

NEW STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS OF PROLINNOVA–ETHIOPIA (PE)

1. Policy advocacy

- *Forming project-based platforms of PE, in which the inner-circle actors of the project become the main players but also strategically selected policy institutions become part of the learning process, wherever possible. This will replace the previously organised, ambitious ecosystem-based regional platforms, which did not yield good results.*
- *Influence government policy to recognise and include farmer/pastoralist innovators in the science, technology and innovation policy, which has already established innovation funds for elites and the academia*
- *Primarily work with the FRG (EIAR) and FIF (Ministry of Agriculture) policy-advocacy window for better results over the years to come*
- *Sponsor a national radio programme to promote local innovation and PID in the country*
- *Work with selected universities (on project-based arrangement, if possible) to influence the education system in favour of recognising the innovations and innovativeness of farmers and pastoralists*
- *Encourage the PE family members to completely institutionalise PID in their programmes and strategies.*

2. Capacity-building

- *Run a national project with the MoA to train the frontline extension workers in the Farmer Training Centres (FTCs) on PID in selected regions and follow up integration of the approach in practice*
- *Organise training of trainers for the instructors of strategically selected Agricultural Technical and Vocational Education and Training (ATVET) colleges*
- *Support selected ATVET colleges to develop training manuals on PID and mainstream the course in the extension and rural development training programmes*
- *Run educational projects on PID with Jimma, Mekelle, Ambo and Haramaya Universities, particularly in relation to preparation and utilisation of PID modules*
- *Support the mainstreaming of PID in the organisational forms of the PE family members through providing technical support and, if available, financial assistance*

3. Intensification of LISFs and PID

- *Consider PID and LISF as the two important technical and institutional models to promote the cause of PROLINNOVA in Ethiopia*
- *Scale up the FAIR initiative using the LISF model with more farmers organisations and relevant stakeholders like research organisations and universities*

- *Establish a national innovation fund to provide financial support for innovative farmers and PID initiatives but also to give awards and certificates of recognition for innovative farmers and their close allies*
- *Run a national project with JICA to mainstream PID in the FRG projects*
- *Implement a project in a selected area to demonstrate the response of the local people through local innovation to mitigate climate-change effects*

4. Joint learning and documentation

- *Establish a national record of farmer and pastoralist innovations and link selected innovations with the market through stimulating commercialisation*
- *Organise two learning and sharing workshops per year to learn from the impacts of the PE activities*
- *Sponsor Masters research (if possible, also PhD students through making linkages with others) on local innovation processes and related policy and institutional issues, in collaboration with Jimma, Mekelle, Ambo and Haramaya Universities.*