of Agriculture inaugurated and addressed the workshops.

A consultant was commissioned to write up, finalise and publish a book on innovation and indigenous practices in Sudan. A draft was produced and is in the process of final editing and printing. The book covers five states of Sudan where PROLINNOVA has been introduced.

The first PID training workshop in Sudan was held in North Kordofan State during December. The training workshop was implemented in coordination and collaboration with the State Technology Transfer and Extension Administration and the Western Sudan Resources Management Programme (a government programme funded by IFAD). The 29 participants (12 women) were drawn from North Kordofan, South Kordofan, Kassala, North Darfur and El Shamalia. They comprised university lecturers, researchers, extensionists and farmers.

1.9 Tanzania

Institutional set-up

Since its start-up in 2005, PROLINNOVA Tanzania has been coordinated by PELUM-Tanzania which has formed a “core team” including staff from INADES-Formation Tanzania and Sokoine University of Agriculture Institute of Continued Education.

A NSC oversees the activities of the core team, composed of local NGOs, government representatives, researchers and training institutions, and 2 farmers representing the national network of smallholder farmers groups in Tanzania (MVIWATA). In their meeting in March 2006 the NSC members, together with core team members, defined roles and responsibilities within the programme. Though relatively young, PROLINNOVA Tanzania has decided to review in 2007 the division of tasks and responsibilities of partners in the core group and NSC in order to increase their involvement and commitment. It is also planning to bring in more committed individuals from the key ministries and research/training institutions as part of its efforts towards PID institutionalisation and policy advocacy.

Achievements in 2006

Several new partners have joined forces with PROLINNOVA Tanzania in 2006, including the Agricultural Research Institute of Uyole, the Zonal Livestock Research Institute of Mpwapwa, government extension departments and NGOs. The number of organisations involved has increased from 12 in 2005 to 22 in December 2006.

PROLINNOVA Tanzania carried out a review study of farmer innovators and their respective local innovations in Mbeya region and Dodoma regions. Twenty five farmer innovators (3 women and 22 men) who had been part of earlier development programmes in Tanzania were visited. The review pointed out the need to encourage more women’s participation in local innovation processes. It was interesting to note that in the Mbeya region only a few of the innovators identified during the Integrated Soil and Water Conservation programme are continuing their earlier innovations, although a few innovations had spread substantially. On the other hand, a great number of innovations documented through the PFI programme in Dodoma had been disseminated to other farmers. Three stories on the potential and role of local innovation systems in Tanzania were shared through the quarterly newsletter produced by Pelum Tanzania (“Kilimo Endelevu”).

The CP has organised a five-day workshop on policy analysis, campaign, advocacy and lobby within the Tanzanian context, in 2006. A total of 28 (5 women and 23 men) development practitioners from NGOs and farmer organisations attended the workshop. Impacts of the workshop are being observed in Kilolo district of Iringa region, where TAGRODE – a local NGO – has been able to influence local government to incorporate views of communities into land policy.

Seven development practitioners and 29 farmers (7 of them women) shared experiences on local innovation during the strategic planning workshop for the national Farmer exhibition week (Nane Nane). The workshop was organised and facilitated by PELUM-Tanzania in May 2006.

In July 2006, the CP organised a five-day field visit, attended by 20 farmers (7 women and 13 men) and 12 staff (2 women and 10 men) from PROLINNOVA partner organisations. The aim of the field visit was to enable participants to learn from farmer innovators in Dodoma region. The group visited ten innovator farmers. As a result of the field visit, visiting farmers have discussed with local farmers and adopted some of local innovations.

In October, PELUM-Tanzania organised a three-day workshop on farmer-extension-research linkages to strengthen multi-stakeholder collaboration in ARD. The aim of the workshop was to help partners to develop advocacy and lobby strategies to influence policy makers in agricultural development and natural resources management. The workshop brought together a total of 32 participants (6 women and 26 men) of which 18 were farmer innovators, 8 NGO staff, 2 District Extension officers, 3 researchers and a member of the IST.

In November, the CP organised a five-day PID workshop for development practitioners from PROLINNOVA partner organisations. Most of the action plans developed by the 23 participants (6 of them women) included sharing the PID concepts with fellow staff at organisational level, identification of local innovation and strategies for initiating joint experimentation. It is an important challenge to provide adequate follow-up to these trainees and their plans.

In collaboration with the IST, PELUM-Tanzania organised and hosted a one-week international workshop on policy advocacy towards recognition and support to local innovation systems and PID approaches in ARD (see 1.12).

1.10 Uganda

Institutional set-up

PROLINNOVA Uganda began operations in 2003 and is facilitated by Environmental Alert, an NGO based in Kampala. Core team partners are involved in day-to-day activities and include the NGOs PELUM Uganda, Africa 2000 Network, Kulika Charitable Trust, the research programme African Highlands Initiative, the National Agricultural Advisory Service (NAADS) and the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF).

A National Steering Committee supervises the programme and meets regularly to formulate general policies. It consists of: National Agricultural Research Organisation (Chair until end 2005), Development Network of Indigenous Voluntary Associations, Uganda Council for Science and Technology (Chair since end 2005), CIAT, NAADS, Faculty of Agriculture and Nature Conservation of Makerere University, Uganda National Farmers' Federation, Uganda Local Authorities Association and MAAIF.

Achievements in 2006

Efforts on identification and documentation of local innovations continued this year. Ten new innovations including five local innovations in urban agriculture were identified and documented. PROLINNOVA Uganda also continued to work on joint experimentation, involving a total of 10 selected innovations. Experiments on one of them was completed and jointly evaluated, whereas nine are still on-going. To support this work, the CP organised a workshop on experimental design and assessment in April 2006. It was attended by 23 participants (9 women), from academia, NGOs, government organisations, one farmer organisation and two students from the Netherlands.

PROLINNOVA Uganda supported farmer exchange visits in the western and south western part of the country, with the participation of 45 farmers. Farmer innovators also participated in the World Food Day Celebrations that took place in West Nile in October.

Representatives of the programme participated at a farmer field school and water management workshop (organised by Environmental Alert, FAO, CTA and Wageningen University), where they had the chance to disseminate the work done.

A Training of Facilitators in PID was held from in October 2006, attended by 29 participants (10 women and 19 men) coming from academia, government, media and, the great majority, from NGOs.

Two students from the Vrije University of Amsterdam have been attached to the programme and are carrying out research on environmental management and social dynamics of innovative communities. A third student has been doing research on local innovation in urban agriculture.

In terms of documentation, the secretariat prepared an article on PID in Uganda for the September issue of the LEISA magazine. Another article was written and published in a Ugandan daily (Monitor) in August. Several posters on local innovation in Uganda have been produced and disseminated. The posters have stirred the curiosity of farmers and extension workers, supporting the identification and development of other local innovations.

The CP continued to dialogue with policy makers on institutionalisation of participatory approaches in the government (e.g. National Agricultural Advisory Services) and academia. As part of this effort, a presentation was made at Makerere University Kampala, Faculty of Forestry and Nature Conservation, leading to further interest from other faculties, the Faculty of Agriculture in particular. The presentation was attended by 54 participants (lecturers, heads of departments and students).

Efforts to engage NAADS on institutionalisation of participatory approaches in their service delivery continued through meetings with the organisation's staff.

Uganda is also involved in the piloting of Local Innovation Funds under FAIR. A feasibility study on the institutional set up and functioning of a LISF in the Ugandan context was completed.

In December, a strategic planning workshop for stakeholders was held to review approaches and experiences of the programme in Uganda from 2003 to 2006. This was attended by 26 participants (10 women and 16 men), from farmer organisations, academia, GOs and NGOs. At this event, participants conducted a SWOT analysis of the programme, which provided valuable inputs to elaboration of the 2007-2010 Strategic Plan.

It is important to note that the Ugandan CP played an important role in co-organising the Innovation Africa Symposium and also supported PELUM Uganda in organising – on behalf of PROLINNOVA – the international farmer-led documentation Workshop. Both took place in Uganda at the end of 2006, and are further discussed in chapter 2.

1.11 Other countries/regions

Pacific

In 2006, contacts with the Pacific region were established, through the Secretariat of the Pacific Community and the Farmer First Network in Melanesia. Representatives of both organisations participated in the PROLINNOVA international meeting in Cambodia. A number of joint activities were agreed on, including the participation of a Pacific representative in the 2nd Training of Facilitators in Participatory Innovation Development in Uganda.

As a follow-up to this event, a PID training course was organised in the Solomon Islands in September, supported by PROLINNOVA. The workshop brought together community development workers, research officers from the department of agriculture and farmers. A total of 13 participants (6 women) attended the training. The majority of participants were from the Solomon Islands, with 2 participants coming from Fiji and Vanuatu.

At the end of the workshop, the participants formed a committee with the aim of setting up a country programme in the Solomon Islands. All participants agreed to carry out follow-up activities (identification of innovations, verification and selection and characterization, analysis and documentation) building on their current projects or work. A proposed follow up training in Fiji is being planned for 2007.

In addition, one IST member from CIS-VU supported a one-week training workshop in farmer innovation methodology in Papua New Guinea, as part of a separate contract with CTA.

