



CROPPS, PBFA & MarketPlace Initiatives

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS





“My *hand* will sustain him;
surely my arm will *strengthen*
him.” —Psalm 89:21

Our Role in Sustainable Development

Food assistance is a vital component in the process of transitioning individuals, families and communities out of chronic hunger and poverty into self-sufficiency. Development activities that ensure access to clean water, education, health care and livelihood generation need to occur in conjunction with food assistance in order to achieve and maintain self-reliance. Feed My Starving Children® (FMSC) recognizes that our contribution of MannaPack™ meals provides a stabilizing base for these activities to take place and increase success rates.

We believe that relief efforts need to be closely coordinated with programs that empower recipients to achieve self-reliance. Currently, our in-country Distribution Partners need to establish multiple relationships to achieve desired outcomes. By developing a highly focused and integrated multi-organization approach, the time to transition from relief to resiliency can be drastically reduced.

FMSC has developed three approaches to make our food assistance model even more effective.

- **Coalition of Relief Organizations Promoting Practical Solutions (CROPPS)**
- **Project-Based Food Assistance (PBFA)**
- **MarketPlace**

Coalition of Relief Organizations Promoting Practical Solutions (CROPPS)

We believe that when multiple organizations work together, the time it takes to transition from relief to family and community resiliency can be drastically reduced. That's why CROPPS was created with a goal to develop close working relationships between FMSC Distribution Partners working in the same country or region. CROPPS brings together FMSC, our Distribution Partners and other like-minded organizations, including local churches and government agencies. Since 2011, CROPPS groups have been implemented in Nicaragua, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Liberia, Philippines, Honduras, El Salvador and Swaziland.

CROPPS Highlights:

- **Shipping initiatives reduce costs by up to 50% and save time in customs clearance.**
- **Country maps and disaster response plans allow partners to reach every section of their country.**
- **Fellowship, cooperation and sharing of resources between organizations allows partners to become more efficient in serving their communities.**



“We are learning from one another, sharing resources and being support for each other... We have become a cohesive group who are not only working on our own projects, but we all have an eye on the others as well to be sure that none will fail. After talking to others, I have learned that they too started small like we are, but with God’s infinite wisdom and guidance, they have received the will and determination to move forward to achieve even greater things.”

Sue Kellett, Volunteer,
Church of Saint Edward/AVODEC, Nicaragua

Project-Based Food Assistance (PBFA)

In short-term, highly-targeted projects, FMSC brings select Distribution Partners together with local church, community and government leaders to reduce hunger at its roots.

We believe that an intentional application of food assistance for one to five years, in a clearly defined geographic area, will decrease hunger-related illness and financial burden on individuals and administering ministries. Through this project, individuals and communities may count on a consistent supply of food for a specific timeframe. They can then utilize available resources to focus on other activities that help transform a community from chronic hunger to self-sustainability.



PBFA on the Island of Marinduque, Philippines

In September 2012, FMSC, in collaboration with an FMSC Distribution Partner, the Catholic Church and a local Philippine partner, launched the Marinduque Integrated Nutrition, Education and Livelihood (MARINEL) Project with the goal to eliminate malnutrition on the island within three years. The project officially ended in September 2015 with more than 43,000 beneficiaries fed around the island. Data collected during the initial phase is being used to guide next steps in Phase 2 of the project. The intent is to slowly reduce the need for and dependency on supplemental food as beneficiaries attain normal weights and achieve community transformation.

