A new sustainable intensification approach is required

Improving farmers’ and society’s food security and livelihoods through sustainable intensification of agrifood systems (AIS) is vital.

All the past investments in this direction have so far failed to build a coherent approach or effective strategies for producers, consumers and decision-makers.

Intensifying AIS in a sustainable way means increasing productivity in a context of scarcity of natural resources and threats against fragile livelihoods while facing new constraints linked to climate change and competing energy chain values.

“Business as usual” must be replaced by tailor-made local adaptations.

This intensification dynamic should fuel rural development through better produce, incomes and jobs.

In-Depth Cases Studies (IDCS)

Light Case Studies (LCS)

Renewing indicators, tools and metrics is necessary

New indicators, tools and metrics are needed to identify and compare a wide spectrum of intensification options.

Assessments must address:
- land and labour physical productivity;
- natural resource use and management in the long run, economic performance, including net desert job creation throughout;
- value chains and food systems the contribution of agriculture to national economies, structural diversification and change.

...is an ambitious European initiative aimed at building a consortium promoting a long-term EU-Africa Research and Innovation Partnership on agro-food systems.

It has been led by Wageningen University (WUR), the Centre de coopération internationale en recherches agronomique pour le développement (CIRAD), and the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA).

ProIntensAfrica has developed an original methodology based on:
- Literature review
- Analysis of a wide spectrum of case studies

**The pathways differ in vision, in organization, governance, in mobilized technologies and in the use of resources. Results show a trade-off in aspects of impacts and gain between different approaches.**