

**VEGGIES 4 PLANET & PEOPLE**

# INCEPTION MEETING REPORT

12 - 13 JANUARY 2021 | NAIROBI, KENYA

IKEA Foundation  




World Vegetable Center

SNV

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# INTRODUCTION

## PROJECT SUMMARY

*Enabling Vegetable Business Development in East Africa for more jobs and better human and environmental health*, also known as the Veggies4Planet&People (V4P&P) is a project of the World Vegetable Center (WorldVeg) and SNV, and is funded by the IKEA Foundation. The project aims to create jobs and income, particularly for youth and women, in the vegetable sector in Ethiopia and Kenya. It also aims to improve environmental and human health through the safe production of vegetables. Using an action-oriented approach to pilot and scale new tools and technologies, the project will leverage public and private sector partners and Vegetable Business Networks (VBNs) as platforms for networking and boosting the functioning of food systems. Value chain development will emphasize traditional African vegetables, that create excellent business opportunities, and are easier to grow in regenerative ways.

## INCEPTION MEETING

On January 12 and 13, 2021, V4P&P partners, WorldVeg and SNV organized an inception workshop in the Villa Rosa Kempinski Hotel in Nairobi, to kick-off the project with key stakeholders and partners. Over 45 participants attended the two-day meeting in-person and virtually (via video conferencing). A list of all participants can be found in annex 2 of this document.

## OBJECTIVES

The overarching objectives of the workshop were to:

1. Clarify the goal, objectives and targets of the project,
2. Create synergies with major stakeholders,
3. Involve policy makers from the start, and identify enabling environmental factors with the government,
4. Prioritize research in regenerative agriculture, linking to socio-economic research and MEL, and
5. Engage the private seed sector.

## METHODOLOGY AND STRUCTURE

The facilitators used a combination of approaches to engage in-person and virtual participants, including plenary session presentations, large and small working group assignments, a panel discussion and question and answer rounds. See Annex 1 for the full agenda of the meeting.

On Day 1, introductory and welcome notes were delivered by representatives of the key partners and stakeholders, followed by an overview of the overall project and its programmatic activities and objectives, by WorldVeg colleagues. Following this, participants engaged in a *Leveling Off* exercise to discuss and explore what currently exists within the four programmatic outcomes in each of the six counties that the project will work in.

Day 2 began with a general recap of day 1, after which findings and insights from the *Leveling Off* exercise were shared, validated and challenged by the entire group. For the next breakout group sessions, participants used the same Outcome structure to *Explore Interventions and Prioritize Synergies*. Monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) sessions followed, facilitated by WorldVeg colleagues who introduced the project's MEL approach and then facilitated a panel discussion with relevant government officials from each county and the Director of Horticulture on *working with practitioners to influence policy*. Lastly, participants were invited to consider and recommend research topics within the regenerative agriculture space that the project could focus on.

Presentations made during the meeting were projected on larger screens, and emerging findings from group discussions were noted on flip charts and presented to the entire group. Key sessions of the meeting were

broadcasted in real time for the virtual participants, and recorded for future reference. Presentations and flip chart notes from, and video recordings of the meeting can be found in Annex 3.

## **INCEPTION MEETING REPORT**

The format of this report follows the chronological order of activities and sessions during the meeting. It has been compiled and edited by Rizwaan Khambata, a consultant assigned to support the WorldVeg team in planning for the meeting, facilitating various sessions, and collecting input from rapporteurs in order to draft this report.

## **WORKSHOP PROCEEDINGS - DAY 1**

### **1. SESSION 1: INTRODUCTORY REMARKS AND WELCOME ADDRESS**

#### **INTRODUCTION BY DR. RALPH ROOTHAERT, COUNTRY DIRECTOR KENYA, WORLDVEG**

The meeting kicked off with a welcome from V4P&P's Principal Investigator, Dr. Roothaert. Providing a brief introduction to the V4P&P project and partners, Dr. Roothaert rooted the project's needs in challenges faced by the planet (presenting Kate Raworth's Doughnut Economics concepts), and by people and communities (including poverty, unemployment, health and nutrition). He also noted the immense opportunity that growing, selling and consuming traditional vegetables can have in addressing these challenges.

#### **INTRODUCTORY REMARKS BY MR. ANDRE DE JAGER, MANAGING DIRECTOR AGRICULTURE, SNV**

Mr. De Jager briefly introduced SNV and its work and commitment to public-private partnerships. He spoke about SNV's previous horticulture programs in Kenya, upon which the V4P&P project will be continued. He also highlighted the project's alignment with the Government's objectives of further developing the horticulture sector, and expressed excitement for SNV's collaboration with WorldVeg and other research centers, "between science and implementation". He also spoke about supporting the value chain and boosting employment support through the project.

#### **INTRODUCTORY REMARKS BY DR. GABRIEL RUGALEMA, REGIONAL DIRECTOR, WORLDVEG**

Dr. Rugalema started with a brief history of WorldVeg's vegetable research, development and training work, stressing commitment not only to the health of people, but also to that of the planet. Speaking about the importance of vegetables economically, socially, culturally and nutritionally, he also noted that, "we neglect them in policy, investment and consumption." He shared that WorldVeg aspires to enhance their regional presence by co-creating demand-led projects with the participants and their communities, to answer society's challenges regarding the development and consumption of healthy vegetables.

#### **INTRODUCTORY REMARKS BY MR. NICO JANSEN, IKEA FOUNDATION**

Mr. Jansen briefly introduced IKEA Foundation's focus in East Africa and India, and his excitement for V4P&P and for working with WorldVeg and SNV on this project. He mentioned the importance of setting up a learning strategy, not just to share knowledge between the partners of this project, but also to share between other projects that the Foundation is supporting in East Africa.

#### **WELCOME ADDRESS BY MR. JOSHUA OLUYALI, HEAD OF HORTICULTURE DIVISION, MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES**

Delivering the welcome address, Mr. Oluyali set the scene by presenting challenges faced by the horticulture sector in Kenya, ranging from inadequate coordination and weak institutions to low skills and standards, and poor data. He then introduced the Horticulture Task Force's (NHTF) objectives (strengthening production, compliance, access to information, training and capacity building), committees and progress made.

Mr. Oluyali also listed potential contributions that V4P&P could make to addressing the aforementioned challenges, including:

- Support to finalize the Agriculture Sector Transformation and Growth Strategy in Kenya
- Aligning VBNS, as farmer-facing SMES coordinating the value chain actors in the vegetable sector
- Clarity of activities to address problems in the sector

## PARTICIPANT INTRODUCTIONS

Following the formal introductory remarks and welcome address, Rizwaan Khambata facilitated a lighthearted ice breaker for participants to introduce themselves to each other at their respective tables.

## 2. SESSION 2: MEETING EXPECTATIONS

Expectations for the meeting were established by first discussing participant's expectations, house rules and COVID-19 considerations for the meeting, and then *Setting the Scene* by providing an overview of the days' activities and sessions. The website [Slido.com](https://www.slido.com), a Q&A polling app was used to conveniently include both, in-person and online participants. Mr. Khambata facilitated the first half of the session.