Andes

The initiative to establish PROLINNOVA Andes was taken by the NGOs World Neighbors (WN), IIRR-Latin America and Agrecol Andes, as early as 2004. In May 2006, the initiators organised (and co-funded) a first inception workshop for the establishment of "PROLINNOVA Andes", in Lima. Red de Agricultura Ecológica (Peruvian Ecological Agriculture Network) provided logistical support and a member of the PROLINNOVA IST assisted its facilitation.

During the workshop, 16 participants from Bolivia, Peru and Ecuador, approximately one third of them farmers, discussed the principles and initial focus of PROLINNOVA Andes. They concluded that the vision and approach fit extremely well into the concerns and interests of the farmers and other stakeholders in the Andean region. The partners committed themselves to joint fund raising for starting up a programme in the region. A committee was formed, composed of Agrecol, WN and the Network for Action on Alternative Agriculture to pursue this initiative.

A fully-fledged proposal and a brochure were elaborated and circulated to all workshop participants. Initial contacts with donors were established, but have not yet yielded funds for the implementation of the full proposal. Meanwhile, leading organisations continued to mobilise their partners at local level, and maintained regular communication on their day-to-day activities related to PID.

West Africa

In 2006, four West African countries (Senegal, Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger), under the coordination of the Senegalese NGO IED Afrique, took the initiative and formulated a proposal for a sister programme of PROLINNOVA in the region – PROFEIS (Promoting Farmer Experimentation and Innovation in the Sahel). Financial support by one donor (Misereor) has been confirmed, allowing the programme to start in two of these countries (Mali and Senegal) in 2006. International Development Research Centre (IDRC) has shown interest in co-funding PROFEIS, which would allow full involvement of Niger and Burkina-Faso. An inception workshop for the programme was held in Senegal in December 2006. Limited co-funding from the PROLINNOVA DGIS TMF grant allowed participants from Niger and Burkina to join this key event while awaiting IDRC funding for their country programmes.

Mozambique

VetAid, an international NGO with an office in Mozambique, took the lead in organising a first workshop on "supporting local innovation" in Mozambique, in December 2006, in Gaza Province. Twenty-six participants from different stakeholder groups attended the meeting, co-funded by PROLINNOVA, and co-facilitated by an IST member and a representative from PROLINNOVA South Africa.

The organisations present shared their experiences with participatory development in the country and discussed the challenges faced. At the end of the meeting, the participants decided to form a network (PROLINNOVA Mozambique) to support and learn from each other, influence policy and mainstream a more participatory agricultural research for development approach in the southern provinces of the country. A core team made up of VetAid and the Association for the Development of Rural Communities of Xai-Xai was formed with the

responsibility of taking the process further: keeping contact with partners, monitoring progress in activity implementation, contacting new partners, formally contacting governmental agencies, fund raising and organising a follow-up workshop in 2007.

Kenya

For three years, several individuals and organisations working in agricultural research and development in the country have been following the developments in PROLINNOVA. Two initial attempts made to convene stakeholders with a view to initiating a PROLINNOVA partnership in Kenya triggered only a lukewarm response. At the end of 2006, PELUM-Kenya made a concerted effort to bring selected members together with other interested stakeholders to understand more about PROLINNOVA and take a collective decision whether to join this partnership programme or not, and if so what form it should take. To this end, a workshop will be organised in early of 2007 with support from PROLINNOVA Uganda.

1.12 Cross-country activities

The work plan for 2006 included a number of activities involving more than one country, in various groupings. Table 1 summarises the realisation of these plans.

Table 1: Realisation of cross-country activities in 2006

Planned in 2006	Realised in 2006
Continuation of LISF pilots in 4 countries	Implemented as reported in the chapters on Cambodia, Ethiopia, South Africa and Uganda (and Nepal)
Write-shop on PID	Not realised, agenda too full with other activities; experiences on recognising local innovation collected and compiled through E-mail communication
Regional training workshop on policy advocacy	A one-week workshop successfully implemented in Tanzania, 17 participants (14 male 3 female); report available
International sharing and training workshop on farmer-led documentation (FLD)	Successfully implemented with PELUM Uganda, with 24 participants (18 male 6 female); report and other documents available; all materials available and discussion platform through Oxfam-Novib KIC website
International Training of Facilitators in PID	Successfully implemented in Uganda, with 21 participants (18 male, 3 female); report available.

Efforts were made to monitor the outcome of the three international capacity building events. The capacity building workshop on policy advocacy had a direct follow-up in two of the nine countries (Nepal and Tanzania) whereas follow-up has yet to take place in the other countries. This seemed to be caused limited time available till the end of the year and by the context in which the participants work, rather than the workshop itself. Policy advocacy was put again on the agenda for the 2007 international PROLINNOVA meeting in order to find ways to deal with bottlenecks.

An initial follow-up to the participants of the FLD event held in November 2006 showed encouraging results. Apart from briefing their organisations/networks on the FLD workshop issues, a first survey early 2007 showed that at least 5 organisations had incorporated new FLD approaches in their programme while 4 others mentioned that existing FLD efforts had been strengthened. Continued exchange between participants on their experiences in FLD is being facilitated with some support by the PROLINNOVA IST.

The most comprehensive data on outcome of international training have been collated for the participants of the International ToF in PID (Annex 3). These show that at least 73% of the participants have applied the learning in their work: 60% have implemented training events and workshops on PID in their countries and shared what they learnt with others, while 13% have applied the learning on PID in their own work. Information on 27% of the participants is not available.

1.13 Conclusions

At country level, PROLINNOVA has been showing steady progress over the last three years. While 2004 was mostly a planning and “setting up” year for most of the partners, 2005 and 2006 were implementation years. A great deal of attention was paid to capacity building at country (and international) level, as well as to strengthening and solidifying partnership. The latter was mostly done through joint field work, participation at training events and joint policy work.

By the end of 2005, the countries felt the need to concentrate on PID on the ground – to create evidence of joint experimentation based on local innovation. To a great extent this was pursued in 2006, generating important lessons for the CPs. In the words of the South African CP, “only when one starts engaging in the process of participatory innovation development does one start to appreciate the complexity of the term, as well as seeing the establishment of real functional partnerships”.

The conclusions reached by PROLINNOVA Uganda’s evaluation of one joint experiment illustrate this learning process. In an event aimed at evaluating the experience, participating stakeholders noted:

- the need to study the local situation before the experiment begins, in order to know all interventions that have been taking place;
- the need to view the experiment as an opportunity to learn;
- the importance of involving other farmers in monitoring the experiment;
- the need to develop a comprehensive participatory monitoring and evaluation strategy for the joint experimentation process;
- the need to involve the youth in PID efforts considering that many of the innovators are growing older;
- the need to encourage farmer innovators to involve their family members in work on innovation development.

In addition, the CPs felt the need to better strategise their work on policy advocacy. This resulted in the organisation of the international training on lobbying and advocacy reported above and attempts at country level to concentrate on key stakeholders/themes. Many countries have planned, as part of their strategic plan for 2007-2010, to further focus and strategise efforts to sensitise key stakeholders and individuals, through meetings, involvement in programme implementation (and sharing resources to this end), and participation in key events.

Several CPs, including Nepal, Cambodia and Ethiopia, have made important steps in institutionalisation of PID approaches in educational institutions. The strategic plans of several other countries give this priority for the next few years. The IST will be challenged to support these efforts and ensure an adequate exchange of experiences and resources between the institutions involved. In view of the importance of this line of activity, the development of a focused sub-programme with additional (co-)funding has already been suggested by some CPs.

All CPs (and, in addition Kenya, Andes and Mozambique) have elaborated extensive and detailed Strategic Plans for the period 2007-2010. They have built on the results and achievements of the country programmes in the period 2004-2006 to look ahead and make the necessary changes in methods, approaches, governance structures, towards consolidation of achievements and the development of new fields of activities. These form the basis for developing the country programmes under the new DGIS MFS grant.

2. ACTIVITIES AT INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

While the main thrust of PROLINNOVA is at the country level, a number of activities are undertaken at the international level. These activities provide support to the CPs and create awareness of PROLINNOVA issues among relevant international agencies. Additionally, several activities focus on programme management. The updated monitoring protocol in Annex 2 gives again a detailed overview of achievements in 2006 as compared to expected outputs.

The International Support Team (IST) – made up of staff members of IIRR (Philippines), CIS-VUA and ETC EcoCulture in the Netherlands, and, to a lesser Agridea (formerly LBL, Switzerland) – plays a major role in these activities. However, where possible, members of CPs are encouraged to be involved in supporting other countries and in international policy dialogue and meetings.

2.1 Support to Country/Regional Programmes

Backstopping

Each Country/Regional Programme is backstopped by a member of the IST. This enables building of effective and long-lasting relationships with partners in the respective countries, and gaining in-depth insights into the specific circumstances of each country. A large part of the country backstopping takes place through electronic means or telephone consultations. In addition, country backstopping missions are undertaken either specifically for this purpose or added onto other work visits by IST members to the relevant countries.

