

# FIAN International Strategic Plan (2024-2030)

## PREAMBLE: OUR VISION, PILLARS AND CHALLENGES

### Our Vision

We envision a world free from hunger and malnutrition, in which all individuals and communities can fully enjoy their human rights. We defend the human right to adequate food and nutrition (RtFN) and the right to food sovereignty. We want people to be able to exercise these rights individually, collectively, or as a community, with dignity and self-determination. Our vision is built upon four interconnected pillars.

### The Four Pillars

#### First Pillar: Human Rights

Our vision is grounded in the foundational principles of human rights and their universality. Participation, dignity, inclusion, autonomy, equality, non-discrimination, wellbeing, self-determination, and accountability guide every aspect of our work. We connect our work on the RtFN and food sovereignty to other interconnected struggles for racial, climate, intra- and intergenerational, decolonial and gender justice. We believe human rights can help individuals, communities and peoples confront systemic oppression and build just and equal societies, with dignity and respect for all, including future generations.

We contribute to the evolution of international law by supporting people's struggles to hold states accountable as human rights duty-bearers. We advocate for the RtFN using the International Bill of Human Rights and key conventions such as the Convention to Eliminate All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). We also mobilize the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), the UN Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People working in rural areas (UNDROP), CFS Policy Outcomes and ILO Conventions. We are committed to advancing a progressive evolution and interpretation of the RtFN to address the pressing challenges of our times, such as dismantling colonial, racist, patriarchal and imperialistic structures.

#### Second Pillar: Peoples' Struggles

Autonomy and self-determination are fundamental elements for the realization of the RtFN, enabling communities to shape their destinies and feed their families and communities, while promoting health, well-being, and harmonious relationships. We fully embrace food sovereignty, recognizing the interconnectedness of people and their environments, and the importance of control over territorial food systems. We are committed to amplifying the voices of rights holders, especially those on the frontlines, fostering a world where individuals and communities actively participate in decision-making and shape the policies that affect their lives. Our goal is to build peoples' power and solidarity to dismantle all forms of discrimination, oppression and power imbalances, ensuring freedom for all.

### Third Pillar: Care for Life on Earth

Food lies at the heart of our social, economic, and ecological relationships. It is within their territories and lands that communities and societies develop the knowledge, culture, innovations and practices that allow them to nurture equitable relationships with the Earth, respecting its natural processes and cycles. Safeguarding the RtFN requires a holistic approach that recognizes the inseparable ties between humans, all other living beings, and the planet. We are committed to protecting, restoring, and nurturing biodiversity, water bodies, fertile soils, and all life-sustaining relational networks. We are combatting all processes that lead to the transgression of planetary boundaries, such as climate change, biodiversity loss, freshwater disruption, deforestation, excessive fertilizer use, synthetic chemical contamination, and ocean acidification. We defend agroecology and artisanal and small-scale fishing because they contribute to ensuring that our economies respect and rebuild the natural cycles of the Earth system, guiding us toward societies that place care for life at their core.

### Fourth Pillar: Intersectionality

We advocate for an intersectional approach that recognizes that social constructs such as gender, ethnicity, race, class, caste, age, religion, ability, are interconnected. We seek to address the structural inequalities rooted in capitalism, patriarchy and colonialism that are embedded within societies and between countries and hinder equal access to adequate food, food-producing resources, decent incomes, and social security. Marginalized people and communities face compounded barriers to claiming and fully enjoying their human rights because they bear the brunt of systemic discrimination, exploitation, and oppression. We are committed to dismantling patriarchal, racist and colonial patterns and the power structures that perpetuate them. Gender equality and gender justice, the rights of women, girls and LGBTIQ+ individuals are central to our work.

## Challenges for the Realization of the Right to Food and Nutrition

According to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Between 713 and 757 million people faced hunger in 2023. Around 28.9% of the global population – 2.33 billion people – are moderately or severely food insecure. At the same time, adult obesity has tripled since the 1970s, and nearly 1 in every 5 children is affected by overweight or obesity. Food insecurity disproportionately affects women and people living in rural areas. By 2050, it is estimated that 70% of the global population will live in cities, which highlights the need to address the RtFN in urban areas and develop rural-urban linkages, while continuing to support the development and self-determination of rural communities. The following key areas require urgent action:

Environmental and climate crisis: The ongoing planetary crisis is provoking hunger, malnutrition, displacement and conflict, threatening life on Earth. This crisis stems from corporate and financially-controlled food systems that rely heavily on fossil fuel, extractivism, deforestation, large-scale industrial agriculture and global supply chains, supermarketization and the ultra-processing of food. These types of food systems contribute up to 37% of greenhouse gas emissions<sup>12</sup> and are major drivers of environmental degradation, including pollution of water, air, and soil. They also lead to the loss of biodiversity, traditional knowledge and food cultures developed over generations by peasants, Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

Discrimination and inequality: Discrimination and inequality are deepening worldwide, as a result of historical and ongoing colonialism, patriarchy and capitalism. Economic inequality concentrates wealth and resources among a small elite, with 50% of the global population owning just 2% of total

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<sup>1</sup> See FAO, 2021. The share of food systems in total greenhouse gas emissions. Global, regional and country trends, 1990–2019. FAOSTAT Analytical Brief Series No. 31. Rome.

