



We
envision a
world free
from hunger,
in which every
person can
fully enjoy their
human rights
in dignity,
particularly
the right to
adequate food.



FIAN INTERNATIONAL
ANNUAL REPORT 2008

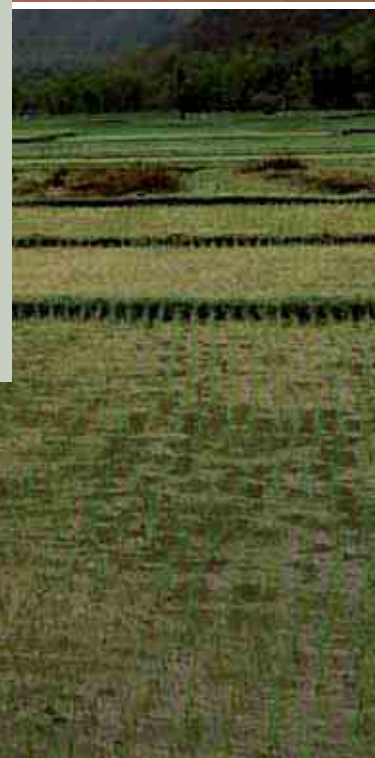
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ABOUT THIS REPORT

This Annual Report is a sampling of FIAN's challenges, successes, and its areas of focus in 2008. After an initial overview of FIAN's work, the Report mirrors the main activities for the promotion of the right to food at the international level that are related to the following programmatic target areas: access to land, water, extraterritorial obligations, justiciability, monitoring, and gender. It then delves into the highlights of the Face It Act Now Campaign, and goes on to reflect brief impressions of the work at the national level carried out by FIAN Sections and Co-ordinations worldwide. It wraps up with a financial picture and a list of FIAN publications that were produced throughout the year.



FOREWORD BY THE PRESIDENT

In 2008 the world was shaken by four crises – all possessing international dimensions. Besides the preexisting global crises concerning global warming and the environment, the first half of the year witnessed an escalation of the world food crisis. In the second half, a devastating financial crisis broke out which has morphed into an acute economic and social crisis that is infiltrating broad social sectors in different countries and undermining the realization of human rights.

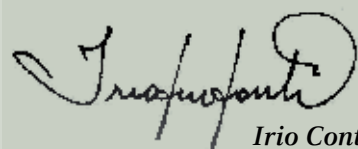
These developments lay the groundwork for the large-scale challenges faced by FIAN International as an organization committed to the uncompromising defense of economic, social and cultural rights, particularly the human right to adequate food. Throughout the year, FIAN was intensely committed to participating in debates about the causes of the food crisis and the identification of alternatives to overcome it. FIAN based its contributions on the practical work it does to defend those who suffer from hunger and violations of their human rights.

Within this political context, the FIAN International Council met in Vienna and brought together representatives from all FIAN Sections and Co-ordinations, as well as from the FIAN International Executive Committee and the International Secretariat. The Council evaluated FIAN's overall performance and designed guidelines that are expected to steer the organization in the coming years. Amidst the various deliberations, it was decided to implement a comprehensive

process of Organizational Development involving all aspects and entities of FIAN International. The Organizational Development process aims to enhance FIAN's casework, enhance the development of the Sections, define the capacity of governance, strengthen communication, and expand the economic bases of support for FIAN's defense and promotion of the human right to adequate food.

Finally, it is necessary to highlight the intense work in 2008 that resulted in the creation of the FIAN Ghana Section and the process of consolidation of the five chapters of FIAN India into a single Section. In cooperation with a dedicated group of activists based in Pittsburgh, we are creating a partnership in the United States. In several other countries in Latin America, Asia and Africa, there are promising dialogues occurring and demands are growing for the development of more systematic work on the human right to adequate food. These are just some of the challenges that lay ahead for FIAN's continued work in the field.




Irio Conti

MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Violations of the human right to adequate food sharply increased in 2008, as food price volatility, speculation in the commodity futures market, and continued land grabbing for agrofuel production exacerbated food insecurity – especially in urban areas. Food riots were documented in more than 30 countries throughout the world. The number of undernourished people rose to almost one billion, demonstrating the incapacity of the market-led world food system to guarantee access to food for all.

FIAN's intervention was key in the various international gatherings held to discuss the aggravation of food insecurity in the world, highlighting that the food crisis is not new. Rather, it is rooted in decades of ill-devised international and national policies that each day produce and reproduce more hunger and malnutrition. The food crisis is, therefore, the result of a systematic pattern of violations of the human right to adequate food. The only way to overcome this is through the effective incorporation of a rights-based approach into planning and policy implementation, both at the national and international level.

2008, however, also brought about some important achievements and celebrations. The almost 20-year-long struggle of civil society organizations and social movements for the establishment of an Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), in which FIAN played a central role, finally bore fruit. One more step was achieved in the road towards

the possibility of holding governments accountable for violations of ESCR rights, including the human right to adequate food. The struggle continues to push for the ratification of the Optional Protocol, so that it can enter into force. With the launch of the seminal publication of the *Right to Food and Nutrition Watch* in 2008, an invaluable space was opened up for various social organizations to articulate their monitoring efforts on the right to food. In the future, this publication should encourage benchmarking of these efforts and improve the coherence of global governance of food and nutrition issues.

To guide us in our journey, we welcome a new President to FIAN: Irio Conti. Irio hails from Brazil and brings with him his insight as past president of FIAN Brazil, and his extensive experience on the right to food and food security issues. We thank outgoing President, Sigrun Skogly, for her hard work and dedication and look forward to benefitting from her future consultation on right to food issues.

Many challenges lie ahead of us, let's improve our capacity to face them.



Flavio Valente

Overview of FIAN work

FIAN RESPONDS TO THE *CHRONIC* WORLD FOOD CRISIS

FIAN's work in 2008 was largely affected by the heightened media attention on soaring food prices and the resulting so-called "world food crisis". As the only international human rights organization working solely on issues related to the right to food, it was an absolute necessity for FIAN to shift its focus and accommodate this unexpected media interest.

However, FIAN is of the firm belief that the world food crisis did not just appear overnight. The organization understands that the crisis is chronic. FIAN established itself over two decades ago in recognition of the fact that the millions of people suffering from hunger then *already was a crisis*.



RESULTS ON THE GROUND

Realizing that the international community could no longer ignore the crisis, the UN Human Rights Council heeded the call of the current UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, Olivier De Schutter, and held a special session on the world food crisis in Geneva in May 2008. At the close of the session, FIAN Secretary General, Flavio Valente, announced, "It is remarkable that the UN Task Force response to the World Food Crisis, under the clear influence of the Bretton Woods Institutions and the WTO, does not mention with a single word the human right to food." FIAN then circulated a petition echoing this dissatisfaction. The declaration, "*The World does not need more of the same medicine*" was signed by more than 70 organizations around the globe and presented to the food crisis summit in Rome in June. FIAN continued to make its position known at various high-level conferences, summits, and grassroots gatherings of activists in 2008: in order to address the world food crisis, one must examine the root causes of hunger.

As right to food and water violations continue to soar over the years, so does the subsequent repression of human rights defenders – both those attempting to assert their rights and those who support them. Just to name a few, 2008 witnessed the persecution of peasants simply defending their basic rights to food in Philippine villages, and Brazilian Special Rapporteurs opposing the pollution of a river. In support of these, and other cases where expediency is required, leaders of FIAN Sections, the Board and Secretariat sent out open letters of protest to the respective government authorities. As a central tool for individual participation, 16 international protest letter campaigns – so-called Urgent Actions – were carried out and signed and submitted by members and supporters worldwide in 2008. On selected cases of human rights violations, FIAN Sections and Co-ordinations conducted fact-finding missions to meet the parties involved and establish a working knowledge of the issues in the case. In 2008, FIAN investigated the local impact of agrofuel expansion on indigenous groups in Brazil, the impact of European trade policies in Uganda and the marginalization of rural populations in Uttar Pradesh, India.

In 2008, the various interventions and campaigns undertaken by FIAN had a positive impact worldwide. Many of these successes were the result of a letter campaign, combined with years of coordinated casework between FIAN Sections, the affected groups and supporting organizations. In **India**, FIAN Sections launched a series of actions that helped increase the

minimum wages for 1.4 million brick kiln workers in Uttar Pradesh. Brick kiln workers are one of the most oppressed classes of workers and the previous minimum wage was insufficient to fulfill the food needs of the workers and their families. In the **Philippines**, FIAN's Urgent Action campaigns contributed to a Supreme Court decision in favor of 200 smallholder farmers. If the court decision is actually implemented, they may be able to benefit from the rightful distribution of land under agrarian reform law. FIAN's work also contributed to another Supreme Court decision in **Ecuador** in favor of smallholder farmers threatened by eviction due to the construction of a harmful dam. The Court ordered a review of the original environmental impact assessment, before construction would be allowed to continue. In January 2008, FIAN International's intervention was crucial to avoid a crack down of heavily armed police on a meeting of landless peasants in Rio Grande do Sul, **Brazil**. Mainly through FIAN's immediate international intervention at different levels was it possible to reach de-escalation of the conflict in time for negotiations, which prevented the serious potential for bloodshed. Special mention merits the joint public protest action of FIAN Germany, and FIAN International in May. The protest was held in front of the headquarters of the German coffee company, Neumann, in order to reveal their partial responsibility for the forced eviction of more than 2,000 people in **Uganda**. The public action was covered in the German media, and the case has moved forward since then.

