

TERRA. Revista de Desarrollo Local

e-ISSN: 2386-9968

Number 7 (2020), 175-196

DOI 10.7203/terra.7.18660

IIDL – Instituto Interuniversitario de Desarrollo Local

The Local Agricultural Innovation System in the Jobabo municipality (Cuba): actions to strengthen it

Aliana Rodríguez Pupo

Profa. Investigadora de la Universidad de Las Tunas (Las Tunas, Cuba)

alianarp@ult.edu.cu

<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5447-391X>



Esta obra se distribuye con la licencia Creative Commons
Reconocimiento-NoComercial-SinObraDerivada 4.0 Internacional

ARTICLE SECTION

The Local Agricultural Innovation System in the Jobabo municipality (Cuba): actions to strengthen it

Abstract: The Local Agricultural Innovation Systems (SIAL) they start from the experiences in Cuba of the implementation of the Local Agricultural Innovation Project (PIAL). Its main task is directed towards accompanying in decision-making and the implementation of actions aimed at providing responses to local demands. This article summarizes a set of actions that are established to strengthen the SIAL in the Jobabo municipality, Las Tunas province. They are designed from three stages (Diagnosis, Projection and implementation and Evaluation); in order to have a positive impact on the local development of the municipality. The proposed actions were defined in correspondence with the strengths and weaknesses as a result of the diagnosis of the agricultural context, of innovation and the aspirations of the municipality. The collection and processing of the information was obtained with a mixed methodological perspective, which facilitates a comprehensive analysis of the phenomenon.

Key words: Local development, innovation system, agricultural innovation.

Reception: June 24, 2020

Review: October 22, 2020

Acceptance: November 16, 2020

Citation:

Rodríguez, A. (2020). El Sistema de Innovación Agropecuaria Local en el municipio Jobabo (Cuba): acciones para su fortalecimiento. *TERRA. Revista de Desarrollo Local*, (7), 175-196. DOI 10.7203/terra.7.18660

IDEAS CLAVE / HIGHLIGHTS / IDEES CLAU

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. El desarrollo del contexto agropecuario favorece el desarrollo local.2. La implementación de un Sistema de Innovación Agropecuaria Local (SIAL) responde a las características agroecológicas y productivas del territorio donde se implemente.3. Los SIAL se sustentan en principios y buenas prácticas en función del desarrollo agropecuario local. | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The development of the agricultural context favours local development.2. The implementation of a Local Agricultural Innovation System (SIAL) responds to the agro-ecological and productive characteristics of the territory where it is implemented.3. SIAL are based on principles and good practices in terms of local agricultural development. | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. El desenvolupament del context agropecuari afavoreix el desenvolupament local.2. La implementació d'un Sistema d'Innovació Agropecuària Local (SIAL) respon a les característiques agroecològiques i productives del territori on s'implementa.3. Els SIAL se sustenten en principis i bones pràctiques en funció del desenvolupament agropecuari local. |
|---|--|---|

EXTENDED ABSTRACT¹

This article summarizes a set of actions that are established to strengthen the Local Agricultural Innovation Systems (SIAL) in the Jobabo municipality, Las Tunas province, Cuba. The SIALs arise from the experiences in Cuba of the implementation of the Local Agricultural Innovation Project (PIAL). His main task is directed towards accompanying in decision-making and the implementation of actions aimed at responding to the demands of local consumers and institutions at different levels.

Likewise, its pillar of operation is aimed at promoting the participation of local actors, directly related or not with agricultural production and the protagonism of agricultural producers and peasants, who should find in the PMG, the space to integrate knowledge and knowledge, as well as sharing tasks and responsibilities according to the needs and demands of the integral development of the territory (CAM, 2016). However, the Government in the Jobabo municipality, Las Tunas province, Cuba, identifies a group of shortcomings in the agricultural context that limit the impact of SIAL in the management of local development processes, which is why the research question is posed: How to contribute to the strengthening of the Local Agricultural Innovation System so that it has a positive impact on the local development of the Jobabo de Las Tunas municipality?

