

# SEEDSGROW

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[signed]

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**Cover:** Sowing at the start of the FFS research process, Jatumpampa, Huancavelica, Peru. Photo: Jorge Chavez-Tafur

**Page 29:** At the varietal selection in the soybean fields in Matela, Ganaypdhura, Nepal. Photo: Prashit Sthapit

**Back cover:** Paddy fields in Setigau, Ganaypdhura rural municipality, Nepal. Photo: Prashit Sthapit

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# ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

BtBP	BehindtheBarcodes/Price campaign
CBD	UN Convention on Biological Diversity
CCRP	Collaborative Crop Research Program, McKnight Foundation
CFS	Committee on World Food Security
CIRAD	French Agricultural Research Centre for International Development
CGIAR	Consortium of International Agricultural Research Centers
COP15	Fifteenth meeting of the CBD Conference of the Parties, Kunming
COP26	UN Climate Change Conference, Glasgow
CSOs	Civil society organizations
DFIs	development finance institutions
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FFS	Farmer Field School
FMO	Dutch Entrepreneurial Development Bank
FPIC	Free, prior and informed consent
FSE	Farmer Seed Enterprise
GALS	Gender Action Learning Systems
GMOs	Genetically modified organisms
HRDD	Human rights due diligence
IFC	International Finance Corporation
IFI	International financial institutes
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IPSHF	Indigenous peoples and smallholder farmers
LAPA	Local Action Plans for Adaptation
MEAL	Monitoring, evaluation, accountability and learning
NARS	National Agricultural Research System
NDCs	National Determined Contributions
NGO	Non-governmental organization
NUS	Neglected and Underutilized Species
ODA	Official 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
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
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

# MESSAGE FROM PEPIJN GERRITS

With pleasure we present the 2021 Annual Report of the SeedsGROW program to Sida. 2021 was a remarkable year in many aspects. Oxfam and partners around the globe were able to consolidate their ways of working adapted to the new realities of COVID-19, that in many countries continued to flare up and affect the health and livelihoods of many people. We witnessed the COP 26 and the Food Systems Summit with disappointing outcomes, particularly with regards to the space for civil society to participate and make their voices heard. We also witnessed the deepening of the climate, food and biodiversity crises that are deeply intertwined and aggravated by the lack of transformational changes in consumption and production patterns.

However, against this background we also saw how thousands of smallholder producers, indigenous peoples, young girls and boys, traders, researchers and activists show their resilience and use their ingenuity and courage to adapt, innovate, speak up, test new ways of working and take risks. As Oxfam Novib we feel proud to be part of and able to contribute with SeedsGROW to this community of changemakers.

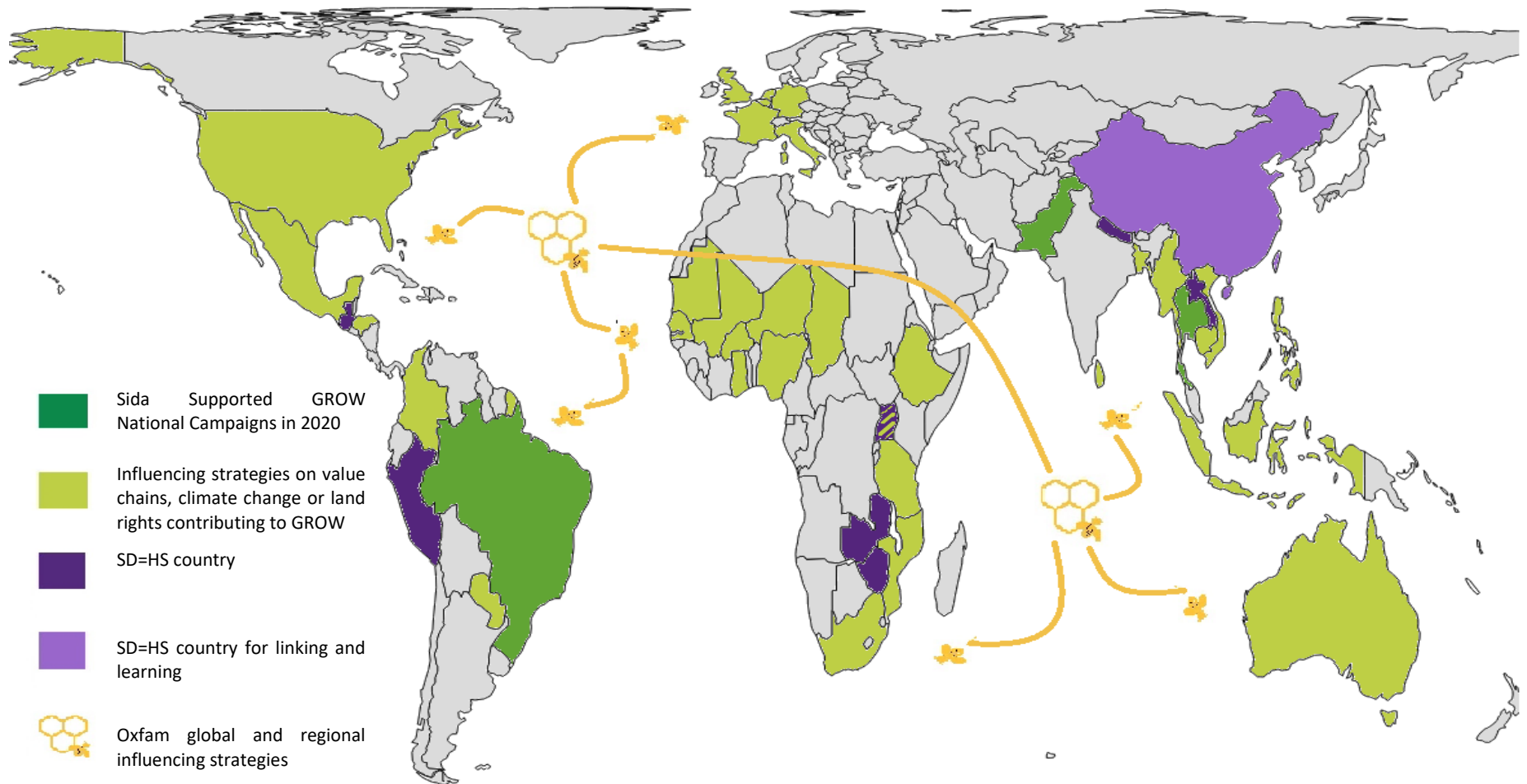
We hope this report will give you a glimpse of these efforts and hope that it will inspire you like it has inspired me.



## **Pepijn Gerrits**

Programs Director, Oxfam Novib  
Chair of the SeedsGROW Program Governance Group

# GLOBAL OUTREACH



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Extreme weather events are now regularly in the news, while the latest IPCC report concluded that the time to prevent Earth's temperature from raising more than 1.5 °C *"is now or never"*. At the same time, the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World report for 2021 estimated that around 800 million people face hunger and malnutrition now. These are the main problems against which Oxfam Novib works. This negative scenario seemed even more challenging in 2021, with new spikes of the COVID-19 pandemic being felt in almost every locality throughout the world. Most countries put up severe measures to prevent infections and at the same time rolled out huge vaccination programs, but the pandemic still claimed millions of deaths and had a very strong impact, especially affecting the world's poor. It also put at risk the possibilities for citizens to publicly meet and exercise their voice and in that sense affected the different activities that were planned as part of the SeedsGROW program.

Nonetheless, the different teams were better prepared than in 2020 and could efficiently leverage on the digital tools and mechanisms available, ensuring a high degree of engagement and participation at all levels. It has thus been possible to show positive results, in spite of the difficulties. With its different activities, SD=HS reached a total of 48,000 households in 2021 and improved their access and management of agrobiodiversity, contributing to more healthy diets and the resilience of their livelihoods. We estimate that in 2021 more than 260,000 households benefitted indirectly (with three-year totals that are close to the targets set for the whole program's duration). Just as rewarding is that more than half of all beneficiaries are women and that the total figure rose slightly during the past 12 months, and that women lead the training processes in the different countries where we work. Up to 60% of all facilitators are women, and in some cases, as in Nepal, they make a total of up to 95%. SD=HS was also able to engage over 60 representatives of research institutions, farmer organizations, donor agencies and other in a debate on how to "bring farmers to the table" in agricultural research, leading to new partnerships in this area.

The same can be said of the GROW campaigns and advocacy efforts. In 2021, almost 20 million people were reached in different ways through the Global Campaign, and 234,000 people signed different petitions. Eleven food companies showed significant progress in terms of policies and commitments that aligned to Oxfam's campaigning and advocacy efforts. The different initiatives put in place by Oxfam both at a national and at a global level, together with its partners, convinced large companies to publish their commitments to support women workers and farmers in their supply chains or to "close the living wage gaps". The World Climate March was a great example of the synergies that can be achieved when connecting local and global efforts. In a year when physical participation in the Glasgow COP was very difficult, more than 17,000 people in over 40 countries signed up and joined and marched in the city where they live. Images and messages from these activities were projected around Glasgow during the COP and were also shared through social media. On land rights, 2021 claimed a big win as the Supreme Court of Peru issued a [landmark ruling](#) granting land titles to the Nuevo Andoas community and compensation for the land losses they had suffered. These wins are crucial for our efforts to address impunity in different countries as well.

In 2021 we also conducted the program's Mid Term Review, looking at the 2019-2021 period. The evaluation team ran individual interviews and focus group discussions with more than 150 participants in the GROW project, confirming the relevance of the three pathways. The report validates the strategic direction and prioritization of the program and of the broader campaign, pointing at the need to continue working to influence the agroindustry, the IFIs and governments on the selected topics of land rights, climate finance, and food systems. Looking at the SD=HS activities, the evaluators discussed with country office representatives, facilitators and FFS participants, collecting 342 stories showing the impact that SD=HS has had on their lives. The report concluded that the participatory plant breeding program has many positive results to show, and that it is clearly responding to the needs and rights of indigenous peoples, smallholder farmers, women and youth. It concludes that the logic of the Theory of Change of SD=HS is *"impeccable"* but also a long term one, requiring the capacity and commitment of all stakeholders to engage in a long-term process. These findings, observations and recommendations are already being used by the teams to guide the program in 2022 and further strengthen it, and to inform the development of a next phase.

# CONTEXTUAL CHANGES

In spite of the efforts put together by national governments and the international community, 2021 was again marked by the COVID-19 pandemic. Countries like Brazil, Laos, Nepal, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe were faced with a second and then a third wave of infections that claimed many lives. Most countries rolled out a comprehensive vaccination program, but there were huge differences in terms of speed and coverage. Some countries were very late to get started, while others found it very difficult to access vaccines, and get to the rural areas and cover the whole population. There were also many differences in terms of the measures put together to reduce the high number of infections, ranging from travel bans to the closure of shops and schools for very long periods. These different restrictions were relatively effective and limited the number of people infected, but meant many countries were under lockdown during a significant part of the year, with for example, schools being closed for two years in Uganda. These restrictions had a very negative impact on the daily lives and the exercise of rights of millions of people, further exacerbating economic, gender, and racial inequalities — as well as the inequality that exists between countries<sup>1</sup>.

## The food and climate crisis

But while COVID-19 grabbed the world's attention, different UN agencies highlighted a *"dramatic worsening of world hunger"* in *"The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World in 2021"*. The last version of this annual report estimates that between 720 and 811 million people in the world are facing hunger right now. Nearly one in three persons in the world (2.37 billion) did not have access to adequate food in 2020 – an increase of almost 320 million people in just one year. Around 118 million more people were facing hunger in 2020 than in 2019, with 46 million more people considered to be undernourished in Africa, 57 million more in Asia, and about 14 million more in Latin America and the Caribbean. It is expected that around 660 million people may still face hunger in 2030, defeating the goal of completely eradicating hunger by then. The global prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity has been slowly on the rise since 2014, but last year's increase was considerably larger. And gender inequality deepened: for every 10 food-insecure men, there were 11 food-insecure women in 2020 (up from 10.6 in 2019). This was also visible in many countries where SeedsGROW is present. For example, Peru was faced with drought, frost and hailstorm and the government declared a state of emergency in the departments of Ayacucho and Huancavelica, where in many cases 100% of the seedbeds and research plots were lost.

Conflict, climate variability and extremes, and economic slowdowns and downturns are the major drivers of this increased hunger, as felt and experienced in every part of the world. While hurricanes and heat waves are more often in the news, many countries are reporting droughts and irregular rain patterns, strongly influencing yields. As mentioned in the 2022 Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), climate change will increasingly pressure agriculture and the production of food, especially in the poorer and most vulnerable regions, undermining food security and nutrition in sub-Saharan Africa, in many Asian countries and in Central and South America.

And the same Assessment Report shows that carbon emissions have never been higher than during the past few years, proving that the world is on a "fast track" to disaster, as described by the Secretary General of the United Nations. The latest IPCC report is *"a litany of broken climate promises"* which revealed a *"yawning gap between climate pledges, and reality."* He wrote that high-emitting governments and corporations have not just been turning a blind eye, *"they are adding fuel to the flames by continuing to invest in climate-choking industries... Scientists warn that we are already perilously close to tipping points that could lead to cascading and irreversible climate effects."*

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<sup>1</sup> [Inequality Kills: The unparalleled action needed to combat unprecedented inequality in the wake of COVID-19](#)

## Human rights under siege

The food and climate crisis go hand in hand with growing inequalities and a denial of most people's basic rights: as part of his message for Human Rights Day (December 10<sup>th</sup> 2021), the same UN Secretary General warned that *"the COVID-19 pandemic, the climate crisis and the expansion of digital technology into all areas of our lives have created new threats to human rights"*. A few weeks before, in October, the United Nations Human Rights Council formally [recognized](#) that a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment is also a human right, reflecting a wider acceptance of the interdependence of human well-being and our environment.

This is an important step, strengthening the position of many human rights organizations and initiatives. Unfortunately, this recognition comes at a time when poverty and hunger are rising for the first time in decades and where, as the UN report states, *"exclusion and discrimination are rampant", "inequality is deepening"* and public space is shrinking. We are witnessing increasing moves to restrict people's freedom of assembly and expression, a reality that is easily recognized in all the countries where SeedsGROW is present.

## The crisis of imagination and the need for a new narrative

International actors are focusing on some well-known solutions to face the current crisis; relying too much on technological solutions and the international market. Over the last years we have also seen how the corporate sector has increased its influence in several of the multilateral spaces regarding food and climate, something that was especially noticeable in 2021. The UN Food Systems Summit for example, was heavily criticized for excluding the voices of smallholder farmers and for paving the way for technological solutions, like biofortification. In a similar fashion, we observe how the reform process started by the CGIAR Consortium of Agricultural Research Centers (or "One CGIAR"), designed to integrate *"capabilities, knowledge, assets, people, and global presence for a new era of interconnected and partnership-driven research"* and to strengthen the links between research and farmers, in fact reduces farmers as mere clients of the scientists' agricultural innovation processes.

Transformational changes in the world's food system are needed to address the climate and food crisis, and the growing environmental, socio-economic and health challenges that the current system generates. Today's dominant agri-food systems – largely driven by an industrial logic of economies of scale, intensification, specialization, and uniformization – are providing neither food security nor adequate nutrition for all.

The sixth IPCC report mentioned above flags the opportunities provided by the interactions among societies, the climate and the world's ecosystems (including their biodiversity) in order to foster a climate-resilient development. According to this report, integrated, multi-sectoral solutions that address social inequities, differentiate responses based on climate risk and cut across systems, increase the feasibility and effectiveness of adaptation in multiple sectors.

An agro-ecological approach and its different principles provide a useful guidance on how such a transformation could look like in different contexts and for different forms of agriculture. Internationally, agro-ecology is increasingly recognized as a promising approach to shape interventions that aim to contribute to more equitable and resilient food systems. It has been adopted by a range of donors and recipient countries and has gained major traction among multilateral and development organizations. However, real investments in agro-ecology, including in research, is lagging behind. This is the challenge we want to take.

# SOWING DIVERSITY = HARVESTING SECURITY

During the past three years, SD=HS has been working to put farmers, men and women, at the heart of the international efforts to strengthen the world's seed systems, making use of the different regions' agrobiodiversity to improve diets and climate resilience. During 2021 SD=HS directly reached a total of 48,000 households in eight countries, with almost 100,000 households reached directly in three years. Estimated at 263,000 households, the total number of indirect beneficiaries in 2021 was far larger, and with almost 600,000 households reached as indirect beneficiaries in three years, SD=HS is close to the targets set for the whole four-year phase. But quantitative figures only do not show the real impact of the program. In the following sections of this report, we tell the stories of these men and women, and the impact that improved seed varieties and improved diets have had. We show the different ways in which diversity is being brought to the market, and the policy changes that are helping those involved in these processes do so.

More than half of all beneficiaries are women, and the total figure rose slightly during the past 12 months (58.6%, compared to 58.2% in 2020), showing the program's ability to stop (even if not yet to reverse) the downward trend seen in 2020. The past two years have shown once again that it is women who face more challenges when times are difficult: the restrictions put in place because of COVID-19 have put new obstacles to their participation, and there is a constant need to tackle these difficulties. It is worth noting, however, that women do not only participate, but in many cases take a leading role in the program, as trainers, group leaders and technical advisors. For example, up to 60% of all facilitators are women, and in some cases, as in Nepal, they make a total of up to 95%.

