

// The third issue of the *Right to Food Quarterly* comes at a very special occasion. This year's World Food Day on October 16 is officially dedicated to the Right to Food, and FIAN sections and affiliations around the world are taking an advantage of this opportunity to start a series of seminars and conferences on the Right to Food. Moreover, FIAN honours this day with an outstanding event: on October 16, the Right to Food Campaign *Face It – Act Now* sponsored by European and worldwide FIAN sections and partners will be launched. This campaign aims to mobilize broadly – starting with

Europe – for a better understanding of the Right to Food and presents hereto related political demands to governments, particularly to European governments and the European Union.

This issue of the *Quarterly* starts with an overview and analysis of the current state of hunger and malnutrition in the world, followed by an article that asks the question why the millions of people who flee their countries due to unbearable situations of famine and chronic hunger are still treated as illegal migrants when seeking asylum, and not as legal refugees

from hunger. Read also about a latest case decision on children's ESC-Rights in Brazil, on the case of a German-backed coffee plantation in Uganda, and on the issue of enhanced monitoring of states' right to food policies.

With four additional pages, you will certainly find one or another interesting story in this *Quarterly*. And don't forget to visit [www.Face-it – Act-now.org/!](http://www.Face-it-Act-now.org/)

vol.2 \_ n.2, 2007

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# RIGHT TO FOOD QUARTERLY



## HUNGER: SCOPE AND TRENDS

Since 1995, the number of hungry people in developing countries has *increased*<sup>1</sup>. Without changes in global policies and practices, it will be impossible to meet the 1996 World Food Summit (WFS) goal of halving hunger by 2015.

As agreed at the WFS, food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life. With respect to sufficiency, despite yearly production fluctuations, global food supplies remain adequate.<sup>2</sup> Several factors will impinge on future food availability:

- Bio-fuel demand is likely to remain strong, absorbing grain at the expense of food and feed.
- Rising industrial and household water use may lead to increased food prices due to lack of agricultural water.
- Climate change is likely to lead to more frequent and intense natural disasters, and to drastically reduced tropical food production, especially in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Access to food is inadequate and unequal for hundreds of millions of people. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), 820 million people in developing countries (17 percent of the populace) are food-insecure, along with 25 million in transition countries and 9 million in the North. Sixty percent of hungry people live in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia, hunger's "centre of gravity"<sup>3</sup>. In both regions, the number of food-insecure people has increased since 1990; the number fell in East and Southeast Asia and Latin America.

These dry facts and figures describe real human beings. For example, an Egyptian man said to researchers, "My children were hungry and I told them the rice is cooking, until they fell asleep from hunger."<sup>4</sup> Kone Figue, a rice farmer in Côte d'Ivoire, uses hand tools on her small plot, and rarely grows enough to get her family of eight through a full year.<sup>5</sup>

## CONSEQUENCES AND COSTS OF HUNGER

Food insecurity has deadly consequences. One developing-country preschool child in four suffers malnutrition; the proportion is much higher in South Asia, due in part to women's low social status,<sup>6</sup> and in the poorest countries<sup>7</sup>. Malnutrition leads to 5.6 million child deaths a year. Those who survive face impaired development, causing poor school and work performance and reduced lifetime earnings. Malnourished mothers are likely to have low birth weight babies who are at

risk of early death and malnutrition. One generation thus passes malnutrition to the next.<sup>8</sup>

Even if a person consumes enough calories, this does not guarantee adequate vitamin and mineral intake. Two billion people suffer from anaemia, usually because of iron deficiency, including 75 percent of pregnant women and 63 percent of preschoolers in South and Southeast Asia. Anaemic women face greater maternal mortality risk, and are more likely to have low birth weight babies. Anaemia can impair child health and development, and limit learning capacity and work performance. High levels of iron-deficiency anaemia have persisted since 1980. Vitamin A deficiency (VAD) afflicts 40 percent of developing-country preschoolers, leading to blindness and a million child deaths a year. In India, VAD affects 60 percent of preschoolers. Pregnant women with VAD face increased mortality and mother-to-child HIV transmission risks. VAD declined in all developing regions during the 1990s, but at slow rates.<sup>9</sup>

Hunger is costly. It robs humanity of future scientists, creative artists, community and national leaders, and productive workers. Malnourished mothers and children experience difficult pregnancies and illnesses costing \$30 billion annually. Lost productivity and income from deaths, disability, absenteeism, and poor school performance totals hundreds of billions of dollars yearly.<sup>10</sup>

## A DOUBLE BURDEN

Malnutrition takes many forms. Globally, more than a billion adults are overweight, of whom some 300 million are considered clinically obese. Obesity greatly increases the risk of contracting heart disease, stroke, cancer, and diabetes. Overweight is not primarily a by-product of affluence. Under-nutrition and overweight increasingly co-exist in communities, and even the same households, including many poor households, in both developed and developing countries. The main causes of overweight and obesity are increased consumption of foods high in calories, saturated fats, and sugars, and reduced physical activity.<sup>11</sup>

## HUNGER CRISES

For 2007, the United Nations appealed for \$3.9 billion dollars in food and other emergency aid for 27 million people in 29 countries, mostly in Africa, in addition to the humanitarian crises in Afghanistan and Iraq.<sup>12</sup> Despite recent major natural disasters, e.g., the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, war increasingly causes these crises. The Darfur, Sudan conflict is typical: armed parties (particularly pro-government militias) destroy crops, uproot civilians, block aid, and use food to reward allies and punish enemies. In 2006, conflict displaced 39 million people within their own countries or across borders as refugees. Many of these uprooted people spend years in camps, relying on humanitarian assistance.

1 FAO, *The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2006* (Rome: FAO).

2 See Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *The State of Food and Agriculture 2006* (Rome: FAO, 2006). Most FAO publications can be downloaded at [fao.org](http://fao.org).

3 D. Wiesmann, A global hunger index, Food Consumption and Nutrition Division Discussion Paper No. 212 (Washington: IFPRI, 2006).

4 World Bank, *Poverty Trends and Voices of the Poor* (Washington: The World Bank, 2000).

5 E. Schioler, Good News from Africa: Farmers, Agricultural Research, and Food in the Pantry (Washington: International Food Policy Research Institute [IFPRI], 1998). Most IFPRI publications can be downloaded at [www.ifpri.org](http://www.ifpri.org).

