

The Best Practices Association (BPA) is a non-profit making organization registered as an Ethiopian Residents Charity (NGO) based in Addis Ababa. BPA believes that the responsibility for providing food for all in Ethiopia is on the shoulders of its smallholder farmers. Hence, Ethiopian development is not possible without the success of smallholder farming. Despite decades of investment in research for improved technologies, these have not often met the needs of the farmers. Farmers do not sit and wait; instead they seek solutions for their own problems both individually and collectively. But these innovations are not given the value and visibility they deserve. BPA's aim is to identify, assess, share and promote the best practices used by farmers for other farmers as well those persons in processing, marketing and decision making so that everyone can feed their families in the wider rural and urban populations.

(www.bestpractice.org.et)



The Institute for Sustainable Development (ISD) was set up in 1996 to work in partnership with local rural communities and their agricultural professionals to explore how the rich traditional knowledge, practices and innovations of Ethiopia's farmers could be used and enhanced to rehabilitate their environments and improve crop productivity. As from 1998, it has also worked with youth to encourage good environmental management in schools and urban settings. Sustainable development has to be based on a sound understanding and combining of modern and traditional knowledge, which is now ever more urgent with the need to adapt to climate change (www.isd.org.et)



PROLINNOVA

Prolinnova (PROmoting Local INNOVAtion in ecologically oriented agriculture and natural resource management) is a community of practice involving partners in over 20 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Initiated by NGOs, this Global Partnership Programme under the umbrella of the Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR) embraces both state and non-state organisations. It promotes recognition of local innovation by women and men farmers as an entry point to farmer-led participatory research and development. The ultimate aim is to integrate this approach into institutions of agricultural research, extension and education. The Prolinnova international network is hosted by ETC Foundation in the Netherlands

(www.prolinnova.net).