

We  
envision a  
world free  
from hunger,  
in which every  
person fully  
enjoys his/her  
human rights  
in dignity,  
particularly  
the right to  
adequate food.



**FIAN  
INTERNATIONAL  
2009**

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## ANNUAL REPORT 2009

FIAN's Annual Report highlights both the far reaching and localized advances in the field of economic, social and cultural rights that FIAN, and its Sections and Co-ordinations, have helped make possible. This year's report gives an overview of the main activities for each of FIAN's target areas in 2009: access to land and natural resources, the right to water, extraterritorial States' obligations, justiciability of the right to food, monitoring States' right to food policies, and the gender perspective related to the right to food. Also included is a summation of FIAN's highly successful European campaign for the right to food, and the high points of each of FIAN's worldwide Sections and Co-ordinations. The Report ends with a financial picture of the organization and a list of FIAN publications that were produced throughout the year.



## FOREWORD BY THE PRESIDENT


For the first time in history the number of hungry people surpassed the one billion mark in 2009. We can now say that an alarming one sixth of the world's population is going hungry. But people are not simply numbers, like the monetary numbers associated with the financial crisis that has affected every reach of the global economy. Each person possesses a human dignity that should not be violated. The significant increase of people living in a state of hunger is an expression of increased violations of the

human right to adequate food. Investigating and addressing violations of the right to food and related rights was a dominant part of FIAN's work in 2009, and remains the heart of this organization.

The surprise military coup that took place in Honduras with support from the national Congress and the Courts, also demanded significant attention from FIAN International and its affiliated Sections and Co-ordinations. We dutifully investigated the associated violations and abuses of human rights, some of which were carried out against members of FIAN Honduras, themselves. The coup signaled that democratic systems in Latin America have not yet consolidated, and require vigilant observation. FIAN continues to support a wide range of human rights organizations and movements that denounce the atrocities committed against social activists. Together, with those that have been directly affected, we embody the struggle for the restoration of a democratic regime that respects the sovereignty and human rights of its people.

Internally, during the past year, the International Executive Committee and the International Secretariat initiated a major effort to strengthen and consolidate the various Sections and Co-ordinations of FIAN. A FIAN Co-ordination was established in Burkina Faso. FIAN Nepal and FIAN Netherlands became official Sections. These changes were in conjunction with the development and approval of new procedures to guarantee the quality of casework and interventions in the specific countries where FIAN operates via its Sections, Co-ordinations, and partner organizations.

Along the same vein, the ongoing process of organizational development at FIAN has successfully identified weaknesses and strengths within the organization, as well as the major challenges that must be addressed in the new institutional Strategic Plan, which will be discussed and approved in 2010. With this clearly defined vision, FIAN will be able to respond even more effectively to the complexity of the world food crisis and the associated violations of the human right to adequate food.



*Irio Conti*  
Irio Conti

## MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Without a doubt, the situation of global food insecurity worsened in 2009 with an increase in land grabbing in all parts of the world, and the ripple effects of the global financial crisis. Fortunately, FIAN was able to play a pivotal role in influencing the international reaction to the situation by promoting the integration of civil society into the discussion, and strongly advocating relevant actors to take the right to adequate food into account. Throughout the year, we encouraged the decision-making powers to include into their discussions those people experiencing the direct effects of food shortages, famines, and theft of their land and natural resources- including the food producers themselves.

In January, I was invited to participate in the Madrid High Level Meeting on Food Security, convened by the United Nations and the Government of Spain, to discuss alternatives to the world food crisis. There I emphasized the crucial role the right to food must play in overcoming the structural causes of the ongoing crisis. UN Secretary-General Ban Ki Moon echoed these concerns by declaring the right to food a third track in the approach to the crisis- marking a crucial entry point for the right to food into the foray of international politics. I also took the opportunity to voice the concerns of FIAN, and many others, regarding the need for more direct involvement of those most deeply affected by hunger in the determination of their future. If we are to overcome the root causes of hunger, real participation of civil society is essential, especially from peasants' movements, the urban poor, indigenous peoples, fisherfolk, rural women, youth, and agricultural workers.

This is also precisely what FIAN and its partners advocated during the World Summit on Food Security in Rome in November. The Committee on World Food Security (CFS), under the umbrella of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, was eventually granted a central role in the governance of global food security, and the door was opened for a more effective participation of civil society.

Meanwhile, concrete regulations on issues such as land grabbing and agrofuels did not emerge from the Summit in Rome as many had hoped. At several points, corporate interests in profit undermined the need for changes in food policy. This is just one sign that the global dynamic is changing in terms of right to food issues. Most of the new cases investigated by FIAN in 2009 directly or indirectly involved a violation of a human right elicited by abuses of a transnational corporation or large national enterprise. As the economic climate continues to shift, FIAN will continue to equip itself with the knowledge and foresight not only to respond to violations of the human right to food, but also support the necessary changes in the system that allows these violations to occur in the first place.



*Flavio Valente*

*Flavio Valente*

## FIAN RESPONDS TO THE WORLD FOOD CRISIS

# Overview of FIAN work

Continued food shortages in 2009 revealed to the World that the food crisis is not over. Rather, the financial crisis had the unintended effect of exacerbating the food insecurity situation. Thus, the world food crisis remained at the forefront of FIAN's work. As the number of hungry people surpassed one billion in 2009 for the first time in recorded history, the Food and Agriculture Organization stated that the record high levels of undernourishment were not the result of limited international food supplies. This is supported by the fact that record high grain harvests were documented in 2008. The ongoing food crisis prompted the UN Food and Agriculture Organization to hold a world summit on food security in Rome in November. FIAN participated in this Summit, and left content with the fact that the Summit approved broadening the Committee on Food Security to include the participation of civil society.



## THE GLOBAL STRUGGLE FOR LAND – AFRICA IN FOCUS

While we were disappointed by the lack of attention given to addressing the real root causes of hunger such as increased land grabbing, unjust trade practices, and the expansion of energy crops for agrofuels, we also returned to our home countries inspired by the parallel forum to the Summit organized by various social movements, non-governmental organizations and civil society organizations, including FIAN. This parallel dialogue included the farmers, indigenous peoples, rural youth, women and other social organizations that understand the tangible effects of hunger. FIAN believes that addressing the root causes of the simultaneous climatic, economic, and food crises that contribute to hunger requires the active participation of the food producers, social movements, and members of civil society representing the people most affected by hunger.

The overall limited participation of food producers and civil society in the international dialogue begs the question: Who controls governance of the world food system? FIAN tackled this question in the second annual *Right to Food and Nutrition Watch* published in October. The *Watch* compiled conceptual approaches to this topic, as well as a range of national reports on the situation of the right to food in selected countries. In cooperation with other civil society organizations and consortium partners, FIAN intends for the *Watch* to become a standard of excellence in the field of monitoring the realization of the right to food. The 2009 issue attracted new consortium partners whose insights will make next year's issue even more comprehensive.

The year also witnessed the increasing control of corporations over the world food system. States have been turning a blind eye to the destruction caused by corporations making a profit on the commandeering of land for the growth of energy crops used to produce agrofuels. FIAN carried out three fact-finding missions in 2009 to Colombia, Guatemala, and India, which all shared the common thread of exploring, among other issues, how local communities are affected by this rampant spread of agrofuel production. Agrofuel crops such as soy, corn, maize and palm are touted as being a more environmentally friendly alternative to oil and coal as resources for producing fuel. However, the current aggressive expansion of agrofuel production threatens the right to adequate food of the most oppressed groups worldwide.

In addition to agrofuels, land grabbing has become a pertinent issue in the right to food discussion. In light of the dual food and financial crises, corporations are now viewing farmland as a worthwhile investment. Fearing the instability of food, import dependent countries began the latest wave of land grabbing in poorer countries, which escalated in 2009 – particularly in Africa. This phenomenon was the subject of FIAN's research trips to Kenya and Mozambique. FIAN also launched an Urgent Action supporting the Malagasy movement against large-scale land acquisition in Madagascar. These events represent how FIAN intensified its overall work in Africa in 2009 in light of the fact that the continent has been particularly vulnerable to hunger. With other partners, we finalized a series of

studies on the impact of European Union trade policies on African smallholder farmers in Uganda, Zambia, and Ghana. FIAN also consolidated its partnership with the African Right to Food Network, RAPDA, and worked with local people to create a new FIAN Co-ordination in Burkina Faso, while also introducing a considerable number of new African FIAN members to right to food issues.

