

ANNUAL REPORT 2010



FIAN International

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About FIAN

FIAN International is a worldwide network, with an International Secretariat based in Heidelberg, Germany and national representation in 25 countries. Founded in 1986, FIAN will celebrate its 25th anniversary in 2011 – 25 years of fighting hunger and malnutrition with human rights and pursuing our vision: a world free from hunger, in which every person fully enjoys his and her human rights in dignity, particularly the right to adequate food.

The overall mission and strategies of FIAN are defined and revised by the FIAN International Council. Our operational affairs are guided by an International Executive Committee.

As an international membership-based organization, FIAN's institutional members are its national Sections, which are legal entities in their own right, and have their own membership base and elected decision making bodies. Before becoming a Section, a FIAN-affiliated group of volunteers interested in addressing right to food issues in their home country begins working as a Co-ordination.

FIAN International currently consists of fourteen Sections located in India (with distinct Chapters working in different regions of the country), Nepal, Philippines, Ghana, Austria, Belgium, Germany, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, Brazil, Honduras, and Mexico. The three Co-ordinations work in Burkina Faso, Ecuador, and France, with a new one in Zambia starting in early 2011. Five volunteer-run seed groups operate in Kenya, Pakistan, Colombia, Paraguay, and the USA.

Sections and Co-ordinations research and report on selected areas of FIAN's work, always aiming towards the realization of the right to food at the respective national levels. The FIAN International Secretariat focuses on policy issues, lobbying for the right to food at the international level, monitoring cases where the right to food has been violated, and initiating campaigns for the right to food at the national and international level. Through FIAN's casework – carried out by all FIAN entities – we identify, research, and monitor specific violations of the human right to food and related rights. We pay particular attention to groups and individuals that are persistently marginalized, such as women and indigenous peoples. We also advocate for international human rights documents and conventions to incorporate provisions that recognize the human right to adequate food.

In this report, after an introduction by FIAN International's President, Irio Conti, and FIAN Secretary General, Flavio Valente, you will find an overview of FIAN's work in 2010, reflected through our international working programs on the right to food: access to land and natural resources, the right to water, extraterritorial State obligations, justiciability of the right to food, monitoring States' right to food policies, and the gender perspective related to the right to food. Subsequently, highlights, successes, and focus areas of the Sections and Co-ordination's work towards the

realization of the right to food at the respective national levels are summarized. This reports ends with a financial picture of the organization and a list of FIAN publications that were produced throughout the year. ▀



Foreword by the President

Despite the ripple effects of the global economic crisis, 2010 was a year of growth for FIAN International. We warmly welcomed the establishment of FIAN affiliates in Colombia, Paraguay and Pakistan, and the full installation of the FIAN Co-ordination in Burkina Faso. Violations of the right to food are frequent in these countries due to such issues as environmental threats, land ownership disputes, and unequal food distribution policies. We also established representation in Geneva in 2010. FIAN International Secretariat staff members will work there on a permanent basis – collaborating with FIAN Switzerland to facilitate and intensify FIAN's work within the United Nations Human Rights Protection System. At the same time, 2010 was a year of consolidation and planning for FIAN. At its bi-annual meeting, the FIAN International Council met in Belgium and adopted a new Strategic Plan to guide how we will continue as an organization in the future. The new plan includes important benchmarks on how to enhance the organizational development of FIAN worldwide. One method is to strengthen the organization's casework. Casework involves responding to requests from groups whose right to food has been threatened or violated and mobilizing support through letter campaigns, media attention, and advocacy. It is the essential tool in fighting for the concrete gain of marginalized people's access to food.

FIAN's scope of research and monitoring was broadened in 2010 by introducing a new program on income, nutrition, and related public policies. This addition is attributed to the fact that many of the cases FIAN has adopted involve violations of the right to food due to the withdrawal of wages and non-implementation of relevant public policies and social welfare programs.

2010 was also about establishing FIAN's place in civil society. As one of the very few organizations focusing on the right to food, we have been heavily involved in facilitating the participation of civil society organizations, small farmer organizations, and other groups affected by the food crisis, in the regional consultation process towards the elaboration of Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance of Land Tenure. In October, FIAN sent delegates to the first session of the reformed Committee on World Food Security in Rome. In conjunction with many other civil society organizations, FIAN urged governments to heed the call to suspend the large-scale land acquisition that is threatening the right to food of many. We requested that the Committee on Food Security initiate an open and inclusive discussion on the type of agricultural investments needed to change the structural reasons for, and eventually eradicate global hunger. FIAN will stay involved in the next rounds of discussion, supporting the voices of those whose land has been dispossessed and who struggle to feed their families due to unjust land policies. ▀



A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Irio Conti'.

Irio Conti

Message from the Secretary General

The year 2010 was marked by changes in the global governance of the food system. The reformed Committee on World Food Security gained legitimacy as an inclusive platform on global food security issues. FIAN lent its right to adequate food perspective to the process, and played a central role in supporting the participation of civil society and social movements representing those most affected by food insecurity – particularly small-scale food producers. This inclusion is necessary to pressure governments and intergovernmental organizations to change the policies that are at the root of global hunger and undernutrition.

One such root cause of global hunger is the increase in land grabbing – the process by which governments and corporations buy or lease farmlands abroad to secure food supplies or profit in their home country. FIAN played a central role in developing the content for the “Global Campaign against Land Grab” – inciting the public to address political figures and corporations responsible for land grabbing, and articulating the position against this phenomenon shared by many social movements and civil society organizations. A priceless tool for documenting the alarming increase in land grabbing is the *Right to Food and Nutrition Watch* – an annual review spearheaded by FIAN, ICCO and Bread for the World – now in its third year of publication. On World Food Day 2010, FIAN International proudly looked on as the *Watch* was formally presented to the public in over twenty countries – from Finland to Senegal, and from India to Mexico.

While information is exchanged at an ever more rapid pace, FIAN recognizes that large-scale changes to human rights infrastructure require patience. Since 1991, FIAN has worked to bring the same validity to economic, social and cultural rights that are held by civil and political rights. Two decades later, FIAN watched as Ecuador became the first country to ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights – a set of regulations that will enable new channels for the international justiciability of the right to food. Between September and December, FIAN’s representatives worldwide sent letters to government officials requesting signatures and ratifications. FIANistas got creative – arranging outreach campaigns in the streets and lobbying events in public places to promote the ratification.

If the Optional Protocol enters into force, FIAN will use it to hold Governments and the international community accountable for the practices that contribute to nearly one billion people suffering from hunger. In the meantime, we will use the tools we already have, and strengthen our coordination with all of the organizations that fight hunger, as we celebrate FIAN’s 25th anniversary in 2011. ▀



A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Flavio Valente". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized script.

