

For the poorest of the poor... School-based food security training.

One of our premises is that trickle down doesn't always work.

A question we had or have: Is poverty an issue similar to gender?

We defined/operationalized food security as food production or agriculture, including harvesting and processing, food preparation, including food safety, hygiene, and nutrition.

We see schools as the nexus for provision of social services, health care, and community meeting center.

To reach the poorest of the poor, we will provide training to primary and perhaps secondary schools, community leaders, parents, farmers, --basically an open door to all adults to identify local champions.

We believe that NGOs may be the local deliverers with their careful selection of NATIONAL Service personnel--hoping to find PATRIOTS.

CONTENT and METHODS are to do school gardens, test plots, animal projects, composting demonstrations, food harvesting, storing, processing, preparing method demonstrations .

Schools would be distribution points for agricultural and food technologies, for example, seed, seedlings, bedding plants, compost, chicks, feed, and small tools.

Another task is to provide challenges, rewards, or incentives for successful completion of a production cycle or project.

We believe that advertising for adult participants must be multifaceted, including via radio.

One major issue will be public relations. WE RECOGNIZE THAT we must make agriculture and food EXCITING and SEXY by showing its value, by emphasizing that Ag is one of the branches of STEM. JUNIOR MASTER GARDENER program is an example of a primary/secondary curriculum that has been highly successful in related settings.

4-H and other community youth groups should be models to follow.

Another task would be to identify role models among locals who don't fit the stereotypes of farmers and domestics or cooks.

Evaluation may include specific assessments like changes in body mass index (BMI).