

SD=HS

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

JUNE 2021



OXFAM

Date: 30 June 2021

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Page 12: Mrs Bishna Dewaar, Pragatishil FFS, Joraya, Doti, Nepal. Photo: Hem GC, LI-BIRD

Back cover: Amuria Farmer Field School, Uganda. Photo: ESAFF

CONTENTS

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS	4
INTRODUCTION	5
SOWING DIVERSITY = HARVESTING SECURITY	6
WHERE DO WE WORK?	8
CONTEXTUAL CHANGES	9
2020: OUR RESULTS	11
OUTCOME 1: FARMERS CROP DIVERSITY MANAGEMENT	13
OUTCOME 2: FARMER SEED ENTERPRISES	17
OUTCOME 3: NUTRITION AND LOCAL FOOD PLANTS	21
OUTCOME 4: AN ENABLING POLICY ENVIRONMENT	25
GENDER AND YOUTH	28
SYNERGIES	29
FINANCE	30

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ASOCUCH	Asociación de Organizaciones de los Cuchumatanes, Guatemala
CBD	UN Convention on Biological Diversity
CFS	Committee on World Food Security
CGIAR	Consortium of International Agricultural Research Centers
CSOs	Civil society organizations
CTDT	Community Technology Development Trust
ESAFF	Eastern and Southern Africa Small-scale Farmers Forum
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FFS	Farmer Field School
FPIC	Free, prior and informed consent
FSE	Farmer Seed Enterprise
GALS	Gender Action Learning Systems
GMOs	Genetically modified organisms
ICTA	Instituto de Ciencia y Tecnología Agrícola, Guatemala
IFI	International financial institutes
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IPSHF	Indigenous peoples and smallholder farmers
LAPA	Local Action Plans for Adaptation
LI-BIRD	Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development, Nepal
MEAL	Monitoring, evaluation, accountability and learning
NACRRI	National Crops Resources Research Institute, Uganda
NAFRI	National Agriculture and Forestry Research Institute
NARS	National Agricultural Research System
NDC	National Determined Contributions
NGO	Non-governmental organization
NUS	Neglected and Underutilized Species
ODA	Overseas Development Aid
PMU	Project Management Units
PPB	Participatory Plant Breeding
SD=HS	Sowing Diversity=Harvesting Security
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
Sida	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
S-PGG	Sida Program Governance Group
ToT	Training of Trainers
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UPOV	International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants
WFP	United Nations World Food Programme
ZAAB	Zambia Alliance for Agroecology & Biodiversity
ZARI	Zambia Agriculture Research Institute

INTRODUCTION

As part of Oxfam Novib's SeedsGROW international program, Sowing Diversity = Harvesting Security, or SD=HS, is the joint effort of the world's leading civil society organizations with a firm track record in the field of plant genetic resources to empower smallholder farmers. Our mission is to support indigenous peoples and smallholder farmers – men, women and youth – for them to enjoy their Farmers' Rights and to have the capacity to access, develop and use plant genetic resources to improve their food and nutrition security under conditions of climate change.

2020, the second year of Phase II of the program, was a particularly difficult year. COVID-19 did not only overburden health systems and caused millions of deaths; it also led in countries already facing many difficulties, to greater inequalities and vulnerabilities. It meant restrictions on social mobility, disruption of markets, higher prices and lower incomes for daily laborers, farmers and rural workers and increase in food insecurity and hunger. With greater restrictions on their mobility, and greater pressure to feed their households, women have been hit the hardest.

The pandemic also forced us to fundamentally change the way we work. Throughout the world, teams were not able to go to the field, training courses had to be postponed, and we all became increasingly reliant on online tools and platforms. Oxfam and partners had to redevelop their 2020 operational plan, adjust ways of working, reallocate budgets and invest considerable time in conversations about the pandemic's often-unpredictable impact in different countries. But as this report shows, these led to positive results.

The SD=HS project met or passed the targets set for its four outcomes. The cancellation of planned travel and public events meant that we underspent. But we also overperformed: the teams in the Netherlands and in countries reached more than 33,000 smallholder farmers directly (an increase of 29% compared to 2019) and almost 215,000 indirectly.

The main reasons for this strong performance lie in the resilience and social capital of the communities where we work. SD=HS has strengthened the capacities of men and women, built a network of farmer field schools (FFSs) and farmer seed enterprises (FSEs), and nurtured strong ties with national and local government institutions. This social capital has been indispensable in responding to the pandemic. For example, disruption to seed markets was mitigated by the availability of locally produced quality seeds or collaboration with friendly breeding institutes and local governments.

The aim of this annual report is not only to account for the work we did in 2020. Above that, we hope to inspire by giving a glimpse of the many efforts that have been made possible in the context of this program.

SOWING DIVERSITY = HARVESTING SECURITY

Smallholder farmers, our 15 partner organizations and the SD=HS team showed a high degree of flexibility and resilience in 2020 as COVID-19 exacerbated circumstances that were already challenging due to economic crises and the negative impacts of climate change. We implemented new ways of working: there was a massive increase in digital activities, and local social networks were mobilized to respond to and mitigate the effects of the pandemic.

As a consequence, SD=HS *underspent* and *overperformed*. The budget absorption rate was 82% of the updated operational budget. The main reason was the cancellations of travel and public events, which particularly affected our national and global policy work. But on the other hand, in terms of performance, the SD=HS program was able to reach 33,671 smallholder farmers directly (an increase of 29% compared to 2019) and 214,770 indirectly.

We met or passed our targets on the four program outcomes. The main reasons for this strong performance lie in the resilience and social capital of the communities where we work. SD=HS has strengthened the capacities of men and women, built a network of farmer field schools (FFS) and facilitators, and nurtured strong ties with national and local government institutions. This social capital has been indispensable to provide adequate responses to the pandemic. For example the disruption to seed markets has been mitigated by the availability of locally produced quality seeds or collaboration with friendly breeding institutes and local governments.



"Women in Tsholotsho say that the increase in diversity of local seed varieties is result of the SD=HS project... they say they have become torch bearers of seed exchange in their community." Text and photo shared by Jeko Manata via Whatsapp.

We have been happy to see that the people we work with did not only gain knowledge or developed new skills: they immediately started putting these into practice, with positive results. Facilitators designed and are running training

sessions, farmers tried different varieties and produced seeds which are now helping them obtain higher yields, and families are now enjoying a more diversified diet as a result of their own efforts.

One indicator that requires attention is the drop in participation of women in the program, from 66% to 58%. Although women's participation and leadership is still very strong, particularly in Uganda and Laos, COVID-19 increased the burden of care on women and risked their participation in the program.

Considering that most women face many difficulties, but at the same time that they constitute a very heterogeneous category, it is necessary to analyze what other factors may have played a big role in these results and to plan steps that will ensure higher participation levels.

Our work in 2020 has also shown the benefits of working together and collaborating with the local authorities and with the regional and national governments. Building on these results, another recommendation is to invite as many representatives as possible to the different planning sessions. This can secure additional resources, while at the same time play a significant role in terms of adoption and scaling up.

