



for



Call for research topics: Lessons learned for value chains development

AGRINATURA has successfully been implementing the EU-funded VCA4D programme since 2016, undertaking more than [30 value chain analyses](#) across different commodities and geographies. As such, VCA4D now has a rich portfolio of studies upon which to review, analyse and reflect. In considering where the VCA4D project goes and how it develops in the future, we would like to commission AGRINATURA to produce a series of research papers to learn lessons from VCA4D and help EU policy makers improving future operations.

These research papers will be presented at a Conference that will gather researchers and policymakers and be held in the summer 2022. Researchers are invited to develop papers that:

- Make use of the VCA4D studies already produced either by adopting a commodity perspective (throughout different country contexts) and/or a geographical perspective (covering different commodities);
- Develop a cross-cutting analysis of specific themes proposed by the VCA4D project such as, among others, certified/fair-trade sub-chains and inclusiveness; tension between social and environmental sustainability; institutional context and performance of the value chains; responsible value chains and agroecology; land and water rights and inclusiveness, etc.;
- Or evaluate the effectiveness and relevance of the multidisciplinary VCA4D approach – economic, social and environmental disciplines- in addressing questions related to growth, inclusiveness and sustainability regarding value chains, and for supporting interventions and policy decisions.

As a first step of this process, we invite AGRINATURA experts to submit suggestions of research topics on which the research papers would focus for stimulating useful reflection in support of EU policy dialogue and implementation of value chain operations in partners countries.

These suggestions of topics should take into account the priorities of the EU/DG INTPA – International Partnership, and in particular, must be relevant as regards to the EU Green Deal and notably to its Farm to Fork Strategy. A strong link should be demonstrated with EU strategic objectives: sustainable growth and jobs; green and circular economy; rural transformation and food systems; sustainable blue economy; forest and landscape management; gender equality; nutrition and food security, etc.

After the selection of the topics jointly with the EUDG INTPA/F3, the PMU will inform and have a discussion with the researchers that submitted them on the orientation of the full research papers. In order to promote collaboration among the community of AGRINATURA researchers, the PMU may suggest combining several topics if relevant. Each research paper will be financed by the EU through VCA4D.

Your suggestion of topic (one quarter of page max for each suggestion) may include: the objective of the research paper, the expected outputs in terms of knowledge or lessons learnt, other comments, etc.

Suggestions of research topics should be submitted to: vca4d@agrinatura-eu.eu by no later than the 30 October 2021.

Any request of clarification on this call can be sent to the same email address.



Source of pictures:

Alice Zavaro / FAO DDC