6 L.C. Smith and L. Haddad, *Explaining Child Malnutrition in Developing countries: A Cross-Country Analysis*. Research Report No. 111.

7 UNICEF, *The State of the World's Children 2007* (New York: UNICEF 2006).

8 FAO, *The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2004* (Rome: FAO, 2004); World Health Organization, *Nutrition Challenges*, posted at <http://who.int/nutrition/challenges/en/index.html>.

9 United Nations System Standing Committee on Nutrition (SCN), *5th Report on the World Nutrition Situation* (Geneva: SCN, 2004).

10 FAO, *The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2004*.

11 SCN, *5th Report*.

12 U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, *Humanitarian Appeal 2007*, Posted at <http://www.reliefweb.int/rwb.nsf/db900SID/KH11-6V592C?OpenDocument>.

## CAUSES OF HUNGER

Hunger results mainly from lack of access to resources to produce food and income to buy it. Eighty percent of hungry people live in rural areas. Ironically, half are smallholder farmers. Scarce credit, poor roads, difficult access to government services (health, education, extension), and resource degradation keep them from producing enough to meet their families' needs. Another 20 percent are landless rural labourers, while 10 percent are pastoralists, fishers, and forest users. Urban poor people account for the rest.<sup>13</sup>

In addition to poverty, there are several other key forces behind hunger:

- **Powerlessness.** Too often, people who are poor and food-insecure do not have organizations that are accountable to them and capable of articulating their interests to policy makers and other power holders. Policies therefore work in favor of those who are already well-off, and governments frequently place a low priority on assuring that low-income people can meet their needs.
- **Demographic Factors.** World population will increase from the current 6.5 billion to 7.2 billion in 2015 and over 9 billion in 2050, with virtually all the growth taking place in developing countries. Urban dwellers will account for nearly half of the developing world's population by 2015, and a majority by 2020.<sup>14</sup> Population growth and urbanization both increase demand for food. Also, when people move to cities, they tend to shift consumption to foods that require less preparation time, and to more meat, milk, fruit, and vegetables; they also tend to have more sedentary lifestyles.<sup>15</sup> These trends have implications for the balance between food and feed uses of cereal, cereal prices, inequality in access to food, obesity, and natural resource management in the future.
- **Environmental factors.** Environmental problems are closely related to food insecurity. In many developing countries, poverty, low agricultural productivity, and environmental degradation interact in a vicious downward spiral. Agricultural growth, poverty alleviation, and environmental sustainability are not necessarily complementary, and achieving all three simultaneously cannot be taken for granted. Win-win-win outcomes depend on specific social, economic, and agroecological circumstances.<sup>16</sup>

- **Discrimination.** Cultural practices and government policies that discriminate against people on the basis of gender, age, race, religion, and ethnicity contribute to food insecurity. For example, women often face cultural and legal barriers to obtaining productive resources. However, when female farmers have the same access to education, farm inputs, and work experience as men, agricultural productivity increases significantly, with favorable implications for both farm incomes and food availability.<sup>17</sup>
- **Public spending priorities.** Given the concentration of hunger in rural areas, broad-based agricultural and rural development are crucial for food security. Yet, on average, low-income-country governments allocate 19 percent of their budgets to the military and 5 percent to agriculture.<sup>18</sup>
- **Inadequate and incoherent development cooperation policies.** In 2003, Northern countries' aid to developing-country agriculture was half the level of 20 years earlier<sup>19</sup>. Other developed-country policies undercut efforts to achieve food security in the South:
  - Northern farm subsidies and trade barriers cost developing countries tens of billions of dollars in export earnings and farm value added.
  - Despite debt relief initiatives, developing-country governments still owe developed countries and the international financial institutions \$2.7 trillion.<sup>20</sup> This means that for many developing countries, debt service obligations exceed the volume of aid received and gobble up scarce resources that might otherwise support food security.
  - France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States provide 60 percent of arms transfers to Africa,<sup>21</sup> contributing to conflict, instability, and hunger.
- **Concentrated market power.** Most of the world's farmers are smallholders, cultivating less than two hectares. But other parts of the global food system are characterized by large-scale operations and high concentration. For example, the top 10 seed companies control almost half of the \$21 billion global commercial seed market and the 10 leading food retailers command 24 percent of the \$3.5 trillion world market. With such a tilted playing field, it is hard for smallholders to get a fair share of the value chain, although rapid growth in markets for such high-value agricultural products as fruits, vegetables, fish, and meat present opportunities for both increased incomes and employment in production, processing, and marketing.<sup>22</sup>

13 U.N. Millennium Project, *Halving Hunger: It Can be Done*, Summary Version of the Report of the Task Force on Hunger (New York: The Earth Institute at Columbia University, 2005).

14 U.N. Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Division On-line Database, accessible at <http://www.un.org/esa/population/unpop.htm>.

15 M.W. Rosegrant, M.S. Paisner, S. Meijer, and J. Witcover, *Global Food Projections to 2020: Emerging Trends and Alternative Futures* (Washington: IFPRI, 2001).

16 Ibid.

17 A.R. Quisumbing, ed., *Household Decisions, Gender, Development: A Synthesis of Recent Research* (Baltimore and London: The Johns Hopkins University Press for IFPRI, 2003).

18 FAO, *Mobilizing the Political Will and Resources to Banish Hunger: Technical Background Documents, The World Food Summit: five years later* (Rome: FAO, 2001); World Bank, *World Development Indicators 2007*, CD-ROM.

19 FAO, *The State of Food and Agriculture 2006*.

20 Ibid.

21 Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, *SIPRI Yearbook 2007* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2006).

22 J. Von Braun, *The World Food Situation: An Overview*, posted at <http://www.ifpri.org/pubs/agem05/yvbagm2005.asp>; ETC Group (Action Group on Erosion, Technology, and Concentration), *Oligopoly, Inc.: Concentration in Corporate Power*, Communiqué No. 91, November/December 2005 (Winnipeg, Canada: ETC Group), posted at [http://www.etcgroup.org/en/issues/corporate\\_concentration.html?ppage=2&limit=15&language=English&keyword=Corporate\\_Concentration..](http://www.etcgroup.org/en/issues/corporate_concentration.html?ppage=2&limit=15&language=English&keyword=Corporate_Concentration..)

