

WORKSHOP REPORT

ANNUAL PROJECT PARTNERS MEETING / INTERNATIONAL PROLINNOVA WORKSHOP

22-27 October 2023

Polokwane, South Africa



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1 INTRODUCTION

This report provides a summary of the workshop that took place in Polokwane on 23–26 October 2023. The workshop was funded mainly by Misereor through two current projects being implemented under the Prolinnova umbrella, namely Eli-FaNS (Expanding the promotion of Local Innovation for Food security and healthy Nutrition to Strengthen resilience with a focus on women) and Proli-GEAFaSa 2 (second phase of project *Promotion de l'innovation locale dans la Gestion de l'Eau en Agriculture Familiale au Sahel* / Promoting local innovation in water management for family farming in the Sahel). A small amount of funds was provided by Prolinnova–Mozambique, drawn from the prize money from their participation in the GFAR (Global Forum on Agricultural Research & Innovation) innovation survey competition last year. The amount funded travel costs for two participants from Mozambique to attend the workshop.

Please note that a pdf compilation of all presentations referred to in this report is available on the Prolinnova website at: https://prolinnova.net/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/IPW-Polokwane-2023-Combined-Presentations-3.1.pdf

2 MONDAY 23 OCTOBER 2023

A field trip was undertaken to a village called Tjiane, in Lepelle-Nkumpi Municipality, near Lebowakgomo township. The workshop participants visited the Tjiane Drop-In Centre, which is itself a social innovation. The trip was arranged by staff from the Limpopo Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (LDARD), University of Limpopo (UL) and University of Venda (UniVen). It was an opportunity to see some of the innovations, while also being an effective opportunity for policy dialogue since it was attended by Senior Management from LDARD and UniVen, who also attended the formal workshop opening the following day at Polokwane.



Figure 1: Workshop participants, innovators, and community members at the Tjiane Drop-In Centre



Figure 2: Ms Tladi sharing details of how the Tjiane Drop In Centre was founded

Ms Tladi (Figure 2), one of the founders of the Tjiane Drop In Centre, mentioned that the centre was founded in 2007 by a group of ten women. This group of women started the centre because of the high levels of poverty and unemployment, and the prevalence and severity of household food insecurity in Tjiane village. The goal of this establishment was to reduce hunger as a way of bridging the poverty gap. The founders of Tjiane Drop In Centre contributed money to buy food and cook for local children who experience lack of access to adequate food. The founders worked for several months without payments or stipends. After sending several funding proposals, the centre received funding to pay stipends from the South African Social Security Agency (SASSA) in 2009. The stipends encouraged everyone and also stimulated growth of the Tjiane Drop In Centre. The Independent Development Trust (IDT) also provided funds to the Drop In Centre which was used to purchase food and to employ local youth.



Figure 3: Technical innovators explaining how they use indigenous ethnoveterinary species to treat animal eyes and to facilitate smooth delivery of animal offspring

Innovators in the Tjiane village use plants such as *Corchorus olitorius*, *Euphorbia* spp, *Opuntia* spp and *Harpagophytum procumbens* and many other species to treat animal eyes and to facilitate smooth delivery of pregnant animals. For treating animal eyes the decoction is mainly prepared by crushing freshly harvested plants and boiling. The decoction is later sieved and applied on animal eyes. For facilitating animal birth, the innovators mix their indigenous plants including *Corchorus olitorius* species to prepare a decoction. After administering a sieved decoction, the pregnant animal will have smooth birth to an offspring.

3 TUESDAY 24 OCTOBER 2023

This was the first formal day of the project partners' workshop in Polokwane at Masana Lodge. Since it was not possible for project teams from Benin and Burkina Faso to attend in person, arrangements were made to allow for online participation, as shown in Figure 4.

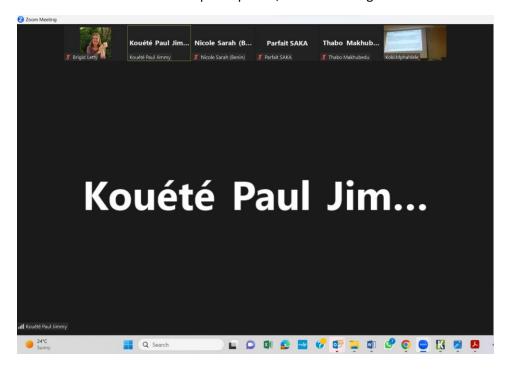


Figure 4: Online participation by project team members in the workshop at Polokwane

3.1 Reflection on the field trip

The day started at 08h00 with reflection on the field trip. This session was facilitated by Ernest Letsoalo (University of Venda), and feedback from participants was captured on a flip chart:

- Good participation from different stakeholders including high level management
- Group innovations rather than individual innovators
- Involvement of universities in the process allows for combining farmer and research knowledge
- Innovations somewhat commercialised (Mohlophi, for example)
- Impressed by women organisation
- Discussion about not focusing on innovations related to human health because Misereor has a policy against innovations being shared without having proper procedures, thus better to focus on ethnoveterinary innovations
- If innovations are not directly focused on food and nutrition security, then they must have an income generation aspect

- It is important to draw a line between indigenous knowledge and innovation
- One case of experimentation included comparing the effectiveness of different processing methods (i.e. boiling versus soaking)
- We should separate between group and individual innovations
- Experimentation on herbs
 - o Rather work with them to market their products
 - Innovation could cover various aspects including crop productivity and upscaling
- The women grow herbs at the Drop-In Centre
- The centre is considered a social innovation as it is different from the normal model
- With the ethnoveterinary practices, this builds on IK because people used the ingredients individually but now they combine them. They've also compared different processing methods. They have also been tested on livestock to confirm efficacy
- One point was made that Prolinnova's approach allows for "solving of African problems with African solutions"
- The Drop-In Centre has allowed for employment opportunities for 250 people.

3.2 Formal opening

The workshop was formally opened by the Chief Director of Agriculture Regulatory and Technology Development of the LDARD, Ms Lucy Seabi (see Figure 2) who was introduced by Dr. Khathutshelo Tshikolomo, the Director of Crop Science at LDARD. Prof Zwane (UL) and Dr Tshikororo (Univen) were also invited to make inputs to the workshop as part of the opening process. The official inputs were then followed by a round of self-introductions by everyone including online participants (see Figure 5 and full speech in Appendix 2).



Figure 5: Chief Director of Agriculture Regulatory and Technology Development of the Limpopo Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Ms Lucy Seabi



Figure 6: Self-Introductions by workshop participants.

3.3 Programme overview and Field trip recap

Brigid Letty, member of the Prolinnova International Support Team (IST) and a permanent staff member at the Institute of Natural Resources NPC (INR) in Pietermaritzburg, provided an overview of the programme before handing over to Jackson Kadiaka (Jackson) to provide a summary of the field trip for those who were not able to attend. Jackson was the Programme Director for the field trip itself. It was highlighted by Ernest that while the Limpopo Prolinnova team arranged the logistics for the field trip, the members of the Tjiane Drop-In Centre organised the day's programme themselves. In turn, they invited Jackson, who lives within the area, to be the Programme Director.

3.4 Introduction to Misereor projects

The start of the project meetings was sharing of the background to the two projects by their coordinators to facilitate sharing across the projects, both of which are follow-on phases, and both of which have been funded by Misereor.

3.4.1 Introduction to ELI-FaNS

Joe Nchor, ACDEP (Association of Church-Based Development Projects), as Project Coordinator, then gave an overview of the ELI-FaNS project as shown in Figure 7.



Figure 7: Joe Nchor (ACDEP) presenting a summary of the ELI-FaNS project

See Presentation 1: Introduction to ELI-FaNS by Joe Nchor

Besides providing a background to the project, Joe also provided a broad summary of the status of implementation of each of the projects. The Prolinnova Country Platforms (CPs) that have continued from the previous phase are in Kenya, Burkina Faso and Ghana, while the new CPs are in Benin and SA (Figure 8).

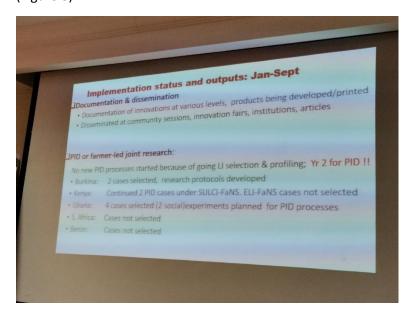


Figure 8: Summary of status of Eli-FaNS implementation in the five CPs implementing the project

There was space for questions for clarity / discussion after Joe's presentation, which included:

- Need to standardise terminology across CPs to reduce confusion specifically, the term local multi-stakeholder platforms (MSPs) rather than local steering committees (LSCs) at each of the Eli-FaNS learning sites
- Need to find a space to share about the template that was prepared for the cross-analysis of the LIs identified through Proli-GEAFaSa
- The challenge of sustaining farmer innovator networks
- Joint experimentation includes academics/researchers
- Martha explained the way that Prolinnova was involved through the public participation process for curriculum development at Maseno University – this emerged from Prolinnova inviting the university staff to a sensitisation event.
- Action identified: Paul and Djibril plan to write up an article on the LISF process in Senegal.

3.4.2 Introduction to Proli-GEAFaSa

Djibril Thiam provided a summary of the Proli-GEAFaSa project. One of the lessons learnt was how to get government and university involved and he highlighted that they can learn from SA, from what they saw during the field trip.

For the new phase (Proli-GEAFaSa 2), they have scaled up the learning sites, with two new sites in each of the two CPs (in Burkina Faso and Senegal). They will continue to collect and document LI but also scale up PID and analyse the LIs identified during the first phase.



Figure 9: Joe assisting Djibril with screening his presentation of the Proli-GEAFaSa project

See Presentation 2: Introduction to Proli-GEAFaSa by Djibril Thiam

Some points were raised from the participants:

- Bangali and Parfait asked whether Diobass was presented by Djibril and, for the new phase, how far they are with identification of project sites.
 - Djibril responded that, in terms of coordination, one organisation receives funds but all organisations are involved. He said he was happy to share the final report with Parfait.

