



Practical Experience

Name of Tool: interdisciplinary interaction on agroecological knowledge and practices

Aim of the Tool:

- To make participants aware about the different types of agroecological knowledge and the exchange of knowledge
- Participants define together the constraints and methods for exchanging the different types of agroecological knowledge and practices
- To define together with participants how this can be turned into practice and what consequences it has from scientific, legislative and farmers point of view

Target public:

Farmers, scientists, advisers, citizens, ngo's, government

Methodology:

time 2h

1. Introduction to the workshop
 - Aim
 - Structure
2. Short Presentation of participants
3. How to gain knowledge (1facilitator, 1 reporter)

Divide group of participants in smaller groups (max 8 people, each has 1 facilitator)
Start from a realistic situation where a farmer has to cope with several actual problems and wants to develop to more agroecological way of farming. (this situation is prepared on a small text document for every participant). Which strategy can he develop to evolve toward a more agroecological way of farming?
Participants read separately the text and try to find out which kind of knowledge, attitudes, skills and experiences the farmer needs for obtaining his goal.
The second question is: how can he obtain this knowledge? Where can he find information?
How can he develop skills? How can he develop this attitude?
For structuring the discussion, a scheme can be helpful:

Central question: long term strategy from agroecological perspective Focus = farmer	knowledge		skills		Attitude	
	What is needed ?	How to develop?	What is needed ?	How to develop?	What is needed ?	How to develop?
i) develop	- ...					



Lifelong Learning Programme



Vlaanderen
is open ruimte

	-... -...					
ii) elaborate						

4. Plenary feedback. One person of each small group gives an overview on the discussion. A facilitator makes a global scheme.
Additional plenary question: is all this knowledge available? Which sources of knowledge are there? Is this accessible for farmers? Is it possible for farmers for developing the right skills? If not, what is preventing this?
Which kind of support is needed for a farmer to obtain the knowledge, skills and attitudes???
What are actual gaps? In education? In consultancy?
5. Two experts (farmer and advisor) tell about their own experience of obtaining knowledge, skills and attitudes:
 - École paysane indépendante (school developed by farmers for other farmers)
 - Biobedrijfsnetwerken (learning network of organic farmers)
6. Conclusion of the workshop

Material:

Text document with actual problem
Big sheets of paper, scotch, pen, poster buddies
, stiften, poster buddies, ...



