Gender Responsive Equitable Agriculture and Tourism (GREAT)

Volume 2 July 2019

Key Figures

Disbursement Lao Cai
AUD $5,120,463

Disbursement Son La
AUD $3,995,847

Committed private sector co-investment
AUD $13.9 million
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signed partnership agreements</th>
<th>Number of women joining networks</th>
<th>Number of women trained</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>4,249</td>
<td>2,206</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New jobs created for women</th>
<th>Women-led collective groups</th>
<th>New production area expanded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>229 ha</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Project Highlights**
Australia’s Former Ambassador Taking Cinnamon to New Heights

Australia’s Former Ambassador to Vietnam Craig Chittick visited GREAT partners in Lao Cai. The visit to Lao Cai was an opportunity for the Australian Ambassador to see first-hand how GREAT is creating economic opportunities for ethnic minority women living in the mountainous north west of the Country. This included meeting women entrepreneurs and partner companies Son Ha Spice and Flavourings - the largest cinnamon and star anise exporter in Vietnam and Duc Phu Agriculture Forestry - a pioneer in exporting benzoin which is an ingredient in perfumes to the European market. The Ambassador also visited Bac Ha Tea Company - a local manufacturer and exporter of shan tea, one of the most exotic tea varieties in Vietnam.

Driving with the windows down into the mountainous village of Nam Det 1 in Bac Ha District, Lao Cai, the sweet smell of cinnamon is in the air. This village is dependent on cinnamon with few other livelihood options.

Cinnamon, or more precisely, Cinnamomum Cassia, is indigenous to Vietnam and brings economic benefit to many other ethnic minority areas in the Country. Vietnam ranks third worldwide in cinnamon production after Indonesia and Sri Lanka. Cinnamon from Vietnam is exported to India, the Middle East, Japan, Korea, the US and the EU.

Case Study: Le Thi Giang Nhung

Overcoming different challenges, a young woman built up her career in the shan tea industry in Bac Ha District, Lao Cai, with products now being exported to premium markets in the Europe and United States.
Thai ethnic tea growers, Vina Tea Company's Green Technology Tea project in Moc Chau District, Son La Province

Red Dao women, Culture and Information Department's Community Based Tourism project in Sapa District, Lao Cai Province

Tay ethnic female ginger grower in Van Ban District, Lao Cai Province receiving technical support from Duc Phu Company

Mong woman working with Greenfarm's VietGAP Vegetables project in Moc Chau District, Son La Province

Where We Are

Key Past Activities

May 2019 - Inception training for second and third wave of Partners
May 2019 - Former Australian's Ambassador's visit to Lao Cai
May-July 2019 - Scoping Access to Finance
June 2019 - Launch of 12 projects in Son La and five projects in Bac Ha, Lao Cai
July 2019 - Launch of Management Information System for partner reporting
July 2019 - Launch of six projects in Van Ban, Lao Cai
July 2019 - Steering Committee Meeting with PMU Son La
July-August 2019 - Project level baseline assessment in Son La and Lao Cai
August 2019 - Launch of five tourism projects and sector steering meeting in Sa Pa, Lao Cai
Growing Ramie

"Like other female growers in the Cooperative, I’m glad to see the business growing everyday together with the ramie plants. I hope that the business model can be upscaled to bring more opportunities for the local women.” - Mrs. Tran Thi Duyen, Ramie grower in Van Ban, Lao Cai, May 2019

Handicrafts

“We do not see female workers as employees, but the treasure of our Company. Without them, we cannot reach further.”

- Mr. Vo Van Tai, Director of Lan Rung Company, at Inception training workshop, May 2019
**Bamboo shoots**

“With the innovation introduced by the project, more than 80% of labor and firewood cost is reduced” - Mrs. Vi Thi Sang, team leader of Bamboo shoot Production Group in Buot Village, Tan Xuan Commune, July 2019

---

**Foreign Minister**

“The empowerment of women and girls is a priority for Australia’s development assistance and a key focus of Australia’s economic partnership with Vietnam,” Australia’s Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Women, Marise Payne, during visit to Vietnam, June 2019

---

**Ambassador's visit**

“Although it is still at the very early stage of projects implementation, it's already delivering some significant and meaningful results.” - Former Australian’s Ambassador to Vietnam, Mr. Craig Chittick, during visit to Lao Cai, May 2019
Vui lòng gửi yêu cầu về địa chỉ great@Aus4Equalityvn.org nếu Quý vị cần bản tiếng Việt của bản tin này

You are receiving this email because you are a partner or stakeholder of GREAT

7th Fl. Vinapaco Building, 142 Doi Can St., Ba Dinh Dist., Hanoi, Vietnam

© 2020 Aus4Equality, All Rights Reserved.