

# Multi-Crop production system Intercropping Strategies for Banana and Plantain

Improved system production for better yield



Banana with common bean understorey (Credit: B. Dhedra)

Intercropping, growing bananas or plantains alongside other plants, offers farmers numerous benefits but also poses challenges like nutrient competition, disease spread, and careful handling during planting and harvesting to avoid root damage.

This technology is **TAAT1 validated**.
 5\*7
 Scaling readiness: idea maturity: 5/9; level of use: 7/9

IP  
 Open source / open access

- ### Problem
- Competition for nutrients and water
  - Weed proliferation
  - Soil degradation and erosion
  - Vulnerability to pests and diseases
  - Dependency on external inputs
  - Susceptibility to extreme weather
  - Loss of biodiversity

- ### Solution
- Allows for early yields before banana crops, while suppressing weeds.
  - Canopies and roots protect against soil erosion.
  - Legume intercrops provide nitrogen through biological fixation.
  - Biomass from intercrops serves as mulch and organic nutrients.
  - Intercropping diversifies farmers' income sources.
  - Reduces disease spread, Enhances soil health.
  - Strengthens food systems' resilience....

## Key points to design your business plan

Utilizing Intercropping Strategies for Banana and Plantain enhances farmer income, food security, and sustainable agriculture by diversifying crops, reducing chemical usage, and promoting biodiversity.

To effectively implement this technology, farmers require education, access to information, high-quality seeds, ongoing extension support, affordable inputs, and partnerships for distribution.

No licenses are needed, and integration with complementary technologies can optimize outcomes.

Gender assessment 4

Climate impact 7

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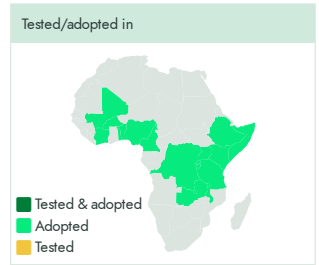
Technology from  
**ProPAS**

Commodities  
Banana/Plantain

Sustainable Development Goals

Categories  
Production, Practices, Weed management, Soil fertility

- Best used with
- [Biofortified Beans for Improved Nutrition >](#)
  - [Orange-Fleshed Sweet Potato \(High provitamin A\) >](#)
  - [Disease resistant cassava varieties >](#)
  - [New rice for Africa varieties >](#)



Where it can be used

This technology can be used in the colored agro-ecological zones.

