

# **Rio+20 Dialogues : Recommandation on Grassroots Innovations**

Promouvoir les innovations locales pour  
le développement durable et contre la  
pauvreté

Les gouvernements et les Nations unies  
doivent reconnaître l'importance des  
acteurs locaux et des « *grassroots  
innovations* » techniques

et sociales dans le combat pour le développement durable et contre la pauvreté. Ils doivent mandater une organisation internationale pour lancer un vaste programme international permettant de repérer, capitaliser, vérifier, valider, publier, diffuser et valoriser les *grassroots innovations* et d'organiser des échanges entre acteurs locaux. Un tel programme international doit permettre de :

Mobiliser les groupes majeurs, particulièrement ceux qui sont engagés dans l'action de terrain, ceux qui peuvent apporter une expertise et ceux qui peuvent participer à la diffusion des informations et à la mise en œuvre à grande échelle des innovations à haut potentiel.

Mettre sur pied des outils tels que : un « *Grassrootsinnovationsaward* » pour gratifier les acteurs de terrain à l'origine des innovations, des bourses pour les scientifiques, enseignants étudiants ou experts participant à la capitalisation des informations, des revues thématiques et diverses publications permettant la diffusion d'articles préalablement validés selon le système de la *peerreview*, des incitations pour la valorisation à large

échelle des innovations retenues, pour l'organisation de séminaires d'échanges entre acteurs concernés et, au cœur du programme, un site permettant aux différents acteurs des différentes régions du monde et aires linguistiques de communiquer et d'échanger leurs informations et expériences.

Promote grassroots innovations for sustainable development and against poverty

Governments and UN must recognize the importance of field actors and technical and social “grassroots innovations” in the fight for the sustainable development and against poverty. They should mandate an international organization to a broad international program to

identify, capitalize, check, validate,  
publish, disseminate and implement  
such local innovations and to organize  
exchanges between local actors.

Such an international program should  
allow:

- Mobilize the major groups, particularly those engaged in field work, those who can provide expertise and those who can participate in disseminating information and implementing innovations with high potential.



- Develop tools such as an "innovations Grassroots Award" to reward players in the field at the origin of innovations, small research grants for scientists, teachers, students or experts involved in the capitalization of information, thematic publications for dissemination of articles previously validated according to the peer review system, incentives for large-scale

implementation of selected innovations, organization of seminars allowing exchanges between stakeholders and, in the heart of the program, a site for involved actors coming from various regions and language areas to communicate and exchange information and experiences.

# **Extrait du rapport du Jury**

1 - Promote grassroots innovations to  
fight poverty and achieve sustainable  
development

This recommendation was supported by a strong and novel discussion highlighting the need for an international programme to – amongst other activities - identify, record, validate and disseminate grassroots innovations that support sustainable

development and poverty reduction. Important examples were given from the fields of agriculture and energy amongst others, highlighting the value of innovations by poorer women and men grounded in their own knowledge and experiences. The broad ideas were reflected in other discussions around the role of design in autonomous social innovations and the need to support the innovation process in

poor and marginalized communities.

This is a strong and valuable recommendation that helps address a gap in the Rio draft outcome text, where discussions of technology are limited to 'top'down' technology transfer (see also recommendation

4). While the online discussion highlighted the need to list and 'catalogue' grassroots innovations, governments, NGOs and international agencies also need to develop funding arrangements to support them and policy approaches to enable 'bottom-up' innovation to connect with national and global initiatives.

**Vote lors du Sustainable  
development Plenary  
(Rio Centro, June 2012 the 16<sup>th</sup>)**





1st Round