



Vietnamese pig feeding her young



INITIATIVE ON
Sustainable Animal
Productivity



Outcomes

- After 1.5 years, the membership of the 8 FGs has reached 692 households, with women representing 30% and men 70%. All households implemented at least one of SAPLING's innovations (e.g., artificial insemination, feeds and forages, or animal health), positively impacting around 3,321 farmers.
- A direct partnership was established with a probiotic product manufacturer, enabling the FGs to purchase probiotics at a 30% discount.
- A Livestock Production and Trade Alliance was established to promote the production, buying, and selling of livestock among the FGs and other stakeholders.
- The FG model of SAPLING has been recognized for its effectiveness and is integrated into the National Target Program (worth USD 760,000) in Mai Son District to support the formation of 19 newly FGs.

The challenge

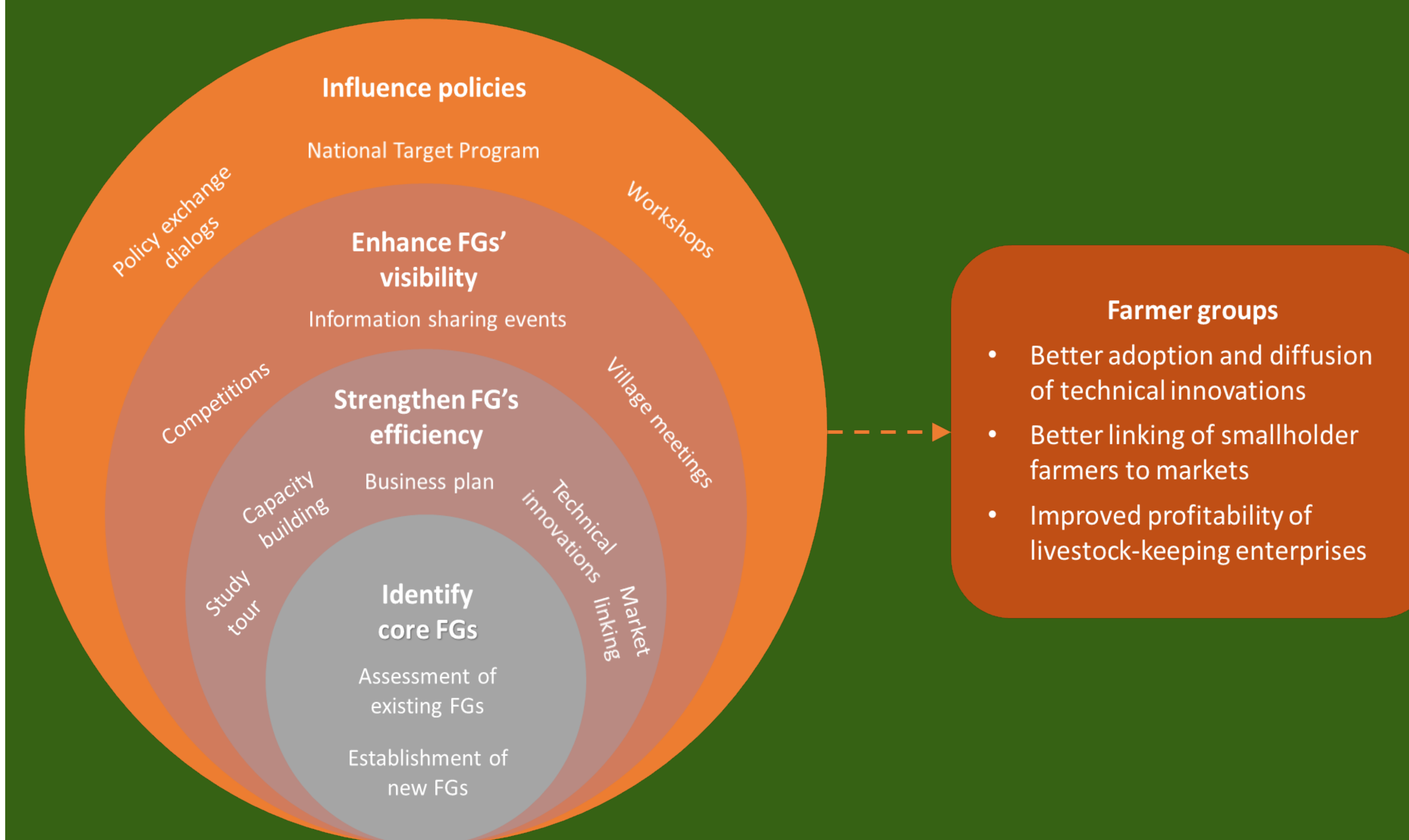
- Public policies and past initiatives have encouraged the formation of farmer groups (FGs) to achieve economies of scale. Nevertheless, the effectiveness and unity of these groups remain fragile and heavily reliant on outside assistance and market dynamics
- SAPLING seeks to strengthen FGs in Northwest Vietnam to improve smallholder farmers' access to both input and output markets, while also enhancing their skills and collaborative problem-solving in pig and cattle farming.

Our innovative approach

Eight FGs comprising 127 households participated in SAPLING and were strengthened through four steps:

- Identify core FGs for intervention through assessment of existing FGs and establishment of new ones
- Increase efficiency of FGs by supporting them to develop business plan, capacity building, adoption of technical innovations and market linkages
- Increase visibility of FGs in communities through village meetings, information sharing events and contests
- Influence policies by supporting the implementation of the National Target Program, organizing policy exchange dialogues and workshops

Livestock farmer groups for innovation uptake, market access and policy influence in Mai Son District, Son La Province, Vietnam



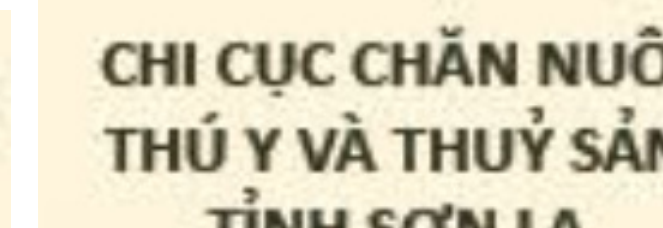
Thinh Nguyen-Thi

Research officer
t.t.nguyen@cgiar.org

Next steps

- Continue supporting the 8 SAPLING's FGs and 19 newly established FGs under the National Target Program to operate effectively
- Provide training materials on SAPLING's technical innovations and FG model to the local government for replication and scaling in other areas.

Partners



The International Livestock Research Institute thanks all donors & organizations which globally support its work through their contributions to the CGIAR Trust Fund. cgiar.org/funders

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