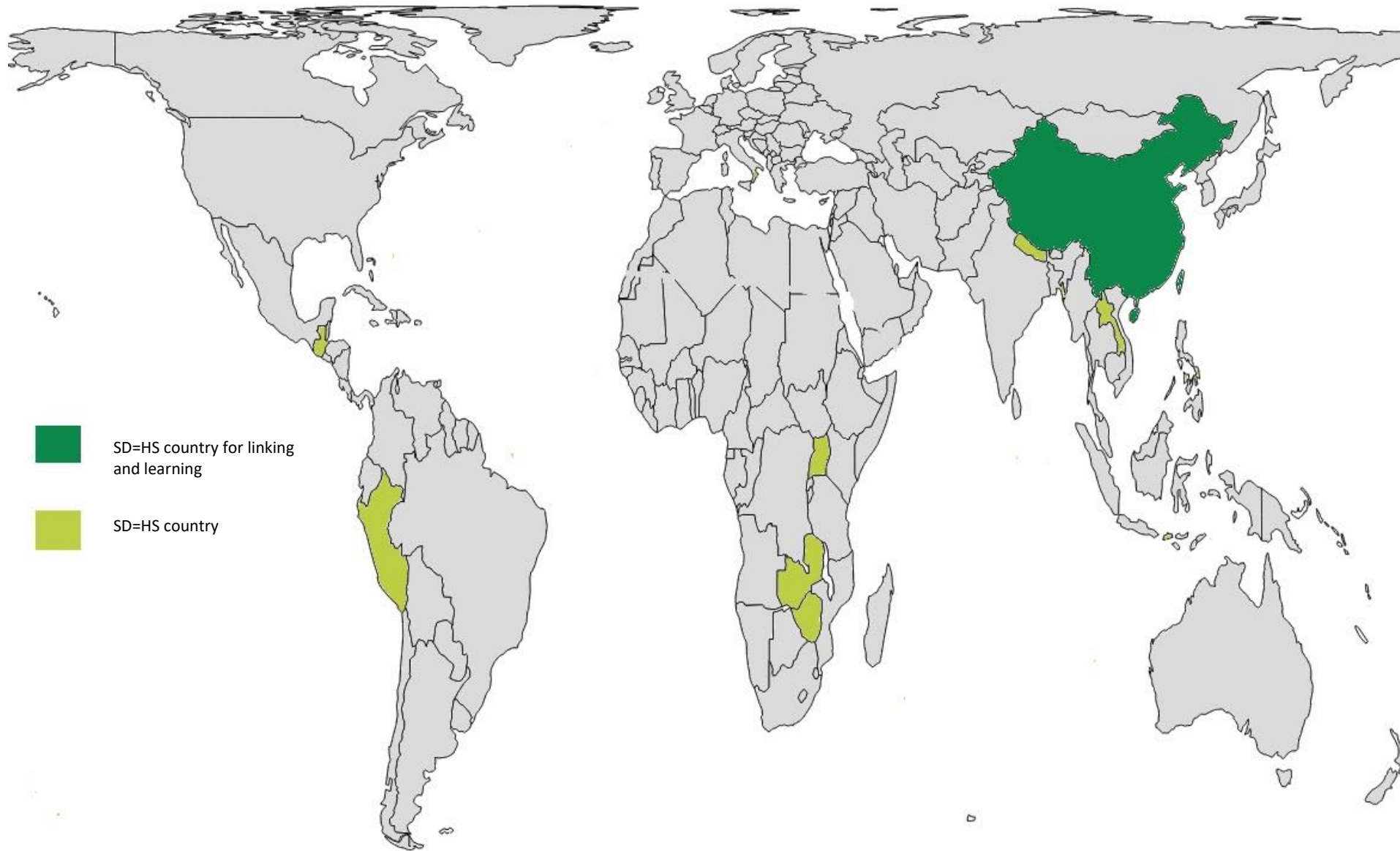
The case studies in this report reflect some examples of collaboration and synergies; between the different activities (pillars) in SD=HS and with other institutions that can help us to be more successful.

COVID-19 forced us to be creative, finding different ways to communicate and to share ideas and information, and exploring the advantages of online tools. This new scenario will shape the way we work in the near future. There is therefore an urgent need to measure the impact this has all had in terms of inclusion and participation – within and between countries, regions, organizations or target groups. The different approaches, tools and techniques which are now available must help us work with a larger number of people and reach a larger number of beneficiaries.

“... Our communities have become more united and I have come to know more people even in neighbouring communities...”

Benny Siamapabi, farmer field school facilitator in Chirundu, Zambia

WHERE DO WE WORK?



CONTEXTUAL CHANGES

When Oxfam Novib submitted the SeedsGROW 2020 Operational Plan, the word “COVID-19” did not exist. Since then the pandemic has caused millions of deaths, overburdened health systems, and caused fundamental changes in the way we work and the freedoms we enjoy. The virus has also exacerbated existing inequalities and vulnerabilities. The FAO estimates that in 2020 the pandemic added between 83 and 132 million people to the total number who are undernourished. In the short term, it has put more pressure on local (food) resources, disrupting (local) value chains, increasing prices and leading to loss of income for daily laborers, farmers and rural workers.

Labor conditions have worsened, as measures to protect people from the impacts of the response to COVID-19 have typically not been made available to farmers and rural workers. Women have been hit the hardest, as they are squeezed out of markets: they are usually paid less, have more restrictions on their mobility, face more pressure to feed their households, are more likely to be in temporary jobs, and have carried an increased burden of care work.

The need to build back better

Even before the impact of COVID-19, the food system was broken – highly unequal and unable to guarantee a decent income for farmers and laborers or to provide healthy diets for many people in every region of the world, especially for the poor.

- Supermarkets, food companies, and traders continue to keep the lion’s share of the price consumers pay for their products. As a result, millions of small-scale food producers and food workers are struggling to survive. Exploitation and human rights violations are common in global and national supply chains.
- The proportion of ODA to sub-Saharan Africa devoted to agriculture has stagnated at around 5% since 2014. Even before COVID-19, African governments were not on track to meet the critical targets set in the Malabo Declaration on Accelerating Agricultural Growth by the 2025 deadline: as of 2019, only four countries had met the target of investing 10% of their national budget in agriculture.
- Inequality in land rights drives and underpins wider inequalities in most countries. As reported by ILC, in collaboration with Oxfam, it is estimated that the top 10% of the rural population captures 60% of agricultural land value, while the bottom 50% captures only 3%. Land inequality threatens the livelihoods of 2.5 billion people, and is a fundamental obstacle to eradicating poverty.
- Less than 5% of investment in agricultural research goes to low- and lower middle-income countries, though they are home to nearly half of the world’s staple cropland and 84% of poor people. The international research centers of the CGIAR have been unable to provide smallholder farmers with quality seeds that meet their needs and preferences: they still obtain 80% of their seeds from informal sources.
- Discussion about the future of the food system is also feeding into controversy around the Food Systems Summit, which CSOs have criticized for being dominated by the international private sector and focusing on market-oriented solutions and technological innovation. Civil society advocates

instead for a human rights-based approach to food. For years, proponents of agroecological and biodiverse approaches have advocated for a fundamental transformation of food systems. Despite being supported by a growing body of, they continue to feel their voices are marginalized and excluded.