Table 2: Country/Regional Programme backstopping activities in 2006

<i>List of Activities in original proposal</i>	Planned in 2006	Realised in 2006
<i>H1. "Backstopping" individual country programmes: commenting on proposals, reports, etc; advising on implementation of activities; supporting national level M&E.</i>	<p>E-mail communication and support active for all countries.</p> <p>All 9 countries visited once. Optional 4 "second" visits to these countries upon their request</p>	<p>Intensive E-mail communication and support for all countries.</p> <p>A total of 18 missions covering the 9 countries, 8 of which were linked to and paid through other assignments/ PROLINNOVA activities.</p> <p>Additional 3 missions to new countries to attend key planning workshops</p>

In addition to the nine countries foreseen in the plan for 2006, IST members supported the initiatives of new countries and regions that showed a keen interest in joining the PROLINNOVA network. An IST member participated in the inception workshop of the PROLINNOVA Andes programme in Peru in May 2006. Similar support was provided by the IST to the workshop on farmer innovation held in December 2006 in Mozambique as a means of getting broad national support for a PROLINNOVA Mozambique programme. A member of PROLINNOVA South Africa also supported this event. In both cases, Andes and Mozambique, the workshops have generated great interest in PROLINNOVA and have led to concrete initiatives of stakeholders to organise themselves around PROLINNOVA issues. The IST is helping them to contact donors to support their activities.

An IST member also supported a PID training workshop in the Pacific as a step in strengthening the emerging PROLINNOVA network in the Pacific. The IST member of the IST who participated at the inception workshop of PROFEIS in Senegal shared PROLINNOVA's experiences thus far, with special attention to partnership building.

Fundraising

A second line of country support provided by the IST is in fundraising. This is intended to complement the limited annual budgets available to the CPs through the present core funding. The IST supports local fundraising efforts of individual countries during backstopping missions and coordinates writing of proposals on sub-components for groups of countries expressing interest in the relevant sub-component.

Table 3: Fundraising activities

<i>List of activities in original proposal</i>	Fund raising agenda in 2006	Realised in 2006
<i>H2. Support raising funds for PROLINNOVA activities</i>	Proposal submission for Local Innovation Support Fund (LISF) pilots in 5 countries	Proposal finalised, submitted; Negative response from GEF because of restructuring and lack of resources
	Support CPs' fundraising efforts	Ethiopia (co-funding obtained from Action Aid) and Uganda (in process with Nuffic)
	Co-funding international partner meeting	Realised from GFAR Secretariat and CTA
	Co-funding farmer-led documentation workshop	Realised from Oxfam Novib
	PROFEIS	Misereor funding confirmed; IDRC pending
	Action Research on partnership building	IDRC approached – processing postponed awaiting its decision on PROFEIS
	PROLINNOVA Andes	SDC – negative response
	Co-funding Africa Innovation Symposium	Co-funded by Rockefeller Foundation (main donor), the World Bank and Ford Foundation
	Core-funding for continuation of TMF funded programme	The Netherlands Directorate-General for International Cooperation (DGIS) has confirmed co-funding PROLINNOVA for the next 4 years, 2007-2010, through the ETC-MFS proposal

Exchange and learning between countries and partners

For fostering exchange between partners, a *PROLINNOVA Yahoo discussion group* has been created, which is moderated by ETC. It allows information sharing not only among partners but also with any one interested in PROLINNOVA (prolinnova@yahogroups.com). Documents on PROLINNOVA and related issues and notifications of new information on the PROLINNOVA website are sent around frequently and discussions on common concerns are stimulated.

As a second means for facilitating learning between partners, international partner meetings are organised. They greatly contribute to strengthen the programme and the partnership, to develop a coherent strategy across all countries and to share ownership with all partners. They also serve to increase national and international awareness of PROLINNOVA in wider development cooperation circles.

Table 4: International exchange, capacity building and learning activities

<i>List of activities in original proposal</i>	Planned in 2006	Realised in 2006
<i>I.1. Establishment and facilitation of electronic exchange platform</i>	Facilitation of Yahoo discussion group	Yahoo group actively used, slightly lower level of intensity
	Conclude experiment with web-based discussion platform	Web-based broadband platform not effective. Removed from web-site
<i>I.2. Programme-wide planning, review and capacity building workshops</i>	One International Meeting planned March 2006	Meeting realised successfully in Cambodia, report available

Information exchange and discussion on the Yahoo discussion group continued but with a slightly lower intensity (124 entries compared to 141 in 2005, Table 5). Among the topics discussed were materials and issues for the Innovation Africa Symposium, training materials on PID, and other key documents on promoting local knowledge and innovation. Most other postings to the electronic list server concerned news items, calls for contributions from journals, and information on publications, workshops, courses, uploads on the PROLINNOVA website and back-to-office reports. 55 new members joined the Yahoo discussion group in 2006.

Table 5: Use of the Yahoo discussion group

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2007	14	19	23	15									71
2006	14	7	25	16	11	5	8	11	6	4	7	10	124
2005	17	13	13	5	10	11	22	16	3	7	11	13	141
2004	1	2	3	13	15	16	18	30	4	31	20	18	171
2003								2			7	8	17

2.2 International awareness, analysis and dissemination of lessons learnt

A central challenge for the IST is to create awareness and acceptance of PROLINNOVA's approach at the international level, within international agencies and bi-lateral donors based in the North. To this end, it undertakes activities to mobilise experiences from the countries, analyse these across countries and share the results widely: participate in international events, co-organise own international workshops, maintain a website, produce an electronic newsletter, write papers and articles for workshops and journals, and undertake a number of other policy dialogue activities. Table 6 summarises the extent to which activities in 2006

have been realised in comparison to the work plan. Annex 4 brings a complete list of publications produced in 2006. A complete list of international events attended in 2006 is found in Annex 5.

Table 6: International awareness-raising and spreading of lessons learnt

<i>List of activities in original proposal</i>	Planned in 2006	Realised in 2006
<i>J1. Consolidation of PROLINNOVA website</i>	Continuous effort	Updates and improvements realised; hits increased to 744/day by 221 separate visitors/day (Annex 6)
<i>J2. Compilation and dissemination of electronic newsletter: PTD Circular</i>	1 <i>PTD Circular</i>	<i>PTD Circular</i> 15 compiled and distributed
<i>J3. Organising international conference on institutionalisation of PID/PTD</i>	Organising international Innovation in Africa Symposium	Realised successfully with CIAT and other partners in Uganda, November 2006, around 150 participants; proceedings in preparation
<i>J4. Program-wide analysis and systematisation of experiences in institutionalising PID/PTD</i>	2 Booklets on PROLINNOVA experiences Support to user manual on Participatory video	Preparation of text completed in 2006, layout and printing early 2007 User manual published and distributed through Insight, UK
<i>J5. International dissemination of information of experiences with PROLINNOVA and lessons learnt via other databases, media and international events</i>	On-going activity (target 2 articles and unspecified number of other publications over 4-year period)	10 international papers/articles (co-) authored by IST members, and 14 by PROLINNOVA partners (see list of publications, Annex 4)
<i>K1. Attendance at international meetings, conferences and workshops and/or ensuring attendance by partners in the South</i>	Unspecified number of meetings focus on GFAR, CGIAR, TerrAfrica	Representation at 9 international fora, mostly paid by organisers. Focus a/o GFAR and CGIAR (Annex 5)
<i>K2. Other strategic advocacy and policy-dialogue activities at international level, including participation in selected committees relevant for PROLINNOVA</i>	Participation in GFAR project committee	Realised
<i>K3. Preparation and distribution of well-targeted PROLINNOVA policy briefs</i>	2 Policy briefs	Not realised, under time pressure priority given to J4

One can conclude that in terms of activity implementation the targets for 2006 have been exceeded in most cases. The PROLINNOVA website has been further improved as planned. A detailed analysis of web statistics (Annex 6) shows that the number of people finding their way to the site is increasingly steadily. Most users are based in the USA, Europe and some

Asian countries with good connectivity, but also people from other countries are visiting the site regularly. A total of 36 news items were featured on the website, forwarded from partners both at country as well as at international level.

Activities for bringing the PROLINNOVA approach to a wide international public, through attendance of meetings or by contributing to a variety of publications have featured strongly this year. Often this has been on the request of the event's organisers and the costs of participation have been paid by them. The successful implementation of the Innovation Africa Symposium has been a major highlight of 2006 with a considerable demand on time of the IST. It is probably for the first time that such a large group of professionals debated, in an open space atmosphere, the merits of the innovation system approach for agricultural development in Africa and the central role that farmer innovation and multi-stakeholder collaboration can play.

Work pressure, also related to preparing for the new phase, was the main factor causing the failure to produce the two policy briefs planned for 2006.

An impression of the results of the above-mentioned activities on the awareness created on PROLINNOVA and its approach was again obtained by a "quick-and-dirty" search using the Google and Google Scholar search machines. Table 7 below show the findings:

Table 7: PROLINNOVA and PID references on the internet

Year	No. hits through Google Search		No of hits through Google Scholar	
	PROLINNOVA	PID	PROLINNOVA	PID
December 2003	20	n.a.		
March 2005	99	n.a.	2	15
March 2006	825	444	10	27
April 2007	979	884	29	46

All figures show a steady increase over the years. The increase in Google hits for PROLINNOVA itself could be seen as somewhat below expectation, but the increase of hits for the central message, PID, is encouraging.

