



## SMART FOOD SECURITY ARMY - FIGHTERS FOR ZERO HUNGER

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### ABSTRACT

The hunger is the greatest threat in the world that need to be eradicated and must be the prime moto of any programs/ research. The eradication of hunger is the big challenge faced by the policy makers. Zero hunger state can be achieved by providing nutritious food to targeted children for 'zero children under stunted growth or malnutrition', increasing crop production by promoting kitchen garden and converting uncultivable land to cultivable land and make efficient the supply chain by reducing harvest and post-harvest losses for the concept of 'food for all', 'sustainability of agriculture' through climate smart agricultural practices, productivity increase and value addition for 'income addition'. Reducing the food wastage by culturing good habits. This goal can be achieved by employing the youth and rural women in agriculture in a disciplined professional format as "Smart Food Security Army" and spread the message in schools by School cadet wing by employing Good Agricultural Practices. Hence the feed for the hungry planet can be given through the idea of smart food security army.

**KEYWORDS:** Food security, Green Army, Sustainability, Zero hunger,

### INTRODUCTION

The hunger is the greatest threat in the world that need to be eradicated and must be the prime moto of any programs/ research. The eradication of hunger is the big challenge faced by the policy makers. Extreme poverty leads to socio-economic imbalance which will ultimately lead to severe crisis in the world. The way to achieve the goal is through social protection programs and the investments which helps the hands to rescue from the situation. Serving the poor in productive activities which will lead to change the situation better. Social protection programs should be targeted in nutrition and nutritional consciousness. The perspective of a visionary must be in a way that supporting small farmers and other poor families to get rid of financial constraints and improve risk management. The ability of investments in this field must be able to uplift the starving people. The development of the developing and under developed countries occurs through rising the incomes of the poor which results in higher investment returns. In order to attain the sustainability of the development the poverty gap must be reduced and each and every individual should get equal benefit. The dreams of sustainable development will be acquiring through making the society hunger free. The zero hunger society will result in income security, better nutritional status and proper health care.

### MATERIALS & METHODS

Unorganized people in the field of agriculture cannot able to increase the productivity of the field. The main reasons for this drastic change and threat are migration of the

younger generation away from the field of agriculture. Major cause behind this is the strenuous nature of the agricultural work. Migration of youth will be a great challenge in developing nation which breaks the back born of the agrarian society. Lack of proper value addition denies the minimum wages in the developing and under developed countries. Hence farmers were increasingly opting out of cultivation as it was only solution for zero hunger. So development of agriculture as a glorified profession with professional just not economically viable. Attracting youth towards agriculture is the touch will overcome this issue. Smart Food security Army, will be a unique venture for bringing back wealth in the agriculture sector and will develop an invaluable human resource dedicated to the agrarian sector. It enhanced will patriotism for the youth to serve the country using modern techniques.

#### Kerala paddy war

The extent of barren land expanded and cultivated area especially paddy wet lands shrunked. Kerala agricultural mechanization activities in were keeping a slow pace a decade ago and agricultural mechanization extension activities were also not fruitful. Due to the problems of drudgery, health and life insecurity and lack of social respect involved in farming operation, the younger generation could not be motivated or attracted to farming operation. Migration of conventional farm workers has taken place to other job areas where remuneration is more and physical drudgery is less. Lack of technically trained and skilled workers and inappropriate service and maintenance of farm machinery result in less usage of

whatever little machinery introduced. There is no focus on the farm machinery operation service sector. There is customer exploitation from middlemen/agents wherever machinery operation is introduced from outside the state. Under FSA training program, the station has conducted 94 trainings and nearly 3000 persons have been trained from 2008–09 till date. Peoples from Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka *etc.* have already trained to form AMOSC at their locality. There are about 27 AMOSCs already registered in Kerala. Among the Co-Operative model of AMOSC, “Wadakkanchery Green Army” model is the most successful one. This is the model organized at Block Panchayat level. Nearly 800 persons have been trained and deployed as the members of the Green Army of Wadakkanchery. The FSA training imparts skill and professional confidence for operating agro machinery and for repairing and maintaining them. The success of AMOSC working either in individual mode, SHG mode or Co-Operative mode reflects the growth of human resources development in agricultural mechanization through Food Security Army training program. (U. Jaikumaran and Shyla Joseph, 2012)

#### **Towards global perspective**

Hunger and malnutrition are the greater threats faced by the current society which makes the sustainable development and surplus food production a day dream. According to UN, globally, in 2014, nearly 1 in 4 children under the age of 5, an estimated total of 159 million children, had stunted growth and in between 2000 and 2014, the percentage of children under the age of 5 who were overweight grew from 5.1 per cent to 6.1 per cent. In the present world scenario, 20 per cent of local livestock breeds, meaning breeds reported in only one country, are at risk of extinction. Protection and preservation of these varieties is a must for these must be conserved to provide food for the local people in their own environment. The demographic studies and prediction of population indicate the continuing growth of young population in next 5 years in Asia, America and Africa (UN 2015). So the role of youth is an elixir in achieving the goal of zero hunger.