In this sense, this paper addresses the essential conceptions about Local Agricultural Innovation Systems and their importance for local development, and a set of actions are proposed that are established in the municipality, to strengthen the SIAL and development function. local of the municipality.

To obtain, interpret and analyze the entire universe of information, the general methods are used: analysis-synthesis, induction-deduction and historical-logical. In addition, observation and participant action research are used to facilitate the study of the phenomenon in a more profound way. The information collection tools are also used: focused interview and brainstorming that allowed the hierarchy of problems.

The proposed actions were defined in correspondence with the strengths and weaknesses resulting from the diagnosis and with the aspirations of the municipality in relation to the Local Agricultural Innovation System. They made it possible to define the main tasks to be implemented by the members of the PMG to strengthen this System and the integration of the institutions and beneficiaries involved in the process, which helps to overcome the challenges that arise in achieving this priority.

The actions are established in three stages with their corresponding actions, they are:

Stage I. Diagnostics of the agricultural and innovation context of the municipality. It is carried out to know the general characteristics of the Jobabo municipality, as well as the elements of its agricultural context and innovation that constitute strengths or weaknesses for the SIAL.

Stage II. Projection and implementation of the Action Plan. It aims to strengthen the Local Agricultural Innovation System in the municipality, supported by the participation and integration of local actors, facing the demands of the local development of the territory. That is why the actions are conceived taking into account the steps that make up the SIAL Management Cycle.

¹ Authors' exclusive translation. The full version of the article is available in Spanish.

Stage III. Evaluation of the actions. It is proposed with the aim of systematically assessing the fulfillment of the actions (achievements, difficulties and feasibility) and their impact. It is evaluated if its elements responded to the projection of the local government and the Multiactoral Management Platform in relation to the strengthening of the Local Agricultural Innovation System in Jobabo.

Stage IV. Monitoring and evaluation.

The general objective of the Action Plan is to strengthen the Local Agricultural Innovation System (SIAL) in the Jobabo municipality of Las Tunas province.

Specific Objectives: (i) sensitize local representatives and leaders about the need to strengthen SIAL in the municipality; (ii) increase the integration and the culture of participation of local actors; (iii) train actors in agricultural development and innovation issues for the optimal use of local resources (natural, knowledge, technologies and innovations); and (iv) contribute to the self-sufficiency of food through the optimal use of local resources, as well as diversification, linkages of production and yields of the agricultural sector.

It is necessary to point out that in relation to the action plan, each actor involved is responsible for the formulation and execution of their monthly plans where the necessary resources (material, human, logistics) will also be located. These are essential aspects that are discussed monthly in the meetings of the Multiactoral Management Platform and that strengthen the integration of actions in response to overcoming the problems identified in the management and consolidation of the Local Agricultural Innovation System in the municipality.

For the implementation of the actions, it is necessary to perceive that they depend on adequate attention by the Municipal Administration Council and on institutional adjustments in the adoption of a comprehensive vision of the projects that are executed in the territory. The proposed Action Plan constitutes a tool that allows the local government and the Multiactoral Management Platform to strengthen the SIAL in the municipality, supported by the participation of diverse local actors. It favors the integration of knowledge and knowledge, as well as collective responsibilities in decision-making in the face of the demands of the agricultural development of the territory.

The results suggest that the implementation of a Local Agricultural Innovation System responds to the agroecological and productive characteristics of the territory where it is implemented but can be adapted to the specific characteristics of other territories where this result is generalized. It is coordinated from a Multiactoral Management Platform where several local actors articulate in horizontal systemic interactions based on the agricultural development of the municipality and the sustainable use of local resources in the creative solution of their problems.

It is also considered that the success of the proposed actions may be determined by the flexibility of the local actors to adjust to unforeseen events and the dynamics of the processes, but above all, to the identification of the beneficiaries with their implementation and assimilation of the changes necessary for its management.