<sup>2</sup> IPCC, 2022: Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation, and Vulnerability. Contribution of Working Group II to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

wealth, while 10% owns 75% of total wealth, and the richest 1% controls 38% (World Inequality Report 2022). This wealth gap undermines social justice, dignity and peace, worsens discrimination and exclusion including in access to basic services like education and healthcare.

Erosion of democracy and human rights: The growing influence of private corporations in food governance, also known as "corporate capture", is weakening democratic systems and eroding human rights. Financial capitalism, drug trafficking and organized crime are deepening the commodification of food, land, seeds, water and nature as a whole, further exacerbating the destruction of our planet. Governments are retreating from their human rights obligations, and increasingly responding to corporate interests. Authoritarian regimes are rising, and grassroots movements worldwide are facing repression and criminalization. The proliferation of crises, conflicts, and wars reflects shifting global power dynamics, posing significant challenges to multilateralism, which is in need of reform.

Ongoing colonialism: Colonialism, which reshaped the world through exploitation, resource extraction and slavery, continues to impact social, economic, cultural and political systems, as well as gender relations. Colonial structures underly persisting marginalization, disenfranchisement, malnutrition and hunger through processes of land grabbing, resource exploitation, privatization and imposed free trade. Colonial practices have left deep scars and fundamentally altered agricultural practices, land tenure and food sovereignty. Without fundamentally transforming these colonial structures, the interconnected crises of inequality and hunger will not be resolved.

To overcome these four main challenges, we must uphold human rights, restore the ecological and social foundations necessary for sustainable and just food systems, and rebuild democratic and accountable governance systems which prioritize the public interest and recognize people's sovereignty. We are dedicated to the following six intertwined struggles to ensure a life of dignity, well-being, justice, and peace for all, in line with the principles of the UN Charter.

## OUR 6 STRUGGLES

### STRUGGLE 1:

**For Food Justice, Adequate Food, and Healthy People!**

**Against the Corporate Industrial Food System!**

#### **Background**

The corporate-controlled industrial food system, rooted in colonial structures, is at the core of violations of the RtFN, perpetuating hunger and malnutrition. This system's model of production, distribution, and consumption is based on the extraction of natural resources and the exploitation of people and animals. Its primary goal is to maximize profits and concentrate economic wealth and political power in the hands of a few powerful actors. The system also imposes the "corporate diet", which is not only a certain food pattern with harmful effects on human and planetary health, but also a way of life designed to serve corporate interests. This diet erodes cultural ties, and disrupts the diverse connections humans have with food, their cultures, and other forms of life.

As a result, hunger and malnutrition continue to rise. Over 2 billion people face food insecurity, while obesity and related non-communicable chronic health conditions, driven by the food industry's aggressive promotion of ultra-processed edible and drinkable products ("junk food" as opposed to "real food"), have become major public health concerns and are a leading cause of premature death.

Poverty and inequality, fueled by systemic discrimination based on gender, ethnicity, race, class, caste, age, religion and other factors, expose people to all forms of hunger and malnutrition. Meanwhile those who produce our food – peasant, pastoralist and fishing communities, women, Indigenous Peoples, youth, and food-system workers – are among the most affected by hunger and malnutrition.

## Our Objectives

To realize the RtFN, we aim for a radical transformation of the corporate-controlled industrial food system. We want to establish territorial and human rights-based food systems that embrace agroecology and foster food sovereignty. In this transformation, health, environment, and justice – from production to consumption – are inseparable. Achieving this change requires democratizing food and nutrition governance at local, national and global levels, so that it prioritizes the public interest and is centered on people, not corporations.

## Our Action Plan

1. *Food systems transformation:* We will actively engage in ongoing efforts to transform food systems, amplifying and consolidating these initiatives, particularly through public policies. We will promote a holistic approach to healthy diets that spans the entire food system, from preserving peasant seed systems and biodiversity, to phasing out agrotoxins, protecting workers' health, building supportive environments for breastfeeding, and preserving and promoting access to real food and culinary traditions.
2. *Care in food systems:* We will promote a feminist vision of care within food systems as well as food as commons. This includes advocating for the recognition and redistribution of care work and strengthening of social and public actors and institutions in food systems. We will call for free school meals and other human-rights based public feeding programs as essential tools for promoting healthy eating patterns, social justice and food systems transformation.
3. *Food Justice:* We will fight for food justice and against food poverty. This includes advocating for living wages, universal basic income, and social protection systems that guarantee regular, self-determined access to adequate and nutritious food and drinking water. We will draw attention to the often precarious and invisible situation of food workers and small entrepreneurs, including street vendors, and especially women.
4. *Denouncing false solutions:* We will expose and unpack corporate false solutions to hunger and malnutrition, such as (bio)fortification, reformulation, digitalization, and corporate-backed food charity, and denounce the narratives that seek to legitimize these solutions.

## Slogans

- Healthy Soil, Real Food, Healthy People
- Reclaim control over what we grow and eat!
- Food is a Right, Not a Charity!
- Junk Food Free Territories!
- Protect and Promote Local Food Cultures, Diverse Diets, and Real Food!

