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IFDC
Promotion of Nutrition-Sensitive Potato Value Chains in East Africa

PNSP-Uganda
The Promotion of Nutrition-Sensitive Potato Value Chains in East Africa (PNSP-Uganda) is a four-year intervention funded by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH. The project is designed to increase smallholder potato productivity and strengthen potato sector coordination while improving household-level nutrition through dietary diversification. The project will intervene in the highlands of Eastern Uganda, where potato production, marketing, and processing form a major source of income for smallholder farmers, traders, and processors. Additionally, the project will encourage diversified diets, particularly for pregnant and breastfeeding women through the integration of nutrition and potato productivity at the farmer business school and community levels.

Potato demand is growing in both urban and rural markets. By increasing productivity, farmers can meet this demand while helping moderate rising staple food prices, which will allow poor households to stretch their food budgets further. Potato sector development offers a rare win-win scenario: growers increase their income while consumers benefit from lower prices. As a widely marketed bulk cash crop, potatoes present an excellent opportunity to increase household food availability, nutrition, and income.

OBJECTIVES

OBJECTIVE 1
Increase productivity of small-scale potato producers through capacity building in good agricultural practices and increased accessibility to quality seed potatoes.

Potato growers will learn how to intensify their production and market potatoes to optimize profits, land, and water use. At the same time, the project will intervene at the organizational level to build better potato support, advisory, and seed inspection services.

OBJECTIVE 2
Strengthen coordination of the potato value chain through stronger public-private collaboration and national and regional platforms that guide sector governance and innovation.

PNSP-Uganda will implement a value chain approach that addresses access to finance, input supply, production, post-harvest management, and brokering of market relations. Potato stakeholder platforms are important instruments for continuous technical, organizational, and market innovation at regional and national levels.

OBJECTIVE 3
Improve the dietary diversity of vulnerable groups in Eastern Uganda.

Training sessions on nutrition and home gardening will be integrated into potato farmer business schools. In each school, nutrition champions will be chosen to lead community discussions on nutrition issues and food allocation.

RESULTS

6,000 small-scale potato producers (at least 30% women) increase productivity by 40% in Eastern Uganda.

Availability of quality seed potatoes increases by 200%.

50% of recommendations in the potato sector roadmap are addressed.

10 trade or market deals are brokered at the regional level.

SIX innovation projects are communicated through stakeholder platforms.

Dietary diversity improves in Eastern Uganda, and 5,000 households improve their knowledge about family nutrition.

PARTNERS

- Potato growers, particularly women potato farmers
- Potato value chain actors, such as traders, processors, seed producers and retailers
- GIZ
- International Fertilizer Development Center
- KIT Royal Tropical Institute of the Netherlands
- Uganda National Potato Platform
- Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF)