

Feed the Future Kenya Accelerated Value Chain Development program

Overview

The Feed the Future Kenya Accelerated Value Chain Development (AVCD) program seeks to widely apply technologies and innovations for selected value chains in order to competitively and sustainably increase productivity, contributing to inclusive agricultural growth, nutrition and food security in the country. The main goal of AVCD is to sustainably reduce poverty and hunger in the Feed the Future zones of influence in Kenya.

Focusing on the livestock, dairy, staple crops root crops and staple drought tolerant crops value chains in 23 counties in Kenya, AVCD aims to lift 317,000 households out of poverty, making them food secure and enabling their transition from subsistence to market-orientated farming.

Goals

- Sustainably reduce poverty and hunger in the Feed the Future zones of influence in Kenya
- Increase inclusive agricultural growth and improved nutrition status of participants in the targeted value chains.

Intermediate results

An improved agricultural enabling environment

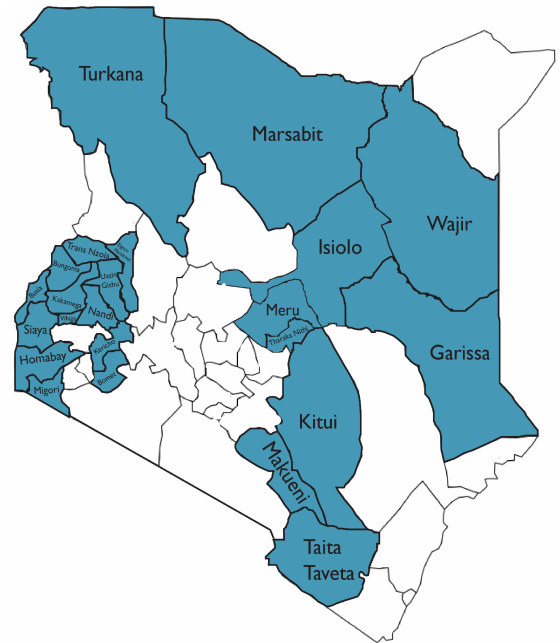
- Providing empirical evidence to assist policy decisions, offering producer organizations with management skills and information, and supporting value chain partners to produce seven policy briefs.
- Strengthening 27 producer organizations and 18 private sector business enterprises in seed systems.

Expanded markets and trade

- Increasing access to specific products and linking producers, processors and traders in each value chain to markets.
- Providing market information and prices to producers to broaden their available options.
- Developing the capacity of farmers to undertake planning and business development activities, enabling their transition from subsistence to market-orientated farming.
- Organizing value chain players to enhance market and other price negotiations and the use of ICT-based marketing information systems to get the best and most stable prices for their products.
- Increasing the value and volume of market access of products in each value chain by 15% from baselines and increasing gross margins by 15-30%.

Improved productivity of selected value chains

- Promoting broad application by farmers of productivity enhancing technologies and innovations designed to sustainably increase productivity by over 25%.



Counties in which the program operates

Improved access and diversity of food, and nutrition-related behaviour

- Increasing the productivity and utilization of nutritious foods.
- Improving access and diversity of food among target beneficiaries.
- Improving the quality of food at household and market level by enhancing storage, processing, and cooking techniques.
- Providing training on behaviour change and ensuring women and youth are engaged in the value chain programs.

The livestock value chain will accelerate the development of livestock production, mainly small ruminants, to improve the incomes and nutritional status of 60,000 households by: increasing access to improved grazing areas; creating 30 additional local market associations and 15 private sector enterprises, and applying improved livestock management practices.

The dairy value chain will accelerate the development of dairy production to improve diet diversity, food security and rural incomes of 40,000 smallholder households by: increasing milk productivity by 25%; establishing six dairy business hubs with 5,000 farmers; and establishing nine innovations platforms.

The staple drought tolerant crops value chain will develop sorghum, millet, pigeon pea and groundnut value chains to increase the incomes and improve the nutrition status of 100,000 households by over 25%. It will also increase the yields of targeted crops by 30%, reduce post-harvest losses by 30%, and establish at least one market-producer group in each target county, among other goals.

The staple root crops value chain will help the potato and sweet potato value chains to increase productivity and incomes, and improve nutritional intake of 110,000 smallholder households. Potato production will be increased by at least 20% and the value of sales by 30%. This value chain will also reach at least 68,000 households with children under five with productive and nutritious orange-fleshed sweet potato varieties and nutrition education.

Partners

The implementation of the three-year (October 2015–2018) program is being led by the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), together with the International Crops Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) and the International Potato Center (CIP). Other partners include Heifer International, TechnoServe, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Farm Inputs Promotions Africa, Farm Concern, Department of Veterinary Services, the Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization, Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service, Kenya Livestock Marketing Council, county livestock marketing councils, local market associations; Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock and Fisheries, Kenya National Drought Management Authority; National Potato Council of Kenya, the Northern Rangelands Trust and the University of Nairobi.

AVCD budget and duration: USD25 million over three years (October 2015–2018)

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