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ENCOURAGING INNOVATION AND COMMERCIALIZING INVENTIONS IN AFRICA

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ABSTRACT

Intervention is limited to the field of agronomic research focussed on technological innovation and commercialization of inventions applied to agricultural development and agro-industry where examples demonstrate the progress achieved and the limits of their introduction into more or less developed production systems.

A review of the available information highlights the need for innovation and the problems raised by the appropriation of inventions that are generally made outside Africa. It is therefore possible to give a few answers to the identified stakes and constraints that have led the African countries to encourage innovation in view of the problems encountered in the commercialization of such inventions in Africa. A few examples of successes and of failures have been recorded. Proposals, after analysis of the results, have enabled projects to be reoriented to take into account local reality and to better organize the commercialization of the inventions most adapted to the development context of the African countries. Thus, those countries have been able to achieve, in certain cases, considerable savings as a result of a choice of techniques, technologies or processes that comprise comparative advantages.

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