



Overcoming technical and market constraints to the emergence of profitable beef enterprises in the north-western highlands of Vietnam



Key details

Location

Vietnam

Duration

Start Apr 2011

End Sep 2015

Budget

AUD 1,244,175

Commissioned organisation

University of Tasmania

Partners

Centre de Cooperation Internationale en Recherche Agronomique pour le Developpement; Centre for Agrarian Systems Research and Development; Hanoi Agricultural University; National Institute of Animal Sciences; Thai Nguyen University of Agriculture and Forestry

Project Leader

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Program

Livestock Systems

Project code

LPS/2008/049

profitable markets in comparison with other regions of Vietnam. There are also various biophysical constraints to agriculture - especially long dry winters and remote mountainous terrain. The Vietnamese Government and ACIAR have identified beef cattle production, an important component of the smallholder farming system, as a priority area for further research and development.

Market demand for beef has increased rapidly in Vietnam (from 7,700 tonnes (liveweight basis) in 2001 to 159,400 tonnes in 2006). Data on beef imports to Vietnam also support the dramatic increase in demand for beef - the total import value of beef in 2009 was around USD160 million. These data indicate that the demand for beef is increasing rapidly in Vietnam, especially beef in the high quality category, and that domestic beef production is unable to meet this demand.

The overall aim of the project was to develop, evaluate and implement new technical and market strategies to improve smallholder incomes from beef cattle in the north-western highlands of Vietnam. This was achieved through the following objectives:

1. Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of existing beef value chains and the profitability and sustainability of the value chain for smallholder cattle producers.
2. Quantify the biophysical and socio-economic characteristics of the smallholder farming systems involving cattle production.

Overview

The North West Highlands of Vietnam is one of the poorest regions in the country. Approximately 75% of the ethnic minority people who dominate the region live in poverty, partly because they have poor access to

3. Develop and test viable management strategies for capitalising on market opportunities and minimising the impact of the cold dry season and other important cattle production constraints.



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