



The DeSIRA-LIFT facility and DG-INTPA present a webinar on:

# SCALING DESIRA: INNOVATION PROCESSES AND SCALABILITY

Wednesday 13th of December 2023



**10:00-11:30 CEST** English session for DeSIRA Projects in Asia, East and English-speaking Africa

**16:00-17:30 CEST** French and Spanish Session for DeSIRA projects in Francophone Africa and Latin America simultaneous interpretation FR-ES will be available.



**Registration link here** (*the meeting will be held in Zoom*)

## Objectives



The aim of the webinar is to review what processes supported by DeSIRA projects need to be continued – in particular those innovations targeting behavioral changes that require time and cannot be directly scaled out or up but rather need to be disseminated –, and what other processes can move beyond pilots or proofs of concepts through a blend of specific funding (including investments), access to markets, and a conducive environment.

The webinar will help identify scalable processes and those to be continued as well as who and how should be reached out to ensure this continuation.

## Background and questions



The EU-funded DeSIRA initiative (Development Smart Innovation through Research in Agriculture, in short DeSIRA) was launched in 2018 with the aim of strengthening Research and Innovation, within an AIS perspective, in order to support sustainable transformation of agri-food systems.

With many projects arriving at their final stage and the DeSIRA+ Initiative about to be launched, it is necessary for project implementers to reinforce their exit strategies, and to consider what will be left for innovators and countries where projects have been implemented, to continue and sustain innovation processes or scale them.

DeSIRA LIFT is proposing a series of three webinars under the title Scaling DeSIRA to organize the reflection around the continuation of innovations beyond the time boundaries of projects, We want to identify what processes need to be continued – in particular those innovations targeting behavioral changes that require time and cannot be directly scaled out or up but rather need to be disseminated –, and what other processes can move beyond pilots or proofs of concepts through a blend of specific funding (including investments), access to markets, and a conducive environment.

Yet, for Research and Innovation projects, stepping beyond donor funding and meeting users that can scale innovations, requires connecting with other dynamics for which they are not necessarily immediately equipped. This series of webinars therefore intends to provide space for exchanges of experiences and to raise awareness – thanks to some frameworks - about potential pathways that projects could take. It also intends to gradually bring on board DeSIRA and other Research and Innovation related actors, particularly those organizations operating at regional level in the agricultural field, but also other players in the environment such as Regional Economic Groupings.

The first webinar will be about Innovation processes and scalability, with three underlying questions:

- What processes, started or reinforced during DeSIRA projects, need to be continued, with which support, to what end, and who should they involve?
- What processes or innovations started, reinforced or demonstrated thanks to DeSIRA projects should be transferred to other stakeholders to be scaled out or up?
- How should this support and those stakeholders be mobilized?

The next two webinars, planned at the end of January and the end of February 2024 will address linkages and articulation between national, regional and continental innovation agendas and whether DeSIRA projects can provide avenues for coordination, and finally look at how to access funding, either private to scale marketable innovations or public to continue additional research, among this what the role of DeSIRA+ could be.



Targeted audience: DeSIRA implementers and their partners. Projects that are coming to an end as well as those that need to start building their exit strategy as part of their theory of change.



This webinar is part of the DeSIRA-LIFT Community of Action and Reflection

Upcoming Webinar



## Programme – Morning session (10.00 - 11.30 CEST)

### 10h00 Opening

#### Introduction to the session

### 10h05 Setting the scene

#### Scaling DeSIRA: innovation processes and scalability.

Presentation of the topic in the context of DeSIRA projects, presentation of some framework from which to design exit and scaling strategies. DeSIRA-LIFT Core Team

### 10h25 Presentation by projects and organisations

#### Facilitated presentations along the three main questions and contextualization.

**Artemia4 Bangladesh - WorldFish** - Mr Muhammad Meezanur Rahman, Technical Lead - Bangladesh  
*A dual pathway of technical and functional innovations with multiple - market, economic and nutrition - outcomes for fishermen, farmers and inhabitants of coastal southern Bangladesh.*

**PROSILIENCE/PROSOIL - GIZ** - Dr. Teklu Erkossa, Soil Health Interventions in Ethiopia  
*Data collection for soil management, productivity increase and policy changes thanks to multiple stakeholders coming together. Technology and science spilling over to new practices and long term perspectives.*

**CCARDESA** - Mr. Baitisi Podisi - Botswana - tbc-  
*How to support dissemination of innovations at the level of a whole region, and how such processes could be scaled.*

#### Summary and key points.

### 11h00 Discussion with participants – 25 mn

Facilitated discussion between presenters and participants.

### 11h25 Closing

- Wrap-up and key takeaways
- Presentation of the How to Brief process with Discussion Groups where to continue the discussion.



Programme – Afternoon session (16:00-17:30 CEST)

## 16h00 Opening

Introduction to the session

## 16h05 Setting the scene

**Scaling DeSIRA: innovation processes and scalability.**

Presentation of the topic in the context of DeSIRA projects, presentation of some framework from which to design exit and scaling strategies. DeSIRA-LIFT Core Team

## 10h25 Presentation by projects and organisations

**Facilitated presentations along the three main questions and contextualization.**

**ABEE / BIORISKS, Various countries West Africa** - Dr Ousmane Ndoye - Project Coordinator  
*Innovation in seeds and plague and disease management with behavioral and policy outcomes and necessary long-term and continuous approaches.*

**CORAF, Various countries West Africa** - Ms Mariame Maïga, Gender Lead for CAADP-XP4 and CORAF  
Regional Gender and Social Development Adviser  
**and**

**Faso Kaba, Mali**, Ms Maimouna Coulibaly Sidibe, Founder and owner  
*How networks of women entrepreneurs in West Africa access innovation and improved seeds, and birn research led innovations to scale, thanks to the facilitation and mediation of a regional agency.*

**Transforma Innova, Costa Rica** - Mr André Huebenthal - Project Manager  
*Multifaceted innovation and innovation mechanisms targeting low-carbon and biodiversity friendly products and production techniques, through behavioral and governance enhancements and blended funding.*

**Summary and key points.**

## 17h00 Discussion with participants – 25 mn

Facilitated discussion between presenters and participants.

## 17h25 Closing

- Wrap-up and key takeaways
- Presentation of the How to Brief process with Discussion Groups where to continue the discussion.