

“Diversifying Food Systems: Horticultural Innovations and Learning for Improved Nutrition and Livelihood in East Africa”
(HORTINLEA)

JOINT INTERIM REPORT
(SP9)

01/01/2014 – 31/12/2014
FORMAL REPORT



Description of activities/milestones
SP9: Poverty, vulnerability and coping of vegetable producers and consumers in rural and urban areas
<p>HS1: Identifying study sites and sample households, undertaking participatory rapid appraisal and questionnaire development for household survey</p> <p>Progress under this activity is on track, no delays from the original time frame. As this activity was crucial for the development of the household survey instrument (Questionnaire) and planning of the actual household survey, it was undertaken on a timely basis. Following the involvement of SP9 PhD student, identifying the study sites and sample households was completed. In addition, pre-testing of the questionnaire and consultation with local experts was done in March, 2014 which took place as planned. Following this, the questionnaire was revised.</p>
<p>HS2: Literature review and developing conceptual framework for relevant vegetable value chains</p> <p>Progress under this activity is on track, no delays from the original time frame. Preparation of the background documents to understand the relevant actors along the IV value chain was crucial both to design the HORTINLEA survey and understand the poverty, vulnerability and shocks and coping strategies used by IV actors. This will be further refined based on the data collected from the field using the HORTINLEA survey.</p>
<p>HS3: Undertake the first round of household survey, data entry and cleaning</p> <p>Since this activity was crucial, it required careful planning with regard to the selection of counties to interview the respondents for the survey. In addition, the data input took longer time to minimize errors in the input of data entry. In addition, data cleansing took longer than planned because of the care needed to check consistency and recheck the input data with the original questionnaire.</p>
<p>P1: Understand the role of horticultural value chains in poverty, vulnerability, and coping of households via analysis of the first round of household survey.</p>
<p>HS4: Undertake the second wave of data collection, data entry, cleaning</p>
<p>P2: Study the behavior and well-being of households in response to a variety of shocks and identify coping strategies via analysis of the first and second wave of data and writing of scientific research articles</p>
<p>HS5: Undertake the third wave of data collection, data entry, cleaning</p>
<p>HS6: Analysis of the 1-3 waves of data and writing of scientific research articles</p>
<p>HS7: Preparing an exit strategy for handing over the data collection (organization and design) to local partners for sustainability of data collection by local partners in the long-term</p>
<p>P3: Writing of scientific articles and communication of research results to the target audience.</p>

To identify the study sites for the household survey (**Activity HS1: Identify study sites**), literature review and consultation with experts were implemented indicating that most of the IV producers were located in Western areas of Kenya namely, Kissi and Kakamega County. From Peri-urban areas, Nakuru and Kiambu and part of Kajiado are found to be key sites to trace African Indigenous Vegetables (AIV) producers and in some case in combination with traders. The capital city Nairobi, is found to be the hub of AIV traders including major Supermarkets (Uchumi, Nakumat, Naivas), Open markets, and green groceries. Based on the above background literature assessment and consultation, the study sites selected were Kissi, Kakamega, Nakuru, Kiambu, Kajiado and Nairobi. A background study to identify actors in AIV along the value chain was carried out (**HS2 ‘Literature review’**). The study showed that AIV producers, traders and consumers are the major actors. Only in few cases, middlemen were engaged. In addition, therefore, the three actors namely producers, traders, and consumers were selected to be interviewed for the HORTINLEA household survey. The

household survey instrument is developed to assess the AIV value chain. The comprehensive questionnaire included questions on the various socio-economic situations, their livelihood strategies, poverty situations, and the various shocks faced and coping strategies used in response to these. The questionnaire is developed for all AIV actors namely producers, traders and consumers. It was tested on the field in March, 2014 and revisions were made according to results of the interviews and consultation with local experts. The first round of HORTINLEA household survey, together with the data entry and cleaning was performed (**HS3 ‘ First round survey is completed, recorded and cleaned data’**). To carry out the household survey, about 30 enumerators and supervisors have been trained to make them familiar with the HORTINLEA questionnaire and data collection strategies. The survey was completed by the end of October, 2014. Training on the SPSS data entry template was handled to Egerton University with 10 data entry personnel. Data entry was completed by the end of December 2014. Acquired data includes GPS data of the surveyed households, a producer, a consumer and a trader survey, a supermarket survey regarding the implementation of food standards in agricultural value chains, a price survey on regional markets of the case study sites as well as data from focus group discussions on coping strategies in case of food insecurity.