## MAKING A CHANGE FOR PEOPLE

In addition to the letter campaign issued in support of the Malagasy, FIAN launched an additional 15 “Urgent Actions” motivating interested persons to write to appropriate governing bodies about violations of the right to food and related rights. FIAN’s persistent monitoring and creation of follow-up actions led to concrete changes in various cases in 2009. In June, FIAN and representatives of some 400 small-scale farmers in **Uganda** who were violently forced off their land by the establishment of a coffee plantation filed a legal complaint with the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development’s (OECD) German contact point at the Federal Ministry of Economics. The complaint denounced the violations by German-based coffee company Neumann, which violated the OECD’s guidelines for multinational corporations by establishing the plantation.

Progress also occurred in the case of the Yanadi indigenous community in Andhra Pradesh, **India**. The construction of a commercial port in the region has threatened the right to food of Yanadi. As a direct response to an international letter campaign launched by FIAN in June 2009, a local authority responsible for indigenous peoples’ affairs promised that the families would get immediate food assistance.

In **Brazil**, the indigenous communities in Raposa-Serra do Sol achieved a landmark victory in the ongoing process of the consolidation of indigenous territorial rights. The Supreme Court ruled to demarcate lands in the nature reserve in favor of the indigenous group. In 2004, FIAN International launched an Urgent Action on behalf of the indigenous communities, and has supported this struggle ever since.

The Guarani-Kaiowá indigenous population of Brazil has also been pushed off their traditional lands to make way for large agricultural plantations and cattle raising, despite national law which stipulates the demarcation of indigenous

lands. The Ministry of Justice finally declared the permanent ownership of an area of 11,404 hectares to the indigenous group in October; however, the decision has yet to be sanctioned by the President and duly implemented. In light of this, FIAN issued an Urgent Action asking people to request the sanctioning and physical demarcation of the land. FIAN’s European “Face It Act Now” campaign to end hunger also collected 2,500 post-cards in support of the Guarani-Kaiowá.

While 2009 marked the official end of the Face It Act Now campaign, its work will live on. The combined outreach efforts of the campaign reached a large audience across Europe, and informed European Parliament policies on agriculture and food. In the lead up to the adoption of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (OP-ICESCR), the campaign lobbied to establish this vital complaint mechanism by gathering signatures and raising awareness. We hope that the likely ratification of the Optional Protocol will help promote people’s full enjoyment of the right to food.







# Programs



## ACCESS TO LAND AND PRODUCTIVE RESOURCES

The global food system has shifted dramatically over the years. Large landowners and private companies have swallowed up family farms. They are often interested in turning land into a profit, rather than a resource for producing food in areas that frequently experience food insecurity. As the world food crisis created fear over the instability of food, import dependent countries began the latest wave of "land grabbing" in poorer countries, which escalated in 2009. Multinational corporations, in particular, are viewing farmland as a worthwhile investment in light of the food and financial crises. In 2009, FIAN organized visits all over the world to research how these large-scale land acquisitions, as well as agrofuel and monoculture crops, affect the right to food of the local people.

### Africa

Africa has been so deeply vulnerable to land grabbing that the process has been referred to as a new form of colonialism. Information from FIAN's research visits to Kenya and Mozambique fed into a report on the role played by the European Union in the process of land grabbing in Africa, which will be part of the monitoring initiative on the impact of European policies and practices on African agriculture. FIAN also launched an Urgent Action supporting the Malagasy movement against large-scale land acquisition in Madagascar, and co-organized a seminar in Mozambique in September on agrofuels.

### South America

In South America, many countries promote a monoculture-based agricultural and trade policy focused on growing a single crop over a wide expanse of land—a system that has been primarily designed by the governments of the United States and the European Union. These policies strongly align with corporate interests, and have devastating impacts on the global South. In July, FIAN visited Colombia to verify the impacts of agrofuel production on the rural population. In the foremost palm oil producing area of Colombia called Magdalena Medio, FIAN found that palm oil plantations have contributed to environmental destruction, encroachment on public lands on the river banks, displacement of food crops, and chronic malnutrition. Since this visit, FIAN has been supporting the Farmer's Association of Buenos Aires, a peasant association whose members were forcibly evicted by palm oil companies shortly after our visit. In a separate mission to Guatemala in November, FIAN investigated nine cases of land conflicts due to mining, dam construction, and expansion of agrofuels. At the close of 2009, FIAN also published a groundbreaking report, together with Habitat International Coalition and Solidarity Sweden-Latin America, on the comprehensive effects of monocultures on violations of the right to land, food, housing and water in Latin America entitled *Red Sugar, Green Deserts*.

### Institutional Changes

While FIAN puts considerable effort into responding to land issues that threaten the right to food of people around the globe, we also understand the need for a fundamental change in land distribution, and a shift in power from corporations to the people. As coordinator of the working group on agrarian reform and territory of the International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty (IPC), FIAN facilitates the participation of the IPC in the Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) process of adopting Voluntary Guidelines on Land and Natural Resources Tenure. Two regional meetings identifying key issues to be addressed by the guidelines were held in Namibia and Vietnam. Further meetings will follow in 2010. FIAN works to encourage the FAO to apply a human rights-based approach in both its work on access to land and natural resources for food production, and as part of its strategic framework for action.

FIAN continued to support peasants' rights throughout 2009 by participating in La Via Campesina's initiative for a Convention on the Rights of Peasants, and assisting a Congolese peasant organization to prepare a parallel report on economic, social and cultural rights (ESC), with a focus on peasants' rights, that was presented to the UN Committee on ESC-Rights. The FIAN Ecuador Section published an educational booklet on peasants' rights, while FIAN International published a booklet on how to defend African peasants' rights.

## THE RIGHT TO WATER

The right to food and the right to water are inextricably linked. Without access to sufficient water supplies, the world's food producers cannot grow crops and food staples. Both water and food are necessary for life. In many instances, States and the corporations they allow to do business there, prioritize profit over people. Personal and domestic uses for water are sidelined to divert water towards where it will lead to an economic gain. These uses contaminate water supplies in all parts of the world-jeopardizing the right to food and the lives of many. FIAN investigates cases where violations of the right to water also lead to a violation of the right to food.

### The Effects of Industries

In February, an activist from FIAN Austria visited the Iduapriem gold mine in Ghana where AngloGold Ashanti conducts mining activities that jeopardize the right to food and water of the Teberobie community. The visit revealed that AngloGold Ashanti's activities are usurping farmland that is part of the Teberobie village. FIAN has monitored this case since 2001, and continues to raise awareness about the situation there. The visit also revealed that in Adisakrom – a small village not far from Teberobie – the water situation has worsened. The village's lifeline was the Angonaben River, whose waters currently prove to be undrinkable. The village blames the gold mine for polluting the river water, and the borehole constructed by AngloGold Ashanti to provide drinking water has not proven an adequate alternative. Only those with

sufficient financial resources to purchase clean drinking water have access to it. While the situation is grim, written documentation from this visit will be useful in future actions to potentially restore safe and clean water to these people. FIAN launched an Urgent Action to alert authorities to the problems emanating from the pollution of water in the area and the need to utilize Ghana's Water Resources Commission, which is mandated to impose measures and sanctions on any water user whose activities pose a threat to the environment, or to public health.

In Mexico, the contamination of the Santiago River has threatened the access to food for peasants. Over the last three decades, the Santiago River has been subjected to an influx of sewage and wastewater from the various polluting industries. For nearly 120,000 people living in riverside towns, the food and income sources from agricultural activities have been totally or partially destroyed. Diseases such as cancer and respiratory illnesses, especially among children, have spread. Various people have reported the need to emigrate due to their inability to subsist. FIAN launched an Urgent Action on this case in January 2008 and sent a follow-up letter to the Mexican authorities. At the start of 2009, the Jaliscan State Commission for Human Rights (CEDHJ) stated that authorities have done nothing to improve the situation, and proved that human rights had been violated. Based on its investigations and analysis, the CEDHJ published recommendations directed to the public

authorities. FIAN International urged the government of the state of Jalisco to implement the recommendations submitted by the CEDHJ in relation to the contamination of the Santiago River.