## STRUGGLE 2:

### For People's Right to Land and Natural Resources and Control Over Their Territories!

### Against Inequality, Extractivism, and Land Grabbing!

#### Background

The unequal distribution of control over land, oceans, rivers and lakes, forests, pastures, seeds and breed systems is a central factor in gross violations of the RtFN. The legacies of colonialism, along with its modern-day expressions, – such as extractivism, commodification, financialization, discrimination and violence –intensify exploitation, dispossession and evictions of people from their land. The growing concentration of land, seeds, water, fisheries and other common spaces and resources in the hands of a few powerful actors is driving violations of collective and customary rights. Due to gender-based violence and intersecting forms of discrimination, women, girls and gender/sexual diversities are disproportionately affected.

#### Our Objectives

We strive for a world where people and communities' control over their lands, oceans, rivers and lakes, forests, pastures, seeds and breeds is the basis of their RtFN, self-determination and wellbeing. We defend a just distribution of natural resources and believe that self-determined, autonomous forms in which people govern and manage their territories, should be respected, protected and supported, including their customary and collective tenure and land use and management systems.

#### Our Action Plan

1. *Support peoples' and communities' struggles:* We will support peoples' and communities' struggles to preserve and reclaim their right to land, rivers, lakes, ground water, rivers and lakes, fisheries, forests and seeds at local, national, regional and international levels. We will defend traditional land use systems as the basis for communities' stewardship of their territories. We will promote redistributive agrarian reforms as a way to address land concentration and injustice. We will amplify voices from the ground and work closely with affected communities to identify and denounce the contemporary effects of colonialism, while developing proposals to overcome these. Together, we will expose emerging trends that undermine the RtFN and people's control over their natural resources/territories.
2. *Support grassroots and bottom-up approaches:* We will give visibility to grassroots and bottom-up approaches to the right to land and natural resources with a focus on collective efforts, community organizing, building of movements, and the convergence of struggles. We will lead or accompany processes of regulatory changes or the formulation of public policies, where relevant. We will support the knowledge and skills of small-scale food producers and reject the technologies that undermine these (e.g., genetic engineering). We will do this using participatory action research methodologies and integrating new aspects, like the rights of future generations, a just transition, the right to a healthy environment, and anti-colonialism. We will also foster collaboration with climate justice, economic justice, feminist and anti-colonial movements.
3. *Engage with the human rights system:* We will work within the UN and regional human rights systems to ensure accountability for violations of the RtFN, focusing on issues like dispossession, extractivism, pollution, and ecosystem destruction. We will further the development of human rights norms, especially in areas like the rights of peasants, Indigenous Peoples, the right to a healthy environment, and the rights of future generations, and we will support and work with the new Human Rights Council Working Group on UNDROP.

4. *Demand accountability and a just transition:* We will promote a stronger and more holistic consideration of the RtFN in strategic international governance spaces, using human rights instruments as tools to ensure that people's and communities' right to and control over natural resources underpins the just transition to sustainable food systems. We will challenge rogue capitalism and neoliberal policies, the deployment of corporate-led technologies, and ongoing colonialism, and hold accountable those responsible for dispossession and exploitation. We will strive to bridge the gap between environmental and human rights law.

## Slogans

- We Belong to the Land; and Mother Earth Feeds Us!
- Right to Land and Water for Climate Justice
- Redistributive Agrarian Reforms for Social, Climate and Gender Justice
- Grassroots Action: for Real Solutions for a Just Future!
- Empower People; Preserve Land: Equality, Ecology, and Climate Action!
- People's Food Power for the RtFN and Food Sovereignty!

## STRUGGLE 3:

For Corporate Accountability and Food Democracy!

Against Impunity and Corporate Capture of Governance!

## Background

Corporate and financial actors concentrate enormous power but there are few mechanisms in place to ensure that companies respect human rights. Trade and investment law gives corporations more rights than they give to people. Affected communities often fail to access justice and remedial mechanisms. Corporate impunity is driven by corporations' main objective to make profit for their owners and shareholders. Financially powerful lobbying groups, financial undertakings, corporations and corporate-tied think tanks and foundations are increasingly capturing public governance and exerting influence over laws, public policies and standards. The corporate-backed governance project known as "multistakeholderism", is resulting in looser regulation and blurred distinctions between public interest and corporate profit, while turning a blind eye to power imbalances and state accountability. It risks accumulating ever greater economic and political power in the hands of a small elite, while sacrificing democracy, justice, common goods and contradicting the founding values of human rights.

## Our Objectives

We will work towards dismantling unchecked corporate power that impairs the realization of the RtFN, food sovereignty and related rights. We will actively engage in establishing robust, binding mechanisms to regulate activities of transnational corporations (TNCs) and ensure access to justice for those affected. We will bring forth the role of States as primary human rights duty-bearers and insist on their obligation to assert regulatory power over businesses operating within their borders and extraterritorially. We will push States to uphold their extraterritorial obligations (ETOs) in the context of business activities and prevent corporate harm. We want to democratize food systems and the economy at large, and establish a human rights based governance.