In a further effort to learn more about the results of the international awareness raising and policy activities, PROLINNOVA commissioned a study through the Centre of International Studies of the Free University on the level of attention and recognition of PID-related approaches and concepts within 8 major international agencies. The study² reviewed their policy documents, analysed web site content and interviewed a relevant staff member. It showed considerable acceptance of general participatory research approaches and the relevance of indigenous knowledge, but much less so of farmer innovation as a starting point for farmer-led research and extension approaches. The people interviewed emphasised the need to move beyond accepting the principles to larger scale implementation for which building of facilitation capacities and collaboration between stakeholders would be required. PROLINNOVA intends to repeat this study in the future to monitor trends and the role PROLINNOVA itself has played in stimulating these changes.

2.3 Programme management

Programme management includes the management and administration of funds, governance of the network through the PROLINNOVA Oversight Group (POG), coordination of the IST and programme M&E. A summary of plan realisation in 2006 is given in Table 8:

² Holleman, A 2006. Recognising Indigenous Knowledge and Local Innovation: A report for CIS-VU and Prolinnova.

Table 8: Realisation of programme management activities

<i>List of activities in original proposal</i>	Planned in 2006	Realised in 2006
<i>L1. Network/programme management and administration of funds</i>	Reorganising partners contracts to end Dec 2006, not 2007 Mid-year and annual reporting	Agreements with all partners to end contracts in 2006 formalised Agreement with one partner suspended for an year Activity-specific agreements with Mozambique, Andes, Pacific Annual 2005 report and mid-2006 report completed
<i>L2. Formation and facilitation of international Programme Coordination Committee</i>	Two POG meetings, further communication via e-mail	Two POG meetings: Cambodia (March) and India (November, back-to-back with GFAR meeting)
<i>L3. Coordination meetings of International Support Team</i>	IST to meet PROLINNOVA March meeting in Cambodia	CIS-VU staff attended ETC team meetings. No specific IST meeting in Cambodia
<i>L4. Programme-wide Monitoring and Evaluation – Quality Management – system designed and implemented</i>	Review and sharpening of M&E framework in annual meeting 2006 Continued data collection and sharing through (semi) annual reports Comprehensive self assessment of all partners with support of external assessor End of year electronic M&E “conference” with all partners Integration into ETC wide M&E system to be set-up	Annual meeting identified a number of gaps/limitations to be addressed. Due to staff change in lead M&E of IST, further work postponed to early 2007 Regular M&E through progress reporting continued Successfully completed; report external assessor available Implemented only early January 2007; report available; recommendations to be followed-up in 2007 international meeting Not yet done

The PROLINNOVA Oversight Group (POG) now functions fully as the main policy setting body of the programme. Making use of the presence of members at international meetings the POG managed to have two full meetings this year despite the limited budget. Policy directions developed include those on handling intellectual property rights in PROLINNOVA as well as the process of new countries joining PROLINNOVA. All these policy guidelines are

available on the PROLINNOVA web site. It is expected that with the increase of countries and partners involved in PROLINNOVA as reported in chapter 1, the POG will reorganise itself and slightly expand its membership in 2007.

Generally, the monitoring and evaluation system functions adequately a/o through the mid-year and end-of-year progress reporting of all partners and the regular visits to partners. Strengthening of M&E continues to be on the agenda. The attention given by partners to monitoring and evaluating the outcome of activities remains a concern. Backstopping missions will give particular attention to this in 2007.

In 2006, the program-wide internal assessment was successfully undertaken. In view of the shortened period to complete the DGIS-TMF grant in 2006, the network deemed it important to seek external support for this activity. An international consultant was therefore contracted for the task. The external assessment conducted by him was based on the internal reviews undertaken by the CPs and IST member organisations, and additional field visits to some of the countries. The executive summary of his report has been added here as Annex 7. The conclusions of this external assessment were very positive on most key issues. Key recommendations included the suggestion to concentrate most of the field activities in the countries in geographically concentrated areas to create real learning sites. Another recommendation was to better target PROLINNOVA publications at the different levels and to give attention to publications in local languages.

The same consultant was also the team leader of a small team that reviewed all the global partnerships programmes under the umbrella of GFAR, including PROLINNOVA. The report of the team³ draws very positive conclusions on the functioning of PROLINNOVA as a decentralised international partnership, the strong commitment to and ownership among partners of the PROLINNOVA agenda, the governance system, as well as the effective attention to self reflection and internal learning. The full report is available with GFAR.

³ Gonsalves and Niangado, 2006. Review of the Global Partnership Programmes, GFAR, Rome

3. FINANCIAL REPORT AND OVERVIEW OF FUNDS AND OTHER RESOURCES

PROLINNOVA mobilised funding for its activities in many different ways. In 2006, three main categories of funding sources can be distinguished. The first is the main donor, the Netherlands Government through the DGIS-TMF programme. Several donors that fund specific international activities and sub-programmes form the second category. In 2006, these included GFAR and Misereor and CTA for the annual partners meeting, Oxfam-Novib for the training workshop on farmer-led documentation and DURAS (French Government funded) for the action research on local innovation support funds (FAIR). The latter funds are channelled through the partner in South Africa. As its financial report for 2006 was not completed in time, the data on this (expenditures encountered matched by DURAS co-funding) have not been included here or in Annex 8. This category also includes host organisations covering costs of tickets and/or DSA for international advocacy activities.

The third category is what is termed “own contribution” by PROLINNOVA partners in the countries and at the international level. This is often in the form of staff time and/or provision of facilities. At the country level it also includes funds from donors directly funding PROLINNOVA country programmes (such as EED Germany funding PROLINNOVA Tanzania).

The PROLINNOVA financial report 2006 (Annex 8) gives a complete overview of the income and expenditure in the reporting period. These figures are summarised in Table 9.

Table 9: Summary financial report for 2006 (all figures in €)

	Budget	Realisation	DGIS	NOVIB	DURAS*	GFAR	Smaller donors**	Own contribution
Country Programmes	490,300	513,324	337,436					175,888
Across country activities	257,000	130,239	94,174	36,065	n.a			
International Support Team	449,800	448,461	298,105				3,639	146,717
Programme wide activities	175,000	189,060	150,571			18,787	19,702	
Contingency***	20,000	14,005	14,005					
Total 2006	1,392,100	1,295,089	894,291	36,065	0	18,787	23,341	322,605
Percentage of total		100%	69%	3%	0%	1%	2%	25%

* Data on DURAS co-funding for 2006 not available in time as this is managed through a country partner.

** Includes a/o Misereor, Germany, and CTA, the Netherlands.

*** Expenses relate to activity (PV training) from previous year which had not been reported financially.

Table 9 as well as Annex 8 show that there have been no major deviations from the 2006 budget. With prediction of limited under-spending in some country programmes, some additional resources were made available to support initiatives in new countries. Realisation under “across country activities” is considerably low compared to what was budgeted which is mostly caused due to the lack of data on the LISF pilot activities as far as these are co-funded by DURAS. This has, however, no implications on the DGIS financial data. In total, the actual support requested from DGIS for 2006 amounts to Euro 894,291 which is slightly below the budgeted amount of Euro 907,100.

In the absence of data on DURAS co-funding, DGIS is expected to cover 69% of total expenditure in 2006. Own contributions of partners, including donors working directly with country partners, continue to form an important part of the resources. This is also true for the international partners through the extra time spent by IST members on PROLINNOVA activities. This is a clear indication that the IST organisations do not consider PROLINNOVA merely as a contracted project but rather as a mission to which they are strongly committed. The extra time of IST members is valued on the basis of daily fee levels as in the agreement with DGIS.

PART B

PROGRAMME REPORT PROLINNOVA 2004-2006

1. INTRODUCTION

The TMF-funded phase of PROLINNOVA was to run a four-year course from 2004 to 2007. However, due to changes in the grant awarding system of DGIS, it was shortened to three years to enable ETC to include the PROLINNOVA programme as part of its MFS proposal.

The progress made by the programme in implementing its activities in relation to its plans has been reported elaborately in the annual reports presented to DGIS in 2004, 2005 and 2006. The Annual Report for 2006 is found in part A of this document, while the achievements of 2004 and 2005 have been summarised from the respective annual reports in Annex 9. With the technicalities of the activities implemented thus covered, this 2004-2006 report now looks at the programme as a whole and analyses its achievements in relation to the seven project purposes set out in the programme's logical framework, which also is the basis for the monitoring and evaluation protocol. Purposes 1 to 4 relate to the country programmes and purposes 5-7 relate to the international level support activities. The monitoring protocol with clear and concrete data on the results for the period 2004 to 2006 at activity, output and outcome level is found in Annex 2. The narrative part of this report below puts these data further into perspective.

Early 2006, PROLINNOVA concluded a serious self assessment involving all partners. An external consultant was asked to review the results of this assessment and compare the findings with his own observations and analysis. The findings of this external review (Annex 7) form an important source of information in substantiating the conclusions given below. The same consultant was also the leader of a small team that reviewed all the global partnerships programmes under the umbrella of the Global Forum for Agricultural Research (GFAR), which includes PROLINNOVA. Again the findings of this team are referred to below so as to put the observations in the M&E protocol into perspective⁴. The full review report is available from GFAR.