## Systemic change

SD=HS is increasingly using the lessons drawn in the different program countries to push for changes in the ways in which different institutions work, and to

promote changes in national and global policies. One of the most important examples of these efforts has been Oxfam's feedback on the Crop to End Hunger White Paper on Economically Sustainable Seed Systems, that was picked up by a number of entities in the CGIAR showing that these plans fail to consider the role of farmers in the development of local seed systems. At the same time, the Global Crop workshops that were organized in 2021 brought together a diverse range of actors interested in finding a solution for the current climate and food crises.



*Farmers in Chirundu, Zambia. Photo by Diana Mapulanga, Community Technology Development Trust (CTDT).*

Participants presented several novel initiatives for forging new partnerships and coalitions between farmers, researchers and NGOs. But they also emphasized the need to strengthen the capacities of farmers, researchers and their organizations to jointly plan, implement and monitor collaborative breeding programs. International bodies like FAO and the European Commission, and also units like the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV), recognize the unique role that SD=HS is playing as a network of knowledgeable civil society organizations, and also use our work to push for policies that involve farmers and nurture agrobiodiversity.

Agrobiodiversity is key for food and nutrition security, as well as building resilience to climate change. The strong involvement of smallholder farmers and indigenous communities helps us to develop a more integrated approach to agrobiodiversity management. In 2021, and following our work on plant breeding and on local food plants, we started organizing Farmer Field Schools on seed production and marketing, responding to the need for locally adapted seeds and varieties amongst smallholder farmers not directly participating in the program, and at the same time offering income opportunities for smallholder farmers – particularly women and youth. To support this broader effort, our policy work is more and more geared towards the development of an enabling environment. SD=HS has started working together with CIRAD and the Collaborative Crop Research Program (CCRP) of the McKnight Foundation, to bring in other tools, knowledge and networks to help farmer-researcher networks to find better and scalable solutions based on local diversity. Our ambition is to start a joint pilot in this field in 2022.

***“... There are many initiatives out there, we must now work to bring their knowledge together to create a movement. There is not just one system or just one approach, and that diversity is a richness.”***

**Michel Evéquoz, senior advisor at SDC,  
during the third global workshop**

### **A lot to be proud of**

One of the year's main activities was the completion of the program's Mid-Term Review. The external evaluators' report concluded that despite the challenges posed by the pandemic, SD=HS has many positive results to show, and that it is clearly responding to the needs and rights of indigenous peoples, smallholder farmers, women and youth. *“SD=HS is also contributing to global efforts to rebalance power relations by bringing the interests of smallholder farmers to the international arena”*. Many team representatives and FFS participants played an active role during the evaluation process, sharing 342 stories about the impact of SD=HS on their lives.

One of the key conclusions was that the logic of the Theory of Change of SD=HS is “impeccable” but at the same time a long term one, requiring the commitment and capacity of all stakeholders to engage in a long term process. The MTR also provided a set of recommendations on how to strengthen the program in the future, focusing on our gender and youth approach, on the need to strengthen our policy influencing component and also on our knowledge management / learning strategy and the need to *“maximise the demonstrative value”*. The way we will take this forward was detailed in our [management response](#). They are now the main input used in the discussions we are having with partners, farmers, facilitators and the Oxfam offices, outlining our vision for the future of SD=HS.

## 2021: OUR RESULTS



More than 48,000 households reached directly in 2021



A total of 739 Farmer Field Schools on PPB (284 in 2021)



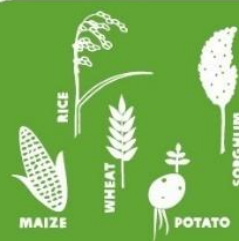
37 new master trainers and 192 new facilitators trained in 2021



58.6% of all participants in the program were women



164 varieties available for evaluation and testing



32 varieties with traits to cope with climate change adopted, improved or developed in 2021



17,600 households had access to high quality seed



504 TM of seed sold in 2021, of 72 varieties



10 national and 1 international policy changes seen in 2021

## OUTCOME 1: FARMERS CROP DIVERSITY MANAGEMENT

After three years of working with rural communities on participatory plant breeding (PPB), we can confidently say that this initiative has strengthened their capacity to adapt to climate change. We also note a growing interest in different institutions to take up and advance the PPB approach, albeit with stark differences between the program countries. In 2021, the PPB efforts began to pay off, with Farmer Field Schools adopting, adapting, improving, or developing 32 crop varieties, bringing the total to 49 since the work began in 2019. Virtually all these varieties were selected for traits that help farmers cope with uncertainty: reducing the effect of floods, drought, unpredictable (shorter) growing seasons, or novel pests and diseases. They include varieties of staple and commercial crops such as rice, maize, wheat (in Laos or Nepal), beans, potatoes, quinoa (in Guatemala and Peru), and sorghum, pearl millet or groundnuts in Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

In many cases the breeding efforts have also responded to the local market demands, as in Laos, where a Participatory Variety Selection (PVS) initiative with vegetables (lettuce, cucumbers, chili) during the dry season complemented work on rice during the rainy season. In Nepal, one in seven FFSs started a Participatory Variety Enhancement (PVE) process on valued local varieties, both to improve their use for home consumption and to increase their appeal in the market. In Zambia, the sorghum segregating population (the diverse plant population resulting from a cross between two parent varieties) that was created by a Farmer Field School with the national research institute has been shared with three other FFSs in the same district, who will continue with the selection efforts on the basis of their own breeding objectives. Inspired by this work after a couple of exchange visits, two FFSs in the Rufunsa district also started a Participatory Variety Development (PVD) process with an early generation maize population.



*Counting the number of rice grains and measuring the panicle size of the local Joraya Basmati variety in Doti district, Sudurpaschim province in western Nepal. Photo by Prashit Sthapit.*

### More Farmer Field Schools

Despite the ongoing difficulties resulting from the COVID-19 restrictions, 284 new groups joined the FFS network in 2021, just shy of the original program target. To help increase the number of facilitators, especially farmer facilitators who are resident in the FFS different communities, Training of Trainers sessions are now held simultaneously in various districts in the same country (e.g. in Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe). In these “clustered ToTs”, master trainers and experienced facilitators train the newcomers, and often support them in their efforts to guide the new FFSs throughout the season.

A recurrent activity has been the end-of-season evaluations. In a two-day workshop, facilitators from around the country join master trainers and project staff to look at the season’s results and the challenges they all faced. The exercise helps draw out important lessons for project implementation, for now and in the future, and ongoing trends

in farming communities. In Zambia, for example, the process showed that the tools used to monitor the standing crop need to be simplified so as to increase the level of participation of illiterate farmers. The teams in Peru showed that men and women are equally interested in stronger market linkages. But while 73% of the members of all FFSs indicate that they are satisfied with their work and results, we are concerned about the quality of the FFSs in some of the countries that joined SD=HS in the current phase: the lack of real-life interaction between partner organizations and the global team in The Hague is reflected in occasional methodological errors and confusion. We look to address this in 2022.

The team also expanded its series of training materials, preparing the “FFS starters’ kit”. It also completed an “Advanced FFS Field Guide”, designed to strengthen the linkages between our work on Participatory Plant Breeding and the Farmer Field Schools focusing on local food plants and nutrition and on the production and commercialization of seeds. An overview of field guides and modules for our work on crops, local food plants and seed production and marketing can be found on the SD=HS website: <https://sdhsprogram.org/knowledge-base/>

***“We are improving our local landrace Jorayal Basmati. It is very popular and many farmers grow it. Even though it produces less than modern varieties, we earn more with it. It is aromatic, tasty, very nutritious and it digests slowly. And it can tolerate frost and heat. We have collected seeds from 40 households and have been selecting plants with full panicles and plump grains to increase the yield, and shorter stems to decrease lodging.”***

**Lakshmi Bohora, farmer, Doti district, Nepal**

## **Institutionalization**

This year’s main effort, both at a national and at an international level, went into building different institutional arrangements to sustain the ongoing PPB efforts. Funds that remained unspent because of the pandemic were used for this, with each partner organization proposing measures and steps that would have most impact in the specific context of their country. In Nepal, visits to various Farmer Field Schools convinced the Ministry of Agriculture of the province of Sudurpaschim to adopt the approach, and they have asked LI-BIRD to design the training curriculum with them. Similarly, in Zimbabwe, the agricultural colleges educating (future) extension officers have incorporated the FFS on PPB approach in their curriculum. In Uganda, cooperation agreements were signed with the National Semi-Arid Resources Research Institute (NaSARRI) and the Abi Zonal Agricultural Research and Development Institute (AbiZARDI). In Zambia, the continued engagement of ZARI breeders with the SD=HS program has raised such interest that ZARI is now leading a proposal development to begin mainstreaming PPB at a national level. In Guatemala, 5 of the new FFSs that started this year are managed by the national breeding institute ICTA, and another 5 by staff working with the Ministry of Agriculture extension services, in close cooperation with our partner organization ASOCUCH. These are all very significant changes, but often in different forms and shapes. SD=HS will reflect how it can better demonstrate and systematize the results in this field.

Finally, against the backdrop of the change process going on at the CGIAR and its increasingly strong private sector-orientation, we mounted a broad international effort to seek common ground for participatory, farmer-centered approaches for plant breeding and seed system development. In three global workshops, farmers, breeders, researchers and representatives of donor organizations and NGOs identified priorities and possibilities for action for breeding and for producing and marketing seeds, while at the same time seeking to connect such work to gene bank collections, university curricula, and policy dialogues.

The enthusiasm shown by all participants was overwhelming, as was the call to continue facilitating similar exchanges in the future. For now, the most tangible outcome of the workshops is a joining of hands, in the form of a joint program development initiative that groups SD=HS, the French agricultural research and cooperation organization CIRAD and the Collaborative Crop Research Program of the McKnight Foundation. In a similar way,

another initiative is emerging between SD=HS, Wageningen University and the Norwegian University of Life Sciences to organize a “virtual seed academy” to train a new generation of scientists and farmer leaders.

## Main achievements

Outcome	Planned	Achieved
<b>Resilient indigenous and farming communities reached</b>	24,000 households	17,500 households were reached in 2021. In three years, 51,000 households have a better access to and improved management of seeds.
Output	Planned	Achieved
<b>Expansion of the network of FFS</b>	549 new and ongoing FFS. A total of 418 facilitators graduated from TOTs	739 FFS have been established by now, of which 248 in 2021. These were led by 667 facilitators (60% female) and 157 master trainers (39% female). In 2021, 192 new facilitators and 37 new master trainers were trained.
<b>Institutional support</b>	42 partnerships  Over 250 climate-resilient segregating populations and stable lines distributed to FFS	46 partnerships with breeding institutions, genebanks, research centres and extension services contribute to farmers’ access to crop diversity and plant breeding skills. They made available a total of 805 varieties, stable breeding lines and segregating populations for evaluation and testing, of which 164 were new in 2021.
<b>Capacity to adapt to climate change</b>	Varieties developed with specific traits	49 varieties have been adopted, improved and developed by FFS, of which 32 in 2021. These include local varieties that were improved through selection, varieties from outside the communities, and varieties jointly developed by breeders and communities. Between 40 – 50% of breeding objectives prioritized by FFS are related to climate change (with large variations between countries)

## Key lessons

- Young professionals can play a very active and successful role as FFS facilitators, as the experience develops their own skills as leaders. But many are permanently searching for better (job) opportunities and end up migrating to urban centres as a result. It is crucial to provide longer term perspectives, and to craft those perspectives collaboratively, with those who want to continue working in the rural areas.
- Institutionalizing the PPB approach requires working together with many different stakeholders. In our previous work we have often relied on coaxing institutions by involving them in the work bit by bit, as the work progressed. Last year’s experiences show that a dedicated (joint) planning process in which roles, responsibilities and expectations are laid out more clearly, and for which dedicated budget is available, is much quicker and more effective.
- Having the information generated within individual farmer field schools available in a global, interactive database is an invaluable tool to understand trends, inform (advocacy) interventions with national and international breeding institutes, and draw lessons. A simple example is the breeding objective “increase yield”, selected by many FFSs in different countries. But unless “yield” is broken down into more specific, measurable traits – panicle or grain size, number of cobs or grain rows on a cob, number of tillers, etc. – it is largely useless for directing selection efforts in the field.

## LOCAL SPECIES, LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

**Local food plants can help reduce and even end food-scarcity periods, adding nutritional value to the local diets throughout the year. This is one of the most important lessons drawn and shared by Mrs Margaret Masudio, a farmer from the Pakele sub-county, in the Adjumani district, Uganda.**

Farmers in Pakele can easily see the effects of climate change, with unreliable rainfall patterns and extended dry periods. Combining her understanding of local food plants and her experience as a facilitator in the Farmer Field School that started a couple of years ago, she wondered if farmers could not find ways to reduce these negative effects. Working with her neighbours, she collected the seeds of local plants and created what looked like an oasis. She became especially interested in the “spider plant”, a wild species that grows abundantly during the rainy season. She learned to domesticate it and brought the seeds home, and now grows it during the dry season as well. The dry season is not only when many people go hungry, but also when they have lower immunity levels. The “spider plant” and other species are also used by community members to treat certain aches. Reviving their use is only logical.



Mrs Masudio. Photo: Oxfam Uganda.

Many of these plants were known and used by the older generations, but in many places they have often been ignored or forgotten. As different farmers acknowledge, this may be because these plants have a bitter taste and must be cooked in certain ways. *“When cooking, it needs enough paste, like peanut paste...that is what our grandmothers used to say...”* The knowledge needed to plant, use and prepare these resources is very precious. It is often elderly people and women who hold it and who know the recipes needed to make children eat those bitter plants. They need to make sure that this is shared with others.

Margaret is proud to show her approach for storing and saving seeds, and for working with the local

Community Seed Bank. If farmers are very interested in one species, for example as a result of one of the experiments running in the FFS, the group must ensure that enough seeds are available for everyone. Pointing to an amaranth plant in her garden, Margaret mentioned that she bought a few seeds from some input dealers, but she now grows it herself and has more and more seeds to share.

Some say that she could make a profit with what she knows, but she has chosen to share seeds and ideas for free. Margaret sees herself as a leader who works to empower other women. *“I have already trained 20 women within our community. One woman was so excited, she told me, Margaret, this thing is what I have been longing for!”*

## OUTCOME 2: FARMER SEED ENTERPRISES

Having started with a few pilot steps, in 2021 SD=HS broadened its efforts to ensure that farmers enhance their livelihoods, income and seed security with the production and marketing of high quality seeds. Now close to 35,000 households have access to good quality seeds of diverse crops and varieties. These beneficiaries are smallholder farmers and their families, all of whom find it generally difficult to obtain seeds that respond to their preferences and needs. Seeds of up to 86 different crops and varieties have been sold locally, a total close to the target set in 2019 for the 4-year period. More than 2,000 farmers have worked to produce and market these seeds (a total of 3,600 since 2019), with larger volumes being sold and higher revenues.

In Uganda, farmers were able to sell groundnut, beans and sorghum seeds at a seed fair, earning more than US\$ 3,000. In Nepal, the groups with whom the project works marketed 75 MT of rice, wheat, maize and vegetable seeds coming from 371 farmers. And in spite of the losses caused by heavy rains, the different groups generated the equivalent of € 84,000 as revenues. Incomes were even bigger in Guatemala, where farmers sold more than 170 MT of beans and potatoes seeds, valued at more than US\$ 100,000. And in Zimbabwe, 400 TM of seeds were sold, mostly to small-scale businesses and civil society organizations – valued at slightly more than US\$ 275,000. This all makes a total of more than 1,000 TM of seed produced and distributed.

This has been a collective effort, involving other organizations as well. In Nepal, for example, the project collaborated with the Prime Minister Agriculture Modernization project in Dadeldhura for the establishment of a seed resource centre. In Zambia, an MOU was signed with ZARI, giving CTDT non-exclusive rights to use ZARI materials during 5 years.

### Farmer Seed Enterprises

The above results are due to SD=HS' support to the cooperatives and the other entities that produce and market high quality seed of various crops and varieties, largely following the steps taken earlier in Nepal and Guatemala. In these countries, in the same way as in Peru or in Zimbabwe, the focus has been on enhancing participants' production and marketing skills. The team in Nepal, for example, collaborated with the Seed Quality and Control Center (SQCC) and



*Evaluating the session at the Farmer Field School in Pumaranca, Huancavelica, Peru. Photo by Jorge Chavez-Tafur.*

organized a 3-day training session on production and marketing, focusing on the certification process which is legally required to acquire a seed business license. The team in Peru ran a training course for leaders and partners of four producer associations, analyzing their administrative, business and commercial processes. It also completed a market study, identifying the gaps between the demand and the supply of native potato seeds.

These activities were limited by the COVID-19 restrictions in place in most countries: it was not always possible to travel to the different areas, and group meetings were forbidden. This was also the reason why it was not possible to organize a global learning event, as was originally planned for 2021, aiming to bring partners and country representatives together and jointly look at results and lessons learned.

## **TOTs and farmer Field Schools**

One of the 2021 activities that involved different teams was the organization of Farmer field Schools on Seed Production and Marketing. A Farmer Field School Guide on Farmer Seed Production and Marketing was developed, drawing on the lessons of our work on plant breeding and organizations working on seed markets. Based on this the team ran an online course to prepare potential master trainers and ensure that they are able to train facilitators and help them lead the FFSs on Seed Production and Marketing.