## Our Action Plan

1. Strengthen communities' struggles: We will strengthen communities' and social movements' struggles against abuses by corporations and other actors involved in the global value chains.
2. Engage in standard-setting and in building a new economic order: We will continue engaging in the drafting of a legally binding instrument and in the elaboration of other relevant standard setting processes related to corporate accountability and regulation at international, regional and national levels. We will continue to build a rights-based economic, trade, investment and financial system.
3. Food and nutrition governance: We will document and expose the perils of multistakeholderism, including the corporate capture of food and nutrition governance. We will develop strategies and policy proposals to counter this trend and promote "peoples' food power". We want to democratize governance at all levels through alternative human rights-based models of participation that have rights holders at their center and robust safeguards in place to address conflicts of interest.
4. Knowledge construction and strategizing: We will develop new narratives to support awareness raising and knowledge construction, and engage in strategic thinking on new relevant topics relating to corporate power and accountability, including in times of genocide, conflict, war and occupation.
5. Denouncing from an intersectional perspective: We will expose the human rights violations caused by businesses, including from an ETO perspective, and document their specific impacts on women, children and other historically marginalized and disadvantaged groups, from an intersectional perspective. We will also apply an inter and intragenerational justice approach in connection with the human rights of future generations.

## Slogans

- Liberate Food Systems: End Corporate Exploitation!
- Stop Corporate Capture: Protect Public Decision-Making!
- Popular Food Governance/ Gobernanza popular alimentaria
- Invest in People, Not in Profit!

## Struggle 4:

**For Peace, Justice, and Self-Determination!**

**Against Violence and Criminalization in Food Systems, and the Use of Food as a Weapon of War!**

## Background

Structural violence, inequalities, climate change and environmental destruction, are leading to increasingly intense internal and cross-border conflicts, resulting in displacement and migration, the destruction of social fabric and the loss of hope among youth, particularly in rural areas or areas under occupation. The global shift towards right-wing and authoritarian governments, combined with the deliberate weakening of public institutions in favor of corporate interests, exacerbates inequality and undermines social cohesion, disproportionately affecting historically marginalized and oppressed groups. Resistance is often met with extreme state brutality and intimidation by corporations. The criminalization of resistance is severely compromising the realization of the RtFN and related human rights. To address this crisis, we must rethink our approach to the RtFN and foster a radical solidarity that opposes patriarchy, racism, and supports decolonization.

This systemic violence also manifests as large-scale violations of the RtFN and related human rights, driven by protracted crises, conflicts, wars, occupation, blockades, economic sanctions, environmental destruction, and other crises. While all human rights violations involve some form of structural or direct violence, there has been a troubling rise in brutality across food systems. Examples include the use of starvation as a weapon in Gaza, famine in Sudan, and the breakdown of global food systems due to the war in Ukraine. The impacts of these are well documented and far-reaching; encompassing both slow-onset violence, which unfolds over long periods of time, and rapid-onset violence. A significant number of undernourished people live in countries experiencing armed conflict and violence. In these situations, state militaries, criminal organizations, and/or armed groups disrupt livelihoods, restrict access to and control over natural resources, and use food as a weapon of war. These contexts demand a re-evaluation of approaches to advocating for and realizing the RtFN, especially in dangerous contexts where there has been a complete breakdown of democratic spaces and traditional methods may no longer be effective.

In addition to the rise in global hunger and malnutrition, there has been the emergence of famines, and “near-famines”, often triggered by wars, genocides, occupations, socio-political or armed conflicts and other crises. Human rights and humanitarian regimes lack coordination both at institutional level and within civil society. Starvation, famine, and crises situations are often dealt with exclusively as issues of criminal or humanitarian law, perpetuating this divide between humanitarian law and human rights in policy, practice, and advocacy.

## Our Objectives

We will work to strengthen democratic spaces and values towards the protection of human rights defenders against criminalization and provide advocacy and solidarity in cases of repression. We will tackle structural violence in the food systems and the physical violence exacerbated by externalities of growing authoritarianism, conflict, occupation and war. We will document, expose, and address the multiple impacts of protracted crises, conflicts, wars, occupation and other crises on the RtFN and strengthen human rights-based responses to these situations. We will focus on calling out the use of food and starvation as weapons of war and conflict, while protecting affected people and communities from various forms of violence experienced in crises. In particular, we will support their autonomous organization, fostering bottom-up accountability, and safeguarding them against repression and criminalization. Additionally, we will promote coordinated international advocacy, analysis, and solidarity to address the division between human rights and humanitarian regimes, specifically on issues related to RtFN in conflict and crisis situations. Our efforts will focus on advocating for systemic change and improved coordination to effectively address violations of the RtFN.

## Our Action Plan

1. *Protect our members and build alliances: We will enhance prevention and protection mechanisms for our members against repression and criminalization. We will continue building solidarity and mutual support alliances with organizations and initiatives that defend freedom, democracy, and human rights.*
2. *Strengthen people’s strategies and practices: We will give visibility and strengthen people’s strategies and practices to realize their RtFN and the protection and recovery of territorial food systems in the face of natural disasters, protracted crises and conflict. We will focus on access to land and natural resources, peasant and indigenous seeds systems, and the creation of food reserves, amongst other issues.*
3. *Document and expose: We will document and expose cases where food systems are deliberately attacked, such as the use of starvation as a weapon, destruction of peasant agricultural and food infrastructure (water systems, seed banks etc.), and the manipulation of food aid in conflict settings by an occupying power, armed groups etc.*



4. *Assess humanitarian responses:* We will critically assess humanitarian aid and responses in crises related to food and food production from a RtFN perspective, examining issues like corporate-controlled food aid, funding gaps, and the impact on local food systems. We will promote more transparency in the monitoring bodies for food security in crisis situations, including but not limited to the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC), the Famine Review Committee, and “early-warning” systems.
5. *Strengthen the normative framework:* We will work to reinforce the normative framework for the RtFN in situations of conflict, occupation, war, and protracted crises, ensuring that human rights principles are upheld, defended and integrated into humanitarian response efforts.

