Program: Distance Education Training for the Food Processing Industry in Sub-Saharan Africa

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In Partnership With
International Union of Food Science and Technology

Objectives:
1. To provide educational opportunities through distance education to the food industry in Sub-Saharan Africa
2. To develop a consensus on the content of the distance education training program for the food industry in Sub-Saharan Africa
3. To develop training modules in Food Science and Technology leading to a comprehensive training program
4. To assess the training program through application of a pilot training module

Project Summary:
About 31% of children are malnourished and food availability is a major determinant in reducing child malnutrition. However, 5% to 60% (average 25%) food losses usually occur during food handling processing.

Supply chain management offers opportunities to reduce food losses. Education in supply management is key in enhancing food availability. Reducing food losses by one-half will increase food availability by 15%.

A pilot training module on "Food Dehydration and Drying" has been developed. Eight other subject areas have also been identified. Efforts are currently underway to build a partnership with a distance education institution to deliver this course material to food industry workers. The target for launching the initial pilot course, "An Introduction to Food Dehydration and Drying", is February 2008.

Support Appreciated from:

The International Union of Food Science and Technology

The South African Association for Food Science and Technology

Community Benefits Include: Providing essential training in Sub-Saharan Africa for a sustainable food supply. Eradication of extreme poverty and hunger has been identified in the United Nations Millennium Declaration.