Brigid asked Djibril to provide more information about the analysis of Lis from the first phase. Djibril said this was a request from Misereor and that Brigid had assisted with preparing a template and Paul had translated it. At the inception meeting, they looked at it to see if any more information needed to be added/removed, so it has been finalised. They will analyse across 50 LIs and prepare a publication. Paul added that Misereor has requested that the project should not be just about listing identified LIs, but should provide more analysis. Joe asked whether it differs from the normal Li documentation guidelines, so Djibril provided some detail of the content of the template. He highlighted that the analysis across the cases uses a similar structure and 23–24 indicators. Paul added that it is specific to water management. Also, the cross-analysis allows for categorising the 50 innovations.

Wanyama asked whether we can look at the analysis framework and see its applicability to ELI-FaNS.

Diakite asked whether the 50 cases are all related to water management. Djibril said yes because it is the topic of the project, but there are different aspects – access, utilisation, recycling, management of finance – as well as different domains of water management – livestock, crop production and social organisations related to water in agriculture.

Djibril would like to see the water management network self-managing through currently they are supported by the project structure. Governance of the network is supported by ProliGEAFaSa, with a small committee set up to support it and project teams help them to manage the action plan.

Koketso Mphahlehle (Koki) from the Centre for Rural Community Empowerment at University of Limpopo asked about the farmer innovation networks established through Proli-GEAFaSa. Djibril responded that the two local MSPs are the basis for setting up a national network of farmer innovators. This is only a network of farmers – they meet occasionally and share. The national network in Senegal comes from the two learning sites. The new sites will add farmers to the network. It allows for policy dialogue, especially to improve access to finance.

Koki talked about the efforts with CAMOSEVHEWA, a farmer innovator network that was set up in Limpopo Province, South Africa. This was a farmer innovator network that was established covering several districts, with support from the government extension officers. Koki said it was set up in 2007 and it was challenging to fund activities of the network. Now the project is able to cover the costs of the networking, but he is not sure if it can function without a project. Koki said that the travel was covered by the extension service, and projects supported networking.

Ernest (University of Venda) added that we can revive the CAMOSEVHEWA network but the strength at that time was that the LDARD had an Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS) and Innovation division, which is what gave it strength. Brigid highlighted that, when the department restructured, it was no longer their mandate to support networking activities. Vincent highlighted that this could be a good entry point for institutionalisation. Ernest added that the link with the Eastern and Southern African Small-scale Farmers Forum (ESAFF) was also part of the strength for getting more innovators involved. ESAFF is still there and focused on agroecology, so this can also be used as a strength. Also, some officials that were previously involved are still interested in Prolinnova and local innovation.

The CAMOSEVHEWA network is not currently active, but now that there is ELI-FaNS funding, the Limpopo team should see if they can resurrect the network. Since they are forming a MSP at Tjiane and since they are trying to bring in other villages, they should try to bring in the other districts, too.

3.5 CP Feedback on projects

3.5.1 Experience from Senegal with Proli-GEAFaSa

Abdou Thiam (Abdou) from Agribio Services made a presentation about Prolinnova-Senegal's achievements with the Proli-GEAFaSa project.

See Presentation 3: Update on Proli-GEAFaSa in Senegal by Abdou Thiam (French)

According to Abdou, activities undertaken included: Training of actors in LI; documentation of some of the identified LIs – technical and social (including women and youth); training in PID / joint innovation. Have also conducted PID (including women and youth); Dissemination / scaling out – have organised farmer innovation fairs at learning sites also allowed policy dialogue; Online platforms (Facebook) and radio/TV broadcasts to reach external people; Political dialogue – local administration, political leaders & technical agencies at innovation fairs. He also talked about the LISF – 20 innovators have benefited from it. Innovations were documented in catalogues, which was made available in the marketplace. Abdou also referred to a competition, where farmer innovators made submissions and the multi-stakeholder committee selected winners.

In terms of progress with Proli-GEAFaSa 2, achievements to date include the Inception workshop that took place in October 2022; the team in Senegal was put in place, flyers have been produced, the initial evaluation of the new learning sites took place, a meeting with the NSC done, where results of

Phase 1 and plans for Proli-GEAFaSa 2 were presented and, lastly, they are participating in the Prolinnova International Partners Workshop (IPW).

Key challenges raised by Abdou: Institutionalisation in Senegal still a challenge; resource mobilisation for PID; Lack of involvement of women; Finding ways to invite policymakers and influence agricultural policy. Deep analysis of LI is still difficult and the criteria for selecting PID may need to be discussed. In terms of key lessons learnt, it was found that financial constraints may limit involvement of some actors.

After lunch, Abdou was requested to share a case of LI supported by the LISF. He explained that cases of LI needed to meet the criteria for taking forward through PID. Templates were circulated and farmers submitted applications. These were screened and ranked and some were selected. Next phase was to submit funds to farmers and then to monitor to make sure farmers used the funds appropriately. The case that Abdou told us about was an innovator who used the engine from a motor bike to make a motorised pump because it used less fuel than a conventional pump. For PID, the farmer bought a motor to allow for comparison through a process of joint experimentation.

Joe asked about the committee that screened the proposals and also about how the funds were distributed. Djibril said the local committee was the conduit for funds because some of the farmers do not have bank accounts. He added one challenge is that the committee said it must take a portion for its functioning. In the second phase, a small amount was added for administration to cover the committee's costs.

Vincent added that, in the past in Kenya, they had funds paid directly from World Neighbors (WN) to the innovators/suppliers, with the local steering committee (LSC) doing the screening and passing on the list of innovators to WN. Partner organisations make applications to WN as host organisation, using a form adapted from Ghana. The form indicates what the funds are to be used for, plus a proposed budget. All the innovators come together and have a one-on-one interview with the LSC, whose members know what the materials cost so they can validate the budgets. LSCs make applications to WN, which then make funds available to LSC, which passes them on to the Innovator(s). They have reconstituted the local LISF committee to decentralise so that funds are held at local level.



Figure 10: Abdou Thiam making a presentation on project status in Senegal with translation by Paul Jimmy

3.5.2 Presentation from Kenya on ELI-FaNS

Vincent Mariadho (WN / Prolinnova–Kenya Coordinator) made a presentation filling in gaps that Joe had not covered. One of their original sites is now only being used for scaling up and no new LI cases are being identified or selected for PID. Each learning site has a number of sub-locations. They have some cases not completed due to bureaucracy of government with KALRO (specifically the ethnoveterinary cases, since they need to be subjected to Kenya Bureau of Standards). Some of the sites were used for the gender analysis in local innovation development (GALID) project, which includes gender-responsive FAO-funded training. One of the sites was also used in the Nuffic Tailor-Made-Training (TMT) project.

See Presentation 4: Update on ELI-FaNS in Kenya by Vincent Mariadho



Figure 11: Vincent Mariadho making a presentation about ELI-FaNS in Kenya



Figure 12: Vincent Mariadho explained some of the new LI cases identified

Vincent added that they have now constituted subcommittees within LSCs to investigate the commercialisation potential of the LI cases using some criteria that have been identified.

Another point raised related to institutionalisation is that Prolinnova-Kenya is busy revising the curriculum with Machakos University. This is requiring signing of an MOU, which the NSC is happy with. Previously they were involved via the public participation process for Maseno University's curriculum development process. This was an outcome of inviting staff from the university to a sensitisation event.

3.5.3 Online presentation by Bangali for Burkina Faso on Eli-FaNS

Bangali joined the meeting online. Paul Jimmy (Subregional Coordinator for West & Central Africa) translated the presentation, which covered the process from the start of SULCI-FaNS through until Eli-FaNS. It covered achievements of Proli-FaNS, which targeted malnutrition among children, developed training modules (related to malnutrition), also agroecological production (composts and biopesticides validated by universities), booklets and catalogue, technical flyers, innovation fairs. Other achievements included organic vegetable garden production, follow-up on biopesticide and compost production. Regarding the new Eli-FaNS project, they have started two joint experiments with soybean, a new crop in the area.

See Presentation 5: Update on ELI-FaNS in Burkina Faso by Bangali



Figure 13: A slide summarising some results from the SULCIFaNS project in Burkina Faso



Figure 14: A slide summarising local innovations identified through ELI-FaNS in Burkina Faso

3.5.4 Presentation from South Africa (SA)

Richard Chuene (Prolinnova—SA Coordinator) and Thabo Makhubedu (ELI-FaNS Project Officer) provided an update on the status of ELI-FaNS project implementation at the two learning sites in KwaZulu-Natal and Limpopo Provinces.



Figure 15: Richard Chuene and Thabo Makhubedu presenting on ELI-FaNS project status in SA

See Presentation 6: Update on ELI-FaNS in South Africa by Richard Chuene and Thabo Makhubedu

3.5.5 Presentation from Ghana

Samuel Ayamga (ELI-FaNS Project Officer, ACDEP) shared a presentation about the status of the project in Ghana.

3.5.6 Presentation from Benin

Nicole Sarah (Prolinnova–Benin Coordinator) joined the meeting online to provide an update on the status of the new ELI-FaNS project.

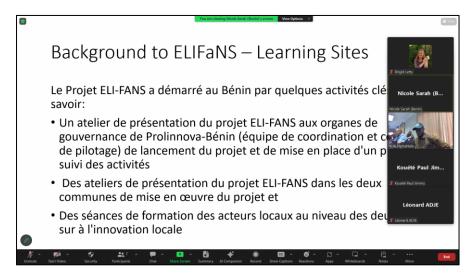


Figure 16: Slide made by Nicole Sarah from Benin about ELI-FaNS status

See Presentation 8: Update on ELI-FaNS in Benin by Nicole Sarah (in French)

A summary of the information shared by Nicole about the ELI-FANS project is provided here. The project began in Benin with a number of key activities:

- A workshop to present the ELI-FANS project to the governance bodies of Prolinnova-Benin (coordination team and the NSC) to launch the project and to set up a monitoring plan for the activities
- Workshops to introduce the ELI-FANS project in the two learning sites
- Training sessions on local innovation for local actors at the two learning sites.