INTERNATIONAL ADVOCACY

While FIAN's cooperation with victims of human rights violations often produces meaningful short-term results, achieving the global fulfillment of the right to food requires large-scale international advocacy work. Efforts on integrating a right to food perspective in the international response to the world food crisis, and to gain adoption of the Optional Protocol, dominated this advocacy work in 2008. Special attention was given to the new right to food dynamics within the UN Human Rights Council and contributing to the international debate at the UN level, in general.

Regarding the UN, the overarching victory was the historic adoption of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (OP-ICESCR) coinciding with the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The OP-ICESCR establishes a complaints procedure for violations of economic, social and cultural rights. It has been appropriately described by Louise Arbour, the previous UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, as "human rights made whole." (Read more about FIAN's role in this on page 14.)

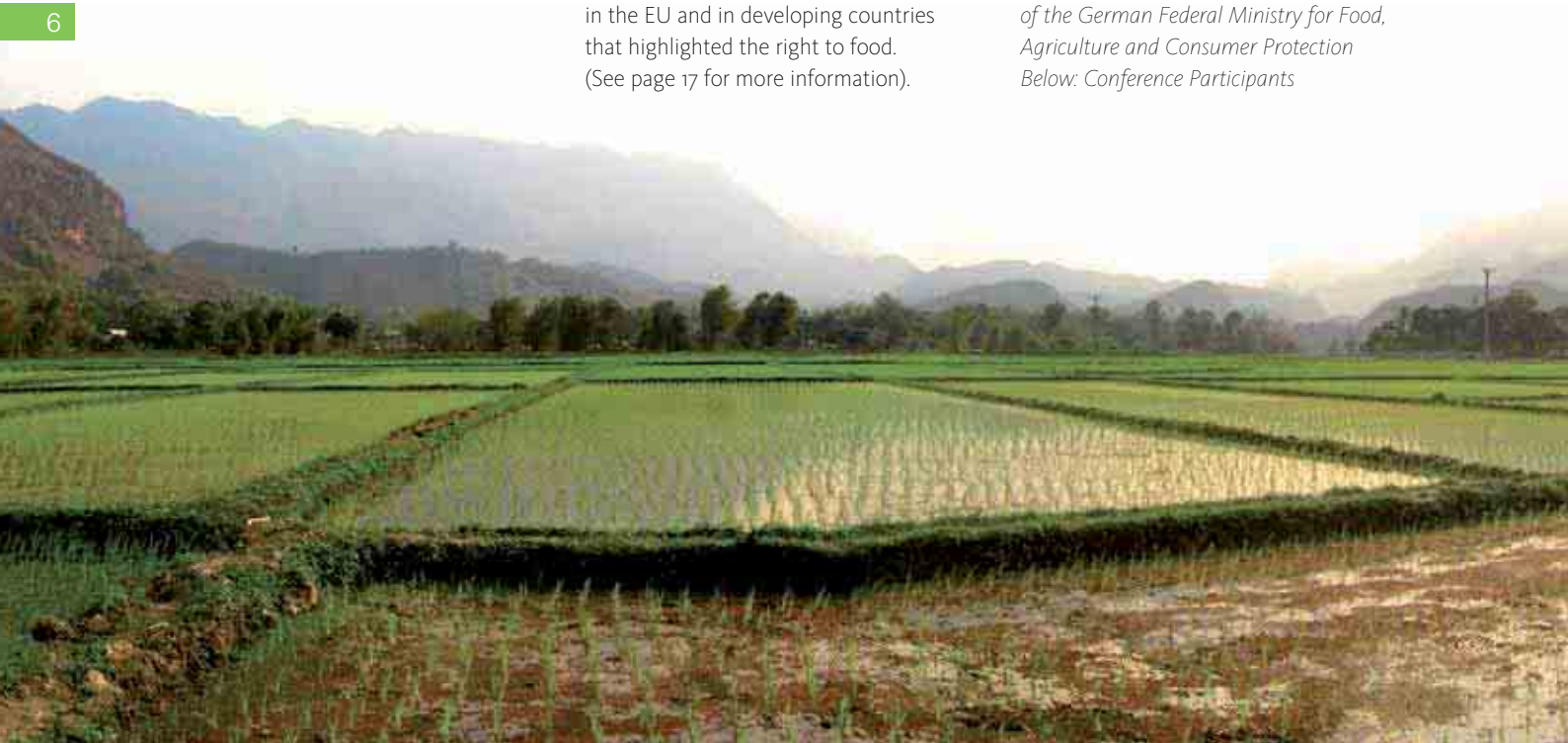
At the EU level, FIAN and its Face It Act Now campaign for the right to food lobbied Members of European Parliament to start incorporating the right to food into any and all policies related to hunger and food security. As a result, the European Parliament approved a resolution in May on rising food prices in the EU and in developing countries that highlighted the right to food. (See page 17 for more information).

In July 2008, Africa witnessed a historical event in relation to the right to food. Organized by the Beninese NGO, Soeurs Unies à l'Oeuvre, along with the support of Bread for the World and FIAN International, a regional workshop of representatives launched the *African Network for the Promotion of the Right to Food*. The Network will build up a framework and forum for coordinated actions at all levels, and with international networks, to ensure that States comply with the commitment they have made to the human right to food of their people since the Universal Declaration of Human Rights went into effect over 60 years ago.

Photos on the right >

*Impressions from the Conference
Policies against Hunger*

*Above: Panelists Olivier de Schutter, UN
Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food,
and Gert Lindemann, State Secretary
of the German Federal Ministry for Food,
Agriculture and Consumer Protection
Below: Conference Participants*





Programs



ACCESS TO LAND AND PRODUCTIVE RESOURCES

Access to land and productive resources is intrinsically related to the right to food. Without the sufficient land and necessary means to grow food crops, the world's people cannot feed themselves. An estimated half of those suffering from hunger worldwide are smallholder farmers with very little access to land. Furthermore, 20 percent of the hungry are landless. With these statistics in mind, a large portion of FIAN's work is dedicated to ensuring that peasants worldwide acquire and maintain existing access to land and from this land are able to provide food for themselves and their families.

The international debate on agrofuels

Recent years have witnessed an increased pressure on land triggered by the promotion and aggressive expansion of energy crop monocultures. These profitable crops serve to take away natural resources and land from rural groups that are already marginalized in society. The crops grown are not used for food to feed the world's hungry, but rather as fuel for use in the exploration of alternative energy sources. What is more, the renewed interest in land by profit-driven, economic actors has led to increasing land prices, thus reversing the implementation of agrarian reform policies that have proven to be the most effective tool in putting land into the hands of those who need it most.

For these reasons, FIAN's program on access to land in 2008 focused on examining and combating the expansion of agrofuel production. At the request of Brazilian civil

society organizations, FIAN, together with a group of European church development agencies and other partners, traveled to Brazil on a fact-finding mission in April 2008. The goal was to investigate the impacts of Brazilian agrofuel policies on food security, land conflicts, labor conditions and the environment. Internationally, Brazil has been a leading proponent of agrofuels. Taking a closer look at the effects of Brazil's policies was crucial in forming FIAN's stance in the controversial international debate on agrofuels. The final report resulting from the mission was presented to several international forums, including the European Parliament.

Another report on the issue was elaborated by FIAN International and Latin American FIAN Sections and partners, and published by the Transnational Institute in the Netherlands. It examined the impact of agrofuels on the right to food in Latin America, and was presented at the FAO High-Level Conference on Food Security, Climate Change and Bioenergy in June in Rome. Looking back on 2008, the FAO proved to be more cautious regarding the expansion of agrofuels. It has called for a review of policies, especially those supporting agrofuel subsidies and mandates for blending agrofuels with fossil fuels. While the European Union has unfortunately not heeded the warnings of the FAO and of civil society actors advocating for a moratorium on agrofuels production, this is all the more reason for FIAN to continue to pressure the EU to integrate human rights standards into its policies regarding agrofuels.

Agrarian reform and peasant rights

In 2008, FIAN, as a member of the Global Campaign for Agrarian Reform, together with the International Planning Committee (IPC) – a global network of NGOs/CSOs concerned with food sovereignty issues – continued follow-up efforts to the International Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ICARRD), which took place in Brazil in 2006. The Conference's demands for human rights-based agrarian reform and rural development policies were incorporated into several initiatives, such as the recommendations of the second Farmers Forum convened by the International Fund for Agricultural Development in February in Rome. FIAN also engaged in the creation of a new instrument for securing peasants' rights. The International Conference on the Rights of Peasants, organized by La Via Campesina (LVC) in Jakarta, aimed at raising public awareness about the distinct human rights of peasants and further developing the declaration on the rights of peasants drafted by LVC's members. FIAN is supporting LVC's work to achieve a UN Convention on the Rights of Peasants.

THE RIGHT TO WATER

Only 1 percent of water on Earth is suitable for consumption. That figure is dwindling as increased industry, mining and other hazards pollute the world's freshwater resources. Water scarcity has become one of the biggest global challenges and will likely be the source of major conflicts in the future. In 2008, FIAN continued addressing concrete violations of the right to water and engaged in making the right known within expert circles and amongst the general public.

