

Innovation processes in a smallholder goat development project: **Experiences from Mozambique**



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ImGoats project aims to

- Increase incomes and food security by enhancing pro-poor goat value chains (VC)
- Increase market opportunities through Innovation Platforms (IP)

Project implementation

- CARE Mozambique and ILRI
- Feb 2011- June 2013
- Inhassoro district (Inhambane province)
- >500 goat keepers in 22 communities
- 8 IP meetings organized

Data collection and analysis

- Detailed process reports of IP meetings
- Monitoring through Outcome Mapping
- Mainly qualitative assessment

Poster objective

To reflect on the dynamics of innovation processes in three innovation domains of the imGoats project in Mozambique

Elements of the innovation process in each innovation domain

Local context; Innovation type; Actors involved; Initiative; Changing context; Flexibility of project partners; Results.

Improving access to animal health services

- Context: no animal health services for goats CARE had experience with training paravets (community animal health worker) for cattle
- Innovation: technological and organisational \checkmark (paravets provide animal health services)
- Initiative: CARE/ILRI at project start
- Changes: limited refined existing extension and training models
- Flexibility. limited planned intervention, CARE and ILRI took initiative based on proven model

Improving market access

- Context: irregular goat sales, no goat markets CARE had experience with cattle fairs
- Innovation: organisational and institutional (increased coordination between VC actors, introduction of weighing scale)
- ✓ *Initiative*: IP members and CARE/ILRI
- Changes: goat market demand lower than \checkmark anticipated, traders reluctant to use scale
- ✓ *Flexibility*: quite high CARE and ILRI experimented with different market models e.g. local market, private sector, markets at longer distances



Development of communal pasture areas

- Context: most goats tethered, limited documented experiences in Mozambique
- Innovation: organizational and institutional \checkmark (collective action between smallholders, community leaders, paravets and local government; legalisation of areas)
- Initiative: IP members
- Changes: unexpected, not planned by CARE/ILRI \checkmark
- Flexibility: very high joint experimentation CARE supported local government to act on existing land use strategies

Results: 16 paravets trained, smallholders use and pay for services

Innovation process: planned, clear, CARE/ILRI led, familiar stakeholders, straightforward activities, predictable

✓ *Results*: 6 goat fairs organized to date

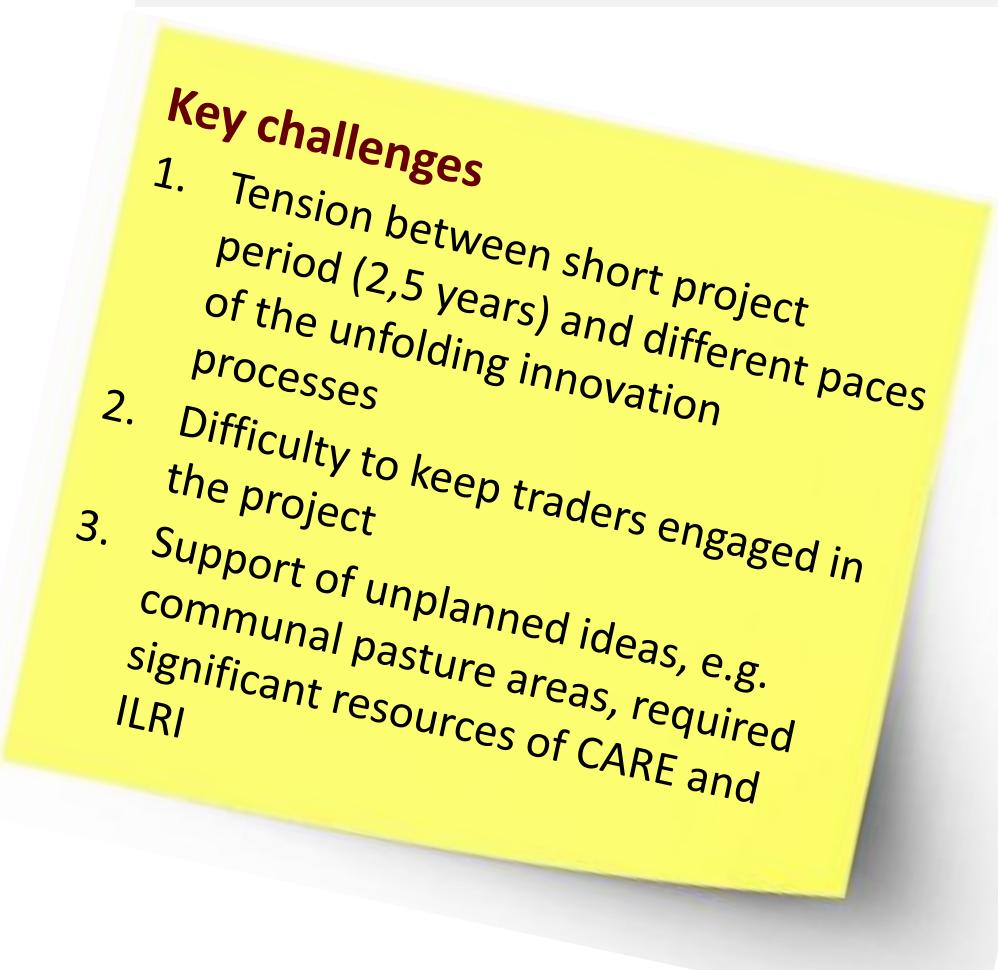
Innovation process: partially planned, led by IP members with CARE/ILRI, familiar and new stakeholders and activities, rather unpredictable

