

# EFOD Criteria

	INDICATORS OF EFOD	CONTRADICTION OF EFOD
<b>Equity- and justice-first</b>	Equity & justice are part of mission, unapologetically represent a historically marginalized community, clearly working on systems change, power change & accountability in operations; ongoing commitment to teaching/including larger transformation; involved in other organizing, advocacy, or policy work – it’s not just about food	Language and mission is general or just development or food related (i.e. “all lives matter”); community transformation is an intention but not yet in practice
<b>Place- and people-based</b>	Embedded in a community or regional network with strong community identity; prioritize culture and artistic and cultural expression; a history of work in this community; leadership has historical connection to social justice in that community	Not connected to community; national or regional without accountability to particular community with distinct identity
<b>Use market-based/ business strategies</b>	Developing new markets and enterprises, creating real economic opportunities, sustainable	Exclusively education, policy, or awareness building; no direct service programming; solely community gardens, no sales or marketing aspect
<b>Community leadership development/ community organizing</b>	Board of Directors and top leadership is representative of the community organization serves, often People of Color-led; work is by & for community members; critical convener role in development projects, serving to maintain community sovereignty, local/county planning involvement	Community served has no real power, decision-making, living-wage jobs in organization
<b>Community ownership</b>	Building community-member assets, equity. often uses alternative economic structures and decision-making processes so community members can have ownership (i.e. co-ops); representative board membership	Outside capital, business owned by outside institutions or people; primarily job creation or training

**UNDERLYING  
MOTIVATION**

Food is a cultural asset  
Food is an existing skill that can be built upon for economically-marginalized communities  
Food access is a key indicator of community health

**SOCIAL INEQUITIES**

**NEIGHBORHOOD CONDITIONS**

Community engagement  
Community leadership development  
Increased capital for community enterprises  
Inclusion in community planning  
Community organizing

**INSTITUTIONAL POWER**

Ownership is reflective of community  
Coordinated food value chain  
Community asset creation  
Local and culturally appropriate goods are more available and affordable

**EFOD  
OUTCOME**

Lowering the economic risk of ownership/entrepreneurship; intergenerational wealth and social capital; protective factors against economic vulnerability.  
Community-designed health and nutrition priorities are normalized.  
The full expression of community pride, power, resilience.

**REDUCED HEALTH DISPARITIES  
IMPROVED HEALTH STATUS**

**PROBLEMATIC POLICY AND FINANCIAL CONTEXT**

Capital mobility means returns on investments are not recirculated locally.  
Government- and corporate-led development attracts higher-income residents and threatens neighborhood identity.  
Critical community needs remain un- or under-invested in; oppositional local policymaking bodies.  
Traditional finance mechanisms are not structured to support grassroots solutions.