⁴ Gonsalves and Niangado, 2006. Review of the Global Partnership Programmes, GFAR, Rome

2. COUNTRY PROGRAMME LEVEL

2.1 Demonstrate relevance and effectiveness of user-led innovation development

The PROLINNOVA programme was designed in such a way that all countries were to start by doing a review of country experiences in participatory innovation development, gain insights into key organisations involved, and then explore the interest of various stakeholders in supporting a PROLINNOVA-type programme within the country. The results of this initial review were to be discussed at a planning meeting with those seriously interested in setting up such an initiative and in defining locally-relevant activities. A key tenet within PROLINNOVA is that the objectives it sets out to meet require the active collaboration and partnership of key actors in agricultural development. Thus their involvement already at the planning stage is crucial.

As Annex 2 shows, these country reviews and planning workshops were undertaken in all nine countries. In several cases a local consultant was hired to facilitate these meetings. In many countries the initiating NGO involved several other organisations in undertaking the review thus giving a clear signal as to the importance it placed on partnership. ETC and the other IST members only provided long distance support during the reviews but joined the countries during their planning workshops. It's no doubt that this participatory planning process has helped to stimulate a feeling of ownership for PROLINNOVA in the countries, even though the outcome of this first planning process had to be reviewed in subsequent years in quite a few cases. Figure 2 (section 3.1) also confirms that the process has led, ultimately, to collaboration between all the envisaged stakeholders in agricultural development in the countries.

Apart from a few cases of documenting existing experiences with Participatory Innovation Development, all countries decided to implement PID in the field as a basis for learning and for generating the evidence needed for policy dialogue and institutionalisation efforts. This started with a major effort in all countries to find, identify, understand and document local innovators and innovations within the country. This included defining the concept of "local innovation" at country level, finding creative ways to identify innovators, giving recognition to these innovators and documenting their innovations in various forms. This was and is being done at various levels with different aims:

- Local innovations are presented and discussed at village workshops as a source for inspiration and ideas for other farmers;
- More promising innovations in terms of their scope for scaling-up are studied in more detail, discussed and reviewed in stakeholder meetings, possibly being selected for wider scale dissemination in the country using the most appropriate media and form;
- Other promising innovations emerge from the above process with the suggestion that they merit further work in the country through joint experimentation, involving both farmers and research and/or extension staff.
- It is also possible that from among all these innovations generated in the countries some have considerable relevance across the borders of the country, providing new insights that may help address concerns in many other countries. Such across-the-border PID could well be a practice in the future.

Each country chose its own ways and means of finding and identifying innovators and innovations: some turned to local innovation surveys, others organised workshops/seminars with innovators, while still others used contests. Similarly, there was a great variation of documentation methods – catalogues, posters, innovation fora, radio and video to name a few.

As a result, a large number of innovations – technical as well as socio-organisational – have been described and documented in each of the nine countries. Exact numbers can only be given for those that finally ended up in some form of clear document. They amount to more than 200. Many others have not been formally documented, but discussed and shared locally instead. Together, these innovations demonstrate the creativity and innovativeness of farmers and local resource users in managing their natural resources and developing agriculture. The documents, whether written or audio-visual, form an important resource for future policy dialogue and institutionalisation efforts.

Going further, in six of the nine countries, these innovations are being further developed through a process of farmer-led participatory research. Development practitioners such as extensionists and researchers are playing a supportive role whilst giving farmers the lead in joint experimentation. At present, about 50 such experimentation processes are on-going with the number set to increase in the short-term. Once again, these experiences are being documented and widely shared in order to demonstrate the relevance of a PID approach to agricultural research and development.

This observation finds support in the words of the external assessor (Annex 7) who states:

“Among the significant accomplishments across countries has been the increased stakeholder awareness of the value of local innovation and the better appreciation of the process of innovation development and promotion.”

But he also notes that *“there is a need to move beyond the innovation identification and documentation stage, to get “Participatory Innovation Development” (PID) operationalised on the ground”*. This recommendation has been followed up in six countries already as described above.

2.2 Build the capacities of local resource users, CBOs and local NGOs in PID

Looking closer at the achievements within the country programmes in the area of capacity building in PID, it is clear that considerable investment has been made in strengthening the skills and competencies of national staff to become capable facilitators of promoting PID/PTD. Although only one programme-wide international Training of Trainers (ToT) course was planned for the period, a second course was organised on the repeated requests of the countries. This was made possible by using part of the funds rescheduled from 2007 to 2006. The second training’s content and approach was adjusted according to the feedback of the trainees of the first training course and paid more attention to PID with more hands-on work in the field. Again on the request of the countries it was organised in one of the countries, Uganda, rather than in the training centre in the Philippines to allow the local PROLINNOVA partners exposure to organising an international training of trainers workshop. It also meant the participants – as part of their field assignment – could see and learn from some of the work their counterparts in PROLINNOVA Uganda were doing.

According to reports from the countries, most of the 43 trainers trained in the two ToTs have put their knowledge to practise and taken the lead in conducting national PID training workshops. This has enabled development practitioners within their countries, from NGOs but also from government research and extension as well as educational institutions, to be actively involved in PID/PTD activities within their own areas of work. In addition, they have also engaged in promoting the PID approach among their peers and in giving it more attention within and beyond their own organisations. There are also indications that those

trained in PID are engaging in various forms of policy dialogue and challenging educational institutions to integrate the approach into their curricula. Annex 3 gives detailed information of how the trainees of the second international ToT have used their newly-gained skills further, in their own working environments.

The PID training activities in the nine countries have resulted in almost 60 trained PID practitioners within each country, far ahead of targets. While initially plans were to focus the training efforts on CBOs and NGOs, all countries decided to include government staff (extensionists, researchers) in their training workshops to ensure smoother cooperation between these stakeholders also in field implementation activities.

At field level, CP partners have been involved in building the capacity of local innovators, with considerable variation within countries. Those countries that had a head start in initiating their programmes have made more progress than those that joined later. In countries where joint experimentation is in progress, local innovators have been engaged with development agents in a series of on-going learning and sharing – introductory workshops, planning meetings, sharing events, evaluation meetings etc. In addition, many local innovators have also been involved in events where they have shared their experiences in and beyond their communities. Thus they have interacted not only with fellow farmers but with extensionists, researchers, educationists, students, policy makers, and even politicians. This has helped to build the confidence of local innovators and to give them due recognition.

Monitoring of the results of these country-specific training efforts is more complex with the very limited resources available per country combined with the difficulties in maintaining contact with former trainees. What is clear however is that their efforts have contributed to local innovators, members of CBOs, staff of NGOs and GOs joining hands to embark on joint experimentation, at least within the context of the PROLINNOVA country programme, as equal partners – each bringing their own knowledge and skills in to the process.

The proposal for the present phase of PROLINNOVA had foreseen a number of activities for institutional strengthening of local CBOs for interacting with government agencies in PID. These have not been given high priority by the countries. Most have taken existing farmer/community organisations on board. In several countries, such as Cambodia, Niger, Tanzania and Uganda, farmer organisations are active partners of the PROLINNOVA National Steering Committee. Yet, countries continue to see the need for CBO strengthening at the level of local farmer or community groups or networks. This has therefore been taken up again in the planning for 2007-2010.

2.3 Build the capacity of local resource users, CBOs and supporting NGOs to influence effectively R&D agendas

Early thinking in many countries envisaged focused efforts on capacity building for policy work, but in practice most CP partners made policy dialogue an on-going process in their daily work. It was only after having been involved practically that requests came in for more focused capacity building in this field. Thus, a first international training in policy advocacy, campaign and lobbying took place in Tanzania in 2006 in collaboration with PELUM, an African NGO network on sustainable land management, bringing together participants from all the CPs. The workshop was an opportunity not only to give thought to the basic concepts, but also to share the experiences gained in the countries and thereby learn from each other. The workshop generated much enthusiasm with each CP participant drafting a tentative campaign, lobbying and advocacy plan which was to be further discussed and fine-tuned at country level. These plans will be put into action starting in 2007.

In the period 2004-2006, all the country programmes have thus engaged successfully with policy makers in promoting the relevance of local innovation and the merits of the PID

approach. In launching the programme, the lead NGO in every country organised an introductory workshop to which many of the key policy makers were invited and briefed. This process has been repeated for many subsequent national events organised by the countries. In addition, key policy/decision makers were invited to join the national steering committees. Policy/decision makers are well represented in the National Steering Committees of all nine countries and interact closely with the CP coordinators and partners.

In fact, the PROLINNOVA multi-stakeholder partnership (MSP) in each CP is growing to be a strong lobby and advocacy platform. The presence of policymakers and key government officials within the MSP brings them in direct contact with partners who are recognising and promoting PID as an approach in their day-to-day work. By attending key PROLINNOVA events these policy/decision makers are exposed to PID first-hand. Reciprocally, PROLINNOVA field-based partners, including the innovators themselves, get opportunities to share their experiences in key national events related to agricultural development. Often, such events are reported in the national media – including newspapers and television – and there are numerous instances when PROLINNOVA experiences have been included in these press releases and TV reports.

The documentation on local innovation and first PID experiences mentioned above (chapter 2.1) has played an important strategic role for lobbying and advocacy. These include magazines that are widely distributed, flyers, brochures and posters that succinct messages, books and newsletters, and video films. It is in fact one of PROLINNOVA's key strengths that policy dialogue activities and field activities with the generation of evidence are linked together in one and the same programme, in multiple ways.