For several years, residents of villages in Davao City, Philippines have been lobbying against the aerial spraying of fungicides on their banana plantation, because it has adversely affected their health and water supply. The spraying has also damaged the crops that are their source of livelihood. Although an ordinance banning aerial spraying was issued by the City Council of Davao City in March 2007, it was declared unconstitutional by the Court of Appeals in January 2009. The threat to the right to food and water of the villagers prompted FIAN to launch an Urgent Action in May asking that letter writers contact the Chief Justice of the Philippine Supreme Court, and request that he uphold the constitutionality and validity of the Davao City ban aerial spray ordinance. The banana companies in Davao City wish to avoid the manual - instead of aerial - spraying of the crops, which would reduce the risks and decrease the potential for contamination of the water, because it will be more costly.





## EXTRATERRITORIAL STATES' OBLIGATIONS

Many current debates tend to ignore the fact that in a world where public and private international actors increasingly influence the lives of individuals, human rights do not simply end at national borders. Rather, it is important to assess the effect of actions taken by intergovernmental organizations, international private entities, and foreign States. These obligations to respect, protect and fulfill human rights outside a nation's territories are called extraterritorial obligations (ETOs). States have to base their policies on international human rights principles. In this context, FIAN works to ensure that both nations and intergovernmental organizations (States' authorities jointly established and governed by nation states that are duty-bound under human rights law) also adhere to their extraterritorial obligations. Adherence to ETOs requires significant reforms within the realm of economic globalization and addresses questions such as: to what extent do the agricultural policies of rich countries and agribusinesses influence the right to food in poor countries?

### The ETO Consortium

For the purpose of examining these questions, a Consortium of human rights organizations and university institutions formed in 2007 to promote the recognition of extraterritorial obligations in the context of economic, social and cultural rights and to advocate for their implementation in national and international law, policy, and practice. In 2009 the Consortium grew from 45 to 55 institutional, as well as individual, members. FIAN International continued to act as the secretariat to the Consortium and

contributed a number of case studies and some conceptual work, which advanced through a process of studies and peer review. The main event was the 3<sup>rd</sup> International ETO Conference at the University of Lancaster in September, which focused on mainstreaming ETOs and on the associated campaign that will develop after some clarification of legal principles. The campaign is meant to promote the development of ETOs and to apply them. At the Conference in Lancaster, Maastricht University and the International Commission of Jurists announced that the work so far undertaken on ETOs had advanced to a point where they would call for an international conference of experts in international law in December 2010 to elaborate the legal principles mentioned - the Maastricht ETO Principles.

### Trade and Investment

ETOs are apparent in many other facets of FIAN's work- in particular that which deals with trade and investment. For example, Africa has been subject to a massive surge of land acquisitions by transnational corporations and foreign governments sparked by speculation on agrofuels and food prices. FIAN's two research missions to Kenya and Mozambique in 2009 dealt with this alarming phenomenon of large-scale land grabbing in Africa. FIAN International also published a report on a prior fact-finding mission to Uganda investigating the likely impact of European Union policies on the production of maize and milk by Ugandan peasant farmers. In Zambia, FIAN held a workshop with the East and Southern African Federations of Farmers, which followed up on a previous

fact-finding mission in 2008 investigating possible impacts of a European Partnership Agreement on the farming community. A consultation was also held in Zambia in November on FIAN's experiences with international assistance by States belonging to the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development- in particular in the field of social cash transfers. Members of Zambian civil society discussed how related ETOs could be conceptualized in this context.

In the field of trade, FIAN International analyzed the impact of European Union trade policies- in particular European Partnership Agreements - in the context of ETOs. As a result, the booklet *Defending African Peasants' Rights* was published in four languages addressing the threats faced by African peasant farmers - in particular the threats originating abroad - and the human rights' tools available for their defense. FIAN International also participated in conferences in Amsterdam and London dealing with this subject.

## MONITORING STATES' RIGHT TO FOOD POLICIES

### Monitoring the international response to hunger

FIAN continuously tried to monitor, together with partners from civil society, the response to the ongoing world food crisis, and to personify the struggle of the one billion people announced to be going hungry in 2009. Monitoring efforts concentrated on the World Food Summit held in October in Rome convened by the FAO. FIAN actively participated in a parallel forum to this Summit representing more than 400 delegates from 70 different. Delegates included small-scale food producers, farmers' organizations, fisherfolk, indigenous peoples, food and rural workers, rural youth, women, and pastoralists, as well as food insecure city dwellers and NGOs gathering to seek the commitment from governments and UN agencies to address the root causes of hunger and malnutrition, which involve the realization of the right to food.

### The Right to Food and Nutrition Watch

The lack of a comprehensive monitoring tool on the state of the world food system prompted FIAN and several organizations to launch *The Right to Food and Nutrition Watch* in 2008. The 2009 report focuses on assessing who controls the governance of the world food system— a pertinent issue in light of the ongoing world food crisis. The *Watch* clarifies that the global governance of the world food system needs to be remodeled in order to effectively overcome hunger and its causes. As an evidence-providing monitoring tool, the *Watch* presents reports on the state of the implementation of the right to food and nutrition worldwide as well as nationwide initiatives to end hunger. In 2009, the Watch consortium partners were the African Right to Food Network (RAPDA), Brot für die Welt, DanChurchAid, Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance (EAA), Habitat International Coalition (HIC), Inter-American Platform for Human Rights, Democracy and Development (PIDHDD), Interchurch Agency for Development Cooperation (ICCO), People's Health Movement (PHM), Rights & Democracy, World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA), World Organization against Torture (OMCT), and FIAN serving as the technical secretariat.

### Monitoring the right to food at the country level

FIAN's work to monitor and write analysis of the human rights situations of States informs the establishment of current and future human rights standards in international organizations such as the United Nations. Included in this work is the writing of national reports on the status of the right to food and related human rights. The reports are presented to governmental authorities, media stakeholders, and eventually submitted as parallel reports to the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Most are based on the monitoring tools developed by FIAN and the Welthungerhilfe derived from the UN Food and Agriculture Organization's Guidelines on the Right to Food. National workshops with civil society in several countries serve to validate the reports and further enhance them via a participatory process. In Latin America, these reports were prepared in 2009 for Bolivia, Brazil, Guatemala, and Colombia. The two latter locations were also the sites of FIAN International fact-finding missions in November.



In May, FIAN joined other civil society organizations in presenting a parallel report on Brazil to the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR). The organizations consider the Brazilian Government's model for development as the main cause of right to food violations. The model emphasizes agrarian export and large-scale infrastructure projects that often lead to severe violations of ESC rights against the poor and indigenous populations. The CESCR concluding observations incorporated various primary complaints of FIAN, such as a lack of access to land for poor and indigenous people, and discrimination against Afro-Brazilians. The UN Committee negotiations succeeded in requesting that the Brazilian government assess its own policies under a human rights perspective.

FIAN visited Uganda in March to conduct a workshop on the monitoring of public policies. A group of individuals developed a plan to guide the work of the newly created Ugandan Right to Food Network (URTFN), which FIAN helped establish. Also in Africa, FIAN provided supporting information to the UN CESCR on both the Democratic Republic of Congo and Madagascar, and conducted trainings on the human rights monitoring process with the African Regional Network on the Right to Food (RAPDA). The objective of the trainings was to produce monitoring reports on the status of the right to food in eight African countries.

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.

In June, FIAN and the University of Mannheim coordinated a seminar of human rights experts in Berlin where FIAN presented a handbook on IBSA human rights indicators for the right to food.

## JUSTICIABILITY OF THE RIGHT TO FOOD

Human rights obligations mean little if the duty bearers cannot be held accountable to rights holders and to society at large. As a human right, the right to food takes on a whole new meaning when it is justiciable- when victims of violations can claim their right politically, and also have the possibility to bring their cases to court. Many States have recognized the justiciability of the right to food through various measures ranging from social security guarantees, food safety regulations, and land tenure legislation. FIAN maintains that judicial and quasi-judicial bodies must play an integral part in the protection and promotion of the right to food and works to make this a reality.