Flavio Valente

INTERNATIONAL WORKING PROGRAMS



Access to Land and Productive Resources

Inadequate access to land and natural resources continues to be one of the main causes of hunger and poverty in the world – especially among the rural poor, who constitute the majority of those living in poverty. Access to land for marginalized people has been limited in recent years due to the (re)concentration of land via ‘land grabbing’. This term refers to the process where States and the private sector buy up large tracts of land at home and abroad for ‘development’ projects (dams, tourism infrastructure, special economic zones, mining, etc.) as well as for agrofuel and food production. Land grabbing displaces local populations, jeopardizes peasant farming, and essentially puts profit before people.

Stop Land Grabbing Now!

In recognition of the International Day of Peasants’ Struggle in April 2010, FIAN International, La Via Campesina, GRAIN, and the Land Research Action Network formally announced the declaration: ‘Stop Land Grabbing Now!’. This declaration guided much of FIAN International’s research and advocacy in 2010. The 126 organizations that signed the appeal understand that land grabbing violates the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and undermines the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

In October, FIAN International launched a call to action urging people to inform their respective ministries attending the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) meeting about the negative outcomes of land grabbing. During a forum held prior to the CFS, FIAN International and other civil society organizations called on the CFS to endorse the (FAO) process of adopting Guidelines on Land and Natural Resources Tenure, which is a crucial step in strengthening the existing regime for protecting the rights to land and natural resources of local food producers. The Guidelines will be negotiated and presented for consideration at the next session of the CFS in October 2011.

FIAN also articulated the position against land grabbing through its reports and position papers published in 2010. *Land Grabbing in Kenya and Mozambique* introduces a human rights framework in analyzing three instances that FIAN has researched extensively of the large-scale selling or leasing of lands to foreign investors that have threatened pastoralist tribes. In November 2008, Kenyan President Kibaki leased 40,000 hectares of land in the Tana River delta to the government of Qatar, while Kenya was in the midst of severe droughts and food shortages. A second project in the same delta involves the planned public/private joint venture between the largest Kenyan sugar company and the Kenyan state-run Tana Athi River Development Authority to turn 16,000 hectares of land into an agrofuel plantation. Thousands of peasant farmers who use this land to grow food will be displaced. FIAN International also published a more comprehensive *Land Grab Study* in

2010 on how European policies and practices have affected African agriculture and food security, and contributed to the land report of the Special Rapporteur of the Right to Food presented to the UN General Assembly in September. These reports are vital tools for informing decisions made by high-level authorities that will have a direct impact on those most at risk for violations of the human right to food. Amongst these groups that FIAN supports are peasant organizations in Mali fighting to save their lands from being sold to national and international investors in the Office du Niger region.

In August, members of FIAN Germany traveled to Cambodia to assess the consequences of land grabbing and investigate the role of the German development cooperation in this process. Based on the findings, FIAN Germany presented a report to the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on the non-compliance of Germany’s extra-territorial obligations related to German bilateral aid in land policies. FIAN Germany also traced the involvement of a German investment fund in forced evictions in Cambodia. After the German press presented these findings to the public, the agricultural investment fund, DWS, sold out its shares in the Thai sugar holding firm which was involved in the forced evictions in Cambodia. ▀



Right to Water

It takes 2,000 to 5,000 liters of water to produce one person's daily amount of food and the daily drinking water requirement per person is two to four liters (UN FAO). Meanwhile, the effects of climate change and water contamination from polluting industries are expected to drastically decrease the amount of water available to the world's rapidly growing population. As agricultural output and food preparation rely directly on this vital resource, the rights to food and water are closely linked. Thus, FIAN's casework addresses violations of the right to water – particularly when they jeopardize the right to food.

Making governments and corporations accountable

In October, the UN Human Rights Council passed a resolution in which UN Member States recognized the need to do more to increase worldwide access to clean water and sanitation. FIAN International applauded this move, and will do its part by working to make private businesses accountable when they conduct operations that contaminate local water supplies.

This accountability was upheld in 2010 in Guatemala, where the Canadian enterprise Goldcorp, Inc. operates the Marlin gold mine. The mine's extractive processes contaminate the water of nearby indigenous communities with heavy metals, and utilize 45,000 liters of water per hour (according to Goldcorp's own data). FIAN has been following the Marlin case since 2007, when it issued an Urgent Action to petition the President of Guatemala to consider the interests and human rights of those living near the mine. FIAN also conducted a visit to the Ethical Council in Norway that supervises the Norwegian pension fund's contentious investment in Goldcorp.

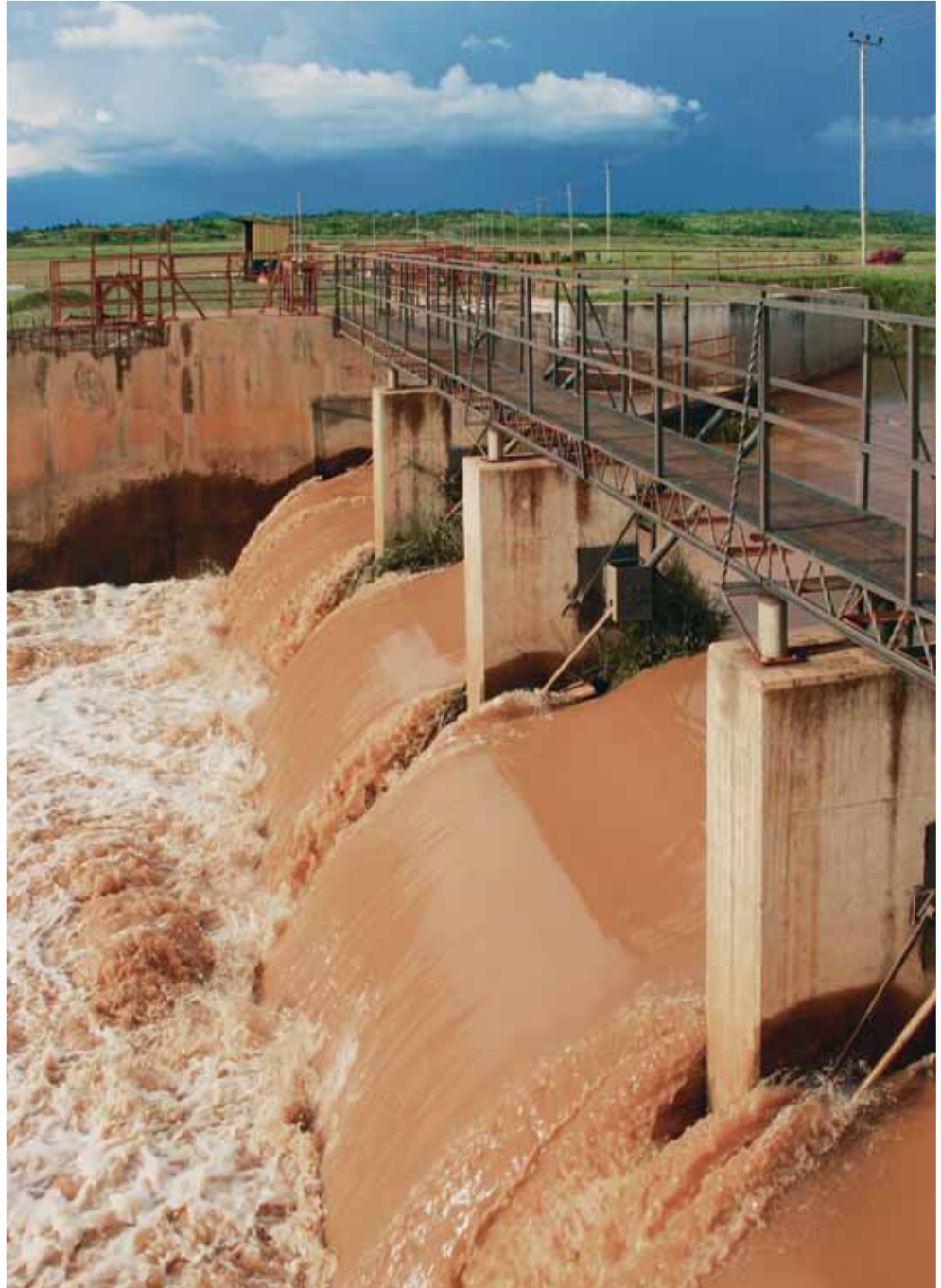
Three years of international lobbying led the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IAHRC) to order the provisional suspension of the Marlin mine in May 2010. Since then, FIAN has supported implementation of these measures by visiting the affected communities, participating in an international call demanding compliance, and petitioning the Guatemalan State to further investigate the health risks to the indigenous communities posed by the mine. These risks are particularly relevant considering that Guatemala has ratified international conventions protecting the rights of indigenous people. FIAN also circulated an Urgent Action in July demanding an investigation into the shooting of a female community leader who openly contested the abuses associated with the mine.

