



GRET



ALIVE-FNS

Agricultural Innovations and inclusive Value chains for Food and Nutrition Security in Myanmar

The ALIVE-FNS project in short

To respond to food and nutrition insecurity, disrupted markets, and lack of job opportunities, the ALIVE-FNS project is addressing the immediate needs of vulnerable households and the mid & long term improvement of the selected value chains in 5 townships of Northern Chin State and the Ayeyarwaddy Region.

Implemented by a consortium — CIRAD, CORAD and Gret — the intervention aims to improve availability & access to safe, nutritious and diversified food for vulnerable producers and consumers in targeted areas and improve awareness of nutrition among value chains stakeholders.

Based on selection criteria, the action is supporting the improvement of konjac, vegetable and paddy value chains in 108 villages of the two regions.

Initial assessments have allowed the project to target more precisely the beneficiary households, assess their immediate needs and understand the economic, food security and nutrition situation in the area in order to adapt the proposed activities to the identified needs and local context.

Expected outcomes

- > Co-assessment of the situation and adjustment of the project design and activities to the current contexts.
- > Increase of the quantity, improvement of the quality and diversification of the food produced.
- > Improvement of the access to markets for smallholders and SMEs.
- > improvement of the food practices of the farmers and increase of local demand for nutritious and safe food.
- > Cooperate with the civil society in short- and long-term actions to build the resilience of communities.

Collective projects to construct motorbike/car road to improve access to fields & markets



Overall Objective

To contribute to food and nutrition security of vulnerable smallholder farmers and their communities by strengthening the resilience and inclusiveness of value chains in Myanmar.

Key project figures

- 7,200 families benefiting from infrastructure development (irrigation, road/bridge, etc.) and cash for work.
 - 342 demo & trial plots to test and demonstrate agro-ecology practices.
 - 4,400 producers trained on agroecology practices.
 - 36 processors supported with low cost transformation techniques.
 - 4,400 families (2,432 women) reinforced their nutrition awareness.
- 3,860 households (3,037 women) received seed kits with various vegetable varieties to improve nutritious and diversified diet.



Main activities

- > Assessments of value chain, nutrition, and food security to support the adjustment of the project activities.
- > Increase of access to inputs by linking with the private sector and filling the gap in input provision systems.
- > Inclusive support to Employment-Intensive investments to improve access to water, transportation and markets.
- > Support to small-scale experimentation on innovative agro-ecology practices and quality seed production.
- > Introduction of low-cost and adapted processing and post-harvest technologies for producers and MSMEs.
- > Support to producers and MSMEs for the production of innovative food products.
- > Support collectors for improving linkages between producers and market actors.
- > Inter-professional approaches to enhance joint actions among value chains stakeholders.
- > Training and workshops on nutrition-sensitive value chains.
- > Cooking demonstrations and competitions.
- > Provision of seed kits to support high nutrition value crops for home consumption and help address nutrition gaps.
- > Cooperation with CSOs for addressing food and nutrition insecurity, responding to crisis and improving resilience of communities.

A STORY IN THE DELTA

She is 46 years old and has 4 family members. Her main livelihood activity is paddy farming, and during the farm breaks, she cultivates vegetables and breeds chicken and duck. Her eldest daughter is a high school student, and the youngest one is a primary school student. School fees depended on family income and in the rainy season, when she had to pay for school fees, it was the most difficult period to earn income as vegetables were not produced. She had to borrow money from others with interest. In 2021, she attended GRET technical courses on chemical-free vegetable farming.

From this training, she learnt the rain-guard method in the rainy season, bio-input production and vegetable growing practices.

Based on learning, she invested in rain-guard and vegetable growing in the next rainy seasons. With the income generated, the school fees for her two daughters were no longer a problem as in previous years. In addition, the frequency of borrowing money has also decreased. Now the younger daughter is studying in (6th) grade and the eldest is continuing her education in Yangon, majoring in second-year chemistry.



A STORY IN CHIN STATE

In Khuangli village, all farmers grow vegetables for their livelihood and cultivate mostly Onion and Garlic for their daily income. But they do not cultivate much vegetables for their daily consumption such as Chinese cabbage, broccoli, zucchini, or cauliflower.

The interviewee is also growing vegetables and he said that thanks to seed kits supported by the ALIVE-FNS project, he can produce more vegetables for home consumption and also sold some extra ones to get income.

He also mentioned that some farmers can produce their own seeds and do not need to buy anymore from stores.

He does not use any chemical fertilizer in the farm where he grows the seed-kit varieties. He can then produce organic vegetables for home consumption. After eating organic vegetables, his family is healthier and can work more than before. They also have more varieties than before for their home diet.

After eating organic products, they know the benefits and they will try to use only organic fertilizer for producing for consumption.

Support to different Value chains' functions



Access to inputs

Production

Processing

Market access

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Present in Myanmar since 1995, GRET is an international development NGO that has been working in the field and at political level to fight poverty and inequalities for more than 40 years.

Myanmar

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