

Authors: Hassen Ouerghemmi^{1,2}, Veronique Alary¹, Zahra Shiri^{1,2}, Mohamed Zied Dhraief³, Mariem Oueslati³, Rihab Mejri³, Udo Rudiger¹, Aymen Frija¹, Zied Idoudi¹, Asma Souissi¹, Boubaker Dhehibi¹, Amal Mannai¹, Mourad Rekik¹, Hichem Rejeb²

1 International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), Tunisia, 2 National Agronomic Institute of Tunisia, 3 National Institute of Agricultural Research of Tunisia (INRAT), Tunisia.

Introduction

Specialization and intensification of agricultural systems and the search for profit have guided the evolution of agriculture to new farming models emerging to respond to a growing demand for food, despite the complementary relationships between crops and livestock farming activities which have been documented in many studies. This trend has increased the vulnerability of farms to shocks, decrease land productivity and impair water use efficiency.

One of the major production systems in El Kef-Siliana transect is the tree-crop-livestock system which is nowadays characterized by many problems.

El Rhahla as a part of ALL is a typical zone where crop-livestock system is dominated, by a big herd of sheep raised on small olive groves.



Context

- Semi-Arid North & Central West Tunisia
- Crop– Livestock system
- Mixed small to medium-scale holders;
- Irregular rainfall 200 - 450 mm,
- Poor soils

Challenge – Small Scale Cereal-Sheep Systems

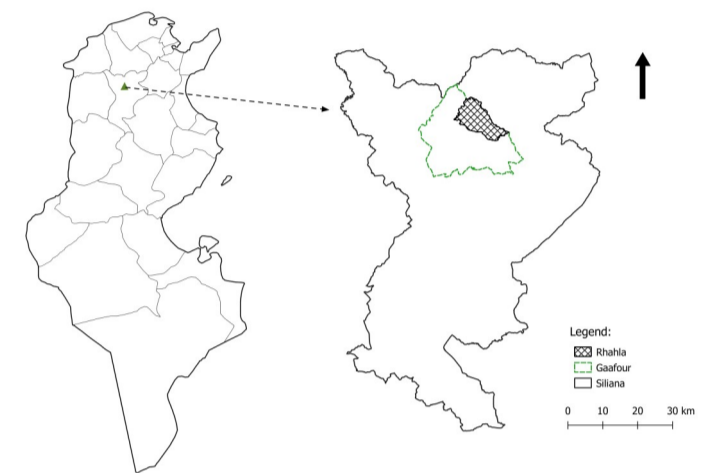
- Vulnerability of farms to shocks
- Poor management and weak integration
- Low productivity and incomes
- Lack of inputs (fodder)
- Natural resources degradation

Research question

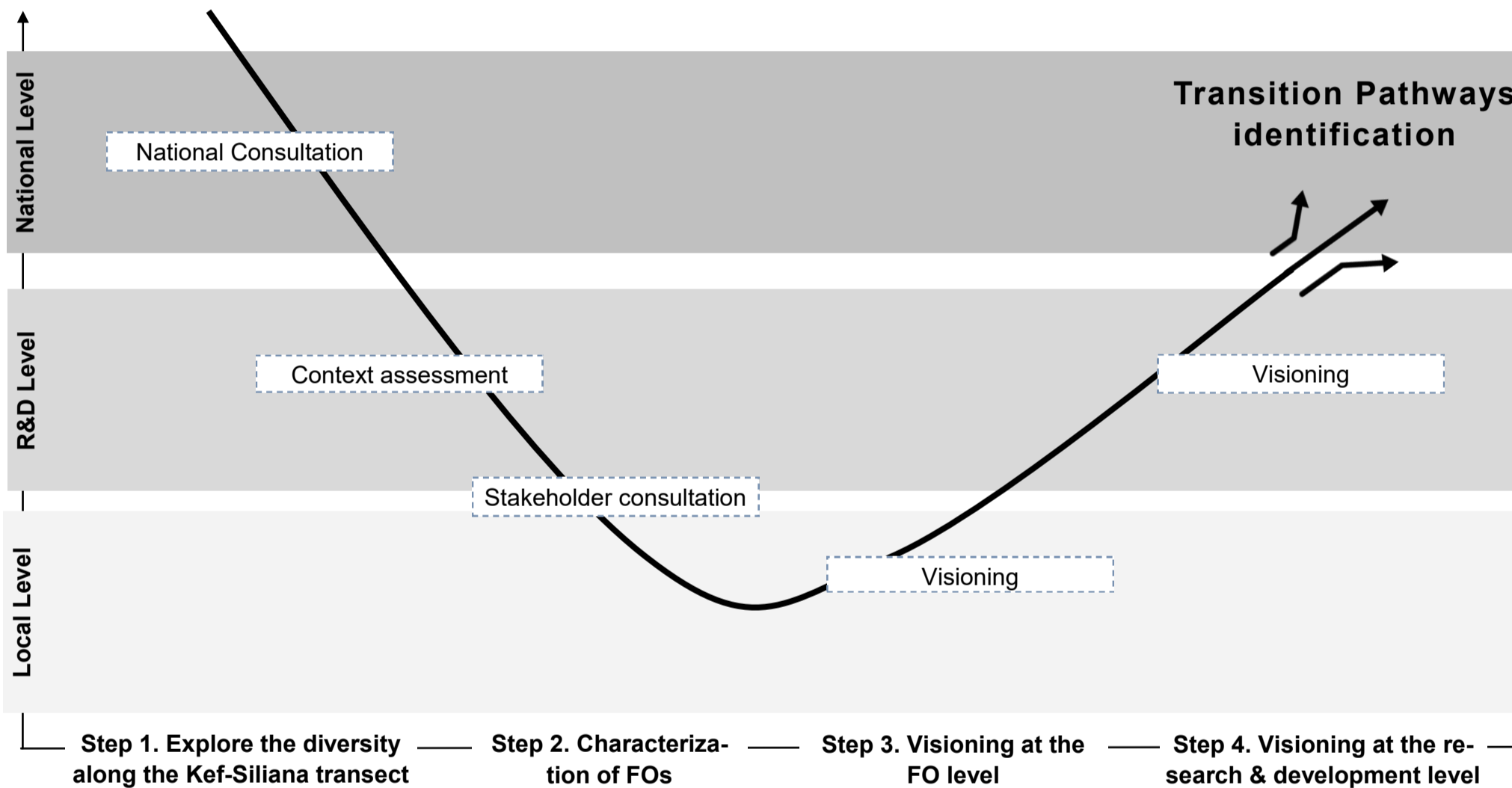
How to co-define a promoting transition pathway which can be reflected on field by actions?

