STRENGTHENING VEGETABLE VALUE CHAINS IN PAKISTAN

Locations  
Australia, Pakistan

Dates  
16-02-2018 - 31-12-2021

Summary  
Small scale vegetable farmers in Pakistan encounter a number of issues that compromise their sustainable livelihoods; particularly for women and youth. Through the project, an alliance of selected organisations is aiming to improve the livelihoods of rural communities in Sindh and Punjab through strengthening selected horticultural value chains, and promoting sustainable production and marketing opportunities.
This horticulture value chain project is focussed on social science and has pre-selected community groups at 10 target sites in two provinces of Pakistan.

We have successfully established nine subcontracts with in-country and international partners who will help implement the project. Additionally, we have finalised contracts with seven Australian consultants.

In terms of carrying out the project, the team has been established and all project partners have begun participating in project activities. All project partners firstly took part in a ‘walk-the-chain’ activity (a walk-through experience from start to finish) at project field sites which allowed them to fully understand how the product flows through the supply chain. A comprehensive baseline report was then produced and shared with the donor, the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR), and the senior management of partner organisations, and a newsletter was developed.

The social scientists, comprising of an Australian counterpart and participants from five in-country partner organisations have concluded a baseline survey that engaged community groups for any future interventions and are profiling potential villages for community household engagement.

Regular research trials, communication of findings to the relevant stakeholders, building the capacity of researchers and beneficiary households, and regular reviews are being organised and fuller participation of all partner organisations and engagement of participating communities is anticipated.

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**Donors**

Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR)

**Partners**

Department of Agriculture Extension Sindh, Pakistan, Department of Agriculture Extension Punjab, Pakistan, Agriculture Research Sindh, Pakistan, National Agricultural Research Centre, Pakistan, Sindh Agriculture University, Tandojam, Pakistan, University of Agriculture Faisalabad, Pakistan, Women Agriculture Development Organization, Pakistan, MOJAZ Foundation, Pakistan, The University of Queensland, Australia

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**CABI Project Manager**

Muhammad Sohail Mazhar

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