



## ENHANCING THE PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION OF SAFE AND HIGH-QUALITY FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

Food insecurity, poverty, and increasing climate shocks and stresses are persistent issues faced by the agricultural sector. As the world's population is constantly growing, more innovative approaches and efforts are required to solve these issues, without placing additional pressure on the environment or depleting natural resources. Horticultural production systems integrating advanced technologies can provide an opportunity to grow a wide range of crops with high commercial and nutritional value. However, many developing countries have not as yet begun to apply such technologies to agriculture, or are at the initial stages of their application. Against this background, the project aimed to facilitate the process of promoting the production and consumption of safe and high-quality fruit and vegetables at national and international level, in order to address the pressing issues mentioned above.



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### WHAT DID THE PROJECT DO?

The project contributed to the development and dissemination of good agricultural practices, for sustainable production of high-quality and safe horticultural products in rural, peri-urban and urban environments. This was achieved by introducing locally adapted systems throughout the value chain, supported by capacity building, a regulatory framework, and laboratory improvement activities. Studies were conducted on technical issues, and appropriate policies were developed to provide an enabling environment for the sustainable production of fruit and vegetables in different countries and regions. In addition, the project supported the development and dissemination of technical papers and reports on specific areas of horticulture food systems. Another important component of the project was the provision of technical support for the FAO HORTIVAR database, designed to facilitate access to information on the performance of horticultural crop cultivars. The project contributed to collecting and sharing data on horticultural cultivars worldwide, and the database now functions as an effective information tool to help small-scale farmers identify cultivars and cropping practices adapted to their specific requirements and environments. In addition, advanced technologies in greenhouse horticulture were introduced in Uzbekistan and Viet Nam, enhancing productivity, climate control, and efficiency in management.

### KEY FACTS

**Latest Approved Budget**  
USD 2 929 076

**Duration**  
April 2006-January 2023

**Resource Partner**  
Government of the Republic of Korea

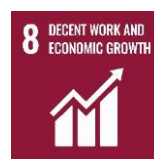
**Beneficiaries**  
Governments, farmers, consumers  
and industries of FAO Member Nations

## IMPACT

Overall, the introduction of horticultural production systems based on advanced technologies provided an opportunity to grow a wide range of crops from diverse plant families with high nutritional values. It is expected that this, together with other project interventions, will contribute to improving livelihoods, generating higher incomes, and enhancing nutrition. More specifically, in Uzbekistan and Viet Nam, agricultural productivity, product quality, and food safety improved, thanks to the introduction of locally adapted technologies in these countries, helping them to face challenges in food and nutrition security and climate change.

## ACTIVITIES

- Data entered on horticultural cultivars worldwide by registered HORTIVAR partners from 119 countries (2013 to 2020); total number of data entries increased from 74 765 to 91 907.
- Support provided for meetings with horticultural institutes (such as International Society for Horticultural Science, Beijing Academy of Agricultural and Forestry Sciences).
- Global Conference on Sustainable Plant Production and International Horticultural Congress 2022 introduced to Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (MAFRA).
- Support provided for seminar between Rural Development Administration of Republic of Korea (RDA) and FAO, regarding potential areas of future collaboration.
- Two project proposals submitted to MAFRA in 2022:
  - i) “Sustainable Crop Production Driven by Technological Innovations” (target countries: Philippines, Rwanda, Uganda, and United Republic of Tanzania; and: ii) “Smart Farming for Sustainable Livelihoods” (target countries: Zambia and Honduras).
- Technical support provided for two projects: i) Government Cooperative Programme project GCP/GLO/071/ROK, “Smart farming for the future generation”; and ii) Multilateral Trust Fund project MTF/GLO/697/MUL, “HORTIVAR: Horticulture Cultivars Performance Information System”.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



### Project Title

Support for Horticulture Programme Development

### Project Code

FAO: GCP/INT/005/ROK

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