The worldwide struggle for water

In Ghana, FIAN has been following the case of farmers living on the concession granted to the Iduapriem mine, owned by multinational mining corporation, Anglo-Gold Ashanti. As a result of the mining operations, several streams cease to exist and communities suffer from the lack of alternative water sources. In early 2008, members of the Teberobie community alerted FIAN that the mining company was discharging wastewater, including fecal matter, from the company's residential housing directly into streams that serve as freshwater sources. Samples of the effluents taken by FIAN, and analyzed by the Water Research Institute in Ghana, revealed pathogenic bacteria unsafe for human exposure. Appalled by the situation, FIAN launched an Urgent Action in April that was sent to the Environmental Protection Agency and AngloGold Ashanti, and called for an independent investigation into the matter. FIAN continues to support the local community.

In Ecuador, the proposed construction of the Baba dam by a Brazilian construction company plans to transfer water from the

Baba River basin to the Daule-Peripa dam so that powerful groups will have access to the water and energy generated. Meanwhile, the peasants, farmers and fishing communities in the area will potentially lose their access to water. Acting on behalf of these people, FIAN and other NGOs issued a constitutional complaint against the dam project. In early 2009, this effort proved successful when the Constitutional Court of Ecuador ordered the country's Ministry of Environment to review and reformulate the environmental authorization granted to the Baba project. This decision could serve as a precedent for the hundreds of hydroelectric dam projects currently ongoing in the Americas with flaws similar to those present in Baba.

In December 2008, a fact-finding mission was conducted by FIAN in the Indian states of Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand. One of the cases investigated related to a lack of access to water for irrigation by peasants displaced by the Tehri dam construction and resettled in Suman Nagar. FIAN's research in Uttarakhand revealed that peasants cannot sustain their livelihoods due to water shortages, but access could easily be made available from the water canal running only 700 meters away from their land. After the visit by the international fact-finding team, the Minister instrumental in ensuring the peasants' right to food and water promised to visit the village of Suman Nagar. FIAN and the villagers in Suman Nagar expect an irrigation plan and budget for the area will be approved by the Uttarakhand Government in 2009. During the mission, FIAN Norway handed over more than 1,100 signatures from Norway to the Minister of Irrigation

in Uttarakhand, demanding the right to food and water of the Suman Nagar villagers. The signatures were collected during Blue October, the international month of action to protect water rights, and the Norwegian Social Forum in which FIAN Norway actively participated.

Water policy receives new insight

In March 2008 the UN Human Rights Council decided to create a three-year mandate for an Independent Expert on water and sanitation. Catarina de Albuquerque assumed the position in November 2008. FIAN looks forward to working with the team of the Independent Expert at the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights by bringing to their attention cases of violations of the right to water. On that note, FIAN has started to inform the work of Mrs. De Albuquerque's team by facilitating meetings with local and national civil society delegations in Geneva, who are able to share their experiences regarding water policies, and concrete situations where access to water is threatened.

EXTRATERRITORIAL STATES' OBLIGATIONS

As the number of transnational corporations doing business across borders grows and the number of intergovernmental organizations working in multiple countries rises, States' human rights obligations towards persons outside their territories (extraterritorial obligations) have taken on a more prominent role in the world of human rights. In many cases, violations of extraterritorial obligations (ETOs) also affect the right to food. When States, for example, co-finance a dam or a mining project that adversely affects people in foreign countries, they are responsible for addressing those people's concerns and the potential violations of their human rights. The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights specifically states that the rights in the Covenant shall be guaranteed through steps taken individually by the ratifying State as well as through "international assistance and cooperation". This is recognition that States, and other public and private actors, affect the enjoyment of human rights not only within their own State's territory, but also globally.

The following is an example of how ETOs have become increasingly important in the multilateral context. The gold mining company, Newmont Mining, turned to the World Bank Group in order to get a loan for expanding its Ahafo gold mine in Ghana. There had been prior criticism of the mine for its detrimental impact on those people affected by the project. There was then concern that a World Bank loan for the expansion of the mine would further exacerbate the situation of the local people and the governments ruling

the Bank's private lending would vote in favour of the loan despite the fact that most of them are legally bound to respect the human rights to food and water. Extraterritorial obligations inform States how to react under such circumstances and how to gauge their responsibilities. In the past, such loans had often been approved without much interference. When this loan came up for clearance, however, international campaigning led to one "no" and a number of abstentions in the vote for its approval. In cases such as this, FIAN's research and advocacy can help set standards regarding ETOs.

The ETO Consortium

Over the past years, FIAN has made it a priority to address this complex world of ETOs, and help define principles and create institutions that may help those affected by violations to find remedy. FIAN International serves as the Secretariat to the Steering Group of the ETO Consortium, which was formed in 2007. The Consortium is a network of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), university institutes and individuals worldwide. The work of the Consortium is based on cases from a wide range of fields relevant to extraterritorial obligations such as investment treaties, trade agreements, regulation of TNCs, and support of social transfers. Topical working groups deal with challenges in the field such as jurisdiction and accountability. Teams of NGOs and academic experts use the background and experience gained from working on each case to prepare a set of conceptual and legal principles of ETOs that will eventually form the contents of an international working document on ETOs.

The second annual conference of the ETO Consortium was held in September. This conference took stock of the casework and conceptual work done by the Consortium since its first meeting in November 2007. The work on ETOs had advanced considerably since then. The Consortium's casework to date resulted in a "Compendium of Cases" with respective comments on each case. The breadth and scope of the ETO-related cases and the growth of the field, in general, revealed the enormous task at hand for FIAN and the ETO Consortium. The groundwork was established for working groups on casework and conceptual issues.

Special Focus on Africa

In recent years, one particular area of focus for ETO-related research has been how European agricultural trade policy impacts smallholder farmers and their food security in sub-Saharan Africa- particularly Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) between the EU and African, Pacific and Caribbean (APC) countries. Following in the footsteps of investigations to Ghana and Zambia in 2007, FIAN conducted a fact-finding mission to Uganda in May 2008, in part to assess the possible human rights impact of such agreements.

MONITORING STATES' RIGHT TO FOOD POLICIES

While the human right to food has been enshrined in international law and many national constitutions, the de facto enjoyment of the right is still a long way off. International agents and States' party to various human rights treaties all too often give lip service to the importance of the right, without making it a reality. For this reason, FIAN has made monitoring the right to food one of its main programmatic areas of focus.

A Landmark: the *Right to Food and Nutrition Watch*

A major contribution in the field of the monitoring of the right to food in 2008 was the launch of the inaugural Zero Issue of the *Right to Food and Nutrition Watch*. The *Watch*, as it is being referred to, was launched on the occasion of World Food Day 2008 by representatives of the publisher alliance composed of: Bread for the World, ICCO and FIAN International. Additional members of the *Watch* consortium are: the World Alliance for Breast-feeding Action (WABA), People's Health Movement (PHM), Habitat International Coalition (HIC) and the World Organisation against Torture (OMCT). It is the first and only international periodical review that monitors state actors' actions related to the realization of the right to food.

Published annually, the *Watch* will not only put pressure on policymakers at the national and international level to take the human right to food into account, but will also serve as a resource showing where best practices are used, and where violations of the right to food are committed.

The Zero Issue deals mainly with themes related to the world food crisis and the human right to food, and gathers articles and country monitoring reports from different experts and regions. The positive feedback on the *Watch* has it shaping up to become an influential body of work in the field of right to food monitoring. Olivier De Schutter, UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, stated: "The great merit of the *Right to Food and Nutrition Watch* is that it collects, in one single volume, developments related to the right to food which are currently scattered across institutions and organizations."

The World Food Crisis: monitoring the international response to hunger

Since April 2008, the UN High Level Task Force has coordinated the reaction of the international community to the world food crisis. In July, the Task Force released the Comprehensive Framework of Action (CFA), which embodies the

joint position on proposed efforts to overcome the crisis. In response, FIAN published a position paper that challenged the CFA for its failure to take the right to food into consideration and to consult the groups most affected by the general crisis of world hunger- namely peasants, indigenous peoples, fisherfolk, pastoralists and crucial stakeholders in the global food crisis such as civil society organizations, and even the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

The end of the year brought the Policies against Hunger VII Conference in Berlin. Under the banner of "Food is a Human Right", the conference was convened by the German Federal Ministry on Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection, with consultation from FIAN, and brought together high-level officials, human rights defenders and members of civil society to discuss progress made on the right to food worldwide. During the event, which was chaired by UN Special Rapporteur Olivier De Schutter and attended by David Nabarro, Coordinator of the UN High Level Task Force, it became clear that the right to food should be considered as a starting point for all further discussions and strategies developed to combat hunger.



Monitoring the right to food at the country level

FIAN supports the national monitoring processes on the right to food of several countries. A major goal of this monitoring work is to produce a comprehensive State Report on the situation of economic, social and cultural rights in a particular country to be submitted parallelly to the reports examined by the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (UN CESCR).

