



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

– Decentralized monitoring and evaluation –

I. Context

1. Name of the innovation

Decentralized monitoring and evaluation

2. Country – Region

Senegal

3. Organization

Agricultural Development Project in Matam (PRODAM)

4. Who is the innovator?

PRODAM

5. Actors involved

AKNB Federation, local communities, Timtimol FM Community Radio, government services and partner NGOs

6. Starting date

July 2005

7. Type of innovation

Institutional

II. Key concepts

8. Summary

The PRODAM has adopted a new monitoring and evaluation approach with a view to giving beneficiaries the tools and skills needed to collect and analyse data on their activities and operate their own monitoring and evaluation system. The various systems established exchange information and knowledge in order to implement the project effectively. With regard to grass-roots groups, the stress is placed on self-evaluation, while for umbrella groups and local communities, a computerized information system on their projects and activities is being developed.

9. What problems does this innovation seek to solve?

Monitoring and evaluation systems often focus exclusively on the needs of projects. Data are collected from beneficiaries as if “mining” them, and then processed at the project’s headquarters. Information is rarely reported back and the system is of little benefit to beneficiaries, although it could be very useful to them in improving their activities and any projects they put into operation.

10. Factors for successful replication

There is little difficulty in replicating the decentralized monitoring and evaluation system, but three points are vital: implementation of a training programme, local definition of the system, and support and supervision of beneficiaries.

11. Main results

- 80 leaders of the AKNB Federation, local communities and Timtimol FM Community Radio trained and updated yearly in planning, monitoring and evaluation
- Self-evaluation carried out by 90 producers’ groups and women’s groups in 2007
- Two information systems under development for the AKNB Federation and local communities
- A monitoring and evaluation unit set up by the AKNB Federation in 2006

12. Target group(s)

Members of 130 grass-roots farmers' organizations, the local federation and local communities. Listeners to Timtimol FM Community Radio (more appropriate programmes/broadcasts) may also be added.

13. Difficulties encountered

The following points require improvement:

- Development of an information system for the AKNB Federation and local communities participating in the trial phase of the coherence and convergence framework
- Implementation of a regional and local geographical information system

14. Financial aspects

The major costs concern the training programme and the development of information systems. There are practically no ongoing costs for the promoter.

III. Technical aspects

15. The following principles have been observed in implementing the intervention in order to maximize its chances of success:

- Participation of the actors involved at all stages
- Training in mastering new concepts in order to strengthen the organization, attitudes and practices of its members
- The design and introduction of simple, appropriate tools

All members of the farmers' organizations participate in the monitoring and evaluation of community activities. Documents and handbooks are available in the local language.

IV. Further information

16. Key contacts

| Name | Organization | E-mail |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
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17. Internet link

<http://www.prodam2.org>
(pages to be formulated)

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

Manuel d'auto-évaluation des organisations paysannes (= Self-evaluation handbook for farmers' organizations)
Rapports d'exécution de programmes de formation (= Reports on the execution of training programmes)
Systèmes de suivi-évaluation de la Fédération AKNB et des Collectivités locales (= Monitoring and evaluation systems of the AKNB Federation and local communities)
(documents to be placed online)