Results: Communal pasture areas identified and re- \checkmark used in 8 communities, but challenges remain (e.g. theft, lack of herders, uncontrolled fires)

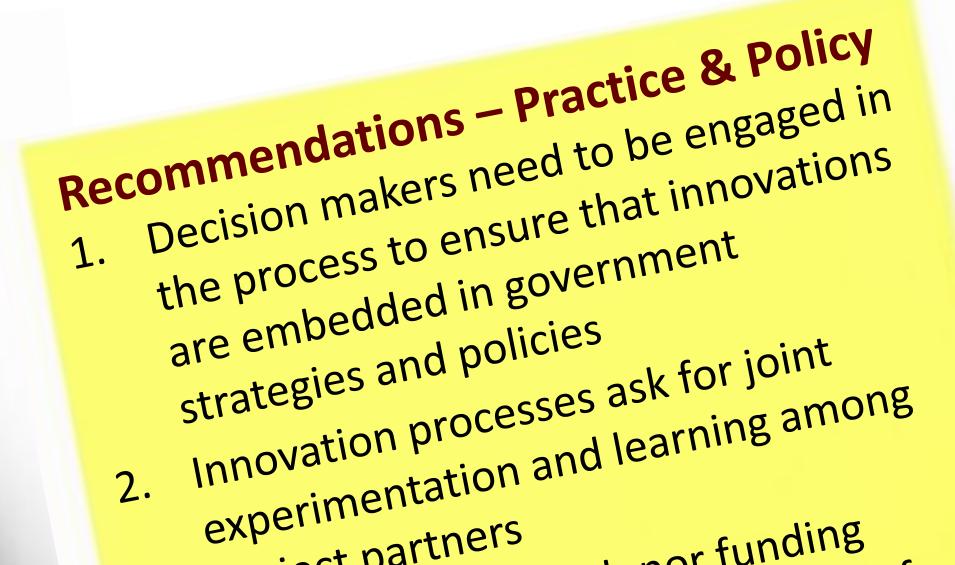
Innovation process: unplanned, led by IP members and other actors with strong input from CARE/ILRI, new stakeholders and activities, unexpected

Conclusion

Different innovation processes coexist in the same project context; all are justified and contribute to development outcomes.



Recommendations - Research 1. High diversity of innovation processes requires flexibility in and reflection on the roles of research in R4D 2. Interrelatedness of different



innovation types requires an integration of different types of knowledge and scientific fields Project design and donor funding should allow for a certain degree of Participatory M&E is needed to capture the dynamics of innovation 3. 3. processes and learning flexibility

More info: http://imgoats.org/

**** **JLIFAD** European Commission Enabling poor rural people





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