

Inclusive agriculture value chain financing



Key details

Location

Indonesia, Vietnam

Duration

Start Jun 2018

End Jun 2024

Budget

AUD 1,990,250

Commissioned organisation

International Food Policy Research Institute, USA

Partners

Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab; Indonesian Centre for Agriculture Socio Economic and Policy Studies; Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA) Myanmar; Institute of Policy and Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development; International Food Policy Research Institute; Myanmar Economics Association; South East Asia (J-PAL SEA); University of Sydney

Project Leader

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Program <u>Agribusiness</u>

Project code AGB/2016/163

Overview

This project is increasing understanding about the context and potential for agricultural value chain financing models and approaches in Indonesia, Myanmar and Vietnam.

Smallholder farmers in developing countries face substantial obstacles that limit their ability to reach their production potential. This includes access to credit to invest in new crops or technologies, or how to deal with risks and shocks.

New technologies, markets and government priorities in Indonesia, Myanmar and Vietnam point to new opportunities to overcome long-standing challenges to agricultural finance.

By working throughout the value chain, information, relationships, institutions and market connections can

be leveraged to maximise the efficiency and impact of financial services, also potentially minimising risks to individual smallholders and small and medium enterprises.

This project aims to develop a rigorous impact evaluation design for agricultural value chain financing models; increase knowledge about how to design and implement innovative and inclusive agricultural value chain financing models in target countries; and enhance awareness and adoption of agricultural value chain financing models.

Expected project outcomes

- Households in targeted communities using newly available financial products able to either grow higher-value products or intensify their production.
- Participating farmers able to access markets for their products, contributing to increased incomes or reduced income variability.
- Farmers and agribusiness entrepreneurs with increased access to value chain finance.
- Increased awareness and knowledge among policy-makers and value chain practitioners on the opportunities and constraints for agricultural value chain finance.
- In each national research partner organisations, greater capacity among researchers to conduct impact evaluation research at international standards, and among key leaders to disseminate and communicate the results for policy.
- Summary of outcomes to date

2021-22

The Inclusive Agricultural Value Chain Financing project has moved well into Phase 2 in two of the three target countries (Vietnam and Indonesia).

 During Phase 1, the project published agricultural value chain finance reports for each of the three target countries, as well as summaries of each report. The project further developed a report summarizing lessons from all three countries, as

- well as a synthesis paper that includes comparative lessons from all three countries.
- During Phase 2, the main research in Vietnam will study demand for new loan products marketed to coffee farmers in the Northwest associated with the Phuc Sinh coffee company. The marketing will further test whether marketing to primary farmers (usually men) or couples is more effective, and whether farmer incomes increase through these products. In Indonesia, the research is helping the government propose a loan product based on subsidized Kredit Usaha Rakyat (KUR) loans, that would specifically target agricultural producers that sell to specific companies. At present, KUR loans are not targeted to agriculture. The team has piloted with one set of growers and will conduct further research with a second set in late 2022early 2023.

