

# Aus4Equality|GREAT Partnering for Change



## A bamboo shoot production model to increase incomes for women in Van Ban District Hoang Lien Natural Reservation Area Project Management Unit

### Opportunity

Sustainable bamboo shoot production in Van Ban District has the potential to generate increased income for farmers, including women, while also supporting forest conservation through sustainable practices and the allocation of land. Processor and exporter, Kim Boi Agro Forestry Products Joint Stock Company has high export demand for quality bamboo shoots and is seeking to buy from Nam Xe and Nam Xay Communes in Van Ban District.

Bamboo shoot production and collection is seasonal and offers an opportunity for households to earn additional income by collecting bamboo shoots outside of rice or maize harvesting periods. With a confirmed buyer in Kim Boi, Hoang Lien Natural Reserve Area Project Management Unit is well-positioned to encourage households to become involved in the bamboo shoot production.

Women play a key role in bamboo shoot production, including collecting and primary processing the shoots. Producing bamboo shoots to the required international standards offers an opportunity for women and their households to diversify and increase income, boosting financial security.

### Expected Results\*

- » Increased income for 600 people, including 320 women from ethnic minorities
- » Minimum 80% of participating women report increased confidence

\* Note: The data is valid as of December 2021.

### Challenges

While bamboo shoots have been produced in the area for many years, production practices have been unsustainable, resulting in depleted yields. To participate in the project and supply to companies like Kim Boi households must be trained in organic production methods and produce bamboo shoots that meet the required export standards.

Conserving the forest reservation area is critical. Organic bamboo shoot production and forest conservation both require policies and regulations that balance the commercial aspects of bamboo shoot production with the sustainability of the forest.

### Solutions for Change

- » Support the establishment of a 40 hectare organic bamboo shoot production area that links to the Kim Boi Company's supply chain
- » Work with farmers and local seedling providers to build capacity in organic bamboo shoot production planning, harvesting and primary processing to meet export standards
- » Support policy design and regulations for the sustainable development of a bamboo shoot production area that supports both livelihoods development and forest conservation

