

Our Vision - Where to from here



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Demonstration
Programme of
**Community
Food Initiatives**



Healthy Food for All
access | availability | affordability

The Aim of the Demonstration Programme

- To increase the range and effectiveness of community food initiatives for **low-income** groups by promoting greater **access** and **availability** of healthy food in marginalised areas through a programme of **local projects** using a **community development** approach



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Objectives of the Demonstration Programme

- Provide technical support and collective training
- Facilitate networking
- Promote shared learning
- Identify technical/support needs and support models of best practice amongst CFIs on the island of Ireland
- Increase awareness of CFIs among key stakeholders
- Enhance prospects of long term sustainability
- Use lessons learnt to inform and support food poverty related policy initiatives
- Measure outcomes via an evaluation of the Programme to assess the value-added nature of its work and to inform a long-term strategy. The purpose will be two-fold:
 - To inform the on-going planning and development of the Programme (formative)
 - To provide an assessment of the impact of the programme on the CFIs (summative)



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Why a Demonstration Programme

- Within the context of the Demonstration Programme, support for CFIs is provided through a programme approach, as distinct from a grant scheme
- The programme approach is emphasised as it is important that projects have committed to shared learning and networking
- The advantages of a programme approach are:
 - o enhanced prospects of long-term sustainability
 - o provision of technical support
 - o opportunities for networking and shared learning
 - o wider dissemination of policy and practice implications



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Our Vision is to...

- Stimulate community action on initiatives focused on promoting accessibility, affordability and availability of healthy food
- Prioritise local issues
- Involve people affected by poverty in identifying their own needs and developing responses
- Increase awareness and knowledge of food issues within the local community
- Support local economies by training local people and involving local producers
- Contribute to the health and well-being of people in the local area
- Highlight inequalities around access, affordability and availability of healthy food and use this to inform and influence policy



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How we are going to do it..!

- Coordinate the programme
- Maximise opportunities for realising the advantages of this approach
- Work in partnership with the selected projects
- Facilitate collective training and transfer of learning among the projects
- Facilitate networking between the projects, e.g.
 - 3 networking events planned for each year
 - Build cohesion of the Demonstration Programme
 - Self-evaluation session
 - Dictated by the needs and input of the CFIs
- Organise and facilitate additional networking events to enable sharing and exchange of learning with CFIs external to the Programme
 - raise awareness of the issues inherent in food accessibility and availability among a wide range of stakeholders and help establish partnerships with other bodies throughout the island of Ireland
- Develop links with CFIs in other countries and ensure best practice is implemented within the Demonstration Programme



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Next Steps...

- Supporting the projects and facilitating shared learning
 - networking etc.
 - working in partnership with the projects
- HfFA have developed a Good Practice Guide for Community Food Initiatives which will be used to support CFIs
- Development of an on-line CFI directory
- Harness learning from the Programme and use it to
 - help the development and sustainability of CFIs
 - influence policy



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Thank you!

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