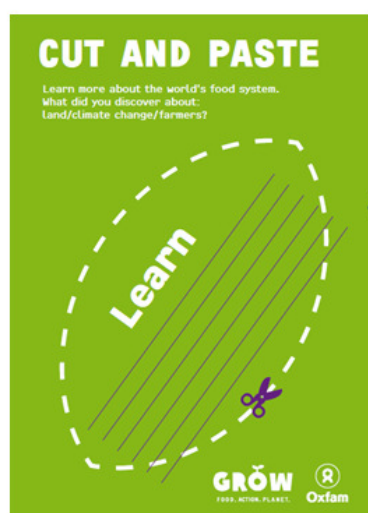


FOOD FOR THOUGHT

IN A WORLD WITH PLENTY OF FOOD WHY DO ONE BILLION PEOPLE NOT HAVE ENOUGH TO EAT? SHOULDN'T EVERYONE GET THEIR FAIR SHARE?

Learn and think about making food fair, and then take action. It's a chance to become an active global citizen.

Learn, think and take action with Oxfam's Food for Thought project. Complete your wallchart as you learn.



Use the leaf templates



And when you have learnt about the food system, thought about how it could change and planned and done something yourself, share what you have learnt at www.classforchange.org

Learn

Think

Act

Share

A space for active global citizens!

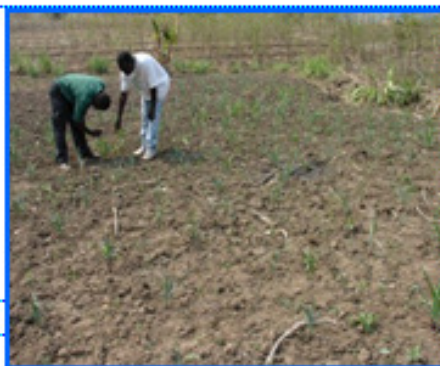
Class for change

Card set 1



Small farmers have little money to buy fertiliser for crops.

Source: <http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/>



Little fertiliser and soil erosion results in poor plant growth.

© Jane Buckton/Oxfam



With poor plant growth food supply for the community is not enough for everyone.

© Jane Buckton/Oxfam



Small farmers are given fertiliser and small loans by local government groups.

Oxfam Works and Plan on ID: B&B, Annie Wwww



Fertiliser means more types of crops are grown, e.g. tomatoes, groundnuts, sweet potato and wheat.

Source: <http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/>



This means more food and better nutrition for the local community.

© Annie Buckton/Oxfam



There is now enough food so extra food can be sold for profit at the market.

© Annie Buckton/Oxfam



Families can buy health care for somebody in the family who is sick.

© Oxfam Taylor-Smith/Oxfam

Card set 2



Malawi is a small country with little land for farming.

Source: <http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/>



Large estates growing tobacco tea, sugar and other crops for export own the best land.

Source: <http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/>



So small farmers are left with little space for their farms.

© Annie Bungeo/Oxfam



Small farms don't let you grow a lot of food.

© Debbie Yazbeck/Oxfam



The farmers put their land together to make a larger piece of land, and farm together

© Debbie Yazbeck/Oxfam



Working together saves time so they can grow lots of crops like rice, wheat and tomatoes.

Source: <http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/>



This means they can sell food in bigger amounts to the local factory and super-market.

© Abbie Traylor-Smith/Oxfam



The community can use the money to make a grocery shop and a tea room.

© Annie Bungeo/Oxfam

Card set 3



Farmers have little money to buy seeds, little training and only have seeds that grow slowly.

Source: <http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/>



Having few resources means farmers can only plant few seeds every year.

© Jane Beckett/Oxfam



This means there is not enough food grown to feed the community.

© Abbie Traylor-Smith/Oxfam



Farmers are given starter packs of seeds and fertiliser, with training.

© Abbie Traylor-Smith/Oxfam



The community can then harvest tomatoes twice a year as well as diversifying crops.

© Abbie Traylor-Smith/Oxfam



These tomatoes are sold to the local factory.

© Abbie Traylor-Smith/Oxfam



The local factory make canned tomato juice and puree to supermarkets across Malawi.

© Abbie Traylor-Smith/Oxfam

Ketchup source: <http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/>



Selling the tomatoes from two harvests per year give extra money to send children to school.

