

Mini Projects

Aim

To plan, implement and report a rapid value chain appraisal for selected fruits or vegetables and identify development constraints and opportunities with potential to significantly improve the net income and livelihoods of poor men and women.

Focus

- Mapping of actors along the fruit/vegetable value chains.
- Estimate the size of wholesale markets in Mandalay,
- Trader typologies in these markets,
- Spatial flows into and out of these markets, and
- Wholesaler/retailers perceptions about the different constraints and opportunities for fruits/vegetables trade from the Mandalay region.

Objectives

1. Situation analysis/problems and research questions
2. Mapping the chain
3. External influence, governance and performance
4. Gender roles and barriers
5. Opportunities to improve chain performance
6. Social issues affecting adoption
7. Conclusions and recommendations

Value chain teams – 4 teams to select 4 commodities

- Tomatoes
- Cabbage
- Shallots
- Chilli
- Mango
- Watermelon

Mini projects

- **Scope:** Mandalay and Southern Shan State
- **Budget:** Max 300,000 Kyats/ team (for field research on Thursday)
- **Sources of information:** your experiences, primary data and information from interviews
- **Outputs:**
 - Poster reports – “World café”
 - Facebook groups: daily

Mini Projects

Research process

Research problems → Research questions



Research objectives



Research Methods



Sampling



Data collection → analysis & reporting

Research Questions & Objectives

•Research questions

- ✓ Choose **clear, concise** and **relevant** questions
- ✓ Research questions guide the formulation of research objectives

•Research objectives

- ✓ Develop **clear, and concise** research objectives
- ✓ Research objectives explain how research questions are going to be answered; they should be closely related to the research questions
- ✓ Research objectives will guide the research process (methods, data collection, data analysis, writing)

Examples

- **Research question:**

What **technical constraints** currently limit **production** and supply of **high quality vegetables in Son La** to **retail markets**, and how can these be overcome?

- **Research objectives:**

1. To analyse technical constraints of vegetable production that limit supply of high quality vegetables to retail markets.
2. To propose recommendations to overcome the technical constraints.

Discussion for today

- Yesterday: Analysis of current situation, defining some key problems; opportunities
- **Today:**
 - Mapping of actors in the chain
 - Research questions (2-3 questions)
 - Research objectives

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