Participants were asked to select from the list of objectives, what they would like to achieve within the two-day meeting. Of the 46 respondents, 39% selected *A. Understand the V4P&P program's overall goals, targets, activities, etc*, 37 % selected *B. Identify the stakeholders within the program, and see who we can and should work with*. 11% each selected *C. Explore possible research priorities within the program*, and *D. Network — and meet others working in this space*, and 2% selected *E. Engage more with policy makers*. The exercise was a playful way to share and discuss all of the meeting's objectives. Participants were also invited to identify additional expectations, but none did.

Slido.com was also used to solicit house rules, and to establish COVID-19 protocol.

Following this, Dr. Roothaert briefly *set the scene*, first introducing colleagues from WorldVeg and SNV and IKEA Foundation. The workshop's objectives and program were then presented and discussed.

For the most part, the meeting was able to follow the program structure and agenda. With group discussions gathering rich insights and taking more time than the facilitators anticipated, the Leveling Off exercise from the first day was concluded in the morning of the second day. Also, due to time constraints, the session on prioritizing research and experiments was adapted to a lighter version, where participants could provide input through posters and post-it notes.

### ELEVATOR PITCH

**Veggies 4 Planet and People (V4P&P) strengthens the vegetable sector to improve people's health, increase employment and safeguard the environment.**

**We work with diverse partners to advance vegetable quality, environmentally friendly production and value chains, while boosting demand for local veggies.**

### 3. SESSION 3: PROJECT OVERVIEW: GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES

Five formal presentations were made during this session and can be found in Annex 3. These presentations along with corresponding questions and answers have been summarized as follows:

#### 3.1. Project Overview, by Dr. Ralph Roothaert

Summarizing key details about the project, Dr. Roothaert's presentation included

- Specific project objectives: transition to regenerative agriculture, establish 200 VBNs resulting in 4000 jobs for women and youth, boosting production, value chain support and consumption of traditional veggies, and contributing to policy and regulatory recommendations.
- Challenges of employment, poverty, nutrition, natural resources and the environment, that the project responds to and is designed to address.
- Potential solutions offered by regenerative technologies
- Summaries of initiatives within the project: VBNs, business coaches, commercial seed sector for traditional African vegetables (TAV)s, M&E and policy influencing
- Theory of Change
- Project elevator pitch, simplifying and aligning the introduction of the V4P&P project.

#### 3.2. Regenerative Agriculture in Vegetable Production, by Dr. Paola Sotelo Cardona

Dr. Cardona's presentation covered the following topics:

- Importance and priorities in vegetable production and the importance of transitioning to regenerative agricultural practices.
- Principles for regenerative agriculture: Soil protection and cooperation with natural processes.
- Replacing synthetic pesticides with integrated pest management (IPM) practices.
- Introductions to key focus areas (regenerative soil management, TAV) and activities (links with seed companies, training, production and post harvest technologies, research, etc.) within this outcome.
- Key regenerative technologies: healthy seedling production (nurseries), soil management, IPM, water management and post-harvest management.
- Implemented over 750ha

Following the presentation, Dr. Danny Coyne from IITA inquired about the inclusion of chemical synthetic pesticides, stating the difficulty of growing seedlings only with organic and natural practices. Dr. Cardona responded that WorldVeg does not prohibit the use of chemical pesticides, but rather increase the rational consideration for its use, while promoting awareness and experience with appropriate and effective organic practices. Dr. Srinivasan Ramasamy further stressed the importance of combining organic with chemical pesticides in response to the specific context, to create minimal biotic disturbance. Mr. Rubin Chumba from Vihiga County Government asked about if the project intends on researching or using biochar? Dr. Roothaert responded that biochar will most likely feature in our research. However, this will also depend on the extent to which biochar is present in the different counties.

Mrs. Mukami from the Agricultural Finance Corporation asked about the difference between regenerative agriculture, organic agriculture and climate smart agriculture. Dr. Cardona and Dr. Srinivasan replied that regenerative agriculture relies on reducing external inputs and emphasizes on recycling of available natural resources in a sustainable way, organic agriculture uses no chemicals, while climate smart agriculture encompasses many aspects aiming at a sustainable system with reduced emissions.

#### 3.3. Vegetable Based Networks, Mr. Dan Da Silva

- Definition of VBN and business champion, and related target outcomes (number of jobs for women and youth; 1,400 in Ethiopia and 2,600 in Kenya)

- Program activities (mainly done by SNV) include participatory appraisals and integration of existing VBNs, selecting champions and coaches, training, consolidating and sharing learning from VBNs, engaging government staff, exploring sustainability of VBNs, coaches, etc.
- Noteworthy innovations; emphases on working with cluster- or network-based business development, the use of business coaches providing services (sustainably) in the long term, etc.
- Employment creation overview, through external business coaches, or internal ones that are affiliated to VBNs, and through potential partnerships with cooperatives.

Following the presentation, Mr. Oluyali commented that the Kenyan government has developed a document on establishing VBN and farmer cooperatives. This will be important in building collaboration with this project. Mr. Geoffery Malemba, KEPHIS, asked if seed growers can come together to produce certified seeds. Mr. Da Silva responded saying that V4P&P are looking into nursery growers, however this does not limit farmers forming networks to become seed growers. We have a partner dealing in seedling production therefore this is an area of interest. Then, Mr. Peterson Kamau, Muranga County asked how the project might guarantee that demand and consumption meet production. Mr. Da Silva agreed that this was a complex topic, but the VBN approach facilitates quicker flow of information, ensuring that what is produced is needed in the markets. VBNs aim at stabilizing relationships across the entire vegetable value chain, allowing network members to respond quicker.

Lastly, a farmer Ms. Naomi Ruharo, a youth farmer in Kiambu asked how farmers might be able to access information and support through V4P&P. Mr. Da Silva suggested teaming up with a group of farmers who could be taken up as a VBN. Ms. Leah Mwaura from SNV shared her organization's plans of reaching out to and engaging with farmers and groups. Additionally, fellow participant Dr. David Amudavi from the Biovision Africa Trust also invited participants to his platform's repository for information and knowledge tools.

### 3.4. Seed Systems, by Dr. Fekadu Dinssa

Dr. Fekadu's presentation included:

- A brief introduction to the state of the formal and informal seed systems in Ethiopia and Kenya.
- An overview of project activities within the seed systems outcome.
- Innovations in processes, technologies, partnerships, markets, etc.
- Unpacking quality seed, seed categories and varieties, and possible actors.
- Outcome indicators, including amounts of crops, seed and seed varieties, number of policy briefs, etc.
- The commercial case for supporting traditional African vegetables.

Following the presentation was a Q&A round: a participant, Mr. Naman Nyabinda asked if it went against regenerative agricultural practices to use chemicals when producing seeds. Dr. Ramasamy replied that in seed production, chemicals can be used as long as the vegetable will not be consumed. If there is a risk that the farmer might want to harvest and consume the vegetables, he added that it was important to also provide the farmer with education about the process, harvest intervals, etc.

