

## Mainstreaming the Right to Food – The Sierra Leone Experience by Julia Roberts



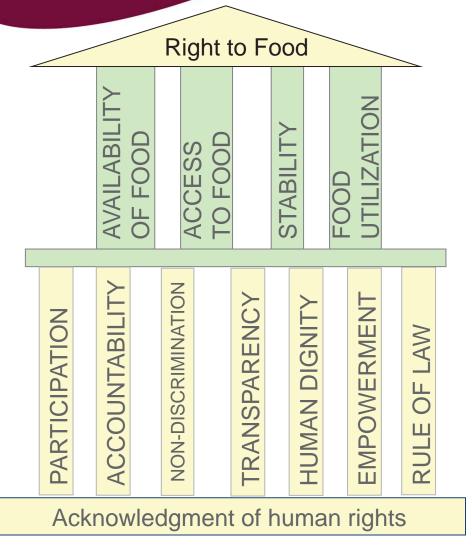
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What did the Right to Food in Sierra Leone plan to do?

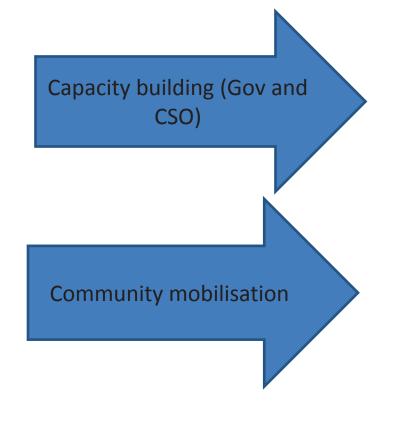
- Aim:Community and grassroots groups have the capacity to identify local food security and nutrition actions by applying simple planning techniques and making use of available information and knowledge.
- How: "Works with local government, NGOs and civil society organisations to integrate the Right to Food into district development planning in Kambia and Moyamba districts
- Facilitated by PEMSD (MAFFS) and the Decentralization
  Secretariat

#### The value added of the Right to Food



- Empower individuals to become actors of their own development, and proactive and engaged citizens.
- Acknowledging the importance of compliance with human rights principles and good governance practices, such as participation, transparency, non-discrimination and accountability.

Mainstreaming the Right to Food focus is on empowering individuals to become actors of their own development as proactive and engaged citizens



Improved District Development Planning

District Development Plans with FSN priorities and interventions

Increased efficiency and accountability

Community participation in planning M&E Empowered to make informed decisions for food and nutrition security

### **Community Participation**





- Improved process of District Development Plan formulation in Kambia District compared to previous years
- •Food self-sufficiency and right to food mentioned as toppriorities for the 2011-2013 development plan in Kambia
- Capacity to facilitate and advocate for community needs achieved bottom up approach from Ward to National level.

#### Lessons Learnt

Collaboration fostered between Civil Society and Local Government improves FNS awareness and attention.

➢ When civil society is strengthened to play a stronger role in district development they contribute more actively in the project management

Communication between the community, local authorities and CSOs is important to sustain the process

➢Working hand-in-hand with other stakeholders ensure effective resource mobilization to facilitate the process.

➤The capacity of Planning Officers to mobilise resources from all major stakeholders is crucial for successful community based planning

CSOs play a key role in community mobilisation

#### **Proposed Way Forward**

- ➢Continued collaboration with agriculture health and nutrition partners to mainstream right to food into the smallholder commercialization and other nutrition programs
- Establish Para-legal community recourse services to support mediation systems in the pilot districts
- Strengthen the coordination and networking mechanism at the national level
- ➢Collect, collate, document and disseminate lessons learned to encourage more countries to roll out the mainstreaming of the right to food

"Every individual is a rights-holder who is fully entitled to demand that the state perform these duties. But to every right, there is an obligation. Therefore individuals must see themselves as rightsholders and able to act as such. They also have the responsibility to ensure that they participate actively in the realization of the Right for Food and Nutrition Security to become sustainable."

# Thank you Merci