

Improving income and nutrition in eastern and southern Africa by enhancing vegetable-based farming and food systems in periurban corridors



Key details

Location

Ethiopia, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania

Duration

Start Jun 2013 End Dec 2017

Budget AUD 2,619,519

Commissioned organisation

The World Vegetable Center

Partners

Africare Malawi; Applied Horticultural Research;
Department of Agricultural Research Services;
Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research;
Horticulture Research and Training Institute;
International Development Enterprises;
INTERNATIONAL POTATO CENTRE;
Mozambique Institute for Agricultural Research

Project Leader

Abdou Tenkouano - The World Vegetable Center

Program Global

Project code FSC/2012/111

Overview

This project aimed to improve nutrition, employment and income

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opportunities for vegetable growers and their families in Ethiopia, Malawi, Mozambique and Tanzania's periurban areas, the outskirts of cities.

Malnutrition, poor diet diversity and youth migration to cities are widespread problems in eastern and southern Africa. Residents undertake agriculture on the fringes of cities (peri-urban areas), often using resources (land, water, energy, labour) that could serve other purposes to satisfy the urban population's needs.

This project improved vegetable variety and seed supply systems, enhanced crop management practices, and developed a more effective value chain. Research assessed and promoted technologies and practices to produce more and safer vegetables. It evaluated and deployed improved varieties and high quality seed for selected vegetables. It assessed the feasibility of value adding and processing options, particularly post-harvest storage. It also built capacity to strengthen national vegetable research and development.

The project operated via 'Best Practice Hubs' as centres to demonstrate crop trials, post-harvest handling techniques and other interventions. These hubs served as an educational base for vegetable farmers, while also attracting traders and the wider public. Research data also help policy makers to formulate policies.