In India, development projects, increased urbanization, and inadequate wastewater treatment facilities are some of the reasons why the right to water is frequently violated. Amidst countless violations, FIAN works with local communities to achieve successes. For several years prior to 2010, most of the Dalit and agricultural laborer inhabitants of Ganeshpur village

did not have access to clean water. In October, the State Water Department provided the community with potable water via installation of a new water pump. FIAN units in Norway, Nepal, Uttar Pradesh and the International Secretariat have been intervening on behalf of the villagers since 2008, and met with the Managing Director of the Water Department of the Uttar Pradesh Government to address the issue. Mr. Hemraj, a community leader, summed it up well, "At last we got safe drinking water, and my grandchildren will not suffer. Thanks to FIAN and all who accompanied us in our long struggle."

In neighboring Nepal, water quality problems caused by dam projects and environmental pollutants have also had significant impacts on the right to food. Since the Laxmanpur Dam and the Kalkalwa afflux dyke were built by the Uttar Pradesh State Government in India, the yearly flooding of the Rapti River, which originates in Nepal and flows into India, has reached very high levels. The flooding has led to the deaths of humans, as well as livestock, and the destruction of crops, property and harvested grains. After prolonged campaigning, the Indian government initiated the construction of two drainage facilities – one of which is nearly completed and will hopefully reduce future inundation levels. Since 2007, FIAN has been active in the case, together with Youth Action for Change-Nepal, and the Laxmanpur Dam Victim Struggle Committee. ▀





Extraterritorial State Obligations

Human rights are still largely seen as territorial; States have human rights obligations towards persons within their borders, but beyond their borders they are not traditionally forced to care about human rights. More and more actions taken by States, however, affect human rights outside their territories. Examples include State's involvement in intergovernmental organizations, and failure to regulate transnational corporations that operate in their territory, but abuse human rights in other territories. This phenomenon urgently needs to be addressed by the human rights movement, by the UN human rights system, and by governments. Limited interpretations of human rights do not belong anymore in today's world ridden by the crises of globalization. It is anachronistic for a State to consider persons outside its own territory ("extraterritorial") as also existing outside the scope of its human rights obligations. Since 2007, FIAN International has served as the secretariat of a growing "ETO (extraterritorial obligations) Consortium" comprised of some sixty-five human rights and civil society organizations, university institutes, and individual experts.

Obligations beyond borders: Advancing ETOs in 2010

In 2010 the Consortium advanced the case of ETOs in different parts of the world. In May, members made a presentation at the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, in Banjul, Gambia, and gave inputs on the significance of ETOs for Africa both at the public session of the African Commission, and the NGO Forum preceding the ordinary session. In Geneva, the ETO Consortium held a lunch briefing with members of the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. FIAN International staff also coordinated regional meetings in Bogota, Colombia and Pretoria, South Africa. In Bogotá, there was great interest and intense discussion on cases involving ETOs and the need to sensitize social movements and grassroots groups on the relevance of ETOs to their struggles. The African regional ETO meeting took place at the Human Rights Centre of the University of Pretoria, South Africa. An evening event about ETOs organized on Constitution Hill in Johannesburg by the South African Institute for Advanced Constitutional, Public, Human Rights and International Law featured, among others, Mumba Malila from the African Commission for Human and Peoples' Rights and Rolf Künemann from FIAN International. The large number of newly interested groups present at these meetings from outside the ETO Consortium demonstrates that the issue of ETOs has become more relevant within civil society. Other ETO events organized by FIAN International took place in Brazil and in New York City at Columbia University with Olivier de Schutter, UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Right to Adequate Food, acting as the featured speaker.

In November, the Consortium's Steering Group met in Brussels with experts from GLOTHRO, an academic research network on globalization and transnational obligations, for an in-depth discussion on a number of legal challenges facing ETOs. The progress made at this meeting inspired further work on legal principles

for ETOs currently being coordinated by Maastricht University and the International Commission of Jurists. These principles will allow civil society and governments to firmly address the human rights challenges of globalization, and will be issued at an international conference of experts in September 2011.

Towards the end of the year, the International Secretariat published a booklet *ETOs for a rights-based world order*, along with a leaflet *Human Rights need ETOs*. The former discusses past cases dealing with ETOs where FIAN has intervened, such as: the destruction of the livelihoods of indigenous people in the Ecuadorian Amazon by US-based oil companies, and the hindrance of agrarian reform law in Paraguay due to a bilateral investment treaty between Germany and Paraguay. These publications contextualize ETOs, and show how necessary these obligations are to promoting human rights in today's world. ▀



Monitoring States' Right to Food Policies

As an organization working to eradicate the root causes of hunger, FIAN cannot find solutions unless we know where the problems lie. We must investigate the trends that contribute to food insecurity, and ensure that the interests of marginalized people are represented. When FIAN helps establish legislation to prevent States and private actors from jeopardizing the right to food of local communities, we must go one step further and monitor the implementation of that legislation in order to fully realize the human right to food.

