

Signed partnership agreements

49

Women joining business networks

13,822

Number of women trained

23,850

Women with productive access and inputs

7,864

Women-led collective groups

352

New production area expanded

3,392.81 ha

Project Highlights



Moc Chau tourism is on the way to capitalise its full potential

Vietnam's northwest offers tourists the chance to connect with the many ethnic groups that call the area home, enjoy the stunning scenery and fresh local



Bamboo shoots are synonymous with Vietnamese cuisine and are grown in many areas of the country. As well as being a popular food ingredient in Vietnam, bamboo shoots provide an

produce. Community-based tourism offers the ethnic communities an opportunity to participate in and benefit economically from Vietnam's tourism industry.

By working in partnership with local government, local businesses and, most importantly, local communities, GREAT aims to ensure that any development of the local tourism industry is sustainable and preserves the cultural and environmental aspects of the area that make it such an attractive travel destination.

[Read more](#)

important source of income for households living in the buffer zones of protected forests in north west Vietnam, including Hoang Lien - Van Ban Nature Reserve in Lao Cai and Van Ho District in Son La Province.

As bamboo grows naturally in the forest, bamboo shoot cultivation does not require a large capital investment or constant tending by farmers.

[Read more](#)



GREAT Story: Tan Ta May

Discover how a Red Dao women turned indigenous knowledge into a business opportunity and generated increased income for hundreds of women.

Read the story of Mrs Tan Ta May - Director of Red Dao Community Cooperative, a GREAT partner for answers.

[Read more](#)

COVID-19 Response and Recovery



GREAT COVID-19 Update May 2020

How has the COVID-19 outbreak impacted GREAT projects in both economic and social aspects?

How are GREAT and partners responding to these impacts ? What are the recovery plans?

Let's check out for more!

[See more](#)

Partner's Activities in Response to COVID-19



Red Dao women in Sapa are turning the challenges caused by COVID into an



Vinasamex Company is maintaining regular purchases from growers, mostly

opportunity to produce and launch new products from artichoke.



Tay and Dao women and continuing to employ staff in Van Ban, Lao Cai.



Helvetas Vietnam has combined important COVID-19 awareness communication with gender equality awareness and messages in a communications campaign targeting ethnic minority groups in Bac Ha and Bat Xat districts, Lao Cai.

Community-based tourism operators supported by AOP in Moc Chau, Son La are ready to come back stronger, with improved services.



Bac Ha Tea has continued buying tea from growers in Bac Ha, Lao Cai, providing a lifeline for families who dealt some economic blows due to COVID-19.

Fresh Studio adjusted their training program on VietGAP standards, and are training farmers in Son La in groups of 20 and ensuring they participants can be spaced out according to social distancing requirements.

Where We Are

Key Past Activities

April-June 2020: Project annual work plans for period July 2020-September 2021 developed.

April 2020: Quick survey on impacts of COVID-19 to business partners and households.

April 2020: GREAT's COVID-19 response plan discussed and shared with partners.

May 2020: Results of District and Department Competitiveness Index 2019 for Lao Cai and Son La published and shared.

May 2020: Sub-sector partnership meetings of Tea, Fruits and Vegetables.

June 2020: Gender and Social Inclusive Intervention plan developed.

June 2020: Consultation meeting with Committee for Social Affairs of National Assembly on NTP framework design.

June 2020: Awareness raising training on Gender Equality and Disability for partners.

June 2020: Monitoring to CARE, CRED Bamboo, ADC and Plant Protection and Crop Control Department in Son La province.

June 2020: Marketing and Communications Training in Son La and Lao Cai Provinces

Key Upcoming Activities

July 2020: Launch of Moc Chau Inclusive Destination Management Project and Tourism Sector Steering Meeting.

July 2020-February 2021: Gender based violence training for District Women's Unions and awareness raising.

August 2020: Steering committee meeting.

July-August 2020: Midline of longitudinal study.

September 2020: Joint Monitoring Mission.

September 2020: Assessment on systemic market changes.

July 2020 onward: Development and implementation of Knowledge Management Plan.

July 2020 onward: Development of GREAT's knowledge products.

Key Quotes

High Value Cinnamon

"Today, growers in Van Ban have a clear understanding of the value of cinnamon and consider cinnamon as a vital crop to support the family economy. Women are gradually having a bigger voice in the family, community and society." - **Nguyen Thi Huyen, Director of Vina Samex Company**





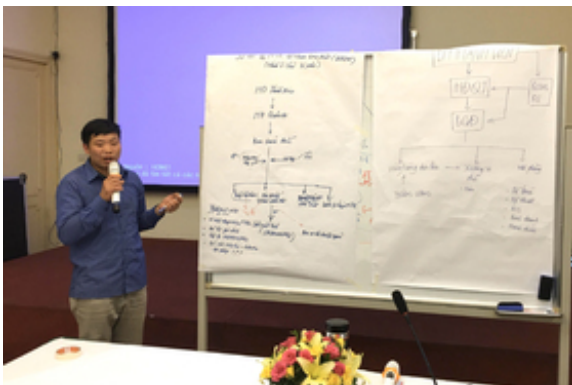
Bamboo shoots

"Initial successes include our soon-to-be organically certified bamboo shoots area and purchasing agreements with Kim Boi and Yen Thanh companies. We really look forward to developing Van Ho bamboo shoots as a local specialty to help increase women's income." - **Ha Thi Hue, CRED Bamboo Project**

Community-based Tourism

"To develop a good community-based tourism model, all members of the community should join hands and collaborate. As a result, the whole community will be mutually beneficial."

- **Hoang Thi Vuong, Head of DCI Sapa**



Medicinal Plants

"Through the training on cooperative restructure, we gained a better understanding of the membership structure of the new type of cooperatives, shareholding, capital management and business planning."

Ly Lao Lo, Director of Sapanapro Company

Vegetables Sector Meeting

"Van Ho District authorities and other partners will always accompany vegetables growers on the way of sustainable development." - **Nguyen Quang Huan, Vice Chairman of Van Ho District People's Committee**



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