



# ASIAN CHICKEN GENETIC GAINS (ASCGG): A PLATFORM FOR TESTING, DELIVERING, AND IMPROVING CHICKENS FOR ENHANCED LIVELIHOOD OUTCOMES IN SOUTH EAST ASIA

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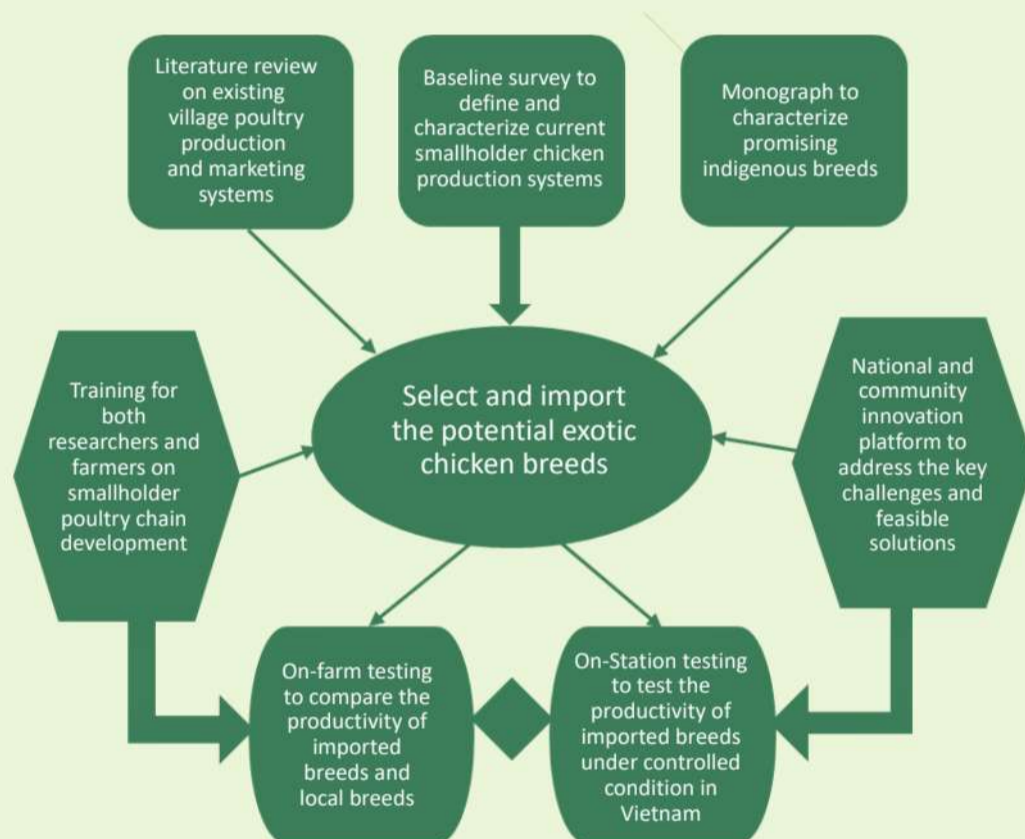
## Problem statement

(LMICs) are integral to the livelihoods and nutrition of nearly all poor rural households. The promotion of smallholder chicken production/productivity in LMICs is an increasingly important focus of development practitioners, given the potentially significant income and nutrition effects. However low-producing chicken genotypes typically dominate smallholder production systems in Southeast Asia. Genetic improvement of chicken strains, linked to improved management, is at the core of improving the village chicken production systems on a sustainable basis in Vietnam.



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## The solution/Innovation



## Scalability and regional relevance

This results of the project are scalable to other regional relevance due to the complementation of the project's activities. a Community Innovation Platform was introduced to identify bottlenecks and difficulties in smallholder poultry farms. Following this, farmers then received training in farming techniques and flock management.

The exotic chicken breeds were carefully selected to ensure adaptability to small-scale farming conditions in a tropical climate. Furthermore, the breeds possessed characteristics preferred by the local population. Therefore, during the trials, the farmers were very happy and satisfied with the imported breeds. Information of the trial was disseminated within the community by the farmers themselves, and the products from the trials (eggs and chicken meat) were well-received by local consumers.

The project's success demonstrates that small-scale farmers can absolutely change their perceptions to adopt high-yielding chicken breeds to increase income, improve livelihoods, and develop sustainable livestock farming.

## Key results/impacts

The 4 exotic chicken breeds has been selected based on the adaptation and inclusion the preferred characteristic by Vietnamese famers and consumers.

- Sasso from Hendrix, France (dual-purpose)
- Tetra H form Babolna, Hungary (dual-purpose)
- Tetra Tint form Babolna, Hungary (egg-strain)
- Novogen Tinted from Novogen, France (egg-strain)

Three indigenous chicken breeds used to compare were Lac Thuy (Hoa Binh); Mong (Ha Nam) and Lac Son ( Quang Binh)

In on-farm testing in Quang Binh, HoaBinh anh Ha Nam, the two dual-purpose breeds showed superior body mass compared to the local breeds. The egg productivity had much higher than local breed. The imported breeds laid 205-249 egg/hens while the local hen achieved from 86.49 to 117.32 egg/hen/72 weeks. The local chicks consumed from 3.32 to 5.12 kg for 10 egg while the import breeds needed only 1.58 to 2.21 kg.

In on-station testing, the results showed that the two dual-purpose breeds (Sasso and Tetra H) had egg yield of 94.93 and 92.05% of the breed standard provide by the company while Tetra Tint and Novogen, achieved 74.67% and 84.04% respectively. This indicates that 3 imported breed are highly adapted in Vietnam.

## Partners and donors involved

- Vietnam Institute of Animal and Veterinary Sciences (VIAVS)
- International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)
- Emerge Centre for Innovation – Affica (ECI-Affica)
- Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR)
- Provincial department of animal Production and Animal Health of Ha Nam, Hoa Binh Provinces
- Quang Binh Breeding Centre, Quang Binh Province
- 60 households participated the on-farm comparative testing in Ha Nam, Hoa Binh and Quang Binh provinces