In 2021 plans for more than 50 new FFSs on Seed Production and Marketing were made, and all of them started working to develop markets for local seeds. In Uganda, 15 FFSs focused on crops such as beans, sorghum, groundnuts and monkey peas (locally known as boo). The skills gained helped participants start their own seed business, setting up seed production gardens and open new markets. Special attention was given to the national regulations related to seed production and marketing in the 4 FFSs that started in Peru and in the 5 groups that

started working together in Nepal. Groups in Zambia were provided with 1200 kg of groundnut foundation seed and 200 kg of beans seed from two different research stations, and 80 Kg of maize seeds procured locally. This became an area of 19 hectares for producing seeds, involving the fields of 80 farmers. The groups in Peru prepared themselves to receive 2000 *in vitro* seedlings from the national research institute, completing the installation of in 2 greenhouses. Their plan is to produce 400 kg of pre-basic seeds, and 4 TM of high quality seeds.

***“... Farmers often look up to LI-BIRD for advancing their breeding work, and we rely on external funding to provide support. But this work is much too important to be dependent on the whims of donors. We need to figure out a way to institutionalize farmer-led breeding in such a way that it becomes self-sustaining. Creating strong linkages with community seed banks and local markets is one way, but we will need be innovative and look further ...”***

**Santosh Shrestha, senior program manager,  
LI-BIRD, Nepal**

## Key achievements

Outcome	Planned	Achieved
<b>Indigenous peoples and smallholder farmers with increased market access to high-quality seeds</b>	16,580 households have access to high quality seeds	17,600 households were reached and had access to quality seeds in 2021, with a cumulative total of 33,391 households as direct beneficiaries in the three-year period
Output	Planned	Achieved
<b>Piloting and strengthening FSE models</b>	Implementation of 5 FSE models 10 pilot FFS on seed production and marketing	19 FSEs were supported in 2021, and the training process took place in 51 Farmer Field Schools
<b>Strengthened capacities of farmers to produce quality seeds</b>	At least 2,160 farmers trained in 2021	2,483 farmers were trained during the year, reaching a cumulative total of 5,281
<b>Volume (tonnage) of seeds produced and distributed (including farmer varieties)</b>	733 TM produced and marketed by FSEs	504 TM of seed sold in 2021 (72 varieties, including farmer varieties). The total for 3 years is 1,100 TM

## Lessons learned

- The contexts in which all FSEs operate are complex and very heterogeneous, making it difficult to identify a set of steps to support them, or to contribute to their development, that can be followed in all cases. A key element of the program has to be to continue drawing lessons and recommendations from the analysis of the different models and contexts, and to share them among the different teams.
- The Farmer Field School approach has proven to be effective, helping farmers develop production and marketing skills. Most of the groups involved have also been part of a participatory plant breeding process. Stronger linkages between the plant breeding and seed production and marketing efforts need to be sought, and to continue being developed.
- The number of male master trainers and facilitators has exceeded that of women in almost all countries, but more female farmers have joined the training sessions. This shows that women are equally interested in marketing and commercialization issues, and that additional efforts are needed so that they all play a major role in the decision-making processes within every household and within the cooperatives, farmer groups or small-scale enterprises.

## A NEW GENERATION OF LEADERS

**Marcela Victoria Jerónimo is only 18 years-old, but already an active member of the Chicoy FFS, in Todos Santos Cuchumatán, Guatemala. Far away in Huancavelica, Peru, Julia Terbullino Pérez, joined the FFS that started in Conopa, and is also part of a local organization called "Mujeres Emprendedoras", or Enterprising Women. Both feel that they have learnt a lot during the different FFS sessions, and strongly believe that their participation has also benefitted others.**

Marcela Victoria likes it that young people like her can join the Farmer Field School and learn production and management techniques from those behind the Sowing Diversity=Harvesting Security project – and also from the older people in her community. She also likes it that this FFS works mostly with potatoes, as her family and all other villagers depend on this crop. She is interested in the development of new varieties and in the best ways to sell what they produce in the local markets.

Having been part of the FFS for several months, she is proud to say that she has taught a few things to her father, who originally considered that the FFS was a waste of time. *“He is now following the fertilization practices we learned, and he is happy to see that the yields have been higher this year”*. Logically, her father is now eager to join some of the FFS meetings. He has also given her a piece of his land to sow the new seeds that the group provided. But Marcela Victoria is also interested in convincing other young boys and girls to join. She has noticed that many young people prefer not to work in the field, waiting for the opportunity to migrate to the United States. *“An FFS provides a leadership space which is particularly useful for young women: we learn how to make our own decisions and start new projects that can positively change our lives.”*

In the same way as Marcela Victoria, Julia also feels that she has a lot to share. She has worked on a research project that looks at different quinoa varieties, and at the necessary production steps. She thinks that planting quinoa can be a very good decision, as it has a relatively high price in the market, and some varieties respond well to different weather patterns. This can be a very good trait when thinking of climate change and food security.

She highlights the importance of working together with the national research institute for the



*Marcela Victoria Jerónimo in Todos Santos Cuchumatán, Guatemala. Photo: ASOCUCH.*

certification of quality seeds, and she is grateful for the training courses she has joined. But she likes to show that the seed they are producing and working to certify “is our own seed”, that it is well adapted to the local environment, and that the germination rates are very high – and yields are expected to be high too. She has learnt that it is possible to find solutions to the problems they all face in the field when all villagers work together and when young people take the lead, and is eager to convince others to join too.

## OUTCOME 3: NUTRITION AND LOCAL FOOD PLANTS

The impact of SD=HS' work on local food plants almost doubled in 2021, with more than 4,500 households directly benefiting from more diverse and healthy diets. The number of Farmer Field Schools focusing on local food plants for nutrition rose by 171 in 2021 to a total of 308 – with women constituting almost 68% of the total of participants. These FFSs have focused on the bottlenecks undermining the consumption of local food plants, looking at the best ways to use wild plants or to establish home gardens, and also included cooking demonstrations.

As in 2020, the process had a strong research component, with participants looking at a particular subject in detail and trying out different options to ensure better results. The different FFSs ran small-scale experiments that focused, for example, on the steps needed to ensure high germination levels or on the most adequate food storage techniques. This also included the use of tools: in Zimbabwe women learned how to use low-cost solar dryers to process fruits and vegetables (considering that solar dryers reduce drudgery and ensure high hygienic standards).

The support provided to the different FFSs in 2021 had to be adapted to the context, like in Laos, where all activities had to take place online, as no meetings were allowed as a result of the pandemic restrictions. In Africa, “clustered trainings” proved to be an effective and efficient format as they were conducted within the communities, requiring no additional funds for accommodation and transport. Either online or *in situ*, they followed the demands or needs of the trainers and facilitators themselves. In total, the program has now trained 386 facilitators and 96 master trainers.



*From the field to the Community Seed Banks in Zambia.  
Photo by Diana Mapulanga, Community Technology Development Trust  
CTDT.*

### Availability, consumption and commercialization

One of the main factors working against the consumption of local food plants is the availability of quality seed. Community Seed Banks can play a very important role, so these have received continuous attention. In Zambia, the team collected and banked 1,970 germplasm samples, including 27 different species of local food plants. In Uganda, we established and stocked four new seedbanks with the seeds of local species and of other staple crops. In Nepal, more than 20,000 seedlings of indigenous vegetable crops, as well as 14,400 citrus saplings from a nursery established by members of an FFS were distributed to members of the CSBs. In all cases, the idea has been to bring certain plants back to the community, supporting the production efforts and their consumption.

Other mechanisms were also tested for the same purpose. In Peru, for example, a group of 16 farmers coming from 5 different FFSs formed a “seed exchange network”, and they shared the seeds of local crops while discussing different recipes. In other cases, in contrast, more attention was given to the availability of wild plants and to the best way to collect them and use them. The team in Nepal organised an agrobiodiversity fair, promoting the conservation of local food plants and their consumption. The team in Laos helped establish a pilot site for growing some of these plants and in this way ensuring their availability. At the end of 2021, these sites had more than 250 plants of 12 different species.

Local food plants play a critical role during the food-scarcity period. According to a recent survey, this lasted for up to two months in 2021 in Uganda, but more than 1,300 households saw an improvement in the intake of nutritious foods during these months. In Zimbabwe, the promotion and consumption of 47 local food plants meant that 16% of the households found that this period was shorter (reducing from 5 to 3 months). Similar results were seen in Zambia, where more than 4,500 households saw an improvement in their diets.

A total of 32 family gardens were established in Laos and up to 100 in Guatemala, benefitting the same number of families in 13 communities. In Peru, similar efforts led to 239 “bio-gardens” in 15 communities, harvesting lettuces, spinach, beetroots, onions and turnips, and significantly diversifying the local diets. These gardens were also seen as the perfect place for planting wild species and plants otherwise rarely grown, and in this way encourage their consumption. The home gardens in Peru grew *yuyo*, watercress, *oca* and black quinoa, while those in Uganda

have included *Cleome gynandra*, amaranth and hibiscus. And while this initiative has increased the availability and consumption of local food plants throughout the year, it has also supported the commercialization of different products. For example, a total of 1,850 kgs of vegetables and fruits were solar-dried and preserved for use during the dry months in Nepal. Solar-operated dryers helped the Namuna cooperative to dry the leaves of a local food plant known as stinging nettle, improving the texture and maintaining the green colour of the resulting powder. The demand for stinging nettle is growing in the urban areas, so the cooperative was able to sell 98 kgs of powder. Similar results were seen in the Rufunsa district in Zambia, where women sold part of the plants they had processed and packaged.

***“We are very happy to see this pilot project working and that all these wild plants are growing so close to our homes – and that we can pick them up when we need them, particularly during the dry season”***

**Head of the village of Samakhixay, Laos**

## **Learning and knowledge sharing**

Team members also joined different events, sharing lessons and recommendations. In June 2021 we participated in the Global FFS Platform partners' meeting co-organized with FAO, joining representatives of more than 12 organizations and 125 participants. In December our partners participated in another webinar titled “Promoting nutrition-sensitive agriculture through Farmer Field Schools (FFS)”, sharing the results of our work in the three African countries where SD=HS is present and comparing them to the results seen by FAO and Development in Gardening (DIG) in Senegal and Burundi.

Information was also shared in other ways, reaching regional and national audiences. In Zimbabwe, for example, the team was invited to discuss the role of local food plants in improving household nutrition in a radio program that reaches out to approximately 1.2 million listeners. In Uganda, we co-organized the annual national indigenous food and seed fair in October, an event that was shown on the country's main television stations. In Zambia, the team

chaired the National Seed and Food festival which was held in Lusaka and attended by more than 300 persons (and the CTD T exhibition stand was awarded the best food diversity display prize), while in Peru, four “gastronomic festivals” were organized together with other institutions, encouraging participants to present their NUS-based recipes. Prizes were awarded by a jury of health professionals and renown chefs.

## Main Achievements

Outcome	Planned	Achieved
<b>Strengthened coping strategies of communities through the use of local food plants</b>	3, 500 households benefitting through their participation in FFS	4,537 households benefit from more diverse and healthy diets
Output	Planned	Achieved
<b>Expansion of the network of FFS</b>	Over 250 FFs on nutrition and local food plants, reaching 6,200 participants	A total of 171 FFS were established in 2021, increasing the cumulative total to 308 FFS. There were 6,584 participants in 2021, and a total of 19,541 participants in three years
<b>Completion of curriculum, guidelines and studies</b>	FFS curriculum is complete and implemented in the FFS, and two Illustrated field guide modules finalized	The FFS curriculum on nutrition and local food plants is followed in all FFS, with 5 different modules being produced (diagnostics, FFS evaluation, managing local food plants, improving nutrition, and “special topics”)
<b>The role of local food plants in improving nutrition highlighted to various stakeholders</b>	Over 50 local, national or international events, where knowledge is recognized and shared, organized and/or participated in.	27 seed exchange networks took place in 2021, bringing the cumulative total to 56 in 3 years  A total of 1.933 persons joined both learning events, with a cumulative total of 10,746 participants. 137 local food plants were promoted in 2021

## Lessons learned

- Increased participation of young women is achieved when the discussions in the different FFSs address the key challenges that women face, such as malnutrition in children under the age of five years. However, concerted effort is required to attract men.
- Additional efforts are needed to train more master trainers and local facilitators and support the exponentially increasing number of FFSs. Online trainings can be a very good alternative for mostly master trainers when it is not possible to conduct face-to-face training sessions, but it is necessary to invest additional time and resources for the organization of “follow up” or “refresher” sessions. Facilitators are supported mostly via mobile phone and apps like WhatsApp to share results and raise questions and in turn receive technical support when field visits are not possible.

## FARMERS' INITIATIVES

**Mrs Ganga Devi Malla is 65 years old and owns 6 *ropani* of land (about 500 m<sup>2</sup>) in Doti, a district in the province of Sudurpashchim in western Nepal, where she grows maize, wheat, potatoes, and other seasonal vegetables. She serves as chairperson of a farmers' group that aims to sell maize and potatoes, but the market prices are very low, so the harvest is mostly meant for home consumption. She is also member of the Jaibikbihidhata Farmer's Seed Enterprise, and is now convincing her neighbours to produce and market seeds, and see higher incomes.**

After hearing the positive stories shared by other FSE members, Mrs Malla went back to her farmer's group and tried to encourage them to start producing maize seeds. This was not easy: even her in-laws were against it as they trusted the local varieties they had been growing for so long. Only a few female members of the community supported her – even when the FSE staff held awareness raising sessions, offered foundation seed and inputs, and also guaranteed a market and a fixed price.

Eventually, all farmers agreed to produce improved maize seed, and during the entire sowing season she went to every field, sharing ideas with every farmer. In the beginning everything was going well, but later on most fields saw a severe attack of fall armyworms. The whole community blamed her, believing that the improved varieties had brought the pest. The FSE organized an integrated pest management training course and bought a pesticide sprayer tank. The pest was successfully controlled, but the damage was done, and up to 75% of the harvest was lost.

Mrs Malla was only able to produce 50 kg of maize seed – a much lower quantity than expected. But she did not lose faith, and still believes that the production of seeds can be a very good way of securing a higher income. She feels that she learnt a lot and that she can now use those lessons. She also heard about the Farmer Field Schools approach from another FSE member, and wondered if they could start one. *"I thought this could be really useful, as I planned to continue trying to convince other neighbors to produce maize seed."*

The group is now equally interested in starting their own FFS on seed production and marketing, and has



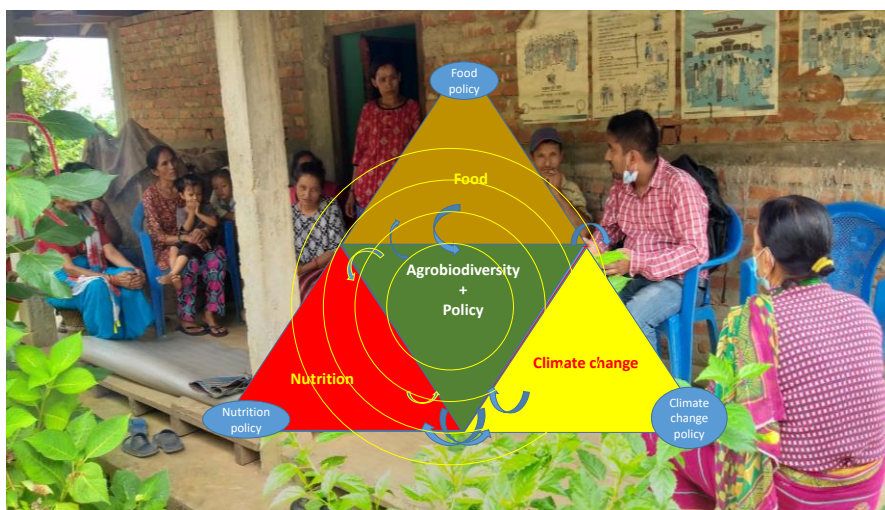
*Mrs Devi Malla. Photo: Oxfam Nepal.*

started planning the different sessions with the master trainer and the facilitators who were in charge of the sessions on plant breeding. The FFS facilitator was part of the training-of-trainers sessions that SD=HS ran a few months ago, so he is eager to help.

And Mrs Malla is convinced that this will work out, as the process will be a joint effort, and it will follow the steps that have proved to be successful elsewhere. She is now growing potatoes and it is going well. But she will soon be producing maize seeds with the whole group, and it will go even better.

## OUTCOME 4: AN ENABLING POLICY ENVIRONMENT

Largely as a result of the travel restrictions issued by national governments throughout the world, in 2021 most policy engagement processes continued to take place in a digital manner, and program partners had to improvise to get their seat at the (digital) negotiation tables of the (inter)national policy processes. Despite these difficulties, the SD=HS program and its partners contributed to 11 local, national and international policy changes in 2021, all of which support a more enabling policy environment for Farmer Rights, farmer seeds systems and agrobiodiversity conservation. SD=HS has been recognized by institutions like the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, the European Commission or FAO for the unique role it plays in bringing farmers to the table in national and global discussions about agrobiodiversity, agricultural research and seed legislation. Their voices and opinions enriched the international discussions on plant patents, those at the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants or those organized as part of the One CGIAR reform process.



