

Learning from the Evaluation of the Food For All Program

Meg Montague
Social Policy, Research & Evaluation
Consultant

This presentation covers

1. Progress in identifying food security barriers
2. Progress in reducing these barriers
3. Progress in increasing access and consumption
4. Factors influencing progress and challenges faced



Identification of Barriers

- Assumptions of FFA program
- Who was targeted in FFA Program
- Barriers identified:
 - Social and cultural
 - Economic
 - Physical and infrastructure barriers

Social and Cultural Barriers

- Lack of understanding or interest
- Lack of knowledge and skills
- Lack of language, cultural familiarity, or literacy
- Focus on higher order priorities
- Lack of social connectedness, social inclusion

Physical or Infrastructure Barriers

- Lack of transport
- Lack of storage, cooking facilities and cooking equipment
- Lack of local supply of affordable, appropriate healthy food
- Lack of an appropriate environment to grow fresh food

Economic Barriers

- Lack of income
- High cost of other essentials particularly housing and petrol



Strategies to Reduce Barriers

- Incorporate food security into local government policy and plans
- Modify local government regulations
- Influence integrated planning
- Enhance local agency focus on food security
- Involvement in food security strategies



Has this Increased Access and Consumption?

- Dearth of local level baseline & trend data
- Lack of evidence re impact of inclusion of food security into local government planning
- Impact of community strategies
 - Evidence of increase
 - Probable increase
 - Possible increase



Factors Influencing Projects' Progress

- In local government:
 - Council culture
 - Systems and structures
 - Project placement and capacity
- In local community
 - Culture and context
 - Knowledge base
 - Partner relationships
 - Targeting

Challenges Faced

- Project capacity
- State of integrated planning
- Knowledge base: baseline, trend data, needs assessment
- Council and community agency culture
- Dominance of higher order issues
- Capacity of local government to act on infrastructure & economic barriers