Decent Food for All – Thinking and Acting Locally and Globally

WHAT IS “DECENT FOOD FOR ALL”?
- 4 years programme addressing inequalities in physical and financial access to safe healthy food
- 12 wards in the Armagh and Dungannon

Aims
- To improve the provision and consumption of affordable, safe and healthy food particularly among the disadvantaged groups
- To support local communities, families and individuals to achieve a balanced safe diet by providing practical, community-based and focused help and advice on food issues and nutrition

Interventions
- Single educational sessions and workshops
  - Programmes (2 to 6 weeks)
  - Requested community events

Participant questionnaires (qualitative self-reported information) suggest there was evidence of positive impact.

95% of the participants said the workshops will help them to put healthy eating and healthier lifestyle into practice.

However; these results were not translated into community-level impacts.

Some changes in key indicators favored the intervention group, others favored the comparison group.

No consistent positive impact across the key expected outcomes that could be attributed to the DFIA Programme.

Number of portions of fruit and vegetables consumed daily

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Themes:
- Local Regeneration
- Individual, Household & Community Change
- Policy Change

Process Evaluation

Ethnographic studies – food culture

INSIGHTS FROM DFIA
- Strengthening individual-based Health Promotion
- Addressing local community issues (food production and distribution)
- Addressing global issues (food industries, policies...)

MAKING IT HAPPEN
- Supporting the local team (adequate funding, resources and skills)
- Supporting the community (appropriate engagement, adequate resources)
- Linking research and practice
- Strengthening co-operation and coordination with other organisations and initiatives

LESSONS

We need to plan AND act both locally and globally, across all levels of the society.

DESCRIPTION OF THE EVALUATION DESIGN

‘All-Ireland learning from the Decent Food for All programme’

- Led by the Institute of Public Health in Ireland (IPH)
- Aimed to assess the effectiveness of DFIA Programme with the twelve target wards in Armagh and Dungannon Health Action Zone
- PLA (Program Logic Approach) helped ensure that the DFIA Programme was planned as a comprehensive multi-level programme that tackled the broad determinants of food poverty
- Key Expected Outcomes and associated indicators were identified and analysed using SAS package (quantitative information)
- These indicators were measured in pre- and post-intervention community surveys and food basket Studies
- The indicators analysis was complemented by qualitative information from a number of ethnographic studies