



**– International Fund for Agricultural Development –
– Identifying and sharing innovation in Western and Central Africa –**

– Frameworks for promoting coherence and convergence at the village level –

I. Context

1. Name of the innovation

Frameworks for promoting coherence and convergence at the village level

2. Country – Region

Senegal

3. Organization

Agricultural Development Project in Matam (PRODAM)

4. Who is the innovator?

PRODAM

5. Actors involved

Local community
Professional organizations
Government technical services

6. Starting date

2005

7. Type of innovation

Institutional

II. Key concepts

8. Summary

Village-level frameworks are intended not only to consolidate the PRODAM's anchorage within the current institutional environment, but also to develop synergies among the various actors and support rural councils in defining their programmes and coordinating interventions. The benefits include the following:

- Better coordination of local development actions
- Synergies among grass-roots actors' actions
- Rationalization of project intervention resources
- Sustainability of grass-roots interventions

9. What problems does this innovation seek to solve?

Inasmuch as projects lack direct skills in certain spheres and their interventions are limited in time, they have to play a catalysing role with a view to fostering sustainable relationships among village authorities, farmers' organizations and local partners who can supply the services they need on a permanent basis (training, agricultural advice, loans, infrastructure etc.).

10. Factors for successful replication

This intervention mechanism can be applied to all local communities to the extent that the decentralization policy gives them responsibility for stimulating and coordinating local economic development, mobilizing local and external resources, and promoting consultation and partnership among actors.

11. Main results

Information and sharing workshops organized in the 14 rural communities of the Matam region led to:

- Identification of development programmes for the local communities concerned
- Identification of the main actors in the rural community
- Definition of the roles and tasks of each actor
- Structuring of interventions within village-level frameworks
- Assessment of the possibilities of synergy among the various actors' actions
- Distribution of texts on decentralization
- Training of actors on the various aspects of decentralization
- Training of locally elected officials on drawing up and implementing a rural community's budget and on managing markets

12. Target group(s)

All the members of rural communities

13. Difficulties encountered

Points requiring improvement:

- Boosting of the various actors' capacities for collaborative management of grass-roots activities
- Boosting of locally elected officials' capacities
- Improvement in local people's understanding of the principles of decentralization and local development by disseminating texts etc.

14. Financial aspects

Cost of installing frameworks in ten rural communities = CFAF 42,000,000:

- Various workshops to provide information and identify actors and programmes = CFAF 4,000,000
- Training of actors = CFAF 15,000,000
- Production of local-language texts on decentralization = CFAF 3,000,000
- Formulation/updating of development plans = CFAF 20,000,000

Average cost per rural community = CFAF 4,200,000

III. Technical aspects

15. The approach adopted views the rural community as the context for planning and managing partnerships and planning development actions. The implementation process encompasses the following stages:

- Information meetings for the actors
- Organization of a workshop to review the local development plan and sectoral programmes within the rural community
- Organization of periodic workshops to evaluate progress, verify the coherence of interventions and make any necessary adjustments

IV. Further information

16. Key contacts

Name	Organization	E-mail
Mamadou Thierno Ba	PRODAM	thiernoba@prodam2.net prodam@orange.sn
Cheikh Fall	PRODAM	cfall@prodam2.net

17. Internet link

www.prodam2.org

18. Key documents (document title + link or contact or address)

Note de présentation cadre communautaire de cohérence et de convergence (= Introductory note on frameworks for promoting coherence and convergence at the village level)