Biodiversity and climate vulnerability

Recent studies have raised an alarm about the state of nature, causing some scientists to talk about an “age of extinction”. In 2019 a UN intergovernmental panel of scientists said one million animal and plant species are threatened with extinction. The loss of biodiversity is increasing communities’ vulnerability and reducing their options to diversify livelihoods and crops.

In 2020 climate events hit several countries and communities we work with. Most seriously, Tropical Storm Eta and Hurricane Iota affected over 6,000 indigenous families in 65 communities in departments of Guatemala where the SeedsGROW program works: 300 houses were destroyed or flooded, more than 3,500 people were evacuated and 200 hectares of crops were destroyed or affected (maize, potato, bean, coffee, cardamom, vegetables, and oats).

Meanwhile, major global climate policy processes were delayed or postponed to 2021. Oxfam’s 2020 [Climate Finance Shadow Report](#) showed that developed countries are still far from meeting their climate finance goal to support developing countries. Oxfam estimates that public climate-specific net assistance is much lower than reported figures, having increased slightly from USD 15–19.5 bn in 2015–16 to USD 19–22.5 bn in 2017–18.

“Our biggest worry is the impact this will have on our economy. This pandemic is like a storm that doesn’t stop...”

**Reinaldo Mendoza, farmer,
Todos Santos Cuchumatanes,
Guatemala**

A new 10-year Global Strategic Framework

Oxfam cannot stand a world where hunger exists, and where inequalities and injustice are so widespread. It is imperative to end inequality and injustice in the global food system by 2030. To meet this challenge of our time, Oxfam launched in November 2020 its new 10-year Global Strategic Framework, “[Fight Inequality: Together We Can End Poverty and Injustice](#)”. Its thematic focus areas are: (i) just economies; (ii) gender justice; (iii) climate justice; and (iv) accountable governance. The work funded through SeedsGROW Phase II goes across all four themes, but is especially relevant for just economies (which addresses food systems) and climate justice.

2020: OUR RESULTS



More than 33,000
smallholder farmers
reached



A total of 684 Farmer
Field Schools in two
years



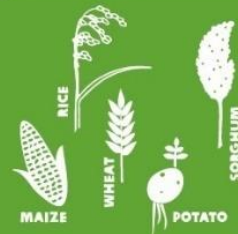
370 master trainers and
facilitators trained



58% of all participants in
the program were
women



325 varieties, advanced
lines and segregating
populations distributed



7 varieties selected,
enhanced or developed
with traits to cope with
climate change



More than 9,000 farmers
benefiting with access to
quality seed



512 MT of seed sold by
9 FSEs in 3 countries



13 national and 3
international
policy changes



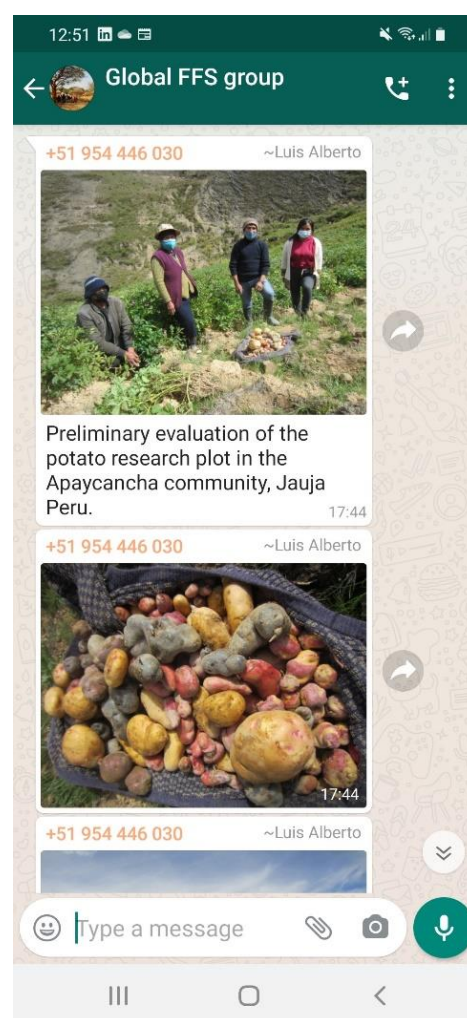
OUTCOME 1: FARMERS CROP DIVERSITY MANAGEMENT

Community agrobiodiversity management continued to be the basis of SD=HS's work in 2020. In FFS on participatory plant breeding (PPB), groups of 20 to 25 farmers organize around specific challenges they identify in the crops on which they depend for their livelihoods. The solutions they explore are partly agronomic – each weekly FFS session gives time to learn about agroecological crop management practices. But primarily they work on maintaining or increasing crop genetic diversity by (i) adapting and improving cherished local varieties, or landraces, through stringent selection (“participatory variety enhancement”); (ii) increasing farmers’ access to new materials from breeding institutes and gene banks and evaluating them side by side (“participatory variety selection”); and (iii) creating new diversity by crossing two or more varieties, where existing varieties are unlikely to meet farmers’ needs.

Much of the emphasis in the current phase of the program is on addressing the gaps in the systems that create, manage and move seeds; more particularly, on linking farmer seed systems and formal seed systems in such a way that the strengths of each address the weaknesses in the other.

The groundwork laid since 2012 was critical in sustaining and even strengthening the work in 2020, which by all accounts was a challenging year. The threat of increasing isolation with COVID-19 added a particular sense of urgency to the collaboration required for systemic change, as well as a push for innovation. Collaboration has thus been the main thread connecting our work across countries:

In Zimbabwe, despite bans on meetings and travel, FFS were able to continue their work as facilitators were supplied with Android phones and data bundles so they could collect data, share updates, and ask for advice via WhatsApp. Each district has a WhatsApp platform to discuss issues from the FFS. There is also a national platform, consisting of facilitators, government extension staff, breeders, and staff from the partner organization CTDT. Breeders, always in short supply, are now able to reach out to many more FFS than before.



Photos, videos, documents, together with ideas, opinions and comments, shared to SD=HS facilitators and participants throughout the world.

Advances in the documentation of PPB information are helping cement institutional collaboration in the Guatemalan highlands. No crop varieties are developed specifically for the highlands, which are home mostly to indigenous communities with small farms: they are ignored by national politics and uninteresting for the commercial seed sector. The public breeding institute ICTA does not have the resources to do broad-scale testing of their crop materials, which they want to share with farmers only if they receive quality data on crop performance in return. While farmers do produce such data as part of their regular FFS sessions, capturing and storing it has been a real challenge. Using the free Kobo Toolbox platform, we developed a simple tool that will allow FFS facilitators to share crop data at key growth stages with a central database that ICTA scientists can access. The tool will be used in all program countries and will be making it more attractive for public sector breeding institutes to work with farming communities: it vastly expands their capacity to reach out to and test with farmers, and, ultimately, get varieties adopted. For farmers it opens the door to new diversity to which they did not previously have access.