## Slogans

- For Justice, Self-Determination and lasting Peace!
- Against the Use of Food as a Weapon of War!
- Stop Violence, Stop Hunger!

## STRUGGLE 5:

**For Gender Justice, Women’s Rights and Care in Food Systems!  
Against Discrimination, Gender Violence and Patriarchy!**

### Background

Corporate and industrial food systems exacerbate socially embedded patterns of discrimination based on gender identity, race, class, age, ability, colonial approaches, and sexual orientation. These intersecting factors cumulatively pose significant barriers to the realization of the RtFN for women and LGBTIQ+ persons. Patriarchal power dynamics disrupt both social and environmental relations within food systems, pushing aside the vital connection between people and nature. This weakens fundamental rights like the right to life and food sovereignty. Gender-based violence is deeply intertwined with the current food crisis. It makes invisible the care work and unpaid labor around food, leaving women and LGBTIQ+ individuals—especially young people—vulnerable to exploitation, violence, and abuse in their homes, communities, and broader society. Gender-blind public policies exacerbate these issues by failing to recognize and address the unique challenges faced by these rights holders, perpetuating barriers to fully participate in decision-making processes. Additionally, the criminalization of women and LGBTIQ+ individuals by both state and non-state actors severely impacts their rights, particularly in times of war, occupation, and conflict.

Despite these challenges, rural and urban women and LGBTIQ+ persons are at the forefront of alternative models of production, governance, political organization, care, commons, relations and economies, and advance agroecological food systems anchored in gender justice, autonomy and feminist perspectives.

### Our Objectives

We will contribute to dismantling the patriarchal structures and power relations that undermine the human rights of women, girls, minors and LGBTIQ+ persons within food systems. We will fight for gender justice and LGBTIQ+ and women’s self-determination over their food, life and bodies. We will expose and confront the multiple inequalities, violence and oppressions that exist within the patriarchal food system. We will build alternative decolonial models of relationships, production, exchange, consumption and access to food based on solidarity, equality, autonomy, care and respect.

## Our Action Plan

1. *Document discrimination and resistance:* We will employ feminist, gender-sensitive and gender-transformative methodologies to document multiple forms of discrimination against women, LGBTQIA+ and marginalized communities, as well as intersectional violence. We will also gather and give visibility to the different experiences and resistance strategies of women and oppressed groups. We will do this using an intersectional lens, i.e. by highlighting the interconnectedness of gender, class, caste, ethnicity, sexuality, and age.
2. *Document and address violence:* We will document, expose and seek to end violence against women and other oppressed communities, especially in the context of evictions, dispossession of natural resources and criminalization, focusing on intersecting root causes such as patriarchy and colonialism.
3. *Ensure parity and diversity:* We will strive to ensure gender parity as well as generational and identity-based diversity in representation and distribution of resources in all the activities we organize.
4. *Promote participation and reinforce representation:* We will promote women and LGBTQIA+ individuals' right to political and public participation at all levels and reinforce their voice and representation in our networks, partners and interactions with social movement allies. We acknowledge that not all women or oppressed groups share the same political views or social positions, so we will promote diversity in perspectives.
5. *Connect the RtFN with related gender justice:* In our work on the RtFN, we will take into account sexual and reproductive rights and pay particular attention to care and unpaid labor, recognizing that these burdens predominantly fall on women and girls.
6. *Include gender perspectives into our activities and trainings:* We will systematically include a discussion on gender justice, rights of women and LGBTQIA+ and of other oppressed communities in our training and awareness raising activities, including for staff members.
7. *Inclusiveness and diversity in communication:* In our communication, we will strive to use inclusive language and to ensure that diverse communities of women, men, LGBTQIA+ and non-binary people are equally and adequately recognized and represented. We will also strive to portray women and marginalized communities as diverse and active in their struggles for the RtFN, avoiding narratives that frame them merely as "vulnerable" victims.

## Slogans

- Without Feminism there is no Agroecology!
- Right to Food and Women's Rights now!
- Food is an Act of Revolutionary Love!
- We Exist!
- Stop Patriarchal Violence in Food Systems!
- Reclaim our Sovereignty: Land, Food, Water, Seeds, Body, Love!
- Decolonize Food Systems!
- For a Right to Food Based on the Right to Care!

## STRUGGLE 6:

### For A Just Transition to Agroecology!

### Against Ecological and Climate Destruction and the Financialization of Nature!

#### **Background**

Extractivism, commodification and the financialization of nature have triggered the current ecological and biodiversity crisis and the exceeding of most planetary boundaries. The mass extinction of living species, the degradation and destruction of ecosystems, and the disruption of the natural cycles that sustain life on Earth directly affect food systems and puts the realization of the RtFN at risk for present and future generations. The global industrial economic and food system based on unequal trade relations, privatization and exploitation displaces and marginalizes small-scale food producers and Indigenous Peoples and undermines their knowledge and management systems. Climate and eco-destruction reinforce gender-based violence, and disrupt care economies. The loss of biodiversity is directly related to the loss of dietary diversity and the homogenization of eating patterns (“corporate diet” based on a few monocultures).

