

Enhancing the capacity of local agricultural officers to support the sustainable development of ethnic minority communities in Tuan Giao, Dien Bien

Alumni grantees:

- **Nguyen Huu Nhuan:** PhD - Queensland University; Lecturer cum. Deputy Head of Department, Vietnam National University of Agriculture
- **Vu Thi Thuy Hang:** PhD - James Cook University; Vice Director of Center of Quality Assurance, Vietnam National University of Agriculture
- **Dao Cong Duan:** Master - James Cook University; Lecturer cum. Deputy Head of Department, Vietnam National University of Agriculture,
- **Pham Huong Diu:** Master - University of Sydney; Lecturer cum. Head of Department, Vietnam National University of Agriculture.

Implementation period

2018 - 2019



Issue

Income generation opportunities for Thai and H'Mong ethnic groups in Tuan Giao district, Dien Bien province are available in agri-forestry. However, the capacities of district agricultural officers to improve farmer production and marketing skills is limited.

Action

Four Australian alumni organised a training of trainers (TOT) program to transfer their acquired knowledge to ethnic minority communities to help them improve their livelihoods.

The TOT program equipped agricultural officers with knowledge and the skills required to advise farmers on sustainable farming practices and market access issues.

Achievements

1. 35 local agricultural officers were trained in cultivation, animal husbandry and marketing techniques, and on how to effectively deliver information to farmers.
2. 150 farmers, a majority of whom are Thai ethnic minorities, were trained by agricultural officers with support from the alumni group.
3. A training manual was produced and distributed to staff of Tuan Giao District Division of Agriculture and Rural Development and to experts who train farmers in the Northwest Mountainous Region.
4. Building on the success of this training, the alumni group jointly delivered further training programs with the Vietnam National University of Agriculture and the Division of Agriculture & Rural Development of Tuan Giao district within the framework of the New Rural Development Program 2020 of Vietnam.



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The course provided me with the opportunity to connect with other colleagues and understand more about farming techniques. I have gained more information and skills to help farmers minimise the farming risks.

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Ms Lo Thi Banh,
a local agricultural officer

