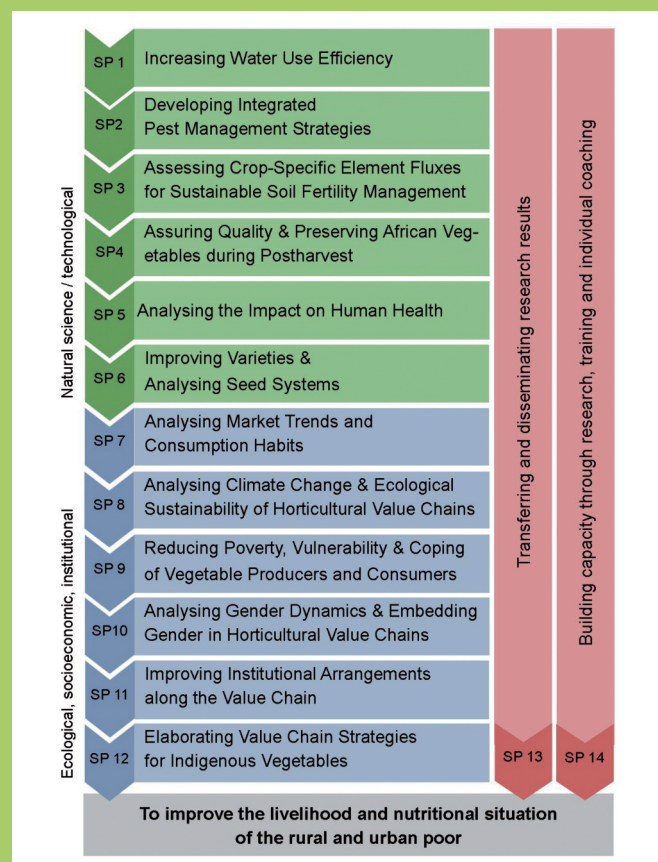


Coordination of the project

The principles of transparency, diversity, participation and sustainability are fundamental values of the project that are reflected in the coordination as well as the project activities themselves.

Regular meetings among all project partners will provide the basis for decision-making and coordination in the project. An executive board reflecting geographic, gender, and institutional diversity is democratically elected and carries out the function of formal and legitimized decision-making. The project coordinator supports the board with the implementation.

Subprojects of HORTINLEA



Funding initiative for global food security

HORTINLEA is embedded in a funding initiative for global food security (GlobE) of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research and the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.

The HORTINLEA consortium has been awarded a total grant of approximately 1.5 million euros per year, jointly provided by the donors for three years. Two additional years are in prospect.



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Horticultural Innovation and Learning for Improved Nutrition and Livelihood in East Africa



HORTINLEA is a research project addressing food security in East Africa, particularly in Kenya. The overall goal is to improve the livelihood and nutritional situation of the rural and urban poor.

Photos: Courtesy of Rainer Meyhöfer

Analysing the value chain of indigenous vegetables in Kenya

Global food security is one of the pressing challenges of the 21st century. In Kenya, half of the population is unable to meet their daily nutritional requirements, while the majority of Kenyans depend on farming. Strengthening the horticultural sector thus has the potential to foster improvement in the nutritional status and increase incomes among vulnerable people in Kenya.

Horticultural crops and particularly indigenous vegetables provide essential nutrients lacking in the diet of millions. HORTINLEA uses an integrated approach that encompasses the entire value chain from production to marketing and consumption of indigenous vegetables and integrates poverty, environmental and gender dimensions.

Scientific research and beyond

In HORTINLEA, 18 universities and research institutes collaborate in 14 subprojects to gain added value from their academic excellence and expertise. In doing so, the project will lead to regionally adapted solutions related to food systems in East Africa based on interdisciplinary, comprehensive and holistic knowledge.

In order to ensure that the research findings ultimately benefit the rural and urban poor in Kenya, a comprehensive dissemination strategy that addresses policy makers and practitioners forms part of the project.



Collaboration of East African and German experts

HORTINLEA is designed to strengthen university, research and innovation capacities in Kenya and in the neighbouring regions of Tanzania and Ethiopia. The aim of the capacity building activities is to enhance South-South research cooperation among the African partners in order to foster locally developed solutions to food security challenges.

A graduate school will not only provide a forum for young researchers from East Africa to share their progress with fellow researchers and to build long-standing research networks, but will also offer training for skills that are required for a young researcher's career.