### PROSPECTS FOR A FOOD-SECURE WORLD

Millennium Development Goal 1 calls for cutting the proportion of hungry people in half by 2015. A rough measure for achieving this would be to reduce the preschool malnutrition rate in developing countries to 15 percent. This would require \$29.6 billion in annual public investment in rural roads, education, clean water, agricultural research, and irrigation over 1995-2015, or \$8 billion more per year than anticipated levels.<sup>23</sup> Such expenditures are unquestionably feasible in a multi-trillion dollar global economy.

But it will take more than just money to reach the target. Improvements in female education and women's social status are also necessary.<sup>24</sup> Tackling the causes of hunger briefly outlined here means challenging powerful vested interests in both developing and developed countries. This helps to explain why governments continue to make promises to end or at least reduce hunger, and then fail to carry them out. Poor and hungry people do not make up a powerful political constituency in most countries, so food insecurity seldom has a high place on policy agendas. It will take the development of a more powerful global movement against hunger – composed of those who are themselves food-insecure and their non-hungry allies – to change this situation.

### FOR FURTHER READING

A. Bouët, D. Orden, and S. Melvel. 2006. Two Opportunities to Deliver on the Doha Development Pledge. IFPRI Research Brief.

IPCC (Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change). 2007. Climate Change 2007: Impacts, Adaptation, and Vulnerability, Working Group II Contribution to the Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change Fourth Assessment Report – Summary for Policymakers. Posted at <http://www.ipcc.ch/>.

Messer, E., M.J. Cohen, and T. Marchione (2001). Conflict: A cause and effect of hunger. Environmental Change and Security Project Report No. 7. Washington: Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, Smithsonian Institution. Pp. 1-16.

Rosegrant, M.W. et al. 2005. Agriculture and Achieving the Millennium Development Goals. Washington, DC: The World Bank.

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It is unacceptable that a significant part of the world population, in special of that living in rural areas of the global south, daily faces hunger and malnutrition. Several intergovernmental conferences including the World Food Summit – five years later (Rome, 2002) blamed the failure for reducing hunger on the “lack of political will and investments” in the part of governments.

We believe differently. In reality, most governments have made the political decision, especially those of rich and powerful countries, to use their “will and resources” – not in favour of the hungry, though. Instead, they decided to implement a market-led development model that reproduces the causes of hunger and malnutrition. Many southern governments were forced into it by structural adjustments and trade liberalization treaties. The few governments that have tried to do it differently have been pressured from intergovernmental organizations and economically powerful governments to change their policies.

However, the states and governments, as well as intergovernmental bodies, must not only be called upon their moral obligation to reduce hunger and malnutrition. They have the legal obligation to do so. The Right to Adequate Food is a human right in equal standing with other human rights. It is inscribed in the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as well as in some regional Human Rights and several national constitutions.

It is important to highlight that the Universal Bill of Human Rights is the conquest of the continued struggle - over centuries - of social groups and people against oppression and discrimination, and for the regulation of power. It was this struggle that forced States to commit themselves to the fulfilment of Human Rights. And it will only be through more social mobilization and struggle that we will be able to guarantee realization of human rights for all human beings.

We stand at an important crossroads in human history, and the struggle against hunger and malnutrition is at its centre. The market-led development model has already demonstrated its limitations to guarantee good quality of life for the majority of the humankind. Its continued implementation will cause more inequalities, more gender discrimination, less biodiversity, more intensive agriculture and will speed up the global warming, affecting the environment, food production and food quality.

Civil society has to intensify its mobilization against Hunger and for a better world. Using the existing human rights instruments can strengthen our capacity to hold governments and international organizations accountable for the obligations they committed themselves to. The FIAN Campaign Face-It-Act-Now, launched on World Food Day will contribute to this direction. It's goal is: Worldwide primacy of Human Rights, which establishes the promotion of human dignity for all as the central priority of humankind.

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<sup>23</sup> Von Braun, The World Food Situation.

<sup>24</sup> Smith and Haddad, Explaining Child Malnutrition.

“Monitoring States’ Right to Food Policies” was set up at the 2006 meeting of FIAN International Council as one of five political priorities for the future programmatic approach to defend the right to food worldwide. This decision was based on the comprehension, that it is not enough just to understand States’ obligations under international law concerning the right to food. Strong and precise monitoring mechanisms are needed at the national and international level to clearly identify compliance or non-compliance of States with their obligations in regard to the right to food.

It is the traditional role of Human Rights organisations to be watchdogs in their field of work, by screening public policies and documenting cases of violations under the criteria defined in international human rights law. Concerning the Right to Food, main sources for such work have been the International Covenant on ESC Rights and the General Comments of the UN Committee on ESC Rights. During the last ten years, this Committee has received an increasing number of parallel state reports from Human Rights and other civil society organisations around the globe.

An important political step into the direction of further monitoring was taken in November 2004, when the FAO Council approved the Voluntary Guidelines on the Right to Food. From our perspective, the Guidelines have an enormous potential in both mainstreaming and monitoring the right to food in relation to specific national and international policies<sup>1</sup>.

With support of the FAO Right to Food Unit and the German Agro Action, FIAN has in 2007 developed and tested a new instrument concerning the monitoring challenge: “The Voluntary Guidelines on the Right to Food as a Human Rights Based Monitoring Tool”<sup>2</sup>. The general methodology of the draft instrument, which has been examined in national workshops in India, Uganda, Bolivia, Colombia and Guatemala, is founded on the concept of monitoring the performance of states in regards to human rights and presents quantitative as well as qualitative indicators which enable civil society based organizations at the local level to elaborate a national report that covers all aspects of the right to food.

The monitoring tool based on the Guidelines contributes to the current international debate on appropriate instruments on how to monitor state’s performance in relation to ESC Rights in general. Different initiatives are currently under way and will be presented in Geneva with the competent UN Human Rights institutions on November 1, 2007. Very interesting methods and tools have been developed by FAO<sup>3</sup>, UN High Commissioner on Human Rights<sup>4</sup>, the IBSA Project conducted by Mannheim University and FIAN<sup>5</sup>. All the monitoring processes aim at the definition of a set of substantial and precise indicators, that will be able to measure and evaluate progress of the right to food and other ESC rights at the

national level. A specific General Comment could deal with that issue in future.

