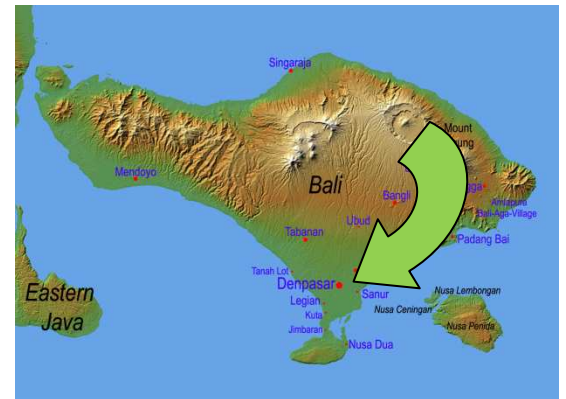


Training Female Farmers as a Tool for Rural Development

Experiences from Bali, Indonesia

Introduction

Although the tourism at Bali's beach resorts is rising gradually after the bombing in 2002, the flourishing time for inhabitants of more remote areas did not return. Local people living at the side of Lake Batur became reliant again on their low profit production of cabbage and onion. The '**Bali Fresh Female Farmers Partnership**' is an initiative to support local women to profit from tourism at the other side of the island by growing high-value vegetables, such as salad and bell pepper.



Training through the partnership

The partnership connects local women with all main actors of the vegetable production and marketing chain. An important aspect of the partnership is that the women are not simply employees of one company, but independent and knowledgeable actors within the network. For this purpose the women receive training on different fields.

Horticultural experts

Regular visits of horticultural expert help the women to gain knowledge about best cultivation practices and pest and disease management.

Horticultural experts

Development investors

Development investors

Financial investments enabled the women to start from scratch. The money was used to build a nursery, a greenhouse and buy computers.

Horticultural input supply company

Vegetable sales company

Female farmers

Supply company

The supply of fertilizer and irrigation material is accompanied with a training on the use of those technologies in vegetable production.

Sales company

Frequent meetings with representatives of the sales company keeps the seeding, planting and harvesting schedule in line with the market demand.



Female Farmers at work

Currently about sixty women are organised in small groups of ten farmers, with one of them functioning as team manager. The team managers are the ones who sit around the table with the sales company and directly receive the training. They pass their new gained knowledge on to the other group members. By increased expertise and money inflow these women experience a stronger position in the local community.

Eefje Aarnoudse¹, Ronald J.P.J. Serhalawan², Til Feike³

¹Wageningen University, Irrigation and Water Management, The Netherlands

²Pt. Dif Nusantara, Bali Fresh Female Farmers Partnership, Indonesia

³University of Hohenheim, Inst. for Crop Production and Grassland Research, Germany