### Advocating for Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights

The attempt to solidify the justiciability of economic, social and cultural rights in international law is defined by the establishment of an Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (OP-ICESCR). When finally ratified, the Optional Protocol will introduce a new complaints mechanism allowing victims of human rights violations, such as violations of the rights to health, education, food and housing, to address the United Nations if unable to obtain relief in their own country. The text of this new instrument was adopted unanimously by the UN General Assembly on the sixtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in December 2008. FIAN International has been lobbying for more than a decade within civil society initiatives towards the elaboration and adoption of

such an instrument. Therefore, FIAN was joyous when an official ceremony was held at the United Nations headquarters in New York in September 2009 to mark the opening for signatures of the Optional Protocol to the ICESCR. At the time this report went to press, over 30 countries had signed the protocol, but this crucial instrument for enforcing human rights had been ratified by just one of the signatories. FIAN was very active in the steering committee of the International NGO Coalition for an OP-ICESCR to advocate for signatures, and helped prepare a global online petition together with ESCR-Net and Amnesty International on behalf of the NGO Coalition. The public mobilization sparked by this petition exceeded expectations- gaining over 30,000 endorsements from all over the world.

### Promoting Justiciability in the Global South

In addition to advocacy work surrounding the Optional Protocol, FIAN's justiciability work focused on efforts in Central and South America. In September, FIAN prepared an *Amicus Curiae* brief regarding the case of Las Pavas in Colombia asking the Constitutional Court to review the ruling of the Second Instance Tribunal, which stated that the eviction of the Las Pavas community was lawful. A forced eviction of 120 families, including children, occurred in Las Pavas due to palm growing companies who claim to own the land. However, the families have been in possession of, and carrying out improvements to optimize the agricultural output of these lands since 1997 when the former owner of the land abandoned them.

In October, FIAN co-organized a seminar with NGO's in Bolivia on justiciability of the right to food in the context of the newly adopted Bolivian Constitution, which recognizes the right to food. Meetings were also held with Parliamentarians and Officers of the Ministry of Justice, to promote the adoption of a Right to Food Framework Law, which includes a detailed justiciability clause. As the judicial proceedings related to a human rights violation set the precedent for the justiciability of the right to food, FIAN also coordinates trainings to impart skills for handling judicial cases regarding violations of human rights. In 2009, FIAN conducted these trainings for law students in Venice, Italy, and Germany. In December, FIAN met with lawyers from AIPE, the Association of Institutions for Development and Education in Bolivia, to advise on casework, including analysis of opportunities for strategic litigation. In November, FIAN joined forces with the "Guatemala without Hunger" network to conduct a seminar on advocacy and justiciability of the right to food, and met with Guatemalan lawyers to prepare a common strategy for the litigation of three cases that will likely be brought to court in 2010.





## THE GENDER PERSPECTIVE

The world food crisis has worsened the food and nutrition situation for women. The tendency to save on food costs in times of crisis leads to an increase in malnutrition and morbidity, in general, which more severely affects pregnant and lactating women, as well as children. FIAN acknowledges that women represent a disproportionately high percentage of the undernourished and hungry sectors of society, and took advantage of several opportunities in 2009 to better equip ourselves to combat the additional challenges women face in asserting their right to food.

### Gender Training

This desire to increase our capabilities prompted us to organize a gender-training workshop together with the World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA) in Delhi, India in July. The primary goal of this workshop was to increase gender awareness and sensitivity among participants involved in breastfeeding promotion and right to food issues- especially men. This unique opportunity for FIAN to cooperate with WABA to jointly organize the training was particularly important considering that breast milk is the first food many children intake around the world, and thus a significant right to food issue.

Renowned environmentalist and physicist, Vandana Shiva, gave the inspiring opening remarks and addressed the negative stereotypes associated with breastfeeding, as well as the need for more sustainable forms of food production. Her remarks echoed FIAN's efforts to support family farmers, and women farmers, working to provide food for their families in a sustainable manner. FIAN explained how its strategy in approaching gender issues is twofold- with the goal to both provide support to women's struggles *and* promote ownership of these struggles. Using monitoring tools such as parallel reports, FIAN is able to follow up with recommendations for supporting women's movements at the national level.

### Reporting violations

FIAN presented one such parallel report in 2009 on the situation of peasant and indigenous women in Guatemala to the UN Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). Guatemalan peasant and indigenous women are subjected to intense workloads (domestic and agricultural), lack of access to education, information, and productive resources- like land. They are also vulnerable to various forms of violence. FIAN requested that the Government take steps to progressively guarantee and fulfill the right to food of peasant and indigenous women. In its concluding observations, issued in February 2009, the UN Committee took into consideration the issues presented by FIAN, and we urged the Government of Guatemala to fulfill the recommendations.

Throughout the year, FIAN also supported the work of local groups asserting the right to food of women. In India, the government enacted the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act in 2006 to provide work for the rural population. Under the Act, 33 percent of available paid labor should be reserved for women. However, these guidelines have not been implemented in many places, and even when implemented they have often failed to meet their objectives. In light of the extreme poverty and unemployment amongst the rural population in the Indian State of Uttar Pradesh, FIAN continues to urge the Government to implement the Act and provide work to the women of these villages, so that they will be able to feed themselves.



# Face It Act Now Campaign

December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009 not only marked Human Rights Day, but also the momentous culmination of the Face It Act Now campaign: a two-year effort to make the European public and its elected officials aware that food is a human right that must be respected, protected and fulfilled. On this day, representatives from FIAN European sections, and Hungarian partner organization, Gaia Alapítvány, met with vice-president of the European Parliament, Isabelle Durant, to officially hand over the signatures and photos of faces collected during the two-year Face It Act Now Campaign. The signatures that were turned over represented the thousands of citizens demanding that their elected officials make the right to food a priority in all decisions involving agriculture, development, and consumers' rights. The signatures also represented support for an individual complaint procedure to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and demand for protection of human rights defenders worldwide. After formally receiving the signatures, Isabelle Durant's words confirmed that the tireless efforts of the Face It Act Now campaign had paid off. "The human right to food is a first priority in the fight against hunger," she spoke, "and be sure that you have my support also in [the] future."





### **Making human rights violations public**

Over the past two years, the Face It Act Now Campaign has played a major role in supporting FIAN's work to publicize human rights violations related to the right to food. During the Campaign, more than 250 media reports were published. Based on the data available, these reports reached an estimated audience of 28 million people in Europe.

In 2009, the Campaign casework focused on the Yanadi people in the State of Andhra Pradesh, India. The construction of a commercial port has jeopardized the Yanadis' access to food and left them chronically hungry. In February 2009, representatives of the Face It Act Now Campaign from the FIAN Sweden Section, joined journalists and members of FIAN Andhra Pradesh on a media trip to document and photograph the struggles of the Yanadi people in order to expose their plight to the European public. As a result, several articles were published in Swedish media outlets, and a travelling photo exhibit was presented at venues throughout Sweden. The venture also introduced local Indian journalists to the situation the Yanadi people face. Combined, these efforts pushed a local government agency in India to investigate the case and recommend that a compensation package be offered to the Yanadi.

As this package has yet to reveal itself, FIAN will continue to monitor the situation. In 2009, the Face It Act Now campaign also mobilized its base of supporters to sign urgent actions related to violations of the right to food of the Guarani Kaiowá in Brazil, and communities in Western Ghana. The former are in a political struggle to regain their land and thus their ability to grow food, and the latter are threatened by lack of State protection against the devastating effects of AngloGold Ashanti's mining activities in the area. These activities have polluted water supplies, and thus threatened the right to food of neighboring communities.

On the political front, the Face It Act Now partners took advantage of the European Parliament elections in June 2009 to encourage political parties and individual candidates to support the right to food and other demands of the Campaign. As a result, 34 candidates from four different countries expressed their personal written commitment for supporting the right to food. These commitments materialized on November 26th, in the first resolution of the recently constituted European Parliament on the food crisis and the follow-up to the food summit. A consensus adopted to highlight the right to food as a key approach in the European efforts to overcome the causes of hunger and malnutrition.