While only in their second year, some FFS groups in Zambia engaged in a relatively advanced type of participatory plant breeding: together with ZARI, they crossed an improved and a local sorghum variety in an attempt to develop their “dream” variety. To fast-track development, off-season nurseries were established at ZARI and in a community in Chirundu district: using the off-season to advance breeding populations in

irrigated fields (“shuttle breeding”) can shorten the breeding cycle by 30%. While shuttle breeding is usually done only by breeding institutes, the modest innovation of having small, irrigated nurseries at FFS plots shows that farmers, with the support of breeders, can play an important role even in the early stages of breeding. The initial establishment of a nursery at ZARI was helpful as it kept farmers curious and motivated to continue with learning. Due to COVID-related restrictions, however, farmers could not visit the nursery at ZARI; the FFS nurseries helped solve this issue.

The “SD=HS model” on PPB – with full integration of public sector breeders, communities, and extension services – is most advanced in Laos, where participatory plant breeding is now firmly embedded in the national breeding program. Farmers’ contribution to collaborative breeding is recognized as being of equal value to that of breeders from the national agriculture research and extension system. In 2020, collaboration among these key actors in the seed system resulted in the wide dissemination and higher adoption of PPB glutinous rice varieties. Two varieties, TK17 and SLV1 – developed by farmers and breeders in Luang Prabang and Salavan province, respectively – spread to three neighboring provinces, including the biggest rice-producing province of Laos. As TK17 and SLV1 are non-photosensitive, they can be grown twice a year. Their yield is double the yield of traditional varieties, and they retain the required eating quality and improved blast resistance from their local parent varieties. Farmers benefit, as the varieties fetch a higher price on the market. PPB has been strongly embedded in the work of government in Laos, and their involvement serves as an example of what collaboration between farmers and the formal seed sector can muster.

“I believe that the relevance of my breeding program depends on the farmers, and PPB brings the farmers closer. We [breeders] cannot work in isolation. For breeding programs to be successful, farmers must be involved.”

Dr. Lloyd Mbulwe, Head of the Sorghum and Millet Improvement Program, ZARI

Main achievements

Outcome	Planned	Achieved
Resilient indigenous and farming communities reached	10,000	13,000 reached in two years
Output	Planned	Achieved
Expansion of the network of FFS	250	450 FFS (400 FFS in 2020) 400 master trainers and facilitators (350 trained in 2020)
Institutional support		325 varieties, advanced lines and segregating populations of approximately 20 important crops distributed to FFS
Capacity to adapt to climate change	10	Seven varieties selected, enhanced and developed by FFS in China, Laos, Zambia and Zimbabwe, with traits needed to cope with climate change. For example, a local variety of sorghum, Gokwe, was enhanced by FFS in Zimbabwe for traits including early maturity and resistance to drought, pests and diseases.

Key lessons

- Collaboration between key actors in the national seed system is key to help farmers access a new diversity of crop varieties, and strengthen their capacity to select and breed crop varieties to adapt to market demands and the unpredictable climate.
- It can be difficult to obtain early-generation breeding materials when breeders at breeding institutes do not see the benefit of working with farmers. This can happen as a result of staff turnover. It can be mitigated through additional talks with the new breeders, showing the importance of breeding materials for farmers to create new diversity.
- PPB needs time and long-term commitment from funders, especially when farmers actively shape the objectives of the breeding program. If fully embedded in the national seed system, PPB can make breeding efforts more efficient and shorter. Yet it takes time to develop the capacity to build the necessary infrastructure across all actors of the national seed system. Even though COVID-19 restrictions did not hamper work in farmers' fields, they had serious implications for the effectiveness of partnership building. We need time to form partnerships with the public sector, and even more time to show that collaboration works and mainstream it.
- While it is now being mainstreamed in eight countries, SD=HS needs to double its efforts to strengthen collaboration with breeders from international and national agriculture research systems, especially the CGIAR. This is even more pressing given the One CGIAR reforms. We have solid proof of concept that this works. We now see it as our task to collaborate more with NARS and CGIAR scientists to spread this way of working.

Box 1: WORKING TOWARDS INSTITUTIONALIZATION

We work in Adjumani, Uganda, with a group of small-scale farmers who are determined to breed a rice variety with traits including high yield and tolerance to drought. Having seen very positive results, we are now taking steps to ensure that these efforts continue and are supported by different institutions.

We have regularly tried to get researchers to see what FFS members are doing. Our idea is to encourage them to take up some results from the field and use them as part of their own work, thereby including the voices of small-scale farmers. In November 2020, ESAFF Uganda organized a visit to Adjumani with a team headed by Dr Jimmy Lamo, a rice breeder working at the National Crops Resources Research Institute (NaCRRI). They were truly impressed to meet a group of small-scale farmers who are doing what most people consider to be the work of scientists.

Many organizations are supporting FFS, but most are doing only seed multiplication – getting seeds from the research station and multiplying them. I think Dr Lamo thought he would be seeing something similar in Adjumani. But he saw that this group is one step ahead: *“I have seen small-scale farmers multiplying seeds, but I have not seen them leading the breeding process and producing quality seeds. I am impressed.”* He could see that farmers are studying different varieties, and documenting what they are learning. He and the other researchers from NaCRRI agreed to draft a Memorandum of Understanding, supporting our work. This has since been signed, showing how the mindset has changed!

One thing that impressed the scientists and researchers so much is that the farmers are not just talking, they are collecting data. Knowledge is power, so we have to make sure that farmers keep harvesting and documenting data and experiences, and showing what they know. With that data we plan to continue building linkages. Sometimes this is challenging as we don't have enough resources, but we believe in



FFS members monitoring the progress of a rice variety in the field school in Adjumani, Uganda. Photo: ESAFF Uganda

the benefits of farmers discussing with researchers. I believe that this is going to contribute a lot towards the institutionalization of the FFS approach.

We need to sign more MoUs like the one with NaCRRI, involving the extension department or local government in the district. This way, the next time they plan any activity in the district, they will also be engaging with the FFS and responding to the specific needs of our group and of the whole community. Just as important, we learned in 2020 that we also need to get more farmers to use ICT. This is not only because farmers can access a lot of information online; we must also consider that all the people we are targeting or trying to influence are permanently online. We have to put our information in the places they look at, and then they will see and read what we are doing. We have a lot to show!

Andrew Adem
Eastern and Southern Africa Small-scale Farmers' Forum (ESAFF), Uganda

OUTCOME 2: FARMER SEED ENTERPRISES

In this component of the program we continue to work towards strengthening the capacity of smallholder farmers to produce good quality seed suitable for their agroecological zones. We work to empower farmers as seed producers, and strengthen organizations of smallholder farmers to improve the supply of seed required to meet their diverse needs in increasingly adverse climatic conditions.

During 2020, implementation focused on scaling up our work through adoption of various models. In addition to ongoing work in Zimbabwe, we started pilot activities in Nepal and Guatemala, with China as a “linking and learning” country. We worked with 9 FSEs (farmer seed enterprises) in the three countries, which we anticipate will provide valuable insight into what models work best in different contexts to improve access to seed for smallholder farmers.