PROLINNOVA partners have made special efforts to try and integrate the concepts of local innovation and PID into the major educational institutions as these are producing the future agricultural and NRM agents for their country. Here again, the involvement of key individuals from those educational institutions within the country partnership and the NSC has been strategic. In countries such as Cambodia, Ethiopia, Uganda, Nepal and Ghana, PROLINNOVA partners have succeeded in incorporating aspects of PID into the curricula of universities and colleges of agriculture. Apart from the development and introduction of topics, courses or modules, students have been provided internship placements and study assignments/visits within the programmes of CP partners. Lecturers and teachers from these institutions have in some cases participated in PID training courses conducted by PROLINNOVA partners and PROLINNOVA partners have reciprocated by giving guest lectures in the said institutions. First experiences and responses from the relevant institutions indicate that there is considerable scope to strengthen and expand these activities. Additional fund raising for a substantial and focused sub-programme in this field may have to be considered in the future.

2.4 Establish innovative and decentralised financing mechanisms

The central question PROLINNOVA wanted to address here was: Is it possible to make available, in an efficient way, (small amounts of) money to local innovators and their groups and would this help to accelerate local innovation processes? The answer was to be found by piloting "Local Innovation Support Funds". However, implementation of this activity did not take place at the start of the TMF phase in 2004 as co-funding was still to be sourced for this demanding activity. It was also felt that country programmes needed to establish their multi-stakeholder partnerships first. The activity was therefore only launched in late 2005 after co-funding from DURAS, an innovative research project with funds from the French Government, was confirmed.

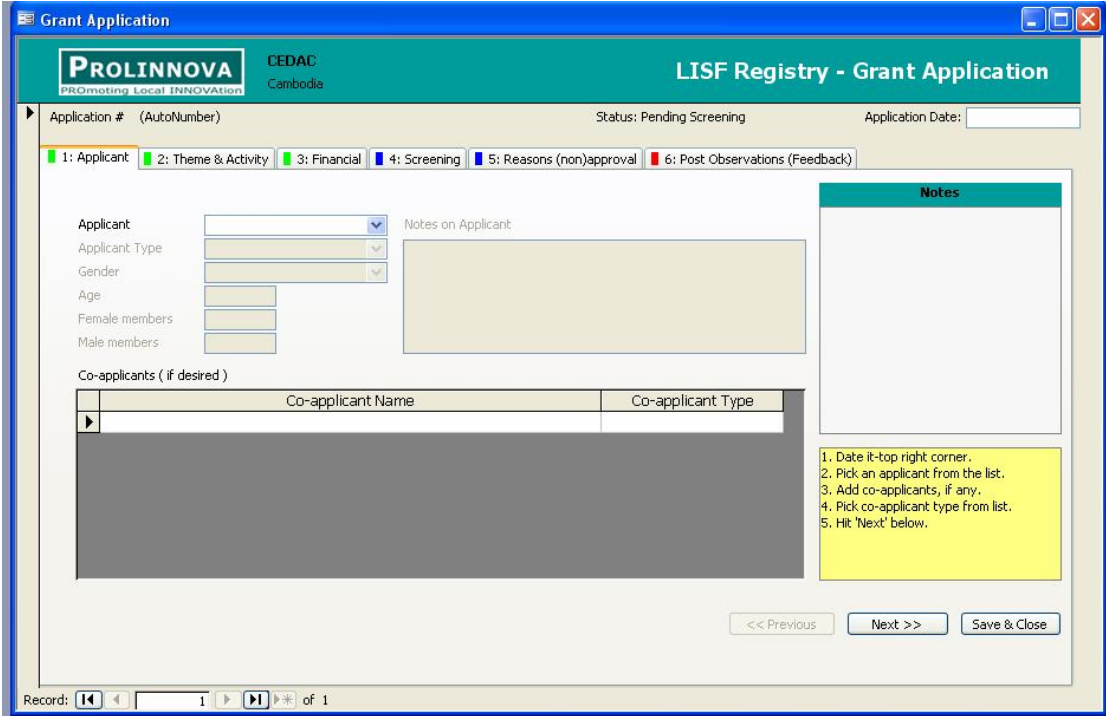
Five countries are involved in piloting LISFs, namely Uganda, South Africa, Ethiopia, Cambodia and Nepal. Nepal was already experimenting with its own variation of an LISF and had as such generated experience that could be shared with the others. During the period

late 2005 to 2006 the other four countries carried out feasibility studies on LISFs in their contexts leading to comprehensive country reports. These studies made use of the results of an international review of experiences with decentralised and/or community-managed funding mechanisms.

The findings of country studies and consultations with a broad group of stakeholders led to the design of the PROLINNOVA-supported LISF initiatives in each country. Cambodia and South Africa managed to start up the grant request process in 2006 and approved several projects. While Nepal continues its pilot, Uganda and Ethiopia are set to start disbursing funds in 2007.

To be able to draw conclusions on the feasibility of the LISFs, a detailed M&E framework has been put in place in all countries and an MsAccess-based data base called the register has been developed to compile and analyse the required information. Figure 1 shows the main screen of this register for entering data on applications received.

Figure 1: Main screen of the LISF M&E tool



Although still in its early stages, the main principles and initial experiences have been shared at several key international and national events, capturing the attention of several international donors. Fund-raising for the initiative is being pursued with a couple of these donors to be able to continue the piloting phase with adequate resources.

3. INTERNATIONAL LEVEL COMPONENT

3.1 Ensure high quality country programmes

The annual reports of 2004, 2005 and 2006 have described in great detail the activities undertaken to pursue this 5th programme purpose, those related to backstopping/capacity building of country programmes, to supporting fund-raising, and those related to facilitation of information exchanges and learning electronically through the Yahoo group and face-to-face annual meetings. Annex 2 summarises the main achievements at activity level for each year, showing that in all cases set targets have been achieved or exceeded.

As a result of all these efforts, by the end of 2006, in all nine core countries, strong NGOs are taking the lead in facilitating the PROLINNOVA country partnership, in coordinating the programme of activities and in mobilising funds locally. PROLINNOVA has become a recognised global network with well-established sustainable country programmes. Or in the words of the independent GFAR GPP evaluation mentioned above:

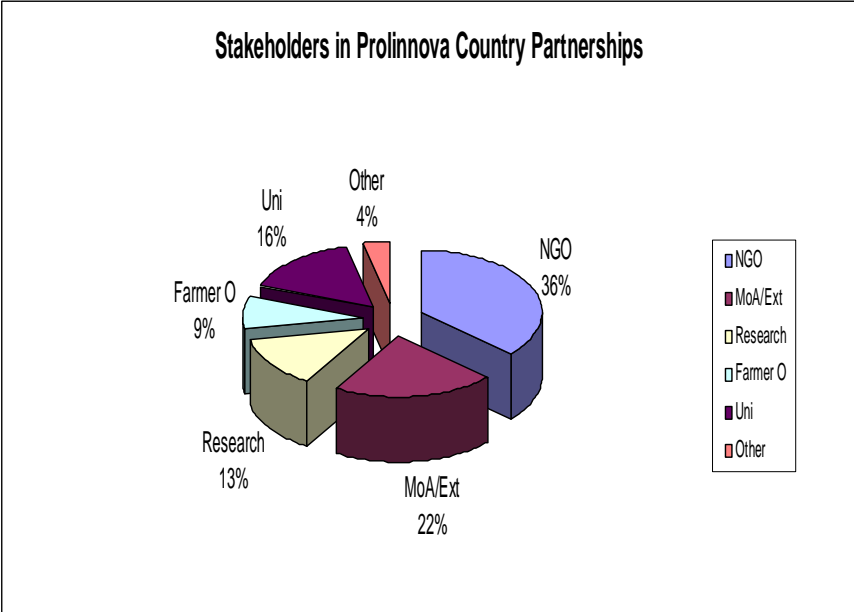
"PROLINNOVA... is well organised through a strong and pluralistic governing structure; it is producing concrete outputs and is gaining increasing visibility." (GFAR, 2006: page 43)

Further evidence for the above conclusion can be found in the following:

- In all 9 core countries the coordinating NGO facilitated a comprehensive assessment for the period 2004-2006 and a quality strategic planning exercise for 2007-2010 involving their local partner organisations; in total more than 100 organisations were involved in these exercises.
- In the period 2004-2006, 3 out of the nine countries (Ghana, South Africa, Nepal) reviewed by themselves their institutional arrangements in view of problems encountered or other limitations, took decisions to restructure accordingly and implemented these decisions.
- The number of organizations interested to join the partnership in the different countries has been increasing, reaching more than 100 at the end of 2006.
- An indication for longer term sustainability of the country programmes can be found in the level at which they are able and interested to mobilise resources locally for PROLINNOVA activities and thus become less dependent on DGIS funding. Budgets for 2007, prepared at the end of 2006, showed that 52% of all costs of country programmes are to be covered by direct donors to countries or own contributions.

Furthermore, a quick review of the composition of the partnerships (core groups and steering committees) at country level shows that PROLINNOVA succeeds in creating mechanisms for collaboration across multiple stakeholder groups.