### **Provoking change**

During its two years, the mobilization and capacity building efforts of the Campaign were a vital part of involving people in the struggle for the right to food. Travelling exhibitions created by Campaign members, reached the eyes of approximately 20,000 people. More than 39,000 signatures have been collected via postcard campaigns. More than 40 intensive seminars were conducted to educate dozens of right to food promoters, and some of these promoters have gone on to become valued FIAN volunteers. In addition, almost 60 lectures were held in universities and high schools. Speakers' tours featuring guests from India, Brazil and Ghana reached almost 2,000 people at events across Europe. The words of the right to food defenders from the Yanadi and Guarani motivated crowds as they told the story of their struggle and let the European public know that international actions, indeed, make a difference.



# FIAN Worldwide – Impressions





## AFRICA

### Ghana

In 2009, FIAN Ghana advocated for changes to protect the right to food and water of those affected by mining activities. The Section launched an Urgent Action in July to alert authorities about the problems emanating from the pollution of bodies of water in the Western region of Ghana where AngloGold Ashanti holds a mining concession. FIAN members who participated in the Urgent Action received word from Ghana's Minister of Environment, Science, and Technology that an investigation would be conducted into the allegations raised against the mining company. The most recent information reveals that the investigation has been conducted. In Ghana's Eastern Region, FIAN Ghana denounced plans for the establishment of an open-pit gold mine in the Ajenjua Bepo Forest Reserve by Newmont Ghana Gold, which would have a severe impact on human rights and the environment. The Section launched an Urgent Action along with a group of civil society actors who are concerned about the impact of the project. FIAN Ghana also investigated the impacts on the right to food of jatropha plantations for export agrofuel production in the Ashanti Region, and the construction of a large-scale hydroelectric project.

## ASIA

### India

In 2009, FIAN India actively lobbied Government agencies and UN representatives to consider the right to food. At the local level, the six FIAN Chapters concentrated on casework, and activities to build their membership base. They also monitored the implementation of Government programs intended to validate the right to food, and related rights.

In March, FIAN India presented cases to the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, including the violation of the right to food of children due to the non-implementation of the Integrated Child Development Scheme. The Section presented violations of the right to food of women and children at the Asian regional seminar on Millennium Development Goals 4 and 5, and the gender training workshop organized by FIAN and the World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action in July. The same cases were submitted to the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Health during the Global Conference on Right to Food and Nutrition in August in Delhi, which FIAN co-organized.

During the parliamentary elections in India in May, FIAN India launched a letter campaign to ask political parties to include the right to food in their election platform, which led to an inclusion by several of them. FIAN India and FIAN Uttar Pradesh co-organized a consultation on the right to food bill in New Delhi in December.

FIAN Uttar Pradesh participated in a right to food rally in November demanding a complete right to food law in India.

Thousands attended, including many members of FIAN India's various Chapters and members of FIAN Norway. The Chapter organized a consultation on the legal rights of the physically disabled in India. The Director of the Department of Welfare of the Disabled promised to fulfill the FIAN demand to implement the legal obligation to provide jobs to blind people.

Also in November, FIAN Uttar Pradesh organized a fact-finding mission in Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand. Participants from Nepal, Norway, Germany, and India investigated cases concerning the right to water, right to work, and violations of grazing rights of forest dwellers. As one result of the mission, thirteen women from the Dalit community of Saharanpur District in Uttar Pradesh got their right to work fulfilled under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act.

FIAN West Bengal documented cases of right to food violations caused by the effects of climate change in Sunderban, and agrofuels in Jharkhand. Right to food violations in Nandigram due to violence inflicted on the villagers by supporters of the ruling party were also monitored. The Chapter conducted media sensitization workshops on the role of women in the struggle of right to food in West Bengal.

FIAN Andhra Pradesh, continued casework regarding the Yanadi tribes who suffer from hunger as a result of the destruction of their fishing areas due to the construction of a port in Nellore District. FIAN Andhra Pradesh also addressed right to food

and water violations of fisher folk and small farmers near Kolleru Lake.

FIAN Tamil Nadu assessed cases of right to food violations associated with palm oil workers, women's rights to equal remuneration in the unorganized sector, female quarry workers in granite industries and mines, and a Special Economic Zone in Madurai District. Regarding the latter, FIAN Tamil Nadu organized a rally attended by hundreds of people in November where a memorandum was submitted to the Tamil Nadu Government demanding an end to the acquisition of 1,470 acres of agricultural lands in defense of small and marginal landholding families living in villages that have been targeted as special economic zones.

FIAN Rajasthan worked on securing food for sandstone mineworkers and assisted those suffering from silicosis. The group also developed links with local government departments and social activists to promote water and food security through rainwater harvesting and organic farming.

FIAN Karnataka conducted trainings on the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) and skill development. As a result of their advocacy work, 1,000 people received their due wages. The Chapter also held a rally for farmers to demand remunerative prices for their farm produce and continuous access to electricity.

### Nepal

FIAN Nepal was officially recognized as a Section in October. Its primary focus in 2009 has been lobbying and advocating policymakers to incorporate the right to food as a fundamental right in the New Constitution. FIAN Nepal held several consultation meetings, two of which were attended by the Prime Minister of Nepal, to discuss strategies for addressing the increasing food insecurity in Nepal, and developing a food and nutrition security policy. The Section documented cases of violations of the right to food in the far Western region of Nepal, supported the FAO Right to Food Unit, organized trainings on the right to food, and developed localized right to food capacity building materials. On World Food Day, FIAN Nepal participated in an initiative conducted by Youth Acting for Change Nepal. More than 500 people rallied to read a letter of petition to government authorities calling for immediate relief to flood victims, and direct assistance to districts affected by the food crisis. The Section also organized press conferences on the loss of agricultural land and irrigation due to the construction of dams, which affects the right to food of many Nepalese.

### Philippines

2009 was a year of stabilization for FIAN Philippines as an organization. The Section continued to document cases of right to food violations in the Philippines—launching Urgent Actions in support of residents of Davao City suffering from the adverse affects of aerial fungicide spraying on a nearby banana plantation, and farmer-households subjected to illegal evictions in Quezon Province. FIAN Philippines also established networks to monitor right to food violations in these areas. Advocacy efforts included lobbying the Philippines Government to facilitate the release of cash subsidies to families in need as part of a broader poverty alleviation program, and pressuring the Navotas City Council to increase the budget for its food supply program. The latter effort resulted in budget increase benefitting over 2,000 people. The Section also conducted surveys of urban and rural women in two regions to develop a rights-based analysis of the right to food situation of women in the Philippines so that FIAN Philippines can best assist women in securing their right to food.

## EUROPE

### Austria

In November, FIAN Austria celebrated its 20th anniversary with a panel discussion on agrarian production systems, sustainable agriculture, and the accountability of trade systems to human rights. The panel discussion drew attendees from FIAN Austria's original worksite in Sarleinsbach and its current location in Vienna, and was a great opportunity for all members to reconnect. Speakers from Via Campesina, FIAN, Arche Noah, and the Federal Institute for Less Favored and Mountainous Areas highlighted their unique perspectives on the right to food, and a photo exhibition about coal mining in Chota Nagpur, Jharkand (India) was presented. To demonstrate against the impacts of hunger deriving from the financial crisis, a FIAN Austria action group joined a protest in Vienna in March, under the slogan "we don't pay for your crisis". The group demonstrated how essentials such as food, social security, and education are overshadowed by bank rescue packages. At the closing remarks, activists entered the speakers' floor with covered eyes representing how many remain "blind against hunger".

### Belgium

FIAN Belgium focused its efforts on training development agencies about how the right to food and food sovereignty can guide coherent food security policies. One element was a roundtable that attracted government level actors from the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Federal Parliament, as well as students and other members of civil society. The insights provided by Olivier De Schutter (UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food), and his Special Advisor Priscilla Claeys, as well as Francisco Menezes (former president of the Brazilian National Council for Food Security and Nutrition and director of The Brazilian Institute of Social and Economic Analyses) and Mady Sissoko (Mali National Coordination of Peasant Organizations) opened the debate on the structural causes of hunger, the implementation of the right to food through national strategies, and on the role of the Belgian development agency. This roundtable was part of a larger initiative started two years ago by the Belgian Coalition Against Hunger with the purpose of initiating a broader discussion about agriculture amongst Belgian policymakers, members of academia, and civil society.