In Nepal, we are strengthening three cooperatives producing seeds of various staple crops and vegetables. In Guatemala, we are supporting three potato cooperatives and one bean association. We are strengthening the

FSEs to become more professional, business-oriented organizations with stronger market linkages. We also facilitate strategic linkages to key seed value chain actors in the communities where we work. With farmers, our focus is on technical capacity building on seed production and understanding of markets.

COVID-19 mobility restrictions affected the FSEs in multiple ways. They experienced seed collection, processing and distribution challenges in all countries, impacting negatively on planned seed production. The restricted mobility of extension and project staff meant limited support; coupled with limitations on group gatherings, this increased the challenges of dealing with pests and diseases, adversely affecting the seed crops. The impact was to exacerbate the multiple socio-economic challenges faced by the communities we work in as a result of climate change.



Buying back chayote, Rongyan Farmers' Cooperative, Guzhai, China. Photo: Xin Song

Despite these challenges, 512 MT of agro-ecologically adapted seeds were made available on the market for smallholder farmers in the communities where we work. The production of 11 crops and 63 varieties contributed to food and nutrition security and promoted crop diversity – which not only responds to the diverse socio-economic seed needs of smallholder farmers, but is critical to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change. For this reason, commercialization of farmer varieties remains a focus in all FSE countries to varying degrees, alongside production of modern varieties. The nine FSEs collectively produced seed crops of rice, chayote, wheat, maize, beans, potato, sorghum, pearl millet, cowpeas and groundnuts.

“The cooperative is doing good business, they are purchasing our seed on cash. Previously, we had to wait for at least two months to get paid for our seed. But now we have cash in hand, no loan, and no interest on the loan. We farmers are very happy with our cooperative.”

**Samapt Chaudhary, smallholder farmer,
Jaibikbibhidhata Farmer Seed Enterprise, Doti, Nepal**

In 2020, continued capacity building on seed production and marketing empowered a total of 1,250 smallholder farmer as seed producers. COVID-19 mobility restrictions created the need for innovative approaches: virtual trainings, online chat groups, small group training, and extension support through radio. In Guatemala and Nepal, strong linkages between community seed banks, FFS and the FSE emerged as an integrated system of farmer-to-farmer support during the lockdown.

Women farmers were empowered in the seed business, bringing socio-economic benefits and increasing their voice in the countries where we work. We took conscious decisions to enhance women’s participation in the program, for example through labor-saving devices that enhance efficiency of processes. In Nepal, one of the female participants highlighted how *“the threshing machine has eased our work. In the beginning, we needed to do it manually by beating with a stick and it took two or three days depending on the harvest. Now, with the use of this machine, we can do it within two or three hours. Also, damage to seeds is reduced by a large amount.”* We continue to emphasize gender equity in various capacity building interventions, which has provided opportunities for women to hold leadership positions in the FSEs. In Zimbabwe and Nepal, for example, women farmers occupy about 50% of decision-making position on FSE boards and associations.

The social nature of our FSEs meant they served as a buffer and safety net for many communities, facilitating access to local seed and guaranteeing incomes for our seed growers. In China, for example, the FSE in Guzhai village provided alternative incomes for community members who lost their jobs in the cities due to COVID-19. We also strengthened partnerships to enhance professionalization of the FSEs. In Nepal, the program leveraged partnerships that brought about local government investment in grading machinery and storage facilities for two FSEs. In all FSE countries, continued partnerships with key value chain actors – including breeders, the private sector and NGOs – have been strengthened and proved crucial during the pandemic.

We developed a curriculum to empower smallholder farmers as market agents and strengthen local seed markets. We developed an FFS guide on seed production and marketing to enhance knowledge

among smallholders participating in FFS on PPB and nutrition. The guide focuses on local seed markets in particular, supporting local seed systems and community resilience. This intervention's local focus provides opportunities to respond to the complex and diverse socio-economic and cultural factors that underpin the seed needs of indigenous peoples and smallholder farmers. The guide will be implemented in several SD=HS countries in 2021.

Overall, in 2020 we estimate that 9,076 indigenous people and smallholder households gained access to good quality seeds of diverse crops and varieties in the three FSE countries. In Guatemala and Nepal, more than 60% of beneficiaries are vulnerable indigenous populations in remote areas where climate change is having a significant negative impact on food and nutrition security.

Key achievements

Outcome	Planned	Achieved
Indigenous peoples and smallholder farmers with increased market access to high-quality seeds	3,000	9,076 farmers directly benefiting from access to quality seeds
Output	Planned	Achieved
Piloting and strengthening FSE models	Between two and four FSEs initiated	Nine FSE pilots in four countries: Nepal (3), Guatemala (4), China (1), and Zimbabwe (1)
Strengthened capacities of farmers to produce quality seeds	1,305 farmers trained	1,250 farmers trained (Guatemala, Nepal and Zimbabwe)
Volume (tonnage) of seeds produced and distributed (including farmer varieties)	463 MT	512 MT of seed sold (63 varieties, including farmer varieties)

Lessons learned

- Pilots in 2020 in Guatemala, Nepal and Zimbabwe suggest that there is not a generally applicable FSE model – the choice of which model to adopt must be context-specific. While only indicative rather than conclusive, given the short implementation timeframe, this points to the importance of understanding the existing seed system and communities in which an FSE is to be implemented.
- The impact of COVID-19 on supply chains highlighted the increasing importance of community-level seed and food security and resilience, in times of crisis and beyond.

Box 2: “MASTER” PADMA

My name is Padma Deuba, and I live with my son and two daughters in a small village called Kujakot. My husband is in India for work. I am the new FFS facilitator and people here call me “master”. I feel confident; I want to help change my community.

I have been wanting to grow crops for a long time, but have always found it difficult to start alone. So I joined the FFS that started in September 2019 in Dangadhi and have completed two seasons, together with many other women. I have learned about rice and now I am also growing wheat in some parts of my farm. I like the FFS because it gradually gives us answers to the questions we have had for several years, such as which wheat varieties grow better in our soils and climate. With the FFS we compared the different varieties and we were able to see the results. This is a better way to learn than the training courses organized by the extension officer, which were only about theoretical things, and we would forget most of that afterwards. During the FFS we see and we try different things, and what we learn stays for a long time in our heads.

More important, perhaps, is that I also feel more confident – I think I have a stronger voice. Some of the other participants also think that the FFS classes have helped them become more confident, as we have had a place to share our thoughts and personal feelings. I think that many have felt relieved after some sessions. During the FFS we have not only learned but also discussed and cooked together. It is always very lively as everybody observes, people agree and disagree together, they share personal problems, we sing and dance, and everyone participates equally. We learn things faster, and we feel proud.



Padma and her colleagues. Photo: Rajendra Dhakal.

And we can also earn some money! I have been selling seeds to other farmers and also to some companies. I think that selling seeds is more profitable than selling fresh vegetables, especially in the area where we live. There is no local market for fresh vegetables, but there is one for vegetable seeds. The big companies are selling only the seeds for which there is a lot of demand, but there are many other varieties, and many of us prefer them. We want to restart our community seed bank, as this has not been working for some years. We know it can play a very important role, especially in villages where farmers have not been able to conserve seeds of local varieties.