At the learning site 1 (Badékparou in the commune of Tchaourou), a number of local innovations have been identified, namely:

- Transformation of soya into improved cheese
- Chicken rearing using a plant for the adoption of all chicks by a single mother hen based on synchronisation of hatching and chick options
- Prevention and treatment of poultry diseases using cow udder fruit and neem leaves

At the learning site (Guèssou-Sud in the commune of Bembéréké), the local innovations are:

- Production of scented shea butter: Use of several aromatic plants in the transformation of shea butter.
- Treatment of foot-and-mouth disease in large and small ruminants using plants and pig fat
- Dewormer and trace elements for sheep

Under objective 1: Overall, of the 16 Local Innovations expected in Benin, nine (9) have already been registered: Four (4) carried out by women (57.14%); three (3) by young men (42.86%) and two (2) by adult men. Women and young people therefore account for 77.78% of the total number of local innovations recorded to date. All these innovations will be documented in a catalogue. With regard to facilitating and supporting PID processes, the review of local innovations is underway with a view to selecting those for PID. With regard to monitoring the impact of the local innovations, PID and farmer innovation fair on innovative households and wider communities, a survey of the current situation of households is underway and the results will be available in the Quarter 4.

Under objective 2 (Institutionalisation): A study is being carried out to establish the current state of institutionalisation of PID in Benin. The results of this study will be used to draw up a strategy for building capacity for policy dialogue and institutionalisation in Benin. In Benin, two agricultural training centres are involved through their training officers. The University of Parakou is involved through the UR-SAPHA research unit. The traditional and administrative authorities are also involved. At national level, the members of the Prolinnova-Benin coordination team and steering committee have set up a plan for regular monitoring of the project and reporting of activities. At regional level, Benin CP is taking part in webinars on the theme of "Establishing links with universities and research institutions on the PID approach".

In terms of documentation, Benin CP has published an article in the magazine "Appropriate Technology". The article, entitled "Workshop on promoting farmer innovation in Benin unleashes local capacities for farmer-led research and development", was the result of a meeting between the CP partners. The article is published as Appropriate Technology, Vol 50, No 2 and is available on the website www.appropriate-technology.com.

3.6 Discussion around common themes

A number of questions related to both the Eli-FaNS and the Proli-GEAFaSa project were used as the basis for a panel discussion around key themes common to both projects. Four people were identified beforehand to make a 5-minute presentation to provoke discussion.

- How far have you got with forming and strengthening local structures? Samuel shared experience from Ghana:
 - o Local MSPs
 - Technical support teams
 - Stakeholders assist with implementation of project activities (government; forestry commission)
 - Added new stakeholders for the Eli-FaNS project
- What efforts have you made to mainstream/institutionalise LI and PID? Martha shared experience with universities from Kenya:
 - o In Kenya, most institutionalisation achieved with universities
 - o Leverage on experience of academic staff
 - o Offered to share a presentation about PID to interested parties/organisations
 - Received invitation during curriculum revision at Maseno University
- How did you select cases for PID? If you have started, what are the roles of the stakeholders?
 Augustin Ouédraogo shared experiences with Proli-GEAFaSa from Burkina Faso.
 - Start with local innovators
 - Validation by MSP through criteria analysis including willingness to participate and share information and availability of innovator to participate, and their willingness to share findings

- Consent from the innovator
- How easy is it to identify local innovation? What works well? Richard shared experiences from South Africa.
 - o Informed seniors within the Department
 - Contacted extension officers to arrange meetings with community members
 - Had workshops with community members and gave them two weeks to identify innovations in their surroundings

The following comments/questions were raised following the inputs from panellists:

- Question to Martha: How easy was it to understand the concept of LI and integrate it within KALRO? Response – they were one of the first people to receive training in Kenya. Also she worked at a station that was identified for PID-related work since Prolinnova–Kenya was initially hosted by KALRO.
- Alvim asked the panellists whether art had been used as a tool to mobilise people. Richard responded that he had not thought of it, as the use of song, dance and music to welcome people is simply part of the Bapedi culture.
- How have PID outcomes been documented and disseminated? The response was that this has been through feedback workshops in communities that have included local authorities. Radio broadcasts have also been used.
- What are the outcomes of capacity-building activities?
- What indicators can be used to show that institutionalisation is being achieved, rather than just indicating the institutionalisation/policy dialogue activities? The response was that this is a gradual process that is hard to monitor. The indicators are also not common across organisations. For example, at universities, it can be reflected by inclusion in the curriculum. It was suggested that the draft M&E template needs to be amended to provide such indicators.
- There was discussion about the matter of whether Prolinnova is interested in farmers 'adopting' LIs and PID outcomes, or whether the focus should be on adaptation since we are not acting as extension officers (i.e. not doing technology transfer). This was identified as a possible topic for discussion in the Open Space.

Action: M&E template to be finalised, shared and explained to CPs, who need to make use of it and provide results when submitting quarterly reports.

4 WEDNESDAY 25 OCTOBER 2023

4.1 Recap of previous day

Reflection on what people recalled from the previous day – what they learnt, what worked, what didn't.

- The panel session was good and allowed for more interaction. However, there was insufficient time for interactions.
- Sharing on the two Misereor-funded projects was good.
- Benin did not manage to complete their presentation in terms of the sharing of innovations from each of the learning sites.
- The importance of having indicators to be able to monitor all activities was highlighted.
- There seems to be an ongoing problem with ELIFaNS reports being delayed.
- Online feedback the day was fruitful but not enough time for debate, and poor connectivity made it difficult to follow.

The need to share the workshop report was highlighted.

Action: Share workshop report timeously

Programme overview and plan for managing parallel project sessions.

4.2 Financial reporting session

James Binan (ACDEP) and Lucious Achacha (WN) led the session on financial reporting. The purpose of the session was to address the challenges that ACDEP is encountering with obtaining good-quality financial reports without delays.

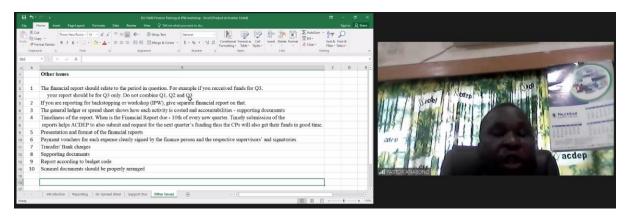


Figure 17: James Binan (ACDEP) facilitating the session on financial reporting

See Presentation 9: Presentation on financial reporting by James Binan

A number of points were raised by James:

- The financial report should relate to the period in question (do not combine Q1, Q2 and Q3 for the Q3 report).
- If you are reporting for backstopping or workshop (IPW), give separate financial report on that.
- The general ledger or spreadsheet shows how each activity is costed and accountabilities supporting documents.
- Timeline of the report. When is the financial report due? 10th of every new quarter. Timely submission of reports helps ACDEP to also submit and request for the next quarter's funding thus the CPs will also get their funds in good time.
- Presentation and format of the financial reports.
- Payment vouchers for each expense clearly signed by the finance people and the respective supervisors and signatories.
- Transfer/bank charges.
- Supporting documents.
- Report according to budget codes.
- Scanned documents should be properly arranged.
- Try to use an organisational stamp on main documents when submitting financial reports.

Following James' presentation, Lucious presented the report that shows how different costs are captured in the financial report and allocated to specific budget line items. There was discussion about the extent to which budgets can be shifted between lines. A number of concluding points were made:

- Each CP must aim to be within budget for each budget line by the end of the year, but can move within lines for a particular quarter.
- ACDEP can request a budget shift at the end of year if some lines are underspent and others overspent.
- Not just at the end, but also during the year, ACDEP will consolidate reports and see if it is necessary to request Misereor for a budget shift.
- It is important to be able to distinguish between the budget blocks and the budget lines.
 - Misereor requires that ACDEP submits a request to amend the budget if expenditure against budget blocks differs by more than 15% from the original budget.
 - However, ACDEP wants CPs to ensure that expenditure against any specific budget line does not differ more than 15% from the original budget for the year.
 - This is to ensure that CPs are able to work on all activities and achieve the project targets.

The next discussion was to confirm exactly what activities (and associated costs) can be allocated to each of the six budget lines. The following table was co-developed during the session.

Main budget line	Specific activities and associated costs
Farmer-led research based on local innovation	 Identification of LI – travel, subsistence catering, venue, communication Training on concepts and on documenting – travel, stationary, venue, translation, Meetings for planning PID PID – travel, inputs, per diem for technical services
2. Scaling LI and PID	 Farmer-to-farmer sharing Commercialisation Packaging materials Farmer innovation fairs Farmer exchanges Inter-CP visits Assist innovators to access resources Training on entrepreneurship
Policy dialogue and institutionalisation (with targeted stakeholders involved)	 Stakeholder engagement and sensitisation Workshops sharing results from PID Farmer innovation fairs Travel, venue hire, stationary, etc
4. Documentation and dissemination (locally)	 Production of catalogues, videos, publications Travel, equipment hire, printing, graphic design, journal fees, etc Radio broadcasts
5. Coordination, monitoring and evaluation	 NSC meetings MSP meetings Focus group discussions for M&E purposes Planning meetings
6. CP–CP capacity building	Online trainingExchange visits

WebinarsPeer backstopping
 Could refer to attending training if there is information of it shared with other CPs

There was some confusion about where costs associated with operationalising an LISF would be allocated. This led to an exercise to list the key activities and then see which of the budget lines they best fitted.