During 2008, FIAN closely collaborated with local sections and civil society organizations to publish parallel reports on Bolivia, India, the Philippines and Nicaragua, which were presented at two yearly sessions of the UN CESCR. In all cases, the Concluding Observations of the UN Committee took up important concerns and demands from these civil society reports. In all countries, a close follow-up of the implementation of the recommendations was initiated. Further drafting processes of national right to food reports were supported by FIAN in Benin, Colombia, Guatemala and Uganda.

IBSA: Improving the monitoring of State reports

As a way to improve the quality of the information in the aforementioned State reports, the University of Mannheim, in cooperation with FIAN International, has developed the IBSA Project (Indicators, Benchmarks, Scoping and Assessment). On the basis of the indicators set out in IBSA, it is expected that States will set-up specific realization benchmarks related to the fulfillment of different ESC-Rights within their borders. During 2008, experts from Spain, Colombia and Ghana conducted country studies on the feasibility of the indicators. These studies were presented and discussed at an international workshop in October 2008, which served to further adapt and improve the indicators list.

JUSTICIABILITY OF THE RIGHT TO FOOD

Within the framework of its Justiciability Program, FIAN designs and implements strategies to integrate the right to food into the legal systems of different regions where violations of the right to food occur. FIAN promotes the justiciability of the right to food by creating and enhancing institutions, as well as administrative quasi-judicial and judicial mechanisms, where victims of right to food violations can bring their cases to court. In this context, FIAN also works to train lawyers and judges on how to effectively provide redress to the victims.

A victory in the works for decades

On the level of international human rights, the most crucial element of FIAN's effort to promote the justiciability of the right to food is the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (OP-ICESCR). The campaign to obtain an Optional Protocol to the ICESCR in the United Nations has been at the forefront of FIAN's work in the field of justiciability for two decades. In the final weeks of 2008, the lobbying work of FIAN and numerous other civil society organizations scored a huge victory when, on December 10th, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the OP-ICESCR, thus establishing a complaints procedure for violations of economic, social and cultural rights.

The adoption of the Optional Protocol represented an historic advance for human rights. Forty-two years after a similar mechanism was adopted for civil and political rights, those who suffer from violations of their economic, social and cultural rights were finally given equal status.

Their right to an effective remedy was recognized, consistent with the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

However, the struggle is far from over. In 2009, FIAN will continue its lobbying work to commit States to translate their verbal commitments into practice by becoming signatories to the OP-ICESCR, and subsequently ratifying it.

Justiciability in the global south

A large bulk of FIAN's work on justiciability in 2008 occurred in Central and South America. The efforts served as a follow-up regarding the pilot work undertaken in 2007 on conceptual issues and capacity building. In Bolivia, FIAN engaged in lobbying work with the Vice-Ministry of Justice, encouraging the country to include a comprehensive article on justiciability in the draft of the framework law on the right to food. FIAN also addressed how to promote the education of State officers and judges on the justiciability of economic, social and cultural rights in Bolivia.

In Honduras, lobbying efforts likewise focused on the framework law on the right to food, which was presented to the National Congress of the Republic in 2007 and further explored in July 2008 in a public forum with government representatives and judicial personnel. Additional lobbying efforts were directed at enforcing a "Protocol on Forced Evictions", which is expected to oblige judicial authorities to apply international standards on forced evictions in their work. Regarding the protection of landless people and peasants, an important advancement was

reached in August, when the Honduran Public Ministry issued an instructional statement to all prosecutors regarding cases of land usurpation. The statement ensures that precautionary measures applied to peasant groups in agrarian conflicts do not lead to unjustified punishments that violate human rights.

In Colombia, FIAN, together with other human rights organizations and social movements, presented an *amicus curiae* brief to support the unconstitutional claim against the Statute of Rural Development. Some clauses of this Statute ignore the access to land and the security of land tenure of indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities. Also present in the Statute were inconsistencies with the international human rights standards that are incorporated into the Colombian constitution. FIAN also supported the claim, because the Statute was adopted without consultation of the affected communities. The Colombian Constitutional Court finally declared the Statute unconstitutional in March 2009.

THE GENDER PERSPECTIVE

Hunger does not discriminate; however, it does affect women disproportionately. Estimates reveal that women and girls compose around 70 percent of the world's chronically hungry people. The situation of women and girls has worsened due to the world food crisis. At the same time, women are those actively managing this crisis, and are the main protagonists in the fight against hunger. As an organization, FIAN recognizes the female face of hunger and has made gender issues a priority in its work. It also makes efforts to enforce gender mainstreaming within its own internal structure, in its publications and in everyday communication.

Monitoring and Gender

With regards to strengthening its gender work and human rights' instruments, FIAN coordinated a side event to the November session of the UN Committee on Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in Geneva. At the event, a draft paper on "Women's Right to Adequate Food" was presented and representatives from India and Colombia introduced cases in which FIAN is advocating for the right to food of women. In India, for example, women are denied access to land. Land ownership laws in India were discriminatory against women until the Hindu Succession Act

was amended in 2005, and the gender discriminatory clause on agricultural land was eliminated. However, the amendment fails in that it applies only to Hindu women. Amongst Muslims in India, for instance, even though the Muslim Personal Law Application Act gives daughters and widows property rights, agricultural land is not included in the scope of the Act. FIAN Uttar Pradesh has been campaigning for the right to access to land for women in Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal. In Brazil, 900 women occupied the Taruma farm in Porto Alegre in March 2008, reclaiming 2100 hectares that was illegally acquired by Swedish/Finnish cellulose and forestation Company, Stora Enso. At least 500 of the women were arrested, and some were injured by military police. The women were all later evicted from the land. To further investigate the case, FIAN International conducted a fact-finding mission and lobbying efforts against Stora Enso have been made by FIAN Sweden.

After hearing about the work associated with FIAN's gender-related cases, CEDAW members expressed interest in receiving FIAN's parallel reports on the right to food of women, and methodological advice on how to integrate the right to food into CEDAW's own monitoring practices.

Dual Hardships

In the Philippines, the FIAN section, in coordination with La Via Campesina, has intervened on behalf of the dispossession of land and killings of peasants residing on a hacienda in Masbate Province. The hacienda managers, along with groups of unidentified armed men, have tried illicitly to drive the farmers off the land. The violence has culminated in the killings of male peasants who were known to criticize the illicit activities of the hacienda owners. FIAN Philippines has been working with the widows of the peasants who were killed in their struggle as human rights defenders, by helping them seek what justice they could in 2008. For these women, everyday life is a constant struggle. They, and their children, still suffer from violations of their basic human rights – including the right to food.



Face It Act Now Campaign

Launched publicly in 2007, FIAN's European Face It Act Now campaign aims both to tell the stories of those suffering from violations of the right to food and show the faces of those who support this right. It makes right to food issues accessible to the public and provides people an easy way to learn about the root causes of hunger. Most importantly, the campaign calls on the European public to demand that their governments create *coherent* policies, which support, rather than violate, the right to food – at home and abroad.

In close cooperation with FIAN Brazil, FIAN Ghana, and FIAN India the European campaign is mainly implemented by the FIAN International Secretariat, and FIAN Sections in Austria, Belgium, France, Germany and Sweden, together with the Hungarian organization GAIA Alapítvány (Ecological and Rural Development Foundation). Support comes also from FIAN Netherlands, FIAN Norway and FIAN Switzerland.



The website www.face-it-act-now.org is accessible in six languages and is a central tool for increasing the visibility of the concept that *chronic hunger is a violation of the human right to food*. The site provides visitors with updated information on specific cases of right to food violations, and gives those who support the right to food an opportunity to upload a photo, and literally “show” their own face against hunger. Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) are also asked to send FIAN a statement on why they support the right to food, which appears on the website.

Media Work

The most crucial element of the Face It Act Now campaign is to get the public to understand who suffers from hunger and why. This work cannot be done without using the media to tell the stories of those who are denied access to food. For this reason, campaign organizers conducted media trips to both Brazil and Ghana in 2008.

On the media trip to Mato Grosso do Sul in Brazil in April, two journalists and a photographer, accompanied various campaign organizers to interview members of the indigenous Guarani-Kaiowá community. The right to food of this indigenous group has been severely violated by expanding agrofuel production in their territory. The resulting loss of land and devastation amongst the

Guarani-Kaiowá has led to several suicides within the community. FIAN has shown its support by launching letter campaigns and other actions. Resulting from the media trip were in-depth articles appearing in both the weekly French magazine, *La Vie* and the Belgian magazine, *MO**.

On a second media trip to Ghana in May, FIAN Austria and FIAN Ghana teamed up with Austrian and Ghanaian journalists to interview local grassroots organizations and representatives from the gold mining company AngloGold Ashanti.

AngloGold Ashanti owns the Iduapriem gold mine in Eastern Ghana. The Face It Act Now Campaign has taken up the case of the local communities living on or near the Iduapriem mine concession. The mine and its environmental effects destroy the land and local infrastructure. Farming has become almost impossible, water supplies are contaminated and many children have dropped out of school because they are unable to reach the schools, themselves.

As a direct result of the media trip, Ghanaian journalists published several articles on the case and mining issues. In Europe, the Austrian national public service broadcaster, ORF, covered the case with a video report entitled, “The Curse of Gold”, which appeared on the weekly TV show “Weltjournal”.

