

work package 3

Production of healthy and climate-resilient
vegetables and post-harvest practices



Work package 3: Production of healthy and climate-resilient vegetables and post-harvest practices.

Led by the Centre de Coopération Internationale en Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement (CIRAD), Component 3 Will :

- Conduct surveys of farmers and processors

Meet with farmers and processors located around the urban centers of each country during the general assessment of food systems to identify the main constraints and opportunities related to vegetable production, storage and processing. Introduce on-farm innovations to reduce the use of pesticides and synthetic fertilizers and thereby limit post-harvest losses identified during the interviews as a source of inspiration for practices to be tested.

- Mapping the diversity of major pests and diseases in vegetable production

The main pests and diseases affecting vegetable production and storage will be identified. Plant and insect samples from the main production areas supplying urban centers will be collected and analyzed to identify the most prevalent pests and diseases. Special attention will be given to the major pests and diseases reported by the farmer and processor survey.

- Assessing the impacts of cultural practices on vegetable safety

Vegetables will be collected from farmers interviewed on-farm to establish the effects of cultural practices on vegetable safety in terms of microbiological loads and pesticide residues. Particular attention will be paid to the main pesticides used by the registered farmers.

- Local adaptation and testing of selected agricultural and post-harvest practices

A workshop will be organized in each country with all national partners. Following which agronomic and post-harvest trials will be set up with the required scientific equipment.

- Scaling up selected agricultural and post-harvest practices

The core of this activity of this activity of scaling up agricultural and post-harvest practices will be done within the framework of the planned workshops.