Figure 2: Composition of PROLINNOVA country partnerships, November 2006



While all activities implemented and reported have played a role in achieving this outcome, a few overall factors have probably been decisive. First of all, it is the quality of the coordinating organisations in the countries, NGOs, both in terms of understanding the PID approach and their capacity in bringing various stakeholders together effectively. The fact that most of these lead NGOs were known to ETC through cooperation in previous programmes made their selection relatively straight forward. Secondly, the strongly decentralised design of PROLINNOVA has allowed organisations in the countries to set own priorities, to define collaboration structures most suitable locally, and to adapt to local conditions and opportunities, which has led to strong feelings of ownership and commitment among country partners. All backstopping by the IST has been organised to further enhance these dynamics, and to find the best ways to support these local processes. And finally, the three well-facilitated annual meetings provided concrete platforms to operationalise such decentralised functioning while still ensuring adequate coherence among activities in all countries. Evaluations of these meetings are evidence of this. The fact that some countries insisted that the meetings take place annually, rather than once every two years as foreseen in the proposal, confirms their interest in these crucial events.

3.2 Create strong international awareness and credibility of PROLINNOVA and PID

The data from Annex 2 show that most activities planned under this PROLINNOVA purpose have been realised – even above expectations – in the period 2004-2006. The targets set for international publications in the field of PID and presentations to international fora have been exceeded substantially. As part of the re-planning needed to accommodate the transition from TMF to the new MFS funding cycle, the international conference foreseen for 2007 was replaced by the co-hosting of the Innovation in Africa Symposium. Similarly, the book that was to be linked to the 2007 conference was replaced by two practical booklets on PROLINNOVA’s experiences. Its only the two policy briefs that could not be published as planned, partly because of the time pressure caused by the transition to MFS and partly because the experiences within PROLINNOVA were felt to be not mature enough to be put into the form of policy briefs.

Through these activities – the internet, the contributions to international fora and the publications – development organisations, donors, policy makers and the wider public have become increasingly aware of PROLINNOVA and the relevance of the PID approach. Though a direct and unique link with PROLINNOVA interventions is not always traceable, the following provides evidence to substantiate this conclusion:

- The annual web search using the Google search engine shows a steadily increasing number of hits for Participatory Innovation Development; the same is true when using Google Scholar.
- The web site of PROLINNOVA is rapidly attracting large numbers of visitors interested to know more about PROLINNOVA, the PID approach, or the partner organizations (Annex 6)
- In 2005 and 2006, PROLINNOVA received an average of 15 invitations per year to contribute to and present its views and approach at international events, with all costs paid by the event organisers. In at least four cases, the PROLINNOVA representative was requested to be a key note speaker.

This part of PROLINNOVA's work also has a number of limitations. Generally, the international awareness raising was often as a response to invitations where the costs were paid by the organizers and not therefore not taking PROLINNOVA's own strategic agenda as the point of departure. With the limited funding for these activities under the TMF this was a necessary choice. Yet, it also allowed to do much more than was earlier planned. The high demand for PROLINNOVA contributions – even when it could be met by involving the country and international partners – put substantial time pressure on the organisations involved. In the end PROLINNOVA managed to meet the demand by making extensive use of staff's own time, i.e. not covered by TMF or other funding, as is evident from the high level of own contribution reported in the financial reports 2004 – 2006 (Chapter 3 below).

The ultimate interest of PROLINNOVA is of course to see such increased interest in PID translated into concrete actions of international organisations to incorporate the approach into their policies and work plans and to act accordingly. Monitoring of actions at this level is however a challenge. An important aspect of monitoring has been a study undertaken in 2006 by the Free University, commissioned by PROLINNOVA, on the attention given to Indigenous Knowledge, Local Innovation and PID by eight major international organisations (see chapter 2, part A – 2006 report). The findings of this study will be used as a baseline along which to monitor increased attention to PID within these eight organisations over the next four years.

3.3 Manage the learning network efficiently on behalf of its members

Four groups of activities had been foreseen to ensure that PROLINNOVA would function as an effective learning network: the management of partner contracts, work planning and reporting, creation of a democratic governing structure, functioning of an international support team, and the development and implementation of a coherent M&E framework. The data summarised in the monitoring protocol of Annex 2 show that implementation of these activities has been adequate: work plans, narrative progress reports and financial reports have prepared in time by all countries and partners following agreed protocols. This allowed ETC to present synthesis reports to PROLINNOVA's donors and other stakeholders. The financial accounts of all CPs and ETC have been audited annually. An active and well-functioning PROLINNOVA Oversight Group was formed, which in spite of budget limitations, has managed to meet five times over the three years by exploiting other opportunities that have arisen. The POG has developed guidelines on PROLINNOVA principles, issues and ways of working that are open and transparent, as published on the PROLINNOVA website. The International Support Team has functioned as a virtual team only and face-to-face meetings

have been limited for budgetary reasons. This has not prevented the international partners of the team in performing their support tasks to the country partners. Electronic communication and free web-based telephone consultations have in this case replaced face-to-face meetings.

As a result, within a short span of three years, the network has become one that is well-managed, with a democratic governance structure, open decision making and feeling of ownership of the partners involved. This is confirmed through the annual electronic M&E "conference" undertaken by PROLINNOVA, focusing particularly on the functioning of the international network. Three such electronic M&E sessions have taken place (the third in January 2007 actually), each time involving representatives of almost all 9 countries and all IST organisations. The report of the 2006 session concludes the following:

"In various words people felt the network to be open, responsibilities are being shared, roles of each are clear and management is democratic. Among many suggestions to strengthen the network the increased sharing of experiences and provision of support from country to country took a central position."

As further evidence for this conclusion we can refer to the earlier-mentioned evaluation of Global Partnership Programmes commissioned by GFAR, which concluded:

"Based on its governance structure and effectiveness at country level, the reviewers recommend the PROLINNOVA governance structure as a model for future Global Partnership Programmes." (GFAR, 2006: page 40)

In the area of monitoring and evaluation, PROLINNOVA has tried to combine and reconcile two basic processes. On the one hand, the interaction with DGIS, the largest donor, led to an agreement on the M&E protocol as in Annex 2, closely linked to the log frame of the DGIS proposal. On the other hand, PROLINNOVA supported the partners in analysing their own M&E needs as a basis for developing jointly an M&E framework and approach to serve those needs. M&E focal persons were nominated by all country and international partners to ensure adequate attention to M&E.

The process of developing the M&E framework, however, has taken more time than expected. The partners also had difficulties in translating the agreed framework into actual step-wise tools. In spite of some capacity building during annual meetings, the activity level of the focal points remained low. In the meantime the agreed protocol with DGIS has been used as the basis for progress reporting. But the capacity building and facilitation support to partners in jointly developing their own approach towards M&E has certainly led to a stronger understanding and commitment at the partner level towards M&E as a tool for self learning and programme improvement. This will indeed be the basis for further strengthening of M&E within the next four years. In the words of the GFAR evaluation:

"PROLINNOVA has the most impressive approach to engage all stakeholders ... in the process of identifying performance indicators and in the process of country-based self-assessments and review exercises." (GFAR, 2006: page 33)

It will remain ETC's responsibility to ensure adequate links between the M&E systems developed and owned by partners and the protocols agreed for accountability to donors. One important challenge in this is to help partners increase their attention to monitoring the outcome of work done, particularly in areas of policy change and capacity building.

As the issue of partnership building among various stakeholder groups is extremely important to PROLINNOVA, but relatively new to most partners, it was planned to add an action research component to the M&E efforts focusing on partnership building. Very early in 2004,

however, it was evident that an effective, comprehensive, action research would be possible only if additional funding could be obtained and several donors (IFAD, Nuffic and IDRC) showed some initial interest. These intentions could not be realized, however and the action research as designed had to be cancelled. In its place, PROLINNOVA has whenever possible used other activities to review experiences in partnership building and to draw out lessons learnt. These lessons have been captured in several papers and contributions to journals and then been summarised in 2006 in the booklet "Facilitating Multi-stakeholder Partnerships: Lessons from PROLINNOVA".

Looking back, there are probably at least three factors that help to explain the progress in making PROLINNOVA a democratic learning network in a rather short time. The formation of the POG, right from the start, gave an important message to all that ETC was serious in changing its role from initiator and main mover to supporter of the network and the partners. This signal got reinforced when the POG was actually formed in an open election process and ETC became only an ex-officio member. Secondly, the well-organised annual partner meetings also played a key role in building the partnership. It was on the insistence of partners that the partner meeting was conducted annually rather than bi-annually as initially foreseen. Finally, the PROLINNOVA secretariat at ETC managed – in all situations – to find a good balance between partner involvement in setting-up management and communication systems/processes and meeting requirements of donors where the dominance of the latter would have weakened ownership and initiative at the partner level. The issue of "own contribution", initially a donor requirement, thus became a mechanism supported by the partners (see e.g. partner meeting Cambodia 2006) to create local resources for PROLINNOVA and the search for local embedding of its activities.

But this is just the beginning – there are many more challenges ahead. There is scope for ETC to streamline its procedures for partner contract management and fund transfers. The PROLINNOVA partnerships in some countries may need to be strengthened by including more or other organisations and by greater involvement of partners in decision making and implementation of activities. Certainly, the outcome monitoring part of M&E needs further attention. All these are high on the agenda of PROLINNOVA for 2007-2010.

4. SUSTAINABILITY OF THE RESULTS AND IMPACT

The discussion of the longer term sustainability and impact of the above results needs to centre on the longer term goal of the programme. In the TMF PROLINNOVA programme proposal this was formulated as:

To develop and institutionalise partnerships and methodologies that promote processes of local innovation for environmentally-sound use of natural resources, particularly in dry and marginal areas.