Current responses to the planetary crises, e.g. the recent commitment to conserve 30% of planet earth by 2030 (2022 Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework), or so-called climate change solutions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions or remove carbon from the atmosphere are leading to new forms of land and resource grabs (“green grabbing”) and are further dispossessing people of their control over ecosystems. These responses fail to recognize that the planetary crises find their root causes in a capitalist, colonial and industrial development model. This model relies on an unsustainable extractive relation to nature, deepens inequalities and leads to large scale and ever-increasing losses and damages – in absence of remediation and accountability by those countries and big polluters with present and historic responsibilities. Development aggression, including conflicts and wars, as well as militarization are further driving global GHG emissions and eco destruction.

Digitalization and data mining are transforming our food systems in unprecedented ways by increasing and facilitating corporate control. This leads to the disappearance of local, peasant and indigenous knowledge systems and sustainable and resilient food production, preparation, and eating practices.

#### **Our Objectives**

We will advocate for agroecology because it strengthens the agency of small-scale food producers and communities over the food they grow and eat, as well as their ability to act as stewards of ecosystems. Agroecology delinks food production from the reliance of fossil fuels and extractivism. As such, it is a pathway to a future built on an equitable relationship of human societies with the rest of nature, considering the stewardship for future generations. Agroecology seeks to avoid greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and the disruption of natural cycles associated with fossil-fuel intensive production and the application of synthetic and mined fertilizers and pesticides.

We will advocate for a just and fair transition that recognizes that marginalized groups are disproportionately impacted by the environmental and climate crisis. We want a transition that addresses current inequalities in who bears the cost of it. We will expose false solutions to the climate crisis and support bottom-up approaches, which place people at the forefront of the struggle to

achieve environmental and climate justice. We will hold states and corporations accountable for their destructive practices, and advocate for public policies that effectively regulate business activities and avert, minimize and address loss and damage. We will confront the extractive and growth-led economic model at its roots and support people's struggles to control and manage their land and territories, and to act as stewards of ecosystems, based on care.

## **Our Action Plan**

1. *Develop new collaborations: We will broaden our understanding of the RtFN by linking it to developments in the fields of the right to a healthy environment, the rights of future generations, the right to health, and proposals to recognize the rights of nature to ensure a just transition to sustainable food systems. We will develop new types of actions seeking collaboration with climate justice and economic justice, solidarity economies, care economies and feminist movements.*
2. *Support grassroots and bottom-up approaches: We will give visibility to inequalities in who bears the cost of the ecological and climate crisis. We will promote grassroots and bottom-up approaches to a just transition to agroecology that seek to overcome structures of oppression, exploitation and discrimination. We will facilitate and promote the participation of affected constituencies in climate and biodiversity governance to ensure that their perspectives, knowledge, innovations and rights are included and respected.*
3. *Engage in human rights bodies: We will engage to ensure accountability for violations of the RtFN related to the climate crisis, ecosystem destruction and the disruption of natural cycles. We will further the development of human rights norms to ensure that the interconnections between the RtFN, the rights of peasants and other persons working in rural areas, the rights of Indigenous Peoples, the right to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment and the rights of future generations are better recognized and integrated.*
4. *Promote the development of new and holistic approaches: We will promote stronger and more comprehensive/holistic consideration of the RtFN, the rights of peasants, the right to a clean environment and the rights of future generations in strategic governance spaces, to overcome the persisting gap between environmental and human rights law. We will advance specific goals such as developing new approaches to the phasing out of agrotoxics, the protection of the right to land and territories in the context of climate change mitigation, conservation, regeneration and restoration, and a just transition to agroecology.*
5. *Expose the drivers of ecosystem destruction: We will expose the drivers of dispossession and ecosystem destruction and climate change, including corporate actors, financial markets, false climate and "nature-based" solutions, as well as digital and biotechnologies. We will advocate for human rights-based and gender sensitive public policies to ensure accountability and advance true solutions. We will promote peoples' knowledge systems and ways of knowing and defend peoples' self-determination over technologies.*

## **Slogans**

- People's Territories to Heal Mother Earth
- Right to Land and Water for Climate Justice
- People's Territories for Climate Justice
- Agroecological Agrarian Reform
- Empower People, Preserve Land: Equality, Ecology, Climate Action!

## OUR STRATEGIES: A SUITE OF EIGHT TOOLS

To achieve the goals specified above, we will use the following strategies. We will carefully select and combine them according to context, from local to global levels.