On FAO level, the issue of monitoring has been considered as rather complicated. The process of state reporting in the follow-up of the World Food Summit at the Committee on Food Security (CFS) could be an entry point within FAO to discuss mechanisms to monitor the performance of member states in regard to the right to food. However, as few but influential member states have been reluctant to fully accept the right to food as a human right, a monitoring mechanism based on this concept is not to be expected soon at the CFS. Nevertheless, civil society groups will use the Right to Food Guidelines as a monitoring tool, and present the results at FAO events, like for example, the FAO Conference in November 2007. Within the network of the International Planning Committee on Food Security (IPC) and particularly the Working Group on the Right to Food, civil society based organizations are highly motivated to procure that a specialized and Guidelines-based monitoring process will be in place. As a mid-term perspective the FAO Member States should realize that a rights-based monitoring mechanism could become a better instrument of state reporting than current methodology.

Additionally, innovative monitoring instruments at the national level have shown efficiency in terms of implementing international standards into national procedures and supporting the victims of human rights violations in defending their right to food. An example of major success has been the national rapporteurship on the right to food in Brazil. To establish independent and professional monitoring mechanisms at the national and local level has proved to be very useful, different countries also show an interest in establishing similar mechanisms within their national context – a process where FIAN would be interested in supporting and assisting.

From our point of view, it is crucial that the current increasing interest in national monitoring processes will maintain to be strongly linked to classical research and documentation of human rights violations. Therefore, the new set of tools developed by FIAN also includes an updated guide on “How to Document Right to Food Violations”<sup>6</sup>. Both the violations approach to concrete cases and the monitoring approach to public policies are highly interdependent, and should therefore be developed in integrated methodologies.

There is a need to build up alliances at the monitoring level, that would lead to the strengthening of cooperation in relation to methods and of securing a close look at successes and failures of the realization of the right to food. Appropriate means to evaluate state’s performance in the field are at hand, and it’s up both to assist states with technical advice and to put pressure on them from a watchdog perspective, in order to achieve the overarching goal: the enjoyment of the right to adequate food for each person on the planet.

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1 See Publication: FIAN: How to Use the Voluntary Guidelines. May 2007, [www.fian.org](http://www.fian.org)

2 See draft version on [www.fian.org](http://www.fian.org)

3 See IPRFD/FAO Project on Practical Methods for Monitoring the Right to Adequate Food at country level [www.fao.org/righttofood/kc/downloads/vl/docs/Oshaug\\_IPRFD%20FAO%20VG%2017%2007febr06.ppt](http://www.fao.org/righttofood/kc/downloads/vl/docs/Oshaug_IPRFD%20FAO%20VG%2017%2007febr06.ppt)

4 See [http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/\(Symbol\)/c8603b9f3a39579ac1257186003898c2?Opendocument](http://www.unhcr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/(Symbol)/c8603b9f3a39579ac1257186003898c2?Opendocument)

5 See <http://ibsa.uni-mannheim.de>

6 See [www.fian.org](http://www.fian.org)

## INTRODUCTION<sup>1</sup>

In many regions of the world, particularly in Africa, famine, destitution and chronic hunger are forcing people to leave their homes, lands and even their countries.<sup>2</sup> Yet hunger and violations of the human right to food are still not seen by the international community as good enough reasons or sufficient legal grounds for people to flee their countries. Tens of thousands of people fleeing hunger and famine and crossing borders, especially if they try to flee to developed countries, are treated as 'illegal migrants', arrested and held in often appalling conditions in detention and processing centres. Refused asylum, they are usually forcibly deported back home, even when their lives remain at risk from famine and chronic hunger.

The situation is particularly dramatic for people fleeing from Sub-Saharan Africa where the number of chronically undernourished people is estimated to have increased from 169 million in 1990 to 206 million people in 2001/3.<sup>3</sup> Despite the tragic events in Ceuta and Melilla in 2005, tens of thousands of Africans continues to flee to Europe's shores. During 2006, the Spanish authorities detained at least 28,000 people arriving in the Canary Islands after a dangerous journey across the open sea in overcrowded open fishing boats, and at least 16,000 people have reached Lampedusa Island in the last year.<sup>4</sup> Nobody knows how many thousands of other people have died trying to make the journey, but bodies regularly wash up on the beaches or fishermen catch them in their nets.<sup>5</sup> Many arrive in a terrible condition, too weak to walk or stand, chronically undernourished. Yet most of them are detained and held in processing or detention centres, before being forcibly repatriated to their own countries. The response of Europeans is increasingly militarised to control immigration and patrol the borders. The European Union has set up rapid reaction teams of border guards acting in a new institution called Frontex. Frontex's first 'Operation Hera II' has involved patrol boats, airplanes and helicopters from Spain, Italy, Finland and Portugal operating along the borders of Mauritania, Senegal and Cape Verde to intercept boats and return them immediately to shore.<sup>6</sup>

A total of about 800,000 refugees did actively seek asylum and refugee status in North America, Europe as well as in developing countries in 2006.<sup>7</sup> European governments are not the only ones who see the drama of migration as primarily a military and police problem. Hundreds of thousands of Mexicans and other Latin Americans attempt to cross the border into the US. When tens of thousands of people were arrested trying to cross illegally the border during 2005 and 2006, President Bush signed into law the Secure Fence Act which plans to build a 1,125km fence to prevent people from illegally crossing the border.<sup>8</sup> Australia has also been criticized for the tightening of its migration and

asylum policies.<sup>9</sup> The thousands of people, who have been fleeing famine and food shortages in North Korea, by crossing the borders to China, have often faced immediate deportation. North Koreans who are caught whilst crossing the border or who are deported by the Chinese authorities are very likely to be subjected to ill and degrading treatment, including forced labour in prison camps in their country of origin.<sup>10</sup>

## THE NEED TO RECOGNIZE REFUGEES FROM HUNGER

The rights of refugees are legally protected under the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees. Elaborated in the aftermath of World War II to protect people fleeing from communist countries, the objective of international refugee law was aimed to protect people having a well-founded fear of persecution, understood as severe violations of their civil and political rights. Legal developments at the regional level, in particular in Africa and Latin America, have broadened the concept to protect those escaping generalized violence, foreign aggression, internal conflicts, massive violation of human rights or other circumstances seriously disturbing public order. Many States in the past 50 years have also applied the Convention of 1951 to other asylum seekers, such as the „person considered worthy of receiving asylum for humanitarian reasons“ (Declaration on Territorial Asylum of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, 1977). And the UNHCR in its practice has considerably broadened the categories of people of its concern, to assist and protect today the internally displaced persons (IDPs), stateless people or asylum seekers. Yet, violations of economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to be free from hunger, have never been really taken into account.