Budget lines	Activities associated with operationalising an LISF (and associated budget line number)
 Farmer-led experimentation Scaling LI and PID Policy dialogue & institutionalisation Documentation & dissemination Coordination, M&E CP-CP capacity building 	 Constitute LISF management committee at learning site 5 Capacity building of the committee 2 Constituting the structure of the LISF (bank account, etc) 5 Operationalise: 2 Call for applications Screening and vetting Award of funds Monitoring and outcome assessment 5 Sharing of experiences 4 Advocate for LISFs 3

This brought us to the end of the project meetings.

5 START OF THE PROLINNOVA INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS WORKSHOP

Brigid welcomed everyone and opened the IPW, highlighting that Asia is present through Annie Secretario from IIRR (International Institute of Rural Reconstruction) in the Philippines.

5.1 Update from the Prolinnova Oversight Group

Lisa van Dijk (Co-Chair of the POG) gave an overview of network activities on behalf of the POG.

She highlighted some recent changes to the POG, that Franklin Avornyo has joined representing West and Central Africa and we are searching for a new farmer representative, with Elizabeth Mpofu having stepped down since she is overcommitted. When identifying a new person, it must be recognised that language is a challenge because meetings are generally in English. The new Subregional Coordinator (SRC) appointed for West & Central Africa (WCA) is Paul Jimmy and we have a new Friend of Prolinnova – Abdel Ali (previous SRC for WCA); while an esteemed Friend of Prolinnova has passed away, Prof Naaminog Karbo. The new CP in Benin has joined the Eli-FaNS project, the CP in Kenya been active and secured funds for an international farmer innovation fair (FIF), while some CPs have not met the minimum commitments and have been declared dormant, namely those in Timor Leste, Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

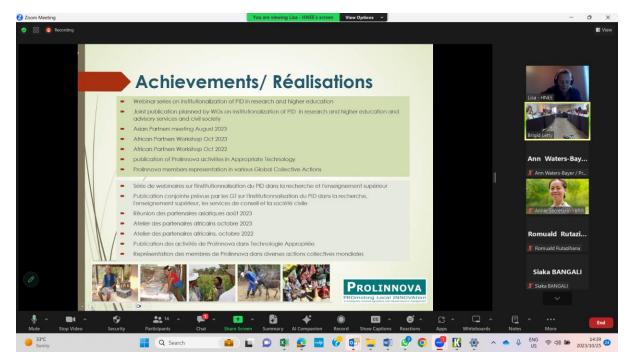


Figure 18: Presentation by Lisa van Dijk on behalf of the Prolinnova Oversight Group

Some of the network level achievements listed by Lisa were:

- Webinars on institutionalisation
- Joint publication on institutionalisation planned across two working groups
- Asia and various African subregional workshops
- Prolinnova publications in Appropriate Technology magazine
- Various members representing Prolinnova at various forums
- Multi-CP projects (ELI-FaNS and Proli-GEAFaSa) allow for CP—CP sharing

Lisa provided a summary of policy-dialogue activities in which members have participated. She also reminded the participants of some upcoming activities, in particular the International Farmer Innovation Day on 29 November, and the upcoming webinars.

See Presentation 10: Presentation from the POG by Lisa van Dijk

5.2 Recap of the project meetings

Input about the two Misereor-funded projects as well as a summary of the activities undertaken since the team arrived in Polokwane on Sunday 22 October was provided by Augustin from Burkina Faso, representing Proli-GEAFaSa and Abdou Thiam, representing ELI-FaNS. The purpose of this was to provide some continuity for those joining online as the discussions taking place at the IPW were largely informed by the discussions that took place during the field trip and during the 1.5 days of the project partners meetings.

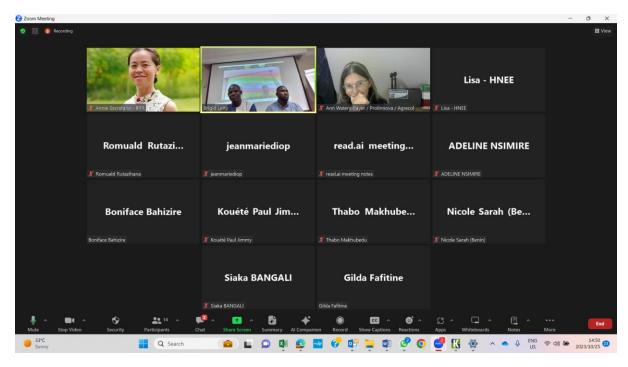


Figure 19: Online participants that joined the physical international partners workshop in Polokwane

Abdou and Augustin provided an overview of the previous day of the workshop. They highlighted that the last session allowed for participants to get a good understanding of project activities.

5.3 CP presentations

A number of CPs that are not members of the two Misereor-funded projects covered at the start of the week made presentations about Prolinnova-related activities.

5.3.1 Philippines

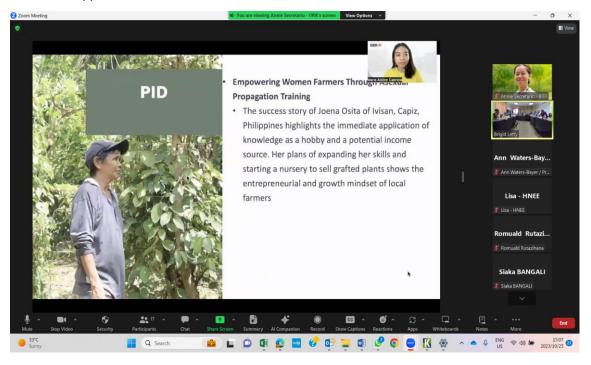


Figure 20: Annie Secretario shared a PowerPoint and a recording from the Philippines

5.3.2 Mozambique

Mirian Morgado (Kulima) presented in Portuguese, which was translated into English by Alvim Cossa (CTO) and then translated to French for physical and online French-speaking participants.

See Presentation 12: Presentation from Alvim Cossa and Mirrian Morgado for Mozambique



Figure 21: Mirrian Morgado and Alvim Cossa share an update on Prolinnova-Mozambique

Romuald Rutazihana (online from Mozambique) added that there is a district advisory organisation of the government working with them to promote biopesticide. In Mozambique, Prolinnova only has one education organisation but the contact person has left, so they do not currently have a member who can support the initiative — only the government advisory services, i.e. no research or university involved to support PID.

Djibril asked how Alvim took the community engagement / theatre tools that are promoted by the NGO 'Centro Teatro do Oprimido' (CTO) into the activities of the CP. Alvim responded that they have used it to share local innovations.

5.3.3 Mali

Diakite Bourama from Mali gave an update on the PROFEIS (Promoting Farmer Experimentation and Innovation in the Sahel) and FaReNe (Farmer Research Networks) projects.

See Presentation 13: Presentation by Diakite for Mali

A summary of the information shared by Diakite is provided below. Currently the CP is implementing three (3) projects:

- Promoting farmer experimentation and innovation to improve food security and resource conservation in the Sahel (PROFEIS) – April 2021-March 2024
- Supporting and strengthening farmers' research networks to improve their resilience in the face of climate change in Burkina Faso and Mali (FaReNe) June 2022-May 2025

• Support for the strengthening of the participatory selection process for farmer/traditional seeds led by farmers "Semences Paysannes"- April 2023-May 2026.

Key activities for institutionalisation within PROFEIS:

- Capacity-building for stakeholders: teacher-researchers, agricultural advisers, NGOs and local authority representatives on the PID approach
- Refresher courses for local authority representatives on the PID approach
- Compiling and publishing a catalogue of farmers' innovations
- Preparation of policy briefs on two farmer innovations: an incubator and the use of the *Physalis minima* "Potokolonimbo" solution, with the support of independent consultant from Senegal Bara GUEYE
- Meeting with the Executive Secretary of the National Agricultural Research Committee (CNRA) in Mali, facilitated by the former Executive Director of the National Agricultural Research Committee, Mr Adama TRAORE.

Way forward across all projects:

- Continued dissemination of farmers' innovations to households (PROFEIS)
- Continuation of information, education, communication and demonstration sessions on good nutritional practices (PROFEIS)
- Continuation of IPR capacity-building activities (PROFEIS)
- Monitoring of the new 3-year proposal submitted to MISEREOR-KZE (PROFEIS)
- Data collection for the 2023-2024 season (FaReNe)
- Support for farmers' initiatives (FaReNe)
- Training households in good nutritional practices (FaReNe)
- Continued identification of farmers' seeds
- Training producers in crossing seed varieties.



Figure 22: Presentation by Bourama Diakite about Prolinnova activities in Mali

After the presentation by Diakite, Bangali asked how the treatments were applied to the plants (the *Combretum sp.* and the *Balanites sp.* in particular). Diakite responded that, with *Combretum*, the farmers powder the fruits and mix with sorghum seed before planting to prevent the plant developing a disease. The documentation was available in the marketplace. With *Balanites*, it is used for seed preparation before planting. Through PID, they have found other methods, for example, using powdered stems. Through PID, they determined the dosages for treatment.

Richard checked whether they want to use other parts of the plant – Paul said that this is what they wish to test with PID. He also asked for three challenges encountered. Diakite responded that (1) the organisations, as most speakers have said, it is a challenge with universities and researchers not being willing to adopt PID as an approach. Also, he said it is a challenge to see how local innovations can actually improve farmers' livelihoods and there should be more focus on improving wellbeing. Lastly, he added that, with the new project that is expected to train local farmers, afterwards they can do local plant breeding. However, this is new and may have its own challenges.

Augustin had a question about the security challenges in the northern part of Mali. He asked what the strategies are to overcome this kind of challenge.

Paul was interested in the institutionalisation aspects in Mali, given the working group that they have that is addressing this. He asked whether the extension officers are just using the approach as individuals.

5.4 Discussion about how to keep CPs active

Following the CP presentations, Paul – as session facilitator – explained that the session was to be a discussion about how to keep CPs active or revive dormant CPs. He highlighted that we deal with delayed reporting and similar issues and need to find ways to address this.