The right to food reaches the public

In 2008, the Face It Act Now campaign partners were able to reach the European public by organizing various lectures and exhibitions on the right to food. Students and public audiences across Europe witnessed the testimonies of a Brazilian delegation that breathed life into the struggle of the Guarani-Kaiowá community. The multilingual traveling exhibition, “Face It Act Now- Fighting Hunger with Human Rights”, dropped in on several libraries, schools, fair trade shops, and festivals across Europe. A total of 87 media reports were published in at least five countries and five languages. Based on the data available, an estimated audience of at least four million people was reached.

In April 2008, Face It Act Now advocated for European Parliamentarians to adopt a right to food perspective towards both the causes of and the solutions to the food crisis. Thanks to this work, the European Parliament incorporated a strong human rights dimension into its resolution on the food crisis in May. In this resolution, the European Parliament “stresses the fundamental nature of the right to food” as the principal perspective towards the world food crisis and calls on the European Council to ensure coherence of all European food related policies regarding the right to food. To reach such recognition of the right to food as coherence criterion for European policies was one of the main goals of the Face It Act Now campaign.



FIAN Worldwide – Impressions



AFRICA

Ghana

In 2008, FIAN Ghana intensified its campaign against the looming destruction of the Ajenjua Bepo forest reserve and the associated violations of the right to food of bordering communities. The focus was getting the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Government of Ghana to reject an application by multinational corporation, Newmont, for a permit to operate a surface mine in the forest reserve, as the clearing of forests for surface gold mining will deprive local people of their right to food. FIAN Ghana participated in a public hearing organized by Newmont and the EPA where farmers voiced their grievances on the mining project.

In monitoring the human rights violations of another gold company- AngloGold Ashanti- FIAN Ghana, FIAN Austria and an Austrian TV journalist, interviewed members of the affected communities living on or near AngloGold Ashanti's Iduapriem mine concession. FIAN Ghana then organized a press conference on the increasing right to food and water violations by AngloGold Ashanti (see page 10 for more info).

FIAN Ghana also participated in the Accra High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness held in September as part of its effort to incorporate a human rights approach when assessing the effectiveness of food and international development aid funneled to land and rural development policies.

ASIA

India

In 2008, FIAN India focused on the presentation of a comprehensive FIAN Parallel Report on the right to food in India to the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) in May, and then participated in and/or organized consultations to strategize the implementation of the CESCR concluding observations and recommendations. In September, FIAN India organized a national consultation in Delhi, which was attended by the Secretary General of FIAN International, Flavio Valente, the former United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Right to Adequate Housing Miloon Kothari and representatives of FIAN India Chapters and other civil society organizations. In July, FIAN Tamil Nadu organized meetings with CESCR member, Ms. Maria Virginia Bras Gomez, where civil society and college students discussed with Ms. Bras Gomez how to implement the concluding observations in local situations. The FIAN India office organized a meeting of the Parliamentarian Forum on Human Rights to share the conclusions and recommendations made in the Parallel Report. FIAN Karnataka followed-up on the Concluding Observations by concentrating mainly on the Mid-day Meal Scheme, the Public Distribution System and the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act.

In its casework, FIAN Tamil Nadu addressed cases such as: the refusal of the forest department to allow traditional grazing rights to the pastoral communities

that have benefited from these rights for more than a century, and right to food violations of indigenous people living within forest villages due to police oppression. The Chapter conducted seminars on the newly enacted Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act of 2006, which recognizes the associated rights of traditional forest dwellers who have been residing on these lands for generations.

FIAN Andhra Pradesh performed community-based research on the Public Distribution System and the implementation of government welfare schemes in nearly forty villages. The members of the Chapter documented different cases of right to food violations related particularly to starvation deaths. Along with the Heinrich Böll Foundation India, FIAN West Bengal compiled an agrofuel guideline to be applied to monitoring the right to food in the context of agrofuel expansion at the community level. Currently, conversion of forests into jatropa plantations destroys grazing land for livestock, dispossesses forestlands from tribals without compensation, and promotes irregular land transfers that threaten people's land rights.

In close collaboration with the FIAN Munich Group, the FIAN Rajasthan Group, intensified their work to support a case of the stone quarry workers in Jodhpur district. These mine workers are exposed to chronic, occupational diseases such as

asthma, tuberculosis or silicosis– leaving many of them unable to work and prone to early death. The workers can hardly provide for their families on the very low wages they generally receive.

FIAN Uttar Pradesh's work in 2008 significantly impacted a number of cases related to issues diverse as failures in the implementation of land reform, land rights for women, the right to food of visually impaired people, payment of minimum wages to brick kiln and handicraft workers, implementation of the Mid-day Meal Scheme, and initiatives against the privatization of water. Many of the issues were tackled in FIAN's fact-finding mission to Uttar Pradesh in December 2008.

Nepal

FIAN Nepal has been active in the “Strengthening the right to food in Nepal” project, implemented by Nepalese NGO, Youth Acting for Change Nepal. Site visits to far Western Nepal were undertaken to analyze cases of right to food violations of different communities. Cases ranged from the increased food security risk of farmers whose land was taken by Nepalese Security Forces during the conflict period, to indigenous communities being forced off their native forest area. In September, FIAN intervened in another violation of the right to food, where the life and livelihood of more than 3,000 families in Banke district had been jeopardized by devastating floods, caused by an afflux bund (retaining wall) and the Lakshmanpur Dam constructed on the Indo-Nepali border. Open letters were written to authorities in India and Nepal, asking them to adhere to their obligation to respect the right to food of the Nepalese people suffering. FIAN Nepal also welcomed a visit from Members of the German Parliament that were hoping to better understand the human rights situation prior to the election of the Constitutional Assembly in Nepal.

Philippines

FIAN Philippines had a busy year in 2008. Months of research went into the publication of the parallel report on *The Right to Adequate Food in the Philippines*, which was submitted to 41st session of the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. The session's concluding observations incorporated findings from the report.

The Section also accompanied four women, widowed after their husbands were killed in land struggles, to present their case to the Philippine Commission on Human Rights. As a result, the Commission sent letters to the respective authorities urging them to provide protection to the tenants of the coconut farms that are at the root of this land conflict, and processed the widows' applications for financial aid.

Another positive development was the Philippine Supreme Court's ruling in favor of 200 farmers that had been wrongfully evicted from a contentious sugar cane hacienda. This conflict was the subject of two FIAN Urgent Actions. The ruling grants the farmers the right to cultivate the land. However, the farmers await the implementation of the ruling, as the landowner has filed a motion at the Supreme Court to reverse the decision.

EUROPE

Austria

In October 2008, FIAN Austria hosted the FIAN International Council (IC) meeting in Vienna. Coinciding with this meeting was World Food Day, where FIAN performed a street action to inform the public about how the production of agrofuels threatens the right to food of indigenous people in Brazil. Following the street action, an international FIAN delegation met a representative from the Brazilian embassy in Vienna and handed over an open letter protesting the various human rights violations committed against the Guarani-Kaiowá indigenous community. The representative defended Brazil's agrofuel strategy, but admitted it posed problems and promised to submit FIAN's statement to the Brazilian President. FIAN Austria also organized a successful press conference parallel to the IC meeting to announce the launch of the first annual *Right to Food and Nutrition Watch*.

Belgium

FIAN Belgium dedicated considerable energy to raise awareness about hunger and the right to food amongst the youth population in 2008. Following the thinking that young people are the force of change for tomorrow, FIAN Belgium has established an effective collaboration with secondary schools such as Angleur, near Liège, Belgium. The school has regularly invited FIAN Belgium to focus on access to land, agrarian reform, agrofuels and the situation of the Guarani indigenous tribe. After two years of collaboration with this school, a group of fourteen students are preparing for a trip to Brazil to learn about struggles people face there. With their teacher, who is member of FIAN, they plan to experience what it is like to live in a camp with landless people, with a Tupi-Guarani tribe and in a favela (slum). In collaboration with other NGOs interested in food sovereignty, FIAN Belgium was also an active participant in events aiming to raise awareness about hunger and the world food crisis in 2008 such as film festivals and expert panels.

France

Within the framework of the FIAN organizational development process, administrators from FIAN France sent a questionnaire to all its members in 2008. The objective was twofold: to inform members about the process, and to generate a clearer view of who FIAN France members are and their level of involvement in the organization. Highlights of the results from this investigation were that actively participating members are most interested in the dispatch of urgent actions. Another conclusion is the desire of members to have more general information regarding issues covered by FIAN, such as agrofuels, UN-related activities and the gender components of hunger. To meet this demand, FIAN France decided to focus on these issues in their newsletter, *Repères du FIAN*, which will be launched with a new design in June 2009.

Germany

"The Action Plan by Ban Ki-Moon does not offer any recipe against hunger", commented FIAN on the occasion of the 2008 FAO World Food Summit in Rome. The statement was printed in one of Germany's largest newspapers whose webpage averages 2.3 million visitors a month, thus giving FIAN Germany major visibility in the media. In 2008, this was just one example of the many evidencing how the presence of FIAN Germany has soared to new heights. More than 130 articles, radio and TV features mentioning or quoting FIAN have been published. This development not only reflects the increased focus on the world food crisis by the global media, but also the efforts of a long-term media strategy developed by FIAN Germany. Realizing the need to mainstream the human rights message into the broader public, the German Section has made it a priority to get out the message about right to food violations and the importance of respecting human rights into larger media outlets. This goal will both benefit victims of right to food violations, as well as help FIAN grow and increase its political impact.

