

NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON MDMS

6-7 NOVEMBER, 2017

PANJIM, GOA

’
SETTING UP KITCHEN GARDENS IN SCHOOLS

ACTION PLAN & RECOMMENDATIONS

BY

WORKING GROUP

(KERALA, PUNJAB, HARYANA , CHANDIGARH & UTTARAKHAND)

Team Members of Group -1



KITCHEN GARDENS IN SCHOOLS

ADVANTAGES



School Kitchen

Gardens- PRACTICAL AIMS

GARDENING	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) to create a successful, sustainable garden using organic methods2) to provide a model of a mixed kitchen garden for the community
NUTRITION	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) to produce food for the school2) to improve children's diet with garden produce and to improve child's eating habits
SCHOOL SUBJECTS	to reinforce some areas of the school curriculum (e.g. science, environmental science, home economics)
SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY	to bring together school, children, families and community in a common endeavour

OBJECTIVES OF SCHOOL KITCHEN GARDENS

- ❑ ***Develop children's understanding of vegetable production***
- ❑ ***Raise children's interest in a more varied diet***
- ❑ ***Help children learn to produce vegetables***
- ❑ ***Produce vegetables appreciated by the community and adapted to local climate***
- ❑ ***Give opportunities for children to consume the vegetables they grow***
- ❑ ***Encourage children to acquire attitudes of cooperation Collective responsibility, self-esteem, self confidence, motivation and value of work.***

ACTION PLAN

- This action Plan is the culmination of the working group meeting held on 6th November 2017 comprising the States of Kerala, Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh and Uttarakhand during the National Workshop on Mid Day Meal Scheme organized at Panjim, Goa from 6-7 November 2017.***
- The action plan brings together the ideas put forward by the respective states comprising the working group and best practices from those already doing school kitchen gardens***

THE SEVEN AREAS OF THE PROPOSED ACTION PLAN

- Resource Availability***
- Educational Impact***
- Partnership opportunities/Convergence with other departments***
- Advocacy channels***
- Timelines***
- Programme Sustainability***
- Evaluation***

ACTION PLAN – Resource Availability

- Interested students ,parents and teachers***
- Gardening Knowledge and materials***
- Ground space or space available in roof tops***
- Staff time to follow up with and train students & teachers***
- Administrative support***
- Watering systems to help keep kitchen gardens going***
- Funds***

ACTION PLAN – Resource Availability

How to go about it

- Listing the programme as an agenda in the State Level Steering cum Monitoring Committee.***
- Data regarding land space available, water supply system , etc will be collected from schools in a prescribed format/proforma***
- Selection of schools- As a pilot project, 5 or 10 schools in each block***
- Convergence with Department of Agriculture and Department of LSG for finance and technical knowledge.***
- Formation of Nature/Eco/Agricultural Clubs in Schools***
- Procurement of Seeds/Saplings once the crops are identified***
- Training of teachers and students with the help of Department of Agriculture/ Agricultural universities/Research Institutions.***

ACTION PLAN – Educational Impact

How does gardening connect with student learning

- Linking the concept of school kitchen gardens with curriculum. Incorporate it as a subject in curriculum***
- Bring out a study guide on gardening principles***
- One period per week should be dedicated to impart knowledge on gardening.***
- Create a searchable database for classroom exercises that teachers and students could use while implementing kitchen gardens***
- Create a educator's platform for the interaction of teachers from different schools for exchanging and sharing ideas on the innovative / unique practices in the cultivation of kitchen gardens. State wide contests, festivals, workshops could also be organized.***

ACTION PLAN – Partnership Opportunities

- Develop detailed guidelines on how and whom to associate/partner with in implementing the Scheme***
- Rope in students, parents, teachers, PTA/MPTA/SMC members who are interested in gardening. Form a school level committee to oversee the project. Include the local ward councillor***
- Prepare a list of local farmers, nutritionists, and experts who could provide guidance and technical expertise.***
- Form a committee at the ward/panchayath level comprising village Sarpanch, HMs, representatives of teachers & parents, officers from agricultural department, farmers, nutritionists and experts/scientists from agricultural institutes.***

ACTION PLAN – Advocacy Channels

- Develop a state-wide campaign for promoting school kitchen gardens***
- Coin a name for the programme and prepare a slogan for it. Nominations can be invited from students and teachers.***
- Give widespread publicity for the programme. Get some media attention and post public service advertisements on print and visual media***
- Form garden open house for community***
- Blogs could be opened for sharing unique/best practices in kitchen gardening among schools***

ACTION PLAN – Timelines

- Fix timeline for each activity , i.e. for data collection, completion of talks with other departments/agricultural institutions, formation of school agricultural clubs/other committees, training , etc.***
- Work with local school personnel to determine a timeline that works for each school.***

ACTION PLAN – Programme Sustainability

- Ensure partnerships at the State and local level. Use it for requisite funding and for technical assistance.***
- On the local level, determine how the kitchen garden will be sustained when school is not in session.***
- Develop a plan to sustain the kitchen garden with little or no fund. This will help school authorities continue the programme even if financial resources are not available.***

ACTION PLAN – Evaluation

- Create a standardised evaluation matrix from the State level to make sure everyone is measuring common items.***
- Officially define , from the State level, what encompasses a “ school kitchen garden”.***
- Establish a baseline of school kitchen gardening by determining the number of schools having a gardening programme based on the State definition.***
- Determine a way to easily collect qualitative and quantitative data. Make the data available for the participants.***
- Highlight the programme yearly by bringing out Annual Reports.***
- Institute a state level award for kitchen gardening.***

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORKING GROUP ON KITCHEN GARDENS

- In order to share the best/unique practices among various States on school kitchen gardens, MHRD may organize one day regional workshops during April-May every year***
- Sufficient funds may be allocated under MME for developing kitchen gardens***
- To develop and foster cooperation /interaction among States , mutual/joint visits may be promoted.***



ACTION PLAN - Timelines

- Fix timelines for each activity - i.e. for data collection, completion of calls with schools, completion of school surveys, organization of school representative clubs/other committees, training, etc.
- Work with local school personnel to determine a timeline that works for each school.

Thank
you