Every human being has the right to food and the fundamental right to be free from hunger. These rights have been recognized in Article 11 of the ICESCR, as well as in many other international instruments, without any territorial or jurisdictional limitation. In several of his reports to the United Nations, Jean Ziegler has presented the legal consequences of this absence of territorial or jurisdictional limitations: States have the obligations to respect, protect and fulfil the right to food of all people, living within their jurisdiction or in other countries. In this particular context, this means that Governments have a legal obligation to help the refugees from hunger, regardless of their country of origin or status.

Today, most Governments treat people crossing their borders without permission as criminals, even if they are fleeing from life-threatening consequences of hunger and severe violations of their human right to food. Most are detained and then forcibly repatriated to their countries, even if their lives will be threatened by hunger and famine in the country they are forced to return to. We consider this to be a shame on humanity. A refugee from hunger, like any other refugee, is forced to flee. Hunger is an immediate threat to his life, and the lives of his family. He has no choice. Especially when famine strikes a whole country or a whole region (for example the 2005 famine in the Sahel zone of sub-Saharan Africa), refugees from hunger have no other choice but to flee across international borders. As

1 This paper is largely inspired by reports presented by the Special Rapporteur to the UN Commission on Human Rights and General Assembly. For more information about the work and the reports on the right to food of the UN Special Rapporteur and the Research Unit, see [www.righttofood.org](http://www.righttofood.org)

2 UN Document A/HRC/4/30

3 FAO, State of World Food Insecurity 2006

4 BBC NEWS: 2006/11/30 <http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/2/hi/europe/6160633.stm>

5 BBC NEWS: 2006/10/24 [http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/2/hi/talking\\_point/5404816.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/2/hi/talking_point/5404816.stm)

6 BBC NEWS: 2006/09/10 <http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/2/hi/europe/5331896.stm>

7 UNHCR, State of the World's Refugees 2006

8 BBC NEWS: 2006/10/27 <http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/2/hi/americas/6090060.stm>

9 Human Rights Watch <http://hrw.org/english/docs/2006/08/11/austra13964.htm>

10 See Amnesty International, 4 May 2000, <http://web.amnesty.org/library/Index/ENGASA170212000?open&of=ENG-PRK>.

## Mainstreaming the Justiciability at National Level in Latin America

by Ana María Suárez Franco

the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights rightly stated “there is little to distinguish between a person facing death through starvation and another threatened with arbitrary execution because of her political beliefs.”<sup>11</sup>

The principle of non-refoulement is a well established principle of international law. It means that no person shall be rejected, returned or extradited to a territory where his life, physical integrity or liberty would be threatened. Accordingly, the Special Rapporteur on torture and other, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, M. Nowak, urged all Governments to :

“observe the principle of non-refoulement scrupulously and not expel any person to frontiers or territories where they might run the risk of human rights violations, regardless of whether they have officially been recognized as refugees”<sup>12</sup>

We therefore argue that legal protection must be extended to protect people fleeing from hunger and other severe violations of their right to food. We call for the creation of a new legal instrument to protect people fleeing from hunger and violations of the right to food. Under this new legal instrument, they would be recognized as “refugees from hunger” and granted, at the very minimum, the right of non-refoulement with temporary protection, so that they are not sent back to a country where hunger and famine threatens their lives. While national governments always bear primary responsibility for respecting the right to food, if people flee their countries for their lives receiving countries should not send them back to situations of hunger that threaten their lives. We believe that the increasing criminalisation of migration will simply lead to further violations of the right to life and the right to food. We believe that, only by recognizing their obligations to the world’s hunger refugees, will all Governments finally take seriously their responsibility for eradicating global hunger. This means that rich, developed countries will see that they cannot avoid taking action to eradicate hunger across the world.

*Jean Ziegler has been the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food since his appointment by the UN Commission on Human Rights in September 2000. He is also Honorary Professor at the University of Geneva and at Paris, Sorbonne. He wrote several books, including L’Empire de la honte (Editions Fayard, 2005) which has been translated in several languages. Sally-Anne Way and Christophe Golay, Associate Researchs, support his mandate through research carried out under the auspices of the Research Unit on the Right to Food based at the Graduate Institute of Development Studies, University of Geneva.*

Two new documents were launched in the framework of the justiciability work of FIAN: a Handbook for Lawyers and a paper on How to promote the Justiciability of the Right to adequate food in Central America.

The Handbook aims to give lawyers instruments at hand for the legal advocacy of cases of violations of the right to food at the national level. It provides them with standards and legal resources on the right to food, concepts around the justiciability of the right to food and on documentation and analysis of violations as well as legal strategies for advocacy work. The book is topped off by an information service chapter. Arguments and strategies as well as comparative law that can be useful for the justiciability work are presented in the text in a practical manner.

The second document is of a more political nature and focuses on Central America, although it contains concepts and ideas useful for other regions as well. It analyses the concepts of justiciability and enforceability (exigibilidad) of ESC-Rights, the relevance and potential of the justiciability to improve the situation of victims of violations, obstacles and challenges for the justiciability in Central America, and the definition of a justiciability strategy based on five different dimensions in the fields of education and training, litigation, lobby work, media and research.

Currently these documents are available only in Spanish. More information at [suarez-franco@fian.org](mailto:suarez-franco@fian.org).

- *Guía Práctica para Abogados. La Justiciabilidad del Derecho a la Alimentación a nivel nacional, FIAN International, September 2007*
- *Cómo promover la Justiciabilidad del Derecho a la Alimentación en Centro América. Una propuesta estratégica multidimensional, FIAN International September 2007*

<sup>11</sup> Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Fact Sheet 20, Human Rights and Refugees.

<sup>12</sup> UN Document, A/60/316, para. 52

On 12th March 2007, the promoters of justice for children and adolescents of the “Ministério Público Brasileiro” in the state of Alagoas, Brazil, issued a public action by judicial power, claiming violations against ESCR of community members of Orla Lagunar de Maceló. These violations were caused due to poverty conditions faced by the communities.

