

“Diversifying Food Systems: Horticultural Innovations and Learning for Improved Nutrition and Livelihood in East Africa”
(HORTINLEA)

JOINT INTERIM REPORT
(SP13)

01/01/2014 – 31/12/2014
FORMAL REPORT



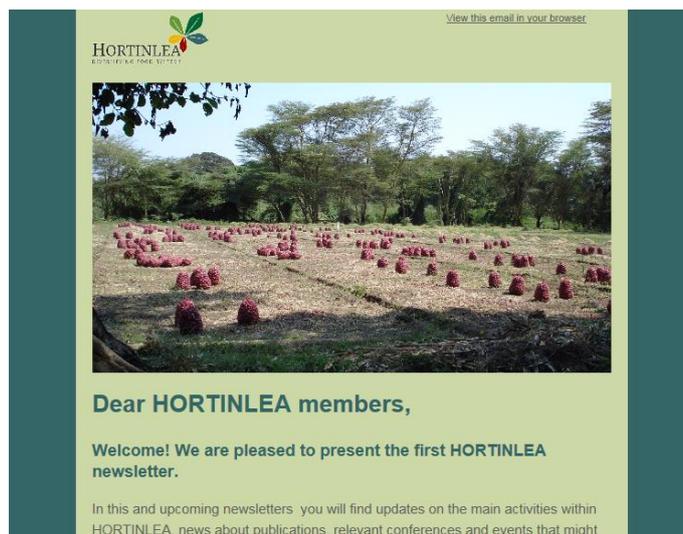
| Description of activities/milestones |
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| SP13: Transferring research results into policies and practice (Output 5) |
| U1: To analyze and identify best communication strategies and interfaces and devise a gender sensitive internal communication plan for action (SLE overseas consultancy I) |
| U2: To improve dissemination within GlobE HORTINLEA according to findings of SLE group I |
| U3: To put in place an effective internal communication platform for GlobE HORTINLEA |
| U4: To analyze the applicability and the cultural and gender sensitivity of interim GlobE HORTINLEA research results |
| U5: To improve dissemination within GlobE HORTINLEA according to findings of SLE group II |
| U6: To conduct research on successful dissemination of research results in horticultural value chains |
| U7: To implement the dissemination approach in Ethiopia and Tanzania |
| U8: To test elaborate dissemination approaches |

In order to establish the grounds for a thorough dissemination work, key communication tools were identified and set up: The HORTINLEA public website and intranet collaborative space; analysis of the innovation system of African Leafy vegetables in Kenya; PhD proposals developed for a more scientific foundation of dissemination methods; informative and promotional material for better illustration of the key aspects of the HORTINLEA project; news and blogs posted/published; events were organized or joined in order to implement dissemination objectives and generate contacts from the practice. **U1 & U3:** The website www.hortinlea.org represents a primary platform for the dissemination of news and information about HORTINLEA activities. During the second six months of the project the website has been further developed in order to offer extended services to those German and Kenyan organisations, which are interested in the cooperation and development of joint research projects in the food security field. In the section News one find the latest news from the project. The website is being updated on a day-to-day basis. The news and event announcements are being provided both by the project consortium members (all partners contribute actively with news, event announcements, etc.) and by other related projects and programmes.

The HORTINLEA website has also a password-protected internal area which serves for exchanging and archiving documents, maintaining e-mail lists, etc. The design and adaptation of internal

webpage is completed and about 130 member-accounts have been registered. A strategy for the involvement and the effective information exchange with external users has been developed. Based on the internal communication plan the information exchange has been started. The already created channels for communication were further developed and adapted to the needs of consortium members. A possible creation of Twitter, LinkedIn and Facebook accounts will be discussed in the next phase of the project at the beginning of the next year. Moreover the HORTINLEA-leaflet has been improved and a second edition has been printed. The German project partners received a number of copies by mail. During the reporting period, more than 300 copies have been distributed to the relevant actors in Western and Central Kenya. The 3rd edition of the leaflet is planned to be published in May 2015.

Additionally, the first edition of the project internal newsletter has been sent to the consortium members in June 2014, the second one at the

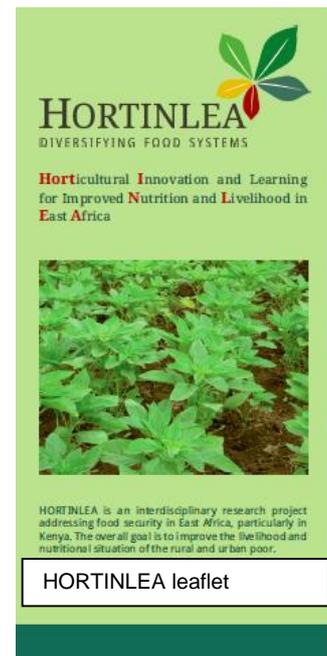


HORTINLEA newsletter

partners from different institutions have been interviewed. Further interviews have been conducted with Kenyan partners by the end of 2014. The strategy will be completed in May 2015.

U1 & U3 A draft proposal for a **HORTINLEA promotional video** has been developed and discussed with the project coordination. The promotional video aims at informing and making people aware about the HORTINLEA project and its expected contribution or results in Kenya and in East Africa. Currently (till approx.. May 2015) the promotional video is being edited and completed. The video will be in English and will be approximately 15-20 minutes. In addition, a short trailer (3-5 minutes) for YouTube and other communication channels will be edited.