© Abbie Traylor-Smith/Oxfam

Card set 4



Climate change results in unpredictable rainfall.

Source: <http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/>



This causes more and more frequent droughts, causing soil erosion.

Source: <http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/>



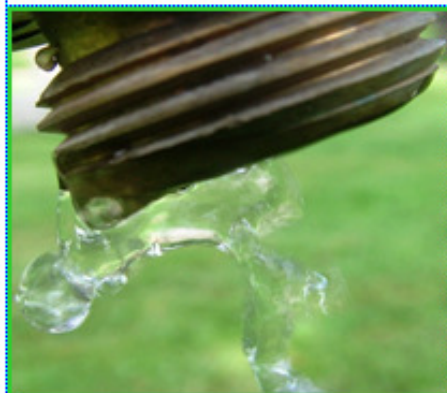
Drought and soil erosion mean crops are ruined, so there is less food grown.

Source: <http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/>



The local community work together to build a channel from the local river to the fields.

Source: <http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/>



This means water is available all year round and reduces soil erosion.

Source: <http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/>



Better water supply means a larger yield of maize is grown.

Source: <http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/>



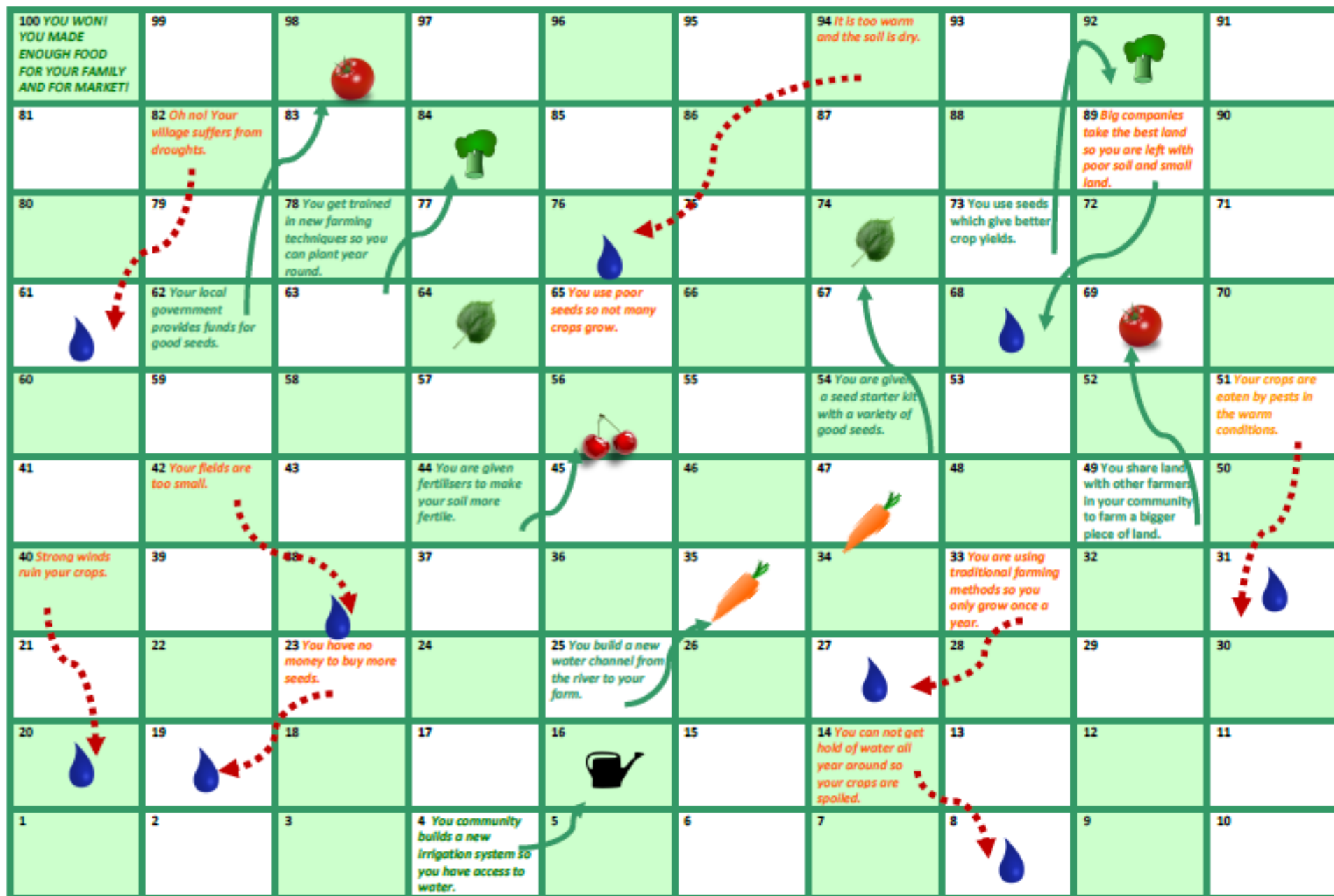
Maize can be sold to make foods like cornflakes, pop corn and tortilla chips in other countries.