Martha pointed out that this is probably mostly a problem for CPs that do not have a project. We need to think what activities CPs can undertake without funds, perhaps covered by their normal activities.

Djibril added that Prolinnova is also about the philosophy of doing things. Thus, we need to have it institutionalised among the stakeholders that are members of the platform. If this has been achieved, then even without funded projects they can still make progress. For example, in Senegal from 2003 to 2020, they had no funds but their host organisation was using the PID approach so could still contribute to the network even without funding. Before trying to get external organisations to institutionalise the approach, it is up to the NSC members to be integrating it into their work.

Joe highlighted that, within CPs, it is important to find an active, resourced organisation that is able to host a CP. For example, ACDEP has different funding sources so they have been able to host the platform for about 20 years. It means that they can make funds available for networking while they are looking for funding. He added that, with the efforts to create subregional platforms, the SRCs have been providing support to non-project CPs to maintain some action.

Martha: To have a better coverage and scope and intensity of activities – need to fundraise and it is not easy and needs capacity, requires building relationships with funders.

Richard: Need knowledge about how to approach NGOs to join the platform as members as they might be able to support the platform. Wanyama added that NGOs are more flexible than governments and this is perhaps a problem specific to the Limpopo Province task team.

Koki suggested that we look at the strength of our institutions. His institution does teaching and learning, community outreach/engagement and research. Therefore, how can we bring PID into these

three activities? For example, infusing PID into extension modules. He emphasised that we should start by looking within before looking beyond. This allows for reporting on ongoing PID activities within the network.

Bangali: The host organisation is like African governments, they are dependent on funding and, when there is none, they cannot move. He suggested that organisations could establish farms to produce income for periods when there is no funding, which could allow implementation of the LIs it encounters. Secondly, CPs could do exchange visits to each other to see what innovation has been done on the organisations' own farms.

Nicole suggested that we had Covid 19 and realised everything is not about money. If they had no funded projects they could still organise themselves as Senegal did. If they build their capacity on LI and PID, they can continue activities, make use of online meeting opportunities. The organisations would need to be very motivated to continue to work together. Then they could reflect together on how to move the platform forward. It requires that the platforms need to have the capacity to implement the activities within their own programmes.

Augustin proposed that we need to diversify the number of funders in our programmes because, for some years, it has just been Misereor. We need to expand the number of funders to be able to support expanding the number of CPs.

Paul drew the session to a close saying that many useful suggestions have been made. He also said that we now have commitment from Joe that SRCs can engage with dormant CPs.

6 THURSDAY 26 OCTOBER 2023

This was the second day of the IPW.

6.1 Recap

Richard Chuene (LDARD) facilitated a recap session, asking each participant to write down one recollection from the previous day. This was an effective way to get feedback from the participants (see Figure 23).



Figure 23: Refiloe Thobejane (LDARD) pasting cards prepared by participants for the recap

6.2 Regionalisation and networking

This session was managed by Jacob Wanyama and Paul Jimmy, both being SRCs for Africa. They asked the participants to respond to three questions on cards and the responses are provided below.

1. What do you know about Prolinnova regionalisation?

- Eastern & Southern Africa (ESA) and WCA subregions
- Forming and developing Prolinnova in different districts/regions in South Africa
- Facilitating country-to-country learning

- Within continent
- Which are groups where national platforms are framed
- Constitutes strategy of sharing growth and mutual strengthening
- Organising continental platforms, for example, two subregions in Africa
- Stratification of the network into continental platforms
- Forming networks based on areas of similar production
- Creating strong African platforms
- Moving Prolinnova secretariat into the Global South
- Consolidating CPs into regions
- Making Prolinnova activities visible and institutionalised
- Create good dynamics with network based on SRCs
- Create regional platforms
- There is a structure to coordinate Prolinnova at regional level
- Create regional and subregional platforms
- Nothing, probably localisation of structures
- Collaboration within local institutions

2. Mention one thing you associate with Prolinnova

- Sharing experiences
- Recruitment of a SRC
- Coordination of activities with regional impact
- Collaboration with local institutions
- Sharing and exchanges of experiences
- Forming committees according to specific projects
- Country platforms
- Asian farmers innovation fair
- Setting up CP for promoting LI is also setting taskforce at regional level
- Prolinnova committees
- Common planning and support for one another
- Prolinnova Africa
- WCA and Asia platforms, ESA
- South–South backstopping
- Having active regional platforms in all regions
- South–South support between platforms
- Facilitating information flow

3. How important is regionalisation?

- Increase Prolinnova influence through dynamisation of CPs
- Allows for mutual and coordinated growth
- Decentralisation of programme and activities
- First leg of keeping CPs active
- Because it strengthens CPs
- It allows sustainable actions within the network through fund mobilisation
- Allows focus on local strength and opportunities
- Enhances regional and global networking on LI and PID
- Strengthens sustainability of Global South
- Knowledge sharing among members
- Makes it easy to promote LI

- Creates CP networking sharing of experiences
- Extends Prolinnova
- Strengthens CPs
- Enables unearthing of more LI.

This formed the basis for the rest of the session, which started with a presentation about the origin of the regionalisation process. This was provided by Wanyama.

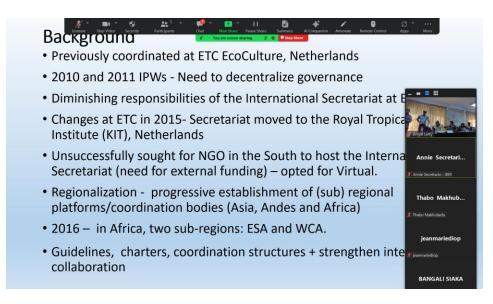


Figure 24: Background to regionalisation provided by Jacob Wanyama

The presentation provided a justification for regionalisation (i.e. decentralised and regionalised coordination structures with strong internal linkages; effective support capacity strengthening regional networking and policy dialogue/influencing; strengthening South—South backstopping/advisory; encouraging multi-CP sharing/learning and joint initiatives). The presentation also covered the current status of regionalisation as shown in Figure 25.

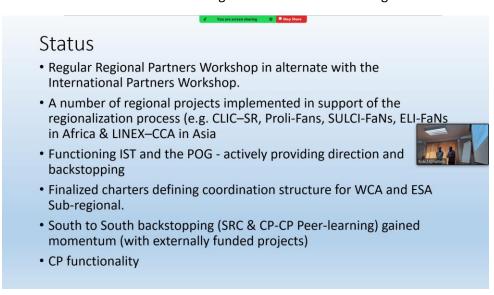


Figure 25: Status of regionalisation as presented by SRC Jacob Wanyama

Some additional points were raised during the presentation. It is important to note that some multi-CP projects were initiated before we actually initiated the regionalisation process. Wanyama highlighted the contribution of pro bono time to activities, such as from coordinators that are not from funded projects – for example, Mozambique. Even for CPs that are members of projects, there is a pro bono contribution from members. Wanyama also shared some lessons learnt from the process of regionalisation, such as:

- Tangible multi-CP initiatives supersede the establishment of formal regional structures and guidelines.
- There is a need for indicators to track progress towards regionalisation.
- CP membership is dynamic while more CPs continue expressing interest in joining, others are declared inactive (i.e. Uganda and Tanzania are dormant, Ethiopia is hanging in limbo and Sudan is having challenges, but some countries want to join – South Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo).

See Presentation 14: Presentation by Wanyama on regionalisation

Joint fundraising is an example of how to support regionalisation. Brigid initiated a discussion about what we have learnt from the experience with the Darwin call for proposals. Some of the CPs have tried to find funding from Darwin Awards but they did not succeed. The idea was initially to submit one covering Asia and ESA and another one for WCA in collaboration with African Biodiversity Network (ABN). Then, when the small grant amounts were found to be limiting, there was a decision to submit three (Asia, ESA and WCA). Ultimately, none was submitted. A number of challenges were raised by participants:

- Wanyama indicated that the call was sent to the CPs but there was little response
- Brigid indicated that SA didn't submit because it is just starting the new ELI-FaNS project
- WCA was led by ABN but they had a challenge to provide information on time
- Concept notes were submitted to ABN by Ghana and Senegal; however, there was no outcome
- Vincent indicated that the challenge could be on the communication channels because there
 was a confusion as to whether the call was for Asia or Africa, followed by contradictions in
 messages came through, followed by a period of silence
- Brigid concluded that CP concept notes were good could have been successful if the proposal
 was led by Prolinnova and not by a third party.

Then Wanyama concluded the session. He highlighted that there are subregional bodies that should facilitate the cross-border interactions and advise the SRCs. Asia has managed to have two regional meetings with their CPs. Wanyama asked for two comments/questions from each participant based on the discussions. These were written on cards and some of them were then shared with the participants.

Joe made a comment that this process was started under Proli-FaNs and then taken through SULCI-FaNS and yet, by the end of 2022, this had still not been achieved. He said that, in previous phases, the focus was on trying to strengthen CPs and keep them active. Then there were changes in SRC appointments. Thus, it was necessary to convince Misereor that we still needed to include

regionalisation as a project activity so the Regionalization process has to be concluded by the end of 2025, when ELIFaNS Project closes.

6.3 Preparation for the International Farmer Innovation Fair

Vincent Mariadho (WN) explained the process to date, in particular that, after initial discussions with the 11th Hour Project, he was invited to submit a proposal as part of the formal process. They will set up a planning committee next week. It will take place 8–12 April 2024. It will be structured in three ways:

- A panel discussion bringing perspectives of academic, innovator, research and other agricultural research and development actors regarding the PID approach.
- Farmer exhibition where they exhibit their innovations
- Plenary session for feedback and consolidation, leading to the Nairobi Declaration.

CPs participating in person will be those in Kenya, Burkina Faso, Benin, Cameroon, Ghana, Mozambique, Senegal, SA, Mali, Sudan and Uganda. It will also be live on Facebook, Prolinnova YouTube and a local media house in Kenya. Each CP will be able to bring two people: one farmer innovator and an accompanying Prolinnova person.