### THE FACTS

Members of four communities living in the favelas in the Brazilian state of Alagoas were excluded in an unjustified manner from an assistance health programme for families, implemented by the municipal government. This exclusion was affecting especially children and adolescents. Because of their poverty conditions, women were facing difficulties when trying to access medical attention during pregnancy and birth. They encountered obstacles to register their newborn babies, and without registration they were namely not enabled to have access to social programmes, designed to facilitate the access of poor people to food and to social services. Since their birth, these children have been condemned to live in undignified conditions. The Ministério Público<sup>2</sup> proved food insecurity with clear statistics. For example, 20% of the children were experiencing a strong reduction in growth and 69 percent of the children between the age of 6 months and 2 years as well as 26,6 percent of the children between 3 and 5 years were anaemic. Moreover, the communities had no toilets, no regular access to drinking water, lacked electric energy to cook and houses were not in adequate conditions to live in. The rights to work and education were not properly realized either. These poverty conditions have led to prostitution and sexual exploitation of children and adolescents, and conducted teenagers to consume drugs.

### THE CLAIM

In its claim, the Ministério Público alleged that the rights to dignified life, food, housing, water, health, education, work, as well as the family and cultural human rights of the community members have been violated.

The legal argumentation of the Ministério Público was based on diverse arguments, such as: a) The direct applicability of Human Rights Treaties at the national level, b) the obligation to implement human rights for all branches of state power and c) the obligation to give priority protection to vulnerable groups. The claimants answered to diverse arguments normally used by judges and public authorities in order to refuse the justiciability of ESCR. Moreover, they emphasized the importance of the rights of children and adolescents and of the state obligation to guarantee the use of more effective ways towards the realization of human rights. To support the claim, the Ministério quoted various judicial decisions of the Federal Court of Justice in which this judicial body had recognized the right to health and vital minimum as justiciable rights.

### THE MUNICIPAL DEFENCE

During the process, the municipal authorities attempted to avoid the enforcement of their obligations alleging that: a) The Ministério did not mention the violated legal norm in the claim b) the petitions would be judicially inadmissible, c) the Ministério would lack interest and/or competence to present the claim and c) the Ministério should claim simultaneously the Federal Union and State of Alagoas.

### THE JUDGE

Nevertheless, the judge considered the case relating more to the effective realization of the violated substantive rights, than to the mere procedural obstacles. At the end of the process, he recognized the undignified conditions in which children and adolescents were living. He affirmed these conditions would be the cause of irreversible negative consequences for the victims' lives. The judge also emphasized the obligation of state authorities to effectively implement human rights recognized in the international human rights treaties ratified by Brazil and in different national legal sources.

### THE DECISION

The judge ordered to the impeached authority the adoption of specific measures, among them a) The creation of a multidisciplinary commission to elaborate a socio-economic profile of the affected children and adolescents, in order to identify affected persons, their age, name, birth register etc. b) to make available within the next 60 days adequate conditions to allow the communitarian councils the reception of complaints and other activities, addressed to protect children and adolescents. c) to present within the next 30 days, a timeline in order to plan the amplification of the municipal network for the protection of children and adolescents living under risky conditions, including the establishment of places where they can live until they reach the age of 18. This network should be in place within 180 days. d) to adopt further specific measures in order to ensure the children to have access to education and the realization of other violated rights.

In his decision, the judge recognized the ESCR obligations of Brazil. Moreover, he ordered the adoption of immediate measures towards the realization of the violated rights and set up concrete deadlines in order to ensure proper compliance with his decision in a reasonable period of time.

For more information or to obtain a soft copy of the claim and decision (only available in Portuguese), please contact: [suarez-franco@fian.org](mailto:suarez-franco@fian.org).

*Ana María Suárez Franco is the Coordinator of the Justiciability Programme at FIAN International Secretariat*

<sup>1</sup> Estado de Alagoas, Poder Judiciário, 28ª vara cível da capital – infância e juventude. Proc. Nº. 4.830/07, 10.09.2007. Dr. Fábio José Bittencourt Araújo.

<sup>2</sup> The Brazilian Public Ministry is a quasi judicial institution for the protection and promotion of human rights. It is defined by the Brazilian Federal Constitution as a permanent, essential institution which functions in accordance with the Principles of Paris. It is constitutionally responsible for the defense of the legal framework, of the democratic regime and for the promotion and protection of human rights, especially in what it refers to the realization of State's obligations.

## Launch of the Right to Food Campaign

60 years of existence of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is a perfect occasion to reinforce the principle of indivisibility of human rights and strengthen the economic, social and cultural human rights. On October 16, 2007 - World Food Day – the European campaign Face It-Act Now will be launched. National sections of FIAN International from Europe (Germany, France, Belgium, The Netherlands, Switzerland, Austria, Sweden and Norway) as well as from Brazil, Ghana and India, together with the Hungarian rural development foundation Gaia Alapítvány and other counterparts join efforts in the campaign Face It Act Now – Fighting hunger with human rights. The common aim is to make the Right to Food known to the general public and to strengthen the case-work of violations of the right to food and make it more successful.

Face It-Act Now: Face reality now, confront it, challenge it and act now. If you don't do it, nobody will. This year's World Food Day campaign comes just in time, as this year the World Food Day is officially dedicated by the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) to the human right to food. It is time to seriously start confronting hunger with human rights.

The core of the campaign will be the multilingual website. There, current cases of violations of the human right to food will be documented and followed, encouraging people to sign Urgent Action letter campaigns. Central interactive element, though, is the possibility for each and everyone to join in by signing the campaign's political Call for Action, which calls upon governments, and in particular the European Union, to consequently implement the Right to Food in all of their policies (see below), among other demands. And it is not just about signing the call for action but also about actually facing it. You can upload your picture to the website and thus become part of an ever growing Faces photo gallery of supporters for the right to food. Namely, hunger has a lot of faces, as many as there are people with the right to food - over 6 billion.

Face it - this will also be taken literally by the campaign in the form of an exhibition, which will be dedicated to all people whose right to food has been violated and to all people who have become human rights defenders in the countries of the Global South. Some of them have and still do risk their lives for a world free from hunger and discrimination. These people deserve not to be treated as statistics but as human beings with faces and real and powerful live stories.

