



A ZERO FOOD WASTE TO ZERO HUNGER MISSION 2020

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Abstract

Globally, it is estimated that close to 165 million children are stunted by malnutrition as babies. Indian children are more stunted and shorter than in other countries in the world. Children who are stunted are in poor health, learn less in school, suffer from a lack of income opportunities as they grow older and sometimes, face a life of poverty. The country has 18 percent of the world's population, 25 percent of its people go hungry. To end hunger and poverty through zero food waste may be the mission. In developing countries, food waste and losses occur mainly at early stages of the food value chain and can be traced back to financial, managerial and technical constraints in harvesting techniques as well as storage and cooling facilities. The Zero Food Waste to Zero Hunger Mission 2020 would be for Enough Food, Not Enough Access. Through the lens of Zero Waste, an entirely new relationship between humans and systems is envisaged, the only one that can create more security and well being for people while reducing dramatically our impact upon planet earth. The excitement is on two levels: it provides a broad and far-reaching vision, and yet it is practical and applicable today.

Key words: zero food waste, zero hunger, five year plan, mission 2020

Introduction:

India is a prominent global voice that has made significant progress on human development over the past 60 years, but the benefits of a growing economy are not shared equally. The country is still home to one-third of the world's poor with the world's largest democracy and nearly 1.3 billion citizens. Though the economy is among the top 10 percentile of fastest growing, life expectancy nearly doubled and adult literacy more than quadrupled, 53 million people were lifted out of poverty, but 69% still lived on less than Rs. 50 a day. With a national goal of increased shared prosperity means more than lifting people out of poverty, pervasive gender inequality and the low ratio of girl children to boy children. Educational





attainment is low, and India holds one-third of the world's illiterate. India must overcome enormous structural challenges to sustain a population out of poverty and hunger.

“AN END TO WASTE - ZERO WASTE”:

Zero Waste is an extraordinary concept that can lead society, business, and cities to innovative breakthroughs that can save the environment, lives, and money. Through the lens of Zero food Waste, an entirely new relationship between humans and systems is envisaged, the only one that can create more security and well being for people while reducing dramatically our impact upon planet earth. The excitement is on two levels: it provides a broad and far-reaching vision, and yet it is practical and applicable today. For too long we have put our faith in the idea of “managing” waste but it hasn't solved the problem, and a tragedy is unfolding as the hidden costs of waste accumulate. We need a crisis demands action - a breakthrough strategy for solving our waste crisis is a very simple one - Zero food Waste.

Zero food Waste is a “whole system” approach to redesigning resource flows comprised of an underpinning philosophy, a clear vision, and a call to action - all based on the notion that can eliminate waste. All around the world a consensus is emerging that there is only one safe way to deal with waste, and that is to eliminate it, a vision that will create employment and wealth and protect precious resources for future generations.

The Zero Food Waste to Zero Hunger Mission 2020:

The Zero Food Waste to Zero Hunger Mission 2020 may help for Enough Food to Zero Hunger, Not Enough Access. The country has 18 percent of the world's population, 25 percent of its people go hungry. To end hunger and poverty through zero food waste by pioneering sustainable, grassroots, women-centered strategies and advocating for their widespread adoption in throughout state, country and the world.





Vision & Principles:

Vision:

A world where every woman, man and child can leads a healthy, fulfilling life of self-reliance and dignity.

Principles:

Hunger is primarily a human issue, and ending hunger requires principles that are consistent with shared humanity. Through the mission to end hunger, there will ten principles as being fundamental to this A Zero Food Waste to Zero Hunger mission. The challenges ensure that each of strategies builds on these principles.

- 1. Human Dignity.**
- 2. Gender Equality.**
- 3. Empowerment.**
- 4. Leverage**
- 5. Interconnectedness.**
- 6. Sustainability.**
- 7. Social Transformation.**
- 8. Holistic Approach.**
- 9. Decentralization.**
- 10. Transformative Leadership.**

The Zero Food Waste to Zero Hunger mission 2020 will mobilize people for self-reliant action, empowering women as key change agents and engaging with local government through one comprehensive strategy campaign.

THE MISSION OF FIVE YEARS PLAN:

This is accomplished through key interventions in each year of their five year tenures:

First Year:

In year one, women step forth as leaders and participate in capacity-building activities with the project, such as Women's Leadership Workshops and follow-up workshops.

Second Year:





Leadership development continues, with follow-up workshops. Leaders start implementing work plans within their communities.

Third Year:

In year three, a start engaging with local issues and continues to participate in capacity-building activities introducing the needs-based workshops to self-identify and address gaps in their leadership development and within their communities.

Fourth Year:

By assessing impact in the fourth year, reflecting on their training and documenting their experiences and work towards more enabling environments for future leaders.

Fifth Year:

The mission in partnership with local civil society organizations will train women representatives with the initiatives within this strategy include:

1. Women's Leadership Development

The mission will build leadership skills among women who have been systematically denied information, freedom of motion and voice in decision making to lead, own and shape development processes that give priority to basic services like water, sanitation, education, health care and an efficient food system and to build confidence and provide information and knowledge about their key roles and responsibilities. This will be the first step towards transformative leadership.