U1, U2, U3 “Workshops and meetings”: Several internal meetings (also via Skype and telephone) with the Kenyan partners of SP13, PhD-students, the project board and the coordination, as well as with the SLE-specialists and other relevant experts have taken place. The members of the other SPs have been invited to participate in these meetings and to provide their feedbacks about the communication and the dissemination activities. A second SP-13 dissemination communication



beginning of September and the third one in the mid-December 2014. The purpose of newsletter is to keep everyone up to date on the progresses within HORTINLEA, to facilitate an effective flow of information among the consortium members, and to ensure the internal communication of project activities and of preliminary findings.. The NL is going to be edited regularly, namely every 3rd month.

To develop a **comprehensive internal communication strategy** for HORTINLEA project an interview guideline has been developed und more than 10 German

workshop took place at the annual HORTINLEA meeting 2014 in Nairobi including both German and Kenyan leaders, researcher and PhD-Students of different HORTINLEA subprojects. Here, participants discussed and presented the practical solutions and innovations expected from their SP's as well as ideas towards practical application of research results and broader collaborations beyond research activities.

Under the activities of **U4 “Academic and non-academic exchange”**, The SP13 team actively sought to build a network with other relevant actors and programmes in the project activity areas and to interact with them. The following actors and projects have been identified; they could play a crucial role by sharing and disseminating news and results from HORTINLEA. SP13 will develop collaborative dissemination activities, such as workshops, field demonstrations, etc. with them:

- ✿ MoA - Kenyan Ministry of Agriculture (Directorate for Horticulture and Directorate for Extension)
- ✿ KALRO – Kenya Agriculture Livestock and Research Organisation; especially the Horticulture Crops Research Institute in Thika
- ✿ KAPAP – Kenya Agricultural Productivity and Agribusiness Project
- ✿ GIZ-Kenya - *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit*
- ✿ *icipe* - The International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology
- ✿ Sustainet – Sustainable Agriculture for Healthy Environment & Food Secure Society
- ✿ KENRIK - Kenya Resource Centre for Indigenous Knowledge

In February 2014 the first SP13 activity plan for dissemination was presented and discussed with the GIZ partners in Germany /Eschborn. With the partners from *icipe* and Sustainet a proposal for a small grant has been drawn up and provided to the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

The second stakeholder meeting that took place at the annual HORTINLEA meeting 2014 in Nairobi included both German and Kenyan leaders of most HORTINLEA subprojects as well as German and Kenyan development practitioners mentioned above. Here, participants discussed ideas towards practical application of research results and broader collaborations and partnerships beyond research activities. Finally, the public presentations of the findings of SLE-oversee study in Nairobi - in October and in Berlin - in November 2014 - to Kenyan and German stakeholders from research, NGOs, donors and policy-makers was used to sensitise stakeholders on their common challenges regarding the relevance and utilisation of research (see U2 & U4). In addition, a proposal for a big grant with the partners from *icipe* and Sustainet will be drawn up and provided to the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). Further joint activities will be planned and discussed in March 2015. The mentioned activities are the first steps towards the common organised dissemination of research results which will secure the sustainable utilisation of HORTINLEA results beyond the project lifecycle. In addition, these activities will allow HORTINLEA and its partners to seek synergies with each other and exploit opportunities for future cooperation and research.

U2 & U4 “SLE oversee study 2014” The SLE-Study 2014 aims to contribute to the closing of the gap between existing knowledge, research, policy and practice by analysing the systemic conditions, under which agricultural pro-poor innovations in the Kenyan African Leafy Vegetables (ALVs) sector are developed, disseminated and implemented. This analysis will form the basis for an engagement process of relevant stakeholders or innovators in order to make pro-poor solutions work. The overall objective of this study is to contribute HORTINLEA's main objective which is to improve food security by supplying context-sensitive pro-poor solutions for the ALV sector. The study has been carried out by three SLE young professionals: Luca Gefäller (Anthropologist/Social Scientist), Malin Elsen (MD

Medicine/ Philosopher) and Paul Cronjaeger (Anthropologist/Social Scientist) under the lead of SP13-Coordination. The study included a two-month preparation phase in Berlin from June to July 2014, a three-month field research phase in Kenya from August to October 2014 and a final report writing phase in Kenya and Berlin. The study project has been implemented in close cooperation with the partners from Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT) and from Kenya Agriculture Livestock and Research Organisation (KALRO). The completed study will be published and delivered in Mai 2015.

U4; U6 & U7 PhD/Master theses: The registration process of SP13 PhD students is completed and the PhD proposals are developed. Research is being conducted with the aim of identifying and differentiating research-practice-policy gaps in ALV value chain, (2) measuring the profitability of the ALV enterprise along the value chain, (3) developing appropriate research-practice-policy scenarios along the ALV value chain and (4) putting agricultural knowledge to practice in different farming systems in Sub-Saharan Africa, while trying to evaluate the efficacy of the existing approaches used in the dissemination of agricultural technologies in different farming systems in sub-Saharan Africa.