At the end of 2008, the campaign will go into its second halftime and the 60th birthday of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights will be the perfect forum to appraise the signature and photo collection. These will be handed over during the festivities to the European Parliament to make a political statement.

*Britta Schweighöfer is Secretary General of FIAN Germany*

### CALL FOR ACTION BY FIAN – THE INTERNATIONAL RIGHT TO FOOD ORGANISATION

We call on all governments to give priority to human rights over vested interests. They shall design their policies in such a way that supports and does not violate the right to food – at home and abroad. We urge European governments and the European Union to assume a leading role in realising the right to food worldwide.

We demand that:

- the realisation of the right to food becomes a priority for agriculture, development cooperation and consumer protection policies in Europe;
- trade and investment agreements do not undermine the right to food in third countries;
- the right to food is firmly implemented in policies of the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation and its member States;
- international financial institutions like the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund as well as private enterprises are made accountable under international human rights law;
- a strong individual complaint procedure to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights is realized. The complaint procedure must strengthen the position of those whose right to food is being violated.
- human rights defenders worldwide are actively protected and promoted. People risk their lives in the struggle for the right to food – they are entitled to protection.

For more information visit [www.face-it-act-now.org](http://www.face-it-act-now.org)

**German-backed coffee plantation benefits from forced eviction of local Ugandan community from their land, resulting in human rights abuses, exploitation and misery.**

Uganda, a country located in Eastern Africa, has a population of approximately 21 million. For many years Uganda was entrenched in a devastating guerilla war that destroyed basic infrastructure and weakened the economy. During this volatile era, many Ugandans suffered, first-hand, the consequences of political and economic instability, leading many to abandon their homes or attempt to flee the country.

However, since President Museveni's government came to power in 1996, the situation in Uganda has slightly improved, and the economy has made a drastic transition, becoming one of the world's fastest growing economies. Nevertheless, fighting in certain areas of the country continues to kill thousands of innocent victims every year, and severely impedes upon the livelihood of many Ugandans. Basic mortality and poverty rates still remain dismal, with 55% of the entire population living in poverty and an Infant Mortality Rate of over 10%. Moreover, approximately 46% of women are illiterate and 54% of those living in rural areas are deprived of adequate access to safe drinking water. It is also estimated that 85% of Ugandans living within rural districts generate their income through agriculture; this ultimately illustrates the importance of land and resources for the majority of Ugandans.

Currently, coffee is one of Uganda's largest industries, generating the majority of the country's export revenues. Uganda is known as one of the world's top 10 coffee producers and the government hopes to increase foreign investment through its reputation as a large coffee producer.

The Government of Uganda wished to clear a considerable proportion of rural land, belonging to a small peasant community in the Mubende region. This was to be done in order to allow for a large coffee plantation for a German-based coffee company (known as the Neumann group), which was to establish a plantation through its local subsidiary, Kaweri Coffee Plantation Ltd. In order to acquire this land, the government deployed its army on August 18, 2001, to forcibly evict over 392 local families (approximately 2041 people) from their properties. In the process, the army destroyed the peasants land, crops and homes; several members of the community were also physically harmed during the eviction. The land belonging to the former inhabitants has since been leased to the Kaweri Coffee Plantation. The plantation is known to be the largest of its kind in Uganda, and the East African region as a whole.

Many of those who were evicted from their land have moved to a neighboring forest, where they are attempting to cultivate crops. However, the land upon which they are currently residing is far too small to provide families with enough food. The eviction has also forced peasants to travel long distances for water that is unclean and unprotected, which has subsequently lead to the spread of diseases, such as diarrhea. Moreover, these families are, once again, facing possible eviction, as the land where they reside is currently being considered for sale. Approximately 50 other peasants, who were displaced through the establishment of the plantation, have been forced to accept work on their former ancestral land in attempt to generate an

income. However, they are facing further exploitation, as the wages are so low that workers struggle to feed themselves, let alone their families; the average wage is roughly 2000 Uganda Shillings (approximately US\$1) for 10 hours of labor. Directly after the displacement, 5 peasants died and the remaining evictees continue to suffer from the loss of their land.

Since the community was displaced in 2001, they have been fighting to regain their right to land and food. As they continued to be politically neglected, the community then decided to file a court case against the Attorney General, in representation of the government, and the Kaweri Coffee Plantation. However the court hearings have proceeded slowly and guaranteed few outcomes. A hearing to cross-examine the case in July 2004 was suddenly postponed without any prior notice to January 2005. Since then, other proceedings have proved fruitless, as both defending parties have not even appeared in court for scheduled hearings. A definite hearing relating to all concerned parties was finally ordered for June 2007; however the Attorney General has yet to provide all relevant material and documents that would allow the case to proceed.

International attention was called through FIAN's urgent actions launched in December 2001 and July 2002 and continuous case work since then. The Ugandan government has continued to neglect the issue. Therefore, since the eviction of the local community from their land, FIAN has been actively involved in supporting those displaced, and is continually fighting for their human right to feed themselves. FIAN calls on the Government of Uganda to respect their citizens' right to food, to return lost land to the displaced victims and to provide for their rehabilitation and for the compensation for their properties lost during the eviction in August 2001..

*Rolf Künemann is Human Rights Director, Emma Blair is Communication assistant, FIAN International Secretariat*

## EVENTS AND SEMINARS

### WORLD FOOD DAY

At the international level, FIAN will celebrate the WFD with two major events: one will take place at the European Parliament on October 15 with the launch of the Right to Food Campaign Face It- Act Now. The celebration will include a press conference with the Vice President of the European Parliament, Luisa Morgantini, the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, Jean Ziegler and the Secretary General of FIAN, Flavio Valente. October 16 will be celebrated at FAO Headquarters with the participation, among others, of the Presidents of Germany and Tanzania, marking a highlight in a ten day celebration in Rome including exhibitions, booths and conferences.

In addition to the international festivities, a tremendous amount of events will take place at the national level. Activities are ranging from meetings at parliaments like in Sweden or Austria up to street mobilisation with demonstrations, theatre plays and fairs; the issues treated will cover discussions on the right to food and ways how to fight hunger, as well as particular topics, like food banks, the liberalisation of food markets or biofuels. *Detailed information on all events around World Food Day 2007 is available at [www.face-it-act-now.org](http://www.face-it-act-now.org)*

Import surges of dumped export rice have led to misery, growing food insecurity and violations of the right to food of paddy farmers in Ghana, Honduras, and Indonesia. In all three countries, international agents of trade liberalisation like World Bank, IMF, or regional free trade areas have played a decisive role by forcing the home country to open up the markets without sufficient protection for small paddy farmers. These are some of the findings of the FIAN research that took place on request of the Geneva based network Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance (EAA).

