Hungry For Change: Reforming the Food Distribution System In India

Abstract
- Decrease hunger and malnutrition in Madhya Pradesh, India.
- A corrupt food distribution system prevents government subsidized food from getting to people.
- Portioning and protecting food in air tight bags will eliminate spoiling and theft.

Background
- Madhya Pradesh has the highest rate of malnutrition in India (55%).
- ~50% of childhood deaths are the result of malnutrition
- 1/3 of crops are lost to spoilage.
- Second largest grain stockpile globally, yet 1/5 of Indian people suffer from malnutrition

Nutrition of Children in India By Region (%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tamil Nadu</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
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<td>Uttaranchal</td>
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<td>Uttar Pradesh</td>
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<td>Meghalaya</td>
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<td>Bihar</td>
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<td>Jharkhand</td>
<td>57</td>
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<tr>
<td>Madhya Pradesh</td>
<td>60</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Madhya Pradesh suffers from drastic malnutrition affecting children and adults alike.

Project Goals
- Higher percentage of subsidized food will reach people
- Food will be fresh
- Decrease in theft
- Appropriate portions due to family need

Methods
- Properly dried and stored grain purchased
- Packaged in portioned, airtight plastic bags
- Placed in brown paper bag and sealed
- Delivered to villages, distributed to people

Results
- Weight of food sent out will be compared to weight of food received in villages
- Malnutrition and hunger statistics taken by UNICEF and the WHO will be compared before and after implementation

Conclusions
- With increased amounts of food reaching people, malnutrition rates will drop
- Overall health will improve
- If found to increase food distribution, the system will be continued and implemented in other Indian states

References