Mr. Naman also asked why from a long list of seeds under KALRO research, only a few have been released by KEPHIS. This question was in line with a previous question by Mr. Duncan Onduu from the Seed Trade Association of Kenya, regarding National Performance Trials (NPT). Mr. Malemba from KEPHIS fielded these questions : NPTs of seed varieties are done according to laws and regulation. Before being released a number of checks have to be certified. All seeds submitted have to pass set criteria before release. Sometimes these varieties don't pass the test for one reason or another and therefore cannot be released. Additionally, the Distinctiveness Uniformity and Stability (DUS) test is also required in order for the seed to be released. Mr. Oluyali also asked the presenter how the Government of Kenya might facilitate germplasm establishment. Dr. Fekadu made the case for supporting bringing in more seed.

### 3.5. Demand Creation, by Mr. Dan Da Silva

Mr. Da Silva's introduction presentation to the Demand Creation objective included:

- Key outcome and impact target for promotion of safe, traditional vegetable consumption, and awareness of sustainable technologies and practices.
- Three levels of demand creation through media, government and policies, and VBNs. Challenge: The media component has yet to be funded, how might we compensate for this? Possibilities include contributing existing staff time, using social media, leveraging existing/ other initiatives in the space, etc.
- An overview of demand creation activities and innovation. These included (potential) radio programming, social media and online platforms, research publications, learning events, engaging policy makers, leveraging VBNs, etc.
- Possible synergies with ongoing activities including partnering with the government through various ministries and levels.

Mr. Da Silva concluded with a list of intriguing questions to inspire further discussion.

Willis Owino, JKUAT, emphasizing the importance that nutritional campaigns and information on cooking traditional veggies can play in boosting demand creation. Farm Radio International noted that as the project waits for co-funding, we could leverage existing nutrition and agriculture shows to share key messaging and address myths about traditional vegetables. A colleague from Vihega spoke about the confusion of various names that refer to traditional African vegetables, e.g. African indigenous vegetables, African leafy vegetables etc. He recommended developing a protocol to standardize the terminology we use in this space.



## 4. SESSION 4: LEVELING OFF

This exercise used rotating breakout groups to facilitate participant discussions. Groups, facilitated by colleagues from WorldVeg and SNV, focused on the four programmatic objective areas: Regenerative Agriculture, VBNS, Seed Systems and Demand Creation. Using an appreciative inquiry approach, participants were asked to identify initiatives and activities relating to the objectives that already exist and are being done well.

### 4.1. REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE

Facilitated by Mr. Martin Barare

#### Suggested discussion prompts:

- *Of all the regenerative agricultural technologies presented, which ones are already well adopted by farmers in each County.*
- *To what extent have these technologies contributed to improved production and soil health (score 1 to 5)?*
- *Which technologies are really needed but haven't been mainstreamed yet for different Counties? (And why are they needed there?)*

#### CURRENT PRACTICES

- Integrated pest management: Use of Mexican marigold, spring onions, neem oil and assorted biopesticides, rabbit urine (Vihiga), Lemon grass (Vihiga), pheromone traps (Kiambu), sticky traps (Kakamega, Kiambu, Vihiga), resistant varieties (Kiambu), early land preparation, insect proof nets (Vihiga, Kakamega, Kisumu, Kiambu)
- Mulching: materials used: dry grass, maize stovers, plastic mulch, other plant residue
- Agroforestry: leguminous trees and shrubs such as *Leucaena*, *Sesbania sesban*, and non leguminous trees such as Moringa
- Crop rotation (in different families)
- Ridge and furrow
- Manure use: animal waste from cows, goats, rabbits.
- Composting: vermicomposting.
- Cover cropping: green manuring (Vihiga).
- Soil testing and analysis.
- Micro irrigation: rainwater harvesting and drip irrigation.
- Conservative agriculture: minimum tillage/ zero tillage systems (Machakos).
- Post harvest handling: solar drying, charcoal, and zero energy cooling (using sand and dripping water) (Vihiga, Kisumu, Kakamega).
- Packaging: sacks and plastic crates are often used; generally poor packaging and handling practices.
- Shade nets used by some farmers protecting from insects and sun.
- Early land preparation is also a practice being used.
- Intercropping is a practice that is used.

#### EXISTING GAPS

- Soil testing and analysis
- Pest + disease identification
- Access to information, knowledge and skills in growing TAVs
- Biochar use
- Access to technologies
- Lack of appropriate storage facilities
- Insufficient solar drying facilities
- High cost of solar water pump
- Access to biopesticides
- Nutrition campaigns
- Aggregation centers, high potential
- Time as a resource. Some technologies take time to give results and thus may not be appealing especially to the youth
- Existing government policies; disabling environment for vegetable farming
- Lack of aggregation centers
- Knowledge on Low-cost post-harvest technologies
- Gross margin analysis of these technologies
- Availability of healthy seedlings
- Knowledge on soil health

### 4.2. VEGETABLE BUSINESS NETWORKS

Facilitated by Ms. Leah Mwaura

The participants categorized counties based on VBN similarities. Categories included: the Western regions of Kakamega, Kisumu and Vihiga, and individual categories for Muranga, Machakos and Kiambu.

## Suggested discussion prompts:

- *What kind of agricultural market access approaches and business development skills are already available in each County?*
- *How successful are they?*
- *What constraints are still there and what needs to be done to improve them?*

### KAKAMEGA, VIHIGA AND KISUMU: CURRENT STATUS

- Limited irrigation infrastructure and knowledge on access, with the majority dependent on rainfall.
- Lack of certified seeds for TAVs; informal seed system predominant.
- Kakamega gets most of its vegetables from neighbouring counties.
- Huge post-harvest losses.
- Value chain actors work in silos; value chain not seamless/ well structured.
- TAVs are not a priority crop, hence least funded value chain.
- There are few extension service providers to support farmers.
- Majority vegetables are consumed at households, limited commercialisation or sales to output markets.

### KAKAMEGA, VIHIGA AND KISUMU: GAPS

- Need to train farmers and VBN members on small scale irrigation.
- Farmers need links to working markets to commercialize production.
- Value chain actors need to be organized and work together to have a seamless flow of information across the value chain.
- Farmer groups lack organization needed to speak with one voice.
- Field extension officers need to be capacity build to enhance their knowledge on vegetable production and disseminate that to the farmers.

### MACHAKOS: CURRENT STATUS

- Good transport network in the county.
- Produce marketed at different levels in the villages and wet markets
- Farmers mainly use certified seed in growing vegetables.
- Farmers are currently able to access information from the media (social media) and other digital platforms for knowledge.
- Weather forecast applications are used.
- Cultural beliefs prohibit the consumption of some vegetables.

### MACHAKOS: GAPS

- Need for better links to external markets.
- Vegetable seeds are not available in sufficient quantities.
- Untapped opportunity: seed raising for healthy seedling production.
- Farmers and VBN members training on small scale irrigation is needed.