'Watching' over the right to food

One of the most effective ways FIAN International has monitored the right to food is through the annual distribution of the *Right to Food and Nutrition Watch*, which is published annually with Bread for the World, the Interchurch Organization for Development Cooperation, and a larger consortium. Maryam Rahmanian, Vice-Chair of the Steering Committee of the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition commented that, "*The Right to Food and Nutrition Watch* offers policy makers and activists a tool for understanding the forces at play in our world, and how we might create a more just world." In the week of World Food Day, the third issue of the *Right to Food and Nutrition Watch* was presented to the public in twenty-two countries. The 2010 edition focuses on land grabbing, nutrition, and challenges for global governance of the world food system. Articles and national monitoring reports demonstrate how land grabbing aggravates hunger in Africa, Asia, and Latin America by leading to the eviction of peasant communities from their land and, in many cases, their main source of livelihood. The monitoring reports published by peasant movements, FIAN, and other non-governmental organizations, referenced countries such as Burkina Faso, Colombia, Guatemala, Kenya, Nepal, and Zambia.

Various articles included in the Watch also salute the far-reaching reforms of the global food system initiated in 2009, but acknowledge that the newly reformed Committee on World Food Security still needs to take further action against land grabbing and speculation in food commodity prices, and mainstream nutrition into global strategies against hunger.

The international community is currently settling on these global strategies against hunger via the creation of a Global Strategic Framework for food security and nutrition (GSF). In November 2009, government officials met at the World Summit on Food Security. There they confirmed that the hunger and poverty affecting the lives of at least one-sixth of the world's population is unacceptable, and that global governance is necessary to achieve the progressive realization of the right to adequate food. Two initiatives were settled upon: the reform of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), and the gradual development of a Global

Strategic Framework for food security and nutrition. This framework will ideally provide a platform for establishing effective partnerships and leadership to prevent future food crises, and ensure food security and adequate nutrition for all humans.

FIAN International was actively involved in the reform process of the Committee on World Food Security. Our contributions aimed at strengthening the right to food and participation of civil society into the new governance mechanism. Steering this reform process in the right direction, FIAN International served as the technical advisor to the eighth annual "Policies against Hunger" conference in June. Hosted by the German Minister of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection, the conference brought together key figures in the current world food debate.

Conclusions from this conference fed into the ongoing reform processes. The first session of the reformed CFS in October was encouraging. Broad participation of social movements and civil society was institutionalized, and the right to food played prominently. FIAN International continues to advocate for inclusion of a monitoring component, which would analyze food and nutrition related national policies under the indicators set by the Voluntary Guidelines on the right to food. Many governments still refuse to be held accountable to human rights laws that they have ratified. FIAN works to ensure that these international agreements do not just become empty rhetoric. ▀



Justiciability of the Right to Food

The right to be free from hunger is a fundamental human right – officially recognized by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948. In 2010, the United Nations similarly recognized the human right to water – a milestone in human rights history. But what meaning does “recognition” of the right to food and water bear when there is no effective mechanism to claim a violation of these rights? FIAN’s program on justiciability tackles the goal of attaching real meaning to economic, social and cultural rights, by making them “claimable” in the courts and other national, regional, and international quasi-judicial institutions.

Validating right to food violations

In order to reach this goal, FIAN supports communities interested in bringing cases of violations of their human rights to court. We are deeply committed to working towards remedies for the affected communities, and changing the legal cultures in many countries that prevent positive outcomes. FIAN builds capacity for judges, lawyers, and other right to food defenders, and carried out several such activities in 2010. In Guatemala, FIAN conducted a seminar with Supreme Court judges – promoting the application of international human rights standards. Also in Guatemala, FIAN worked with family and juvenile court judges to explore opportunities for protecting the right to food of undernourished children. In Mexico, FIAN was invited by the Mexican Supreme Court of Justices to participate in the opening of a new law clinic, and teach lawyers which criteria to use when selecting cases of violations of the right to food. This process included developing primary principles that law clinics should consider to promote a beneficial relationship between the affected communities and those that represent them. FIAN also carried out capacity building activities for bringing affected communities’ cases to courts through “*amicus curiae*” in Colombia, Ecuador and Mexico.

FIAN promotes efforts at the national level to adopt legislation that recognizes the right to adequate food, and is compliant with existent international human rights standards. In India, for example, the Government is in the process of solidifying the details of a Food Security Act. Ideally, this proposed legislation would hold the Government responsible for providing affordable food to Indian families living below the poverty line. Throughout the year, FIAN International and its working groups in India advocated to incorporate the right to food as a main tenet of this Act, which would give Indian citizens recourse when they are not provided with access to sufficient food. In Mexico, FIAN’s Section worked diligently towards the inclusion of the right to food into the Mexican Constitution.

During the last few decades some legal frameworks have developed at the national and regional levels that have improved access to justice for victims of violations of their economic, social and cultural

rights (ESCR). However, at the universal level, a mechanism for addressing ESCR violations was only adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2008 after years of lobbying and advocacy by many civil society organizations – amongst them, FIAN. This Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on ESCR provides victims of violations of these rights the opportunity to present their cases to the UN human rights system, and will enter into force shortly after ten States have ratified it. At the time this publication was printed, three countries had ratified: Spain, Ecuador, and Mongolia. To encourage ratification, FIAN’s affiliated groups engaged governmental authorities and organized public events in most of the countries where FIAN operates. One of the highlights was the letter campaign issued on September 24th, 2010 – the first anniversary of the day the Optional Protocol was opened for signatures. These activities are part of a long-term strategy FIAN will engage in until the right to food is finally claimable on the UN level.

As 2010 came to a close, FIAN initiated permanent representation in Geneva, which formally took place in 2011. This proximity to the United Nations human rights system will improve FIAN’s ability to make the right to food enforceable at the international level. ▀



Gender and the Right to Food

Gaining access to income generating activities is one of the many challenges woman worldwide face everyday. Globally, women perform a significant amount of agricultural labor, and yet own a very meager percentage of land in comparison with men. Without access to land or a job, a woman has little means of securing adequate food to feed herself. Meanwhile, women are disproportionately affected by food insecurity. Taking on the role of caretaker in many cultures, they sacrifice their own food allotments to ensure that their children are fed. They suffer gender-based violence during times of conflict, and do not have as much access to education as men. While women are in a higher situation of vulnerability to violations of the right to food, they are also reliable agents of change. Under this premise, FIAN International recognizes the role gender plays in successful implementation of the right to adequate food. The Strategic Plan that will guide FIAN's future work reaffirms its commitment to approach the right to adequate food from a strong gender perspective.

