



## WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT THROUGH AGRICULTURE VALUE CHAIN ENHANCEMENT (WEAVE)

The mountainous north-west region of Vietnam is home to a diverse ethnic minority population and has some of the highest levels of poverty and inequality. Ethnic minority women living in remote areas are particularly disadvantaged, experiencing isolation, lower levels of education, and lack of decision making power in their households. These barriers prevent them from accessing opportunities and benefiting from Vietnam's economic growth.

### What Australia is doing

WEAVE aims to increase the social and economic empowerment of women in the pig, cinnamon and banana agricultural value chains. This is achieved by promoting equality between women and men within households and producer groups, strengthening female and male producers' skills and bargaining power, and working with businesses and government decision-makers to improve the policy environment to support producers.

### Expected results

- More than 1,800 women and men, mainly from ethnic minorities, directly benefit from the project.
- Members of producer groups increase their income due to better access to market information, improved bargaining power, and improved access to quality services (such as financial and extension services).
- Members of producer groups have higher value products as a result of market-driven production and sustainable certification.
- Needs of producer groups are incorporated into Government policies, programs and services.
- Members of producer groups have better skills as a result of training in farming techniques, business planning, financial literacy (budgeting, accounting and cost and benefit analysis), negotiation skills and marketing.
- Women share household labour more equally with men and have greater influence in decision-making and control over household income.
- More women hold leadership positions in producer groups.

### Fast Facts

In its first year, WEAVE trained 1,516 farmers (68% of them women) in farming techniques, business planning and financial literacy

### Funding

AUD 3.5 million

### Duration

2016 – 2020

### Partners

- Oxfam
- SNV
- CARE International

### Project sites

- Lao Cai province
- Bac Kan province