<b>CASE WORK</b>	<p>Case work remains the cornerstone of FIAN’s mission and collective identity. Our legitimacy in conducting case work stems from our direct engagement and unwavering solidarity with people whose RtFN is under threat. The main objective of case work is to document, analyze and make visible violations of the RtFN, strengthen the agency of affected right-holders, enhance their strategies to hold state actors accountable, and contribute to mobilizing support. Our case work methodology involves co-designing and co-planning case related actions with affected peoples, using participatory action research and other transformative methods. This methodology, while guiding all FIAN Sections, is a dynamic tool that we seek to improve and update through collaborative learning and engagement.</p>
<b>COMMUNITY AND PEOPLE’S MOBILIZATION</b>	<p>Community and people’s mobilization (CPM) is a process of strengthening the capacity of individuals, communities, grassroots organizations and people, to raise their voices and claim their rights through actions of resistance and non-violent protests. CPM is designed to bolster people’s capacity for human rights monitoring using people’s monitoring tools, and to ensure they are aware of their rights, and are equipped to use their knowledge of the RtFN for resistance and advocacy. CPM also seeks to foster global solidarity, and mobilize people to support the realization of human rights universally, even when violations occur far from their own communities. CPM should build on local and people’s initiatives and strive to be self-sustaining in the long term. It promotes self-organizing and self-advocacy, fostering collaboration with traditional leadership structures where appropriate. We will foster the exchange of experiences around CPM and will share good practices so as to replicate and strengthen these efforts in different contexts.</p>
<b>KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE SHARING</b>	<p>Internal knowledge sharing and co-construction fosters creativity, learning and adaptability within FIAN. Externally, it enables robust support for communities’ RtFN struggles. Exchanges within FIAN on different topics are instrumental in shaping the organization’s identity, strengthening collaboration and driving overall renewal. Capacity building unites communities and their supporters, linking different violations of human rights and holding accountable those responsible. Collaboration with academics and researchers further enhances knowledge co-construction. Over the years, we have developed several learning materials, tools, and co-constructed knowledge, but we need an overarching structure, strategy, and system to evaluate and monitor the impact of knowledge sharing and co-construction, so as facilitate access to learning materials, and enable quick interaction. To address this, we will establish a knowledge portal, which will include a comprehensive knowledge database.</p>

<p><b>COMMUNICATION FOR SOCIAL CHANGE</b></p>	<p>Communication is a fundamental part of FIAN International’s work and is integrated from the outset of each project. It is essential for mobilizing support and solidarity with persons and communities experiencing violations of the RtFN and connected rights. We aim to align communication objectives with policy objectives in our international advocacy, support for local and national struggles, awareness raising, capacity building and joint action in international networks. Our communications and policy teams, together with the communities we support, work to identify specific, realistic, achievable aims and target audiences. We select and utilize appropriate media channels and formats to reach decision-makers and other target groups. In supporting communities to raise awareness and enhance their capacity to articulate demands at regional/international levels, we translate technical terms into accessible, appropriate and simplified language and strive to translate our materials into indigenous languages when relevant.</p> <p>Within FIAN, the International Comms Group amplifies shared interests in the wider FIAN community’s work and develops participatory communication laboratories to experiment with new approaches towards the construction of common narratives. We are committed to strengthening these efforts and promoting collaboration between the IS and Sections, and more importantly between Sections -- with a particular emphasis on South-South collaboration.</p>
<p><b>HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORING AND ACCOUNTABILITY</b></p>	<p>Human rights monitoring and accountability are essential to ensuring that policies, laws, and institutions uphold human rights standards. Monitoring, documenting, and reporting human rights abuses are crucial steps. We build people's capacity to monitor human rights frameworks and create accessible tools to effectively use them. We gather ground-level evidence through participatory processes because they provide an accurate and comprehensive understanding of human rights situations, ensuring diverse voices are heard. We consolidate this information and translate it into human rights language and analysis. We engaging in litigation, including climate litigation, to hold accountable those responsible for human rights violations. Ultimately, we seek to influencing policy making and develop new legal frameworks to promote accountability for both state and non-state actors.</p>
<p><b>ADVOCACY</b></p>	<p>FIAN's advocacy strategy focuses on influencing policy and decision-making at all levels to promote and protect the RtFN and to address human rights violations and abuses. We work with affected groups to engage with governments, international and multilateral organizations, participate in legislative processes, develop public policies and advocate for the implementation of international human rights standards. Our evidence-based approach uses research and case work to highlight violations and propose concrete solutions. We amplify the voices of those directly affected by food insecurity and malnutrition, ensuring that their our efforts support their struggles. We seek to drive systemic change and promote human rights-based</p>

	governance, <sup>3</sup> emphasizing transparency and meaningful public participation, and strive to address the challenges posed by multi-stakeholderism. Our goal is to hold duty-bearers accountable under international human rights law.
<b>FACILITATING PROCESSES WITH TRANSFORMATIVE AND INTERSECTIONAL METHODOLOGIES</b>	FIAN employs transformative, feminist, and intersectional methodologies to tackle the root causes of food insecurity by addressing the multiple, interlocking systems of oppression—such as gender inequality, racial discrimination, colonial patterns and economic marginalization—that exacerbate hunger and malnutrition. Our work is rooted in the belief that lasting change can only be achieved by challenging these power structures and facilitating the voices in the margin. Organizing to defend the right to food and nutrition calls for transformative and intersectional approaches, along with new ways of understanding and redistributing power. This shift is essential to dismantling the forces that maintain inequality and oppression. We utilize transformative methodologies in both case work and community mobilization, helping grassroots movements to amplify their voices and demand policy changes. By ensuring that solutions are shaped by the diverse experiences of marginalized groups, we promote food systems that are inclusive, sustainable, and free from violence.
<b>BUILDING ALLIANCES AND RELATIONS WITH SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS</b>	We believe that social movements are vital actors and supporting them is essential for advancing the RtFN. Strengthening our networks with social movements, food producers, Indigenous Peoples, fisher peoples, pastoralists, food and agricultural workers, and grassroots organizations, as well as civil society organizations whose mission is similar to that of FIAN’s, is key to attaining FIAN’s vision and mission – a global task for all. We recognize that our effectiveness and growth depends on the ecosystem of our networks, alliances and relations at local, national, regional and global levels.

