



Use of local innovation in agriculture: India's experience and Iran's potentials

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Today, innovations are of great importance in communities' development, and they have a key role in economic growth. Therefore, many nations and organizations are using innovations to dominate their competitors. Identification and use of agricultural innovations is necessary because of the importance of agriculture for nations' growth and development. Local agricultural innovations include products and services which are based on individuals and groups in local communities and are developed by themselves. Because of innovators' experiences and their deep understanding of what is happening in local situations, local innovations are appropriate solutions. One the current study's objectives was to introduce India's local innovation networks, and the activities these networks are involved in to identify and document local people's ideas and innovations. To achieve this objective, we used Internet sources and corresponded with Indian informants. Results showed that there are four local innovation networks in India which have been successful to identify, document and even commercialize many local people's innovations. The second objective of this study was to investigate Iran's experiences and potentials in regard with local innovations. Required data was obtained through literature review, interview with six farmers and observation of local innovations. Our findings revealed that disperse activities have been done in Iran to identify local innovations, but the interviews and observations showed that there are considerable potentials for this which necessitates further attention to utilize local agricultural innovations.

Key Words: Local innovation, Local innovation network, Agricultural Innovation