### International events

At a global level, the program pushed hard to show the crucial role that indigenous people and small holders play in maintaining agrobiodiversity to international policymakers, and to show how

they build resilience against climate change. During the long-awaited UN Food Systems Summit (FSS), SD=HS partner CTDT in Zimbabwe organized an official side event together with the government of Norway ([“Actions to Support Farmers’ Perspectives from Seeds to Food”](#)), proposing a game-changing idea to put farmers’ and indigenous peoples’ access to crop diversity first in (inter)national policies for seed and food security. Parallel to the pre-summit sessions, the People’s Counter Mobilization to Transform Corporate Food Systems was organized by independent civil society groups, to counteract the highly contested corporate-driven agenda and the lack of transparency and meaningful participation mechanisms of the UN FSS. The Zambia Alliance for Agroecology & Biodiversity (ZAAB) co-organized the session called [“Seed is Power: Reclaiming African Food Sovereignty”](#) with the active participation of the SD=HS teams and partner organizations in Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The critical role that smallholder farmers play in maintaining and nurturing agrobiodiversity was also the main issue discussed during a two-day [“High Level Policy Forum and Dialogue - Collaboration and Cooperation: The Role of Communities, Science and NGOs in Biodiversity Conservation and Utilization”](#), co-organized as part of the CBD COP15 in Kunming, China, by SD=HS partner Farmer’s Seed Network. This event allowed smallholders and indigenous people to be involved in the international negotiations for the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. A similar message was critically exposed in [Oxfam Novib’s comments](#) on the “Crops to End Hunger” White Paper which intends to guide the future CGIAR investments in seed delivery, but which does not consider the role that farmers play or can play in the development of seed systems and in crop innovation.

*Community consultations for policy brief on interlinkages between food, agrobiodiversity, nutrition and climate change in Nepal.  
Photo: LI-BIRD.*

## National-level initiatives

In the same way as at the global level, the steps taken at a national level signal the urgent need to focus on the sustainability of the investments made in the seed and food systems. This means going beyond the commercial feasibility of these investments and considering the value that nutritious food, the local culture, agrobiodiversity and climate resilience have. In Nepal, the program has worked to address this fundamental issue by establishing a multi-stakeholder platform for agrobiodiversity that aims to strengthen the linkages in place between the sectoral policies on agrobiodiversity, nutrition and climate change (see picture). As a basis for these efforts, LI-BIRD performed a review of 22 national policies and collected evidence from a series of case studies, surveys, interviews and consultation workshops. The results have been captured in a video, report and policy brief.

In Zambia the program carried out awareness-raising activities amongst smallholder farmers, policy makers and the population in general with the broadcast of an interactive 13-part radio series that addressed the importance of Farmer Rights, agro-ecological production practices, farmer-managed seed systems, climate adaptation and environmental sustainability. The popular radio shows called on the government to recognize farmers' seeds through laws and specific policies, and also with the implementation of broader strategies that will preserve Zambia's seed and crop diversity. It also called for the recognition of agro-ecology as a resilience building strategy against climate change, and for the conservation of the country's natural biodiversity. Listeners were especially interested in the description of different agro-ecological practices and in hearing how to transition from conventional farming. In its advocacy to transform the food production systems into more sustainable (organic/agroecological) systems, ZAAB developed a plan together with other CSOs and submitted it to the Parliamentary Committee on Agriculture, describing how to transform the country's main farmer support program, as one which heavily relies on chemical fertilizers and other external inputs.

In Peru, and as part of a wide coalition of organizations, the SD=HS program partners established and presented a "Seed Massification Plan" that is meant to serve as a policy tool to propose modifications to the Peruvian seed laws. This tool aims to integrate elements related to the recognition, conservation, massification and safeguarding of traditional indigenous seed systems into the national seed regulatory framework. The tool was presented to the Vice Minister of Agriculture and was supported by several ministries and national and local trade organizations. During the elaboration process, several local and national working groups were established to increase buy-in from decision makers and other key stakeholders. In Guatemala, program partner ASOCUCH reached more than 50,000 farmers with information on Farmer Rights, broadcasting spots in several Mayan languages on the local radio stations. Partly as a result of its efforts, two public policies on "Public Food and Nutritional Security" were approved at the municipality level in Aguacatán and Todos Santos Cuchumatán. Furthermore, the program has had ongoing conversations with the Ministry of Agriculture, focusing on the need to recognize farmer varieties produced through participatory plant breeding processes.

Program partners in Laos developed a first "technical guideline" for seed certification and the registration of quality rice varieties, which was printed and shared together with other materials to all FFS members and other stakeholders. A second set of "Guidelines for the Certification of Extension Varieties", describing the steps needed for the certification and registration of farmer varieties, was prepared and sent to the Ministry of Agriculture, but

***"There is widespread consensus in the sector that Oxfam Novib is helping to 'keep seeds on the agenda and keep the topic alive'. Sector stakeholders value the fact that Oxfam has a counter narrative that is trying to challenge the mainstream narrative pushed by the commercial sector by placing smallholder farmers at the centre to demand that their rights are guaranteed."***

**Final report, SD=HS Mid Term Review**

has not yet been approved for publication. The team will continue working with the Ministry to ensure this is published in 2022.

Last, the SD=HS team in Uganda was also part of several initiatives working to promote the institutionalization of the program's PPB work, including both a small-scale farmers' [statement](#) at the celebration of the World Pulses Day and the organization of a side event and position paper proposing the Farmer Field School approach as a model for the provision of agricultural extension services in communities across the country.

## Key achievements

Outcome	Planned	Achieved
<b>Number of improved policies, laws, and regulations in support of farmers' seed systems and Farmers' Rights</b>	25 for 2019-2022 program period	<p>10 national and one international policy changes seen in 2021, including the adoption of the National Action Plan on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of PGRFA in Zimbabwe, and the establishment of the first national guidelines on "Community Seed Bank Establishment and Management" in Uganda</p> <p>UPOV established a Working Group to develop guidance concerning smallholder farmers in relation to private and non commercial use</p> <p>In China, the local government in Guzhai incorporated the Guzhai CSB as a demonstration base of the Mashan County Modern Seed Industry Science and Technology Innovation Center</p> <p>Farmers in Nepal were allowed to present their farmer varieties for registration to the Varietal Release and Registration Sub-committee (VRRS). Three farmers defended successfully five rice landraces for registration.</p>
Output	Planned	Achieved
<b>Strengthened capacities of IPSHF and their organizations to claim a role in policy making</b>	No targets for 2021	A total of 2,397 persons participated in relevant policy influencing program activities in the eight countries, out of which 1,329 were women (55%).

## Lessons learned

- There is a need to continue following an opportunistic approach, but at the same time listening carefully to the problems that arise in the on the ground work of the program in order to incorporate them into the advocacy process more organically.
- Additional efforts are needed to show that the policy work being done at the global level "trickles down" and is linked to the work done at the country level.
- There is a need to strengthen the program's institutionalization focus, working closely with all program partners and allocating the necessary resources.

## GENDER AND YOUTH

SD=HS' aim is to create an environment in which women and men participate equally, and where women feel encouraged to take up leadership roles. In 2021, different gender transformative activities were running in all eight countries. The team in Peru held "new masculinities workshops" where men reflected on their roles and on gender stereotypes. Uganda continued working with the GALS methodology, while Nepal, Laos and Zimbabwe piloted the Gender Journey Module. This methodology was designed to encourage discussions on gender dynamics during the FFS cycle and in this way helping women and men achieve their research goals. As a result the participation of women remains strong on the level of beneficiaries (58.6%, compared to 58.2% in 2020) and on the level of leadership positions (e.g. 60% of facilitators are women).

Country teams carried out context-related initiatives, like starting a seed production project specifically for women and youth (Zimbabwe), or providing childcare services and in this way enhancing women's participation in the different sessions (Peru, Nepal). In Nepal, the childcare services approach was part of a broader initiative where the team prepared its overall budget following a gender perspective ("gender-responsive budgeting"), and in this way are ensuring that women participate in all project activities and take up leadership roles. Women's participation has increased as a result, as well as the number of women in leadership positions in the different FSEs and CSBs. Meanwhile, the team in Uganda started using training and facilitation techniques based on storytelling and songs. Their objective is to make all FFS more inclusive for illiterate farmers, many of whom are women.

This year was not without challenges. In some cases, women didn't feel comfortable joining bigger groups because of COVID-19, as they are the caretakers of vulnerable family members. Switching to online training sometimes hindered women's participation – many of them use old cell phones and are not familiar with the platforms used to communicate.

Time remains a great obstacle, even more so during the pandemic, as the overall care work for which women are responsible increased. SD=HS aims to tackle some of these challenges in 2022 by rolling out the Gender Journey Module and adding it to the regular FFS activities in each district. It is expected that all country teams will work with a tool that encourages participants to look in detail at what they do and achieve, and that leads to concrete action plans to promote gender equality. The tool is helping to expose structural causes of gender inequality, like access to land or decision-making power. SD=HS will take on more of these issues in its work in 2022 and beyond.

Across the project, organizations are implementing strategies to increase the engagement of young people and their meaningful participation. In Laos they found that young people are in need of easy access to information and practical experiences. Facebook and YouTube are seen as the ideal platform for such an exchange, and young staff members were trained in their use. In Peru, Zambia and Nepal, other social networks like WhatsApp and TikTok are being used to communicate with young people. Strong examples of meaningful participation of youth are seen in Zimbabwe, with youth in leadership positions in 20% of the FFSs and with the establishment of 19 youth-led FFS. In Uganda, youth felt more motivated as they have been assigned roles in the data collection processes, submitting information via the KoBo tool. However, the possibility of income generation remains key to young people's commitment to participate. In Zimbabwe, young people were contracted by Champion Seed as seed growers. In Guatemala, links with another Local Economic Development project were used to provide starting capital.

***"I always thought that my FFS is accessible to all women. However, with the Gender Journey Walk exercise, I understand that my FFS is not able to accommodate many groups of women. I will try to make my FFS inclusive to all women – elder housewives, single mothers, and unmarried women."***

**Pabitra Deuba, FFS facilitator  
at Gayapdhura FFS, Nepal**



# GROW

In the third year of the program we saw the consolidation of many of our results, capitalizing on several years of strengthening our evidence base and business case for action and maintaining pressure on our targets to change through internal engagement and external campaigning. Throughout this section of the Annual Report we describe the actions taken in different countries and at the global level, and the impact of our work. Highlighting a few key achievements, in 2021 eleven food companies presented new policies and commitments that responded to Oxfam's campaigns; almost 20 million people were reached through the Global Campaign and social media; and 234,000 people signed different petitions in support for a more just food system. 2021 also showed the power that the Food Campaign has to create impact.

This was exemplified by a case of local to global collaboration for workers rights in Brazil. Oxfam at global level influenced supermarkets in the Netherlands, Germany or in the United States to stop employers in Brazil from reducing wages of workers in the rural unions in Rio Grande do Norte. Different reviews have shown that the impact of this coordinated effort has been phenomenal, with more than 10,000 workers now having wages that can buffer the rising costs of energy and food. The impact of GROW Campaigning was shown also in the Climate efforts, with the World Climate March standing out as an innovative and impactful way to connect people's voices across the world. With the World Climate March, more than 17 thousand people in over 40 countries signed up and marched in the city where they live. Images and messages from these activities were projected around Glasgow during the COP and were also shared through social media: there were more than 11,000 tweets using the #worldclimatemarch tag.

## A difficult context

COVID-19 continued to be present and strongly influence our ways of working during 2021, – but we were better prepared than in 2020 and could leverage on the tools and mechanisms available to galvanize a large audience and use it to reach a broader and more diverse representation. As seen in Thailand, for example, the organization of “online movie nights” and of discussion platforms through social media were some of the approaches that helped the teams reach a large number of people, despite the pandemic lockdowns.



*Climate stories from communities around the world were shared as part of actions in support of the World Climate March.*

*“Since Cyclone Amphan, we have not found a way to rebuild our lives. My husband is out of work and we had no food at home. People of the coastal region have been facing disasters more than in any other parts of the country. Still, all of us are fighting.” Riktra, Bangladesh.*

The impact of climate change and the urgency to act was further evidenced in 2021. The latest IPCC report makes it clear that “it is now or never” if we want to limit the Earth’s temperature raise to 1.5 °C and avoid cataclysmic consequences. The idea that we are in a “decisive decade” is felt very strongly in our program and makes our work increasingly urgent and ever more relevant. Communities that live below the social floor are experiencing higher levels of hunger and malnutrition and witnessing an increase in human rights violations. Beyond planetary boundaries there are tipping points that trigger catastrophic climate events, sea rise, mass extinctions, and a negative feedback loop, generating more inequality, more hunger, and even more climate disasters. Our work will keep striving towards a global feminist human economy, where all people are above the social floor (human rights, living income, labour rights, dignity) and below the planetary boundaries (green-house gas emissions, climate stresses, land use, biodiversity).

## Mid Term Review

This year also saw the organization of an external Midterm Review, assessing the program between January 2019 to December 2021. Running individual interviews and focal group discussions with approximately 150 participants in 10+ countries, this exercise confirmed the relevance of the three GROW pathways, considering both the targets which have been chosen and the strategic focus put on topics such as land rights and climate finance. It validates the strategic direction and prioritization of the program and of the broader Oxfam GROW Campaign. The evaluation also highlighted the key achievements and the successful approaches followed, providing lessons and recommendations to further strengthen the program. We have already used these findings to outline a set of actions to take forward in 2022 and after.

Action on climate change needs an inter-connected response – and that is what we do as SIDA2GROW. In 2021, we have continued to influence the agroindustry sector, the IFIs and governments (at a national and at an inter-national level) to confront the climate crisis by [advocating for increased climate finance and ensure adaptation and resilience remain at the top of the policy agenda](#); to confront the inequality crisis by stopping exploitation and human rights violations of workers and farmers; by fighting land grabbing and ensuring a living income, and strengthening farmers and unions capacity to lead.


***“External sources pointed at the added value and relevance of Oxfam in the organisation’s connection to and knowledge of local conditions in upstream supply chain segments, its expertise in policy dialogue with governments and multi-lateral institutions, and its role in and contribution to alliances and networks as well as multi-stakeholder settings such as commodity-or sector-related round-tables.”***

**Sida2GROW Midterm Review**


## 2021: OUR RESULTS



11 food companies made progress in term of policies and commitments in response to Oxfam's campaign



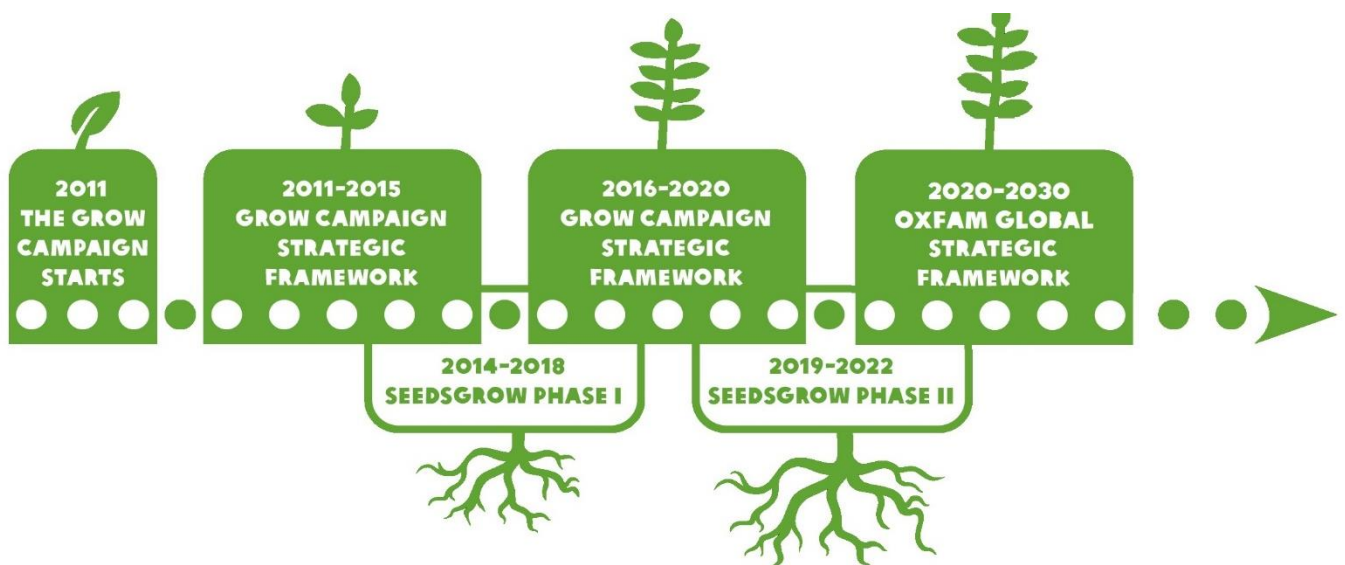
19,693,713 people reached through global campaigning and social media



234,410 people took action by signing petitions (Pathway 1 and Pathway 3)



2 governments passed laws or proposed bills (NL and Germany) on mandatory human rights due diligence



## PATHWAY 1: GLOBAL PRIVATE SECTOR ACTORS

Most of the program's work during the first half of the year focused on the preparations for launching the third spike of the Behind the Barcodes/Price public campaign. During this period, the teams in India, Pakistan, Thailand, Brazil and South Africa collected data and gathered stories, working together with partners as well as with women's rights organizations. This was all used for the completion of a report titled "[\*Not in this together: How supermarkets became the pandemic's winners while women workers are losing out\*](#)", which described the way in which COVID-19 put additional pressure on the women working in the global supermarket supply chains, while the owners and shareholders of these supermarkets were rewarded with high dividends. The report launch was therefore an opportunity to show the impact that COVID-19 has had on women workers throughout the world. This exposure was at the heart of the Campaign, and pushed out the message that the supermarket sector has largely benefitted from the COVID-19 crisis, while women workers, who are overrepresented in the low-skilled, low wage jobs at the base of the supply chains, have been hit the hardest.

