

UWEX Community Food Systems Team Whole Measures

A strategic evaluation framework to guide the planning and evaluation of food systems programming



Whole Measure	Definition	A sample of Outcomes
Fairness & Justice	Just and fair food systems are deliberately organized to promote social equity, justice, worker rights, democratic participation and healthy conditions from farm to plate to waste management. Just food systems ensure fair and respectful treatment of all people engaged in all aspects of the system and dismantle embedded systems of power, privilege, and prejudice with the engagement of all stakeholders.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provides access to and supports food for all 2. Reveals, challenges, and dismantles injustice in the food system 3. Ensures that public institutions and local businesses support a just community food system
Vibrant Farms & Gardens	Vibrant Farms and gardens are dynamic food producing operations that meet the family, business or organization’s personal goals and contribute to the social, environmental and economic well-being of the broader community. Vibrant farms are always looking to improve their practices to better achieve the above goals.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Food producing operations thrive and are economically viable 2. Farmers of all scales, experience levels, and racial and ethnic backgrounds have access to and use support 3. Farm businesses define their goals through a process that includes all members of the operation
Healthy People	A thriving community food system provides safe food and a built environment that enables all people to attain complete physical, emotional, social, economic, and spiritual well-being and positive growth, supported by families, employers, communities, places of worship and learning, and government in order to lead resilient and productive lives.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Policy and decision makers increase knowledge and awareness of how community Policy Support 2. Policy and decision makers finance and incentivize the creation of community infrastructure 3. Community infrastructure that supports access to and availability of healthy food and physical activity opportunities
Strong Communities	A community food system can be a unifying force and celebrates the cultural diversity of the community. Strong communities meet the needs of members by promoting civic engagement and social responsibility and have capacity to identify, explore, and implement solutions to problems.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increased and sustained local jobs and local wealth 2. Food and agriculture businesses and entrepreneurs have the tools they need to succeed 3. Local residents have food and agricultural skills
Thriving Local Economies	A community food system supports thriving local economies and is based upon community assets. Thriving local economies are supported by policies and democratic processes that contribute to the wellbeing of all. Thriving local economies foster entrepreneurship and sustain good jobs that provide livable wages and create wealth for the community. Thriving local economies support and are supported by the health of the ecosystem.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fostering collective work around food projects that strengthen the community 2. Increasing capacity for and community control of food resources and assets
Sustainable Ecosystems	Community food systems are dependent on and steward sustainable ecosystems which are biologically diverse and resilient; are woven together through interdependent relationships; are dependent on and result in clean air, water and healthy soil for current and future generations.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enhance soil health 2. Decrease in water and land contamination that result from agricultural production 3. Incorporating frameworks to reflect climate change
Innovative Collaborations	Interdisciplinary projects and programs in food systems recognize that food systems issues are complex and require multiple perspectives methods and approaches. Interdisciplinary approaches involve creating something new by crossing boundaries, and thinking across them.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. People value Innovative collaborations and understand the importance of them 2. Strong and positive working relationships across programs, positions and partners 3. Programs are developed and implemented through an inclusive process where community members and extension educators and specialist from diverse program areas have shared leadership and power