### KIAMBU: CURRENT STATUS

- Some vegetables are associated with a low status, affecting their consumption.
- Informal TAVs seed systems are popular.
- Limited agronomic extension services to farmers.
- Vegetables predominantly sold in the informal market.
- Inconsistent supply of produce from the farmers.
- Competition in varieties for processing and for home consumption.
- High post-harvest losses, due to high perishability of veggies.
- Persistent price fluctuation during times of glut and shortage.

### KIAMBU: GAPS

- Need for enhanced links among stakeholders such as research, farmers and extension service providers.
- Important to use the wet markets to share information.
- For optimum yield and incomes, there is a need to synchronize the production calendar to suit market demands.

### MURANGA: CURRENT STATUS

- Vegetable production in the region is not well streamlined; farmers produce individually and with no specific market in mind.
- Huge fluctuations in prices of vegetables across the year.
- Poorly defined relationship between veggie sector actors.
- Knowledge gap on growth of TAVs.
- Wide-spread adulteration of inputs demotivate farmers to purchase seeds and other inputs for agrovets.
- Huge knowledge gap on the growing of TAVs.
- Vegetable production not commercially oriented.
- Limited resources for production with competition for land and water from other enterprises such as livestock production.

#### MURANGA: GAPS

- Knowledge dissemination between actors needs strengthening.
- Need for more recipes to stimulate demand of TAVs.
- Need to promote consumption of TAVs in schools and hospitals.
- Knowledge gap in some of the vegetables.
- Civic education is important as some vegetables are associated with different/ certain tribes.

#### CROSS COUNTY: CURRENT STATUS

- Cost of certified seeds is high, especially with VAT charged.
- Other associated costs are also high, eg.: cess, advertising and transport levies, which could be county specific.
- Limited inputs information to smallholder farmers.

#### CROSS COUNTY: GAPS

- Need for farmer field business schools to identify serious vegetable farmers and use them to disseminate agribusiness information.
- Limited links between agro-dealers and farmers; needs enhancement.
- Need for dissemination of correct knowledge and information on the use of inputs for vegetable production.
- Need for strong/ viable VBNs with interventions targeting youth.
- Need to present youth with more information than just nutrition, including info on margins and profitability of TAVs and agriculture; additional access to finance needs to be addressed
- Few specialised seed raising businesses; not distributed, and not focusing on leafy TAVs.

### 4.3. SEED SYSTEMS

Facilitated by Dr. Dinssa

#### Suggested discussion prompts:

- *Which improved lines of TAVs are available in each County? Who supplies them?*
- *What local seed systems are there in the Counties, and how well do they function?*
- *What shortage of seeds in quantity and quality are there by County? What needs to be*

Considering similarities in the seed systems within the counties, participants created three groups: A. Kakamega, Vihiga and Kisumu, B. Kiambu, Muranga, and C. Machakos

#### KAKAMEGA, VIHIGA AND KISUMU counties varieties by crop:

- Amaranth at least 4 varieties: A. Madiira 1 and Madiira 2 - supplier KALRO-Kakamega. B. One dubius and one hybridus varieties - Marketed by Simlaw Seeds, EASEEDS and SEEDCO
- African nightshade at least 3 varieties: A. Giant nightshade (*Solanum scabrum*) - suppliers KALRO-Kakamega, Simlaw Seeds, B. Villosum type (*S. scabrum*) - suppliers KALRO-Kakamega and Simlaw Seeds, C. BG24 (*S. scabrum*) – supplier EASEEDS
- Spider plant at least 3 varieties: Two varieties (PS and ML-SF29) recently released by KALRO (supplier KALRO-Kakamega), and 1 other variety from suppliers Simlaw Seeds, EASEEDS and SEEDCO

done?

- Sunhemp/Slenderleaf (*Crotalaria sp.*) at least two varieties – suppliers Simlaw Seeds and SEEDCO: One mild and one bitter type varieties
- Cowpea at least 3 varieties: A. KK1 and B. Kunde Mboga – suppliers Kenya Seed and Simlaw Seed, B. K80 – supplier KALRO-Kakamega
- Ethiopian mustard at least 3 varieties: A. Nzoian green – supplier Simlaw Seeds, B. Rungwe and Arumeru – supplier KALRO-Kakamega
- Jute mallow (*Corchorus sp.*) – Simlaw Seeds

KIAMBU AND MURANGA counties varieties by crop:

- Amaranth at least 2 varieties: One dubius and one hybridus varieties - marketed by Simlaw Seeds, EASEEDS and SEEDCO
- African nightshade at least 2 varieties: A. Giant nightshade (*Solanum scabrum*) - suppliers Simlaw Seeds, EASEEDS and SEEDCO, B. Narrow leaf type (*S. scabrum*) - suppliers Simlaw Seeds, EASEEDS and SEEDCO
- Ethiopian mustard at least 1 variety: Nzoian green – supplier Simlaw Seeds

MACHAKOS COUNTY varieties by crop:

- Cowpea at least 3 varieties: A. KAT and M66/M27-Dual type – supplier KALRO-Katamani, B. KK1 – supplier Simlaw Seeds, C. K80 – supplier EASEEDS

ON SEED SYSTEMS PER COUNTY, AND HOW THEY FUNCTION

With some difference in their importance, both informal and formal seed sectors are operating in all the counties. The informal seed system is dominant in Kakamega, Vihiga and Kisumu counties. In these counties, the private formal seed system dominates the public formal system. More or less, the formal system is the only seed system functioning in Kiambu, Muranga, and Machakos counties with the private formal system dominating in Kiambu and Muranga counties, and the public formal seed system in Machakos.

ON SEED SHORTAGE AND QUALITY

Seed is short in quantity and/or poor in quality in all the counties. Spider plant and Ethiopian mustard seed is scarce in Kakamega, Vihiga and Kisumu counties, and Ethiopian mustard seed supply is short in Kiambu and Muranga.

Poor quality seed is a serious problem in all the crops identified in all the counties. Quality problems, as identified by the discussion group, are expressed in terms of seed found mixed (not true-to-type) and poor in germination. In some cases, the seed inside a package does not correspond with the variety labelled on the seed package. There is un-packaging and repackaging exercise, at least sometimes, that brings about the mismatch of the seed and the label. In some other cases, there is a mismatch between consumers' preferred varieties and seed available on the market leading farmers to stick to their local cultivars that are relatively low yielding.

The discussion group listed the following points as part of a way forward to addressing the problem.

- Advise the regulatory body to strengthen seed quality control in the seed system.
- Accountability should rest on each seed supply chain actor.
- Farmers should get assurance for the seed they buy.

#### 4.4. DEMAND CREATION

WHO IS PUSHING DEMAND IN THE COUNTIES?

