Co-designing a decision-support tool with farmers as the basis for Participatory Action Research

Mary Guillaume
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Participative and systemic research within a network of organic farmers

Economic performances assessment of farms
Why it is so difficult to keep the farmers involved in participatory research?

Is it a problem of temporality?

Short term results

Long term perspective

Centre wallon de Recherches agronomiques
Répondre aux questions d’aujourd’hui et relever les défis de demain
www.cra.wallonie.be
We set up a **win-win process** providing **concrete** and **immediate** outcomes to farmers.

**Useful tool for farm management**

**Collect quantitative data**

Co-design of a financial management tool «TesoGest»
Our global process

Stage 1: Co-designing financial management tool « TresoGest »

Diffusion tool

Integrating quantitative data

Stage 2: Focus group

Integrating qualitative data

Economic performance assessment

Practices characterization

Iterative improvement

Systemic understanding

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Concrete deliverable: user-friendly financial management tool

- Farm’s overall financial performance (1)
- Monthly cash flow analysis (2)
- Activity detailed analysis (3)

**TresoGest**

(Excel)

**Concrete deliverable**

User-friendly financial management tool

- Receipts/sales

**Receipts**

**Sales**

- Monthly cash flow analysis
- Activity detailed analysis
Concrete exchanges: farmers interpreted their results

Focus groupe at a farmer's house

Meaningful graphs
Concret deliverable vs. scientific results: what’s the border in Participatory Action Research?

- **Initially expected**: provide results of economic performance in organic farming

- **Concretely, today**: In view of the numerous requests, provide TresoGest beyond the farms network [others farmers and advisors]
Contact

Cellule transversale de Recherches en Agriculture biologique (CtRAb)

rue de Liroux 9, 5030 Gembloux Belgique

www.cra.wallonie.be

celluleagribio@cra.wallonie.be

Mary Guillaume

Unité11

m.guillaume@cra.wallonie.be

081/62 65 77