### Clearer commitments

The "[\*Not in this together\*](#)" report was the third major report since the campaign started. With this publication we were also able to show that the 16 supermarkets we target in the Behind the Barcodes/Price campaign were failing to take adequate action to address women's rights in their global supply chains.

The report was picked up by many media channels in the different countries where the campaign is active, and together with the other campaign activities (which included social media posts, radio spots and actions by supporters), put pressure on the large supermarket chains to take steps to implement [Oxfam's Women's Rights Recommendations](#). As a result, the U.S. retailer Kroger published an updated [statement on human rights](#) in May 2021, committing to Human Rights Due Diligence (HRDD) processes and to the organization of Human Rights Impact Assessments. Albert Heijn, Jumbo and Lidl Netherlands published their commitments to support women workers and farmers in their supply chains within three weeks of the Campaign launch in July, with statements that were made public in different ways (visible here for [Albert Heijn](#), [Jumbo](#) and [Lidl](#)). In October 2021 Tesco [published its commitment](#) to "close the living wage gaps" and benefit producers and all those working in its banana supply chain. Only a few months later, Aldi South and Aldi North published new action plans and policies to strengthen women's rights and committed to ensuring better working conditions for women across their global supply chains. These were also published and shared in different ways (as shown [here](#) and [here](#) for Aldi South and [here](#) and [here](#) for Aldi North).



*Oxfam Thailand's campaign against Toxic Oranges wrapped up earlier this year, where representatives of the Dear Consumers alliance delivered a list of consumers who demand improved safety and traceability for oranges by signing the #ToxicOrange petition. This included 24 news coverage with three well-known local Thai news outlet: Daily News, Matichon, and Neaw Na.*

*Source: <https://mgronline.com/>*

Hallmarks were reached also with governments. In Germany, the federal government passed a law in June – the Supply Chain Due Diligence Act – requiring companies to complete a mandatory human rights due diligence (mHRDD) in company supply chains. Oxfam Germany has been campaigning mainly through the initiative called [Lieferkettengesetz](#) mHRDD. In the Netherlands, working together with the Dutch [MVO Platform](#), Oxfam pushed Members of Parliament and the national government to adopt a Dutch mandatory HRDD. As a result, four political parties proposed a bill on Responsible and Sustainable International Business Conduct in March 2021. Later in the year, in early December, the government announced that it would start preparing a bill, following the delays in the legislation by the European Commission. This commitment was reiterated in the coalition agreement presented by the new Dutch Government in December 2021 (the European Commission put forward a [proposal](#) for a law to clean up supply chains worldwide in February 2022, responding to Oxfam’s lobby efforts of 2021.)

An important example of the accountability work that follows a campaign (in this case the BtBP Campaign), was the development of the report “[Shining a Light](#)”, in which Oxfam assessed whether the world’s 10 biggest food and beverage companies who committed to do more on social and environmental sourcing policies, have actually implemented the commitments made in response to the campaign. In this report we find that while companies have taken action at the global level, progress stalls in translating those approaches to countries and through supply chains.

***“We are going to further identify the underlying causes of gender inequality and thus aim to develop an approach for a more inclusive future for women in the food supply chains. We will include Oxfam Novib's concrete recommendations and timeline in this process. We will inform Oxfam Novib of the actions we take.”***

**Gender Report of the Dutch supermarket Jumbo, published 10 January 2022**

## **Coffee unions**

In Brazil, Oxfam deepened its partnership with the coffee rural unions of the region of Minas Gerais, responding to the dire situation that coffee workers face due to forced labour and other serious violations. The Behind the Barcodes/Price campaign thus focused heavily on the workers in the coffee sector. Oxfam Brasil contributed to the “Not in this together” report mentioned above, adding a section on Brazilian coffee and on the local supply chain issues, and also contributed with materials that were used in the global campaign (videos, infographics, etc). Brazil also published its own report called “[Coffee Stain](#)” and a related [short video](#), both of which look at the situation of female rural workers, the anti-union situation in the sector (a big concern of local partners) and racial issues connected to coffee production – especially considering the historical connection between coffee and slavery in Brazil. Investigative field work carried out by our rural union partners during the coffee harvest season (April to September) led to 14 cases being denounced to the Brazilian government’s labour inspection offices, and the identification of 305 coffee rural workers whose rights were violated. More than 200 of these individuals were considered to be subject to forced labour and 163 cases were reported for human trafficking. Workers have been freed and received compensation, and the cases are now being followed by the Brazilian labour ministry and the Brazilian federal prosecutor’s labour office. Overall, a total of 2 television channels, 5 radio programs and 122 online/offline newspapers have covered the campaign, with a public exposure that is estimated to have reached more than 122 million persons.

At the same time, a remarkable achievement of the Behind the Barcodes Campaign/Price (BtBP) local to global approach has been succeeding to prevent the reduction of workers’ wages in the Rio Grande do Norte state – something particularly relevant when energy and food prices are increasing rapidly. Rural unions in this state, a tropical fruit producing and exporting region, asked Oxfam Brasil for help, concerned that employers were

sabotaging their decade-long collective bargaining process by refusing to negotiate a union proposal, which would lead to employees losing at least 5% of their wages' purchasing power. Oxfam Brasil mobilized the global Campaign and worked together with 4 Oxfam global offices to question their respective target supermarkets, requesting them to contact their suppliers in the region, and putting pressure to uphold the collective agreement and maintain wages as agreed. This worked and the impact has been significant. More than 10,000 workers represented by these unions, which are considered to be amongst the poorest 20% in Brazil, will maintain a decent living wage, and won't fall behind. This showed the impact of Oxfam's leveraging power, the legitimacy of its campaign and its corporate engagement capacity, supporting the dignity and food security of tens of thousands of rural workers.

## Oranges and chicken

In Thailand, together with an alliance of partners called [Dear Consumer Alliance](#), Oxfam ran specific campaigns to influence two supply chains. The first was on the value chains of oranges, as these have been ranked as the most contaminated fruits in Thailand, and the second one focused on chickens, based on a deep-dive research on the chicken supply chains completed in 2020. The #ToxicOrange Campaign was a new topic, with more than 3000 people endorsing the petition for safer and traceable oranges in supermarkets in the country. Meanwhile, the more advanced campaign to influence the chicken supply chain (or #HazeFreeChicken) had a virtual spike in 2021, organizing several online activities and events, including a video awareness series, online "movie nights", discussions on social media platforms such as Facebook and Clubhouse, and a [petition](#). There has also been significant progress on the multi-stakeholder platform for the chicken supply chain, with monthly meetings running regularly since April.

The Dear Consumers Campaign also produced the fourth and final [Thai supermarket scorecard](#), organizing a press conference to release the annual scorecard results for Tops, Makro, Lotus and BigC, the biggest food retailers in Thailand. This continues to be one of the key moments of the campaign, showing how retailers are faring on their social responsibilities. This year's scorecard was the most comprehensive yet, covering a series of elements: transparency and responsibility, labour, small producers, gender, environment, sustainability, food safety, and consumer welfare. Sal Forest, an external research company, conducted the research while the Campaign Alliance's Private Sector Engagement officer consulted with the targeted supermarkets and reviewed a total of 165 indicators. This was followed by meetings to discuss the supermarkets' feedback and observations, focusing on how they can improve and what capacities are needed to change their policies and the guidelines.

Because of the COVID-19 restrictions, most activities were conducted online. These included the series of "movie nights" where we showed "[King Corn](#)", a documentary that is closely linked to the chicken campaign narrative as it highlights the impact of corn production on the environment, and also "[10 Billion: What's on your plate?](#)", strategically shown to coincide with World Food Day on the October 31<sup>st</sup>. This documentary revolves around food security, hence relates to the overall campaign messages.

Finally, a Public Forum was held on the 18<sup>th</sup> of December. Called "[The last meal: Our last chance to eat right](#)," this was viewed by more than 10,000 persons, bringing together UNDP experts from the Accelerator Lab Thailand, the managing director of Lemon Farm (a social enterprise retailer that supports local producers), and also the founder of the "Trust me, I'm chef" local restaurant – all of them discussing topics such as food safety, air pollution, ocean sustainability and equality. The Na Café Bangkok 1899 was selected as this event's venue for its mission to use food and drinks to connect people and inspire them, and see a social impact. As one of the key moments of the campaign, the forum highlighted the impact and role that each individual can have towards fairer and more sustainable food supply chains, with a focus on the supply chains of chicken fruit and seafood.

## Key achievements

No.	Pathway 1 Intermediary / Targeted Outcome	Short term outcome 2020	Achieved
Global level			
1.1.	Worldwide, the campaign has reached 9 million people and mobilized 225,000 people to demand a fairer and more sustainable food system	The third BtBP spike will reach 3 million people and 100,000 people will take action.	19,693,713 people were reached by campaigning for the third BtBP spike, including 234,110 people engaged by signing petitions.
1.2.	At least eight food companies that operate globally have made commitments to change policies or practices, in response to Oxfam’s campaign.	At least two retailers with global links will make commitments to change policies or practices in response to Oxfam’s campaign.	Seven supermarkets (Kroger, Albert Heijn, Jumbo and Lidl, Tesco and Aldi North and Aldi South) made commitments to change policies or practices in response to the BtBP campaign.
		At least one government will make progress in stronger regulations of the private sector and support for small-scale food producers.	Two governments (Germany, the Netherlands) made progress towards stronger regulations in relation to mandatory human rights due diligence (HRDD). A petition was put forward by the European Commission for a law to clean up supply chains worldwide and make business sustainable.
National level			
1.3	In Thailand and Brazil, the campaign has reached 4.5 million people and mobilized 25,000 consumers to demand a fairer and more sustainable food system.	In Thailand and Brazil, national public actions will reach in total 2.5 million people (Brazil –500,000; Thailand –2 million) and 45,000 take action (Brazil –30,000; Thailand –15,000).	In Thailand, 5,611,686 people reached, including 674,300 engaged, through reactions to the Dear Consumers social media campaign.  In Brazil, the National Spike 3 BtBP social media campaign reached 1,022,255 people with 19,102 people taking action through the signing of a petition. <sup>2</sup>
1.4	Strengthened (formal/ informal) multistakeholder platforms with active participation of leading retailers, consumer organizations and food producer companies to improve policy and practice (e.g. through the design of voluntary sustainability guidelines).	In Thailand, informal multi-stakeholder dialogues established in the chicken / maize and orange sectors, with a focus on transparency and traceability.	In Thailand, a Chicken-Mazie Multi-stakeholder Platform was convened by Oxfam, with 6 new members, to deliver policy recommendations on chicken and chicken feed supply chains.  In Brazil, the rural unions in Rio Grande de Norte maintained their wages at an adequate level with pressure put on retailers and their suppliers by the collaboration of the national with the global campaign

<sup>2</sup> The public exposure for campaigning in Brazil is estimated to be 122 million due to viewership from television, radio programs and online/offline newspapers.

1.5	<b>At least four national retailers located in or sourcing from Thailand and Brazil have made commitments to change policies or practices, to contribute to more equal and more sustainable food value chains.</b>	In Brazil, at least 1 targeted Brazilian supermarket or from at least 1 foreign supermarket that sources from Brazil, publicly commits to the campaign's asks.	One Brazilian supermarket (Grupo Pão de Açúcar) engaged positively and published its first Human Rights and Value Chains Policy. One foreign supermarket (Carrefour Brasil) publicly committed to the campaign ask to report its direct and indirect fruit suppliers.
		In Thailand, at least two national retailers a) commit to develop policy and guidelines on food safety and b) show information on the origin of food at point of sale	In Thailand, three national retailers made commitments, with Lotus committing to improve policy and guidelines related to fish, and Makro and Tops committing to ensure food safety through improved traceability for oranges, including QR coding.

## Lessons learned

- We need to continue searching for ways to engage with allies, especially women's rights organisations (WROs), with additional resources and investment. Further consultation steps with allies and WROs will help identify joint strategies earlier in the campaign (co)creation phase, building on each other's work. The team feels it should also dedicate more time and energy to the development of unbranded content for its allies, supporting the identity building process and the co-ownership of all campaign efforts.
- The activities around the third BtBP spike showed that the targeted food companies still have a strong leverage on human rights in supply chains and are relevant actors for our work. Discussions are ongoing on how to follow up and measure the implementation of the commitments made, holding influential retailers to account. As supermarkets have been sharing their commitments and publishing new policies, Oxfam sees that it needs to hold these companies accountable, even if the public campaigning phase ends.
- In Thailand, we found that the information included in the Scorecard (both technical and on its rationale) needs to be readily available to retailers during a campaign. The Scorecard was seen as too complex by Thai retailers and some expressed their "fatigue" as they were also being measured against other national standards. Given this, retailers want to understand why they should do this, and if they decide to try improving their score, they want technical support.
- In Brazil, we found that digital campaigns can strongly benefit from the use of stories and direct workers' testimonies. The third BtBP spike showed that the use of videos where workers talk anonymously results in lower levels of engagement than when we are able to feature the same workers without disguising them.
- Also in Brazil, the rural unions in the state of Rio Grande do Norte have shown the benefits of a local-to-global approach, demonstrating that a global campaign can benefit local workers. The global campaign leveraged Oxfam's global presence, resources, campaign legitimacy, its corporate engagement capacity and networks to support the Brazilian campaign, adding additional pressure and support. This helped ensure that workers that are considered to be amongst the poorest 20% in Brazil, maintain a decent living wage, and do not fall behind.

## STRENGTHENING GENDER JUSTICE AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS

In 2021 we continued to strengthen the program approach to gender mainstreaming by applying key emerging issues from the gender self-assessment that was developed in 2020. This helped us identify strengths, gaps and innovative practices, and draw lessons for applying Oxfam's feminist principles for influencing across each pathway.

Overall, the self-assessment completed by the different teams translated into concrete actions that will help elevate women's voices in the global campaign by facilitating their participation in advocacy opportunities, and also by showcasing their stories in different publications. In each pathway we aim to link our work at a national level – helping women take leadership roles, opening spaces for their participation and building their skills to claim those spaces – and at the same time link this with our international efforts. Our global campaigns will further seek to consult women on the frontlines of the climate crisis, and will amplify their stories.

On Pathway 1, a gender focus was part of our Spike 3 of the Public Campaign, informed by [Oxfam's Women's Rights Recommendations](#) (an in-depth research and interviews conducted by a consultant with WROs), and by the publication of the "Not in this Together" report in June 2021, which showcased gender wage gaps and the need for supermarkets to take action on gender, bringing together experiences from Brazil and Thailand. In Thailand, the research looked at how women and men take part in the supply chain and how they are affected. The results were shared on an online discussion event and were later included in the "[op-](#)



*Arranging fresh squid at a food processing factory in Chon Buri.*

*A recent survey found 80% of women said they got paid less than the monthly equivalent of the daily minimum wage, which is already meagre at 313 to 336 baht.*

*Photo: Paritta Wangkiat.*

[ed](#) written by the Thai Seafood CSO Coalition and published on the Bangkok Post, Thailand's leading English-language newspaper.

In Brazil the [Coffee Stain](#) report showed the stories of those with specific gender justice demands, serving as input for a [short video about women rural workers](#) in coffee.

As a follow-up to the Behind the Brands campaign, we have updated our assessment of the extent to

which the food companies have operationalized their commitments on women's empowerment. The "[Shining a Spotlight](#)" report forced companies like Coca Cola, Mondelez and Unilever to react (as shown by the [VMT publication](#)), acknowledging that they need to do more. This in turn, allows Oxfam to engage with these companies in the future.

One of the guidelines of Pathway 2 has been to emphasize that accountability is not gender neutral, and that transparency is needed to ensure that the gendered impact of high-risk projects is assessed. This message is based on the results of the work carried out with Gender Action and shared in the "[Unmet Gender Promises](#)" report. We have also shared tools developed in the past by Oxfam, such as the "[Enabling Voices, Demanding Rights](#)" guide, showing how banks can operationalize FPIC and the best gender practices on decisions over land. Research on the implementation of FPIC in a project financed by various international finance institutions in Nepal highlighted women's participation, addressing the indigenous communities' need for self-determination when defining the process (the report is published in 2022).

Last, and as part of Pathway 3, Oxfam amplified the voice and demands of women on the frontlines of the climate crisis, both in campaigns and through their direct participation – for example at the COP26 and in national policy dialogue moments. Oxfam has

strongly advocated for a gendered approach when discussing the need to increase local ownership in adaptation finance. Women's rights have also been the major focus of our land work in 2021, having led 30 organizations to endorse a [collective women's land rights commitment](#) which will form part of the Global Accountability Framework which is expected

***"Farmers are paying the price for climate change without knowing why they are paying the price..."***

**Margaret, smallholder farmer from Uganda, participant at COP26**

to drive gender equality globally during the next 5 years. The [two op-eds](#) published by the heads of Oxfam and of the International Land Coalition show how women's land rights are at the heart of the fight against inequality.