- County governments promotes production through provision of inputs:

Facilitated by Mr. Kevin Maina

**Suggested discussion prompts:**

- *Who is currently creating demand for TAVs, and what activities, policies or campaigns are in place in each County?*
- *Who is pushing or advocating approaches on regenerative agriculture and VBNs?*
- *What are the gaps in each County?*

- Subsidized fertilizer and seeds (Kisumu, Vihiga, Machakos)
- Dam liners, drips kits to support irrigation (eg: Machakos' 0.25 acre system project on water harvesting and irrigation)
- Value-addition technologies like cold storage and solar drying equipment (Machakos)

- Promotion of nutrition
- Integration of livestock (use of TAVs as livestock feed)
- Collaboration of government departments such as health and agriculture on regenerative practices
- NGOs such as Practical Action in Kisumu
- Active social media in Machakos

**GAPS**

- Uncoordinated market system
- Lacking TAVs and nutrition policy prioritization at counties
- Limited facilitation on personnel in agriculture & nutrition departments
- Limited budget allocation to agriculture and nutrition

**RECOMMENDATIONS TO INCREASE TAV DEMAND**

- Establishing and strengthening VBNs bearing in mind:
  - Group dynamics
  - VBNs based on shared TAV production and marketing goals
  - Value-addition of TAVs such as drying, use of cold storage
  - Promotion of contract farming in TAVs
- Building on the comparative advantages in the quality of TAVs; eg. branding
- Creating awareness on TAV consumption through champion farmers/VBNs, mass media, social media and ASK shows
- Diversifying markets e.g. use of e-markets, social media marketing, supermarkets etc.

## WORKSHOP PROCEEDINGS - DAY 2

On Day 2, following a brief recap of the previous sessions, facilitators from the Leveling Off exercises presented the insights from the two rounds of discussions to the group at large to validate. Additional input from the group has been added in the notes above.

### SESSION 5: EXPLORING INTERVENTIONS AND SYNERGIES

In order to explore the optimum use of the project's resource in line with its Theory of Change, this exercise recapped the existing building blocks for and gaps within the main outcomes areas, and identified what needs to happen to achieve expected outcomes. Using the previous session's group categorization, four colleagues facilitated the smaller group discussions with suggested question prompts. Participants could join any of the four groups, a few were invited to specific groups in order to ensure some level of geographic representation.

#### 5.1. REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE

Facilitated by Mr. Martin Barare

##### Suggested discussion prompt:

List of potential technologies to focus on:

- *Soil: Beneficial microbes, Biochar, Contour grass or shrub strips, Erosion control barriers (fanya juu or fanya chini), Compost production and application, Cover or fodder crops, Integration of crops & animals, Mulching, Recycling of on-farm biomass, Tree / shrub establishment*
- *Water: Contour grass or shrub strips Erosion control barriers (fanya juu or fanya chini) Integration of crops & animals Disease resistant or tolerant varieties Drip irrigation Water harvesting Pollinator habitats, beehives, or wildlife habitat Riparian restoration*
- *IPM: Biopesticides, natural pesticides Beneficial microbes Crop rotations Disease resistant or tolerant varieties Pollinator habitats, beehives, or wildlife habitat*
- *Other: Pollinator habitats, beehives, or wildlife habitat Riparian restoration Solar or wind energy production and use Tree / shrub establishment*

#### INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT

- *Biopesticides: A. Identify stakeholders to make them available to farmers, B. Educate farmers and extension officers on which biopesticides can be used, where, when and how, C. Improve distribution networks of these biopesticides, D. Training on locally available plant extracts that can be used as well*
- *Resistant Varieties: A. Make these varieties available, B. Conduct on farm trials and demonstration*
- *Seed Treatment: Promote healthy seeds and seedlings*

#### SOIL HEALTH

- *Composting: A. Train farmers on composting, B. Identify right materials for composting,*
- *Biofertilizers: A. Promotional campaigns from suppliers, B. Participatory testing*
- *Soil and plant testing: A. Training on the need to conduct soil testing and analysis, B. Identify stakeholders e.g Agrocare, KEPHIS and KALRO, C. Engage stakeholders to lower cost of analysis*
- *Mulching: Promotion, demonstration and training.*

#### WATER USE AND MANAGEMENT

- *Water harvesting: Promote rainwater and run off water harvesting*
- *Irrigation: A. Promote money maker pump, B. Promote community owned solar pumps to encourage cost sharing, C. Promote Zai pits in Machakos and drier areas*
- *Soil Erosion Control: A. Terracing in sloped areas, B. Grass strips using vetiver and other grasses*
- *Agroforestry: Provide agroforest tree seedlings.*
- *Cover Cropping: Use cowpea as a cover crop*
- *Post-Harvest Technologies: A. Engage stakeholders in establishing aggregation centres, B. Install community storage facilities, C. Train on proper harvesting time, D. promote value addition*

#### CROSS CUTTING ISSUES

- *Arrange for farmer exchange visits*
- *Train service providers such as agrovet personnel*

## 5.2. VEGETABLE BUSINESS

### NETWORKS

Facilitated by Ms. Leah Mwaura

#### Suggested discussion prompt:

##### **Committed VBN interventions:**

*Training and other forms of capacity development; Supporting existing groups, particularly women and youth; Mentoring and coaching and support in marketing; Improve vegetable production by introducing new technologies; Promote the consumption of vegetables among consumers*

##### **Committed Business Coaches**

**Interventions:** Hire business coaches → Training of coaches → Selection of business champions → Coaches are starting to mentor selected VBNs → Intense supervision and mentoring of business coaches → Coaches become independent business service providers.

##### **Questions:**

- Do the committed interventions for VBNs and Business Coaches make sense?

- With the existing farmer groups/ VBNs in your County, what are the priority areas for training, beyond production?

- Which vegetable post-harvest business opportunities are there?

- What are the areas that need to be developed regarding input supplies in the County?

- What are specific youth and women needs?

- Who else needs to play a major role apart from SNV?

## VEGETABLE BUSINESS NETWORKS

- Participants noted that committed interventions were logical and practically achievable. Emphasised need for training materials for VBNs structured into modules.
- While implementing, there is a need to monitor individual farmer and group progress
- Need: incorporate training on group dynamics and sensitization on financial access requirements.
- It is important to have a clear definition of the VBNs in terms of geographical coverage, number of actors, governance structure, accountability and difference from corporations or associations.
- Opportunities exist within the VBN as seed merchants as well competitive pricing and raising productivity on various segments of the vegetable value chain within the VBN.
- Peer to peer learning, farmer exchange visits and holding of field days was highlighted as an important pathway to ensure effective implementation of the VBN concept.
- To encourage more youth to join vegetable production, it is necessary to present gross margin analysis for the various segments of the value chain.
- Additionally, for overall success it was noted that information from the national government should be able to trickle down efficiently to the county governments and irrigation infrastructure among smallholder farmers should be emphasized.
- Participants affirmed that the Vegetable Business Network is an important pathway and avenue for knowledge sharing.
- The project should harmonize its definition and structure of VBN with that of the government.
- It was noted however that there is a missing link between demand and supply hence the need for alternative markets and producers accessing market information.

