



Aus4Equality|GREAT  
Partnering for Change



## Working with Ethnic Minority Women to Formalise the Indigenous Pig Sector in Lao Cai Province

Oxfam

### Opportunity

Indigenous breeds of pig in Vietnam compared to hybrid species receive a higher price at market. By breeding indigenous pigs and improving the quality of piglets, ethnic minority women will be able to increase their incomes and the socio-economic status of their families.

**This project, delivered by Oxfam with GREAT support works with ethnic minority women living in 1,300 households in Bat Xat, Muong Khuong and Bac Ha Districts, Lao Cai. It focuses on improved locally-available feed and rearing practices to shorten the production cycle as well as enhancing the supply of quality piglets.**

### Challenges

Current indigenous pig breeding practices among ethnic minority women in Lao Cai Province involves the use of hybrid species and the reproduction frequency of sows is relatively low, averaging 1.5 litters per year. Many piglets do not live beyond weaning. The indigenous pig sector lacks support services, such as access to quality feed, information on rearing practices and veterinary services.

There is little in the way of sector policy, particularly for small-scale farmers. Market connections can be tenuous and informal, limiting the active and equal participation of women and men in the value chain.

### Solutions for Change

- » Support the Lao Cai Department of Agriculture and Rural Development to improve the quality of indigenous pig breeds
- » Facilitate the establishment and operation of the Lao Cai Indigenous Pig and Production Association to introduce sector standards and improve access to technical and market information
- » Establish and strengthen producer groups
- » Technical training on rearing practices
- » Establish a traceability system
- » Policy advocacy at the provincial level

### Expected Results

- » **Increased income** for 1,540 people, including 924 ethnic minority women
- » Minimum 80% of women report **increased confidence**



Provincial People's Committee  
Lao Cai Province

