



Australian Government

Australian Centre for
International Agricultural Research

Agribusiness

Agribusiness-led inclusive value chain development for smallholder farming systems in the Philippines (IVC Philippines).



Overview

A growing body of evidence suggests that market-driven development can meet dual objectives of economic growth and poverty reduction; providing income, employment and livelihood opportunities for diverse stakeholders in an agricultural market system.

The inclusion of smallholder farmers in value chains is recognised as a pathway to sustainable development of rural communities. These economically driven value chains help to support and empower different stakeholders, such as farmers, traders, agribusinesses, transport providers, wholesalers, retailers and the more marginalised poor, women and youth.

Value chains will play a critical part in empowering those who are marginalised and currently using diverse distribution methods. By harnessing the development potential of the private sector to create more efficient value chains for agricultural commodities and overcome barriers for equitable participation, and connecting smallholders to well-functioning markets, these marginalised poor, as well as producers, consumers and employees, will benefit.

KEY FACTS

ACIAR Project No. AGB-2018-196

Duration: August 2021 to July 2025
(4 years and 1 month)

Target areas: Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao

Budget: A\$2,550,000

Project Leader

Dr Lilly Lim-Camacho, CSIRO

Key partners

- CSIRO
- Australian National University, Fenner School of Environment and Society
- Foodlink Advocacy Cooperative
- University of the Philippines Los Baños
- University of the Philippines Mindanao
- University of Queensland School of Agriculture and Food Sciences
- Visayas State University

ACIAR Research Program Manager

Howard Hall

Objective

This project aims to enhance the design, implementation and adoption of inclusive value chains in smallholder farming systems in the Philippines. The project will explore roles, conditions and specific interventions that improve engagement, and benefit the livelihoods of farmers, their communities, and their chain partners.

Specific objectives include:

- Understanding what motivates smallholder farmers, their households, their communities, and their agribusiness partners to participate in inclusive value chains, and what could drive or impede their participation.
- Developing and evaluating interventions that contribute to inclusive value chains, as applied to the coffee and vegetable project case studies.
- Defining principles and processes to scale inclusive value chain development more broadly across communities and other agricultural sectors.

Expected scientific results

- The development, testing and evaluation of inclusive value chain development strategies with smallholder farmers and agribusinesses, to build on existing work from social, management and development sciences.
- The development of practical tools and processes that support key partners in framing and defining complex problems, co-developing more effective interventions, and informing their investment planning and strategies.
- A broad contribution to the scientific community through the development and application of complexity-aware theories of change and evaluation of research for development projects.
- Influencing the design and implementation of relevant research programs.

Expected impact/outcomes

- Improved incomes through involvement in inclusive value chains for smallholder farmers and agribusinesses engaged in the project.
- Increased on-farm investment for smallholder farmers engaged in the project.
- Enhanced adaptability and capacity to recover from shocks by smallholder farmers and agribusinesses engaged in the project.
- Increased entrepreneurial activity by smallholder farming communities engaged in the project.
- The application of inclusive value chain principles and practices by policymakers, research institutions, regional development councils and other institutions.