Padma Deuba
“Master” facilitator, Kujakot, Nepal

OUTCOME 3: NUTRITION AND LOCAL FOOD PLANTS

Our plans for 2020 included a training-of-trainers (ToT) process for FFS facilitators between March and May. All the sessions we had scheduled had to be cancelled because of COVID-19-related measures – but they were replaced by the first-ever online course on nutrition and local food plants for master trainers, who would later train facilitators for FFSs. The course included a series of 35 audio presentations and weekly sessions, covering all the topics addressed in the FFS Field Guide. It was followed by 83 participants, and is now available [online](#): the open distribution of the six modules, covering nine hours in English and Spanish, is expected to help us scale up activities in the near future.

The course helped us to conduct national ToTs across all implementing countries, achieving a total of 415 trainers since the start of Phase 2, with 370 new trainers added in 2020 (about four times more than was originally planned). It was sometimes necessary to adapt these

meetings to the national regulations and restrictions put in place as a result of the pandemic: in Uganda, for example, we conducted three sessions in different districts, with a smaller number of participants in each case. ToT participants learned the tools to facilitate the different sessions of a nutrition-oriented FFS, e.g. guiding farmers to identify the reasons for malnutrition in rural areas, or the factors that prevent them from consuming local food plants. They were also able to help farmers set the specific objectives for each FFS, and plan and implement activities that address their problems (for example, improving the germination of wild food plants and establishing home gardens). Trainers learned how to build on the knowledge, cultural values, needs and priorities of a community, apply a gender approach, and ensure the active involvement of all participants.

New trainers, new FFS

One of the most interesting results in 2020 was the establishment of 160 new FFSs, helping us reach a total of 234 by the end of the year (316% more than in 2019). This, in turn, helped us work with 5,317



Farmers during subgroup discussions in a diagnostic exercise, in an FFS in Uganda.

Photo: Joshua Enyetu.

indigenous and smallholder farmers, strengthening their skills to manage and use local food plants to improve the food and nutrition security of their families. This took different shapes and forms. Our work in Zimbabwe, for example, focused on the need to break seed dormancy and counter the bitter taste of *cleome*, while improving the smell, color and palatability of *amaranth* and *blackjack*. Farmers were also trained in the post-harvest and storage techniques needed to ensure year-round access to nutritious food plants. In Zambia, FFS activities were closely linked to two newly built community seed banks (supported by the Hans Geveling Fund and Vivace), with two more in the planning. Our work in Laos was related to the

establishment of school gardens that provide healthy lunches to students and teachers. Farmers in all countries also organized cooking demonstrations based on local plants, highlighting their interest in healthy diets, exploring new recipes, and recognizing the important role that local plants can play during a pandemic.

“During the lockdown the vegetable prices went up and there was a shortage of potatoes. We then used wild yam and taro to make curry. We also made masaura (dried mix of yam and taro) to store it for a longer period. For the coming weeks, we will not have any problems...”

**Mrs. Gita Devi Chaudhary,
FFS participant, Nepal**

The pandemic context forced us to rely more on online platforms and tools for monitoring and supporting the work going on in the different FFSs. In spite of the difficulties this posed, it was still possible to share the knowledge that farmers have, and show the role they play – particularly women – in the sustainable management and use of neglected and underutilized species (NUS). While some planned events had to be cancelled, the work of FFSs was shown in 102 events including awareness-raising meetings, seed and food fairs, field days and committee meetings. For example, 19 food fairs were held in Zimbabwe – although they had a lower number of participants than in previous years, they still reached more than 800 farmers (76% women). In Uganda, farmers showcased local food plants in food and seed fairs, astonishing members of the public who thought that some of these plants had been lost. One fair attracted the attention of national and regional TV broadcasters, which aired images of farmers explaining the importance of growing and cooking NUS.

Building rural safety nets during the pandemic with biodiversity

The objective of our work – to improve diets and nutrition based on the use of local food plants – proved to be even more relevant in the context of COVID-19, as diverse and healthy diets strengthen the immune system. Our focus on local agrobiodiversity is also key to increasing community food sufficiency in times of food and economic crises. We decided to go beyond the targets set before the pandemic:

- We established more than 300 home gardens in Guatemala, reaching 1,500 farmers in 27 communities and increasing their access to 15 underutilized species. A [recipe book](#) that compiled local knowledge about their preparation was widely distributed.
- In Nepal, we distributed seed kits to more than 1,800 impoverished farmers (61% women) during the pandemic, receiving a letter of appreciation from the Ganpdhura Rural Municipality.

We also established community groups for production, propagation, and distribution of quality seeds and planting materials, benefiting more than 100 households.

Finally, we helped organize 11 seed exchange networks in Zimbabwe, Zambia, Uganda, Laos and Nepal, increasing farmers' access to NUS, and we established youth-led cross-generational dialogues and agro-ecology clubs in Uganda, strengthening the role of youth in nutrition and NUS management.

Key achievements

Outcome	Planned	Achieved
Strengthened coping strategies of communities through the use of local food plants	No target for 2020	5,317 farmers, through their participation in the FFSs
Output	Planned	Achieved
Baseline to identify major problems with food and nutrition security	Baseline study completed, insights shared	In process (the second survey round could not be conducted in 2020 because of the COVID-19 related measures)
Expansion of the network of FFS	FFS curriculum is tested in the ToTs and implemented in the FFSs Over 100 FFSs established 90 master trainers and facilitators trained	The FFS Field Guide was published and tested in the national ToTs, adjusted to the local contexts and implemented in the FFSs 234 FFSs supported (160 new) 436 master trainers and facilitators (391 newly trained), of whom 57% are women
The role of local food plants in improving nutrition highlighted to various stakeholders	14 local, national or international knowledge-sharing events	102 public events

Lessons learned

- The implementation of the online course led to changes in the way we divide roles, and forcefully changed the relationship of the SD=HS team in the Netherlands with our partners in the countries. Our partners were given greater responsibilities and needed to be more proactive and self-reliant. Organically, we moved to a more horizontal farmer training concept.
- Despite the advantages of online courses, they provided fewer opportunities for spontaneous discussions. Many of the informal exchanges and group dynamics that are common in face-to-face meetings were lost. We learned that the participatory nature of a FFS should not be taken for granted, and it is crucial to focus on group dynamics, participatory approaches, and action learning when working online.

Box 3: ADAPTING TO COVID-19

A national lockdown was introduced in March 2020 in Zimbabwe as COVID-19 cases increased. Tight regulations were put in place, which had a massive effect in our work. We had to adapt – but we also discovered new ways of working which proved to be quite successful.

Our 2020 plans included a training of trainers course, focusing on nutrition and the use of local food plants. Being unable to organize and attend a face-to-face meeting, the Oxfam Novib team organized the first online course, where I was invited to share CTD's experiences on low-cost food processing technologies such as solar driers, and conducting food and seed fairs, as part of the weekly meetings.

