

Title

Inclusive nutrition-sensitive value chains in Kenya and Uganda – Upgrading strategies for underutilised horticultural crops (*InNuSens*)

Funding program/call

Partnerships for sustainable solutions with Sub-Saharan Africa– measures for research and integrated postgraduate education and further training (BMBF/DAAD)

Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung (BMBF)/Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD)

Project Brief

The project contributes to developing food production and supply systems of underutilised horticultural crops in nutrition-sensitive horticultural value chains in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania, particularly regarding innovation systems, food product development, postharvest management, processing, logistics and IT. The project builds individual, organisational, and institutional capacities for problem-oriented transdisciplinary (TD) research and education activities at PhD and postgraduate levels.

The general objective of the project is to enhance individual, organisational and institutional capacities to plan and conduct problem-oriented, transdisciplinary research at universities and research institutes in close collaboration with all partners, practitioner and industry stakeholders. The overall scientific objective is to generate transdisciplinary knowledge that leads to the improvement of existing and establishment of new nutrition-sensitive value chains for underutilised horticultural crops, thus, promoting food and nutrition security and economic development.

The project contributes to (i) diversified food systems, (ii) improved access, availability and supply of safe, highly nutritious and health-promoting underutilised crops, (iii) new business models, (iv) nuanced understanding of innovation systems, (v) ICT and transport system development, and, (vi) capacity building at the graduate and postgraduate level. It will combine the interdisciplinary research of four PhD candidates and an external African ICT business partner with the research objectives: (1) Analyse innovation systems in support of scalable and inclusive business models for nutrition-sensitive value chains, (2) Food product development, and adaptation as well as the development of respective scalable business models and marketing strategies, (3) Development of nutrition-sensitive post-harvest quality management, new emerging food preparation and processing considering quantitative and qualitative food loss prevention and food safety, (4) Analysis and adjustment of efficient and sustainable logistics and transport systems.