



RIGHT TO FOOD AT COUNTRY LEVEL



Monthly Progress Note /// August 2013

[Right to Food at Country Level](#)

The FAO Project “GCP/GLO/324/NOR - Integrating the Right to Adequate Food and Good Governance in National Policies, Legislation and Institutions” (in short, Right to Food at Country Level) is a continuation of Norway’s support to Mozambique and the Plurinational State of Bolivia (Bolivia), and marks the beginning of activities in Nepal and El Salvador, all in view of strengthening national institutions and coordination mechanisms in their efforts to formulate policies and support the legislative process on food security and the right to food. The Project addresses country challenges by promoting the human rights-based approach in efforts to achieve food security at all levels - in legislation, policy and programme design, formulation, decision and implementation. The Project also allows FAO to participate to global efforts to mainstream human rights in development work.

The project organized two important workshops in **Nepal**, four days capacity development workshops one for civil society organizations and one for Government Officials on Monitoring the Human Right to Adequate Food, on 23-30 July 2013 in Nepalgunj, district of Banke, in joint collaboration with FIAN Nepal, the regional chapter of Right to Food Network of the country’s Mid-Western Region and the district Government authorities. The main objectives of both workshops were to enhance conceptual and practical knowledge on how to monitor the right to food, human rights and apply a human rights-based approach to monitoring. The first workshop aimed at creating a platform for CSOs at district and regional level to be more effective when working on monitoring the right to food. A total of 32 participants, including some representative from the media sector, attended the event. The workshop could benefit from the participants’ case documentation on right to food violation and vulnerable groups mapping which was analyzed, assessed and reviewed from a HRBA perspective. One of the most interesting outputs of the workshop was the number of interesting articles and reports on the workshop which came out on the national and local newspaper after the four days event and showed the increased understanding of the issue. The second workshop carried the same overall objectives however analyzed in depth a number of agriculture-related, food and nutrition security issues in order to clarify the linkages with human rights issues. A number of major challenges and gaps were identified when applying a HRBA in monitoring in the different sectors: forestry, agriculture, food distribution systems, and vulnerable groups mapping to name a few. A total of 42 participants, including from the District Agriculture Development Offices (DADO), attended the workshop. The group was facilitated by Dr. Suroj Pokherel from the [Crop Development Directorate](#) (CDD). At the end of the workshop, the participants produced an action plan which will be included in the report of the workshop.

From 22-27 August, the project also supported a mission to Nepal undertaken by the Project Manager. Three major events were held during the mission, in addition to a number of bilateral meetings with government officials: a Validation Workshop of the Law Review produced by the project, a document which provides an overview of the legal framework and jurisprudence concerning the right to food in Nepal. The workshop allowed FAO to share the findings and gather recommendations to improve the Law Review. The workshop offered an important platform for constructive and interactive dialogue. It specifically recommended the explicit inclusion of the right to food into the Constitution and the development of a legislative framework on the right to food. The second event held during the mission was the South-South Seminar on the Justiciability of the Right to Food organized jointly by FAO and the Ministry of Law, Justice, Constituent Assembly and Parliamentary Affairs of Nepal. It brought together about 70 participants for a whole-day exchange covering access to justice for the right to food at global, regional and national levels. Objectives of the Seminar were: to share and learn experiences on the right to food related to laws/policies and justiciability practices in the South Asian context; to consult with judicial and quasi-judicial recourse mechanism representatives to harmonize the justiciability of the right to food with national laws; and to look into a commitment from Government to develop a strategy to ensure the justiciability on the right to food in Nepal. Finally a press conference was organized to inform the public about the right to food, its major developments and to draw attention to the two above-mentioned events organized by FAO. The press conference was attended by the Project Manager together with the FAO Representative in Nepal, in addition to Gauri Pradhan, National Human Rights Commissioner and by the Indian Supreme Court’s Principal Advisor, Biraj Patnaik.

The Right to Food Team in FAO works on the implementation of the human right to adequate food, using the Right to Food Guidelines. Its vision is the one of a full realization of the right to food, through it being respected, protected and fulfilled for everyone, everywhere.

The Right to Food Team in FAO

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