The used methodology which combines rights based policy analysis at the macro level with participatory field research at the community level was welcomed by CSOs working on trade and

human rights community in first reactions as ground breaking. Very likely, the approach will be further used for studies on other staple foods. The EAA, FIAN and the partners in the three countries will use the findings for national and international follow up work.

**The impact of trade liberalisation on the Right to Food of rice farming communities in Ghana, Honduras and Indonesia** (120 pages, by *A. Paasch, F. Garbers & T. Hirsch*) can be downloaded from [www.fian.org](http://www.fian.org) soon. The study is available in English and German, and will be presented by Bread for the World and FIAN in Berlin on October 15. For further information please contact [hirsch@fian.org](mailto:hirsch@fian.org).

*Thomas Hirsch works at FIAN International Secretariat*

## Pro-Poor Land Reform *by Roman Herre*

In his book, Saturnino M. Borras Jr. closely examines land reforms by combining empirical field data from the Philippines with a rich historical knowledge on land reforms from around the world. Being an activist himself, he furthermore offers a rare insight into peasant movements, the backbone of almost every land reform. This highly interesting combination of field data, historical record and political economy makes his analysis a very precious contribution to the underlying question that often gets lost in land reform debates: Whether and when does land reform work for the poor?

With such a unique approach, Borras does not only update the actual debate but goes one crucial step further. He analyses

the reform implementation processes as core element for every land reform. In that sense, the book offers a new way of understanding the dynamics of land reforms and opens new paths for practitioners in land policy.

**Pro-Poor Land Reform: A Critique** *by Saturnino M. Borras Jr.*

University of Ottawa Press (Sept 2007)/University of Toronto Press Distribution 414 pp. ISBN: 9780776606507; <http://www.uopress.uottawa.ca/>

*The author is the Coordinator of Agrarian Reform at FIAN Germany*

## FIAN PROMOTING THE RIGHT TO FOOD WORLDWIDE

### INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES CELEBRATE VICTORY TO OBTAIN LAND THAT IS RIGHTFULLY THEIRS

Due to the persistent struggle of Tupinikims and Guaranís, national and international pressure, including an urgent action letter campaign by FIAN International, the Brazilian authorities on August 28th declared 18,070 hectares in Aracruz, Espirito Santo, as indigenous lands. In the 1970's, Aracruz Cellulose corporation destroyed around 35 indigenous villages, expelling their inhabitants, and established extensive eucalyptus plantations. Families were forcefully evicted and faced violence by the corporation and federal police. With this decision, provisions of the Brazilian Constitution and international agreements such as ILO-Convention No. 169 are implemented, granting the indigenous people their right to feed themselves.

### SEMINAR ON EXPROPRIATION AND COMPENSATION

In September 2007, a seminar on Compulsory Purchase and Compensation in Land Acquisition and Takings took place in Finland. Compulsory purchase or expropriation is common for land acquisition for public purposes, although this can also be arranged e.g. by voluntary agreements. COHRE and FIAN emphasized, that expropriation proceeds rapidly where the political, economic and legal power of those directly affected is the weakest. While the disadvantaged should benefit from expropriation, e.g. from Agrarian Reform processes, they are often its victims since millions are evicted each year. International human rights law and many constitutions prohibit forced evictions, but enforcement mechanisms favour those with stronger property rights, particularly foreign investors.

**Parallel Reporting before the UN CESCR****Manual** *Written by Sandra Ratjen,**FIAN International, 2007*32 pages, download at [www.fian.org](http://www.fian.org)**How to use the Voluntary Guidelines on the RtF****Manual** *Written by Katja Albrecht, Julian Germann, Sandra**Ratjen, FIAN International, 2007*36 pages, download at [www.fian.org](http://www.fian.org)**The Voluntary Guidelines on the right to food as a human rights based Monitoring tool****Manual** *Written by Ana Maria Suarez Franco and Sandra**Ratjen, with the collaboration of Britta Schweighofer,**Flavio Valente, Michael Windfuhr, Armin Paasch and Martin**Wolpold-Bosien, FIAN International, 2007*40 pages, download at [www.fian.org](http://www.fian.org)**Documenting violations of the right to adequate food****Manual** *Written by Rolf Künemann, Michael Windfuhr,**Sigrun Skogly and Ana Maria Suarez Franco,**FIAN International, 2007*28 pages, download at [www.fian.org](http://www.fian.org)**Acceso a la tierra y el derecho a la Alimentación***Written by Sofía Monsalve Suarez, FIAN International, 2007*32 pages, download at [www.fian.org](http://www.fian.org)**Land and rural development policies in Intl' cooperation**

Available in English, German and Spanish,

*FIAN International, 2007*4 pages, download at [www.fian.org](http://www.fian.org)**How to speed up implementation of the right to adequate food at the national level**

Expert Seminar report, September 11-12, 2006 / Heidelberg, Germany

*Written by Mihai Doicescu with comments by Bastiaan**Colombaroli, FIAN International, 2007*28 pages, download at [www.fian.org](http://www.fian.org)**Persiguiendo un Sueño**

Dossier on women's struggle for land in Honduras,

*FIAN International, 2007*16 pages, available in English, Spanish and German, download at [www.fian.org](http://www.fian.org)**Annual Report 2006**

FIAN International, available in English, Spanish and French

80 pages, download at [www.fian.org](http://www.fian.org)**IMPRINT****Right to Food Quarterly – Vol.2 No. 2, 2007**

Editors: Wilma Strothenke and Nastja Horvat

Design and Layout: Ian Davidson

Published: October 2007

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This publication has been made possible by the support of the FAO Right to Food Unit.

**FIAN International** is the international human rights organization that advocates the realization of the right to food. We are a non-political, non-for-profit organization with sections and members in more than 50 countries. We expose violations of people's right to food and strive to secure access to the resources that people need in order to feed themselves now and in the future. We envision a world free from hunger, in which every man, woman and child can fully enjoy their human rights in dignity.

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