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Inades-Formation working for the common good



International Conference on the involvement of development associations in the service of the common good - Nov 2016

In its constant search to remain relevant in the exciting mission to “Work for the social and economic advancement of the populations with emphasis on the peoples’ own free and responsible participation in the transformation of their societies”, Inades-Formation regularly stands back to reflect on the finality of its work, its working approach and methods of action in a constantly evolving context. Consequently, the Institution initiated a search for one statement that can correctly translate its project of society, and the finality of its work.

Finally, “Serving the Common Good” was selected.

Indeed, nowadays, the model of production and distribution of the goods and services aimed to meet the human needs, as well as the values that rule the relations among Men on the one hand, and between Man and Nature, on the other hand, have showed their limits

amply.

The distress and the suffering that are mainly caused by human action have spread, particularly in Africa. Inades-Formation particularly worries about this situation and the path that our societies take today and that are characterized by:

- More and more growing poverty, against an increasingly richer minority, which concentrates the local and world riches in their hands; **“Serving the Common Good” is for Inades-Formation a political principle, placed in the centre of its fight for a fairer, more interdependent, and more equitable society,**
- Domination of some people, increase in inequalities, and social exclusion;
- Food insecurity in the African countries that find it difficult to achieve food self-sufficiency;
- Merchandising of the resources of nature that leads to the plundering of the Continent’s natural resources,

which compromises their availability for the future generations;

- Privatization of the living that does not permit a great number of people to benefit from the gifts of nature;
- Land monopolising in Africa that expropriates the farmers and the local populations of their essential means of production;
- Rapid degradation of the natural property and destabilization of the natural balances with their corollaries of climate change and the latter’s impact on the populations’ means of existence;
- Repeated political crises and a progressing crisis of emigration to Europe;
- Increasing concerns about the inventions of science (GMO, nuclear power, etc), integralism and racism, etc.

All these evils are mainly the pure products of individualism, an obsession for private property, unrestrained race towards the earnings (profit), domination of the money capacity, productivism and consumerism, which are the pillars of liberalism and economic neo-liberalism.

In this context, for Inades-Formation “Serving the Common Good” is a political principle, placed in the centre of its fight for a fairer, more interdependent, and more equitable society, which masters its destiny.

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Inades-Formation working for the common good

In other words, for Inades-Formation the current development efforts must all tend to create a “set of social conditions that permit a person to more easily and better reach his/her full sound blooming”

Then, “Serving the Common Good” is a concept that translates Inades-Formation’s vision of a society based on altruism, inclusion, sharing, love for the others, participation, mutual collaboration, respect and valorisation of the differences. A Society in which the general interest has priority on the private interest, the collective concerns predominate the individual ones, co-operation and not competition is the key word, and awareness of the others and acting solidarity are not limited neither to one’s own community, nor to one’s country, but embrace the whole planet and take account of the future generations.

Lastly, “Serving the Common Good” is the quintessence of Inades-Formation’s project of society that each family member, placed at whatever level, must endorse and give life to it. In other words, by committing itself to “Serve the Common Good”, Inades-Formation specifically chooses to direct all its

efforts, energies and resources to:

- A collective construction of a current of alternative thought on development, centred on “Common Good” in order to build the foundations aimed to invent political alternatives, new forms of organisation of the collective action; alternatives of production, exchange, consumption that are more responsible, more interdependent from the local scales up to the planetary scale;
 - Construction of a counter power, vis-a-vis the apparent collusion between the States and the milieu of businesses, to the disadvantage of the populations’ interests;
 - Make sure that “the Common Goods” serve everybody’s wellbeing. These common goods are in particular the resources offered by nature (air, water, soil, genetic resources, ores, climate and biodiversity, etc); resources built by one or several generations of human beings (culture, music, art, diversity of the breeding races and cultivated varieties,etc), goods and public services (resources of the taxpayers, public hospitals, public schools, the public system of water supply, etc);
 - Boost and support the collective, social and/or interdependent initiatives of production and distribution of the goods and services aimed to meet the needs of the territorial communities and in particular the social and interdependent societies;
 - Stimulate and/or support the citizen initiatives for collective construction of the shared values, the consensual norms and rules of the living together concept.
- We hope that development in the service of the Common Good will become the meeting point of all the development actors

But, beyond Inades-Formation, we hope that development in the service of the Common Good will become the meeting point of all the development actors so that tomorrow is better for humanity and in particular for the African people.

