

Field Training in World Hunger and Malnutrition:
Practical Skills to Make a Difference
May 15 – 28, 2016
Course Objectives

This course is designed to:

- 1) Give participants a better understanding of major causes of world hunger and malnutrition
- 2) Demonstrate specific appropriate technologies that can be used to combat hunger and malnutrition
- 3) Increase sensitivity to community development and cross-cultural issues
- 4) Provide a learning atmosphere of adult participatory education which includes engaged dialogue, critical thinking, and hands-on learning.
- 5) Open new networking avenues in international development.

Courses taught fall into one of the six categories below. Within each category, participants will be able to:

I. Food Production:

Make raised beds for gardening
Set up simple drip irrigation
Identify options for urban gardening and gardening in difficult conditions
Demonstrate alternatives to expensive commercial fertilizers and pesticides
Suggest modifications for gardening for those with HIV/AIDS
Name key underutilized tropical plants with much promise

II. Water and Sanitation Technologies:

Make a simple water pump
Make a tippy-tap
Set up a Bio-sand filter
Learn the SODIS method of water purification
Identify other low-tech methods of water purification
Identify major latrine types and advantages
Explain connection between hunger and water / sanitation

III. Food Preservation/Fortification Technologies:

Make a simple solar dryer and preserve foods by drying
Consider additional methods of food preservation
Make leaf powder and leaf concentrate
Cook a variety of foods fortified with leaf powder
Identify ways of reducing loss of post-harvest food

IV. Child Nutrition/Health:

Assess basic child malnutrition in a community
Identify most effective intervention strategies
Identify major micronutrient deficiencies and strategies for reduction
Promote basic child survival technologies such as GOBI appropriately
Address parasites at the community level
Make nutritious weaning foods

V. Alternative Household Energy:

Build and cook with a solar cooker
Build and cook with a fireless cooker (haybox cooker)
Build and cook with a sawdust stove
Build and cook with a 16-brick stove
Demonstrate core principles of fuel efficient cookstoves
Explain how household energy use impacts world hunger

VI. Community Development / Needs & Resource Assessment:

Demonstrate group participatory methods to raise community awareness and participation in addressing basic human needs.

Become sensitized to the vital importance of community participation for sustainability and true community development.

Understand key cross-cultural differences and know strategies for bridge-building

Discover the power of networking and asset-based development.

Be familiar with the CD library resource collection in appropriate technologies and community development distributed at SIFAT.

Additional Information:

Classes will be taught at SIFAT's 176-acre rural International Training Campus outside of Lineville, Alabama. (1.5 hours from Atlanta or Birmingham; 40 mins. from Anniston) Some hands-on components will be in our simulated Global Village.

SIFAT Trainers are experienced in international development and cross-cultural dynamics. Additionally, we are partnering with several outstanding instructors for this training including Dr. Martin Price of ECHO, Dr. Larry Winiarski, Rocket Stove inventor (Aprovecho), and Dave Kennedy, Founder of Leaf for Life.

This Field Study is designed for grass-roots community workers, university students, missionaries, development organization workers, and those who want to learn how to make a difference in meeting the needs of a hungry world. This course was first developed with NIH grant funds through the Sparkman Center for Global Health and the University of Alabama in Birmingham, School of Public Health.

Training Schedule:

Program begins 6 p.m. Sunday night, May 15th and ends after lunch May 28th. Additional training opportunities are planned for most evenings, including a simulation experience in SIFAT's Urban Slum in the Global Village, cross-cultural activities, group activities for team building and community development, and a Saturday Field Trip. No training on Sunday, May 22nd.

Certificate and International Scholarships:

Each full-time participant will receive a certificate suitable for framing. Up to 6 hours of graduate or undergraduate college credit is available. Some scholarships available for U.S. university students and international community development workers.

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