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<sup>3</sup> Global food governance refers to what decisions about food are made and implemented at a global level, how, where and by whom

## WEAVING A STRONG FIAN

To carry out our new strategic plan, FIAN needs to continue sowing, growing and caring for itself. As an organization, we commit to starting a process of collective reflection and elaboration of concrete proposals to be presented and voted at the next IC on how to:

**Build Safe(r) Spaces and Horizontal Processes:** Our governance unequivocally opposes discrimination, racism, gender violence, and colonial dynamics. This radical commitment to inclusivity, justice and caring practices is essential in dismantling oppressive systems and power relations and upholding the self-determination of individuals and communities as the beating heart of our human rights mandate, including inside FIAN. We are committed to fostering safe(r) working and activist environments across and within all FIAN entities and governance structures, and to actively address power imbalances and relations in all their forms. We will actively promote and celebrate our social and cultural diversity, and strive to create horizontal spaces, processes and relationships devoid of discrimination, gender violence, oppressive narratives, and harmful practices. To support this, we will assess if changes in governance bodies, guidelines or methodologies are needed.

**Regionalize FIAN:** Intensifying regional work through enhanced exchange, strengthened networks, and robust connections can help effectively address diverse challenges impacting the RtFN. Strengthening networking among sections, particularly in case work, advocacy, campaigns, and communications, can amplify local expertise and strategies. Solid collaborations can nurture unity across diverse regional territories, fortifying the global RTFN movement through shared resources and best practices. These efforts can create a cohesive network capable of swift and effective responses to emerging challenges. Enhancing regional work can boost advocacy and policy influence at both regional and global levels, amplifying our collective voice and driving policy changes. Regionalization can help bolster expertise across FIAN sections and allies, rectify existing power imbalance and hierarchical relations within FIAN, foster solidarity, enhance advocacy, and promote collaboration between sections and FIAN entities. It can also be a step toward horizontalization of FIAN.

**Strengthen the facilitation role of the International Secretariat (IS) and making our international work more resilient:** For strengthening collaboration among sections, particularly in case work, advocacy, campaigns, organizational development, funding and communications, we need to enhance the facilitation capacities of our IS. Solid collaborations can nurture unity across diverse sections and territories, fortifying the global RTFN movement through shared resources, knowledge and experiences. These efforts can create a cohesive network capable of swift and effective responses to the challenges we face for the realization of the RtFN. We will develop a new understanding of the IS tasks, roles and ways of working that can help horizontalize our organisation, reinforce the facilitation role of the IS and foster the resilience of our international work.

**Reinforce our financial stability:** Strengthening collaborative fundraising efforts is crucial for advancing FIAN's activities in a changing fundraising landscape, i Consolidating existing funding relationships and exploring new funding opportunities, by connecting related topics, including the emergence of new opportunities for fundraising for international work by sections in the Global South, enhances resource mobilization and cross-sectoral funding prospects. Collaborative and horizontal fundraising (e.g. with sections, allies and academics) builds stronger proposals, clarifies responsibilities and diversifies our donor network. Media and Communications can highlight FIAN's work, boosting fundraising. We will allocate dedicated staff time and resources to fundraising activities. We will also support grassroots communities in becoming autonomous and self-sustaining. In all fundraising efforts, we will maintain our independence, adhering to FIAN's Guidelines for the Engagement with the Private Sector and avoid any possible conflict of interest.



**Promote Generational Renewal:** Strengthening FIAN will go hand-in-hand with promoting generational renewal across all FIAN entities. This is essential for creating a more dynamic, robust, and sustainable organization. We will periodically suggest and review strategies for this Generational Renewal, with adequate participation of the younger generation within FIAN, particularly focusing on building a safe space for youth and ensuring sufficient involvement in our horizontal processes. We will strive for the inclusion of the youth's aspects related to all the strategies of FIAN, such as communication, outreach, alliances with other youth groups, and mobilization.

**Reinforce our collective identity and autonomy:** Maintaining and reinforcing our collective identity, including FIAN's visual identity, goes hand in hand with safeguarding our political and financial autonomy. FIAN membership fees and private donations can contribute to the financial autonomy and sustainability of FIAN bodies and sections rather than depending on institutional funds only. We will strive to cultivate and strengthen our collective identity and to diversify our funding sources to protect our political and financial autonomy.

## IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

All FIAN entities will work collectively toward the full implementation of the International Strategic Plan. FIAN Sections are encouraged to elaborate their own national strategic plans in line with the International Strategic Plan based on national realities and available resources and capacities.

Monitoring of the progress of the sections' strategic plans and their interconnection with the International Strategic Plan will be encouraged in FIAN's regional spaces.

While collective assessment of the implementation of the Strategic Plan will be carried out at IC meetings, Sections and the IS are encouraged to regularly monitor the implementation of this SP, thereby ensuring that the progress is tracked, and challenges are addressed. Mid-term monitoring will be conducted in 2027, and necessary adjustments will be made to stay on course.