



NUTRITION & FOOD SECURITY

Forages planting material networks in two contrasting sites of Southeast Asia

Context and methods

- Improved and adapted forage germplasms have been disseminated in Southeast Asia since decades. However, adoption is not widespread, as planting material are not easily accessible.
- Using contrasting contexts in the Philippines and in Vietnam, we aim at better understanding the dissemination networks for forage planting materials to maximize the impacts of future interventions.
- Based on key informants interviews and farmers surveys, we mapped the social networks and the flow of planting material.

- The current informal flow of forage materials in the two networks meets the needs of the community and its members. However, there is a growing demand to have better access to improved varieties .
- This access is limited due to the lack of direct connection with a formal institution or private sector company dedicated to breeding and seed production.

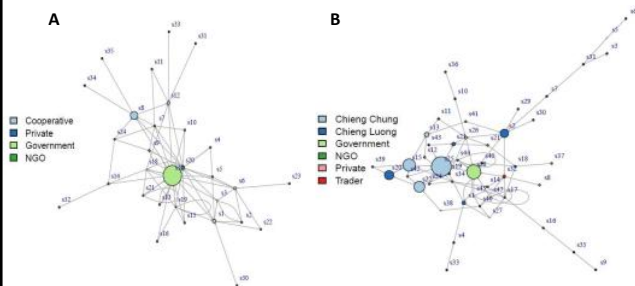


Figure 1. Betweenness centrality for the social network in (A) the Philippines site and (B) the Vietnam site. Node size indicates the relative betweenness centrality score and node color represents the type of actor.



RESEARCH PROGRAM ON Livestock

Feeds and Forages

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Results

- Forage material and information is controlled by the government in the Philippines and by government and traders in Vietnam (Figure 1).
- The access to forage planting material is mainly informal in both locations.
- New genetic material spreads through NGOs and government organizations. This allowed the Philippines farmers to have access to a large diversity of species, but in Vietnam the linkages with such institutions are weak due to the remoteness of the site.

Future steps

- Innovative seed supply system: farmer groups and cooperatives are best placed to maintain the seed supply system due to the diversity of products marketed.
- National Seed Policy: financial incentives should be set up to sustain continuous forages seed production and breeding. Compared to other crops, the forage seed support is marginal and has been left out to the private sector/farmers to sustain itself.

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