I was a bit skeptical and really unsure if the virtual course was going to be effective, but as the training progressed I saw many benefits. The videos were pre-recorded, so everybody could watch them at any time. Participants also had the manual, and time to prepare themselves. This flexibility was very positive when we consider that several participants were government representatives with busy schedules, and in this way they were able to join and participate. Those who had questions were able to share them in advance, and during the meeting anyone could answer them. The technical experts from Oxfam supported with technical advice, but any participant could also share his or her ideas and experiences. So it was not just questions and answers, but actually an engaging discussion. If there was anything you found interesting and wanted to share, there was an opportunity to do so. This was especially interesting because there were participants not only from Zimbabwe, but also from other countries in Africa and even some from Asia and Latin America. We could hear their stories, and that was great. I found it exciting and a privilege to be able to share what we are doing, and to receive questions that also made me think a lot. The experience has been astonishing.



At the Mudzi Kurarama FFS. Photo: Thamsanqa Khanye.

Nowadays we also have a WhatsApp group, and this seems to be really convenient. Everybody is able to send short messages, and share things as they happen. Even farmers are able to participate because mobile telephones are cheaper now, and their use is also cheap. It allows timely communication while discussions are less formal, so everybody feels more comfortable to share ideas or ask a question. Many farmers are also taking pictures. Even if the quality is not so good, this makes it very easy to follow up.

There are many obvious benefits of face-to-face meetings, but online discussions are also convenient: they are cost-effective, and save a lot of time. Simple steps, such as helping participants use the different platform tools like chat or subgroup options, are going to make these meetings even more successful.

Thamsanqa Khanye
Lead, Pillar Three, CTD Zimbabwe

OUTCOME 4: AN ENABLING POLICY ENVIRONMENT

From global to national level, we continued to raise awareness about Farmers' Rights and the interrelations between agrobiodiversity, smallholder farmers, and resilience to stressors. However, with COVID-19 continuing to require meetings and negotiations to take place virtually, concerns have grown (and continue to grow) regarding how the pandemic is being used to create a more exclusionary and less transparent space. For example, the Civil Society and Indigenous People's Mechanism (CSM) of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) has paid increasing attention since the start of the pandemic to how the use of a virtual space is emboldening threats to multilateralism and human rights. Despite repeated warnings that virtual meetings could not replace in-person negotiations, the CFS not only continued deliberations virtually, it did so on an accelerated calendar, scheduling sessions with little warning and little space for interaction, and on an Euro-centric time zone. This made it practically impossible for most members of the CSM to effectively participate.

Despite the challenging environment, the program was able to organize or participate in several successful influencing events. For example, we participated in the side event “[Harnessing the Power of Nature: Building Resilient Food Systems through Greater Agrobiodiversity](#)” during the Global Landscapes Forum annual conference, making the case for policy to

reflect the importance of smallholder farmers and on-farm diversity. Together with partners, we organized an international webinar to share views and experiences around the [registration of farmers' varieties](#) as a means to recognize and reward the important contributions of farmer breeders to food and nutrition security. The event showcased the program's work in Nepal, which is one of the four 'flex-fund' counties that are currently piloting the registration of farmer varieties. The flex-fund allows SD=HS program partners to submit an additional project proposal each year to respond to an urgent policy need or opportunity.

Similar (online) events were organized in the program countries, such as a [webinar on agrobiodiversity](#) by LI-BIRD in Nepal, broadcast live via Facebook as part of week-long World Food Day celebrations with



At the photography exhibition organized in Beijing. Photo: Chang Cheng

emphasis on local foods. In China, a traditional farming culture photography exhibition – [“Sowing Diversity, Harvesting Security”](#) – was held in Beijing. It featured pictures of farmers involved in the program, many of whom attended the opening ceremony (see photo). Several [media](#) outlets broadcast the event. During the opening ceremony, the report [“Seeds: Global Challenges and Chinese Realities”](#) was launched and presented to Ning Liu, the Chief Negotiator of the Office of the Executive Committee of the next UN Biodiversity Conference (CBD CoP15), which is now scheduled for 11-24 October 2021, in Kunming, China.

In Laos, several important policy changes were achieved, such as the adoption of the new [Decree on Plant Varieties](#) in May 2020. Unlike seed laws in many other countries, it recognizes the importance of native and local varieties, as well as new varieties developed by farmers. It allows for variety registration at provincial level on the basis of a broader set of variety characteristics. This makes the system more accessible for farmer breeders to register more diverse varieties, contributing to agrobiodiversity and food security. The program is now working to develop guidelines and capacity building among various stakeholders to support implementation of the new seed law for the benefit of smallholder farmers. In addition, a [Decree on Groups and Unions](#) was approved in November 2020, setting out principles for the establishment and operation of farmer groups and cooperatives for agriculture development. Oxfam is assisting the Lao Farmer Network to become the first official farmer organization in the country.

“Why is it that certified seeds do not end hunger whereas farmers’ varieties have been the mainstay of farmers’ livelihoods yet not recognized as seed by the present law?”

Participant at the awareness raising meeting organized in Zimbabwe

In Zambia, engagement with policy-makers led to a Memorandum of Understanding between ZAAB and the National Biodiversity Committee, making ZAAB an official representative on the Committee and its sub-group on Access and Benefit-Sharing. This led to the inclusion of Farmers’ Rights on the agenda. In Nepal, LI-BIRD developed a ‘source seed maintenance guideline for landraces’, which led the provincial government to ask for LI-BIRD’s support in developing a seed source mechanism to pilot in 2021. In addition, the mandate of the Center for Crop Development and Agrobiodiversity Conservation in the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock was expanded to include support for conserving and promoting local crops, and LI-BIRD has been asked to help develop a strategy to implement it. These examples show how small but important steps are being taken in program countries towards the establishment of an enabling policy environment for farmers’ seed systems and the implementation of Farmers’ Rights.

On the global level, major progress was made regarding SD=HS’s lobby work against stringent property rights in plant breeding and for legal recognition of Farmers’ Rights to use, exchange and sell their farm-saved seed. The European seed industry endorsed the proposal to allow smallholder farmers to exchange and sell farm-saved seed of plant varieties protected by plant breeders’ rights under the UPOV 1991 Convention. After our presentation of this proposal at the UPOV Council meeting in October 2020, the Council requested “the Office of the Union to draft guidance text taking into consideration the findings of the [Report and Recommendations](#) of the project ‘Options to interpret the notion of private and non-commercial use as included in Article 15. 1. I of the UPOV 1991 Convention’ and its flowchart”.

Finally, the European Patent Office decided that plants resulting from conventional breeding are not patentable any more. This is the result of years of lobbying by Oxfam and other CSOs aligned in the

coalition [No Patents on Seeds!](#) Some legal loopholes persist, however, so we will continue to fight patents on plants both in Europe and the global South.