### France

In 2009, FIAN France focused on attracting public attention to right to food issues by coordinating lectures and seminars at universities and festivals throughout France, one of which was attended by nearly 500 people and featured former UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, Jean Ziegler. At FIAN France's urging the national publication, *Altermondes*, interviewed Indian delegates from Andhra Pradesh in October 2009 for a future article. Dozens of people were trained in right to food issues during two seminars, one of which featured an informative delegation from India, who was able to speak firsthand about right to food violations. By rejuvenating its newsletter, *Le Repère du FIANiste*, the Co-ordination was able to maintain contact with those that were educated about right to food issues in 2009. In June, FIAN France wrote letters to candidates for election into the European Parliament probing them on their stance on right to food issues, which led to responses and the official support for FIAN's work from one candidate.



### Germany

In 2009 the German Section took up two new areas of work. First, a group of volunteers dedicated considerable time to analyze issues related to climate change from the perspective of the right to food and water, and mapped out the strategic options for FIAN's work in the future. Second, FIAN Germany's members discussed the issue of growing poverty amongst children in Germany. Since then, a group of volunteers has actively analyzed the situation of the right to food of children living on social security. The German Section also advocated for the ratification of the Optional Protocol by the German government and started a new campaign with European partners concerning workers' rights in the flower producing industry. Land grabbing and trade issues remained high on the agenda. Concerning casework, an important step was taken regarding the case of the Mubende in Uganda. FIAN Germany supported the evictees in filing a complaint with the National Contact Point for the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises against the German owner of the coffee plantation that is now situated on their land.

### Netherlands

In 2009, FIAN Netherlands officially became a Section. They went on to organize outreach events to raise awareness about the plight of the indigenous Guarani-Kaiowá in Brazil, including screening the film *Birdwatchers*, which addresses the high suicide rate within the indigenous community linked to their cultural dislocation. In a seminar with speakers from *Via Campesina*, FIAN Netherlands shed light on the forced evictions threatening the right to food of indigenous peasants due to soy crop expansion and land grabbing in the Northern Argentina. In October, the Right to Food and Nutrition Watch was presented in Utrecht and submitted to the Dutch Minister of Agriculture, Nature and Food. In November, FIAN Netherlands took part in the international fact finding mission to Guatemala and the writing of the subsequent report. In order to share perspectives on extraterritorial obligations with Dutch civil society and development professionals, FIAN Netherlands organized a seminar on the topic with the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food and the Human Rights Advisor of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

### Norway

A physical move of FIAN Norway's office to the Norwegian Human Rights House in 2009 allowed the Section to benefit from and contribute to the work of this network of human rights organizations. Other efforts in 2009 focused on advocating for improved human rights based policy and ongoing casework in India. This included successfully lobbying the Norwegian State to include human rights as a sphere in which Norway hopes to strengthen its dialogue with India. During an international fact-finding mission in India, representatives from FIAN Norway raised awareness on issues related to access to clean water and implementation of Government schemes for vulnerable groups such as women and the elderly. A petition demanding access to clean water for the village of Ganeshpur was submitted to the Director of the Water Board of Uttar Pradesh, who promised to respond to the demands. In addition to leading a coalition of organizations lobbying the Norwegian Government to sign the Optional Protocol, FIAN Norway volunteers actively promoted the right to food at seminars and outreach events.

### Sweden

FIAN Sweden demonstrated exceptional foundation building in 2009 by doubling its membership base and hosting a regional meeting of European FIAN Sections focused on best practices. The Section also generated awareness of right to food violations in Latin America, contributing to *Red Sugar, Green Deserts*, the comprehensive report on monocultures and violations of human rights in Latin America, which was launched at a forum in Copenhagen. In October, FIAN Sweden organized a conference in the Swedish Parliament on how free trade agreements between Europe and Latin America affect human rights, which was broadcasted on Swedish television. The Section also organized a European speaking tour with guests from Honduras on the trade agreements between the EU and Central America. Almost 70 articles were published in national and local newspapers focusing on this topic, as well as the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Meanwhile, FIAN Sweden arranged for two Swedish journalists to visit Andhra Pradesh, India and document the right to food violations of the Yanadi people.

### Switzerland

FIAN Switzerland was active in advocating for right to food issues in 2009. On World Food Day, FIAN Switzerland mobilized to form “a train against hunger”. Representatives from non-governmental organizations, artists, and politicians joined FIAN Switzerland on a train journey from Geneva to Delémont- the former a symbol of human rights advocacy, and the latter a city where a company plans to build an agrofuel producing plant –with sugar cane from Brazil. At various stops along the journey, the public was informed about the links between the right to food, the production of agrofuels, and climate change. FIAN Switzerland also proposed an article on the right to food to be included in the new Constitution for Geneva that is in a process of elaboration, and began assembling a parallel report to supplement the Swiss State Report on economic, social and cultural rights (ESC) to be presented at the UN Committee on ESC- Rights in 2010. This report is one element of the public campaign on human rights and poverty in Switzerland launched by the Section.

## LATIN AMERICA

### Brazil

FIAN Brazil worked closely with the International Secretariat in 2009 to improve its methodology for the adoption and follow-up of cases of violations of the right to food, which assisted FIAN Brazil in supporting those living in *Brejo dos Crioulos* an area in Brazil where residents (descendants of runaway African slaves) have been struggling to have their traditional land legally recognized to guarantee their right to feed themselves. As the Fact It Act Now Campaign came to a close in 2009, FIAN Brazil gathered the nearly 2,500 signatures opposing the right to food violations of the Guarani Kaiowá indigenous group, and submitted these signatures to the President of the Brazilian National Council for Food Security and Nutrition, directly linked to the Presidency of the Republic. In March, FIAN Brazil launched a report containing texts from human rights researchers and defenders on the enforceability of the human right to adequate food. In December, FIAN Brazil published *Cash Transfers and the Millennium Development Goals: from a human rights perspective*, which will inform the discussion at the workshop on this topic planned for Brazil in 2010 with FIAN International, institutional bodies, and Brazilian civil society organizations.

### Ecuador

The concept of plurinationality and food sovereignty as new paradigms of development guided the work of FIAN Ecuador in 2009. The Co-ordination published two booklets entitled *Justice in Daule Peripa* and *A Guide for Defending the Right to Food* which served as educational components in the workshops FIAN Ecuador organized with various peasant, fishing, and indigenous organizations focusing on themes such as the significance of the right to food and mechanisms for its defense. *Daule Peripa* refers to a multipurpose project, which includes a dam that affected more than 15,000 peasants in 1988 with the flooding of approximately 30,000 hectares of land in the Guayas River basin. FIAN Ecuador also advanced its monitoring of the right to food in the country with a workshop on the enforcement and justiciability of economic, social, cultural, and environmental rights in Ecuador with attendees from several parts of Latin America, and produced a video highlighting the section's activities undertaken in 2009.

### Honduras

Following the military coup carried out in June in Honduras, FIAN Honduras was forced to drastically reorient its priorities to respond to the aftermath. Of utmost concern has been protecting the civil and political rights of Hondurans and others affiliated. FIAN was part of an international mission to observe and record the situation in Honduras. The right to food remained a fundamental demand in the face of the serious human rights violations against the peasants in the community of Guadalupe Carney and those belonging to the Unified Peasant Movement of Aguán in northern Honduras. The latter were victims of forced evictions, arbitrary arrests and physical harm. FIAN Honduras also addressed the human rights' concerns stemming from the political crisis by providing trainings for human rights defenders in several regions of the country. While providing an analysis of the denunciation of human rights violations by various organizations, FIAN Honduras initiated a human rights forum to promote productive reflection of the national situation, and joint proposals for action.