PBFA in Batey 106, La Romana, Dominican Republic

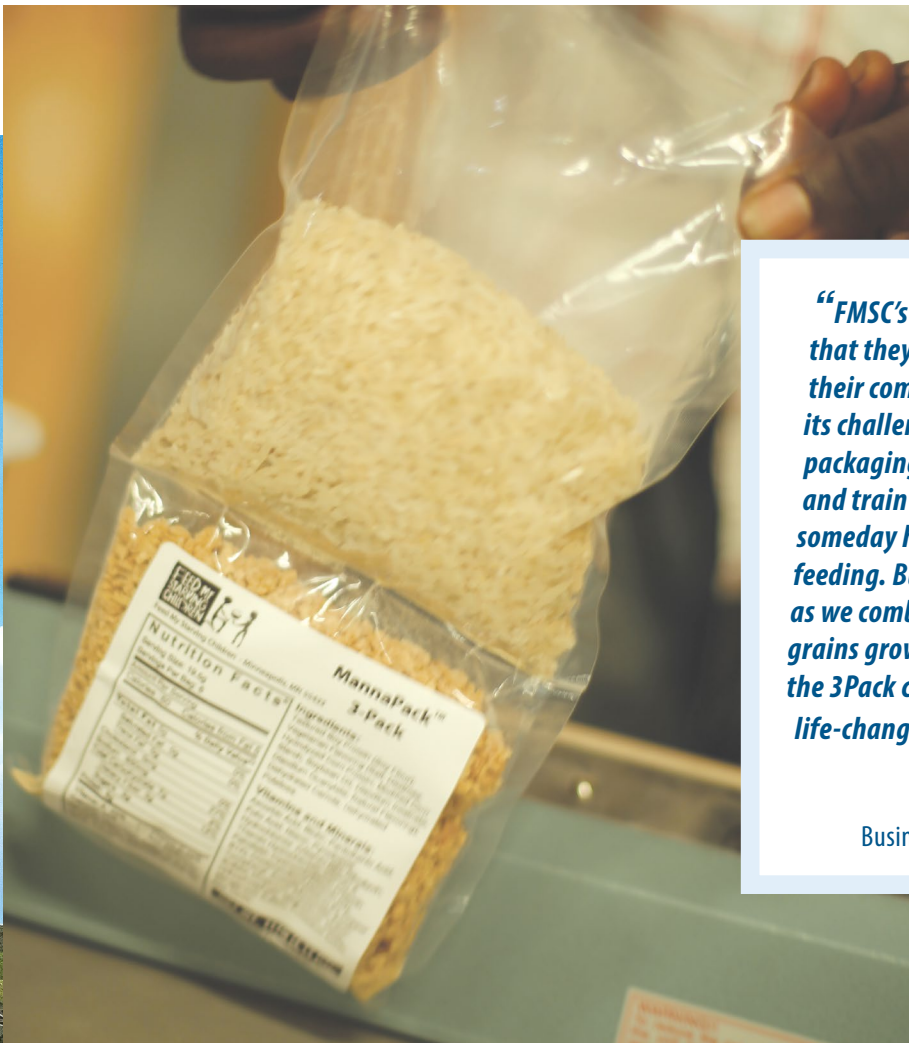
In collaboration with an FMSC Distribution Partner, FMSC launched a PBFA initiative in a small community of approximately 500 residents in the eastern region of the Dominican Republic. Bateys are small communities of mostly Haitian immigrants working in the sugarcane fields. Historically, people living in the Bateys face critical challenges related to health, education, social issues and employment, partly because of their immigration or legal status in the country. In December 2015, a PBFA was launched in Batey 106 where FMSC food and other livelihood initiatives will serve as platforms to empower the people.





3Pack

FMSC is continuously developing innovative programs to help communities transition from relief to development. 3Pack is an experimental program in which we pack three components of our food that are not readily available in the countries we serve—vitamins, vegetables and soy. In country, our Distribution Partners pack the rice component with rice that has been locally grown and procured. 3Pack is in its trial phase, but we hope to develop it into a program that will not only stimulate local economies and support local farmers, but create a sense of dignity and self-sustainability.



“FMSC’s 3Packs bring hope to Haiti’s farmers that they can help feed the hungry children in their communities. The product is not without its challenges. There is still the need to set up a packaging operation, fund local rice purchases and train farmers to improve yields so they can someday have excess harvests to donate to child feeding. But the benefits far outweigh the effort as we combine FMSC’s high quality nutrition with grains grown in Haiti. We are grateful to FMSC for the 3Pack collaboration and have seen significant life-changing impact where it has been tested.”

Scott Campbell, Team Lead,
Business Operations, Mission of Hope, Haiti

MarketPlace Creates Livelihoods

Feed My Starving Children established the international FMSC MarketPlace to support self-sufficiency and sustainability. For a fair wage, we buy hand-made goods from hard-working artisans in the communities that receive FMSC meals. The items are then sold in our MarketPlace at FMSC packing sites, MobilePack™ events and online (fmscMarketPlace.org). MarketPlace purchases build communities and profits go back into our feeding programs.



Artisan Highlight: Betty

Betty was one of the first participants in the Hope Again Women Project, which employs more than 200 women in the Rakai community of Uganda. She is currently raising five grandchildren. The income she receives from her hand-made items allows her to pay their school fees, invest in planting crops and raising animals to help feed her family.

IN 2015,
MARKETPLACE SUPPORTED

1,911

LOCAL ARTISANS IN
COMMUNITIES THAT RECEIVE
FMSC MEALS.



Moving from Relief to Development

FMSC understands that a nutritious food supply allows our partners to stabilize communities and devote resources to schools, health care, ministry, agriculture and micro-business. FMSC will continue to support and develop the CROPPS, PBFA and MarketPlace programs—nurturing a collaborative approach that helps communities move from relief to rehabilitation to development.

“Cast your *cares* on the LORD and he will sustain you; he will never let the *righteous* fall.”

— Psalm 55:22

CONTACT US

For additional information on how your organization can be a part of a current or future CROPPS, PBFA or MarketPlace initiative, please contact the Department of International Programs:

international@fmsc.org



Feeding God's Starving Children Hungry in Body and Spirit

Feed My Starving Children® | 401 93rd Avenue NW, Coon Rapids, MN 55433 | FMSC.ORG