## PATHWAY 2: INTERNATIONAL AND GLOBALLY RELEVANT FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

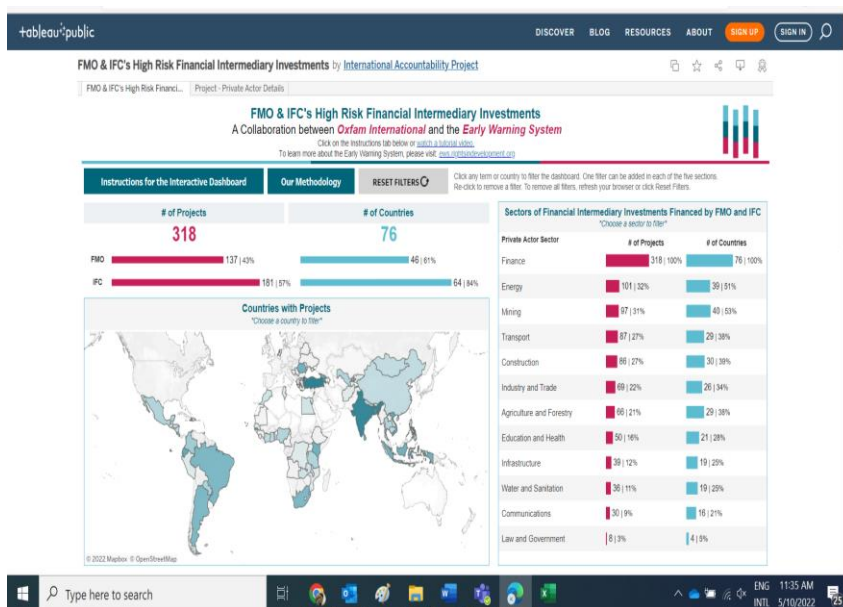
The second Pathway's long-term aim is to get public and private financial sector actors to prioritise projects that support female small-scale food producers and their communities, in ways that respect land rights and that are aligned with the goals of the Paris Agreement. Our approach is to generate evidence, raise awareness and influence policy-setting mechanisms. We are pushing for transparency and due diligence processes, and work to ensure that communities are not negatively affected, that they know who is financing activities on their land, and also that they know how to claim their rights.

### A new database

Working together with a coalition of organizations, one of the 2021 milestones was the [launch](#) of a large [database](#) which for the first time collects and makes public information on the high-risk sub-projects of 318 financial intermediary investments made by the Dutch development bank FMO and by the World Bank's private lending arm, the IFC. This database is hosted by the [Early Warning System](#) platform and includes a short [tutorial video](#) to help visitors navigate the data.

The data shows the investments made between 2017 and 2020, revealing total costs of more than 38 billion US dollars, and the financial relationships of 12,800 private actors. These large-scale investments are affecting people and the environment in at least 76 countries.

This ground-breaking initiative has been picked up by different [media](#), and has led to, for example, a [public response](#) by the Netherlands' FMO. In it, their commitment is to ensure that all the new funds in which FMO invests will disclose the names of the companies in which these funds in turn invest. Oxfam wants to continue pushing this agenda until FMO responds and discloses all the high-risk sub projects in their portfolio.



*In December 2021, Oxfam launched a database, together with the Early Warning System, on IFC or FMO investments. FMO has publicly responded that all new funds in which it invests must annually disclose the names of the companies in which these funds in turn invest.*

<https://public.tableau.com/>

### Establishing closer links

In 2021 we progressed our work on testing and accessing complaint mechanisms, setting due diligence processes related to land (e.g. Free Prior and Informed Consent, or FPIC) and supporting communities affected by large-scale

investments. Two successes stand out, in both cases showing that a contributing factor to this pathway's success has been the teams' capacity to establish close links between policy influencing of financial institutions and the focus on land rights and livelihoods of the local communities.

In Liberia, Oxfam and its partners supported a formal complaint against FMO (the Dutch development bank), DEG and Proparco (the German and French development banks) which was submitted in February 2021 to the ICM (Independent Complaint Mechanism) for their financing of FirstRand Bank and its links to a mine in Liberia. Oxfam's role has been to support those communities affected by the mining operations with the complaint, dispute resolution and mediation process. In July 2021, the complaint was found eligible for DEG and Proparco, setting a ground-breaking precedent, as outlined [here](#). Meanwhile, the company involved has accepted to enter a dispute resolution process and a mediator has been found. Oxfam is currently preparing the mediation process with the communities. The complaint has not been found eligible for FMO on technical grounds. However, by bringing this case into the spotlight, we were able to highlight the implications of not having a policy on Financial Intermediary Lending.

In 2021 we also commissioned an FPIC research in Nepal, related to the [biggest hydropower project](#) in the country. The FPIC process took place in 2018 and the communities gave their consent. The research that started a few years later was intended to demonstrate good practices and to draw key lessons and recommendations, and with them influence development finance institutes to respect the FPIC processes, and push for its implementation in a meaningful way. The report is currently being finalized and steps have already been taken to engage with the key stakeholders (including FMO and IFC as investors) and discuss the outcomes, involving the affected communities, the Oxfam team in Nepal and its partner organization CSRC.

***“We were taken from our land without any good reward, and our land and water polluted while the company refused to fully address the problems. Our livelihoods – farming and artisanal mining – have been disrupted by the company, and we are suffering from food insecurity and unattended health problems. We hope that the complaint process will help restore our livelihoods and hold the company to its promises.”***

**Representative of a Liberian NGO  
supporting communities harmed by the New  
Liberty Gold Mine**

A parallel effort has been to strengthen our engagement with FMO. Over the past years we have been pushing FMO to establish a policy statement on Financial Intermediary Lending, and it was this year, in April and May 2021, that Oxfam was invited by FMO to participate in the first round of consultations for establishing this policy. Together with other NGOs with expertise on this topic (SOMO, Both ENDS, Recourse, Banktrack), Oxfam provided detailed input to FMO's first draft position statement. The public consultations on this policy are expected to take place in early 2022, and we will engage in this process to push for more transparency, disclosure and so that all steps align with international standards.

Over the course of 2021, our engagement with FMO also included high level meetings challenging the paradigm and assumptions of development finance, with the ultimate objective of ensuring that communities play a key role in all investments, and are not seen as a *due diligence risk* to handle. In itself, this is a significant achievement that has been made possible through the long-term constructive engagement and trust-building efforts of the past years, and which will help us reach our goals and objectives and their sustainability.

At the same time, we also strengthened our engagement with IFC. We used the database on financial intermediary investments described above to show that disclosure is possible, and presented a framework they can use to implement its disclosure commitments. We continue supporting Recourse, our partner organization, by peer reviewing their research paper ("[Closing Loopholes](#)") and also by sharing our research results and the database on financial intermediaries' higher risk subprojects linking IFC equity clients with coal exposure. Oxfam and Recourse organized a series of NGO strategy calls on FIs so as to ensure that our work reflected the concerns of the wider community. Oxfam also helped prepare and organize a key advocacy meeting with IFC in April 2021, including a strategy session beforehand to plan the best way to present the findings of the "Closing Loopholes" report and decide which organizations would cover which issues. IFC appointed a new CEO during this period and Oxfam, together with some other NGOs, was invited to a first meeting where we discussed our disclosure messages and the Green Equity Approach.

## Key achievements

No.	Pathway 2 Intermediary/ Targeted Outcome	Short term outcome 2020	Achieved
Global level			
2.1	<b>Leveraging progress within one IFI to encourage more IFIs to follow suit.</b>	IFI will show continued commitment by implementing its financial intermediaries' higher-risk sub-project disclosure commitments.	The IFI has indicated that by mid-2022 they will disclose their first data on FI clients' higher risk subprojects, with disclosure linked to the FI clients' annual reporting cycle.
		IFI will show continued commitment to its new Green Equity Approach, supporting its financial intermediary clients to disclose their exposure to coal investments, phase out from coal investments, and increase their green investments.	IFI participated in two meetings facilitated by Oxfam, with IFI's FIs, its climate team and a CSO coalition in attendance. These meetings reviewed implementation and recommendations for the Green Equity Approach.
		FMO will publish a position statement on financial intermediary lending, improving transparency and access to information for impacted local communities. FMO will make considerable steps towards improving its financial intermediary policy and practices in 2021.	FMO has committed to a public consultation on a first draft of their position statement in Fall 2021, with a delay to early 2022.
		The dialogue between IFI and FMO on how to improve policies and practices around FPIC for Indigenous Peoples and local communities is strengthened.	Oxfam facilitated 3 meetings with FMO as well as other stakeholders to discuss the FPIC process and FPIC research in Nepal.
		FMO has an increased understanding of local stakeholder engagement, and applies the 'Enabling Voices, Demanding Rights' tool in its due diligence.	FMO participated in a 2-day workshop with Oxfam to review the Community Engagement Tool and gather inputs to refine the tool.
		The SBN establishes a dialogue with civil society on transparency, accountability and FPIC.	Limited engagement with SBN at this time. Due to COVID-19, the SBN secretariat had to reduce its role. Oxfam continues its efforts on IFI and FMO directly.

## Lessons learned

- We are seeing that with local level engagement of communities and local actors in countries we are able to reach and influence a broader umbrella of DFIs. For example, the complaint submitted in Liberia also involved and ultimately held accountable DEG and Proparco (German and French DFIs), while the FPIC research in Nepal links to investments made through the Asia Development Bank and Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, two major DFIs.
- The engagement with FMO has been an important strategic decision, to leverage on one DFI to influence others. FMO is a DFI directly covering a portfolio of multiple billions of EUR worldwide, allocated in over 100 countries, is a big financial player internationally, and it profiles itself as a front runner. The approach Oxfam has adopted allows for in-depth high-level engagement with one DFI (quite unique to have) which requires time, trust building, and expertise, which then ensures that changes at FMO are a catalyst for change across other DFIs. FMO invests in many loans together with other DFIs, including DEG, Proparco, CDC, and we are witnessing how one can influence the other in raising the bar and standards in contracts and the financial intermediate lending.

## LOCAL TO GLOBAL

Throughout the project, the local to global (L2G) approach has helped see a stronger representation of southern teams in all management processes, increasing the learning, knowledge, capacity and ownership of those engaged in campaigns, as well as broadening the pool of local allies. Throughout the years, this approach has helped develop stronger synergies between the national and global Oxfam teams and all partners. It allows us to reach a wide range of objectives, depending on the context and targets, as shown in the examples below:

- **Accountability between actors in the supply chain:** In **Brazil**, the local to global approach was exemplified by the mobilization efforts started by Oxfam affiliates to support the collective bargaining process of fruit rural workers in Rio Grande do Norte. After revelations were shared by colleagues and local partners in Brazil, exposing how the collective bargaining processes of workers in the fruit sector were facing serious challenges and how these risked seeing a severe reduction in their wages, they worked alongside the wider team (at a “global” level) to immediately mobilise the relations built through the Campaign with large supermarkets in Europe, which then contacted their suppliers in the region, who then agreed to the workers’ wage proposal.
- **Local evidence to support global campaigning which in turn supported local campaigning:** In **Thailand**, the seafood supply chain has a strong connection with the global supply chain, and products are exported to supermarkets targeted by BtBP (in northern countries). An Oxfam [research paper](#) on the impact of COVID-19 on the seafood sector in Thailand was conducted to support the April 2021 global spike launch as well as Thailand’s launch and engagement with key Thai seafood companies/exporters. Rapatsa, Thailand’s coordinator of the CSO Seafood Coalition for Sustainable and Ethical Seafood, worked closely with the global campaign team during the months leading up to the global campaign spike launch. The research findings helped provide evidence for the global campaign team’s engagement with the supermarkets. Based on this research, the Thai Seafood CSO Coalition is now working to engage with the country’s key seafood companies on the issue of living wages during the first half of 2022.
- **The re-design of global advocacy based on local inspiration:** The global Oxfam climate change team has recognised the central role that National Determined Contributions (NDCs) can play, not only in tracking a reduction in the emissions of richer polluting countries, but also as detailed commitments presented by developing countries (showing how they plan to tackle climate change). The steps taken by the team in Uganda during the past 2 years, supporting the involvement of the civil society in the Ugandan NDC process, have inspired a broader uptake. The global team is now working with the international alliance [CLARA](#) to promote a “People’s NDC” approach in multiple countries. This is part of its global strategy to improve the way in which NDCs are monitored by CSOs.
- **Establishing a world-wide movement:** The World Climate March is a great example of the synergies that can be achieved when connecting local and global efforts. In a year when physical participation in the Glasgow COP was very difficult, Oxfam planned and organised the World Climate March, and more than 17 thousand people in over 40 countries signed up and joined it and marched in the city where they live. Images and messages from these activities were projected around Glasgow during the COP and were also shared through social media: there were more than 11,000 tweets using the #worldclimatemarch tag.

## PATHWAY 3: MULTILATERAL INSTITUTIONS AND FORA, AND GOVERNMENTS

The program's third pathway addresses climate change and land insecurity as closely intertwined challenges that are increasingly affecting the livelihoods of small-scale food producers. With this in mind, this pathway works towards two intermediary outcomes, one on climate and one on land.

### Campaigning for climate finance

Oxfam's work on climate change can be seen as a long-term trajectory targeting climate financing via a sustained and strategic engagement process with decision-makers, combined with high-profile media and public campaigns, mainly concentrated around the major decision-making moments during the COP.

Oxfam built a strong campaign through the years on climate finance, becoming a valued and recognized critic of the developed countries' failure to mobilize the 100 billion US dollars they committed. There is a clear rationale for international climate finance support, as agreed by developed countries in Rio de Janeiro in 1992: those responsible for causing climate change, and more capable of addressing it, should take responsibility for supporting others to be able to address climate change. This is based on the Polluter Pays Principle and also on the principle of Common But Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities (CBDRRC).



*World Climate March 23 October, 2021 Burkina Faso.  
Photo: Oxfam.*

Oxfam's analysis and advocacy not only targets the failure to deliver on the financial commitments made, but also places the spotlight on the lack of transparency, accountability and inclusiveness of the financing mechanism that is reported by developed countries as "climate finance". Its efforts have also highlighted the funding gap for adaptation, with the majority of the finance given by rich countries is in the form of loans, putting poor countries in further debt. Our analysis was widely used by the finance negotiators representing developing countries and by many civil society networks and organizations such as the Climate Action Network (CAN).

In 2021, a [press release](#) raising the alarm on the failure to deliver on financial commitments was launched in the occasion of the UN General Assembly, galvanizing significant media attention across the globe (some notable examples are: [Bloomberg](#); [The Guardian](#); [Yahoo Finance](#)). By generating evidence, building awareness and supporting allies, Oxfam contributed to the widespread criticism of the rich countries' failure to meet their finance

commitments. As a result, a week before COP26, developed countries published a new [Delivery Plan](#) on this commitment. This Delivery Plan sets out an estimated trajectory running from 2021 to 2025 – taking into account new climate finance pledges from individual developed countries and multilateral development banks. It also sets out principles on how to improve the delivery of the funds. However, what the Plan also shows is that developed countries have missed the goal of raising 100 billion per year starting in 2020 and that this much needed finance is not going to be delivered to developing countries even by 2022. A long-running advocacy trajectory for transparency of climate finance reporting came to a conclusion with the adoption at COP26 of a new [Common Tabular Format](#) at COP26. Developed countries are now expected to use this format to report their climate finance pledges and activities.

On the topic of Loss and Damage, developing country governments showed unprecedented unity when they submitted a [proposal](#) for the creation of a finance facility. This was not accepted but the discussion helped countries agree to start the [Glasgow Loss and Damage Dialogue](#), in which finance will be a crucial topic. This will be particularly important for our future UNFCCC engagement, recognizing that the world has entered a new and dangerous era of climate destruction, causing huge losses and damage to poor countries and poor people, and driving up inequality. New research from Oxfam has found that humanitarian appeals driven by extreme weather have increased significantly, yet funding support against losses and damage is piecemeal and painfully inadequate. A comprehensive new system based on the principles of climate justice, is an immediate necessity, and Oxfam will continue to advocate for a loss and damage finance facility.

Meanwhile, 2021 saw the resurgence of the global climate movement, after the COVID-19 pandemic, cumulating into COP26 large scale actions around the world, including the online [World Climate March](#), which was organized by Oxfam and partner organizations.

***“Certificates allow people to use their land as collateral for bank loans, helps women protect their inherited land from being taken by people from outside their communities. It could also allow for better compensation for villagers if their land is taken for factories, commercial farming and infrastructure projects.”***

### **Accountability for land rights**

The second intermediary outcome for Pathway 3 pushes for greater global accountability to uphold international benchmarks on land rights. This is envisaged through a combination of policy influencing and supporting and strengthening land rights movements. This focuses on advancing women's land rights within the [Generation Equality Forum](#) and at the same time engaging with the [High-Level Political Forum](#) (HLPF), as the United Nations' platform for following and reviewing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals.

**Oxfam's Uganda Land Rights Coordinator  
Jimmy Ochom**

The landmark Generation Equality Forum launched in 2021 was a major global inflection point for gender equality where governments, corporations, CSOs and other stakeholders came together for an ambitious roadmap to promote gender equality. Oxfam seized this opportunity to push for a stronger protection of women's land rights within the Forum's 5 year [Global Acceleration Plan](#). We now have the Economic Justice and Climate Justice Action Coalitions championing the need for protecting women's land rights. Oxfam and its allies led 30 organizations to endorse a [collective women's land rights commitment](#) which is now part of the Global Accountability Framework of the Forum.

