

Strategy Paper: A Participatory and Area-based Approach to Rural Agroenterprise Development



S. Ferris, R. Best, M. Lundy, C. Ostertag,
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The International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) is a not-for-profit organization that conducts socially and environmentally progressive research aimed at reducing hunger and poverty and preserving natural resources in developing countries. CIAT is one of the 15 centers funded mainly by the 58 countries, private foundations, and international organizations that make up the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR).

CIAT also receives funds for research and development services provided under contract to a growing number of institutional clients.

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About the Partners

Agro-Viet

The Vietnamese Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development founded from ministries related to agriculture and rural development has responsibility to implement the function of State management in agriculture, forestry, irrigation and rural development. The Ministry has 16 main duties related to agricultural research, development and enterprise.

ASARECA FOODNET

FOODNET is ASARECA's post harvest and market research network for East and Central Africa. The network was established in 1999 and focuses on market analysis studies, market information, agroenterprise development, and related business development support services. FOODNET works in collaborative partnerships with research and development partners from the public and private sector. (ASARECA- Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa).

CARE

CARE International is a global humanitarian organization working with over 45 million people in 70 of the world's poorest countries. CARE tackles underlying causes of poverty so that people can become self-sufficient. Recognizing that women and children suffer disproportionately from poverty, CARE places special emphasis on working with women to create permanent social change. Women are at the heart of CARE's community-based efforts to improve basic education, prevent the spread of HIV, increase access to clean water and sanitation, expand economic opportunity and protect natural resources. CARE also delivers emergency aid to survivors of war and natural disasters, and helps people rebuild their lives.

Catholic Relief Services

Catholic Relief Services was founded in 1943 by the Catholic Bishops of the United States. Their mission is to assist the poor and disadvantaged and promote development of all people and to foster charity and justice throughout the world. CRS operates on 5 continents and in over 90 countries. CRS aids the poor by first providing direct assistance then encouraging these people to help with their own development.

Cipasla

Cipasla, an inter-institutional consortium that fosters sustainable agriculture in hillsides, was founded in 1993 and is based in Pescador, a village in northern Cauca Department, located in south-western Colombia. In its first phase, Cipasla included twelve public and private agencies and its structure involved a Support Committee consisting of representatives of the institutions and the Association of Beneficiaries, whose members are representatives of the community. Cipasla's agenda encompasses community organization, environmental education, soil and water conservation, integrated crop management, marketing and agro-industry. Several CIAT projects have implemented research activities in this location, which is considered as a reference or pilot site.

CLODEST

CLODEST is a local inter-institutional committee that promotes sustainable development agriculture in the pilot region of Yorito-Sulaco, in north-central Honduras. This region includes plains and hillsides. CLODEST members include farmer associations, development NGOs and CIAT. CLODEST conducts activities around community organization, environmental education, soil and water conservation, integrated crop management, marketing and agro-industry. Several CIAT projects have implemented research activities in this location, which is also considered as a reference or pilot site in Central America.

CooVersalles

CooVersalles, founded in 2000, is a dairy cooperative located in Versalles, a town in northern Valle del Cauca Department in south-western Colombia. CooVersalles has 60 members, mostly small-scale cattle-raisers and farmers, and sells cold milk to processing plants. This cooperative has been very active in obtaining technical training and support and has undergone an action-research process, led by CIAT, focused on strengthening its business and market orientation. This has resulted in growing sales, membership and the consolidation of CooVersalles as a dynamic farmer organization.

Corpotunía

Corpotunía, a local rural development NGO, was founded in 1986 by community leaders and development NGOs and operates in the Cauca Department, located in south-western Colombia. Corpotunía executes development projects funded by the Colombian government and international donors. It is a member of a research and development network in which CIAT also participates, and makes use of participatory methods and tools with a business and market orientation, developed by CIAT's Rural Agroenterprise Development Project.

