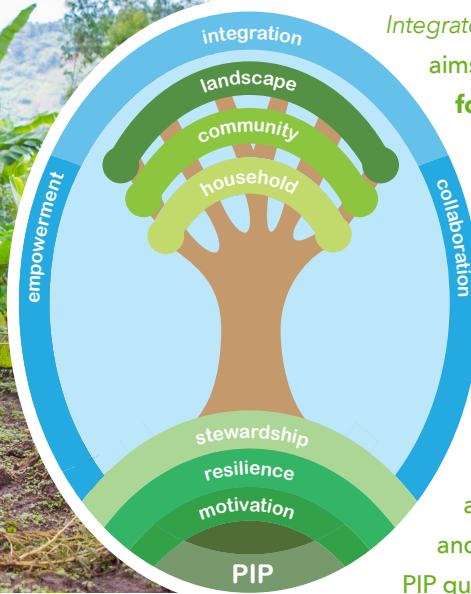




The members of the Nzokirantevye family, Nyamaboko, Bujumbura, jointly created a vision for their future farm and now work together in realizing their PIP.



The core strategy of the PAPAB project is the PIP approach: *Plan Intégré du Paysan* in French, or *Integrated Farm Planning*. The PIP approach aims at building a **foundation for sustainable change** within people, households, farms, communities, and institutions. Key principles of the approach are **'motivation - stewardship - resilience'**: motivated farmer families who take ownership of their development and become stewards of more resilient farms. Sustainability of this change across households, communities and landscapes is warranted by the PIP guiding principles: **'empowerment - integration - collaboration'**.

# How the PIP approach changes farmer households

## Households visualize their desired future scenario based on needs and aspirations of all family members...

The farmer household has a central role in the PIP approach. When developing the PIP, the Integrated Farm Plan, all family members join. As everybody's aspirations and needs are taken into account, everyone feels part of the process of change.

PIP tools have been developed to promote collaboration, dialogue, and participation of all family members, and help to discuss about available resources, roles and goals within each household. This leads to realistic action plans, with families that feel able to improve their future together.

## The joint creation of an Integrated Farm Plan (PIP) by a household

- 1 Explaining the purpose and context of the PIP by the household head
- 2 Discussing and drawing the **current situation** of the farm together
- 3 Drawing the **family tree** to discuss and gain insight into (gender) relations at the household level
- 4 Creating an **inventory of the skills, assets and aspirations** of all household members
- 5 Drawing the **desired future situation** of the farm (the "dream PIP")
- 6 Developing the **action plan** including the role of each household member

The PAPAB project ('Project to Support Agricultural Productivity in Burundi') aims to increase food production and income in Burundi by promoting more resilient farming systems and sustainable agriculture, supported by targeted fertilizer subsidies. It was funded by the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands from 2015-2020 and led by IFDC. Lead implementing partners included Wageningen Environmental Research, Oxfam Novib, ZOA, Adisco, OAP, and Réseau Burundi 2000+.

*"When I got home from the training, I invited my children and husband to develop our PIP. Initially my husband refused and I did it with the children only. One day, when we were analyzing our strengths, weaknesses and opportunities, my husband approached us and showed interest. Ever since, we do the activities together."*  
 Female PIP participant, 38 years, Rumonge

## ...which stimulates equity, togetherness and concrete joint action.

**Jointly acting** towards a common objective increases the feeling of **equity and togetherness** within the family and strengthens the foundation of the household. The creation of the PIP by all household members, including the analysis of intra-household relationships through drawing the family tree, enhances the bonds and organization of a family and motivates to undertake action. Households become more resilient, for example by reducing unnecessary expenses, diversifying income-generating activities, and by investing in a more structured way in farm- and housing improvements.

*"The training I received stimulated me to start helping my wife. When I worked with her in the field, not only did labor costs decrease, but I could also advice on the organization of our work and my wife appreciated my engagement."*  
 Male PIP participant, 50 years, Makamba

*Théophile and Calinie realized the importance of working together.*



*The common creation of their PIP increased equity and togetherness in the Nzokiranteveye family.*

*"There is peace in our household. We produce enough food and sometimes the children make their own suggestions what to eat! The school fees for 5 children and health care for all of us are paid. We live in a house with a renewed roof and a domestic drinking water installation to alleviate the work of my wife and children, paid with the income generated by our farming activities and the Village Savings and Loan Association."*

Male PIP participant, 39 years, Rugombo, Cibitoke

## Field staff perspectives

*"I was amazed by the strongly increased household cohesion as a result of the simple means of drawing a family tree, creating a joint vision and working towards that vision by sharing responsibilities."*

Juvénal Ntarima, Team Leader in Rumonge

*"The household level is central to motivate farmers and their families. Training and implicating both husband and wife from the start is crucial to avoid inequality, misunderstanding and frustration at household level."*

Micael Beun, Program Manager

Photos: @Oxfam/Lisa Murray

## More information

If you would like to know more about the PIP approach and the PAPAB project in Burundi, please contact Micael Beun, IFDC, PAPAB coordinator | [mbeun@ifdc.org](mailto:mbeun@ifdc.org) or Aad Kessler, Wageningen University and Research, PIP expert | [aad.kessler@wur.nl](mailto:aad.kessler@wur.nl)