

SOLLINKKA:

SOCIAL **L**EARNING **L**INKING **K**NOWLEDGE
WITH **A**CTION

Partnership between PROLINNOVA and CCAFS
(Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security)

CCAFS THEME “INTEGRATION FOR DECISION-MAKING”

- ❖ Making knowledge useful for policymakers and ensuring effective engagement of rural communities in research

- ❖ Specific objective under this theme:

“Linking Knowledge with Action”:

explore and jointly apply approaches and methods that enhance knowledge-to-action linkages among a wider range of partners at local, regional and global level

MAIN ACTIVITIES OF PROLINNOVA IN SOLLINKKA

Engaging in **social learning** on ground to demonstrate the value of PROLINNOVA approach in **strengthening resilience of farming communities in face of (climate) change**, e.g.

- ❖ Facilitation of multistakeholder learning platforms (MSPs)
- ❖ Transdisciplinary collaboration in PID
- ❖ Scaling up LISFs as mechanisms to change power balance in decision-making about ARD
- ❖ Process documentation and farmer-led documentation as tools for joint learning
- ❖ Various forms of communication relevant for smallholders

SOCIAL LEARNING IN PROLINNOVA

- ❖ Process in which multiple stakeholders gain mutual understanding of situation and **co-generate relevant knowledge** based on joint action and reflection
- ❖ In highly diverse smallholder farming, intensification & scaling out of such **local learning cycles** will increase community resilience to change
- ❖ Aim not to scale up local innovations but rather **to scale up decentralised and continuing local innovation processes**
- ❖ PROLINNOVA–CCAFS partnership gives PROLINNOVA a chance to expand its social learning activities and CCAFS a chance to explore how PROLINNOVA approach enhances community resilience to change

INCEPTION PHASE: OCT–DEC 2012

❖ Objectives:

- To identify where PROLINNOVA and CCAFS overlap in sites /partners
 - To identify synergies & opportunities for joint action research
- ## ❖ Discussion with CCAFS regional teams about current activities and plans, proximity of sites and common partner organisations led to **selection of initial CPs for collaboration:**
- *PROLINNOVA–Kenya in Eastern Africa*
 - *PROFEIS–Senegal in West Africa*
- ## ❖ Overview revealed **other possible entry points** for collaboration in other countries in Africa & S Asia
- ## ❖ **Strategy paper**, incl. communication strategy, based on PROLINNOVA strategy 2011–15 : **“Innovation for sustainable livelihoods: farmers call the tune”**

ACTION PLAN FOR 2013 – INTERNATIONAL

- ❖ **Week on Agricultural Innovation in Africa (WAIA):**
 - International Partners Workshop (IPW)
 - Eastern African Farmer Innovation Fair (EAFIF)
 - Workshop on Agricultural Innovation Systems in Africa (AISA)
- ❖ **Publication** on how MSPs & other social-learning mechanisms contribute to building resilient communities
- ❖ Support to CPs in **documenting processes of change to facilitate reflection-action learning cycles**, including backstopping visits to Kenya & Senegal

ACTION PLANS – NATIONAL (2 CPS)

- ❖ **Identifying & documenting innovators/innovations** to adapt to external change
- ❖ **Training partners in PID** to adapt to change
- ❖ Facilitating **farmer-led joint research** to improve/ adapt local innovations + relevant options from formal science
- ❖ **Facilitating MSPs** in country (national or subnational)
- ❖ **Documentation and communication**
- ❖ **Policy dialogue** on MSPs to promote PID and other forms of social learning as way to deal with challenges of CC, agriculture, food security & rural livelihoods

PERSPECTIVES

- ❖ Partnership agreement up to **September 2015**
- ❖ Increased interaction with CCAFS partners in Kenya & Senegal and other countries in East and West Africa and South Asia – **intensification and expansion**
- ❖ Important for CCAFS & PROLINNOVA partners to **actively seek more information about each other's work** – to find synergies in action research on ground and in multistakeholder platforms learning from this research
- ❖ **Opportunities for mutual learning** in face-to-face and virtual platforms, e.g. Innovation Sandbox “Climate Change and Social Learning” (CCSL) on Yammer