## BUSINESS COACHES

- Regarding coaching, it is necessary to select active and vibrant VBNs, and train them on advocacy and negotiations.
- It is important to select independent coaches with experience in vegetable production and marketing, not from specific input suppliers that may end up promoting their products to VBNs.
- VBNs should have mentor farmers to enable exchange visits with lead farmers in the region.
- There has to be a clearly marked out transition plan from project support to VBNs coaches to farmers paying for the service.
- Coaches should be familiar with gross margin analysis of different crops.
- There should be a coordinated effort between the VBN members and coaches and regular market surveys being conducted as well capacity building of the VBN for group strengthening.
- Financial access is a key challenge for the VBN farmers hence the coach should be able to facilitate knowledge sharing and linkages with MFIs, Agriculture Finance Corporation and other financial service providers that will benefit the VBN.

## CHALLENGES FACED BY YOUTH AND WOMEN FARMERS

Key challenges highlighted were on access to resources for production such as land, finance, information, inputs, markets among others.

	<p>VBNs will be an important pathway for linkages and knowledge sharing on the available opportunities to address these challenges. It was highlighted that the youth and women need to take advantage of their social capital to access the crucial inputs for production and marketing. Specific activities targeting women and youth involvement across the value chain should also be piloted and implemented.</p> <p><b>COLLABORATION</b> It was highlighted that for a successful implementation of the VBN output, SNV needs to partner with the following groups/organizations: county governments, other NGOs within the same value chain, youth associations, county youth innovation platforms, regional economic blocks for policies development and implementation, suppliers of inputs and various equipment, local administration for example chiefs, local media, local commodity traders of vegetables, processors and other vegetable market outlets, financial service providers and other input suppliers.</p>
<p><b>5.3. SEED SYSTEMS</b> Facilitated by Dr. Owino and Dr. Dinssa</p> <p><b>Suggested discussion prompt:</b> - In what way can the project help the private sector?  - In what way can the private sector help the project?  - What synergies can be exploited with AFSTA, AVBC and KEPHIS?  - What interventions or research do you propose for agro- input dealers?</p>	<p><b>EXPECTATIONS OF THE SEED COMPANIES FROM THE PROJECT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Support for various classes of seed production; financial and technical (capacity building)</li> <li>● Many varieties currently available are old, variety turnover is very slow. Therefore, speedy development of new varieties is important.</li> </ul> <p><b>POSSIBLE SUPPORT FROM SEED COMPANIES AND PUBLIC SEED SECTOR TO THE PROJECT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Make available commercial seed for use in the project activities</li> <li>● Establish demo-plots and disseminate information to vegetable producers on improved varieties and quality seed</li> <li>● Provide training for vegetable producers and seed growers</li> </ul> <p><b>EXPECTATION FROM REGULATORY BODY (KEPHIS)</b> Currently, the naming of new varieties is not systematically done. Many commercial varieties are called after their species names or after certain morphological traits names. The original line name and source of many of the current commercial varieties are not readily available, or are unknown. Therefore, KEPHIS may improve the variety registration system and give its support to enhance quality seed production and availability.</p> <p><b>ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FROM COUNTY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Counties review current levy rate and opt to reduce rates</li> <li>● Help zoning of seed production areas</li> <li>● Support or encourage vegetable production and consumption</li> <li>● Support informal seed sector for farmers to produce quality seed and vegetable from locally adapted varieties that are not handled by the formal seed sector</li> <li>● Provide infrastructure needs such as smart market aggregation centers, and irrigation facilities</li> </ul>
<p><b>5.4. DEMAND CREATION</b> Facilitated by Dr. Rosina Wanyama</p> <p><b>Suggested discussion prompt:</b> - Which links with existing consumer awareness campaigns</p>	<p>Which links on consumer awareness need to be further exploited or strengthened?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use of mass media and social media (TVs, radio, vernacular and English stations)</li> <li>Extension service on nutrition awareness</li> <li>Stakeholder involvement in ASK shows and exhibitions</li> <li>Political stakeholders (engaging politicians to promote consumption of TAVs)</li> </ol>



*need to be further exploited or strengthened?*

*- How can we shorten the value chains, i.e. bring producers closer to consumers?*

*- What type of media are most suitable for aspects of TAVs, aspects of food safety, aspects of nutrition, aspects of climate change and healthy planet?*

*- Who are the players in the government who can be leveraged to promote TAVs?*

*- Should we target a specific group of urban consumers?*

- v. Strengthen research and extension link (dissemination of information to end users)
- vi. Expand promotion based on brand (unique characteristics of the product from a certain location)
- vii. Use of trading blocs among counties based on the comparative advantages (agro-ecological characteristics)
- viii. Leveraging on international and national celebrations such as the World Food day
- ix. Business to Business (networking)

TYPES OF MEDIA TO TARGET: Social media, radio & TV, print media (articles on advantages of vegetables eps. TAVs), advertisement screens, road shows

WHICH INSTITUTIONS: Churches, schools, hospitals, local administration, farmer to farmer information exchange, extension agents, farmer organizations, research centres- KALRO, GAIN, marketplaces – wet markets, large retailers (supermarkets), hotels

WHO IN THE GOVERNMENT CAN BE LEVERAGED?

Local administration, extension agents, nutritionist-county government, Ministry of Health, county and national assemblies, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Trade, KEPHIS- on food safety, PCPB- Pest Control Products Board,

SHOULD WE TARGET URBAN CONSUMERS? YES - WHY?

- i. Vegetarians- products with adequate nutrients for non-consumers of meat
- ii. High- and middle-income class- are more aware of what they want to consume
- iii. Low-income class- who can access highly nutritious food at an affordable price

MARKET STRUCTURE

- i. Traditional markets- highly uncoordinated
- ii. Modern markets- more organized
- iii. “Producing for sale not produce to sell” demand creation should be consistent with supply. There should be planned production to match-up demand and this is possible within the modern markets

HOW CAN WE SHORTEN THE VALUE-CHAIN-MARKET INTEGRATION?

- i. Use of VBN on aggregating vegetables and buyers can have one buying point
- ii. Contract farming on vegetable production using VBNs with supermarkets, individual buyers
- iii. Policy guidelines to foster an enabling environment on contracts (contracts that have legal binding)
- iv. Training of VBNs on contract negotiations
- v. Leveraging on digital markets (e-commerce)

## SESSION 6: MONITORING, EVALUATION AND LEARNING

### 6.1 V4P&P's MONITORING AND EVALUATION BY DR. MERCY MWANGI

This session aimed at building the general awareness of monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL), and to inform stakeholders of V4P&P's MEL framework. WorldVeg's Dr. Mercy Mwangi presented this session virtually. Her presentation included:

- Introduction to key topics: MEL, MEL cycle, baseline, endline, planning for MEL, differences between goals, outcomes and indicators, etc.
- V4P&P's monitoring system and some indicators for each objective
- Other MEL activities like workshops and learning events, external evaluations, impact evaluations
- Data management; collection, storage and sharing. The use of Akvo Flow
- MEL timeline

Participants were invited to ask questions; only one, Mr. Onduu enquired about indicators that the project could use for tracking sustainability. His question was noted.

