

Suggested Actions to Promote RTCs for Food Security

“Find ways to occupy ‘vacant spaces’ around households
in urban and peri-urban areas”

“Study role as ‘escape’, ‘avoidance’ or ‘adaptive’ crops
for extreme weather events”

“More innovative utilization of RTCs through
diverse products”

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Partnerships

The main target countries of the project are:
China, Indonesia, Philippines, India and Bangladesh.
Implemented in 2011-15, the project works with key
national and regional research organizations, CGIAR
centers as well as development partners in the public,
NGO, and private sectors.

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Root and Tuber Crops (RTCs) for Food Security in Asia-Pacific



ROOT and TUBER CROPS (RTCs) for FOOD SECURITY in ASIA-PACIFIC

The RTCs-FS project aims to promote the role of root and tuber crops in building more diverse and sustainable agri-food systems, towards ensuring food security among poor producers and consumers in Asia-Pacific, and in the face of socio-economic and agro-environmental changes in the region.



Why Roots and Tubers?

Asia Pacific is home of the world's RTCs --- as the region with highest production and utilization of potato, sweetpotato and cassava together with diverse yams, aroids and other locally important species.

As food crops, RTCs are closely associated with indigenous peoples, resource-poor households and populations coping with natural disasters and economic crises. These crops contain high beta-carotene and other micro-nutrients, making them ideal sources of health and medicinal benefits. They offer high value-adding potential for food, feeds, and other industrial uses that support livelihood of the poor.

Project Objectives

To map areas where a high incidence of food insecurity and poverty overlap with RTCs production and consumption/utilization

To understand and document current roles of RTCs in contributing to food security and income generation and identify opportunities and challenges in enhancing this contribution

To prioritize and introduce relevant R&D and capacity strengthening actions that promote RTCs

To support relevant local and national policy programming processes to promote research and development of RTCs and improve poor people's access to knowledge and support services

