

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR IDENTIFYING LOCAL INNOVATIONS FOR PROLI-FANS PROJECT.

*These guiding principles were developed by participants at the inception workshop for the 'Promoting local innovation for Food and Nutrition Security' (Proli-FaNS) project held on 14–18 November 2016 in Accra, Ghana. They are meant to guide project partners in selecting and prioritizing innovations for the project. The key principles are as follows:*

- Innovations related to food and nutrition security and nutritional diversification, making sure that ALL innovations are described in this context
- Give priority to innovations by women
- Innovations that farmers think are needed / important for the community
- Innovations that capture the imagination / engage / excite / motivate other farmers
- Innovations that are inexpensive, use mainly locally available resources, increase income and/or save expenditures, reduce labour etc
- Innovations that are scalable
- Innovations that pass the TEES test: good technical performance, economically sound, environmentally better, socially acceptable (involving farmers in screening for this)
- Innovations that have potential for PID, i.e. there are questions that farmers, formal researchers and other partners are interested in; for which farmers have ideas / suggestions for improvement
- Innovations that are amenable to PID: stimulate interaction and co-generation of knowledge; attract partners – foremost farmers – around the question(s) to investigate, excite other stakeholders to want to interact with farmers and can keep the farming community interested
- Focus on quick-win innovations to open the eyes of other stakeholders that farmers are doing something wonderful
- Include not only technical but also institutional and social innovations (diversity of innovations)
- Include also innovations by youth (female and male)

- Give priority to innovations that are related to climate change and can have a positive effect in dealing with this
- Innovations that cater to the needs of the majority of farmers, i.e. small-scale poorer farmers (as only a minority of farmers are rich)

***To be noted:***

- Be clear about what local innovation is: something that is new in the locality (as opposed to traditional practices) and adds value to what is being done there, that creates new values in the local context; locally new and better ways of doing things.
- Farmer-led research / PID can be on i) innovations that are developed locally and independently by farmers; ii) innovations that are developed by farmers with accompaniment by other actors, e.g. extension or research; and iii) new technologies/ideas introduced to a community and adapted locally by farmers.
- Some capacity building will be needed to describe the social and institutional aspects of local innovations and in process documentation of PID.