Vision

The new paradigm of sustainable production intensification as a part of an agroecology transition process, recognizes the need for a productive and remunerative agriculture which at the same time conserves and enhances natural resources and positively contributes to harnessing the environmental services National level R/D level Local level Context Assessment.



Approach for Transition Pathways definition

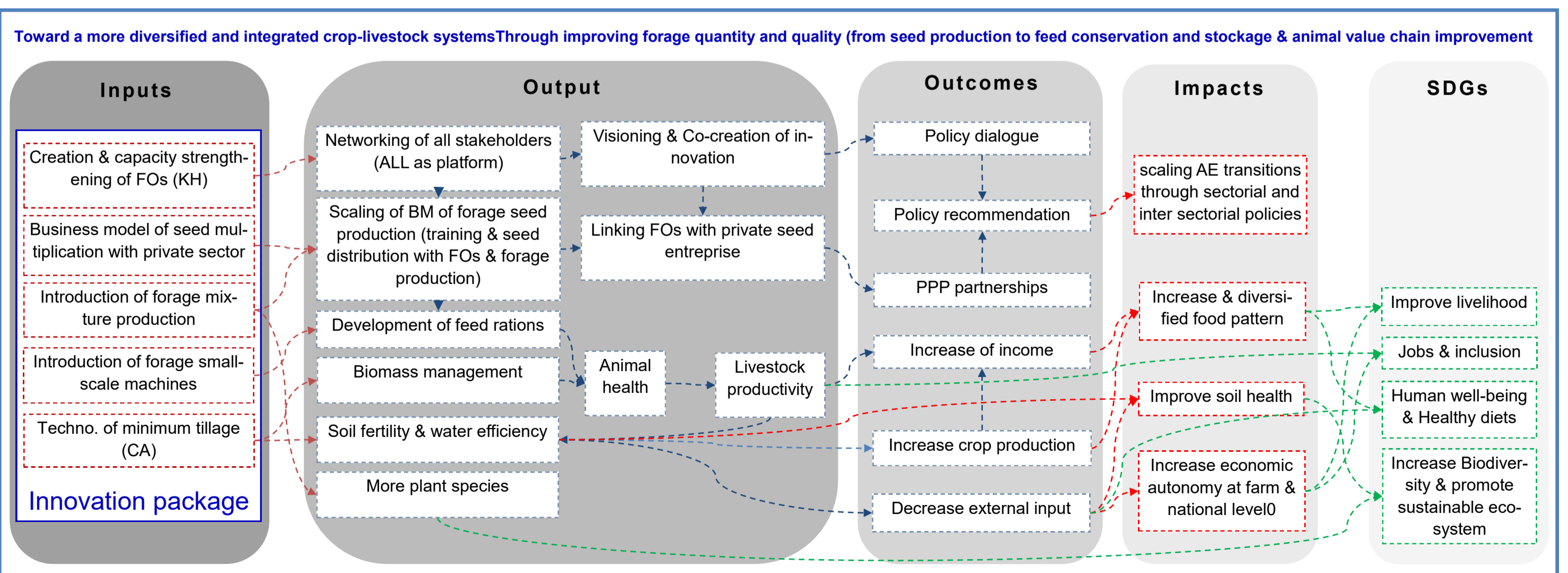


Visioning is a focus group discussion to think about the state of agriculture in one community / production system and its evolution, and identify one or more "desirable futures" for the agriculture within 10 years.

- Session 1. Initial plenary: why is it useful to identify a vision of what a desirable future would be?
- Session 2. State the agriculture today
- Session 3. Imagining a Desirable Future for Agriculture
- Session 4. Plenary with all groups
- Session 5. Synthesis



From Innovation package towards Impacts



Conclusion

This identified transition pathway is moving beyond supply-driven approaches that focus on R et D and specific technologies to a network-based setting in which a more inclusive, interactive and participatory approach fosters greater innovation in response to pressing challenges facing food and agriculture systems, but its efficiency still a subject to study and to evaluate using other appropriate tools and strong methodologies.