

Learning to innovate : agricultural innovation and entrepreneurship : the case of Songhai farmers in Benin

Citation for published version (APA):

Dalohoun, D. (2005). *Learning to innovate : agricultural innovation and entrepreneurship : the case of Songhai farmers in Benin*. [Doctoral Thesis, Maastricht University]. Universitaire Pers Maastricht. <https://doi.org/10.26481/dis.20050907dd>

Document status and date:

Published: 01/01/2005

DOI:

[10.26481/dis.20050907dd](https://doi.org/10.26481/dis.20050907dd)

Document Version:

Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

Please check the document version of this publication:

- A submitted manuscript is the version of the article upon submission and before peer-review. There can be important differences between the submitted version and the official published version of record. People interested in the research are advised to contact the author for the final version of the publication, or visit the DOI to the publisher's website.
- The final author version and the galley proof are versions of the publication after peer review.
- The final published version features the final layout of the paper including the volume, issue and page numbers.

[Link to publication](#)

General rights

Copyright and moral rights for the publications made accessible in the public portal are retained by the authors and/or other copyright owners and it is a condition of accessing publications that users recognise and abide by the legal requirements associated with these rights.

- Users may download and print one copy of any publication from the public portal for the purpose of private study or research.
- You may not further distribute the material or use it for any profit-making activity or commercial gain
- You may freely distribute the URL identifying the publication in the public portal.

If the publication is distributed under the terms of Article 25fa of the Dutch Copyright Act, indicated by the "Taverne" license above, please follow below link for the End User Agreement:

www.umlib.nl/taverne-license

Take down policy

If you believe that this document breaches copyright please contact us at:

repository@maastrichtuniversity.nl

providing details and we will investigate your claim.

Learning to Innovate

Agricultural Innovation & Entrepreneurship

The case of Songhai Farmers in Benin

Daniel Nougbeignon Dalohoun

STELLINGEN (STATEMENTS)

1. As it is written (in John 3:32) "...And you will know the truth and the truth will make you free"; it is only our knowledge, the use of this knowledge and the subsequent outcomes that can empower us.
2. There is nothing called poverty one can find and reduce. Instead, there are only people who lack appropriate knowledge enabling them to advance themselves, their undertakings and their societies.
3. Economic growth and development of a country requires everyone's commitment for life improvement depends on people themselves having the right mix of skills (the combination of knowledge, attitudes and behaviours).
4. Leaving all the knowledge required for successful creation and development, diffusion and application of new agricultural and related knowledge to researchers and extension agents, and expecting farmers to benefit from the results, is an illusory and unproductive institutional setting.
5. Farmers' participation in research and extension activities does not make them automatically into innovators. Listening to farmers or giving them a voice does not enable them to gain new knowledge and apply it to their undertakings.
6. Trained farmers make good innovators.
7. Farmers' entrepreneurial dynamics revitalise interactions within the national agricultural innovation system (NAIS) and contribute to strengthening linkages.
8. I had to make sure that "the development compass" the Dutch gave me is not that old one without needle or the most advanced one with needle but that does not work under the tropics. There, its magnetic pointer (needle) shows the "magnetic south".
9. You worry about money and status in this society? To empower yourself, claim to empower "the poorest of the poor" and create your own Non-Growth Organisation and enter the most flourishing business: Development Aid Industry!