

AQUAPONICS FOR SOLVING FOOD INSECURITY IN URBAN POOR COMMUNITIES IN MYANMAR

INTRODUCTION TO A NON-PROFIT SOCIAL ENTERPRISE THAT INVESTS IN
URBAN POOR COMMUNITIES WITH THE INCOME GENERATED FROM
AQUAPONICS TRAINING PROGRAM.

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WHAT IS AQUAPONICS?

- AQUAPONICS IS A TYPE OF FARMING THAT GROWS FISH AND VEGETABLES SIMULTANEOUSLY, USING THE SAME SOURCE OF WATER.
- THE WASTE PRODUCED BY THE FISH IS SUPPLIED TO THE PLANTS, AND THE PLANTS SUPPLY CLEAN WATER BACK TO THE FISH AFTER ABSORBING THE WASTE AS NUTRIENTS.
- IT IS A SUSTAINABLE, ORGANIC FOOD PRODUCTION SYSTEM THAT DESERVES RECOGNITION FOR HELPING THE ENVIRONMENT.



SCOPE OF THE PROJECT

- CONSTRUCT A SMALL AQUAPONICS FARM TO USE AS A TRAINING CENTER ON A 85 METER-SQUARE PIECE OF LAND.
- DEVELOP A SHORT, ONE-WEEK TRAINING PROGRAM.
- PROMOTE AND BOOST THE TRAINING PROGRAM ON FACEBOOK.
- CARRY OUT HE TRAINING ONLINE AND AT THE SITE.
- RUNNING COST WILL BE COVERED BY GROWING FISH AND VEGETABLES AT THE FARM.
- INCOME GENERATED FROM THE TRAINING PROGRAM WILL BE DONATED TO URBAN POOR COMMUNITIES.



MARKET STUDY

- AQUAPONICS IS NEW TO MYANMAR. MARKET IS STILL UNDERDEVELOPED FOR COMMERCIAL AQUAPONICS FARMS.
- ITALIAN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION (IDC) STARTED A PILOT PROJECT IN 2014, BUT THE PROJECT HAS STOPPED.
- EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF MYANDHRRA, NGO PROMOTING AGRICULTURE TECH IN RURAL AREAS, IS PROVIDING SHORT ON-SITE TRAINING ON AQUAPONICS IN YANGON.
- THERE IS AN ACTIVE COMMUNITY OF OVER 2,000 PEOPLE ON FACEBOOK INTERESTED IN AQUAPONICS.
- AQUAPONICS IS RECEIVING MORE MEDIA COVERAGE ON NEWS CHANNELS AND SOCIAL MEDIA.



ESTIMATED INCOME & SCALABILITY

- COST OF TRAINING FOR EACH TRAINEE WILL BE 50,000 MMK
- A TRAINING COURSE WILL HAVE AT LEAST FIVE TRAINEES.
- PRICE POINT IS BASED ON SHORT VOCATIONAL TRAINING COURSES AVAILABLE IN YANGON.
- THERE IS ROOM TO GROW IF THE TRAINING PROGRAM IS SUCCESSFUL.
- I CAN PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SERVICES TO TRAINEES WHO WANTS TO SET UP A FARM OF THEIR OWN.
- ADDITIONAL SERVICES INCLUDE SYSTEM DESIGN, FEASIBILITY STUDY, AND INSTALLATION.



FUNDING MODEL & PROJECT TIMELINE

- I WILL APPLY FOR GRANTS AND REACH OUT FOR HELP FROM MY MUTUAL AID NETWORK DURING INITIAL SET UP.
- THIS IS ONLY FOR BUILDING THE AQUAPONICS SYSTEM AND BUILDING THE INFRASTRUCTURE. I WILL STOP ASKING FOR HELP WHEN THE SYSTEM IS UP AND RUNNING.
- I EXPECT TO START GENERATING INCOME FROM SELLING PRODUCE FROM THE FARM SIX MONTHS AFTER SET-UP.
- I TRAINING PROGRAM WILL BEGIN AFTER HAVING A SUCCESSFUL HARVEST.



HELP PROVIDED TO THE URBAN POORS

- **TRAINING.** I WILL BE PROVIDING THEM WITH THE TRAINING TO SET UP THEIR OWN AQUAPONICS FARMS.
- **CAPITAL.** I WILL BE PROVIDING THEM WITH THE CAPITAL TO BUY ALL THE COMPONENTS NEEDED. THAT ALSO INCLUDES FISH YOUNGLINGS, PLANT SEEDS, AND FISH FOOD.
- **CONSULTING.** I WILL BE RECOMMENDING THEM THE SET UP MOST SUITABLE FOR THEIR SITUATION DEPENDING ON THE SPACE AVAILABLE.
- **EDUCATION.** I WILL BE PROVIDING EDUCATION MATERIALS REGARDING DIET AND NUTRITION.