Some questions from people online:

- Bangali asked what sort of innovations can be brought to the fair. Vincent said that the
 planning committee will discuss this and provide guidance. This will have to take into account
 the types of materials that will be allowed through customs into Kenya.
- Martha asked whether others can attend. Vincent said that, if others can cover their own costs, then they can participate. Another organisation from Somali (Tearfund) will also bring its representatives.
- Diakite had a question about using the event to support regionalisation. He asked if regional
 organisations such as ECOWAS will be invited. Vincent said that they will be invited to
 participate online or self-fund themselves.

6.4 Inspiring talk: Agroecology and what it means for Prolinnova

Brigid welcomed Oliver Oliveros, who is the coordinator of the Agroecology Coalition. Oliver highlighted that he has been an instigator in the Prolinnova network. He added that, this time about 20 years ago, he was with some of us at the IPW in Cambodia and today he is back in Siem Reap. Also, the host of Prolinnova–Cambodia at that time was CEDAC and the people with whom he is now meeting in Siem Reap at the time of the current IPW had been with CEDAC and now hold key positions in government. Furthermore, they are also pushing participatory approaches within the Ministry of Agriculture.



Figure 26: Presentation made by Oliver Oliveros as an inspiring input into the IPW

See Presentation 15: Presentation by Oliver Oliveros on the Agroecology Coalition

Oliver highlighted that current food systems based on industrial agriculture are not sustainable. This is why we need to achieve transformational change. Agroecology (AE) is seen as an effective approach to achieve this (list of strategies/papers that support AE included in his presentation). Back over 20 years ago, Prolinnova was using the term ecologically oriented agriculture even before agroecology became the buzzword.

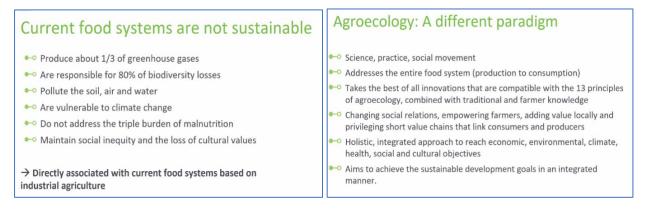


Figure 27: The benefits of agroecology



Figure 28: Overall purpose of the Agroecology Coalition as presented by Oliver Oliveros

The 13 principles of AE are related to Recycling; Input reduction; Soil health; Animal health; Biodiversity; Economic diversification; Social values and diets; Fairness; Participation; and Land and natural resource governance.

Oliver provided an overview of the members of the AE Coalition, which include a range of stakeholder groups. In addition, a number of countries have joined the Coalition. Those that have joined that happen to have Prolinnova CPs are Senegal, Mali, Ghana, Ethiopia, Cameroon and Burkina Faso. The AE Coalition has a steering committee with representatives of different stakeholder groups as well as five working groups.

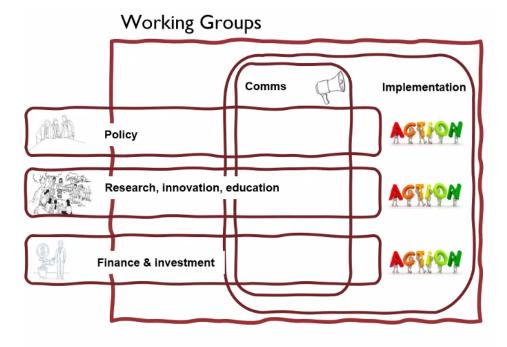


Figure 29: Working groups of the Agroecology Coalition

There are three work streams for the AE Coalition:

- Facilitating co-creation and exchange of knowledge
- Promoting need for increased investments in AE
- Seeking political engagement and increased commitment to AE transformation.

They are currently busy with a strategic consultation process about activities that need to be undertaken that relate to the three work streams. Also, before the end of the year, there will be a series of information sessions, including funders where we can obtain information about what they are looking for.

A number of questions were raised following the presentation:

Nicole asked whether only AE cases are documented or also the processes of co-creation. Oliver responded that they will be documenting the process of transformation to demystify the 13 principles.

In response to a question from Parfait, Oliver highlighted that they are trying to put together evidence that AE is a robust approach (including scientific evidence from peer-reviewed journals). They will make that available on the website and also evidence from what different actors are doing at the grassroots. They will ask partners to share experiences monthly, lessons learnt, results, and which principles that are illustrating. They are also building a case for supporting AE (such as AE and climate), using science and practice.

Thabo asked who the potential agents for accelerating transformation of food systems will be, given that there has been back-peddling in the government as well as among farmers. Farmers were practising AE, and now the scientists are saying we have a new thing instead of saying going back to ways that you used to do things. Oliver's response: we need to use all the entry points available – research, civil society organisation, government as well as the different work streams (policy, finance and information). These things also need to happen at once to achieve transformation.

Inputs made available by Oliver:

Link to the Agroecology Tracking Tool

https://agroecology-coalition.org/agroecology-finance-assessment-tool/

Recording of the CFS event yesterday focusing on Financing Agroecology and the launch of the AE Tracking Tool

https://agroecology-coalition.org/press-release-a-new-tool-to-track-agroecology-funding-streams/

Djibril, as Global Prolinnova focal point in the AE Coalition, and Brigid thanked Oliver for his contribution and highlighted that we look forward to future engagements.

6.5 Discussion about what agroecology means for Prolinnova

Brigid asked the participants what they think AE means for Prolinnova:

Joe responded that with, our projects focusing on food and nutrition security, most of them
do in fact address organic agriculture and AE, in ways that build resilience to climate change.
He feels that this should be a key element of the innovations that we support.

- Vincent highlighted that one of the principles of AE is to have linkages between the systems –
 between those who use ecosystem services. The innovators are coming up with innovations that address the challenges of unhealthy interactions in the ecosystem.
- Nicole added that for her, contrary to industrial agriculture, AE seeks sustainability of natural resources and not just maximising yields. If resources are destroyed, we cannot talk about production.
- The last point came from Jackson Kadiaka, representing the farmer perspective. He said that
 AE mimics nature and the different elements support each other without compromising
 ecosystems.

6.6 Webinar session

Wanyama started by providing some background about how the Covid pandemic made us realise that we can engage online. The first webinar series was related to a theme about linking with universities and research institutions (as a way of informing young people, given that they are moulded by universities, this is an entry point). The aim was to share experiences about how activities have contributed to integrating the PID approach into institutions of research and higher learning. The nature of the three webinars in the series is presented in Figure 30.

The next webinar in the series will take place on 7 December 2023 and will focus on networking and resource mobilisation to support the process of integrating PID concepts and practices into universities and research institutions. Wanyama provided some detail on the webinars. There were five presenters in the first webinar and there were three presenters in the second webinar. At the next one, there will only be one or two presenters to allow for more discussion.

Webinar themes

Webinar 1 on 19 April 2023: Share experiences of Prolinnova Country Platforms (CPs) collaborating with university and research actors to put the concept of Participatory Innovation Development (PID) into practice within the ongoing processes of community development.

Webinar 2 on 16 August 2023: Building capacities within universities and research institutes to create conducive conditions for integrating PID and to stimulate reflection.

Webinar 3 on 7th December 2023: Networking and resource mobilization to support the process of integrating PID concepts and practices into universities, and research Institutions.

Figure 30: First set of webinars related to linking with universities and research

See Presentation 16: Presentation on webinar process

Webinar 1 has been documented and is available on the website. Some of the results are that:

• One needs a PID champion in the target institution

- Needs a reward system for lecturers and researchers (related to professional advancement)
- Capacity building of staff to influence attitudes
- Peer learning is important for example through exchange of ideas between members from different CPs.

Wanyama asked for input regarding future webinars:

- What advice would you give for more effective, fruitful future webinar series?
- What topics would you be interested in?
- Who would be interested in coordinating each of the identified topics?

Some responses from participants:

- Joe responded to 1 they are very important for sharing experiences towards building capacities towards achieving institutionalisation. However, the participation of CPs' stakeholders was not good. We need to take more advantage of these opportunities.
- Martha We still haven't managed to get the timing right as there has been no opportunity for interaction – due to too many presentations plus translation.
- Vincent added that, if we look at our stakeholders, we include universities. We should perhaps identify some students that can share their experiences from being attached to organisations.
- Augustin brought a question of the timing of the webinar. August is a month for holidays for employees in Burkina Faso, so they all went back to villages and did not have a good network.
- Ernest also agreed that we need to involve youth, given that they need to learn from our aged farmers. Thus, we should not just focus on youth in universities, but also focus on youth in rural communities. Perhaps this could be a topic of how to enhance youth involvement and youth entrepreneurship.
- Koki said that, in SA, many people have not had training in PID, so perhaps we need webinars that have different target audiences to ensure that even the basic principles are covered.
- Djibril involving youth in webinars in West Africa can be a challenge due to poor connectivity. This could be part of the experience sharing.

6.7 Institutionalisation documentation

Paul started the session by saying that all projects in Prolinnova have an interest in institutionalisation. There might be challenges encountered for members to actually use the approach in their own organisations. However, you should be able to follow steps to see how the approach has been used by some CPs, while others have not been able to. A good way to make this evident is to document the institutionalisation processes. One of Paul's goals is to create awareness for each of us that documenting institutionalisation is part of the institutionalisation activity of the project. By documenting the process, you don't find that you have come to an end and then have to try to remember what happened along the way.

So therefore, from now on, we need to see this as part of our daily activities. Documentation of the outcomes of the webinar series led by Violet on institutionalisation within universities and research, combined with documentation of institutionalising PID within governmental and nongovernmental development organisations, will yield a booklet that captures all this. A guideline / structure was designed to assist with documentation of the process. He also made a point that everyone should be aware that this guideline exists.