Key achievements

Outcome	Planned	Achieved
Number of improved policies, laws, and regulations in support of farmers' seed systems and Farmers' Rights	25 for 2019-2022 program period	13 national and three international policy changes including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three local governments committed to support the work of community seed banks in Uganda • Peru extended its moratorium on GMOs until 2035 • Zimbabwe's government established new guidelines on buying and selling of farmer seeds to increase seed production at community level
Output	Planned	Achieved
Strengthened capacities of IPSHF and their organizations to claim a role in policy making	No targets for 2020	2,519 farmers (60% women) participated in capacity building events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Peru an eight-part program was implemented to build the capacities of rural leaders and farmer unions to design and execute effective advocacy actions in favor of traditional production systems. It was attended by 72 participants (34 women) • 33 awareness meetings were conducted in UMP, Rushinga, Mudzi, Chiredzi and Tsholotsho districts in Zimbabwe. A total of 1,277 farmers (910 women) attended the meetings. The main objective was to raise awareness on laws and regulations governing the provision of seed and Farmers' Rights

Lessons learned

- COVID-19 has strengthened awareness that major global challenges are interrelated. We must continue to stress, in policy-relevant ways, the importance of smallholder farmers and agrobiodiversity in tackling the vulnerabilities at the core of our food systems.
- The use of virtual spaces in multilateral policy discussions has created additional barriers to participation and exacerbated power imbalances. Process and governance issues have taken on new importance in our global policy work.
- Despite the urgency of challenges the world faces, 2020 showed once again that most policy changes take many years. This reaffirms our approach and commitment to keep pushing for key policy changes in nutrition, agriculture and intellectual property rights to strengthen farmers' seed systems and Farmers' Rights in the long run.

GENDER AND YOUTH

Over the past year, all country teams implemented context-specific initiatives to strengthen gender justice and women's transformative leadership in the project. In Guatemala, for example, ASOCUCH has a Strategic Plan and Gender Policy which promotes women's active participation and gender equity, and is part of decision-making in the FFS.

In some cases, work followed specific approaches such as those built around the Gender Action Learning Systems (GALS) methodology. The team in Uganda used GALS with very positive results: 80% of FFS members in Soroti district are women. In Laos, GALS training was integrated into the ToT process planned with NAFRI, and gender action plans were piloted for the FFS in Naxak, in Xanakhm district. The gender journey tool was used during the diagnostic stage and establishment of an FFS, helping farmers understand and address gender inequalities in the FFS and the community. The tool has been effective in bringing out the gender dynamics in the FFSs.

In some cases teams have reported difficulties: for example, that it is not always easy to start single-sex and age-limited groups, as communities prefer to follow their own dynamics and form mixed groups. In Peru, female participation continues to reflect the traditional distribution of activities within a family, where men perform "productive" activities and women "reproductive" activities. Nonetheless, all teams are taking a few steps and even more are in the pipeline. In Zimbabwe, farmers were encouraged to talk about gender roles and their impact on the breeding processes. Farmers identified roles and discussed the power inequalities they roles bring – and how to address them. This is being complemented by related initiatives: in Nepal, the project supported women seed farmers with various automated agriculture culture tools, as they are responsible for post-harvest activities such as threshing and corn shelling. According to them, the tools reduced their workload by 70% – encouraging them to join discussions and plan other activities.

"It is good to have female facilitators, as we women are better at this. We know more about these issues, and we can talk with everyone. We probably find it easier!"

Yessi Evangelista, FFS facilitator, Peru

There are also examples of the successful involvement of youth in the program. In Laos, a Young Smart Farming training was conducted with a group of mainly female participants. Its main objective was to learn from successful young farmers how to do business in farming, including by applying online marketing tools and communication media. GALS tools were used to help young farmers to plan ahead.

In Uganda – the world's second-youngest country, with a median age of 15 – partner ESAFF organized cross-generational dialogues for youth and elderly people to discuss the importance of (often neglected) local food plants. Traditional knowledge about local food plants is often held by the older generation. These roundtable dialogues and exchanges shifted the way youth perceive these plants: they came to appreciate the contribution of these crops and plants to food security. As a result, a Youth Network for Neglected and Underutilized Species (NUS) was founded and youth have committed to improving NUS management in their communities, through the FFS on nutrition and by setting up kitchen gardens.

SYNERGIES

As part of the SeedsGROW program, SD=HS worked closely together in a number of activities in 2020. The most notable example was the joint analysis and research on the impact of COVID-19 on food systems. This not only helped the program to better address and mitigate risks, but contributed significantly to Oxfam's Hunger Virus report, which was published in July 2020 and picked up massively by media across the world. The report, which contained farmers' case studies from the SD=HS program, helped bring the impact of the pandemic and lockdowns on hunger to the center of the debate. It was supported by a public campaign to highlight the role of food frontliners and the need to protect their rights.

SD=HS and GROW collaborated on the issue of resilience to support Oxfam's engagement with the Committee on World Food Security and the Global Adaptation Summit, held in January 2021. Both programs highlighted the role of local communities in preserving biodiversity, and how this is fundamental to protecting the right balance between human societies and nature, and preventing pandemics. Through the LandRightsNow digital mobilization, Oxfam highlighted the importance of land rights for indigenous peoples and local communities to preserve ecosystems and reduce the risks of pandemics.

In terms of interaction with other programs, the most relevant is the Right to Food Program of the Strategic Partnership with the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), active in ten countries, at a regional level in Africa and Asia, and globally. This program co-funded all the GROW activities mentioned in this report, and the policy work in SD=HS. In 2020, Oxfam was formally awarded a grant from the MOFA "Fair for All: Improving Value Chains at Scale" program (EUR 71m, to be implemented in 13 countries), and was part of a consortium led by the Pan-African Climate Justice Alliance (EUR 42m, six countries) for the African Activists for Climate Justice program. The development of both programs benefited from learnings and expertise generated from SeedsGROW Phase II. Oxfam intends to harness these synergies in the implementation phase.

FINANCE

Total direct expenditure for SD=HS in 2020 was EUR 2,449,358, against an updated operational budget of EUR 2,996,762. This implies that SD=HS realized a total absorption rate of 82%. The operational budget for 2020 had already been reviewed to take into account the pandemic, but its impact on program implementation was much larger than expected. This is considered to be the most important factor for this relatively low absorption rate.

The most remarkable deviation of actual spending from the agreed updated budget was on consultancies under Pillar 4. The reason is that a consultancy planned by Oxfam Novib for an amount of approximately EUR 68,000 had mistakenly been budgeted under the human resources budget line.

The overspending on office costs under Pillar 1 was due to Guatemala (EUR 2.2k) and Uganda (EUR 2.3k). The overspending by Guatemala was funded from the underspend from 2019. In the updated budget for 2020, not all the underspend from 2019 had been included. Oxfam Novib explicitly approved the allocation of the remaining underspend, which led to this overspend on P1 office costs. Oxfam in Uganda indicated that the overspending on office costs was directly related to the COVID-19 pandemic, which led to extra costs on personal protective equipment, internet and utilities.

The overspending on equipment under Pillar 4 was explained by the non-budgeted purchase of a computer plus software by our partner Seeds for All (EUR 2.6k) and the purchase of laptop computers by our Lao partner DOA, which had been planned in year 1 (EUR 1.3k).

In year 2 we provided EUR 42,605 from the flexible policy advocacy funds to allow countries to address additional and unplanned influencing opportunities. In the financial report these additional funds have been added to the P4 activities budget line. Total spending on human resources, not including MEAL, was 92% of the available budget. MEAL is not included in this calculation since MEAL costs are not yet broken down into cost categories. We will do so from year 3 onwards.



RISE UP FARMER FIELD SCHOOL



CROP NAME: SOROGO

OBJECTIVE: MULTIPLICATION