### 6.2. POLICY PANEL DISCUSSION FACILITATED BY DR. ROSINA WANYAMA

Mr. Rosina facilitated a panel discussion with policy makers from the 6 focus counties. The discussion aimed to explore how MEL can add value to the policy process. A key question guided the discussion: *What information do policy makers need from practitioners and researchers in order to make better policies at the national and county levels?* The following are the main insights and take-aways from the session:

#### MACHAKOS - MR. JOSEPH\_ , MACHAKOS COUNTY GOVERNMENT

- Would like to see the project document and structure for coordination with existing entities and stakeholders on the ground.
- Identified the following needs: analysis of seed systems; soil and water management (¼ acre); land use policy; vegetable production safety practices to avoid contamination; and support in marketing vegetables.

#### VIHIGA - RUBIN CHUMBA, VIHIGA COUNTY GOVERNMENT

- Commended the inception workshop in bringing diverse key stakeholders together.
- Research extension was very strong before devolution. We have lost extension workers and researchers since, leaving a gap. Advocates participatory research extension and development approach.
- The use of champions at the county level could be very effective.
- Seed production is lacking
- Farmer business schools, adopted from FAO

#### KIAMBU - MS. PURITY MBABU, KIAMBU COUNTY GOVERNMENT

- Quality and safety of inputs, including water
- Other issues include: finance, extension services, marketing of veggies, market information via aggregation centers and cooperatives
- Erratic demand
- Value addition support is needed
- Waste management , e.g. black soldier fly
- Land use policy; finding a balance between building and farming

#### MURANGA - PETERSON KAMAU, MURANGA COUNTY GOVERNMENT

- For better access at the county level, invite these key stakeholders to a similar workshop: the county executive member for agriculture, the chief officer and chairman for the agricultural committee.

- Kenya Standard 1758 covers standards for food safety in production. This has not been adopted widely. Could we use and promote this through the project?

#### KAKAMEGA - JOSEPH KISAKA, KAKAMEGA COUNTY GOVERNMENT

- Challenges with bacteria in some veggies, could use help with this.
- On policy we require support in: A. localizing national level policies at the county level, B. having more dialogue forums with youth and women to discuss and redefine policies.
- Subsidy input policy, currently provides fertilizer, maize seed and AI support.
- Also existing in the county: CIDP, governance manifesto that allocates some resources to mitigate climate change.
- Policies currently in development: agricultural policy to be finalized, Kakamega County food safety policy.
- What's missing is an extension policy; lack of synergy and coordination needs to be addressed.
- Would also like MOUs with the county and implementing partners in the area to keep track of activities and achievements.

#### KISUMU - ROSE OWENGA, KISUMU COUNTY GOVERNMENT

- Could use help in increasing awareness and urgency of the General Crops ACT 2013 which has been developed, but lacking regulations to govern, and is waiting to pass at the Assembly Level.

#### DIRECTOR OF HORTICULTURE, MR OLUYALI

- Looking forward to working closely to coordinate between counties and national levels, and with all the partners.
- We have draft horticulture policy and strategy — we need to update and finalize these.
- Low hanging fruit to collaborate: guidelines on formation of VBNs

### 6.3. PRIORITIZING RESEARCH QUESTIONS AND EXPERIMENTS

This abbreviated session was introduced by Dr. Roothaert. Using posters presenting the regenerative agriculture circle, participants were invited to suggest research questions and experiments within the circle. The following suggestions were noted:

#### SOIL ENHANCEMENT

- Regenerative agriculture - soil enhancement
- How best can the project support soil and water quality development, and availability to enable a strong foundation for vegetable production?
- Compare no tillage with normal tillage, pest, soil, nutrient, etc.
- Soil test before advocating for a specific vegetable
- Most effective soil regeneration techniques in Kiambu
- Kakamega County: Agroforestry and Establishment of an agroforestry nursery to enhance soil fertility
- How do we enhance agricultural waste management in Kiambu

#### WATER USE

- Water use in Muranga County
- Irrigation and inputs that can facilitate the production of vegetables throughout the year in Kiambu County
- Best irrigation methods and inputs in Kiambu County
- Water management: research on how youth and women can easily access irrigation water for vegetable production.

#### INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT

- Solarization: How can this technology be adopted considering it is very expensive?

- What are the regenerative technologies for the management of bacteria within tomato and black nightshade (managu)?

#### LANDSCAPE

- Landscape in Muranga County
- Soil enhancement and water management

#### FOOD SYSTEMS

- How can the project support biochar development in Vihiga?
- How can the project support intercropping?
- The role of KALRO in support of the private sector
- Other topics included: seed systems, post-harvest management, semi-arid and dryland areas

### SESSION 7: CLOSING

The inception meeting was designed for stakeholders to develop a clear overview of the V4P&P project, understand its main objectives and activities, identify synergies with key stakeholders, be introduced to its frameworks for monitoring, evaluation and learning, and explore how these might add value to policy dialogue and development. The diversity of participants enriched networking during the meeting. Participants contributed to the discussions thoughtfully and participated proactively, and left with a better understanding of the project and potential for opportunities within it.

In his closing remarks, Dr. Roothaert summarised a few key take-aways from the meeting.

ON DEMAND CREATION there is a lot of diversity across the country. The prevalent use of social media (eg. in Machakos) for sharing information and creating demand is something we can learn from and replicate.

ON VEGETABLE BUSINESS NETWORKS the opportunity of seedling businesses, which already exists in some parts, has potential to be further explored and developed. Additionally, there is need to create a vegetable business network model, and compare this with the one from the government, using the government's guidance document on VBNs

ON SEED SYSTEMS, Dr. Roothaert reflected on the prevalence of large informal seed systems in the Western Kenya, possibly being a sign that the private sector and formalized systems are failing. This might require more research.

ON REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE, he identified inconsistent supply as a challenge, but, if addressed through improved technologies, it presents a huge opportunity.

Dr. Roothaert announced the availability of training resources on the project platform: <https://avrdc.org/veggies-4-planet-people-v4pp/> and closed the meeting with thanks to all the organizers and participants.

# MEETING SURVEY

Prior to the close of the meeting, participants were requested to fill in a short survey on Slido.com. The survey included three questions:

## 1. WHAT DO YOU THINK WAS MISSED OUT IN THIS DISCUSSION?

With 34 participants responding to this open-ended question, there was a wide range of responses. However, a few common themes included:

- Clarity on project structure, timeline and activities
- Clarity on engagement, roles and contribution of stakeholders (eg. private sector, county officers, other orgs.), and if there might be opportunities for new partners.
- Sustainability of the program
- More discussions on VBNs, value addition issues, role of the government in TAV demand creation, access to finance and the role of financial institutions in this project, TAVs in semi-arid drylands, solutions for quality seeds.

