

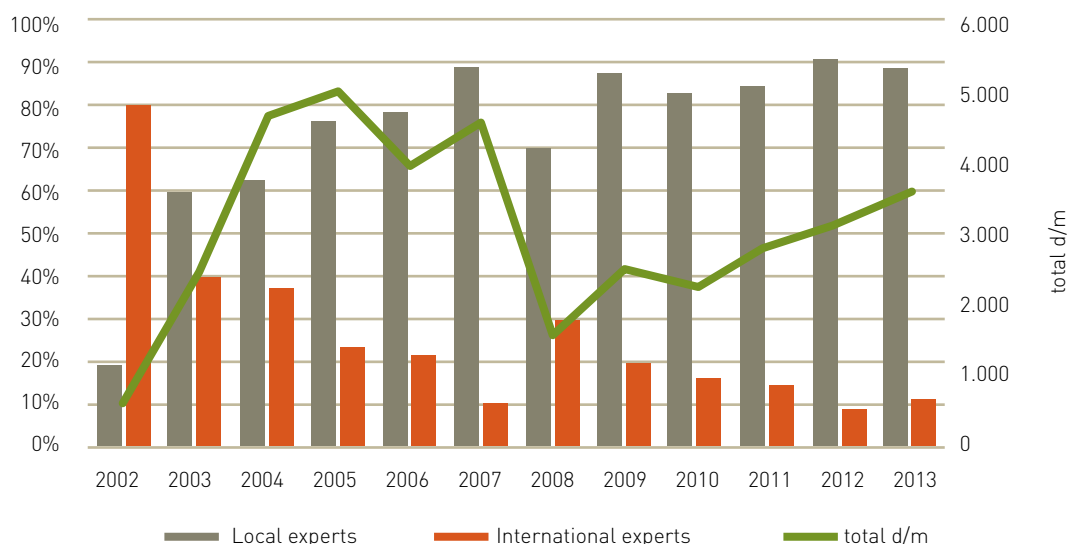
## Importance of local human resources

The evaluation team noted the high proportion of local experts (almost 90%) used to strengthen beneficiaries' capacities, and highlighted the importance of South-South cooperation in training. Optimising local resources in this way has, according to the report, led to substantial savings in operating costs, particularly for travel.

### Importance of local human resources:

The use of local human resources is 90%. The graph below shows a clear upward trend in the proportion of local experts in recent years.

Proportion of local and international experts since 2002



The evaluation describes PIP 2's combination of vertical (following the value chain) and horizontal (holistic) approaches as being in line with best practice in technical cooperation. The approach to capacity building is seen as a paradigm for initiatives in other sectors and geographical regions.

The evaluation report adds that the project has had a positive impact on all beneficiary businesses, large and small, and that the inclusion of large businesses among the beneficiaries has had a ripple effect on the rest of the economy. Overall, the report says, PIP 2 has helped professionalise the ACP agro-industrial sector.