Netherlands

2008 was a significant year of consolidation and organizational growth for the FIAN Co-ordination in the Netherlands, which experienced a significant increase in volunteers and thus workshops to help educate and incorporate these volunteers. The Co-ordination took part in the fact-finding mission to Brazil to investigate the impact of agrofuels on the right to food in Brazil, which resulted in the comprehensive report published by FIAN in 2008: *Agrofuels in Brazil*. FIAN Netherlands also supported the advocacy work on agrofuels at the national and European level. Leading representatives from the Guaraní-Kaiowá indigenous group in Brazil visited the Netherlands in October 2008, as part of the Face It Act Now campaign speaker's tour. They met with several Dutch Parliamentarians and agricultural advisors. Amidst the events acknowledging World Food Day in 2008, Brazilian representatives focused on the impact of the growing international agrofuel demand on the right to food of rural populations in Brazil, especially on the indigenous Guaraní communities in Mato Grosso do Sul. As a result, several Dutch newspapers covered the topic in October and November.

Switzerland

During 2008, FIAN Switzerland was actively engaged in lobbying the Swiss Government to change their negative position on a complete acceptance of the Optional Protocol to the ICESCR during UN negotiations on the subject. Along with several other Swiss NGOs, FIAN Switzerland formed a national group that discusses issues related to agrofuels, and supports, among other policies and activities, a moratorium on agrofuel production. The Swiss Section organized several conferences and a seminar on the right to food during the lenten campaign of the Swiss Catholic Lenten fund and Bread for all. Together with Swissaid Geneva, the Section also organized an event on agrofuels and food sovereignty on World Food Day.



Norway

FIAN Norway's advocacy work and cooperation with several unifying organizations has brought land and water rights' issues higher on the Norwegian political agenda. With the launch of "Blue October", the international month of action to protect water as a public good and inalienable right, FIAN Norway and other organizers handed over a joint petition with several demands on the right to water to a Member of Parliament. With keynote speakers at four seminars and an artistic stand, FIAN Norway was highly visible to the 1,900 participants at the Norwegian Social Forum. The Section was recognized nationally when its support of indigenous land struggles in Brazil was mentioned in the Norwegian State budget as an example of a civil society organizations' contribution to development work. During an international fact-finding mission in Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand in December, FIAN Norway's representatives raised political awareness on issues related to the right to food of the blind, the need for school lunch programs for impoverished communities, and access to water. 1,100 signatures demanding the right to food and water for peasants in Suman Nagar, were handed over to the Minister of Irrigation in Uttarakhand. Various officials promised to respond to these demands.

Sweden

FIAN Sweden focused on a project on the impact of trade agreements on the right to food in Latin America. In the framework of this project, the Swedish Section collected 7,405 signatures supporting respect of the right to food and fair trade agreements between the EU and Latin America. These were handed over to the Minister of Trade on World Food Day. A highlight of the year was the Section's participation in the European Social Forum in Malmö, Sweden in September. 15,000 people gathered there and dominant topics were the world food crisis and its impact on food production, the power of transnational corporations, and European policies. FIAN Sweden invited several international guests and co-led various events, such as a conference with Via Campesina and many other seminars on the struggle for food sovereignty and the right to food.



LATIN AMERICA

Brazil

In 2008, FIAN Brazil focused on the case of the Guarani-Kaiowá, an indigenous people from the Brazilian State of Mato Grosso do Sul, who have suffered violations of their human rights for decades, particularly through the dispossession of large tracts of land. In April 2008, FIAN Brazil, together with other European FIAN sections and civil society organizations, organized a media trip to Mato Grosso do Sul to help publicize the plight of the Guarani-Kaiowá. In an effort to convince the European public to put pressure on the Brazilian State to fulfill its obligations regarding the human right to food, FIAN Brazil and representatives of the Guarani-Kaiowá community visited European FIAN Sections in October. During this visit they also discussed the consequences of the expansion of sugarcane plantations in Brazil with European Members of Parliament. At the institutional level, FIAN Brazil teamed up with the FIAN IS in 2008 to elaborate an enhanced methodology for the identification, documentation and follow-up on cases of violations of the human right to food. A first draft of the methodology is being applied to a pilot case in Brazil.

Ecuador

In April 2008, FIAN Ecuador organized the national meeting "Water, Energy and People's Rights"- the conclusions from which served as input to the National Constituent Assembly of Ecuador. During 2008, the Ecuador Co-ordination was active in pressuring this institution to include the right to food into the new Constitution. The new Ecuadorian Constitution, approved in September, now recognizes the right of all Ecuadorians to have access to sufficient resources to feed themselves in a sustainable manner with respect to cultural differences between people and communities, and also establishes food sovereignty as a strategic objective.

In June 2008, FIAN Ecuador, together with other international organizations, filed an *amicus curiae* brief in support of the legal appeal submitted by various communities affected by the construction of the Baba dam in Ecuador. Accompanied by increased pressure, a ruling was made by the Ecuadorian courts in favor of the affected communities. According to the Court's decision, there are risks of severe, irreparable damage to the Ecuadorian biodiversity posed by the construction of the dam that were not properly assessed.

Honduras

FIAN Honduras has been involved in casework using a new and favorable piece of legislation. On April 30th, 2008 Decree 18-2008 entered into force. This Decree aims to solve pending agrarian disputes in the country where no final ruling has been made, and whereby the land in dispute is in the possession of peasant groups. It stipulates that the owners of this land will be expropriated and compensated, and that the land will be handed over to the peasant groups.

Since most Congress members either directly or indirectly represent the interests of landowners, it is surprising that the National Congress of Honduras has ratified this law. Consequently, the union of landowners immediately filed an appeal to prevent its implementation. The appeal has not been resolved, but the legislation is in force and is to be put into practice.

The Decree has created great hope among peasant groups. The struggle for its implementation was integrated into prominent cases of human rights violations, which were also subject of FIAN Urgent Actions. Efforts to fully put the Decree into action will likely be an integral part of FIAN Honduras' work in 2009.

Mexico

FIAN Mexico focused their attention in 2008 on the case of the contamination of the Santiago River, which violates the right to food, and other human rights, of rural producers living in the region. A FIAN Urgent Action in 2008 prompted many to write letters and the National Water Commission of Mexico responded to the concerns raised. FIAN Mexico also followed up on the case of the *La Parota* hydroelectric dam by cooperating on an *amicus curiae* communication regarding the lack of consultation of the affected people and the inadequacy of the environmental evaluation for the construction of the dam.

At a seminar attended by Members of Parliament from all over Central America, FIAN Mexico handed over more than 1,000 signatures demanding a return to an initiative approved by Mexican Senators in 2003 to make the right to food a constitutional right. In addition, FIAN was active in the Mexican national campaign “Without maize, there is no country”, demanding, amongst other issues, the removal of beans and maize from free trade agreements and opposition to genetically modified foods.





Resources



FINANCIAL PICTURE

Financial picture (incorporating income and expenditure account) for the year ending on December 31st, 2008

The financial picture of the FIAN International Secretariat is an extract of information from the statutory accounts audited by an independent chartered accountant (RWS- Riedl, Appel & Hornig GmbH). The audit certificate was signed in January, 2009. The budget of FIAN sections and co-ordinations is not part of this financial picture. The accounts are in Euros (€).

	2008 (in €)	2007 (in €)
Income		
Project Income	1.107.789,94	1.087.094,51
Membership dues	55.795,46	55.848,99
Miscellaneous	48.206,54	18.579,92
Donations	10.433,47	6.831,17
Interest income	3.089,81	1.984,49
Transfers from sections	0,00	11.334,00
Sales	0,00	1.215,10
Total income	1.225.315,22	1.182.888,18
Expenditures		
Personnel expenses	499.897,58	508.716,93
Transfer to sections	269.387,56	296.887,06
Travel expenses	142.701,69	102.933,76
Office expenses*	83.896,19	33.501,80
Seminars/conferences/meetings	80.647,82	99.463,34
Publications	70.089,66	71.000,46
Rent	35.982,71	38.282,04
International Executive Committee meetings	14.807,42	14.838,00
Miscellaneous	12.087,43	7.392,87
Accounting Costs	4.443,94	4.248,54
Depreciation	3.107,52	3.154,35
Expenses for FIAN solidarity fund	0,00	1.000,00
Total Resources Expended	1.217.049,52	1.181.419,15
Result from ordinary activities	8.265,70	1.469,03
Flow into/from working capital reserves	8.200,00	1.400,00
Total Result	65,70	69,03

* Including 40.000 € accrual for legal council/settlement

PUBLICATIONS IN 2008

All publications can be downloaded at www.fian.org, unless otherwise indicated.

