



SERVInnov

SERVInnov is a project of LEAP-Agri Programme of UE



LEAP-Agri
A Long term EU-Africa research and innovation Partnership on
food and nutrition security and sustainable Agriculture

Description:

SERVInnov Project aims at strengthening innovation support services (ISS) to enhance innovations for sustainable food production, ensuring the well-being of rural populations, and reducing environmental degradation and resource depletion.

The challenge:

There is a need to address and improve the food production in Africa through sustainable, intensifying farming practices, and through effective cooperation among the multiple actors along the food value chains. Innovations within agriculture and across food systems are crucial to facilitate the private sector's (including farmer organisations) efforts and shifts in accomplishing economic growth and inclusive development. To solve these problems in a sustainable way, they need innovative initiatives. For this to happen, effective support for their initiatives is needed in terms of knowledge, facilitation and intermediation services.

Project objective:

To better understand the role of innovation support services in the development of agricultural and agri-food innovations taking into account the organization and the global offer of these services but also their ability to meet the demand for support. This understanding will make it possible to formulate recommendations to service providers and public decision-makers on support methods adapted to innovative initiatives in agriculture and agri-food.

TITLE: **ServInnov**

PROGRAMME: **Leap-Agri**

INSTRUMENT: **UA-UE Partnership on Science, Technologies and Innovations (STI).**

DURATION: **3 years (1st September 2018 – 31st August 2021)**

CONSORTIUM: **10 partners and 01 associated partner from 5 countries**

COORDINATOR: **CIRAD-UMR Innovation**

Hypothesis:

Innovations in agriculture and food systems are essential to facilitate economic growth and inclusive development.

General Research Question:

How, when and from whom innovative stakeholders in agricultural value chains can obtain innovation support services to enable them to successfully overcome problems and improve their livelihoods?

Methodology:

SERVInnov's global approach will be participatory and reflective, similar to an action research approach. This will help to collect information but also to formulate useful analyzes and recommendations for service providers and public decision-makers.

Expected results:

- Development of a conceptual framework on support systems for innovation;
- Characterization of innovation support services and their suppliers in the areas studied;
- Understanding the performance conditions of support services;
- Recommendations on strategies for developing and improving support systems for agricultural innovation and service provision.

SERVInnov's strengths:

- Originality of the topic:
 - At present, in developing countries, very few research and development initiatives address service providers and service provision as key components of innovation systems;
 - Multi-level interactive approach will be implemented to produce new knowledge and impacts.
- Mix between practitioners and researchers;
- Mix of fields of research (interdisciplinary)
- EU-AU partnership based on collaborative research.

Project Partners:

Research Partners:

- Le Centre de coopération Internationale en Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement (CIRAD), France ;
- University of Hohenheim (UHOH), Germany ;
- University of Dschang, Cameroon ;
- Le Centre d'Etudes, de Documentation et de Recherche Economiques et Sociales (CEDRES), Burkina Faso ;
- L'École Supérieure des Sciences Agronomiques de l'Université d'Antananarivo (ESSE), Madagascar;

Practice /development Partners:

- European Institute for Cooperation and Development, France (IECD);
- Groupe de Recherche et d'Echanges Technologiques, (GRET) NGO, France ;
- FIFATA, National organisation of producers, Madagascar
- African Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services(AFAAS), Uganda ;

Associated partner:

- International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), Cameroon

Location: :

Cameroon, Burkina Faso & Madagascar.

Funders:

- AFD (France),
- DLR-PT (Germany),
- MINRESI (Cameroon),
- FONRID (Burkina Faso)

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