Meanwhile, recognizing that the implementation of the land rights targets in the SDGs continue to be inadequate, Oxfam and its allies have been assessing the progress that countries have made toward SDG15 on land degradation neutrality, and urging governments to prioritize land rights within the SDG framework with [evidence-based advocacy](#)

actions. Oxfam organized two side events at the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in July 2021; one was on *“Accelerating the decade of action: progress on the SDG land and its importance for the construction of sustainable family farming in Latin America in the context of a pandemic”*, while the second one was titled *“No Land Rights No SDGs”* and was organized with Rural Development Institute Landesa. Oxfam has also worked closely with CSOs to generate parallel reports and for engaging with national stakeholders.

In 2021, Land Rights Now (LRN) saw a breakthrough moment after a decade-long campaign to support the struggle of the Nuevo Andoas communities in Peru, who were suffering the health and environmental consequences of a poorly regulated extractives industry. The campaign called on the government to grant the communities full title to their territories; to fulfil their rights to health and education and to respect their identity; and to provide reparation for the damage to their health and environment caused by the oil industry. The Supreme Court of Peru issued a [landmark ruling](#) in October 2021 granting land titles to the community and ordering payment of oil easements by the oil company Plus Petrol. It also orders the state to pay compensation for giving indigenous territories to oil companies without consultation or payment of oil easement.<sup>3</sup>

## National campaigns

Under Pathway 3 the grant has supported two national campaigns, in Uganda and in Pakistan. In Uganda, through the years, the Sida2GROW campaign has asked the government to address the needs of female small-scale food producers and their communities, particularly those affected by climate change, and to present pro-poor climate adaptation plans. It also focuses on the need to finance irreversible loss and damage and the promotion of secure and equitable land rights.

Through a strategic partnership with the Uganda [Women’s Land Rights Movement \(WLRM\)](#), a platform for dialogue and sharing of lived experience was established between grassroots women and the duty bearers as part of a two-day conference that brought together government officials, communities and CSOs. This partnership also led to a nationwide land eviction advocacy campaign that responded to the problems seen in the region of Kiryandongo (and which included a “Land Series” broadcasted with the media house NTV Uganda); and an evaluation of the progress made towards the goal of having 30% of the registered land in women’s name. A milestone was reached with the Land Acquisition Bill, ensuring that women property/land rights were included in it. Oxfam and WLRM managed to have integrated much of the content demanded into the Bill, which was passed by Parliament in 2021. Additionally, Oxfam held a high-level [seminar on land rights](#) with Members of Parliament and the State Minister for Lands, to ignite land reform debates on compulsory land acquisitions in Uganda and to discuss the impact that land rights have. This led to a public statement made by the minister on compensation rights of communities.

Efforts to mobilize urban youth supporters for the protection of natural forests and wetlands in the country (especially those threatened by large-scale land-based investments) was another important focus area in Uganda this year. The partnership with Friday for Futures Uganda led to a series of “climate strikes” in major Ugandan cities, calling for the implementation of Uganda’s climate commitments. The strikes became topical on national TVs and radio stations and prompted public commitments by those in charge of protecting fragile ecosystem and restoring the degraded ecosystems.

A position paper highlighting key recommendations for the improvement of Uganda’s Nationally Determined Contributions supported the review of these NDCs. Six regional grassroots consultations were conducted to provide inputs, and different CSOs were asked to contribute to the National Pre-COP26 workshop. They joined Uganda’s negotiators on loss and damage and also 57 representatives of youth organizations.

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<sup>3</sup> The LandRightsNow campaign has supported this community in Peru since 2016.

Finally, Oxfam in Uganda has brought the voice of frontline communities to global summits on climate and land rights. A smallholder farmer's position paper on agriculture was developed by farmers themselves, which then informed the national negotiating paper on agriculture for COP26 in Glasgow. A youth position paper on Loss and Damage and Disaster risk reduction was also developed during the National Youth dialogue in October 2021, and was shared with the Uganda national COP26 negotiators. The team supported the participation of a small holder farmer at the meeting, where she shared her experience and views on the impact of climate change in agriculture.

In Pakistan, efforts have focused on the best ways to engage communities in local land use planning, and to influence local districts and provinces for climate adaptation. Community members were selected as campaign leaders and organized as "[Sheros](#)", while interface events such as study visits between the community (women/men) and the students of Karachi University, for example, led to linkages and new alliances. The innovative

concept of organizing women leaders is used to increase women empowerment. In 2021, SHERO's from three communities (Keti Bundar, Kharo Chan and Kakapir) were selected and a network of around 60 of them was established with the aim to influence those in charge of the implementation of the "[Local Adaptation Plan of Action \(LAPA\) for Agriculture sector of Ketibundar and Kharochaan](#)" and of the "[Local Adaptation Plan for the Fishery Sector of Ketibundar and Kharochan](#)". Developed by Oxfam's partner WWF-Pakistan, this is a road map to support the integration of their vulnerabilities into policies and action-plans. The engagement of the Sheros and the exposure visits for journalists, youth awareness events, and the organization of seminars and workshops with a range of stakeholders, supported the engagement of policy makers and representatives of different government departments, and the incorporation of the community findings into the local governments' development and climate adaptation plans.



*"Big Heads" depicting political leaders as "COP26 Hot Air Band" playing drums and bagpipes and dressed in kilts. Oxfam campaigners pose as world leaders playing in a traditional Scottish pipe band near the COP26 UN Climate Summit in Glasgow, UK on the 1st of November 2021. Oxfam said it is vital that world leaders come up with action and not just "Hot Air". It said wealthy, polluting nations are cutting greenhouse gas emissions too slowly, and not doing enough to support vulnerable nations facing the devastating impacts of climate change. Photo: Oxfam.*

## Key achievements

No.	Pathway 3 Intermediary/ Targeted Outcome	Short term outcome 2020	Achieved
Global level			
3.1	<b>Improved quantity and quality of (global) climate finance to women small-scale food producers.</b>	At COP26, at least two governments commit to enhanced transparency on finance commitments, and at least two governments secure support for an improved post-2025 finance goal.	Governments demonstrate greater awareness of the importance of transparency on finance commitments through a new delivery plan to provide the committed \$100 billion annually in climate finance, including a commitment to double adaptation finance from \$20 bn in 2019 to \$40 bn in 2025, and through the adoption of a discretionary <a href="#">Common Tabular Format</a> , although no government commitment was achieved during COP26.
		The GCA further champions the need for increasing the quantity and quality of climate finance.	The GCA advocated for increases in Adaptation Finance, referring to their flagship 2019 report Adapt Now.
		At least two governments upscale their commitments at the GCA-hosted 2021 Climate Adaptation Summit.	No outcomes which Sida2GROW contributed to directly. <sup>4</sup>
		Green Climate Fund (GCF) provides a 50:50 balance between mitigation and adaptation funds and ensures that all funds/investments are predicated upon climate justice principles.	Monthly meetings with the GCF civil society group to strategize how to influence the GCF process by targeting the GCF Annual Board meetings on a) funding balance between adaptation and mitigation 50:50 and b) access to funding for local, especially, women organization in the global South.
		Support is secured for Oxfam agriculture models to address the livelihood and food crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.	References to agro-ecology were included in the COP26 draft text as a solution to tackle emissions in the agriculture sector as well as to promote food security for billions.
3.2	<b>Greater global accountability is built to uphold international benchmarks on land rights.</b>	Generation Equality Action Coalitions champion the need for protecting women's land rights in Beijing+25 review processes.	The <a href="#">Global Acceleration Plan for Gender Equality</a> launched in June 2021 strongly supports of women's land rights under both the Climate Action and Economic Justice Action Coalitions.  A <a href="#">collective women's land rights commitment</a> , led by Oxfam and Allies, was endorsed by over 30 organizations and presented to the Generation Equality Forum in Paris in June 2021 as part of a Global Accountability Framework.
		Monitoring of land-related international instruments such as the SDGs and CEDAW is strengthened through shadow reporting by at least one country.	20 CSOs' capacities are strengthened to monitor land-related international instruments in SDGs and CEDAW through shadow reporting in three countries: Chad, Uganda and Timor-Leste.

<sup>4</sup> The GCA Climate Adaptation Summit announced a list of adaptation initiatives to inform the agenda of the new Champions Group on Adaptation Finance. Oxfam influenced these initiatives indirectly through involvement in the GCA process and raising the profile of adaptation with the Champions Group surrounding the Summit.

		At least one government will make a concrete commitment to recognize community land rights as a result of international public pressure through the LandRightsNow campaign.	The Supreme Court of Peru issued a <a href="#">landmark ruling</a> in October 2021 granting land titles to the Nuevo Andoas community and ordering payment of oil easements by Plus Petrol and compensation by the State. <sup>5</sup>
<b>National level</b>			
3.3	<b>Impacted communities in Uganda and Pakistan have been empowered and their voices are heard, leading to more inclusive policies and practices.</b>	In Pakistan, 5000 members (half of them women) of the most vulnerable coastal communities in Sindh province are taking an active role in influencing policies and action plans on coastal fisheries and mangroves.	Vulnerable coastal communities (11,696 community members of which 60% are women) call for action in district forums with local government, mainstreaming effective community empowerment and local engagement on climate resilience and adaptation policies. <sup>6 7</sup>
		In Uganda, food insecurity for (women) smallholder food producers and youth affected by climate change is documented and raised in national debates, and influences Uganda's delegation at COP26 and the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF).	Smallholder farmers, women and youth raised demands as part of 2 position papers on agriculture and disaster risk reduction, informing the National negotiating paper on agriculture for COP26 in Glasgow.
3.4	<b>The broad urban public in Uganda and Pakistan encourages their government to take bolder action to protect affected communities against climate change impacts.</b>	In Pakistan, at least 1000 men and women (including young people) living in urban areas will call for climate action and hold local and national government accountable for protecting climate-affected communities.	500 community members (of which 60% are women), including "Sheros", media persons and youth, raised demands towards government officials speaking on rights of small-scale food producers, adoption of climate resilience and adaptation plans and policy integration of Local Adaptation Plans of Action.
		In Uganda, at least 1000 urban youth will take action to hold the government accountable for protecting forests, wetlands and land rights.	Youth and environmental activities take action to hold the government accountable, with 200 youth taking part in climates strikes and 300 signing a petition demanding greater accountability for the protection of vanishing of wetlands and forests.
3.5	Governments of Pakistan and Uganda have developed bottom-up, pro-poor and gender-sensitive climate adaptation planning, and have dedicated corresponding budgets, from	In Pakistan, the government will adopt a Gender Action Plan and integrate the Local Adaptation Plans of Action in local, provincial and national policies by 2021.	Community-specific recommendations within Local Adaption Plans of Action inform the national 2021 NDC and National Climate Change Gender Action Plan (ccGAP).
		In Uganda, youth and women small-scale food producers will	Smallholder farmers, women and youth raise their concerns in district level roundtables and a Ministry

<sup>5</sup> The LandRightsNow campaign has supported this community in Peru since 2016.

<sup>6</sup> 11,696 community members from three districts (Karachi, Badin and Thatta) took part in Oxfam-supported community sessions on Vulnerability Research Assessments, Local Adaption Plans of Action, and Crab Fattening/ Soan grass to raise awareness and gather inputs. 40 community representatives for those districts, who attended the community sessions, took up the demands for action in seminars and district forum meetings.

<sup>7</sup> For Indicator 3.3 and 3.4 for Pakistan, COVID-19 created restrictions on public gatherings, seminars/workshops and lockdowns in the cities targeted. A reduced number of youth/ communities were engaged in the events as per government guidelines.

	national and/or donor resources.	contribute meaningfully to the Customary Land Registry, NDCs for UNFCCC submission and the joint annual agriculture and land sector reviews at national level.	of Land working group, providing recommendations to inform the Customary Land Registry and NDC submitted to the UNFCCC <sup>8</sup> .
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## Lessons learned

- We explored new digital campaign tactics in light of COVID-19. Together with partners, we arranged a digital campaign for the World Climate March. People around the world were asked to join the digital march for climate justice and to upload a picture or video of their march on their social media using the #worldclimatemarch hashtag. In this way, we created a gallery of those marching around the world. To connect the digital march to the offline events in Glasgow, we brought videos and photos, and also used ad bikes and a digital screen that was driven around the city. These techniques help to expand our online supporter base, with over 17,500 people joined the digital march.
- The COP Action Team found that late timing created challenges for strategy setting, with additional capacities needed for the future. The team's purpose was to engage staff and partners from developing country programs to engage around the COP. The late timing meant it was less of a bottom-up agenda setting initiative. This has demonstrated the need to collaborate and work together with all country teams in a continuous way. As of summer 2021, additional WIN advisor capacity has been added in support of the project, with the intention of deepening engagement with country teams.
- In Uganda, we witnessed that Observers (smallholder farmers, women and youth from the Global South) are increasingly closed out of major climate negotiations. For future COPs, we should continue to invest in working with actors from the Global South and further advocating so that they join the national negotiation parties, ensuring that all negotiations are more inclusive.
- In Uganda we concluded that the organization of [Earth Day](#) provides a great opportunity for influencing and that we should plan more activities related to this. Oxfam started events around Earth Day in 2021 and found it to be an effective platform to reach and engage local communities on the impact of climate change. Oxfam created media productions and campaign messages, and supported community dialogues, volunteer city clean-ups, tree planting, and the launch of two school "climate reality clubs".
- In Pakistan, we identified improvements needed for the sustainability mangrove management from an After Action Review (AAR) process with female members of the communities in Keti Bundar and Kharo Chan. The AAR found that a greater network of "Sheros" could be established along the coast line to ensure that mangrove plantations are not lost. It also looked at different alternative livelihoods options that could empower them financially and reduce the need to migrate for work. The benefits of the mangrove preservation efforts could also help address food security.
- In Pakistan, we saw that community consultations are needed to ensure locally informed and adapted mitigation strategies. During community consultations, communities may initially demand ration support as they are unaware of the link between climate change and the food which is available. Consultations with communities are a two-way process in which information on climate changes is shared and in turn these communities inform mitigation strategies based on their valuable knowledge and experience. For example, in 2021 stakeholder workshop on coastal climate vulnerabilities in Ketibundar and Kharochaan identified local priorities and potential solutions to the main agricultural challenges, addressing toxic industrial pollution and of use of substandard seeds, fertilizers and pesticides.

<sup>8</sup> Oxfam and its's partners advocated for the creation of a formalized working group engage in dialogue with government and CSOs on issues of land rights. In 2021, the Ministry of Land created a permanent working group for future exchanges on land rights with civil society.

# GOVERNANCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT

The SeedsGROW program is governed by the Sida Program Governance Group (S-PGG), which provides overall steer and guidance, ensures synergy and risk management, and monitors whether the program activities comply with the contract with Sida. The S-PGG met two times in 2021, to approve the 2020 annual report and 2022 Operational plan.

## Steering committees

The SeedsGROW program has two steering committees: one for SD=HS (Seeds) and one for the GROW component. These steering committees provide management guidance and oversight to each of the Project Management Units. In 2020 both committees had two ordinary meetings to approve the 2020 annual report and 2022 operational plans.

SD=HS also created the ad-hoc SD=HS MTR Steering Group with members of the Steering Committee and Global Project Advisory Committee as a mechanism to strengthen the participation of country offices and partners in the Mid Term Review process. The MTR Steering Group met on several occasions during 2021 to approve the Terms of Reference, select the consultant and to formulate the management response.

## Risk management

Risks are actively managed by all the project stakeholders on national and global level and particularly by the Oxfam country offices on national level and by Oxfam Novib as legal contract holder(s). The basis for risk management are the risk matrix and mitigation strategies that are part of all the 2021 operational plans. Specific issues that required attention in 2021 were:

- **COVID-19:** In 2021 we observed in almost all countries new spikes in COVID-19 cases and new measures imposed by governments, causing limitations for (inter)national travel, meetings and public events. **Mitigation:** Oxfam and partners continued to improve the new ways of working already initiated in 2020, particularly relying on online meetings and trainings, the use of Whatsapp and mobile phones for technical advice, but also stronger resilience on local staff. It remained a challenge to plan activities and use of resources in this context, contributing to delays and underspent in affected regions and countries.
- **Climate change and natural hazards:** climate-related risks continued to affect program activities in 2021. Several countries were confronted with drought, erratic rainfall and hurricanes (Guatemala). **Mitigation:** Like in previous years our work both on community level (e.g. in the SD=HS program and in the GROW program in Pathway 3) and global level (e.g. the climate inequality campaign) are geared towards finding adequate solutions and support for the rural communities that are most affected, particularly women and youth. Particularly during the COP26 Oxfam and partners had a strong presence, calling attention to the unequal access of marginalized groups to resources to adapt to climate change.
- **Staff well-being and staff rotation:** Covid-19 in combination with reorganizations in Oxfam Novib, Oxfam International, and Oxfam country offices put a heavy burden staff in SeedsGROW. Adding to this is the insecurity about the future of the program after 2022. The risk of work overload, burn out and staff rotation has increased in 2021. **Mitigation:** Oxfam closely follows up on changes in the organization and has conducted staff satisfaction surveys to get more insights into the wellbeing of staff and measures to address problems. Workload and staff wellbeing are priority topics in the performance reviews and coaching and team sessions are organized to help staff with the challenges they face.

