



Tropentag, September 20-22, 2017, Bonn

“Future Agriculture:  
Socio-ecological transitions and bio-cultural shifts”

## Limiting Factors in the Development of Vegetable Value Chains in South Eastern Madagascar

NARILALA RANDRIANARISON<sup>1</sup>, HERIMIHAMINA ANDRIAMAZAORO<sup>2</sup>, SOLOFO SAMBATRA  
TOLOJANAHARY<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*University of Agricultural Sciences, NutriHAF Project, Madagascar*

<sup>2</sup>*Centre National de La Recherche Appliquée Au Développement Rural (FOFIFA), NutriHAF Project, Madagascar*

### Abstract

Food insecurity prevails in many parts of Madagascar. The Atsimo Atsinanana Region, located in the south-east of the country, ranks first with a lean period of 6 to 7 months compared to the national average of 5 months and a prevalence rate of 64% in 2012. The population of this area faces with an enormous micronutrient deficiency resulting in part of a low-level of frequency, low-level, low-diversity consumption of vegetables. Vegetable crops, which are grown on very restricted surfaces, are also poorly developed. This region, with its hot and humid climate almost all the year round and its characteristic terroirs, presents favourable agro-climatic conditions for vegetable crops. Moreover, most of the vegetables sold in the urban markets of the region come from Malagasy highlands. The purpose of this paper is to explain why local producers do not address the needs of urban consumers for vegetables?

The value chain approach is considered to be most appropriate for conducting this study by highlighting the bottlenecks faced by the various actors, including producers, traders and urban consumers, and to integrate the nutritional aspect. The approach adopted focuses on in-depth surveys of about 100 producers, 30 traders and 60 urban consumers. The results show that local producers mainly grow leafy vegetables (pe-tsai, chinese cabbage. . .) and fruit vegetables (African eggplant, eggplant. . .), which are mainly intended to self-consumption. These crops are short-cycle crops but also do not require a lot of inputs or taking cares. It therefore happens that the current perceptions of producers regarding vegetables limit the diversification of vegetable crops. The results also show that preferences of urban consumers mainly concern vegetables with better nutritional quality (carrot, potato, tomato, green bean) compared to those of producers. Divergent perceptions of producers and consumers limit the development of vegetable value chains.

**Keywords:** Actors, producers, traders, urban consumers, value chain, vegetable