



Ministère de l'Agriculture,
des Ressources Hydrauliques
et de la Pêche



Direction Générale
de l'Aménagement
et la Conservation des Terres Agricoles



Training module on Knowledge Hub concept

Objective

The objective of the training is to make public and private stakeholders of the SWC@Scale (ICARDA / ProSol) project understand the importance and challenges of creating and co-designing technical and organizational innovations through the creation of knowledge hubs. The training also aims to enable participants to understand different steps and partnerships necessary to create a community-based knowledge hub as well as the importance of innovation packaging.

Background

The SWC@Scale project developed different SWC technology packages in Siliana and Kairouan through the creation of community based knowledge hubs. The technologies have been co-designed with the local community (farmer organization) and different research and development organizations like INRAT, INRGREF, OEP. The identified and tested technologies were chosen to tackle the most important production constraints of the farmers, like lack of forages and loss of soil fertility.

After testing the different technologies like the introduction of forage mixtures, leguminous crops, inoculation with Rhizobia, minimum tillage and small scale machinery for seed cleaning and feed production, the successful technologies were demonstrated nearby the knowledge hubs. Several multi-stakeholder meetings were organized to discuss the different technologies and scale them to areas with similar agro-ecological conditions.

As the concept of Knowledge Hubs has been proven to be very effective to develop and scale SWC technologies, the GIZ ProSol project decided to share and spread the KH concept to other ProSol partners to ensure sustainability after the end of the ProSol project.

Participants and length of the training

The training address 20 - 25 participants coming from public research and development institutions like OEP, INGC, INRAT, CTAB, CRDA and APIA. The length of the training is two days.

Training sessions

First day

Session 1 : Brainstorming on scaling using MENTI application

Length: 15 – 30 minutes

Objective: Participants will reflect about what they associate with scaling innovations in a “warming up” exercise

Methodology: Using the MENTI application three questions will be asked:

- i) What do you associate with scaling
- ii) What do you associate with agricultural innovations
- iii) What do you expect from this scaling workshop

Participants will use the application to respond to the questions. The results will be projected showing the major key words mentioned by the participants.

Materiel: Projector, laptops or smartphones

Session 2: Presentation and discussion on scaling and Knowledge hub concept

Length: 60 minutes (30 minutes presentation and 30 minutes discussion)

Objective: Participants will learn about scaling and knowledge hub concepts, developed by ICARDA

Methodology: The trainer will give a 30 minutes PPT presentation on scaling and different scaling tools as well as the knowledge hub concept developed by ICARDA. After the presentation the participants have the opportunity to discuss these approaches and ask clarification questions

Materiel: Projector

Session 3 : Partner’s experiences in scaling

Length: 60 minutes

Objective: Partners reflect about their way of scaling technologies, the partners they are collaborating with and challenges they are facing while scaling innovations

Methodology: 30 minutes group work per partner; 30 minutes presentation by partner and discussion

Materiel : flip charts, marker

Session 4: Case study knowledge hubs in Rhahla, Siliana and Sers, Kef

Length: 45 minutes (30 minutes PPT presentation and 15 minutes discussion))

Objective: Participants learn about a concrete case of knowledge hub already being installed and functioning.

Methodology: PPT: The presentation shows the challenges and technologies being codesigned with farmers and researchers, the partnerships developed and step by step procedure to implement the KHs. Participants will ask questions concerning the procedures and challenges faced.

Materiel: laptop and beamer

Session 5: Creation of a knowledge hub

Length: 120 minutes (90 minutes group work plus 30 minutes presentation)

Objective: Participants will learn how to create their own knowledge hub run by a farmer organization or a local institution

Methodology: Divide participants in three groups Each group will follow the steps:

- i) Identify site and farmer organization who will host the knowledge hub
- ii) Describe major production constraints and propose a core agroecological innovation
- iii) Identify necessary trainings and materials needed for the innovation to be used
- iv) Identify needed partners / institutions to develop the KH
- v) Identify needed co-innovations and solutions needed for the core innovation and the development of innovation packages
- vi) Identify needed infrastructure to develop the FO into a KH
- vii) Select networking activities with different partners
- viii) Develop a GANTT chart for major activities (trainings, networking, seed distribution, scaling activities, etc)
- ix) Develop a rough budget for the activities

Materiel: Papier kraft, cards, pins and marker

Second Day - Field visit to a Knowledge Hub (farmer organization)

Session 6 : Presentation by members of the farmer organization

Length: 60 minutes (30 minutes presentation and 30 minutes discussion)

Objective: Participants listen and exchange directly with farmers of the KH to learn about challenges and constraints, procedures , partnerships and co-designed research for development activities

Methodology: Members of the farmer organization present the organization and the KH activities including history, challenges and technologies being codesigned, partnerships developed and step by step procedure to implement the KHs. Participants will ask questions concerning the procedures and challenges faced.

Session 7: Field visit / Transect

Length: 90 minutes (75 minutes field visit and 15 minutes machinery visit)

Objective: Participants see technologies being implemented

Methodology: A transect walk along different crops like Sulla, mixed forages, Carob trees, etc and the different machines introduced to the KH like grinder, manuel seeder, pelletizer or seed cleaning machine are presented and explained by the leaders of the farmer organization

Session 8: Final discussion between different participants of the exchange visit

Length: 30 minutes

Objective: Participants reflect about the knowledge hub concept

Methodology: After visiting the implemented technologies and machines and having listened to explanations of the farmers , the participants coming from different research and development organizations will ask final critical questions to the farmers to assess themselves the KH concept and evaluate the possibility of installing their own KH

Documentation and presentation “knowledge hub concept”

1. Manuel and guidelines – Scaling and Knowledge Hubs



Manual and
guidelines - Scaling ar

2. Creation of a knowledge hub – concept and examples



Creation des Kh -
quelques concepts et

3. Creation of a knowledge hub – template for partner organization



Tool - Design
KH_AFrija.pptx

4. Evaluation of knowledge hub concept



Evaluation et analyse
statistique des Knowle