From BAFOD to SAADEV: Inades-formation chooses a working approach based on the alternatives of development

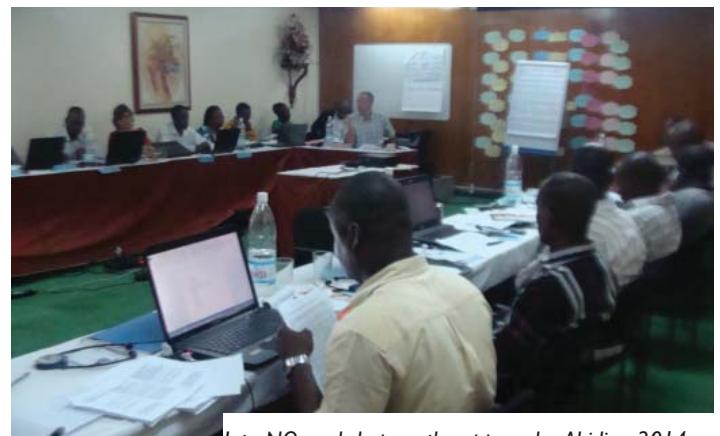
Why a new working approach ?

Inades-Formation is used to reflect on its working approach and to make it evolve according to the current realities and challenges. And that is how, since its creation the Organisation has tried out various approaches that have proved to be reliable. Since 2013, it started a process of reflection, dictated by the results/effects of its actions and the evolution of the society.

The obvious established fact is that in spite of the efforts of the development organisations and the Civil Society, poverty, social inequalities, domination and dependence of some people on the others still continue and constantly reemerge in other forms.

To attack these evils of the society, whose origin is undoubtedly

liberalism and economic neo-liberalism with their troop of individualism, obsession for private property, domination of money capacity, excess productivism, etc. requires another



InterNO workshop on the approach - Abidjan 2014

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From BAFOD to SAADEV

manner of thinking and acting.

The Accompaniment of the Farmers Organisational Dynamics (BAFOD), the working approach of Inades-Formation that had prevailed for 20 years are no more sufficient to meet the society's current problems.

For Inades-Formation whose mission is "to contribute to the economic and social advancement of the populations, with particular emphasis on the peoples' own free responsible participation in the transformation for their societies", it is necessary to adopt a working approach that has an impact on the mechanisms on which the poor functioning of the society is based. An approach that matches Inades-Formation's project of society founded on the "Common Good", which reflects the production and the good management of the resources and the services while respecting the collective interest.

The reflections within the Inades-Formation network have thus led to the adoption, in January 2016, of an approach that is based on the search for and implementation of more inclusive alternatives of development, which lead to everybody's wellbeing and to the living together concept: SAADEV, i.e. "Stimulation and Accompaniment of the Alternatives of Development in the service of the Common Good".

Through the alternatives of development, Inades-Formation commits itself to promote models that contrast with what causes or maintains inequalities, domination and dependence within the society. As to boosting the alternatives of development, it engages the Institution in a permanent dynamics aimed to detect and make emerge innovative initiatives in favour of the Common Good. In its turn Accompaniment expresses the process to be followed so as to permit the alternatives of change to bloom.

The new approach thus enables Inades-Formation to harmonise its work with its commitment to "Serving the Common Good".

On what is the SAADEV approach based ?

The working approach is in itself a manner of thinking the development and the orientation of the initiatives to be undertaken so as to fulfill the mission of the Institution and its project of society.

To this end, the SAADEV approach is based on seven bases, i.e.:

1. **Extended solidarity** means to make the initiatives serve the general interest and the highest possible number of people;
2. Social, ecological, environmental, and economic **Sustainability** in any development initiative;
3. **Equity among the social strata**, so as to face the various forms of inequalities and domination by basing on the initiated initiatives;
4. **Citizen control** for inclusive development;

5. **Redistributive local economy**, in order to boost a culture of complementarity and dialog in the relations among the socio-economic actors, in particular in the exchanges between town and country;
6. **Mutual Opening**, while respecting the cultural and religious differences;
7. **Action/Research/Training** as a means to valorise everybody's knowledge and know-how in the search for what encourages the Common Good.

What are the methods and priority fields of intervention through the SAADEV approach?

The implementation of the SAADEV approach is based on three complementary methods of intervention, i.e.

