



Food and Agriculture for Nutrition: capitalizing on experience

Nutrition Division (ESN) - www.fao.org/food

DOCUMENTING LESSONS LEARNED FROM FIELD EXPERIENCES



A great number of **successful activities are carried out at local level** to support and enhance the food security, nutrition and livelihoods of vulnerable households, in emergency as in development contexts. However, the **knowledge and experience are rarely documented** to be capitalized upon, leading to the lack of awareness of successful interventions and the repetition of inefficient – if not harmful- practices, from one intervention to the other, from one organisation to the other.

The FAO Nutrition Division supports the documentation and dissemination of lessons learned from local interventions carried out by FAO as well as other organisations, through the preparation of **Food Security, Nutrition and Livelihoods (FSNL) factsheets**. These offer a template and a participatory procedure through which local actors can document successful or unsuccessful practices that they have experienced on the field. The final product is a one page (front and back) factsheet easy to carry, store and distribute, that serves two purposes:

- **raise awareness on successful practices** and serve as entry point to more detailed and technical information sources (documents and people) related the implementation of particular interventions;
- **raise recognition** among partners, donors and peers of what can be (and has been) achieved on the field..

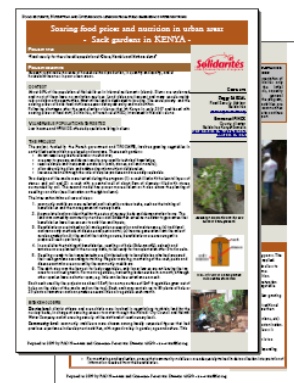
Generic factsheets are also compiled through the synthesis of lessons learned from various interventions in the same thematic area (e.g. *Support to Nutrition Rehabilitation Units*).

SOME EXAMPLES



Keyhole gardens:
improving household food production and nutrition status of vulnerable people (children, elderly, HIV/AIDS affected households, etc). Lessons learned from a multistakeholders' project in Lesotho.

Sack gardens:
improve nutrition status and income generation of families in slums and other poor urban areas through household food production. Lessons learned from an international NGO in Kenya.



Nutrition education in nutrition rehabilitation units

An integrated approach to achieve sustainable, positive behavioural changes in child feeding practices, to improve nutritional status and livelihoods of vulnerable households. Lessons learned from an FAO project in Côte d'Ivoire.



Junior Farmer Field and Life Schools

Strengthen the food security, nutrition and livelihood of households and communities affected by HIV/AIDS by teaching Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) basic practical agricultural knowledge and life skills to increase their self-esteem and livelihoods prospects. Lessons learned from an FAO project in Uganda.