Source: <http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/>



The money made from selling maize is used to buy roofing material and build new homes.

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Support in Malawi *longer version*



© Abbie Trayler-Smith/Oxfam

Leyla Kayere, 76, selling her tomatoes, says “I was born here and I have lived here all of my life. When I was growing up agriculture was not as advanced as it is now. We didn’t know anything about irrigation. We only used to grow cassava and millet – to eat, not to sell. There were occasionally wild tomatoes but we

had no method for growing them. I couldn’t live without tomatoes now. When you cook without them the food tastes awful”

Over the last five years, things have visibly changed for the better in Mnembo. New brick houses with iron roofs are springing up everywhere, replacing the old-style, thatched mud-houses. Paths are busy with bicycles, often loaded with coils of iron for new roofs or baskets full of vegetables enroute to market. This newfound vibrancy is the result of the Oxfam-funded irrigation scheme. The scheme was set in 2004 with ongoing support from Oxfam until 2006.



© Abbie Trayler-Smith/Oxfam

The land is over-farmed and becoming increasingly infertile. Harvests are becoming smaller. And due to changes in the climate, the rainfall in Malawi is increasingly erratic. This leads to more frequent and severe droughts or destruction of crops when the rains are intense and unpredicted. Both result in food shortages. In a country with long dry spells but lots of rivers, irrigation is an obvious solution



© Abbie Trayler-Smith/Oxfam



© Abbie Trayler-Smith/Oxfam

The Mnembo Irrigation scheme has helped to improve the lives of 400 families by transforming their traditional small low-yield crops into year-round, high volume harvests that provide continuous food and a source of income. The community are now totally self sustainable.

With initial support from Oxfam, the farming village of Mnembo have managed to pool their labour to harvest and sell their produce in bulk. In addition to bigger and better maize harvests, the newly irrigated land enables the community to diversify and grow cash crops. They now grow wheat, rice and tomatoes.

Tomatoes are the most profitable crop. The community harvest twice a year and sell as a cooperative to the Mulanje Peak Foods Canning Factory (who sell canned tomato juice and tomato puree in supermarkets throughout Malawi). Last year, with no support from Oxfam, the community harvested 53,000 tonnes of tomatoes (twice) and made enough profit to really start changing their lives.



© Abbie Trayler-Smith/Oxfam



© Abbie Trayler-Smith/Oxfam

Support in Malawi *shorter version*



Leyla Kayere, 76, selling her tomatoes, says “I was born here and I have lived here all of my life. When I was growing up we didn’t know anything about irrigation. We only used to grow cassava and millet – to eat, not to sell. I couldn’t live without tomatoes now. When you cook without them the food tastes awful”

In 2004 Oxfam set up an irrigation scheme due to the country’s many rivers which it supported for 2 years. Many improvements have been made in Mnembo: new brick houses with iron roofs are replacing thatched mud-houses, paths are busy with bicycles with baskets full of vegetables to sell at market.

The land was over-farmed, so fewer crops grow and the harvests reduced in size. The rain in Malawi became less predictable due to climate change so there are more frequent and severe droughts. Crops are also destroyed when the increasingly unpredictable rains are very heavy.



The irrigation scheme has improved the lives of 400 families by providing continuous food and income by harvesting and selling their wheat, rice and tomatoes as a group. The newly irrigated land means that there are bigger and better maize harvests, and other cash crops are grown. The community is now totally self sustainable.

The community sells tomatoes as a cooperative to the Mulanje Peak Foods Canning Factory (who sell canned tomato products in supermarkets throughout Malawi). Last year, with no support from Oxfam, the community harvested 53,000 tonnes of tomatoes (twice).