The Working Paper that has been drafted by Joseph Nchor (ACDEP) and Issifu Sulemana (Project Manager, Centre for Ecological Agriculture and Livelihoods, CEAL) was shared in the session. The aim

is for all cases to be first prepared as Prolinnova Working Papers, which are uploaded on the website, and then later published in a booklet. This Working Paper is on the Prolinnova website:

https://prolinnova.net/wp-content/uploads/2010/10/Nchor-Sulemana-PID-institutionalisation-in-Ghana-Oct-2023.pdf

Joe also shared experiences with documenting institutionalisation experiences. Prolinnova—Ghana decided to make a contribution. They found it was a challenging process with three months of information gathering and exchange of the document with Ann, who was assisting them. However, in the end, there is a strong case documented. Their experience with implementation is based on the local MSPs at the learning sites. An NGO partner at each site leads the project activities and draws in relevant stakeholders to support PID.

Since starting under SULCI-FaNS, the NGOs started institutionalising the approaches within their own organisations. The NGOs work closely with the Department of Agriculture (DoA) to implement the activities, which has capacitated extension staff and assisted with further institutionalisation. Nutritionists within DoA have assisted with improving the nutritional content of some of the local dishes. The Animal Production staff have led PID processes focusing on enhancing small ruminant feed supplements. The DoA has started to integrate the approach into their own work and their extension activities. They have showcased farmer innovators at national events. The Department also has much support from the District Director. Other members of the MSP have been interested and active but have not achieved the same level of mainstreaming.

Paul asked that attention be paid to the following things:

- This case by Joe is strong because in the MSP there are many stakeholders he chose those in the MSP that have been able to use the approach themselves after having received training.
- When doing documentation, look at organisations we are not sure how well they are themselves using the PID approach. Thus, we need to ask for evidence that shows that they have mainstreamed the approach. The webinar allowed us to see what factors have assisted with achieving institutionalisation.
- He also wants to mention that a case from Kenya is currently being documented and, when it
 is finalised, it will be shared via the same channels.
- Next step is to track down other cases from within our CPs.
- Senegal has its own case ongoing.
- After the Mali presentation at the IPW, it seems that they may have another case for documentation.
- All CPs should think of examples that they may have to share.
- The Ghana case can be used as a strong example on which other people can base their cases.
- The Ghana case is available in both English and French.

6.8 Open space session

There were three topics that emerged during the previous days of the workshop for discussion in the Open Space session:

- Adoption versus adaptation of local innovations
- Use of art and theatre as an approach in our work
- Strategy on regionalisation (decided to take this to action planning session).

6.8.1 Adoption versus adaptation

Martha started by asking whether we should talk about adoption or adaptation when we talk about scaling out. Adaptation is about picking something up but making some changes to fit the local context.

Joe said that Prolinnova is about promoting local innovation and is not about sharing innovations for other farmers to 'copy'. We want the culture of experimentation and creativity to spread – farmers becoming more research-oriented. For M&E, you might want to record the number of innovations, but actually want to monitor the extent to which the community has become more involved in experimentation. How do we monitor this change in behaviour?

Diakite said that it might depend on the project, if it is about building capacity for innovation and about achieving food and nutrition security, then we might need to look at other parameters. At this time, it might be important to see whether the people have used and/or adapted the innovation and then improved their livelihoods. He suggested that, with a project that has been in place longer, we need to see how the innovations have improved livelihoods. This might be of interest to certain donors. For example, PROFEIS is now needing to show whether the innovation has actually improved the livelihoods of the people.

Martha asked whether adoption and adaptation are mutually exclusive. Luther suggested that we perhaps need to formalise the steps from identifying LI through to achieving commercialisation (or scaling that can lead to tangible benefits – as added by Joe). He feels that adoption must occur before adaptation can take place. Joe also said that we need to have indicators and activities that lead to real livelihood impacts.

Martha then made the point that, while we try to institutionalise PID, we must be aware that some organisations are very results-oriented. For example, CGIAR will only change approaches if we can generate evidence that this contributes to improving livelihoods. Thus both, the strengthening capacity of farmers to adopt/adapt, as well as the impact of livelihoods require evidence of these as tangible benefits.

Diakite explained that documenting the process is very important – for example, they wrote it up in a policy brief and indicated the number of people reached. This is evidence for use in policy dialogue.

Vincent highlighted that adaptation is changing / customising. Adaptation is us adapting ourselves, e.g. adapting to climate change impacts. We are talking about 'adaptation'. In principle, innovation is a form of farmer adaptation.

6.8.2 Use of art and theatre

Alvim (CTO) initiated a discussion by saying that art is a part of life. We are born doing art. In our lives we always have roles to play (a person can have roles as priest, or father, or teacher, etc). This relies on creativity in our minds. When we work with farmers, we sometimes use terminology that is not accessible. Thus, in Mozambique, they have a large problem of illiteracy. People who cannot read and can speak only in their mother tongue. Thus, they use theatre to make things/concepts visible and to alert people to understand what is being talked about. Using theatre as a tool to fight for the rights of people.

There are many foreign companies that exploit and displace people, so they use theatre to sensitise people. Art is important as a way to engage people and to explain how they can take part in the process of change. Thus, they organise training workshops for the farmers and teach some theatre techniques

and how to produce public events to engage stakeholders so that their voice can be heard. They use a technique called Theatre Forum – a concept from Brazil. It helps people to share their challenges with others so that they can find solutions.

Alvim said he raised the issue of art because he feels that grassroots people are our target and we need to find ways to engage them to see how they can participate in the process. We e can use the local ways of songs and dance — we don't have to be experts in arts. Use short choruses and include information we are trying to share into those choruses. It is also a way of getting youth involved in the process.

Martha wrapped up the session as time was limited but she said she has seen theatre used in areas of gender-based violence and HIV/AIDS. We now have a chance to think about it more within the CPs. We concluded that we should take it as a challenge to see how far we can go with Alvim's idea.

6.9 Action planning

Brigid and Paul ran a session on action planning. Prior to the session, they worked through the action plan from the Africa Workshop in 2022 and removed all action items that had been addressed. This was an effective way of reducing the time required to work on the plan. The participants were then asked to add action items and later to indicate timeframes and responsible parties.

Table 1: Action Plan from the 2023 IPW and project meetings

No.	Actions	By whom	When
	ACTIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS	WORKSHOP	
1	Resigning of the Subregional charter for WCA _ or CPs to send signed copies	Paul to coordinate all CPs in WCA	30 Dec
2	WCA to establishing a task force advisory group	Paul with CPs coordinators	Q1 2024
3	Final webinar on linking with universities and research	Martha, Mawahib and Violet	7 Dec 2023
4	Set up a working group on digitalisation	Wanyama to assist Lisa for taking forward	January 2024
5	Mapping of existing activities within CPs using digitalisation	Wanyama to join Lisa to take this forward	July 2024
	NEW ACTIONS FROM IPW 2023		•
	Documenting institutionalisation case study in Mali	Paul and Diakité	February 2024
	Championing theatre in PID	Kenya CP (Vincent, Martha and Alvim)	No specific dates
	Developing strategy for regionalisation (forming working group)	Paul, Jacob and Djibril	January 2024
	Follow up on Asia webinar	Brigid	January 2024
	Continuing capacity building on resources mobilisation (i.e.,	Brigid	Ongoing
	Taking forward institutionalisation booklet	Paul to take lead	January 2024
	Prepare, translate and circulate the workshop report	Brigid, Joe, Wanyama and Paul	November 2023
	Plan for next year project partners / Prolinnova partners workshop	Brigid to raise with POG and motivate for IPW again	NSC decision by the end of December
	<i>wοι κοπορ</i>	Host countries: Senegal/Djibril; Benin/ Nicole	Brigid to take decisions to POG

Translation of existing documentation for sharing	Diakité and Paul	Jan 2024
Writing an article on LISF Senegal case	Paul and Djibril	TBC
Finalise, share and explain ELI- FaNS's M&E template	Brigid, Martha, Jacob, Joe and Paul	Dec 2023
Appropriate Technology magazine articles	Paul	November issue: Ghana, Burkina
	Wanyama to contact CPs with info	January issue
Developing indicators on institutionalisation	Part of M&E framework	
Encourage interested CPs to join Agroecology Coalition	Brgid to circulate info: contacts South Africa, Benin, Ghana, Mozambique, Burkina	End Dec
Develop guidelines to keep CPs active	Martha to take lead with support from Paul, Wanyama and Richard	Feb 2024
Share experience on MoU	Koki, Ernest, Vincent, Brigid	Dec 2023

6.10 Evaluation

Vincent had an evaluation session asking everyone to respond to the questions. Some of the responses were shared in plenary:

- Accommodation and food good and appreciated; need sockets for access to power
- General take on content well covered but time was short, relevant
- Discussions made sense, ways forward explained
- Needed more time for discussions; professional translation to allow simultaneous transition
- Field trip well planned, good food what worked best innovators shared stories
- General take topics treated with necessary depth and clarity; need more time for discussion
- Involvement of agricultural services and universities was shown from field trip
- Experience sharing between projects worked well
- Field trip good initiative, well organised innovators, well trained by services
- Project sharing, panel discussion worked well.
- Online participant despite virtual participation, I got impression I was in meeting, but technical problems was a weakness

6.11 Closure

An official vote of thanks was made by Luther Mkhonto (Scientific Manager: Crop Science at LDARD), He highlighted that they made every effort to bring managers here to show that they take it seriously, an opportunity to engage with international partners, even though we have different ways of operating. He added that the world is becoming smaller through technology – demonstrated through

this session. We don't have to spend a lot of money on travel as we can use technology – even though it was challenging. Another message he shared was that problems are always there, the world population is getting bigger, which requires more production – which can be achieved by innovation. It is the smallholder farmers that will ensure food security. Thus, we need to recognise and support their innovation. He said that the Department is happy to play their part. They think they can achieve their dream of food security through Prolinnova approaches. He wants us to think more about how we bring the youth in to take these actions forward, saying that we need a strategy to bring them in. There are initiatives like youth innovators hubs, so we need such efforts. He thanked everyone for agreeing to Limpopo hosting the IPW. He said that they promote such collaboration and recognise that the visitors took their time to be here.

