

Strengthening CSOs towards Achieving Food Sovereignty and Livelihood Resources, in Food Insecure Province of Sistan and Baluchestan

Iran Against Hunger Charity (IAHC)

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Description of the initiative

Background / context

Food insecurity means limited or uncertain access to nutritionally adequate or healthy food, or limited ability to access food through socially acceptable ways. Food insecurity is a complicated and multi-dimension, with different experiences at the individual and household level, and also in elders and children.

During the past two decades, food insecurity is known as a serious public health problem in the world and has attracted the people, experts and policy makers' attention. According to the World Health Organization' estimates, approximately 60 percent of child deaths in developing countries, is the result of chronic hunger and malnutrition. Hunger is a link between poverty and insecurity. In the World Food Summit in Rome, Italy in 1996, attended by representatives from 186 countries, decreasing 50% of the world's hungry people by 2015, was selected as the summit goal. However, unfortunately until now instead of hunger decline, in some regions there was an increase in food insecurity. According to the latest report of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), 36 countries are experiencing food crisis. The number of food-insecure people in the 70 poorest countries during 2006 to 2007 has increased from 489 million to 982 million. The crisis in combination with nutritional problems that existed before could lead to 5.3 million deaths. In Iran, the National Study of SAMPAT designed and carried out to determine the nutritional status and food security of the country in 2008. This study revealed the rate of high prevalence of food insecurity in seven provinces out of 20, the provinces of Sistan and Baluchestan with the highest rate of food insecurity (19.14), Hormozgan (10.92), Kohgiluyeh and Boyer Ahmad (9.31), Kerman (6.89), Bushehr (6.80), Elam (5.88) and Khuzestan (5).

Due to the noticeable deferent between the first and second provinces in this assortment, this action intends to focus its activities in the province of Sistan and Baluchestan.

Rationale for the initiative

Food is not only the primary necessity of the man, but also it's the primary need of every living creature and catering this need has been with the man since the very moments of genesis. Paying special attention to food in fact is a way of showing sympathy to the poor and the hungry who have been deprived from their very obvious right.

Whether or not we call it a calamity, it's a must for every single member of the society to be aware of the ways of fighting hunger. Even though Iran is not counted as those states struggling with hunger, we ought to know that we are not safe from the danger of hunger and malnutrition. Based on the statistics released by the Ministry of Health, at the moment there are millions of Iranians in danger of malnutrition.

The statistics shows us that 40% of the food produced and processed in the US goes directly to the bins and European nations waste more than 100 million tons per year. To cut the story short, more than 750 billion Dollars' worth of food gets wasted while with a lot less than this amount we can easily cater the hunger of the hungry.

Objectives and scope

Overall objective

Strengthening local CSOs towards promotion of food security and sustainable development

Specific objectives

- Identification, organizing and capacity building local CSOs for participatory management of developing programs
- Evaluating the community assets to develop alternative livelihood resources, local markets and achieving food security

Planned activities & deliverables

Outline the steps to be taken

The whole procedure has been undertaken based on participatory approaches including assessment, social evaluation, feasibility study, prioritization, implementation, etc.

1. Identify and organize effective people in every community in the form of primary core of local participation
2. Identify, encourage and motivate all stakeholder groups, including local community and official agencies, and arrangement for dialogue sittings between the mentioned groups
3. Institution-building in the area known as the center of community development with a focus on local development
4. Training, knowledge sharing and transfer necessary techniques to members of the local development centers in arranged workshops, meetings and brain storming sessions
5. interaction between the local Development Center and relevant government agencies
6. Engagement of local people and other stakeholder representatives in local development programs
7. Awareness raising and extension activities at the local, regional and national levels
8. Capacity building in local development centers to work in target pilots
9. Documentation for scaling up the empowerment model
10. Participatory monitoring and evaluation of action progress for the proper process administrative

What are the concrete deliverables of the project?

- ✓ Finding the alternative sources of livelihoods based on the traditional knowledge and experiences
- ✓ Involvement of local authorities and local elders in the procedure

What achievements are possible in the next 12 and 24 months?

1. Create local development committee and groups in target communities
2. Improving the livelihood, income and employment in target communities
3. Strengthening the self-sufficiency projects in order to increase the household income
4. Developing new source of livelihoods based on the local socio-economic and environmental assets
5. Improving the quality and quantity of food at a rate of at least 30% compared to the status quo
6. Capacity building and improving social skills to at least 30% compared to the status quo

Resources & enablers

Describe personnel, financial needs

The executive structure

1. Scientific Research Committee
2. Education and Informative Committee
3. The committee of the Artists
4. The committee of the youth and the athletes
5. The committee of children and adolescents
6. Local NGOs and CBOs

The program expenses: 250,000\$

Specify how the grant will be spent

- Give aid to poor families via providing free food or dried milk.
- Educate those in danger of hunger how to provide and use food.
- Study the eating and consuming habits nationwide and in details.
- Help those affected by the acts of nature such as floods, earthquakes etc.
- Help international organizations i case of disasters all around the world.
- Provide know-how on fighting malnutrition and food security.

What factors will make it successful?

- ✓ Using the maximum legal capacity
- ✓ Sinerging the single empowerments
- ✓ Using the local environmental capacity

Results/outcomes & expected impact

How will the findings be implemented?

Phase Zero: Participatory plan development

Phase I: Analysis of the status quo

Phase II: Comparing the current situation with the ideal situation and planning to prepare action plan and road map

Phase III: Implementation of plans and programs and empowering activities

How will this project advance patient care / contribute to optimal nutritional care?

A big part of the region diseases comes from the malnutrition, then providing the food will cure the issue

What makes the project innovative?

This is a community-based project, considering the solutions comes from the individual knowledge and habitats

Will the project be likely to influence national nutrition policy?

Food security as a condition of national security occurrence, is between the essential responsibility of governments in each country. Food security has always been one of the most important issues in human societies and the government's main challenge in running the affairs of the society. Food security is one of the most important issues in the national nutritional security, according to the definitions of the International Organization for Food and Agriculture (FAO) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Secure access to enough food to meet household food needs to have adequate nutritional status although it is necessary, but not sufficient. Because in addition to food, food and nutrition security situation factors such as sanitation, health and absence of disease in the community.

Is the project transferable to other settings / countries?

The results would be transferable to countries with similar condition, especially developing countries in which decisions are made by the structure of local authorities.

