

ATELIER

INTERNATIONAL COLLECTIVE FOOD STRATEGIES

Action research



RESEARCH AND INNOVATION IN AGROECOLOGY

LED BY THE ORGANIZATIONS
FARMERS FOR SUSTAINABLE FOOD
SYSTEMS

22
WEDNESDAY
2023

NOVEMBRE
FROM 8H30 TO 17H

EXCHANGE WORKSHOP
ON
ACTION RESEARCH
AND THE FO-RI
PROGRAM

at CRA-W
rue de Liroux
5030 Gembloux

*The address will be sent to you with
your registration confirmation.*

Online participation possible, link
sent after registration

REGISTRATION BEFORE NOVEMBER 14 VIA
[HTTPS://FORMS.OFFICE.COM/E/HHA2XWEWJV](https://forms.office.com/E/HHA2XWEWJV)



Agroecology is vital for farmers in developing countries, and African farmers in particular, as it promotes sustainable methods adapted to their ecosystems. It helps preserve biodiversity, improves soil quality and reduces dependence on costly chemical inputs. This approach is also economically beneficial, as it increases resilience to climate change and ensures stable yields.

Action research plays an essential role in enabling farmers to produce better. It facilitates the adaptation of agroecological practices to local contexts, engages farmers in the innovation process and strengthens their skills. This collaborative approach ensures a better understanding of local farming systems and fosters the development of innovative solutions, increasing the productivity and sustainability of African agriculture.

Many African POs are already involved in these processes, with the support of their partners in the AgriCord alliance of agri-agencies. Through the FO-RI program, the European Union (INPTA) is funding this agro-ecological research and innovation led by POs for sustainable food systems. 13 FO-RI projects are being implemented in 17 countries worldwide, in Latin America, the Caribbean, Africa, Asia and the Pacific. The program has several main thrusts. On the one hand, improving the active promotion and influence of stakeholders on issues related to action research

Stilman, Director of the "Sustainability, Systems and Prospects" Department

on innovative agroecological approaches. Secondly, to build the capacity of producers, POs and partner entities to lead a farmer-led action research process in support of agroecological innovation. Finally, the program aims to increase farmers' local know-how in the application of agroecological approaches and innovation for sustainable and resilient agroecological systems.

To enable the various partners involved in this program to share their experiences and build their capacity for action research in agroecology,

The Collectif Stratégies Alimentaires, in collaboration with AgriCord and Asprodeb, have decided to organize this workshop, which will enable us to reflect together on a number of key research-action questions:

How can we bring together relevant research themes that effectively meet farmers' needs?

How can we create a space for collaboration between the various research partners? How can we guarantee the scientific rigor of protocols and the appropriation of experiments by farmers?

These are just some of the questions that arise during the course of a project, and whose resolutions deserve to be considered and shared.

8:30 a.m. - Coffee reception

9:00 - Introduction to the workshop, by Nael El-Housseini, FO-RI Burundi Project Manager at CSA and Martin Agboton, *AgriCord Programmanager*

9h15- Welcome to the Centre wallon de Recherches agronomiques and presentation of its activities in relation to the workshop theme, by Georges Sinaeve, *Director of the CRA-W and Didier Stilman, Director of the CRA-W's "Durabilité, systèmes et perspectives" Department.*

9h35 - 11h05 - Presentations and exchanges of experience on FO-RI projects :

"Strengthening participatory research-innovation on agroecology for a more productive and sustainable food system among family farmers in the Imbo region of Burundi" by Jean-Marie Ndayishimye, technical coordinator of CAPAD (Confédération des Associations des Producteurs Agricoles pour le développement).

"Contribute to a more productive and sustainable food system in North Kivu (DRC) by innovating agroecological practices for more sustainable soil management and pest control" by Lukando Mu-hindo Kisoki, coordinator at LOFEPACO (Ligue des Organisations des Femmes Paysannes du Congo).

"Contribute, through farmers' proposals on rice from the Casamance terroirs, to the dynamics of agro-ecological transition promoted by the Government of Senegal "by Ousmane Ndiaye, Managing Director of ASPRODEB (Association Sénégalaise pour la Promotion du Développement à la Base).

"Building resilience with trees: climate proofing of services provision by local farmer organisations in Tanzania" by Adrián A. Monge Monge, Climate & Adaptation Advisor at FFD (Food and Forest Development).

"Improving productivity and profitability of sunflower value chain by enhancing women's participation in Arusha Region of Tanzania." by Joseph Katoka of We effect.

"Action research on agroecological practices for the development of the local chicken industry in Cameroon" by Evely Crismabe of AFDI (Agriculteurs Français et Développement International).

11h05 - 11h20 - Presentations of INPTA's EU commitment to agro-ecology and research by Guy Faure, INPTA

15-minute break

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11h40- Workshop on the research-action process, focusing on the stages of consultation and definition of research themes and scientific protocols, and articulated around the different project experiences and difficulties encountered.

Working group led by Laurent Dietsch, trainer and expert with GERDAL (Groupe d'Expérimentation et de Recherche: Développement et Actions Localisées).

The workshop is built around the difficulties and issues highlighted during the FO-RI project presentations, based on the following themes:

- "What can we do, in concrete terms, to bring together action research themes that respond effectively to farmers' problems?"
- "In concrete terms, what can be done to consult and implement AR protocols that strike the right balance between scientific-technical rigor and the participatory dimension?"

Lunch

2:00 p.m. - Plenary session feedback from working groups, moderated by Laurent Dietsch

Summary and roadmap

15:30 - Panel discussion: Structuring and setting up a capitalization initiative on action research and innovation in agroecology, and how to use it in policy dialogues and advocacy on these themes at national, regional and international level?

- ROPPA (Network of Farmers' Organizations and Agricultural Producers of West Africa)
- Collectif Stratégies Alimentaires (CSA)
- AgriCord, Martin Agboton

17h00-17h30 - Summary, by Ousmane Ndiaye, Asprodeb and Katja Vuori AgriCord

THIS EVENT IS ORGANIZED BY



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