Periodicals

Right to Food and Nutrition Watch

Annual review that monitors state actors' actions related to the realization of the right to food. Zero Issue "The World Food Crisis and the Right to Food"
Editors: Flavio Luiz Schieck Valente, Martin Wolpold-Bosien, Julia Davidson N.
Published by: Brot für die Welt, ICCO and FIAN International
English, 80 pages

Right to Food Quarterly

Vol. 3 - No.1, No.2
Periodical on new trends and analysis on the right to food
Editor: Wilma Strothenke
Published by: FIAN International
English, 12 pages

FIAN Annual Report 2007

Summary of main events and activities undertaken by FIAN International, including its worldwide sections
Editor: Wilma Strothenke
Published by: FIAN International
English and Spanish, 32 pages

Country reports

The Right to Adequate Food in India

Parallel report on the right to food in India
Editors: D. Gurusamy, John Bosco, T. Ravi Kumar, Ujjaini Halim, Ashwini Mankame, Sabine Pabst, Sanjay K. Rai, Sandra Ratjen, and Ana-María Suarez-Franco
Published by: FIAN International, with the support of Welthungerhilfe and Misereor
English, FIAN Document r17e, 144 pages

Right to Adequate Food in the Philippines

Analysis of hunger and poverty, including the Government's role, and recommendations
Editors: Rafael Rey Hipolito with the support of FIAN International
Published by: Brot für die Welt, FIAN, ICCO and EED
English, FIAN Document r19e, 40 pages

The Right to Food and the Struggle against Hunger in Nicaragua

One Year of the Zero Hunger Program
Editors: Brigitte McBain-Haas and Martin Wolpold-Bosien
Published by: FIAN International with the support of Brot für die Welt and Misereor
Spanish, FIAN Document r24s, 28 pages (Executive Summary in English)

Right to Food of Milk and Honey Farmers

The necessities to realize the right to food of milk and honey farmers in Zambia
Author: Civil Society Trade Network of Zambia
Editor: FIAN International
Published by: Germanwatch, FIAN International, Both Ends, CSTNZ, and UK Food Group
English, FIAN Document r20e, 32 pages

Agrofuels

Agrocombustibles y Derecho a la Alimentación en América Latina

Effects of Agrofuel Production on the right to food in Latin America
Authors: Sofía Monsalve, Delma C. Millán Echeverría, Jesús Alfonso Flórez López, Roman Herre, Natalia Landívar, Juan Carlos Morales González, Enéias da Rosa, Valéria Torres Amaral Burity, Jonas Vanreusel, Alberto Alderete
Editor: Beatriz Martínez Ruiz
Published by: Transnational Institute (TNI) and FIAN International
Spanish, FIAN Document d58s, 110 pages

Agrofuels in Brazil

How the expansion of agrofuels affects social rights
Authors: Sofia Monsalve Suárez, Ulrike Bickel, Frank Garbers, Lucia Goldfarb, with the support of Vilmar Schneider
Editor: Sofía Monsalve Suarez
Published by: FIAN International with the support of Misereor, Brot für die Welt, ICCO, Kerk in Actie, EED, HEKS and FIAN Netherlands
English, Portuguese, FIAN Document r18e, 76 pages, Executive Summaries in English, French, and Spanish

Fuelling poverty?

An agrofuel guideline for India
Editors: Ujjaini Halim, Barbara Meincke and Sabine Pabst
Published by: FIAN West Bengal
English, FIAN Document d62e, 36 pages

Papers and Studies

ETO Conference Report

Report of the 2nd Conference of the ETO Consortium, September 2008
Editors: Katrin Geenen,
Rolf Künnemann, Yifang Tang
Published by: FIAN International
English, FIAN Document r22e, 36 pages

Aid Effectiveness and the Human Right to Adequate Food

Input paper to the Third High Level forum on Aid effectiveness in Ghana September 2008
Editors: Mike Anane and Sandra Ratjen
Published by: FIAN International
English, FIAN Document d59e, 40 pages

A Human Rights View of Social Cash Transfers for achieving the MDGs

Human rights instruments used for the analysis of social cash transfers
Editors: Rolf Künnemann, Ralf Leonhard
Published by: Brot für die Welt and EED
English, Portuguese, German,
FIAN Document D56e, 68 pages

Time for a Human Right to Food Framework of Action

FIAN position paper on the Comprehensive Framework of Action of the High Level Task Force on the Global Food Crisis
Published by: FIAN International
English, 20 pages

Toward the realization of the human right to food in India

Case studies from India
Editor: Sabine Pabst
Published by: FIAN International
English, FIAN Document d57e, 16 pages

Manuals

How to promote the Justiciability of the human right to food

A multidimensional strategic proposal
Editor: Ana María Suarez-Franco
Published by: FIAN International
English (Spanish version 2007),
FIAN Document g57e, 16 pages

Access to Land and Productive Resources

A systematic interpretation of the FAO Voluntary Guidelines on the right to food
Editor: Sofia Monsalve Suárez
Published by: FIAN International,
English (Spanish version 2007),
FIAN Document R01e, 32 pages

FIAN International Handbook 2008

Handbook on structure and content of the organization
Editors: Rolf Künnemann,
Yifang Tang, Sabine Pabst
Published by: FIAN International
English, Spanish,
FIAN Document i13e, 56 pages

Training Toolkit Right to Food

Compilation of all FIAN training materials categorized into topics and languages
Published by: FIAN International
English, available at
FIAN International Secretariat

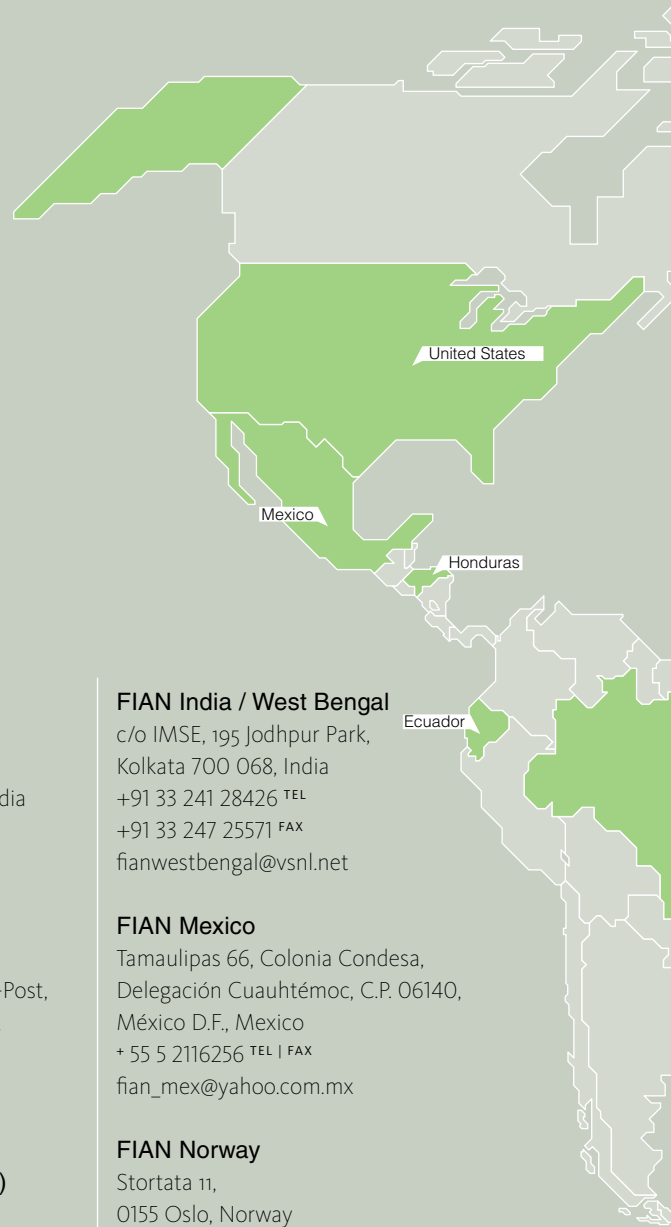
Promoviendo el Derecho a la Alimentación en América Central (CD)

Compilation of publications on Central America 2005-2008
Produced by: FIAN International
Spanish, available at
FIAN International Secretariat

Face It Act Now

60 years of the human right to food

Face It Act Now campaign brochure, including case examples from Brazil, Ghana and Uganda
Published by: FIAN International
English, German, French,
Swedish, Dutch, 24 pages
Available at: www.face-it-act-now.org



FIAN SECTIONS

FIAN Austria

Johann-Strauß-Gasse 33,
A - 1040 Wien, Austria
+ 43 1 40 55 515 TEL
+ 43 1 40 55 519 FAX
fian-oe@oneworld.at

FIAN Belgium

Rue van Elewijck 35,
B - 1050 Brussel, Belgium
+ 32 2 64 08 417 TEL | FAX
fian@fian.be

FIAN Brazil

Rua 19, N. 35 - Ed. Dom Abel Sala 02,
Setor Central-CEP74030-090,
Goiânia - GO, Brazil
+ 55 62 30 92 46 11 TEL
fian@fianbrasil.org.br

FIAN Germany

Briedeler Straße 13,
D - 50969 Köln, Germany
+ 49 221 70 200 72 TEL
+ 49 221 70 200 32 FAX
fian@fian.de

FIAN Ghana

P.O. Box 2062
Accra, Ghana
+ 233 244 656632 TEL
mikeanane@yahoo.com

FIAN Honduras

Col. Tepeyac, Boulevard Las Minitas
Apartamentos Vista Hermosa No. 17
Tegucigalpa, MDC Honduras
Mailing address: Apdo.Postal 5303,
Tegucigalpa. A.M.d.C.
+ 504 232 6780 TEL
+ 504-232-1735 FAX
fian@fian.hn

