Expanding artificial insemination services for smallholder cattle systems in Son La province, Nothwest Highlands of Vietnam

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Problem statement

Limited access to reliable artificial insemination (AI) services prevents smallholder cattle farmers in Son La from accessing improved, productive and locally adapted genetics needed to increase productivity.

The solution

Through the Chăn-hênh initiative, access to improved cattle genetics is strengthened through a trained network of AI service providers organised in a cooperative service delivery model. Farmer capacity building on AI and cattle reproductive health has also been key.
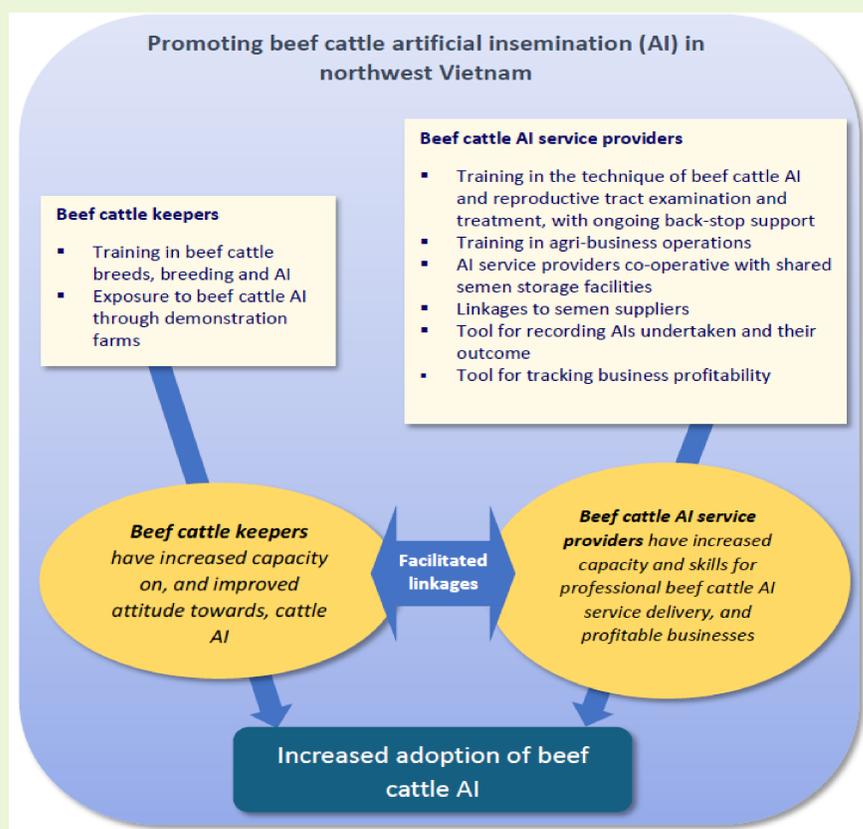
An expert from VIAVS train local farmers and vet on AI in Son La Province (photo credit: ILRI/Chi Nguyen).

Promoting beef cattle artificial insemination (AI) in northwest Vietnam

Scalability and regional relevance

The next stage of the Chăn-Hênh initiative will scale this model to additional communes in Son La Province alongside other innovations aimed at increasing cattle productivity and strengthening the cattle value chain, with local partners leading the scaling efforts.

For more information on the model see:
https://hdl.handle.net/10568/159525

Partners and donors involved

Chan-Henh is co-implemented by the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), the Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT (ABC), the Vietnam Institute of Animal and Veterinary Sciences (VIAVS), the Vietnam Women's Academy (VWA), and agricultural authorities in Son La Province, in close collaboration with local actors, including women and men livestock keepers.

Key results and impacts

- Expanded access to **reliable AI services for smallholder farmers**
- Improved access to **productive and locally adapted cattle genetics**
- **Greater adoption of cattle AI and improved herd productivity**
- Establishment of a **local AI service provider cooperative**
- **Enhanced income opportunities** for trained women and men AI technicians

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