Training new agents for change

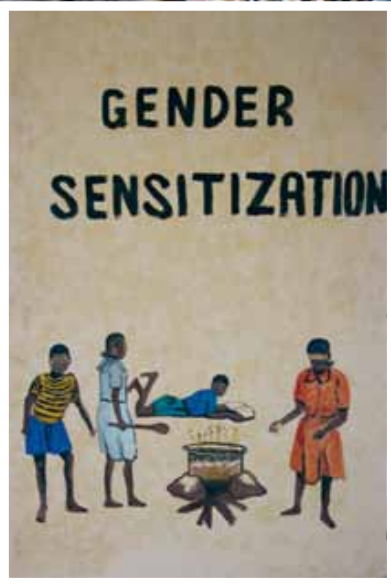
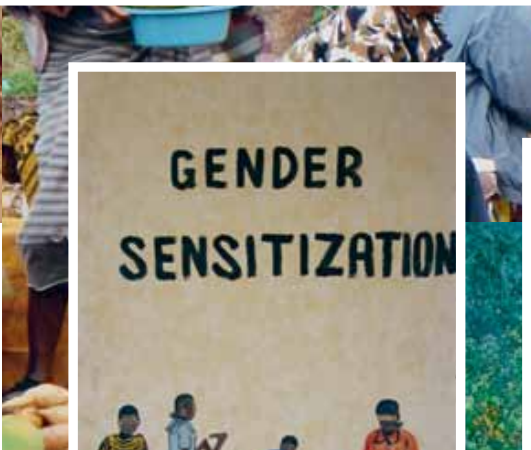
"FIAN informed us about our rights, and we got it, and we will inform our other sisters from nearby villages."

A woman in Uttar Pradesh spoke these words to a FIAN representative during a fact-finding mission to the region in 2009. This mission, jointly organized by the FIAN International Secretariat, and FIAN units in Norway and Uttar Pradesh, led to meetings with women seeking to benefit from the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA). NREGA aims at enhancing the livelihood of people in rural areas by guaranteeing one hundred days of paid employment per year to rural households whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. However, many government officials in Uttar Pradesh operate under a patriarchal mindset, and refuse to give jobs to Dalit women (a designation for a group of people traditionally viewed as existing outside the caste system that has been formally abolished, but still operates in practice in many areas). FIAN raised awareness about the issue, and by February 2010, ten women received job cards (a certificate allowing them paid work), and were offered thirty-two days of work at INR 100 per day. From April 1st 2010 onwards, they were entitled to another 100 days of work. On International Women's Day in March, FIAN Uttar Pradesh continued to advocate for the fair implementation of NREGA. They held public meetings in the two districts of Uttar Pradesh where more than 500 women gathered to voice their demands for equal wages, and their right to a livelihood.

In 2010, FIAN trained its Sections and Co-ordinations to properly investigate, intervene in, and monitor cases of violations of the right to food in their regions, with an increased focus on gender. FIAN Mexico led a series of capacity-building workshops on human rights that focused on gender in the states of Morelos and Guerrero – tackling the issue at the family, community and policy level. FIAN Philippines conducted seminars on gender and laws such as the Magna Carta of Women and the Violence against Women and their Children Act. The former is a comprehensive law that

seeks to eliminate discrimination against women by recognizing, protecting, fulfilling and promoting the human rights of Filipino women – especially those in the marginalized sectors. The latter provides for penalization of perpetrators of violence against women under Philippine law, and protects victims through temporary or permanent orders.

In 2010, FIAN International also established a partnership with the Gender, Nutrition and Right to Food Group at the German University of Hohenheim. Both organizations look forward to developing more nuanced positions on how gender discrimination – particularly violence against women – affects the right to adequate food. Hopefully, then, more women like the one in Uttar Pradesh will become aware of their human rights and make authorities accountable for upholding these rights. ▀



WORLDWIDE – FIAN AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL



Africa

Ghana

For years, FIAN has been campaigning for the right to food for over 300 Western Ghanaian farmers whose farmlands were usurped by AngloGold Ashanti for surface gold mining projects in Iduapriem. At a meeting of the monitoring advisory group in September (attended by officials of AngloGold Ashanti, representatives of the affected farmers, and FIAN Ghana) AngloGold Ashanti management disclosed that the company identified a tract of land, which will be doled out to the over 300 farmers as compensation. FIAN Ghana will continue to monitor the situation, and support the land restitution. In addition, water sampling was performed by the Water Resources Commission (WRC) in Iduapriem in March. This was a direct result of an Urgent Action FIAN International launched in 2009 addressing water contamination from mining activities and the need to utilize the monitoring mechanisms of Ghana's WRC to assist communities asserting their right to water. FIAN Ghana also planned a follow-up visit to the communities whose right to food and livelihood have been jeopardized by the large-scale spread of *Jatropha* plantations in the Ashanti region. ▀

Burkina Faso

After its launch in late 2009, the FIAN Co-ordination in Burkina Faso publicly presented itself in the media, and was active in case work throughout 2010. The Co-ordination concentrated on the case of those living in a gold mining site in Essakane in the northern region of Burkina Faso. After a research visit by FIAN Burkina to the region, a letter was sent to the gold mining company's headquarters in Canada to address issues raised by residents in the area, such as the long distance schoolchildren must travel to school after being displaced by the mine, and the infertile lands given to the villagers to compensate for those they lost to the mine. In a meeting with FIAN Burkina in April 2010, the company agreed on a joint visit to the Essakane area. FIAN Burkina is in contact with the company and ministerial departments working for human rights to discuss additional problems posed by the mine. In 2010, FIAN Burkina also sent a letter to the President of Burkina Faso urging him to ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. ▀





Asia

India

FIAN India and its individual chapters focused on advocating for the enactment of the pending Food Security Act. FIAN representatives distributed leaflets and posters to support the Act, and collected signatures in support of it. FIAN also held meetings with national and State members of the legislative assembly to incorporate the right to food into the legislation, and bind this right together with the constitutional principles of India. FIAN Chapters in India carried out the following work in 2010.

FIAN Andhra Pradesh held a public hearing on the right to food in June to address flaws in the public food distribution system and food and water issues in the Kolleru Lake area. On World Food Day, they organized an event with over 200 people at Chalivendram village, highlighting the plight of over 600 Yanadi families who have lost their fishing livelihood due to the construction of a port in their region. FIAN Andhra Pradesh also initiated dialogue with the Government, and advocated at various levels for compensation for the families affected by the port.

In **Uttar Pradesh**, FIAN and the local community secured access to safe water for residents of Ganeshpur with the implementation of a decision by the State Water Department to commence installation of a water pump, thus providing the community with clean water. FIAN also initiated the activities leading ten Dalit women to receive job cards in February granting them access to 100 days of paid labor. These successes resulted from findings during a FIAN fact-finding mission to the region in 2009. On International Women's Day, the Chapter organized public meetings in the

Lakimpur Kheri and Saharanpur districts of Uttar Pradesh. More than 500 women gathered to demand minimum wages and equal wages with men, and their right to work.

FIAN Tamil Nadu organized a research mission in February to investigate forest dwellers in the region that have been displaced from their land, the acquisition of traditional agricultural land due to development of Special Economic Zones (SEZ), and violations of the right to water due to the operation of a Coca Cola bottling plant. In March, the Special Rapporteur for the Right to Food, Olivier de Schutter, visited villages in Cuddalore, near Chennai, to study the impact of State industries on the livelihood of farmers and fishermen. In this area, industry pollutes seawater and farmland, leading to dwindling fish populations and harvest yields. Together with CONFET (Consumer Federation Tamil Nadu), the Chapter organized a meeting between the UN team, local smallholders, and environmentalists. De Schutter confirmed that industrial zones had severely affected the food security of farmers and fishermen, and promised to create a report seeking an explanation from government agencies and companies.