NAFRI

The National Agriculture and Forestry Research Institute of the People's Republic of Lao, was established in 1999 in order to consolidate agriculture and forestry research activities within the country and develop a coordinated National Agriculture and Forestry Research System. NAFRI aims to contribute to the goals of the Government of Laos by focusing on adaptive research in order to provide technical options, recommendations and results to support agriculture, forestry and fisheries development and strategic formulation of policies and programs in accordance with the government policy. The major role of NAFRI is to coordinate all agriculture research within Laos and collaborate with national and international organizations to improve information sharing.

SNV

SNV is a Netherlands-based, international development organization that provides advisory services to nearly 1800 local organizations in over 30 developing countries to support their fight against poverty. SNV is dedicated to a society where all people enjoy the freedom to pursue their own sustainable development. SNV works with organizations that operate at district and provincial level and function as linking pins between national policies and frameworks and the people living in towns and communities. Its clients include private, governmental and civil society organizations.

About the Donors

CIDA

Canadian International Development Agency's mandate is to support sustainable development in developing countries to reduce poverty and contribute to a more secure, equitable, and prosperous world. The Agency's work is concentrated in the poorest countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. CIDA's program is based on the Millennium Development Goals, which it contributes through four key areas: Social development, Economic well-being, protection, conservation, and management of the environment and Governance.

DFID

The Department for International Development (DFID) is the part of the UK Government that manages Britain's aid to poor countries and works to reduce extreme poverty. DFID's work aims to bring people out of poverty through programs that settle conflicts, increase trade and improve health and education.

GTZ

The work of the German Technical Agency, GTZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit) provides international cooperation for sustainable development. GTZ operates on a worldwide basis, provides viable, forward-looking solutions for political, economic, ecological and social development in a globalized world. GTZ supports complex reforms and change processes. All our activities are geared to improving people's living conditions and prospects on a sustainable basis.

IDRC

The International Development Research Centre (IDRC) is a public corporation created by the Parliament of Canada in 1970 to help developing countries use science and technology to find practical, long-term solutions to the social, economic, and environmental problems they face. Support is directed toward developing an indigenous research capacity to sustain policies and technologies that developing countries need to build healthier, more equitable, and more prosperous societies.

NZAID

NZAID is the Government's International Aid and Development Agency. The agency is responsible for delivering New Zealand's Official Development Assistance and for advising Ministers on development assistance policy and operations. NZAID places a high priority on building strong partnerships and concentrates its development assistance on activities that contribute to poverty elimination by creating safe, just and inclusive societies, fulfilling basic needs, and achieving environmental sustainability and sustainable livelihoods. NZAID supports projects in the Pacific region, Asia, Africa and Latin America.

SDC

The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) is organized and funded by the Swiss government and operates by financing programs both directly and in partnership with other agencies to countries around the world.

USAID

The United States Agency for International Development is an independent federal government agency that aims to further America's foreign policy interests in expanding democracy and free markets while improving the lives of the citizens of the developing world. USAID supports long-term and equitable economic growth and advances U.S. foreign policy objectives by supporting: economic growth, agriculture and trade; global health; and, democracy, conflict prevention and humanitarian assistance.

CIAT Rural Agroenterprise Development
Good Practice Guide 1

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CooVersalles



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Agence canadienne de développement international

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gtz



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1. Agroindustrial sector. 2. Partnerships. 3. Research networks. 4. Organization of research. 5. Socioeconomic environment. 6. Market research. 7. Innovation. 8. Rural development. 9. Trade policies. 10. Case studies. 11. Colombia. 12. Honduras. 13. Uganda. 14. Lao.

Local descriptors in English:

1. Agroindustrial development. 2. Participatory research.

AGROVOC descriptors in Spanish:

1. Sector agroindustrial. 2. Coparticipación. 3. Proyectos de investigación. 4. Organización de la investigación. 5. Entorno socioeconómico. 6. Investigación de mercados. 7. Innovación. 8. Desarrollo rural. 9. Política de comercio exterior. 10. Estudios de casos prácticos. 11. Colombia. 12. Honduras. 13. Uganda. 14. Laos.

Local descriptors in Spanish:

1. Desarrollo agroindustrial. 2. Investigación participativa.

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