Perish to Profit: Processing Ripe Tomatoes to Generate an Income Stream for the Paraguayan Food Bank

Michael DeFrancesco  
*Worcester Polytechnic Institute*

Sinead Flanagan  
*Worcester Polytechnic Institute*

Olivia Gibbs  
*Worcester Polytechnic Institute*

Emily Schneider  
*Worcester Polytechnic Institute*

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Recommended Citation

DeFrancesco, Michael; Flanagan, Sinead; Gibbs, Olivia; and Schneider, Emily, "Perish to Profit: Processing Ripe Tomatoes to Generate an Income Stream for the Paraguayan Food Bank" (2016). *Great Problems Seminar Posters (All Posters, All Years).* 468. [http://digitalcommons.wpi.edu/gps-posters/468](http://digitalcommons.wpi.edu/gps-posters/468)

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Perish to Profit

**Perish to Profit Plan**

**Objectives**
1. To reduce tomato waste in Paraguay.
2. To create a plan for processing ripe tomatoes.
3. To provide a supplementary income for Banco de Alimentos.

**Background**
- Go Hungry Each Day
- Adequately Fed

**Hunger Rate**
- 22%
- 78%

**Abstract**
In Asunción, Paraguay, local farmers markets are left with unsold piles of tomatoes every day. Our project focuses on developing a marketable product from these surplus tomatoes that can generate income for Banco de Alimentos, which currently serves 15,000 people. We propose a dehydration process to dry tomatoes and turn them into a powder. When this tomato extract mix is rehydrated, it can be sold to make a tomato paste, soup, and various dishes. The plan we created outlines how this product can be used as a profit for the Food Bank.

**Inflow of Tomatoes versus Profit**

**Projections**
- For annual profit of 24,000 USD, investment starts at 10,000 USD.
- This requires 744 lbs. of tomatoes per day.

**Benefits**
- Reduce Produce Waste
- Growth for the Process
- Generate Income

**Acknowledgments**
We would like to thank Martin Burt, Jim Monaco, Professors Frances Hoy and Yael Schwartz, and our advisors, Professor Nikitina and Angela MacLeod, for guiding us throughout our project.

**Selected References**