In August 2010, delegates from **FIAN West Bengal**, FIAN International, and FIAN Nepal researched how the planned construction of a nuclear power plant in Haripur will affect the local fishing and farming economy – and, thus, the right to food.

FIAN Karnataka continued advocating for the implementation of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) and the Public Distribution System (PDS), making frequent use of the Right to information Act, which mandates timely response to citizen requests for government informa-

tion. The advocacy work included State level workshops on NREGA, unionization of unorganized workers, and helping citizens gain access to social security. Some activists conducted a hunger strike to show their support. A press conference and public hearing took place on the eve of World Food Day, where ten cases of right to food and water violations were discussed.

Fian Rajasthan contributed to the right to food campaign by collecting signatures in support of the right to food and by organizing public meetings. The chapter continued casework on food insecurity issues amongst sandstone mineworkers, and collaborated with GRAVIS to organize public hearings on mining issues and workshops on child labor. On both the International Day of Older Persons and International Women's Day, rallies were held which highlighted food insecurity amongst the elderly and women. ▲

Nepal

In Nepal's first year operating as a Section, fourteen cases were documented where the right to food was threatened. In the case of the Kumal indigenous community in Dhading District, their right to water is becoming a reality thanks to the work of the community, the Dhading Right to Food Network, and FIAN Nepal. In the past twenty years, the irrigation channel providing water for their fields had been diverted into another village where people of a higher caste resided. In November, the two groups came to an agreement allowing the Kumal community access to water two days per week. Similarly, around 3000 families in Banke District are affected by yearly flooding and subsequent land erosion caused by dam and dyke projects initiated by the Uttar Pradesh State Government (locally known as the Laxmanpur Dam). After interventions by FIAN Nepal, FIAN International, and other civil society organizations, and the work of the Struggle Committee, the Indian Government initiated construction of more effective drainage to reduce the flooding in May. On World Food Day, FIAN Nepal sponsored a student drawing competition on interpretations of the situation of hunger in Nepal. ▲

Philippines

FIAN Philippines focused on supporting cases involving access to land. Together with FIAN International, they launched an open letter to the Supreme Court supporting farmer-beneficiaries seeking full ownership to land on an estate in Tarlac province that was distributed to them through a stock distribution option under the government's agrarian reform program. In another case, farmer-beneficiaries in Negros Oriental, who were awarded a large sugarcane plantation, are still denied access to this land by the former landowner, who has filed a case to question the validity of the farmers' claims. FIAN Philippines is also supporting tenants petitioning for ownership of a coconut plantation who have been harassed by the landowner's hired men. Outside of casework, the Section conducted trainings on legislation affecting women in the Philippines. In May, prior to the first automated national election in the Philippines, they informed the public on how the right to vote can influence the fulfillment of other rights – such as the people's right to adequate food. ▲



Europe

Austria

FIAN Austria focused on fundraising efforts in 2010 – initiating creative ways to raise money for and generate awareness about right to food issues. Throughout December, the Section coordinated a special fundraising campaign with restaurants and bars in Vienna interested in promoting the global right to food. Each participating establishment created a “FIAN meal”. When ordered, a percentage of the sale was donated to FIAN Austria to sustain the institutional work of the organization. In October, the Section teamed up with the Bergkräuter tea cooperative to create a unique tea blend made from regional herbs and fairly traded spices. Profits from the sale of this special “tea in support of human rights” are contributed to FIAN Austria. ▲

Belgium

FIAN Belgium focused on the “Fair Flowers” campaign in 2010 in conjunction with FIAN in Germany, Austria, and other European partners – organizing a range of activities to raise awareness about how certain aspects of the flower growing industry affect human rights. Unjust working conditions amongst flower growers and the harmful effects of pesticides used in the flower industry were some of the issues addressed by this campaign. FIAN Belgium worked to convince consumers and florists to buy and sell flowers that are grown in conditions that respect and adhere to international human rights. At one event, a delegation from the Ugandan flower growing industry was present to add insight to the issue. A petition for “Fair Flowers” was launched, asking citizens to call on the European Union to make compulsory the indication of the origin of flowers sold and bought, and for the ratification of ILO Convention No. 110 protecting the rights of plantation workers. This Europe-wide petition will be handed over to E.U. decision makers in Brussels in June 2011. ▲

France

In 2010, FIAN France primarily relayed the vital research and information on right to food violations produced by FIAN International to its own membership base and to the French public. The Section ensured that *The Right to Food and Nutrition Watch* was met with a strong readership by distributing it to various human rights-focused websites. FIAN France also continued to update its own website and published *Le Repère du FIANiste* – its quarterly newsletter that informs interested persons about current trends and policies associated with the human right to food. A member of FIAN France participated in a debate on agricultural workers in Brazil sponsored by the *Aliment-terre* campaign to inform the public in French-speaking Europe about the economic causes of hunger, and about supporting family agriculture as a means to achieve food sovereignty. FIAN France was also present at two ecological fairs in Southern France – recruiting new members, distributing information about the right to food, and collecting signatures on Urgent Action letters. ▲

Germany

In 2010, FIAN Germany intensified its advocacy work on land grabbing – focusing on instances of land acquisition by foreign entities in Cambodia, Kenya, and Ghana. Research conducted by the Section on the involvement of German banks in land grabbing formed the basis for publications, as well as a German TV report. FIAN Germany also broadened its work on the impact of climate change on the right to food by conducting trainings. The Section launched a petition directed to the European Commission against the human rights violations and environmental pollution caused by the global flower industry as part of the “Fair flowers for Human Rights” campaign. By the end of 2010, thirty-three Members of the European Parliament publicly supported demands included in the petition that protect flower workers’ rights to food and health such as pesticide residue testing, and mandatory indication of the country of origin of flowers. Support for localized incidences of violations of the right to food was strengthened through the installation of a case unit, and the Section was happy to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the local FIAN group in Marl. ▲

Netherlands

After months of preparation, FIAN Netherlands proudly launched its new website on World Food Day in October – making it easier for interested persons to locate information on the right to food and become involved in actions undertaken by FIAN Netherlands. In 2010, the Section focused on activities related to land grabbing and agrofuels. They distributed two Urgent Actions to stop land grabbing, which drew attention from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Dutch representative in the World Bank. The Section also advocated for the Dutch Government to ratify the OP-ICESCR through a letter writing campaign in September. On the educational front, FIAN Netherlands led a training on the Voluntary Guidelines on the Right to Food at the Wageningen UR Centre for Development Innovation in September, coordinated a weekend seminar on the issue of agrofuels in Guatemala at the Esperanza association in Münster, Germany, and presented a lecture on the right to food to Master's of International Law candidates at the University of Maastricht. ▲