# SYNERGIES

While SD=HS and GROW are different programs in operational terms, both are committed to mutual strengthening by exploring the potential to increase impact through joint work. In 2021, SD=HS and GROW continued to collaborate in using experiences from the ground to strengthen global campaigns. This is often done by sharing human stories, specifically those of women small scale food producers. A good example is Mrs Margaret Masudio, a farmer from the Pakele sub-county, in the Adjumani district, Uganda, who has been part of the SD=HS program as a facilitator in the Farmer Field School for a few years. She witnesses every day the effects of climate change, with unreliable rainfall patterns and extended dry periods, and has therefore taken on a leadership role in identifying seeds of local plants, cultivating these and training other women farmers, to adapt to climate change. Margaret was invited through the GROW campaign at COP26 in Glasgow to speak about how farmers in Uganda and especially women are affected by climate change and to highlight the importance of local knowledge and diversity for food security and resilience. This is one of many examples in which cases from the ground are used.



*Margaret Masudio, a smallholder farmer from Adjumani district Uganda, spoke at COP26 in Glasgow about how farmers in Uganda and especially women are affected by climate change, 1 November 2021. Photo: Oxfam Uganda.*

It is thanks to the complementarity of approaches of the two components of the program that, affected persons are on one side, strengthening their capacity to adapt (Seeds), and on the other, increasing their visibility and representation in decision-making spaces, to help shape the enabling environment for adaptation (GROW).

Beyond the complementarity in our ways of working, Seeds and GROW leverage on the thematic interlinkages related to seeds, climate change, land rights and gender, by prioritizing the role of women and their local communities in preserving biodiversity, and advocating for secure land tenure, as a tool of empowerment. Ensuring secure land tenure is essential for agrobiodiversity efforts, as it leads to productive land investments, and increased autonomy to make decisions over land by women, men and communities. Initiative such as those led by the Women Land Rights Movement (WLRM) in Uganda, to ensure that women have access to registered land ownership, is a case in point. Among its diverse membership it includes local partners from SD=HS. In 2021, WLRM with support from Oxfam, was able to have women property/land rights included in the Land Acquisition Bill, passed by Parliament, as part of the GROW program. This milestone supports the enabling environment to achieve the objectives under SD=HS.

SD=HS and GROW are working towards a stronger integration of their work. Respective project managers have developed in 2021 a “climate pitch” to present to donors, where the components of the two programs align towards a common vision and goal and where an integrated approach to agrobiodiversity is presented under the concept of the “People’s Landscape Approach”. In 2022 this approach will be further developed and piloted in Nepal.

# FINANCE

In 2021, SIDA SEEDS GROW project had a total expenditure of 4,791,055 EUR including ICR. This compared to the most recent approved budget (5,978,341 EUR) represents 80% absorption. The table below shows the consolidated overview per outcome.

**Table 1. SEEDSGROW FINANCIAL SUMMARY, JAN–DEC 2021**

	Budget 2019-2022 EUR	2019 Audited actuals EUR	2020 Audited actuals EUR	2021				Overall balance remaining EUR
				Budget	Actuals	Variance to budget	Absorption	
SD=HS								
Direct contract management cost	2,490,296	551,972	604,671	644,303	507,553	136,750	79%	826,100
MEAL	672,402	48,499	101,887	309,508	264,029	45,479	85%	257,986
Pillar 1: Farmers crop diversity mgmt.	3,664,758	582,329	765,740	1,275,371	1,041,614	233,756	82%	1,275,075
Pillar 2: Farmer seed enterprises	1,424,749	241,955	254,209	555,102	428,078	127,023	77%	500,507
Pillar 3: Nutrition and local food plants	1,979,507	246,421	464,519	651,331	518,751	132,580	80%	749,815
Pillar 4: An enabling policy environment	1,161,841	155,681	258,331	581,042	346,718	234,325	60%	401,111
Total SDHS Pillars	8,230,855	1,226,386	1,742,800	3,062,846	2,335,162	727,684	76%	2,926,507
Total SDHS	11,393,553	1,826,858	2,449,358	4,016,657	3,106,744	909,913	77%	4,010,593
GROW								
Direct contract management cost	626,956	143,945	164,940	167,673	153,069	14,604	91%	165,002
MEAL	268,763	14,633	32,587	111,988	63,377	48,611	57%	158,165
Outcome 1: International campaigns								
Pathway 1: Global private sector actors	925,490	169,177	230,038	245,236	226,399	18,837	92%	299,875
Pathway 2: Internat. and financial instits.	328,232	66,567	82,929	85,139	68,757	16,382	81%	109,979
Pathway 3: Nat. govts. multi. fora	892,043	238,445	199,646	257,612	220,825	36,786	86%	233,127

Outcome 2: National campaigns								
Pathway 1: Global private sector actors	1,481,065	217,794	397,891	414,031	356,724	57,306	86%	508,656
Pathway 2: Internat. and financial instits.		-	-	-	-		0%	-
Pathway 3: Nat. gov. multi. fora	974,542	231,926	246,924	288,899	281,725	7,173	98%	213,967
Small campaign opportunities fund		-	34,143	-	-	-	0%	-34,143
<b>Total program GROW</b>	<b>4,601,372</b>	<b>923,909</b>	<b>1,191,571</b>	<b>1,290,916</b>	<b>1,154,432</b>	<b>136,484</b>	<b>89%</b>	<b>1,331,460</b>
<b>Total GROW</b>	<b>5,497,091</b>	<b>1,082,487</b>	<b>1,389,099</b>	<b>1,570,577</b>	<b>1,370,878</b>	<b>199,700</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>1,654,628</b>
<b>Total SeedsGROW Direct expenditure</b>	<b>16,890,644</b>	<b>2,909,345</b>	<b>3,838,456</b>	<b>5,587,234</b>	<b>4,477,622</b>	<b>1,109,613</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>5,665,221</b>
Indirect expenditure: admin fee 7%	1,182,345	203,654	268,692	391,106	313,434		80%	396,565
<b>Grand total SeedsGROW</b>	<b>18,072,989</b>	<b>3,112,999</b>	<b>4,107,148</b>	<b>5,978,341</b>	<b>4,791,055</b>		<b>80%</b>	<b>6,061,787</b>

## SD=HS

The SD=HS project presented in 2021 a total expenditure of 3,106,744 EUR against a revised operational budget of 4,016,657 EUR. This represents an absorption of 77%.

SD=HS 2021 Operational budget was revised including unspent from 2020. All countries were ambitious and optimistic in their approach to catch up with activities that could not been implemented in 2020 due to COVID 19. However, in 2021 COVID restrictions were still there. As a result, implementing partners adapted the way they did activities changing their expenditure patterns. Becoming sometimes more effective in the usage of resources.

Moreover, travel was limited in 2021 and the change to more activities online required some investments on equipment. Face to face workshops and meetings were postponed to 2022, therefore is expected to be using the remaining budget in 2022.

In 2021, expenditure for both contract management and MEAL costs remain within budget, with an absorption of 79% and 85% respectively, there were some gaps on staff at global level that were covered by consultants and resulted in savings on Human resources budget.

**Table 2. SD=HS FINANCIAL SUMMARY, JAN–DEC 2021**

	Budget as submitted to Sida 2021	Operational budget 2021	Audited actuals	Balance	Absorption
<b>A. Direct contract management costs</b>	626,235	644,303	507,553	136,750	79%
Human resources		532,885	390,526	142,358	73%
Other costs		111,418	90,960	20,458	82%
<b>B. Other direct program costs</b>					
Inception period					
<b>C. MEAL</b>	297,053	309,508	264,029	45,479	85%
<b>Pillar 1: Farmer crop diversity mgmt.</b>	<b>1,192,946</b>	<b>1,275,371</b>	<b>1,041,614</b>	<b>233,756</b>	<b>82%</b>
Activities		587,543	439,732	147,811	75%
Consultancy		70,996	34,749	36,247	49%
Equipment		2,860	10,788	-7,928	377%
Human resources		461,110	466,731	-5,621	101%
Office costs		22,837	25,214	-2,378	110%
Travel		52,186	30,719	21,467	59%
Workshops		77,840	33,681	44,159	43%
<b>Pillar 2: Farmer seed enterprises</b>	<b>456,275</b>	<b>555,102</b>	<b>428,078</b>	<b>127,023</b>	<b>77%</b>
Activities		271,764	221,548	50,215	82%
Consultancy		40,495	13,247	27,248	33%
Equipment		23,263	25,391	-2,128	109%
Human resources		194,680	151,041	43,639	78%
Office costs		6,409	5,074	1,335	79%
Travel		15,203	10,410	4,793	68%
Workshops		3,288	1,367	1,921	42%
Unallocated (country office budgets)				-	
<b>Pillar 3: Nutrition and local food plants</b>	<b>578,626</b>	<b>651,331</b>	<b>518,751</b>	<b>132,580</b>	<b>80%</b>
Activities		286,436	225,142	61,294	79%
Consultancy		74,799	45,829	28,969	61%
Equipment		800	762	38	95%
Human resources		242,620	224,999	17,621	93%
Office costs		11,555	10,436	1,119	90%

Travel		18,448	3,983	14,465	22%
Workshops		16,674	7,600	9,074	46%
<b>Pillar 4: Enabling policy environment</b>	<b>442,603</b>	<b>581,042</b>	<b>346,718</b>	<b>234,325</b>	<b>60%</b>
Activities (including flex-fund)		218,775	118,802	99,973	54%
Consultancy		151,676	74,753	76,923	49%
Equipment		516	12,203	-11,687	2365%
Human resources		146,463	122,164	24,299	83%
Office costs		5,373	3,775	1,598	70%
Travel		25,960	5,403	20,556	21%
Workshops		32,280	9,617	22,663	30%
<b>D. Total program costs</b>	<b>3,593,737</b>	<b>4,016,657</b>	<b>3,106,744</b>	<b>909,913</b>	<b>77%</b>

## GROW

The GROW project had in 2021 a total expenditure of EUR 1.370.878 against an operational plan of EUR 1.570.577, which represented 87% usage of the planned budget.

**Table 3. GROW FINANCIAL SUMMARY, JAN–DEC 2021**

	TOTAL 2021 Euros			
	OP 2021 Update	Actuals	Balance	Absorption
<b>A. Direct contract management cost</b>	<b>167,673</b>	<b>153,069</b>	<b>14,604</b>	<b>91%</b>
Staff costs	141,033	142,940	-1,907	101%
Other costs	26,640	10,129	16,511	38%
<b>B. Other direct program costs</b>				
Inception period				
<b>Outcome 1. International campaigns</b>	<b>587,987</b>	<b>515,982</b>	<b>-72,005</b>	<b>88%</b>
1.1 Pathway 1: Global private sector actors	245,236	226,399	18,837	92%
1.1 Human resources	145,236	155,932	-10,696	107%
1.1.1: Public campaigning	52,500	32,311	20,189	62%
1.1.2: Advocacy and research	47,500	38,156	9,344	80%
1.2 Pathway 2: Int. and financial institutions	85,139	68,757	16,382	81%
1.2 Human resources	53,639	47,370	6,269	88%
1.2.1: Public campaigning	-	-	-	0%

1.2.2: Advocacy and research	31,500	21,387	10,113	68%
1.3 Pathway 3. National govs. and multilateral fora	257,612	220,825	36,786	86%
1.3 Human resources	172,048	161,328	10,720	94%
1.3.1: Public campaigning	49,164	31,032	18,132	63%
1.3.2: Advocacy and research	36,400	28,465	7,935	78%
<b>Outcome 2. National campaigns</b>	<b>702,929</b>	<b>638,450</b>	<b>64,480</b>	<b>91%</b>
2.1 Pathway 1: Global private sector actors	414,031	356,724	57,306	86%
2.1 Human resources	150,296	142,940	7,357	95%
2.1.1: Public campaigning	97,416	67,334	30,082	69%
2.1.2: Advocacy and research	166,318	146,450	19,868	88%
2.2 Pathway 2: Int. and financial institutions	-	-	-	0%
2.2 Human resources	-	-	-	0%
2.2.1: Public campaigning	-	-	-	0%
2.2.2: Advocacy and research	-	-	-	0%
2.3 Pathway 3. Nat. govs. and multilateral fora	288,899	281,725	7,173	98%
2.3 Human resources	176,925	150,723	26,201	85%
2.3.1: Public campaigning	55,825	51,849	3,976	93%
2.3.2: Advocacy and research	56,149	79,153	-23,004	141%
<b>Total other direct program costs</b>	<b>1,290,916</b>	<b>1,154,432</b>	<b>136,484</b>	<b>89%</b>
<b>Small campaign opportunities fund/to be allocated</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>MEAL</b>	111,988	63,377	48,611	57%
<b>Total program costs</b>	<b>1,570,577</b>	<b>1,370,878</b>	<b>199,700</b>	<b>87%</b>
<b>ICR 7%</b>	<b>109,940</b>	<b>95,961</b>		
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,680,518</b>	<b>1,466,839</b>		<b>87%</b>

The table above summarizes the expenditures of all involved partners for a period of 12 months, except for Thailand and Pakistan whose expenditures encompasses a period of 15 months, as both countries are phasing out of the project. The 2021 operational budget included rollover from 2020.

In the same way as the SD=SH project, implementation was still affected by the pandemic global situation, restricting travels and face-to-face meetings. Many activities were adapted and executed online. This has mainly affected outcome 1 due to its international scope. Nevertheless, also in this outcome, an overspending on Human Resources were due to turnover of staff and increased investment on working hours on Pathway 1, that resulted in the successful results achieved and described in the respective narrative section.

Expenditures for Contract Management were inside of the budget (91% absorption). MEAL costs were lower (57% absorption) since many of the costs related to the midterm evaluation will be booked on the next financial period, in year 2022.

## CASH FLOW AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE GAINS AND LOSSES

In 2021 Oxfam Novib received SEK 52,500,000 equivalent to 5,172,693 EUR, disbursed by SIDA in three instalments. Including disbursements received in previous years, this brought the total amount received to EUR 13,955,380.

**Table 4. CASH FLOW**

	Grants to receive (budgeted exchange rate)		Grants received (actual exchange rate)		FX result on donor grants
	SEK	EUR	SEK	EUR	EUR
<b>2019</b>					
SD=HS	26,981,927	2,566,548	26,981,927	2,576,101	9,553
GROW	13,018,073	1,238,292	13,018,073	1,242,901	4,609
<b>Total 2019</b>	<b>40,000,000</b>	<b>3,804,840</b>	<b>40,000,000</b>	<b>3,819,002</b>	<b>14,162</b>
FX rate		10.51		10.47	
<b>2020</b>					
SD=HS	35,413,779	3,368,594	35,413,779	3,348,245	(20,349.31)
GROW	17,086,221	1,625,258	17,086,221	1,615,440	(9,818.02)
<b>Total 2020</b>	<b>52,500,000</b>	<b>4,993,853</b>	<b>52,500,000</b>	<b>4,963,685</b>	<b>-30,167</b>
FX rate		10.51		10.58	
<b>2021</b>					
SD=HS	38,550,074	3,666,922	38,550,074	3,794,857	127,935.47
GROW	13,949,926	1,326,931	13,949,926	1,377,836	50,904.99
<b>Total 2021</b>	<b>52,500,000</b>	<b>4,993,852</b>	<b>52,500,000</b>	<b>5,172,693</b>	<b>178,840</b>
FX rate		10.51		10.15	
<b>Total funds received up to Dec.</b>	<b>145,000,000</b>	<b>13,792,545</b>	<b>145,000,000</b>	<b>13,955,380</b>	<b>162,835</b>

Whereas in year 1 and 2 exchange rate differences were rather small. In year 3 an exchange rate gain on the disbursements received that year (178,842 EUR). As December 2021 an accumulated exchange rate gain has been registered (162,835 EUR).

If we convert expenditure for 2019,2020 and 2021, including ICR into SEK, the exchange rate difference amounts to 1,659,633 SEK, equivalent to the amount mentioned in table 4.

**Table 5. EXCHANGE RATE DIFFERENCE IN SEK**

Overall spending	2019	2020	2021	Cumulative
SD=HS direct program spending	1,817,189	2,449,358	3,106,744	7,373,291
GROW direct program spending	1,082,487	1,389,099	1,370,878	3,842,464
ICR (7%)	202,977	268,692	313,434	785,103
<b>Overall spending (EUR)</b>	<b>3,102,653</b>	<b>4,107,148</b>	<b>4,791,055</b>	<b>12,000,856</b>
Overall spending (SEK budgeted rate: 10.51)	32,617,958	43,178,146	50,353,989	126,150,093
Overall spending (SEK actual rate)	32,497,005	43,366,870	48,626,585	124,490,460
<b>Exchange-rate difference on actual spending in SEK</b>	<b>120,953</b>	<b>-188,724</b>	<b>1,727,404</b>	<b>1,659,633</b>

Taking into account the above-mentioned exchange rate difference, up until the end of year 3, and actual expenditure for both program components, the balance remaining at 31 December 2021 can be calculated as EUR 1,944,177.

**Table 6. BALANCE OF INCOME VERSUS EXPENDITURES**

Balance of income versus expenditures as of 31 December 2021	TOTAL EUR
Total donor income received	13,955,380
Total actual expenditure (direct plus indirect)	12,011,203
<b>Balance</b>	<b>1,944,177</b>

