

FoodTopia Fruits & Veggies Food Truck

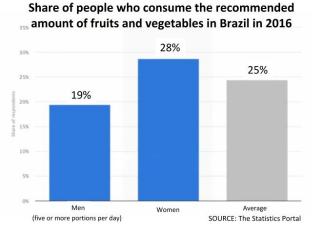
Hands-On Nutrition Education

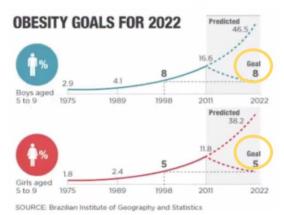
SOLUTION DESCRIPTION: Mobile classroom bringing fruits & veggies preparation & nutrition education to schools, supplied by local farms and markets. Promoting sustainable dietary patterns among elementary school students, by increasing knowledge and taste for fresh, seasonal produce. Self-sustaining model: FoodTopia Food Truck serves as mobile billboard to advertise fruits & veggies as well as producer, to incentive suppliers. FoodTopia educators dress in action hero costume to add excitement, with online resources for families and social media promotion.



Sustainable Dietary Pattern The Challenge in Brazil







Problem in Brazil:

- Fruit & vegetable consumptions is extremely low, due to:
 - Customs, preferences, knowledge, affordability, convenience, availability

Target population:

 Primary school (6-10), living in low income urban areas of Campinas-SP (can be expanded to include rural)

Solution strategy:

Nutritional education workshops that include cooking, tasting, eating and interactive learning for primary school children to increase knowledge about the importance of and preference for fresh fruits and vegetables. Using a mobile classroom to facilitate rollout and add excitement.

Circular Strategy:

Offer smallholder farms and local fruits & vegetables markets the opportunity to supply fresh produce for the program in exchange for promotion/advertising.

Curricula, customized to target each grade level

- Tasting and interacting learning
- Basic age-appropriate cooking skills
- Interactive nutrition education for kids
- Learning-of-the-day resources for parents, encouraging healthy cooking

FoodTopia Food Truck Approach:

- **Novel approach:** Solar-powered Food Truck with kitchen to conduct cooking classes, tasting experiences & interactive learning with seasonally available, locally grown food.
- Volunteer educators dress in fruit/veggie superhero costumes to associate fruits & veggies with strength/health, and to add fun! Interactive experiential learning.

Rollout / Implementation:

- Solicit buy-in from local government and schools
- One year Pilot extendable to three years
- Launch in Campinas-SP with plans to extend
- Program efficacy testing via questionnaire to assess knowledge/preferences
 - o Immediately pre/post program, and after 6 months
 - o Compare: 8 classes in consecutive weeks, to 8 classes spread across year
 - o Compare intervention results with schools without intervention as controls

Measurement

 Questionnaire administered among both kids and parents: fruit & vegetable intake, nutritional information, dietary diversity, food preferences, intention for parents to purchase fruits & vegetables

FoodTopia team brings to bear a wealth of relevant experience and knowledge:

• Nutrition, agronomy, research, education, social intervention programs, Brazilian culture

<u>Key Stakeholders/ Partners:</u> Local smallholder farmers / markets, nutrition educators and students interested in volunteer teaching, teachers allying with nutrition educators, families, universities