## 2. WHAT RECOMMENDATIONS WOULD YOU HAVE FOR THE ORGANIZERS OF THIS INCEPTION WORKSHOP?

32 participants responded, a number of positive responses have been recorded. The following were the most common recommendation categories:

- Include more beneficiaries (youth, farmers, women) in the workshop
- A clear brief of project outline, objectives, implementation timelines, etc.
- Clarity on how to work with collaborators
- Better time management, add more days to avoid rushing
- Invite senior government officers to increase buy-in, and organize similar workshops in the counties

## 3. WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE SESSION?

With 39 participants responding, the following were the most common answers:

- Group breakout discussions on regenerative ag, VBN, demand creation and seed systems
- Interacting with other stakeholders during the breaks
- The first day
- The policy panel discussions
- M&E sessions

# ANNEXES

## ANNEX 1: INCEPTION MEETING AGENDA

DAY 1: Tuesday, 12 January 2021			
Session	Activity	Presenter/ Facilitator	Time
1. INTRODUCTIONS	Welcome breakfast tea + participant registration		8:30 - 9:00
	Workshop kick-off	Ralph Roothaert	9:00 - 9:05
	Introductory remarks by Andre de Jager from SNV	Andre de Jager	9:05 - 9:10
	Introductory remarks by Gabriel Rugalema from WorldVeg	Gabriel Rugalema	9:10 - 9:15
	Introductory remarks by Nico Janssen from IKEA Foundation	Nico Janssen,	9:15 - 9:20
	Welcome address by the Director of Horticulture	Joshua Oluyali	9:20 - 9:25
	Participant Introductions	Rizwaan Khambata	9:25 - 9:45
2. MEETING EXPECTATIONS	Setting the Scene	Ralph Roothaert	9:45 - 10:00
	Expectations, rules and considerations	Riz Khambata	
—COFFEE / TEA—	Group photo + Media briefing	Leah Mwaura	10:00 - 10:30
3. PROGRAM OVERVIEW	Program overview; goals, outcomes, activities, etc.	Ralph Roothaert	10:30 - 11:00
	Objective: regenerative agriculture	Paola Sotelo Cardona	11:00 - 11:30
	Objective: Vegetable Business Networks (VBNs)	Dan Da Silva	11:30 - 12:00
	Objective: Seed systems	Fekadu Dinssa and Kevin Maina	12:00 - 12:30
	Objective: Demand creation	Dan Da Silva	12:30 - 1:00
—LUNCH—			1:00 - 2:00
4. LEVELING OFF	Identifying 'What's working? What's missing?' within the program objectives	Rizwaan Khambata and group facilitators	2:00 - 5:00
DAY 2: Wednesday, 13 January 2021			
Session	Activity	Presenter/ Facilitator	Time
1. INTRODUCTIONS	Welcome breakfast tea		8:30 - 9:00
	Day 1 recap Day 2 overview	Rizwaan Khambata, Group Facilitators and Ralph Roothaert	9:00 - 10:00
—COFFEE / TEA—			10:00 - 10:30
2. SYNERGIES	Exploring interventions, synergies, prioritization	Ralph Roothaert and Group Facilitators	10:30 - 1:00
—LUNCH—			1:00 - 2:00
3. MONITORING	Overview and timeline; baseline, mid-term evaluation, end-line, etc.	Mercy Mwambi	2:00 - 2:30

G, EVALUATION AND LEARNING	M&E and policy: <i>What do you need from practitioners to improve your policies?</i>	Rosina Wanyama	2:30 - 3:30
	Prioritizing research questions and experiments	Ralph Roothaert	4:00 - 4:45
4. CLOSING	Wrap-up Closing remarks and thanks	Ralph Roothaert and Rizwaan Khambata	4:45 - 5:00

## ANNEX 2: PARTICIPANT LIST

	Organization	Name		Organization	Name
1	WorldVeg ESA	Martin Barare	33	International Institute of Tropical Agriculture	Danny Coyne
2	WorldVeg ESA	Kevin Maina	34	Biovision Africa Trust	David Amudavi
3	WorldVeg ESA	Daniel Kuria	35	KEPHIS	Geoffrey malemba
4	WorldVeg ESA	Dan da Silva	36	FAO	Arunga, Tito
5	WorldVeg ESA	Ralph Roothaert	37	ICRAF	Stepha McMullin
6	WorldVeg ESA	Gabriel Rugalema	38	Aggregator	Gabriel Gitau
7	WorldVeg ESA	Fekadu Dinssa	39	MOALF	Maryann Adan
8	WorldVeg ESA	Wubetu Legesse	40	YALTA	Samuel Kariuki
9	WorldVeg Asia	Ravishankar Manickam	41	Heidelberg Institute of Global Health	Raïssa Sorgho
10	WorldVeg Asia	Paola Sotelo	42	Practical Action	Naaman Nyabinda-
11	WorldVeg Asia	Srini Ramasamy	43	ICIPE	Thomas Dubois
12	WorldVeg Asia	Mercy Mwambi	44	SEEDCO	Willingtone Wasike
13	WorldVeg ESA	Rosina Wanyama	45	CABI	Daniel Karanja
14	SNV	Bibiana wanalwenga	46	Real IPM	Wesley Cheruiyot
15	SNV	Robbert Neijenhuis	47	Koppert	Geoffrey Ongoya
16	SNV	Leah Mwaura	48	Mace Foods Ltd	Anita Jeptoo
17	SNV	Jeen Kootstra	49	Seed Trade Association of Kenya	Duncan Onduu
18	SNV	André de Jager	50	Simlaw Seeds	Robert Musyoki
19	SNV	Jeremiah Rogito	51	JKUAT	Willis Owino
20	SNV	Gemechis Jaleta	52	Sylvia Basket	Sylvia Kuria
21	Min Agriculture Livestock and Fisheries	Joshua Oluyali	53	Blessed Achievers - VBN	Naomi Ruharo
22	Muranga County Gov	Peterson Kamau	54	Sweet is Sweet- VBN	Urbanus Kamuti
23	Machakos County Gov	Joseph kioko	55	Gatanga Digital Y g-VBN	Dunross Kariuki
24	Kiambu County Gov	Purity mbabu	56	Biointensive Support-vbn	Nice Lanya
25	Kisumu County Gov	Rose Owenga	57	Vihiga Nutritionseedban	Evans Ochuto
26	Vihiga County Gov	Reuben Chumba	58	Redeemed Youth G-VBN	Kevin Ochieng

27	Kakamega County Gov	Joseph Kisaka	59	Min. Agriculture	Lucy Waweru
28	IKEA Foundation	Steven Chapman	60	Agricul. Finance Corp	Eunice Mukami
29	IKEA Foundation	Nico Janssen	61	AgroCares	Mukami Gitau
30	KALRO	Ruth Amata Lusike Wasilwa	62	AgroCares	John Zorobabel
31	Dudumasters Ltd	Muthike Jannifer Wanjiru	63	AgroCares	Bernard Ndungu
32	AgroCares	Mukami Gitau			
33	Kenarava	Ronald Diang'a			
34	AgriBizzAfrica	Rodgers Kirwa			
35	PELUM Association	Rosinah Mbenya			
36	Event Facilitator	Rizwaan Khambata			



## ANNEX 3: PRESENTATIONS FROM THE INCEPTION MEETING

All presentations, photos and Slido.com reports can be found via this Google Drive Link

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1FmAWKt1nFWq9j4nGUSwRidg2oCFXOXvY?usp=sharing>