

## Work Package 6: Knowledge and Evidence for Policy Development

*Led by World Vegetable Center, Component 6 aims to :*

### - Conducting a food systems assessment

The project's food system assessment will be tailored to the needs of the different work packages. It will build on existing assessments so as not to duplicate efforts.

- ◊ Develop a common protocol for implementing the food system assessment. The assessment will pay particular attention to gender and equity in food systems. It will also describe the results of existing food system assessments in partner countries. Ensure the involvement of diverse stakeholders, including local communities, in the process.
- ◊ Hire consultants or select partners to implement parts of the food system assessment.
- ◊ Collect data for the food system assessment,
- ◊ Analyze the data and write up the results.
- ◊ Publish the results in a report or in peer-reviewed journal articles.

### - Implement a (near) real-time monitoring system

The project monitoring system aims to track project implementation and collect baseline indicators. The system will use a smartphone-based application (AkvoFlow). Project staff, including business coaches supporting VBN and coach mentors will be equipped with the tools and collect data at each interaction. All data will be disaggregated by age and gender. Data may include photos, challenges encountered, new opportunities and volumes of vegetables marketed. Station and on-farm trial data will also be recorded using Akvo Flow. Anonymized monitoring data will be shared online for the general public, project partners, and donors.

# work package 6

knowledge and evidence for policy-making



Food Systems & Impact Assessment

**- Conducting an impact evaluation to generate evidence**

Project interventions for impact evaluation will be identified and integrated into the project M&E plan.

**- Coordinate knowledge management**

Coordinated knowledge management ensures that all data generated by the project is stored centrally and can be shared publicly as needed and in compliance with the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). The project will create a central data repository to store all project data, protocols, questionnaires, and manuals developed and make them publicly available while ensuring data confidentiality. The system will be ready by mid-2021.

**- Capacity Building in Partner Countries**

The project will support 24 MSc students from local universities in the partner countries (Benin, Burkina-Faso, Mali) to complete their MSc thesis as part of the project. Half of the scholarships will be awarded to women to promote their role in vegetable research. Each MSc thesis research will be supported by a research grant of up to 5,000 Euros. These students will contribute to the research in Components 2-6. The project will also train 7 PhD students from the partner countries and they will be integrated in the different components of the project. They will continue their studies in the Netherlands, France or at a local university in one of the partner countries.

**- Participate in WorldVeg Global R&D Week and international conferences**

Project staff will interact with other World Vegetable Center staff and management during the Center's annual Global R&D Week and at international conferences to exchange experiences with people implementing similar projects elsewhere in the world.

