Key messages

- Both formal and informal vegetable seed systems are important to farmers, but their use is specific to individual vegetables and location.
- Inadequate access to quality seed is a major constraint affecting production and diversity.
- Flexibility and tailoring of support and linking groups to value chain actors, facilitates group growth.
- Strong potential to enhance access to diverse vegetables by building on strengths of both formal and informal systems.

Future perspectives

- Diet Health Clubs as a scaling mechanism to create awareness on seeds, production and nutrition to enhance utilization and demand creation.
- Harnessing and safeguarding vegetable agrobiodiversity to improve year-round production and household access.
- Stakeholder linkages in nutrition sensitive value chains between farmer groups and cooperatives and local stakeholders and value chain actors to sustain development.
- Public-private partnerships for linking formal and informal systems.



VEGETABLE SEED SYSTEMS FOR ETHNIC MINORITIES IN NORTHERN VIETNAM For Enhanced Nutrition and Income

Our approach

1 - Seed system characterization

Explore current practices and leverage points for upgrading vegetable seed systems.

2 - Enhanced seed access through upgraded production & value chains

a) Smallholder capacity building in (year-round) seed and vegetable production and storage.

b) Vegetable and seed value chain development using the 'farmer business school' approach.

3 - Seed access for nutrition security

a) Explore impact pathways from seeds to nutrition.b) Diet Health Clubs for nutrition education and capacity building in access to and utilization of seeds & vegetables.



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Outputs and outcomes

- 79 master trainers from ethnic minority communities equipped.
- 02 farmer groups/cooperatives with 27 farmers enhanced in vegetable & seed production business.
- 18 Diet Health Clubs with 383 farmers formed.
- Increased awareness and capacity around seed quality, seed and vegetable production and storage, plus seasonal vegetable availability, diversity and utilisation.
- Improved farmer selection and use of quality seeds from both the formal and informal seed systems that supported vegetable production and access.
- Increased smallholder farmer engagement in seed and vegetable value chains, that improved income.

Relevance to global food security?

- Seeds play a critical role in the pathways to food and nutrition security, requiring an integrated approach to ensure seed security.
- Awareness and utilisation of existing vegetable agrobiodiversity has short- and long-term food security benefits.
- Increased farmer access to and utilisation of quality seed supports enhanced vegetable production which improves access and consumption.



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VEGETABLE SEED SYSTEMS FOR ETHNIC MINORITIES IN NORTHERN VIETNAM

For Enhanced Nutrition and Income

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Key knowledge-sharing products



Video: Seed of change – Journey with ethnic minority communities in Northwest Vietnam https://www.youtube.com/watch? v=5EQBVcJ7Two



Policy brief on vegetable seed system development in Vietnam No. 1 https://hdl.handle.net/10568/116469



Impact pathways from seeds to nutrition https://hdl.handle.net/10568/110693

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