Norway

In November, a representative of the Guarani-Kaiowá indigenous group in Brazil, and members of FIAN Norway and FIAN Brazil, met with the Brazilian Embassy in Norway. There, FIAN Norway handed over a painting by Norwegian artist, Astrid Solgaard, covered with signatures supporting the Guarani-Kaiowá's demands for a return of their land. During "Blue October" (a month dedicated to raise awareness on the human right to water), the Section and other Norwegian NGOs, performed an effective stunt requiring parliamentarians to cross fecal matter to get to their destination – showing the Norwegian government they must do more to promote the fulfillment of the right to clean water and sanitation for all. The Section also collected signed postcards supporting communities in Guatemala whose right to water and health have been jeopardized by the Marlin gold mine, which were presented to the Presidential Human Rights Commission of Guatemala. ▲

Sweden

FIAN Sweden focused on recruiting more members throughout the year, and succeeded in doubling its membership by the end of 2010. The Section increased its staff size and provided support for cases of right to food violations in India and Guatemala. In India, the case deals with implementing a rehabilitation scheme for the Yanadi indigenous group in Andhra Pradesh affected by the construction of a commercial port in the area. In Guatemala, the Section worked to address right to food and water violations caused by mining operations associated with the Marlin gold mine. FIAN Sweden also participated in FIAN's global campaign against land grabbing, and lobbied the Swedish Government to sign the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. In the realm of social media, the Section started a Facebook page to increase its scope, and created a short film on the right to food – *FIAN Rätten till mat* – that was uploaded to YouTube. ▲

Switzerland

In 2010, FIAN Switzerland coordinated a parallel report on violations of economic, social and cultural rights (ESCR) in Western Switzerland, which was informed by the Section's campaign on poverty and human rights in the region. Thirty associations and unions presented their input during the review of Switzerland by the UN Committee on ESCR in November. FIAN Switzerland also collaborated with students from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva to create a study on Geneva's compliance with the right to food, and served as a member of the coalition fighting for recognition of economic and social rights within the new Geneva Constitution, which will be adopted in 2012. On World Food Day, the Section organized a role-playing action creating awareness on global land grabbing. In November, they participated in the development of a peasant action against land grabbing during a meeting of major global investors in farmland (Global AgInvesting Europe 2010). FIAN Switzerland also created an updated dual language website in French and German ([↗ www.fian-ch.org](http://www.fian-ch.org)). ▀



Latin America

Brazil

Since 2008, FIAN has supported the Quilombola people – descendants of plantation slaves – who struggle for legal recognition of their traditional lands in Brejo dos Crioulos, Brazil. FIAN Brazil met with the National Institute for Colonization and Agrarian Reform (INCRA) in 2010 to overcome the barriers of implementing a decree to recognize rights to these lands. As a result, the Superintendent of INCRA made resolution of the land dispute an institutional goal. FIAN also continued to support the indigenous Guarani-Kaiowá of Mato Grosso do Sul in their efforts to obtain access to their traditional lands currently used for growing monoculture crops for export. FIAN Brazil (together with the Indigenous Missionary Council, a reporter, and Guarani representative) organized educational activities throughout Europe about the consequences of the expansion of sugarcane cultivation. FIAN Brazil also advocated for a new resolution to continue the work of a special committee for monitoring violations of the human right to adequate food, and successfully proposed three of the five cases to be examined in the context of this committee. ▀

Ecuador

FIAN Ecuador contributed to several workshops addressing the right to food, food sovereignty, and land issues – particularly implementation of agrarian reform law in Ecuador. In April, they participated in the World People's Conference on Climate Change in Bolivia to strategize on how to better support local struggles. In the same month, FIAN Ecuador organized a fact-finding mission including Sergio Sauer, the Brazilian Special Rapporteur for the Right to Land, Territory and Food, to better understand the conflicts over water and land in the country. A report on the findings was presented at an international seminar on the situation of the right to food of marginalized people. In November, FIAN launched an Urgent Action to prompt support for an executive order allowing the immediate redistribution of land to peasant families in Ecuador, who are peacefully occupying lands utilized as leverage during the bank crisis. In June, FIAN's Secretary General sent an open letter to the Ecuadorian Government expressing concern about the arbitrary detention of several Ecuadorian peasant leaders accused of terrorism for protesting legislation undermining the human rights to water and food. ▀

Mexico

FIAN Mexico lobbied the Mexican House of Representatives to integrate the human right to food into the Mexican Constitution. In April, a draft of the legislation was approved, but was met with contention in the Senate, which favored removing the obligation of the State to recognize the right to food. FIAN Mexico then focused on encouraging Members of Parliament and the Senate to jointly adopt a proposal. In support of ratification of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Economic Rights, FIAN Mexico co-organized a workshop with the support of the UN High Commissioner of Human Rights. A separate right to food training project included eighteen workshops with a particular focus on gender in the states of Morelos and Guerrero. Other efforts during the year included the promotion of the FIAN International (et al.) publication *Red Sugar, Green Deserts*, on the effects of monocultures in Latin America on the human right to food, and creation of a joint report about the human right to food with the human rights commission of Mexico City. ▀

Honduras

FIAN has been strongly involved in the defense of human rights in Honduras, with a special focus on the rights to food and the rights of peasants. Along with local peasant movements, the National Human Rights Platform, and other international networks, FIAN intervened in the case of twenty-two peasants in the Bajo Aguán Valley who were killed by public and private security forces as a result of a land conflict. FIAN, the UN, the Inter-American Human Rights procedures, and the European Council, Commission and Parliament continued advocacy work on the case throughout the year. The National Human Rights Platform was the proud recipient of the 2010 Letelier-Moffitt Human Rights Award granted annually by the Institute for Policy Studies to recognize outstanding human rights defenders. FIAN Honduras is a very active member of this Platform, which pressured the post-coup d'état Honduran government to investigate the murders of journalists and resistance activists, and general threats to human rights amongst civil society organizations. The Platform also prepared a proposal for an alternative Truth Commission to address the human rights violations following the 2009 coup. ▲



RESOURCES



Financial Picture

Financial Picture (incorporating income and expenditure account) for the year ending on December 31st, 2010.

The financial picture is an extract of the information from the statutory accounts of the FIAN International Secretariat, audited by an independent chartered accountant (RWS – Riedl, Appel & Hornig GmbH). The audit certificate was signed in February 2011. The budgets of the FIAN Sections and Co-ordinations are not part of this financial picture. The accounts are in Euros (€).