FIAN India

Sanjay K Rai
7 / 37 B (Top Floor)
Jangpura-B, New Delhi - 110014, India
+ 91 941 512 1462 MOBILE
fianindia@yahoo.com

FIAN India / Andhra Pradesh

T. Ravi Kumar
5-20/B Ashoknagar, Sitarampuram-Post,
Bonakalroad, Khammam - 507003,
Andhra Pradesh, India
+ 91 9866035859 TEL
fian_andhrachapter@yahoo.co.in

FIAN India / Karnataka (North)

9th Cross, Bhagyanagar,
Belgaum 590006, India
+ 91 831 248 44 91 TEL
fianashraya@sancharnet.in

FIAN India / Tamilnadu

Level 6, Chennai Citi Centre
10/11 Dr. Radha Krishnan Salai
Chennai 600004, India
+ 91 452 253 30 20 TEL
+ 91 944 327 92 25 MOBILE
+ 91 444 221 82 22 FAX
fiantn@rediffmail.com

FIAN India / Uttar Pradesh

A-8, Sarvodaya Nagar,
Indira Nagar,
Lucknow - 226016,
Uttar Pradesh, India
+91 522 234 95 56 TEL
+91 522 235 55 34 FAX
+91 522 231 19 07 FAX
fianup@yahoo.com

FIAN India / West Bengal

c/o IMSE, 195 Jodhpur Park,
Kolkata 700 068, India
+91 33 241 28426 TEL
+91 33 247 25571 FAX
fianwestbengal@vsnl.net

FIAN Mexico

Tamaulipas 66, Colonia Condesa,
Delegación Cuauhtémoc, C.P. 06140,
México D.F., Mexico
+ 55 5 2116256 TEL | FAX
fian_mex@yahoo.com.mx

FIAN Norway

Stortata 11,
0155 Oslo, Norway
+ 47 23 010315 TEL | FAX
post@fian.no

FIAN Philippines

44 Gen. Segundo St., Heroes Hills,
Quezon City, Philippines
+ 632 374 3986 TEL
+ 632 413 3935 FAX
fianphils_2005@yahoo.com

FIAN Sweden

Tegelviksgatan 40,
11641 Stockholm, Sweden
+ 46 8 643 93 47 TEL | FAX
info@fian-sverige.org

FIAN Switzerland

Bd du Pont-d'Arve 16,
CH-1205 Genève, Switzerland
fian-ch@bluwewin.ch



FIAN CO-ORDINATIONS

FIAN Bangladesh

Mailing address: G.P.O. Box No. 2242,
Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh
+ 88 02 911 41 95 TEL
+ 88 02 811 05 33 TEL
arbn@dhaka.agni.com

FIAN Ecuador

c/o UBV
Wilson 547 y Almagro
P.O.Box 17099111 Quito, Ecuador
+ 593 22 547 903 TEL
+ 593 22 224 962 FAX
landivar@fianecuador.org

FIAN France

15 Rue Georges Jacquet,
F-38000 Grenoble, France
+ 33 4 382 105 08 TEL
+ 33 4 764 849 85 FAX
contact@fian.fr

FIAN Nepal

Thapathali, Kathmandu, Nepal
+ 977 1 424 53 54 TEL
basudha@odcincorp.com

FIAN Netherlands

Postbus 14656
NL-1001 LD Amsterdam, Netherlands
+ 31 20 669 83 40 TEL
fian.nederland@gmail.com

FIAN Sri Lanka

202 Hill Street, Dehiwala, Sri Lanka
+ 94 1 716210 TEL
+ 94 75 51 96 83 FAX
mahanamahewa@yahoo.com

FIAN AFFILIATED GROUPS

FIAN Group Bangalore

c/o Centre for Child and the Law (CCL),
National Law School of India Uni-
versity (NLSIU), Nagarbhavi,
Bangalore 560 242, India
+ 91 80 231 605 28 TEL | FAX
shnituu@yahoo.com

FIAN Group Italy

Bottega della Solidarietà,
Via Manzoni 54 R,
I-17100 Savona, Italy
+ 39 19 802 178 TEL | FAX
robertatobia@alice.it

FIAN Group Madhya Pradesh

P.O. Box 562, R.S. Nagar
Bhopal - 462 016 MP India
+ 98 68 993 710 TEL
fianmp@gmail.com

FIAN Group Maharashtra

316/A, Rainbow Guesthouse,
Civil Lines, Opp. Gupta House,
Rabindra Nath Tagore Marg
Nagpur-440001, India
+ 91 712 252 97 62 TEL
dohrmann@sangam.de

FIAN Group Rajasthan

67/145, Pratap Nagar Housing Board,
Sanganer, Jaipur-303906 India
+ 91 141 279 29 94 TEL
hedcon2004@yahoo.com

FIAN Group South Tyrol

Stenizerweg 2,
I-39022 Algund, Italy
+ 36 473 22 17 38 TEL
+ 39 473 44 84 97 FAX
xiller@alice.it

FIAN Group Pittsburgh / US

Bea Herbeck Belnap
2349 Railroad Street, APT 2524
Pittsburgh, PA 15222, USA
+ 1 - 412 586 7443 TEL
bbelnap2349@comcast .net

List of the International Executive Committee members

In October 2008, the International Council of FIAN elected the following members of the International Executive Committee:

- Irio Conti, **President**
- Abigail Booth, **Vice President**
- Georg Näger, **Treasurer**
- Ujjaini Halim
- Frank Brassel
- Mike Anane
- Ida-Eline Engh
- Ria Teves
- Salvador Molina Velazquez



HOW TO GET ACTIVE

What can you do?

- You can participate in FIAN Urgent Actions
- You can become a member of FIAN
- You can build up a local group where you live
- You can adopt a FIAN case of violation until it is solved
- You can support FIAN by donating money
- You can get informed and tell others about FIAN

Donations

FIAN - Foodfirst Information & Action Network
H & G Bank Heidelberg, Germany

International

IBAN: DE2767 2901 0000 5807 8409
BIC/SWIFT Code: GENO DE 61 HD 3

Germany

Account No. 58 07 84 09
BLZ 672 901 00

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<http://www.fian.org/get-involved/donate>

More information at

www.fian.org
FIAN International Secretariat
P.O. Box 10 22 43
D-69012 Heidelberg, Germany
fian@fian.org
+ 49 6221 653 00 30 ^{TEL}
+ 49 6221 830 545 ^{FAX}



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Amidst the overwhelming statistics about the millions of people going hungry in this world, it is easy to feel discouraged. FIAN knows, however, that these figures are all the more reason to remember the value of each human life and fight harder to realize the right to food for every person on the planet. In this regard, none of our achievements would be possible without the support of all the FIAN Sections, Co-ordinations, Chapters and Groups, of the various civil society organizations and social movements that support the fulfillment of human rights, of the activists and human rights defenders that take action, and of the FIAN members and supporters that sign Urgent Actions, donate, and give us our strength in numbers.

In addition, we gratefully acknowledge the following institutions and organizations that co-financed FIAN International's work in the year 2008:

- Action Aid –*UK*
- Brot für die Welt –*Germany*
- Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection –*Germany*
- EED - Church Development Service –*Germany*
- European Commission
- FAO - Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN
- GTZ – Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit –*Germany*
- Heinrich Böll Foundation –*Germany*
- ICCO - Interchurch Organisation for Development Co-operation –*Netherlands*
- Misereor –*Germany*
- NORAD - Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation –*Norway*
- SIDA – Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency –*Sweden*
- University of Mannheim –*Germany*
- Weltgebetstag der Frauen –*Germany*
- Welthungerhilfe –*Germany*

Thank you for your support.



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ABOUT US

FIAN International, the FoodFirst Information and Action Network, was founded in 1986. It was the first international human rights organization to advocate the realization of the right to adequate food, as laid down in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights instruments. FIAN consists of national Sections in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and Europe, and its individual members come from over 50 countries. FIAN is a non-profit organization without any religious or political affiliation and has consultative status with the United Nations.

VISION

FIAN envisions a world free from hunger, in which every person can fully enjoy their human rights in dignity, particularly the right to adequate food.

MISSION

FIAN exposes and addresses violations of people's right to adequate food wherever they may occur. We stand up against unjust and oppressive practices that prevent people from feeding themselves and their families. The struggle against gender discrimination and other forms of exclusion is an integral part of our mission. We strive to secure people's access to the resources they need in order to feed themselves - now and in the future.

WHAT WE DO

FIAN documents and analyzes concrete cases of violations of the right to adequate food. We raise awareness on the right to adequate food among social movements, non-governmental organizations, governmental bodies, and the general public. We respond to requests from individuals and groups whose right to adequate food is threatened or has been violated, and we mobilize support for them. With protest letter campaigns, advocacy, and recourse to the law, we exert public pressure in order to hold governments accountable for violations of the right to adequate food. We follow up cases until victims get appropriate redress. Within the United Nations system and other legal regimes, we advocate respect for human rights in order to strengthen and improve the protection of international human rights.