In operational terms this was to become evident (TMF proposal) through A) selected government environmental and rural development policies giving due importance to the PID approach, B) environmental and NRM programmes including PID components and through C) sustainable country multi-stakeholder partnerships planning and implementing PID programmes. With this the main target groups are defined in terms of organisations and individuals working in the field of NRM. Though this implies that impact at the level of rural communities is beyond the actual “span of control” of PROLINNOVA such impact remains part of its wider concern and selected impact studies have been included in the M&E framework for the next phase under MFS funding.

As the programme was shortened with one year and with some countries only entering the second year it is early to draw strong conclusions regarding the sustainability of results at the institutional level. Yet, looking at the 3 main criteria above a number of important observations can be made already.

First of all, there are good indications that the multi-stakeholder partnerships in the countries are strong and committed to continue the programme of activities initiated with PROLINNOVA/ DGIS funding. On the one hand, external reviewers have found great ownership of the ideas and vision of PROLINNOVA among partners at that level (Annex 7). On the other hand a growing part of funds required for continuation of activities at country level is mobilised by and through the country partnerships on their own. Three countries, Cambodia, Tanzania and Ethiopia, were able to prepare budgets for 2007 in which DGIS resources covered less than 45% of total costs (41, 32, and 31% respectively).

In terms of sustainability by making PID part of regular NRM programmes, chapter 2 above has shown that considerable progress has been made with relatively limited funds in incorporating aspects of PID into the curricula of universities and colleges of agriculture. Cambodia, Nepal and Ethiopia have made largest progress in this while Uganda and Ghana also made important progress. The importance of this in view of the education of future NRM professionals is evident.

In this context, it is also important to note the internalisation of PID understanding and approach within organisations, government and CSO, working within PROLINNOVA as found the external reviewer, and the GFAR study cited above. In the view of PROLINNOVA this is an important step in ensuring the longer term sustainability of its efforts.

At the international level the sustainability of PROLINNOVA efforts and results depend largely on the extent to which it succeeds in increasing awareness and acceptance of the PID approach, of research and extension supporting and building on local innovation, among international actors. Measuring this is a challenge in itself. Data on the featuring of PID and LI at the internet reported for each of the past three years give an indication that international attention is indeed increasing. And where in 2003 only one donor supported PROLINNOVA, after three funded a preparatory study in 2002, the list of donors has grown now to 10, two of which directly support country programmes (www.prolinnova.net/donor.php for list of donors, not yet including the donors of country programmes EED, Germany and Action Aid, UK). Another indication of international acceptance of the PID concepts and approach is in the

amount of invitations PROLINNOVA receives for attending or supporting international events and workshops as listed in the progress reports 2004, 2005, and 2006 and summarised in the M&E protocol of Annex 2. In 2006, the most striking example was the request to PROLINNOVA by the international research centres CIAT and ILRI to co-organise the Innovation in Africa Symposium. PROLINNOVA involvement ensured ample attention to farmer-led innovation thinking both during the symposium as well as in the follow-up activities and publications

Finally, one of PROLINNOVA's own central strategies to ensure that promotion of local innovation, of PID, can continue beyond availability of programme funding such as through DGIS-TMF is the establishment of sustainable Local Innovation Support Funds in each of the participating countries. If successful, the existence of these LISF will ensure farmers, land-users and their support agents in each country can obtain support for innovation activities that address issues of poverty and land degradation. As discussed in 2.4 above, late availability of co-funding for this component has led to a certain delay, but the complicated design and ground work has been done and the first LISFs have started operation in 3 out of the 5 first countries. The next 4 years will tell whether these can grow to become locally resourced sustainable institutions.

5. FUNDS AND FUNDING SOURCES

Annex 10 gives a detailed report on the finances of PROLINNOVA for the entire programme period. Though the DGIS TMF grant covers 2004-2006, Annex 10 includes data for 2003, in line with the proposal, as initial activities in three countries had already started in that year with financial support of two other donors.

One way to look at the figures for 2003-2006 is to compare expenditures with the budget as summarised in Table 1. Here, one can conclude that the total expenditure has been close to budgeted figures. Expenditure for activities at country level is slightly below budget which is partly caused by slower than expected developments of some country programmes and the fact that the Niger country programme has operated at a lower level due to co-funding through the IFAD country project not realized yet. Expenditure at the level of the international support organisations has been higher than budgeted but this has been covered partly by own contributions of the relevant organisations. The room available under contingencies has partly been used for several unforeseen activities and partly for additional programme wide-activities as agreed upon in annual work plans.

Table 1: 2003-2006 expenditure compared to budget

	Budget	Spent	Balance
Country level	1,101,118	989,975	111,143
IST	1,098,540	1,180,863	-82,323
Programme-wide activities	207,152	276,314	-69,162
Contingency	113,482	32,811	80,671
Total	2,520,292	2,479,963	40,329

Table 2 analyses expenditure in more detail over the years and compares these with the various sources of funding. This leads to the following observations:

- Total expenditure per year show a continuous increase over the years. This follows the staggered initiation of country programmes as designed and the growing strength of the country programmes and partnerships and thus the capacity to absorb resources. This strength has also allowed them to accelerate programme implementation and the related use of funds when the TMF grant was to end prematurely in 2006.
- The DGIS contribution amounts to 57% of total expenditure. This excludes the data on co-funding by DURAS in 2006, around Euro 40,000, as the partner managing these funds was not able to complete the DURAS 2006 figures in time (both expenditure and co-funding data).
- A large group of other donors has shown interest in funding (parts of) PROLINNOVA. This support, however, is always linked to specific activities, and at much lower levels compared to DGIS.
- The own contribution of partners is the second most important resource. This is a mixed category. It includes resources "in kind", time of partner staff and or their facilities. For the international partners it also includes payments by a variety of organisations prepared to cover costs of IST staff to present PROLINNOVA and PID to international fora and to participate in meetings. At the country level, this category also includes funds from donors to CPs, either through direct support for country PROLINNOVA programmes (EED in Tanzania, e.g.), or when it has been agreed to use funds of related programmes to support the PROLINNOVA agenda.

Table 2: Total expenditure 2003-2006 (all figures in Euro)

	Total	DGIS	Other Donors*	Own contribution
Expenditure 2003	200,514		122,694	77,820
Expenditure 2004	471,199	226,866	61,435	182,899
Expenditure 2005*	513,161	299,601**	14,984**	198,576
Expenditure 2006	1,295,090	894,291	74,554	326,244
TOTAL	2,479,963	1,420,758	273,667	785,539
Percentage	100%	57.3%	11%	31.7%

* These include IFAD (86,350), CTA (54,538), Oxfam Novib (36,065), GFAR (35,320), Misereor (30,000), the World Bank (23,000) and DURAS (8,394).

** Data are conform audited annual report PROLINNOVA 2005, Euro 8,394 lower than in the corresponding table in the 2005 narrative report; data for other donors in 2005 is higher by the same amount.

Finally, Table 3 presents an overview of the use of funds from the DGIS-TMF grant as compared to the agreed grant volume. This shows an under-spending of Euro 65,404. This is understandable considering the need to end the grant one year ahead of schedule.

Table 3: Summary use of DGIS-TMF grant

Expenditure claimed to DGIS grant					Total Grant	Balance
2003	2004	2005	2006	Total		
	226,866	299,601	894,291	1,420,758	1,486,162	65,404

CONCLUSIONS

Because of the changes within DGIS from TMF to MFS, PROLINNOVA implementation had to be accelerated in order to complete a coherent set of activities by the end of 2006, rather than by the end of 2007, as had originally been planned and budgeted. The immediate priority for 2006 was therefore a proper consolidation and documentation of all activities. Our general conclusion is that, although having to run a four-year project in three years, most of the outputs planned have been successfully achieved.

The proposal submitted to MFS/DGIS in April 2006 was approved by October of the same year. This ensures continuity of the programme for the period 2007-2010. In this new phase, a close cooperation with the COMPAS network is foreseen, both at national and international levels. The two programmes are of a complementary nature and have much to share and exchange.

To ensure continuity of PROLINNOVA, the process of expanding and diversifying its donor base will continue. DGIS' commitment to programme funding has been crucial, as it provides the minimum basis for partners to mobilise interest of other donors for specific sub-activities. We hope to, with the approval of MFS, be able to leverage further support for the programme over the next few years.

The external assessment of the network, which took place early 2006, concluded that PROLINNOVA has made major progress in establishing multi-stakeholder partnerships at country level, a great achievement on its own. Showing how these partnerships work, at both policy and field level, is an important contribution to the international ARD arena. This assessment, joint meetings and strategic planning at country level defined the overall strategy of the network for its next phase. They continue to hinge on an effective combination of on-the-ground collaborative work with farmer innovators and communities as a learning ground, and policy dialogue and institutionalisation efforts to arrive at the relevant institutional changes. The latter includes extension services, researchers, and, last but not least, academic institutions in several of the countries.

“New” themes will be given further attention, including the role of gender issues and HIV/AIDS on local innovation and the potential of farmer-led documentation. “New” countries will also be given more space in the next phase. Alongside the initial nine countries, emerging countries will be supported and additional funds will be sought to meet their interest of establishing PROLINNOVA Country Programmes.

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