	<i>2009 (in €)</i>	<i>2010 (in €)</i>
Income		
Project Income	1.216.849,78	1.255.696,45
Membership dues	48.077,85	73.118,34
Miscellaneous	39.525,91	48.499,88
Donations	9.496,41	5.982,14
Dissolution accruals	40.000,00	0,00
Interest income	1.641,06	1.643,62
Total income	1.345.591,01	1.384.940,43
Expenditures		
Personnel expenses	544.259,84	624.264,69
Transfer to sections	355.968,24	165.970,73
Travel expenses	96.295,62	112.644,97
Seminars/conferences	74.117,03	176.847,80
Publications	72.612,00	89.105,32
Office expenses	63.562,37	74.123,49
Rent	22.223,88	22.593,88
IEC	19.469,91	16.318,65
Accounting Costs	4.533,19	4.387,65
Depreciation	5.005,42	696,51
Solidarity Fund	0,00	930,00
Miscellaneous	1.444,51	0,00
Total expenditure	1.259.492,01	1.287.883,69
Result from ordinary activities	96.099,00	97.056,74
Flow to/from reserves	96.000,00	97.000,00
Result	99,00	56,74

FIAN Publications 2010

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

Periodicals

Right to Food and Nutrition Watch 2010

Third annual review focusing on the theme: “Land grabbing and nutrition: Challenges for global governance”

Editors: Flavio Luiz Schieck Valente, Martin Wolpold-Bosien, Maarten Immink, Léa Winter

Published by: Brot für die Welt, ICCO, FIAN International
English, Spanish, French
(October 2010)

Also available at: ↗ www.rtfn-watch.org

Right to Food Quarterly Vol.5 No.1

Analysis of trends in the right to food arena

Editor: Wilma Strothenke

Published by: FIAN International
English
(September 2010)

FIAN International Annual Report 2009

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

Editors: Wilma Strothenke, Nikki Smirl

Published by: FIAN International
English, Spanish
(June 2010)

Reports, Statements, and Policy Papers

International Policies

FIAN Statement on Committee on World Food Security Session

FIAN International’s formal statement on the issues discussed at the 36th session of the Committee on World Food Security, October 11–14 & 16, 2010

Edited and Published by: FIAN International
English, Spanish
(October 2010)

Report on Policies against Hunger VIII: Improving Governance for Food Security and Nutrition

Summarizes the outcomes of the International Conference Policies against Hunger VIII held in Berlin, Germany, in June 2010

Editor: FIAN International (Ute Hausmann, Gertrude Klaffenböck, Rebecca Steward, Martin Wolpold-Bosien)
Published by: German Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection
English
(September 2010)

Climate Change and Human Rights

English summary of full report by FIAN Germany

Authors: Teresa Schulze, Hanna Wang-Helmreich, Wolfgang Sterk

Published by: FIAN International
German, English (summary only)
(February 2010)

Access to land

Land Grabbing in Kenya and Mozambique

A report on research missions to Kenya and Mozambique and a human rights analysis of land grabbing

Edited and published by: FIAN International
English, French, Portuguese (excerpts only)
(April 2010)

Land Grab Study

Report regarding Advancing African Agriculture (AAA): The Impact of Europe's Policies and Practices on African Agriculture and Food Security

Authors: Alison Graham, Sylvain Aubry, Rolf Künemann, and Sofía Monsalve Suárez

Published by: FIAN International

English

(July 2010)

Stop land grabbing now!

Common declaration of more than 100 organizations and social movements that call for a stop to land grabbing

Edited and published by: La Via Campesina, FIAN International, Land Research and Action Network, GRAIN
English, Spanish, French
(April 2010)

FAO Voluntary Guidelines on Land and Natural Resources versus Principles for Responsible Agricultural Investment

A Comparison

Editors: FIAN International, Focus on the Global South, La Via Campesina, Social Network for Justice and Human Rights (REDE SOCIAL)

Published by: Global Campaign for Agrarian Reform
English, Spanish, French
(September 2010)

Why We Oppose the Principles for Responsible Agricultural Investment (RAI)

Briefing paper on the institutional problems with the RAI

Edited and Published by: The Global Campaign for Agrarian Reform, Land Research Action Network, FIAN International, Focus on the Global South, La Via Campesina, Social Network for Justice and Human Rights
English, Spanish, French
(October 2010)

Forerunning new international decision-making on land issues?

A report on the Committee on World Food Security's discussions on land in Rome from October 8–16, 2010

Author: Sofía Monsalve Suárez

Published by: FIAN International

English, Spanish

(October 2010)

Country reports

Kenya's Hunger Crisis – the Result of Right to Food Violations

Report of a joint international mission by the African Network on the Right to Food (RAPDA) and FIAN International

Editor: FIAN International

Published by: FIAN International and RAPDA

English

(February 2010)

The Right to Food in Guatemala

Final report on the international fact-finding mission to Guatemala in November 2009

Published by: FIAN International (coordinator), Via Campesina, CIFCA, CIDSE, FIDH, OMCT, OBS, APRODEV
English, Spanish
(March 2010)

Hunger and Violations of the Right to Food in Colombia

Executive Summary, full report available in Spanish

Published by: Colombian Platform for Human Rights, Democracy and Development, Observatorio de Seguridad Alimentaria y Nutricional, Comisión Interfranciscana, Fundaexpresión, with the support of FIAN International and German Agro Action
English, Spanish
(April 2010)

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List of the International Executive Committee Members

In 2010 the International Council of FIAN elected the following members of the International Executive Committee:

Irio Conti

President

Aurea Miclat-Teves

Vice President

Georg Näger

Treasurer

Anita Klum

Huguette Akplogan Dossa

Prem Dangal

Salvador Molina Velasquez

Suman

Tanja-Elisabeth Lenz

How to get active

Get informed

- » Subscribe to the FIAN newsletter
- » Subscribe to FIAN RSS/newsfeeds
- » Become a friend of FIAN on Facebook
↗ www.facebook.com/FIAN.International
- » Follow FIAN on Twitter
@FIANista

Get involved

- » Participate in FIAN Urgent Actions
- » Become a member of FIAN
- » Build up a local FIAN group where you live

Donate

International Bank transfer

FIAN – FoodFirst Information & Action Network
GLS Gemeinschaftsbank eG, Germany
IBAN: DE37 4306 0967 6020 0223 00
BIC/SWIFT Code: GENO DEM1 GLS

Donate online via PayPal

↗ www.fian.org/get-involved/donate

↗ www.fian.org

Acknowledgements

It is impossible for the average person to understand a figure as large as 925 million – the estimated number of people suffering from hunger in the world in 2010 according to the FAO. But it is conceivable to understand the struggle of one group, or one individual. FIAN makes the stories of these people accessible to the public. Of course, we cannot do this alone. We rely on our broad network of representative groups in Africa, the Americas, Asia and Europe, and the various civil society organizations and social movements we cooperate with to fight for human rights. FIAN International also owes gratitude to the activists and human rights defenders that take action, and the members and supporters that sign Urgent Actions, donate their time and money, and educate others about the right to food.

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UK

AJWS

USA

Brot für die Welt

Germany

EED – Church Development Service

Germany

European Commission

FAO – Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN

Ford Foundation

USA

ICCO – Interchurch Organization for Development Co-operation

Netherlands

Misereor

Germany

NORAD – Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation

Norway

RAPDA – African Right to Food Network

SIDA – Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency

Sweden

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Netherlands

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(p. 5, 12, 21, 23/24)

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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 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.

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