

# The Better Tomorrow Plan Case study

March 2012

## We Do

### OUR COMMITMENTS:

- We will provide and promote balanced, varied food options at all clients' sites by 2012.
- We will support local community development in all countries where we operate by 2015.
- We will source local, seasonal or sustainably grown or raised products in all the countries where we operate by 2015.



**Over 50 schools have already started to grow their own kitchen garden**

## UNITED KINGDOM

### School kitchen gardens project

**In December 2011, Sodexo started to provide schools across the country with grow-your-own kitchen gardens. With 50 schools gardens today, the project will expand to benefit more than 200 schools within the next months.**

### Creating value

Grow-your-own kitchen gardens benefit the whole school community: children, parents, teachers and Sodexo employees by encouraging them to think about where food really comes from, by getting them outdoors and sharing the fun.

### General context

The project is strongly aligned with all aspects of the Better Tomorrow Plan:

- **Actively promote nutrition, health and wellbeing.** A school garden provides a very strong message about eating healthy, fresh ingredients, and outdoor activity.
- **Support the development of local communities.** The provision of organic, grow-your-own fruit and vegetables teaches participants about raw ingredients and where food comes from. It gets them practically involved in growing plants and educates them about team work, taking responsibility and leadership.
- **Protect the environment.** The project teaches participants about where food comes from and encourages them to enjoy the excitement of grow-your-own fruit and vegetables.

### About the School Garden project

This project has been launched in partnership with Rocket Gardens, a supplier of organic vegetable and herb plants. **It is aimed at getting school communities grow their own fruit and vegetables.** Schools receive a box full of baby organic vegetables, fruit and herb plants ready to be gardened. It is a fun and effective way to keep people of all ages active, make them inquisitive about the outside world and encourages them to question where the food they eat comes from.



## The partnership

Sodexo Foundation is sponsoring the company's partnership with Rocket Gardens as part of its STOP Hunger campaign which aims to tackle hunger, support good nutrition and promote life skills in local communities.

Each selected/nominated school will receive a year's supply of school gardens which includes a fruit garden, a spring/summer garden and an autumn/winter garden. The baby plants will arrive at the schools ready to be planted and grown.



## Pilot project

**The pilot includes the provision of over 50 school kitchen gardens.**

Sodexo Prestige in London, the original driving force behind the project, invited its clients to nominate 14 local schools of their choice to receive a school garden. In addition, the Scouts Association has also been selected to receive one of the gardens.

23 school gardens have been sent to schools participating in Sodexo Defence's well-established 'Sow It, Grow It, Cook It, Eat It' campaign, which sees the segment's employees donate seeds and equipment, and give hands-on support to help children grow fruit and vegetables that the team then cook for the children to sample, encouraging healthy eating.

An employee competition held in the weekly e-newsletter has seen a further 10 school gardens sent to schools nominated by Sodexo employees who had to submit 100 words on why their local school should receive a garden.



## Moving forward

In March 2012, the Sodexo Foundation trustees approved funding to roll the project out further with:

- 200 gardens for Sodexo Education funded 50:50 by the segment and the Sodexo Foundation
- 10 gardens for Sodexo Horticultural Services



More information

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