



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

– The three AFFICHES –

I. Background

1. Name of innovation

Formulation of local plans for grass-roots development actions using the three AFFICHES method

2. Country – Region

Burkina Faso, Western Africa

3. Organization

Second National Land Management Programme (PNGT2)

4. Who is the innovator?

PNGT2

5. Actors involved

- Village Land Management Commissions (CVGTs)
- Provincial Coordination Offices of the PNGT2
- National Coordination Office of the PNGT2

6. Implementation date

2002

7. Type of innovation

Institutional (an organizational innovation)

II. Key issues

8. Summary

The three AFFICHES method is a participatory planning and evaluation method for grass-roots development actions. It helps to involve local people in decision-making and responsibility regarding initiatives to change their living conditions, making use of a series of participatory techniques, most of them visual, which allow evaluation of the group's and the community's resources, measurement of progress toward the objectives and evaluation of results. Inasmuch as one of the main objectives of participatory projects is to develop the rural poor's capacity to identify and solve their problems, these people must take a direct part in all the phases of monitoring and evaluation. The final aim of the method is to enable rural communities to take charge of their own development and achieve "self-independence".

9. What issues does the innovation address?

- The three AFFICHES method enables rural communities to evaluate whether the group's activities are on the right track.
- It enables them to adjust or modify the development plans formulated, if this is needed in order to improve results.
- It ensures that community members take part in the planning and execution of activities so far as possible.
- It helps groups to improve their effectiveness by constantly evaluating their progress and periodically evaluating the results achieved.
- It allows lessons to be learned from past errors, furthering the group's self-advancement and optimizing its strong points.
- It boosts actors' capacities to solve problems and achieve self-advancement.

10. Key success factors for replication

- The low cost of implementing the method, which encourages participation and discussion by making use of visual expressions in general, through images, conventional signs and locally available materials.
- The information to be processed is collected by the communities themselves.

11. Main results

12. Target groups

- Rural communities (men, women, young people, old people)
- Farmers, herders, fishermen etc. in the programme's intervention zone

13. Difficulties encountered

- Illiteracy of the local population
- Lack of sustainability of the supports used

14. Financial aspects

III. Technical summary

The strategy is based on a codification of language during communication and use of the method. Formulation of a local plan using the three AFFICHES method focuses on the following points:

For the planning of activities:

- Mapping of the area showing the various zones: this makes it possible to situate the activities anticipated by the local people and also means that details connected with the choice of sites can be seen with the whole population.
- Organization of a timetable of work and identification of those responsible: this is a chart on which tasks are divided up and the various people responsible are indicated.
- Definition of how activities are to be executed: this entails identifying the human, material and financial resources needed in order to carry out the activities and is the stage at which a budget is drawn up.

For the monitoring and evaluation of activities:

- A pie chart enables grass-roots communities to monitor their own development activities and provides a regular picture of what has been achieved.
- A monitoring chart is based on the annual plan of activities, with a column (the accounts column) added on the right and a line below (the accounts line); an evaluation of how activities have been executed is carried out by marking slices on the pie chart (which has previously been divided into four with two intersecting lines) placed in the cells and taking the quantitative objectives fixed for the period in question as the starting point. This method provides a faster picture of the extent to which the local plan has been executed.
- A tree of truth allows those involved to evaluate grass-roots development actions and to visualize the progress made on a given activity since it was planned. It is a representation of a tree, with the various parts corresponding to different actions: the trunk corresponds to all the actions carried out during one campaign; each of the branches represents a planned development action; and the fruit symbolize the successful or unsuccessful results of a given action; their size reflects the importance of the action and they can be divided into four segments, each representing an evaluation criterion.

IV. Follow-up

16. Key contacts

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17. Internet link

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