



**– International Fund for Agricultural Development –  
– Scouting and Sharing Innovation in Western and Central Africa –**

**– Installation of erosion control structures under agreements with the beneficiaries on objectives –**

## **I. Background**

### **1. Name of innovation**

Installation of erosion control structures under agreements with the beneficiaries on objectives

### **2. Country – Region**

Santiago Island, Cape Verde

### **3. Organization**

Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) and the farmers' organization OASIS

### **4. Who is the innovator?**

OASIS

### **5. Actors involved**

Beneficiaries through the local mutual aid association ASTBAL

### **6. Implementation date**

Third quarter of 2005

### **7. Type of innovation**

An institutional innovation involving the beneficiaries of a sustainable land management project and a farmers' organization

## **II. Key issues**

### **8. Summary**

The project implemented by the farmers' organization OASIS with CILSS funding is an erosion control project for a catchment basin in the Achada Leite area in the north-west of Santiago Island. The zone is mountainous and road access is difficult, which makes it hard for a commercial supplier to deliver farm equipment and other inputs. With a view to improving access and also empowering the beneficiaries, contracts regarding responsibility for implementation were made with the local association for execution of all the work under the project (purchase of equipment and material, negotiation of price and delivery, internal organization). Payment is made on the basis of observed results and the project plays no part in the purchase of equipment or in organization, but simply provides technical support for execution of the work.

### **9. What issues does the innovation address?**

This innovation seeks to enable optimal quantitative results to be achieved for simple soil rehabilitation initiatives by delegating the sum anticipated by the project to local associations under agreements on objectives. For the project, this approach solves problems of procurement and delivery in very inaccessible zones, leaving free scope to the beneficiaries to organize things. Apart from reducing the financial management burden, which is decentralized in an agreement on objective with a group, this mechanism helps to increase the involvement of beneficiaries and their assumption of responsibility for execution of the project's activities.

### **10. Key success factors for replication**

The association or group that implements the agreement on objective must be well enough organized to be able to negotiate with a local supplier and ensure transport logistics within its area. The presence of technical staff responsible for supervision and certification that the work has been properly carried out at the end of the contract, means that more than 95 per cent of the initial objectives can be achieved.

## 11. Main results

- Several dozen hectares of stone lines and semi-circles have allowed rehabilitation of pastoral and agroforestry land.
- Almost 100 per cent results have been achieved in a very short time.
- The beneficiaries have strengthened their capacities for coordinating the execution of technical installations, their negotiating capacities for the autonomous acquisition of equipment and material, and their capacity to execute a results-driven management contract.

## 12. Target groups

Local mutual aid groups in farming and herding villages

## 13. Difficulties encountered

This type of contract on objective with decentralized responsibility for execution means that the group must have a certain capacity for financial and logistical management. It also requires a capacity to coordinate beneficiaries. This type of approach, which is very effective in empowering the local level, means that the donor has to accept the risk inherent in this type of innovative contract with a fairly insolvent agent.

## 14. Financial aspects

Inasmuch as this type of organization is based on the cost of equipment and material and a percentage with regard to execution, it does not cost any more than a more conventional type of execution in an inaccessible zone, while also enabling major savings in management time.

## III. Technical summary

### 15.

The innovation is not technical, but solely organizational: innovative financial management and empowerment of beneficiaries based on technical results. This type of innovation has been identified particularly in Burkina Faso as efficient in the context of the SLM PATECORE project executed by GTZ.

## IV. Follow-up

### 16. Key contacts

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Bertrand REYSSET	CILSS	<a href="mailto:bertrand.reysset@cilss.bf">bertrand.reysset@cilss.bf</a>
Edesio CARDOSO (Portuguese language)	OASIS	<a href="mailto:edesiocardoso@gmail.com">edesiocardoso@gmail.com</a>

### 17. Internet link

### 18. Key documents (document title = link or contact or other details)

CILSS, Rapport d'évaluation externe et rapports de supervision de l'OP OASIS [External evaluation report and supervision reports on the farmers' organization OASIS].

These documents may be obtained from CILSS, but are not intended for general distribution at this stage. If the subject is of interest to you, a detailed presentation could be drawn up by CILSS and OASIS.