



Social protection to protect and promote nutrition

Discussion No. 90 from 3 to 24 June 2013

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) in cooperation with IFAD, IFPRI, UNESCO, UNICEF, World Bank, WTO, WFP and the High Level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis (HLTF), are jointly organizing the **Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN 2)** at FAO Headquarters, Rome from 19 to 21 November 2014. The ICN2 will be a high-level ministerial conference which will seek to propose a flexible policy framework to adequately address the major nutrition challenges of the next decades. It will also seek to identify priorities for international cooperation on nutrition in the near and medium-term. As part of the preparatory process for the conference, a technical meeting is to be held at FAO Headquarters 13-15 November 2013. More information is available at: www.fao.org/ICN2

To feed into and inform this meeting, a series of on-line discussions are scheduled to be held on selected thematic areas. This online discussion “Social protection to protect and promote nutrition”, promoted by IFPRI, ODI, IPC-UNDP, UNICEF, WFP and the World Bank as part of the ICN 2 Social Protection and Nutrition Task Force, aims to explore how the most disadvantaged and nutritionally vulnerable groups of society - low income, resource poor, food insecure, economically marginalized and socially excluded (especially women and children) - can be protected by an inclusive development process through the design and implementation of nutrition-enhancing social policies and social protection interventions. In this regard, please consult the [Concept Note on “social protection to protect and promote nutrition”](#).

The outcome of this online discussion will be used to enrich the discussions at the preparatory technical meeting on 13-15 November 2013 and thereby feed into and inform the main high level ICN2 event in 2014.

We would like to invite you to comment upon and further develop this Concept Note as well as to share your experiences and views on this thematic area by responding to the following questions:

- **What are the *main issues* for policy-makers to consider in the design, formulation and implementation of nutrition-enhancing social protection measures?**
- **What are the *key institutional and governance challenges* to the delivery of cross-sectoral and comprehensive social protection policies that protect and promote nutrition of the most vulnerable?**

- **In your experience, what are key *best-practices* and lessons-learned in fostering cross-sectoral linkages to enhance malnutrition and poverty reduction through social protection?**

Recent documents and fora that highlight the importance of these synergies include:

- [Social Protection for Food Security](#). A report by The High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition of the Committee on World Food Security, Rome 2012.
- [Improving Nutrition through multisectoral Approaches – Social Protection, World Bank document](#)
- [Talking points on social protection and nutrition, Centre for Social Protection](#)
- [Recent discussions on Post-2015 Development Agenda](#), in particular see the [outcome document](#) of the final event of the FAO-WFP Post 2015 led consultation on hunger, food security and nutrition
- Ongoing discussions and technical briefings on social protection and [food security and nutrition](#) at the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals.

We look forward to your contributions.

Nyasha Tirivari
Social Protection Specialist
On behalf of the ICN 2 Secretariat