#### **DACE's Fair For Life Certification Journey in Cao Bang**

## **Organic Farming in Harsh Conditions**

Cao Bang, a mountainous province in northern Vietnam often called the 'land of drought' due to its rocky terrain and scarce water, is home to DACE's largest organic farming area. Rather than avoiding this challenging landscape, DACE embraced its potential for regeneration—both for the land and its people.

Over 2,300 hectares of farmland are cultivated in cooperation with 3,014 ethnic minority households, including H'Mong, Tay, Nung, and Thai communities. This farming region is free from synthetic chemicals and promotes the conservation of native plant varieties such as ginger, turmeric, cinnamon, star anise, and chili.





# **©** Circular and Self-Reliant Agricultural System

The farming system is designed to be circular. Crop residues, buffalo manure, corn stalks, and bio-fertilizers are reused to regenerate the soil. This closed-loop approach reduces waste, enriches biodiversity, and ensures soil health across growing seasons.





This model creates a resilient, traceable, and transparent supply chain—helping farmers stabilize production, DACE secure high-quality raw materials, and customers access truly sustainable spices.

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# **Empowering Local Communities**

Beyond farming techniques, DACE focuses on empowering people:

- Children now attend school regularly thanks to improved household income from ginger and turmeric farming.
- Parents no longer need to migrate to industrial zones—they can work and stay with their families in the village.
- Families enjoy a more stable life with stronger social bonds.
- Farmers receive annual organic training, tools, and inputs.
- There's a growing pride in producing organic spices for global markets like Germany, the U.S., and Japan.





## > Long-Term Commitment with Local Authorities

DACE signed a 10-year Memorandum of Understanding with local authorities to jointly develop and protect organic farming zones in Cao Bang. This partnership strengthens infrastructure, ensures no-chemical cultivation, and promotes sustainable development planning for the region.







## **A Triple-Win Impact: Farmers – DACE – Consumers**

The impact of this model spans three levels:

- Farmers gain stable income, skills, and local employment opportunities.
- DACE ensures long-term access to reliable, organic raw materials.
- Consumers worldwide contribute to the betterment of rural lives by choosing sustainable, ethically sourced spices.

Every jar of ginger or turmeric you buy supports a child's education, keeps families united, and nurtures both land and livelihoods in one of Vietnam's most remote regions.



# Fair For Life Certification – Social and Environmental Integrity

DACE was officially certified by Ecocert under the Fair For Life program in December 2024, valid through April 2028. The certification recognizes DACE's ethical trade practices, fair labor policies, environmental stewardship, and inclusive economic development.



















Farming Area and Production Facility

(Photos of the farming communities, ginger harvest, and DACE's production facility can be inserted here in the final publication.)

















DACE's Fair For Life certified farming region is not only a source of premium spices, but also a blueprint for ethical, regenerative agriculture.