Between 2000 and 2010, urban population growth in Asia was running at 2.7% per year, ie another 378 million inhabitants. In order to feed cities and satisfy growing demand for diversity, safety and quality, value chains are restructuring and farming systems are being transformed.

Urban markets create opportunities but also challenges for local farming systems. How should food supply chains be reorganized? How can we stabilize incomes among the least favoured farming populations? How can we reconcile sustainable food supplies to cities with local agricultural development?

Markets and agriculture linkages for cities in Asia

How can sustainable food supplies to urban areas be reconciled with local agricultural development?

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Partners

CASRAD > Centre for Agrarian Systems Research and Development at the Food Crops Research Institute (FCRI).

FAVRI > Fruits and Vegetables Research Institute.

Both are members of the Vietnam Academy of Agricultural Sciences (VAAS).

RUDEC > Rural Development Centre, Institute of Policy and Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development (IPSARD).

Faculty of Agriculture, National University of Laos (NUoL).

CIRAD > Joint research units: INNOVATION, SELMET, MOISA.

Beneficiaries

Local producers will be able to develop their sales to dynamic markets and new forms of distribution.

Consumers and distributors have guarantees of product origin and quality.

Policy-makers and local authorities can improve coordination between local farming and urban markets.

Students and professionals will benefit from short and long training courses.

Researchers and academic staff are building their skills in agrifood value chain research and development.

Scientific partners are boosting their visibility through joint events and regular co-publications.

Associates

Vietnam > Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development; Ministry of Trade; Ministry of Science and Technology (National Office for Intellectual Property); Universities of Agriculture of Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City; research/development institutes; decentralized State services; NGOs.

Laos > Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry; NGOs.

France and Europe > INRA; CNRS; higher education establishments.

International > AFD; ACIAR; FAO; World Bank; ADB; CGIAR.
Expertise and technical skills

- Analyses of agrifood supply chains: multi-criteria studies (economic, social and financial), characterization of consumer demand and practices.
- Information for market monitoring: changes in types of distribution (street sales, markets, shops, supermarkets).
- Quality approaches; construction and impacts, study of associated intellectual property and standardization issues (origin and quality labelling systems: low external input agriculture, geographical indications, sanitary standards).
- Analyses of territorial changes resulting from changes in agricultural production and trade.
- Support of public policy-making, decision support (economics, law, sectorial policies, etc); feasibility studies, project management and assessment.

Some current projects

Multi-scale Assessment of Livestock Development Pathways in Vietnam • REVALTER, 2013-2015, Agence nationale de la recherche, France, € 530k

In Vietnam, per capita meat consumption has doubled over the past 15 years. The rapid change in livestock farming systems is being studied in three contrasting regions in Vietnam. Farms are innovating and intensifying. Territories are having to cope with new land tenure issues and environmental impacts. Supply chains are restructurin in response to new sanitary regulations and growing animal feed imports. The project has triggered discussions of possible scenarios for change with local and national decision-makers. The partners are building their skills in terms of livestock supply chain analysis in Vietnam.

Support of the development of Geographical Indications [GIs] in Vietnam • 2014–2017, Agence Française de Développement, € 0.8M

To promote well-known products of origin, many countries, particularly in Southeast Asia, protect their Geographical Indications. This project is developing this approach in Vietnam in an integrated way, linking registering of names, support of producers’ organizations, and promotion of approved products. The two pilot products are Quang Tri pepper and Binh Phuoc cashew nuts.


This international project [Brazil, China, USA, Indonesia, Laos] is studying the growing role of non-State players, particularly multinationals and non-governmental organizations, in drafting and implementing environmental governance regulations and procedures, from a local to a global level. More specifically, it is looking at the impact of certification on organic rice production operations in Laos. It is analysing the establishment of a regional certification framework for organic products in Southeast Asia.

For further information
Platform website: http://www.malica-asia.com/
CIRAD Regional Office: http://asie-sud-est.cirad.fr/

MALICA, a platform with some 30 researchers and teaching staff and six PhD students.

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A platform is...
- a set of partners keen to work together;
- shared prospects and objectives;
- a commitment in terms of human resources, equipment and funding, a shared research topic; a specific geographical field, a range of skills and activities.