2. Empowering the Women and Deepening Democracy

The mission includes identification of potential leaders meetings, campaigns, film screenings, street plays, door-to-door engagement, trainings and distribution of educational posters and pamphlets. Priority issues include 50% reservation of seats in local government for women, removal of two-child norm laws and increased transparency and support between levels of government.

3. Building Alliances for Advocacy and Action

Particular topics include the Two-Child Norm, the Sumangali Scheme, constitutional acts and issues such as malnutrition, violence





against women, and child rights through knowledge-based workshops, Gender Resource Centers, campaigns, workshops.

FIVE PILLARS OF A ZERO FOOD WASTE TO ZERO HUNGER MISSION:

India produces more than 250 million tons of food grain every year, which is enough to feed its population. However, the country is ranked 65 out of 79 countries according to the Global Hunger Index (2012) and more than 250 million people are not able to secure minimum dietary energy requirements. There are significant errors of exclusion in the Public Distribution System which aims to distribute food grains at affordable prices to vulnerable families. There is need of identifying the right beneficiaries most in need, improving efficiency and accountability in implementation and improving the nutritional content of food distributed. Five pillars of a zero food waste to zero hunger mission may be useful to achieve the target zero hunger.

1. 100% access to adequate food all year round
2. Zero loss or waste of food
3. 100% increase in smallholder productivity and income
4. All food systems are sustainable
5. Zero stunted children less than two years

ZERO LOSS OR WASTE OF FOOD:

It is estimated that nearly 30 percent of the country's fruits and vegetables perish due to lack of cold-storage facilities. Thousands of tons of food grain rot in warehouses that are not adequately equipped to safely store food grain. With a growing middle class of 300 million people, waste at the table is also becoming a concern. Nearly three fourths of small farmers live in poverty, and are often poorer than those pursuing other economic activities in rural areas. They comprise a significant proportion of the country's malnourished people. India could continue to innovate with sourcing food grains for its social safety nets such as the Public Distribution System, Mid-day Meal Scheme through local farmers, and say within a radius of 25 kilometers. This could stimulate local food systems. Securing food through small and marginal farmers will ensure food is fresher. It will





also and saves on transportation costs, minimize waste and ensure farmers get a good price for their crop.

ZERO WASTE ACHIEVEMENT IS POSSIBLE:

At first, Zero Waste and hunger seems impossible. By establishing a goal of zero, public and private organizations can focus creativity and resources on getting closer and closer to zero in a journey of continuous improvement which will completely change the way we think about food waste and hunger. Each is testament to the power of a unifying concept or brand such as Zero food Waste.

Zero Waste Plans:

The role of local government changes when discarded materials are treated as community enhancing assets rather than as liabilities (waste). Instead of managing liabilities, local government policies promote entrepreneurial innovation and direct that creativity to maximizing the delivery of clean resource streams to local enterprises such as -

- Resource Recovery Parks
- Urban Ecopark
- Extended Producer Responsibility for Waste
- Environmentally Preferable Purchasing
- Product and Packaging Design
- Comprehensive Zero Waste Business Approaches

CREATING WEALTH FROM WASTE:

Community Organizations will work with local authority partners to create sustainable employment opportunities. A Zero Waste will provide us with immediate and tangible economic, environmental and social benefits.

- **Tourism:** A Zero Waste policy will help protect and promote as the clean, green tourist destination.
- **Exports:** The environment is a central component of our GDP and is inextricably linked to our exports. Our markets may dependent on a “clean green” premium that is at best frail. Even the perception of food contamination is a serious threat.





- **Imports:** By recycling the maximum amount of materials we will significantly cut down on primary imports and make sure that those we do import are used to the full.
- **Global Warming/Climate Change:** Large-scale waste elimination will help to reduce CO₂ and methane emissions. No other avenue for reducing these emissions provides such a range of other positive outcomes.
- **Local Economic Development:** Hard-hit communities will be able to take control of a huge untapped and increasingly valuable resource - to create wealth from waste.
- **Employment:** The recovered-materials industries will already a significant part of the economy.
- **Reduced Liability:** Our long-term food waste disposal costs will be greatly reduced - and we will take the burden of cleaning up contaminated waterways and polluted beaches from future generations.
- **Knowledge Economy:** Experimentation and innovation will flourish in an environment open to new ideas and uninhibited by old industrial era thinking. The resulting technology will be able to be exported around the world.
- **National Pride:** Nation will be pride of an innovative environmental and social policy.
- **Sustainability:** An achievement of this magnitude would be well to do along with others.

Thus, the Zero food Waste aims to eliminate rather than “manage” waste. It is a whole system approach that aims for a massive change in the way materials flow through society - resulting in NO WASTE. It is a powerful new concept that enables us to challenge old ways of thinking and inspires new attitudes and behaviour - the hallmarks of a breakthrough strategy of **‘the goal – zero’: zero accidents, zero waste, zero emissions and zero hunger**

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