#### **RESULTS**

The smart food security army will help eliminate hunger by providing sufficient food for all through proper supply system. The problem food insecurity and malnutrition will be solved by distributing healthy food to the poor and by creating knowledge among the beneficiaries. Army will take initiative to make agriculture, forestry and fisheries more productive, economically viable and sustainable. The major aim and slogan of army is to reduce rural poverty and enable inclusive and efficient agricultural and food systems for the sustainable development. Hence the army will increase the resilience of livelihoods to threats and crises.

#### **Mode of action**

Identification of young minds and focusing them on agriculture is the first step. My surrounding is flooded with young graduates and jobless youth then this step is a quiet easy one. The second step is to orient them to agriculture, teaching good agricultural practices, providing knowledge about smart machines, green energy concept, the concept of climate smart agriculture etc. Funding can be obtained from self, Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode. Rural women can be an integral part and ensure

gender sensitivity to improve the working potential of the army. The initial work plan can be started from our home by making kitchen gardens hence by reducing expenses on agricultural commodities. This is the mode of self-fund raising. The idea can be presented to private and government officials to get more funding. The conversion of land to lease mode will attract more people to convert the non-cultivable to cultivable land. So regular batches can be trained in army mode and they can make to good professional Agri Army person for the formation of the battalion. This battalion can be used as paid army force for the use of private parties for income generation. The paid services will make the army richer and the remuneration can be shared on the profit-loss basis.

Army promotes access to food and nutrition-related services to the rural people in Rapid Action Mode. They will find the targeted people through social survey and provide them with the food. As a part of social protection program army will train the young budding school children and development of student cadets at the school level. Women in the home can be trained by the formation of small groups/ clusters of the neighborhood. Special care can be given to the aged groups and targeted food supply will be entertained with age specific food kit. Kitchen garden development at house hold level will be monitored and proper information/suggestion will be given. These are the faces of social protection programs by Smart Food Security Army hence army ensuring food access.

Increasing incomes is the next slogan of Army. The awareness classes, scientific training and uniformity among army will surely attract the people and will make the feel of unity. It will enhance the young minds to take agriculture as a major profession which will create opportunities for the poor and hungry to improve their livelihoods with the better working environment using small ingenious tools for agriculture, the popularisation of green energy and its application. Modification of existing practices to ecofriendly mode. Value addition of products and export opportunities of commendable products will definitely increase the income of poor people. Use of climate smart practices improves labour conditions, and provides productivity-enhancing investment.

Ensuring sustainability by providing better infrastructure, creating market access, the spread of knowledge and generation of new knowledge, effective utilisation of information and communications technologies. Increase the sustainability of food systems by conserving natural resources and adopting sustainable agricultural practices. Reduce food waste and losses in production, storage and consumption; reduce greenhouse gas emissions in agriculture and other sectors, slow the pace of climate change and ensure the food security of future.

The expected outcomes of the SFSA are spreading of territory from village to village with women friendly mode. Ability to provide essential services round the clock through smart applications. Conversion of barren land will slowly come back under cultivation using climate smart agriculture. It will offer quality and assured agricultural services at the door steps of the rural population with waste management and effective utilisation of agricultural wastes. Army will have Private public partnership opportunities. SFSA's motto will be ensuring food access and sustainability there by increasing the income of the rural community. Army will act as a social net program

and value addition of crops with minimum post harvest losses and handling. Special training can be given on post harvest handling and packaging of post-harvest produces.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Zero hunger state can be achieved by providing nutritious food to targeted children for 'zero children under stunted growth or malnutrition', increasing crop production by promoting kitchen garden and converting uncultivable land to cultivable land and make efficient the supply chain by reducing harvest and post-harvest losses for the concept of 'food for all', 'sustainability of agriculture' through climate smart agricultural practices, productivity increase and value addition for 'income addition'. Reducing the food wastage by culturing good habits. This goal can be achieved by employing the youth and rural women in

agriculture in a disciplined professional format as "Smart Food Security Army" and spread the message in schools by School cadet wing by employing Good Agricultural Practices. Hence the feed for the hungry planet can be given through the idea of smart food security army. Be the change. Let us hold hands together and join the army to fight against the hunger of the world

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