Joe Nchor added that we have had a very interesting IPW, a workshop cannot go without any hitches. He thanked the Limpopo partners and the INR as host partner for handling logistics. He expressed his appreciation to all CP participants that made efforts to come and learn and share, including those on line that participated. He expressed gratitude that the project funds have been used well to allow mutual learning. He said that the keen interest from South Africa has been demonstrated during the visit. He thanked Misereor as the major funder of the workshop, highlighting that Misereor allowed us to mobilise funds from other line items to allow for the costs to be covered for the workshop. He concluded that we can go back with new learnings and be able to promote Prolinnova principles as an approach that can make an impact. He wished the next host success, whether it is Benin or Senegal.

PROGRAMME FOR THE ANNUAL PROJECT PARTNERS MEETING / INTERNATIONAL PROLINNOVA WORKSHOP – IPW 22–27 October 2023, Polokwane, South Africa

Date	Session detail (Times are CEST / South Africa time)	Responsible
Sunday 22 Oct	Arrival in Johannesburg and travel to Polokwane	Brigid & Thabo
Monday 23 Oct	08h00 Informal welcome and introductions	Brigid & Richard
	 Field trip to ELI-FaNS site 08h00 – gathering and share plan for day 09h00 departure to arrive 10h30 Programme Finish with lunch – organised by Drop-in Centre 14h00 Depart 15h30 Arrive back in Polokwane 	Richard
Tuesday 24 Oct	18h00−19.00 Set up marketplace Morning session • 08h00: Feedback from the field trip = capture on flipcharts, feed into the rest of the workshop activities	Ernest
	O8h45: Formal welcome by Dr Tshikolomo Programme overview – Brigid	Richard, Joe
	Shared session for ELI-FaNS and Proli-GEAFaSa- 09h30: Joe — introduction to ELI-FaNS and progress with implementation to date 10h00: Djibril — introduction to Proli-GEAFaSa (just starting)	ONLINE — Benin, Burkina Joe Djibril
	10h30 – 11h00 Tea 11h00 Proli-GEAFaSa CP feedback - Senegal Questions for clarity 11h30 Proli-FaNS-SULCI-FaNS – ELI-FaNS – CP feedback – Kenya, Burkina Faso (online) Questions for clarity	Wanyama, Paul
	12h30 Lunch Afternoon session: 13h30: CP status update from 3 ELI-FaNS CPs: SA, Ghana, Benin (online) Questions for clarity	
	 14h30: Panel discussion (SA, BF, Kemya, Ghana) Exchange around common themes (and working tea) – CPs to reflect on experiences from previous phase and current phase a. How easy is it to identify local innovation? What works well? South Africa – examples b. How did you select cases for PID? If you have started, what are the roles of the stakeholders? Burkina Faso – from Proli-GEAFaSa c. What efforts have you made to mainstream/institutionalise LI and PID? – Kenya – university (Vincent) d. How far have you got with forming and strengthening local structures? – Ghana (5 min about using the MSP) 2. 16h30 Closure A by Structures (Shana) – CPs to reflect on experience of the store of the stakeholders? What works well? b. How far have you made to mainstream/institutionalise LI and PID? – Kenya – university (Vincent) d. How far have you got with forming and strengthening local structures? – Ghana (5 min about using the MSP) 2. 16h30 Closure D. Structures (Shana) – CPs to reflect on experience of the store of the s	Brigid & Djibril One CP has a chance to make a 5-min input at the start of each of the questions and then a discussion about how other CPs did it.

Wednesday	Morning session:	ONLINE – BENIN
25 Oct	08h00 Parallel project sessions	Joe
25 000	• Eli-FaNS	James – EliFaNS
	Financial reporting 90 min	Janies Emans
	10h00–10h30 Tea	Brigid – Eli-FaNS
	○ 10h30–12h00 M&E framework 90 min	Joe – ELI-FaNS
	 12h00-12h30 Administrative session 30 min Proli-GEAFaSa 	Vincent/Richard
		Diihail
	 Analysis of LI using framework (BF and Senegal) 	Djibril
	13h00 Lunch	
	Afternoon session:	OPEN ONLINE
	• 14H00: FORMAL OPENING OF THE IPW by IST Member	SESSION
	 Input from the POG 15–20 minutes including questions & translation 	Lisa/Suman
	 Summary of feedback from Tuesday's exchange around common themes – and a short introduction to the two projects. 	Augustine, Abdou
	 Reports from online participants from Asia and Africa 	Ernest
	 Reports from non-project CPs present: Mozambique, Mali 	Wanyama
	 Discussion – how do we keep CPs active or revive them? 	Paul
	Closure: 17h00	
Thursday	Morning session	
26 Oct	• 08h00 Recap	Richard
	 08h30–10h00 Regionalisation and networking (90 min) 	Paul, Wanyama
		Ernest – ONLINE
	10h00-10h30 Tea	facilitator
	• 10h30–11h15: Preparation for the International Farmer innovation Fair	Vincent
	 11h15–11h45: Inspiring talk on the Agroecology Coalition – Oliver Oliveros 	Brigid
	 Confirm what is agroecology and benefits for farmers. 	· ·
	 Case for participating in the coalition (incl. background) 	
	 11h45–12h15 Plenary discussion – what does it mean for us? 	Facilitator tbc
	Lunch 12h30-13h30	
	Afternoon session	
	13h30 Webinar process – update, reflection & way forward	Wanyama
	 14h30 Discussion about institutionalisation working paper 	Paul
	 15h00 Open Space (to address issues arising) plus Working Tea 	Martha
	• 15h45 Action planning	Paul, Brigid
	• 16h15 Evaluation	Vincent
	16h45 Vote of thanks	Richard, Joe
	17h00 Closure	,
	SOCIAL EVENING – THURSDAY NIGHT AT THE HOTEL	Limpopo team
Fri 27 Oct	Depart from Polokwane	Brigid, Thabo

Internal translation: Paul and Djibril (French/English); Alvim and Wanyama (Portuguese/English)

Online translation for IPW: Sarr Papa Makha (French/English)

APPENDIX 2: OPENING SPEECH GIVEN BY DLARD CHIEF DIRECTOR

WELCOME REMARKS TO PROLINNOVA INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS WORKSHOP

Program Director, Distinguished Delegates of Prolinnova network from Ghana, Kenya, Senegal, Mozambique, Mali, Benin and Burkina Faso, Delegates from various institutions in South Africa, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, good morning.

The world is experiencing a myriad challenge, and these include those related to the environment and the socio-economic and political challenges. Among the major environmental challenges is the climate change and its associated occurrence of increasing temperatures and frequent droughts. Socio-economic challenges often manifest in the form of poverty and associated higher levels of crimes, while politically conflicts, wars and displacement of populations continue to be major problems.

Programme Director, of these challenges, our beloved continent Africa continue to be hard hit. While the world requires solutions to these challenges in order to achieve the ideal of better life for all the global citizens, Africa requires solutions the most.

As I listened to the talk on Prolinnova yesterday, I was convinced that it is an important programme for bringing about some of the solutions the world so desperately requires, be it socio-economic or technical solutions. As a result, I urge you to continue strengthening this important programme.

We are therefore greatly honoured as South Africa to have been accorded the opportunity to host the Prolinnova International Partners Workshop. We must also express our gratitude to Prolinnova South Africa for choosing Limpopo Province for the workshop.

With these words I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you all to South Africa, and indeed to Limpopo Province. I urge you to have some time, even if it is outside the schedule of this workshop, to explore our Province. About 200km to the east of Polokwane City where we are is the world-renowned Kruger National Park, and there are many more attractive sites around the Province. May I again say you are welcome, and I wish you a successful workshop.

I thank you.

APPENDIX 3: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Country	Individual representing country
Ghana	Joseph NCHOR
Ghana	Samuel AYAMGA
Kenya	Vincent MARIADHO
Kenya	Martha OPONDO
Burkina Faso	Augustin OUEDRAOGO
Kenya	Jacob WANYAMA
Benin	Paul JIMMY
South Africa	Brigid LETTY
South Africa	Thabo MAKHUBEDU
South Africa	Jackson KADIAKA
South Africa	Refiloe THOBEJANE
South Africa	Mpho TSHIKORORO
South Africa	Ernest LETSOALO
South Africa	Richard CHUENE
South Africa	Kabelo MADIA
South Africa	Khathutshelo TSHIKOLOMO
South Africa	Charlotte MOHLABI
South Africa	Mkhonto LUTHER
South Africa	Koki MPHAHLELE
South Africa	Elliot ZWANE
South Africa	Lucy SEABI
South Africa	Keletso MAKGOPA (Marketing & Communication Team)
South Africa	Khensani MSIMANG (Marketing & Communication Team)
South Africa	Thabang MAFODI (Marketing & Communication Team)
South Africa	Caroline KHOZA (Marketing & Communication Team)
South Africa	L LESEDI (Marketing & Communication Team)
Senegal	Djibril THIAM
Senegal	Abdou THIAM
Mozambique	Mirian Solange de Oliveira MORGADO
Mozambique	Alvim COSSA
Mali	Bourama DIAKITE
ONLINE PARTICIPANTS	
Burkina Faso	Siaka BANGALI
Burkina Faso	Parfait SAKA
Benin	Nicole SARAH
Europe	Ann WATER-BAYER
Europe	Lisa VAN DIJK
Philippines	Annie SECRETARIO
Mozambique	Romuald RUTAZIHANA
Mozambique	Gilda FAFETINE
Europe	Jean Marie DIOP
DRC	Adeline NSIMIRE
DRC	Boniface BAHIZIRE