- **Joint construction and experimentation** of the practical initiatives carried by the actors working in the field for the production and collective management of the goods to the profit of all and sundry;
- **Joint construction of the Advocacy campaigns** for a regulation framework that favours the promotion of the development alternatives, by defining and implementing the rules and norms favourable to the prospect of Common Good;
- **Piloting of study, research-conceptualization** to support creativity, innovation and thought on development in the service of Common Good, both to clarify the field initiatives to be encouraged and those relating to the proposals for the political measures to be adopted;

Taking account of this working logic based on the alternatives of development, Inades-Formation identified the priority fields of activities for making the approach operational. These fields of activities that permit at the same time to implement the methods of intervention and take account of the above mentioned bases relate firstly to:

The promotion of the food systems based on Family Farming for a healthy, sustainable food for all and sundry;

The promotion of the Community microfinance for taking account of the interests of the underprivileged populations in the models of access to the finance services, which is not a priority in the work of the microfinance institutions and usual banks;

The promotion of inclusive governance in order to support the territorial development dynamics;

Impact strength face to the climate change, through suitable initiatives in the adaptation and attenuation of the effects;

These fields of activities are thus qualified as structuring programmes because their implementation implies a transformation that reaches the action and the behaviour of the various actors of change. From now on, in every field of activity, the social transformation will result in the alternatives which by referring to the foundations bring changes in the field of thought, language, practices, behaviour and training.

The National Associations take stock of 2016



GAM Inades-Formation Burkina

General Assembly Meetings gave a ruling on the applications for membership to the International Association and renewed some Boards of directors.

Resolutions and Recommendations that must guide the action of the Board of directors and the Executive Office were formulated and adopted.

And that is how the General Assembly of Inades-Formation Burkina congratulated the personnel for the work carried out in 2016 and encouraged them to continue the efforts made. It authorised a new adhesion to the National Association.

Likewise, the General Assembly of



GAM Inades-Formation Burundi



GAM Inades-Formation Togo

Inades-Formation Burundi was satisfied with the accompaniment actions realised for the producers in Burundi. 8 new persons were admitted to the National Association. A new Chairman of the Board of directors was elected, i.e. Mr. Masuguru Apollinaire, who is assisted by two Vice-Chairpersons, Mrs Kankindi Godelieve and Ndayikengurukiye Espérance.

In Côte d'Ivoire, the General Assembly renewed the term of office of Mr. Séraphin Biatchon as Chairman and 3 new members joined the Board of directors.

The period from March to May was marked by the convening of the General Assembly Meetings of the Inades-Formation National Associations. During these General Assembly Meetings, the members analysed the activity and financial reports as well as the management reports of the Associations. These General Assembly Meetings offered the opportunity to reflect on the implementation of the Resolutions and Recommendations of the International General Assembly Meeting held in November 2016 in Abidjan. Besides, the

Inades-formation Congo appeals for return to security in the Province of Kasai



Board of Inades-Formation RD Congo

The General Assembly Meeting of Inades-Formation Congo that was held on April 29th, 2017 examined the worrying situation that prevails in the Province of Grand Kasai.

Indeed, since April 2016 a usual conflict generated civil disorders and led to a crisis that continues so far, with dramatic consequences for the populations living in the zone and around. Preoccupied by this situation and particularly worried about the farmers who are deprived of all their vital resources (harvests, food reserves, decimated cattle and

others etc....), the General Assembly Meeting of Inades-Formation Congo voted two Resolutions and produced a Declaration. In this Declaration, it challenges the Government, the MONUSCO, the Humanitarian Institutions, the Rural Organisations as well as the men and women of good will to act in order to end this crisis, to bring back peace and to rebuild the villages.

In the end, Inades-Formation RD Congo commits itself to continue to accompany the Rural Organisations, while serving the Common Good, and to support all the efforts made to restore peace. Everybody will be glad when this appeal will be heard and the populations and particularly the farmers find a normal life.



Giving a gifts

During his last visit tour in Africa on behalf of our Partner MISEREOR, Mr. Thees Wilhem visited the General Secretariat of Inades-Formation. This visit was an occasion for the General Secretariat to sincerely thank him for his commitment and his devotion to the development of Africa and particularly to the accompaniment of Inades-Formation. A thanks and farewell party was organised for him on June 2nd, 2017. This party was attended by the staff and the Chairman of the International Governing Council.



Family photo Thees & staff of GS