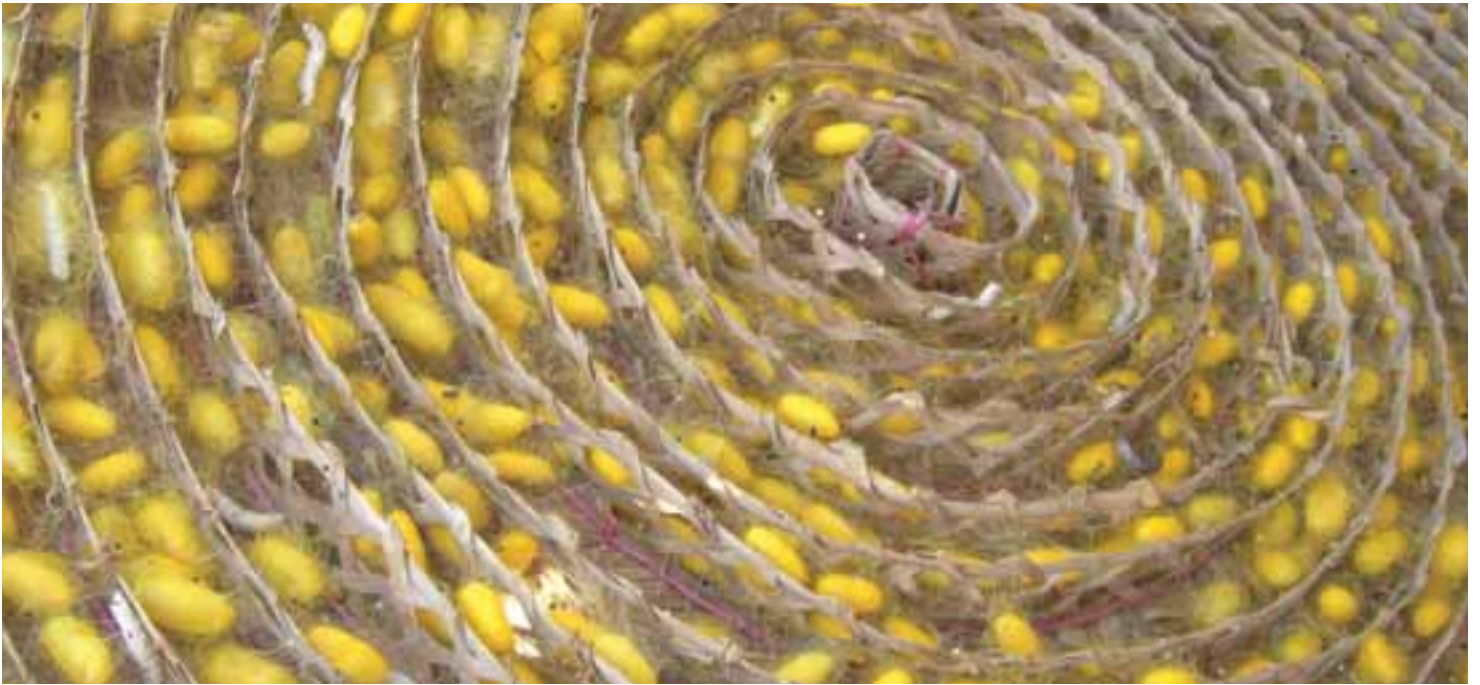
## NORTH AMERICA

### Mexico

In 2009, FIAN Mexico participated in the assessment of the impacts of the cases regarding right to food violations related both to the construction of a hydroelectric dam called La Parota and the corporate pollution of the Santiago River. The Section also documented the case of 44,000 employees of the Mexican Electricians' Union who were terminated from their jobs by presidential decree. The FIAN International Council issued an open letter asking the president to respect the gross violation of the workers' right to food. Attending meetings of the various social movements and networks that incorporate the human rights perspective in their struggle against policies that threaten natural resources helped FIAN Mexico expand its influence in 2009. The Section also reported on violations of the right to food in a forum attended by the UN Rapporteur on the Right to Food and conducted fifty workshops on this topic. Resulting from FIAN Mexico's hard work to position the right to food as an integral part of World Food Day, a representative proposed a piece of legislation to the Congress regarding the right to food.

### United States

Launched in 2008, the FIAN Pittsburgh/USA group is steadily growing. In cooperation with the Global Studies Program at the University of Pittsburgh, they hosted several events throughout the year, including a lecture by FIAN Secretary-General Flavio Valente. Dr. Valente's lecture sparked interest in collaboration from other educational institutions and local groups working on food sovereignty issues. A workshop was also organized for high school teachers on the global aspects of Millennium Goal One, sponsored by Global Solutions, Pittsburgh. In September, FIAN Pittsburgh/USA also organized a film and lecture series on the world food crisis with a discussion led by Molly Anderson from Food Systems Integrity in Boston. The film and lecture series will continue in 2010, and FIAN Pittsburgh will continue to work on expanding its membership base.



# Resources





## FINANCIAL PICTURE

### Financial Picture (Incorporating income and expenditure account) for the year ending on December 31st, 2009

The financial picture 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 2010. The budget of FIAN Sections and Co-ordinations is not part of this financial picture. The figures are in Euros (€).

|  | 2009 (in €)         | 2008 (in €)         |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Income</b>                                      |                     |                     |
| Project Income                                     | 1.216.849,78        | 1.107.789,94        |
| Membership dues                                    | 48.077,85           | 55.795,46           |
| Miscellaneous                                      | 39.525,91           | 48.206,54           |
| Donations  | 9.496,41            | 10.433,47           |
| Interest income                                    | 1.641,06            | 3.089,81            |
| income from reversal of provisions for liabilities | 40.000,00           | 0,00                |
| <b>Total income</b>                                | <b>1.355.591,01</b> | <b>1.225.315,22</b> |
| <b>Expenditures</b>                                |                     |                     |
| Personnel expenses                                 | 544.259,84          | 499.897,58          |
| Transfer to sections                               | 355.968,24          | 269.387,56          |
| Travel expenses                                    | 96.295,62           | 142.701,69          |
| Office expenses                                    | 63.562,37           | 83.896,19           |
| Seminars/conferences/meetings                      | 74.117,03           | 80.647,82           |
| Publications                                       | 72.612,00           | 70.089,66           |
| Rent   | 22.223,88           | 35.982,71           |
| International Executive Committee meetings         | 19.469,91           | 14.807,42           |
| Miscellaneous                                      | 1.444,51            | 12.087,43           |
| Accounting Costs                                   | 4.533,19            | 4.443,94            |
| Depreciation                                       | 5.005,42            | 3.107,52            |
| <b>Total Resources Expended</b>                    | <b>1.259.492,01</b> | <b>1.217.049,52</b> |
| Result from ordinary activities                    | 96.099,00           | 8.265,70            |
| Flow into/from working capital reserves            | 96.000,00           | 8.200,00            |
| <b>Total Result</b>                                | <b>99,00</b>        | <b>65,70</b>        |

## FIAN PUBLICATIONS 2009

All publications can be downloaded at [www.fian.org](http://www.fian.org) unless otherwise indicated.

### Periodicals

#### Right to Food and Nutrition Watch 2009

*Second annual review focusing on the question: "Who controls the governance of the world food system?"*

Editors: Flavio Luiz Schieck Valente, Martin Wolpold-Bosien, Maarten Immink, Stephanie Bijlmakers  
Published by: Brot für die Welt, ICCO, FIAN International  
English, Spanish, French  
(October 2009)

#### Right to Food Quarterly Vol. 4 No. 1

*Periodical on new trends and analysis in the right to food world*

Editor: Wilma Strothenke  
Published by: FIAN International  
English  
(August 2009)

#### FIAN Annual Report 2008

*Summary of main events and activities undertaken by FIAN International and its worldwide sections and co-ordinations.*

Editors: Wilma Strothenke, Nikki Smirl  
Published by: FIAN International  
English, Spanish  
(May 2009)

### Reports and Policy Papers

#### International Policies

##### International Responses to the Food Crisis - an assessment from a right to food perspective

*Overview of the initiatives and programs responding to the World Food Crisis that have been announced, implemented and realized by the various UN and Bretton-Woods Institutions from 2007 to the present.*

Authors: Andrea Brock, Armin Paasch  
Edited and published by:  
FIAN International  
English  
(October 2009)

##### The Global Food Challenge

*Analysis of the need for a reshaping of international trade and investment policies to put the right to adequate food at the center of economic policy*

Editors: Sophia Murphy, Armin Paasch  
Published by: Brot für Alle, Brot für die Welt, Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance, FIAN Germany, FIAN International, Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy, Germanwatch e.V., Heinrich Böll Stiftung  
English  
(November 2009)

### Land and Natural Resources

#### Voluntary guidelines for good governance in land and natural resource tenure

*A working paper highlighting Civil Society Perspectives on land and natural resource tenure as an input to the FAO process planned to adopt international guidelines on land and natural resource tenure.*

