



P|I|P|S *Project on International Peace and Security*



The Promise of Sack Farming: Promoting Urban Agriculture to Address Food Insecurity in West Africa

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Food Insecurity in West Africa



Urbanization



Food prices



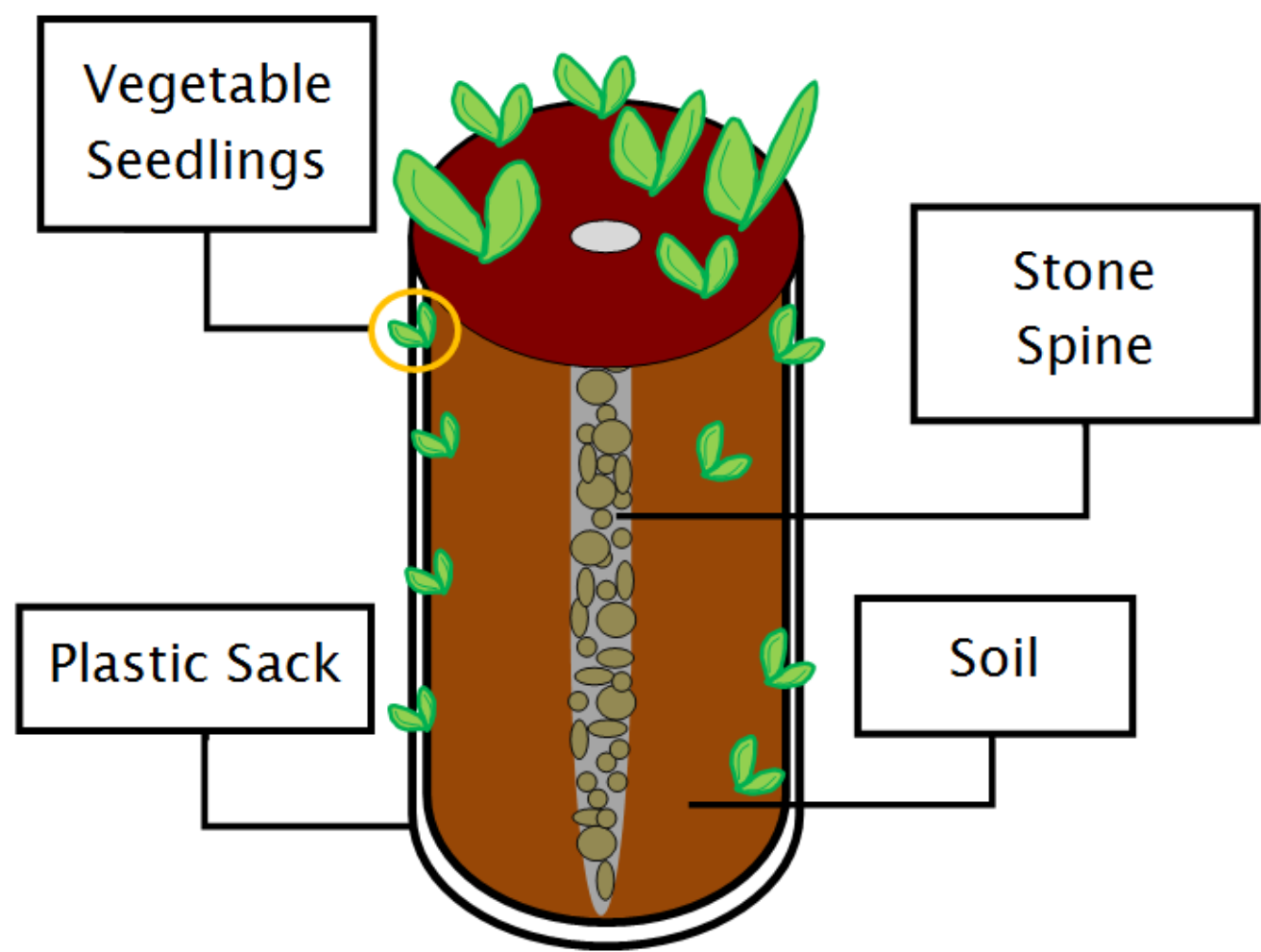
Chronic poverty

Food Insecurity as a Catalyst



- ▶ Anti-government violence
 - Senegal (2008)
 - Mali (2012)
- ▶ Threat to democracy
 - De-legitimization
 - Destabilization

Sack Farming





Sack Farming is Practical



Vertical space



Targeted irrigation



Available materials



Sack Farming is Economical

Average monthly income

\$50–100

Food expenditures

75%

Average cost of 1 sack

\$2.50





Sack Farming is Sustainable



Past success



Social capital



Widespread appeal



Advancing U.S. Interests

- ▶ Age of austerity
- ▶ Geopolitics of West Africa
- ▶ Long-term goals
 - Urban agriculture movement
 - Preventing destabilization





The Promise of Sack Farming



Ghana



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