

Potato Value Chain improves productivity of potato farming system by 49% for 20,500 farmers in Kenya

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Farmers increased potato yields by 49% from 7.7 to 11.5 tons/ha by applying International Potato Center (CIP) technologies after receiving training on learning farms. During the baseline, men applied new technologies over much larger areas than women, but this difference vanished by the time of the follow-up survey. Potato sales contributed USD 4.9 million to the economies of the two intervention counties.



At the end of its second phase, the Accelerated Value Chain Development (AVCD) project conducted an annual survey to see how well it was reaching its 20,500 beneficiaries with new technologies (such as improved seed, irrigation, and pest management techniques) and by developing farmer organizations. The survey asked about production, sales, and use of technologies by Kenyan farmers in two project counties (Bungoma and Taita Taveta). The project surveyed 257 beneficiaries in 10 wards and found major changes since the project started. Since the baseline in 2018, many more farmers were using quality seed, and improved technologies on more land, which led to higher sales values. By the time of the survey in August 2020, 46% of the respondents used quality seed, more than twice as many as during the baseline (then only 15%). Almost all farmers (98.7%) were using at least one project technology. By developing a localized seed system, farmers could acquire quality seed close to home (on average just 3 km away), while at the time of the baseline farmers had to travel 110 km to buy certified seed. Long travel distances are a hardship, especially for female farmers, so having excellent seed close to home was a major benefit for women. Sale values jumped on average 133% to USD 1,680 from the baseline value of USD 721. The average area under potato more than doubled from 0.12 ha to 0.35 ha, and yields increased by 49%, from 7.7 to 11.5 tons per hectare. Women farmers increased their earnings by USD 1,040, compared to USD 918 for men

Level of Maturity and Sphere of influence

- Level of Maturity: *Stage 2*
 - Contributions in sphere of influence:
 - 1.2.2 - *Reduce Market Barriers*
 - 1.4.1 - *Reduced pre- and -post production losses, including those caused by climate change*
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Projects

- The Feed the Future- Kenya Accelerated Value Chain Development (FtF AVCD program)
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CRPs, & Partners





International Potato Center -
CIP



County Government of
Bungoma



County Government of Taita
Taveta

References

- [International Potato Center. 2020. USAID Feed the Future Kenya Accelerated Value Chain Development \(AVCD\) – Potato Value Chain. Endline Survey Report. 42 p.](#)

Keywords

- value chain
- [kenya](#)
- survey
- potato

Countries

- Kenya

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