Published by: FIAN International and Haki-jamii (Economic and Social Rights Centre)  
Authors: Sofía Monsalve Suárez, Leticia Marques Osorio, Malcolm Langford  
English  
(January 2009)

#### Monocultures and Human Rights

*Guide for documenting violations of the right to adequate food and housing, to water, to land, and territory related to monocultures for industrial agriculture production.*

Published by: FIAN, Habitat International Coalition - Latin America (HIC-AL)  
Authors: Sofía Monsalve Suárez, Maria Silvia Emanuelli  
English, Spanish  
(June 2009)

#### Red Sugar, Green Deserts

*Latin American report on monocultures and violations of the human rights to adequate food and housing, to water, land and territory.*

Editors: María Silvia Emanuelli, Jennie Jonsén, Sofía Monsalve Suárez  
Published by: Habitat International Coalition - Latin America (HIC-AL), FIAN International, FIAN Sweden, Latinamerikagrupperna - Solidarity Sweden-Latin America (SAL)  
English (Spanish foreseen for 2010)  
(December 2009)

## Africa

### The Right to Food of Milk and Maize Farmers in Uganda

*Report on the findings of an investigative mission in April 2008 on the impact of agricultural trade policies of the EU on the right to food of smallholder farmers in Uganda*  
Author: Gertrud Falk

Editors: Henry Richard Kimera, Rolf Künemann, Kerstin Lanje, Armin Paasch  
Published by: FIAN International, CONSENT (Consumer Education Trust)  
English  
(April 2009)

### Empowering civil society to monitor the right to food in Uganda

*An examination of the socio-economic and political environment supporting the right to food of Ugandans, using the Right to Food Guidelines of 2004 as a point of departure.*  
Published by: FIAN International, Welthungerhilfe  
English  
(March 2009)

### Defending African Peasants' Rights

*Document on how European trade and development policies towards Africa need to be changed to defend African peasants' rights*  
Editor: Rolf Künemann  
Published by: FIAN International  
English, French, German, Portuguese  
(November 2009)

### Policies to overcome the marginalisation of African Peasant Farmers

*Document on policy implications of project work on African smallholders in focus - a voice in EU trade policy.*  
Author: Rolf Künemann  
Published by: FIAN International  
English  
(December 2009)

## Conference Reports

### Policies Against Hunger

*Documentation of the 7th Policies against Hunger conference, hosted by the German Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection December 8-10, 2008 in Berlin.*  
Editors: Roman Herre, Nikki Smirl, Martin Wolpold-Bosien  
Published by: Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection Division "International Food and Agricultural Organizations, World Food Security, Sustainable Development"; FoodFirst Information and Action Network (FIAN); KATALYSE Institute  
English  
(August 2009)

### Report of the 3rd Conference of the ETO-Consortium

*An up-to-date account of the goals, accomplishments, and lessons learned of the Consortium on Extraterritorial obligations (ETO) with detailed proceedings of its third conference at Lancaster, UK, 9-11 September 2009*  
Editors: Rolf Künemann, Mariana Rocha, Ana Maria Suárez-Franco  
Published by: FIAN International  
English  
(December 2009)

## The right to food

### Advancing the Right to Adequate Food at the National Level – Some Lessons Learnt

*Synthesis of FIAN's experiences during its more than 20 years of action in the defense and promotion of the right to adequate food*  
Authors: Martin Wolpold-Bosien, Rolf Künemann, Flavio Valente  
Published by: FIAN International  
English, Spanish  
(March 2009)



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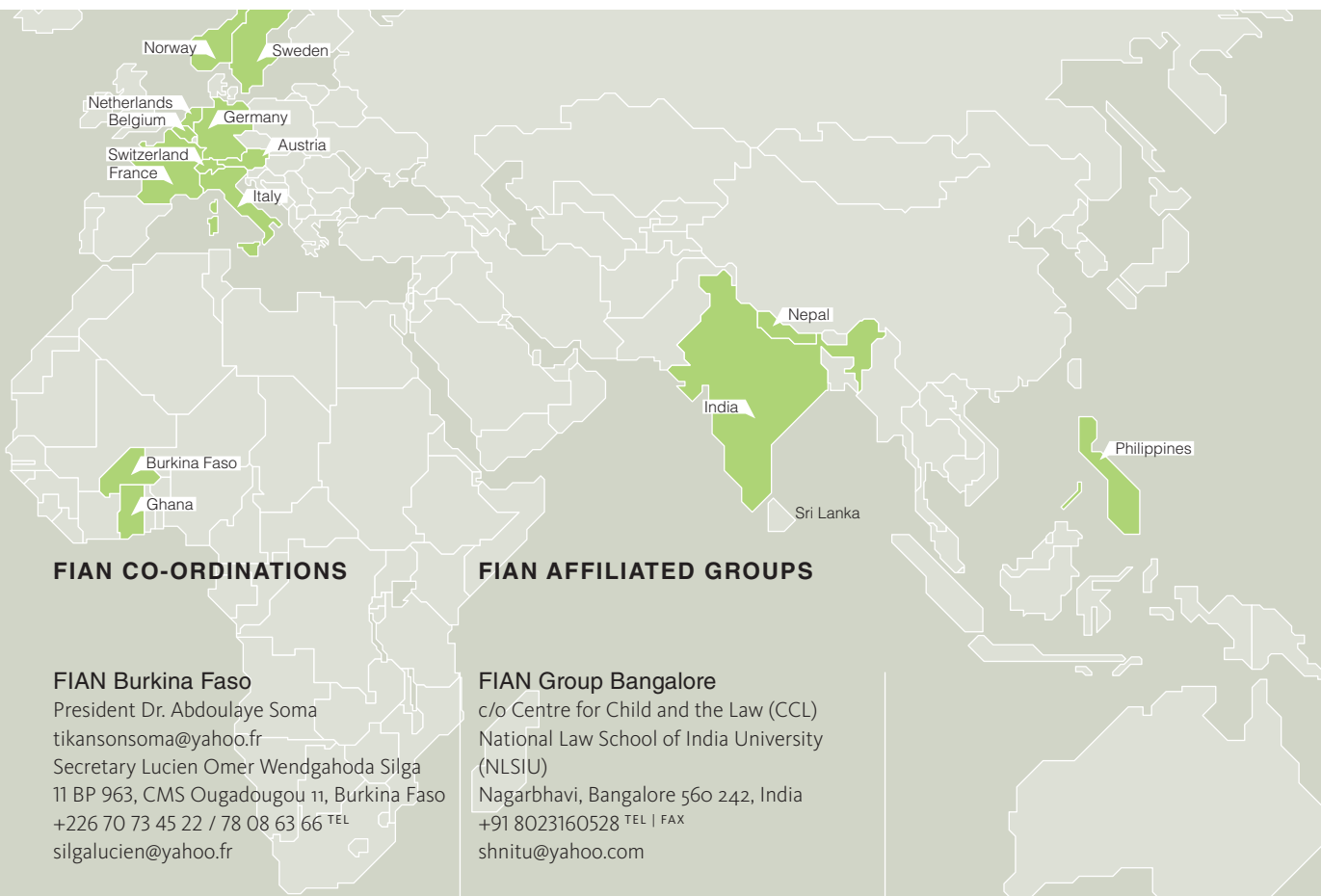
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## List of the International Executive Committee members

In 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

- 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 get informed and tell others about FIAN
- You can support FIAN's work through a donation

### Donations:

FIAN - Foodfirst Information & Action Network  
Volksbank Kurpfalz H & G Bank  
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### International

IBAN: DE2767 2901 0000 5807 8409  
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- European Commission
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- 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
- RAPDA - African Right to Food Network
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- University of Mannheim –Germany
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## **FIAN INTERNATIONAL**

With human rights against hunger!

### **WHO WE ARE**

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 food, as laid down in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights instruments. FIAN consists of national sections present 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 affiliations and has consultative status with the United Nations.

### **VISION**

FIAN envisions a world free from hunger, in which every person fully enjoys his/her 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 both now and in the future.

### **WHAT WE DO**

FIAN analyzes and documents concrete cases of violations of the right to adequate food. We raise awareness of the right to adequate food among social movements, non-governmental organisations, 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 mobilise 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.

