



RIGHT TO FOOD AT COUNTRY LEVEL



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[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.

In Mozambique, the project’s national team and SETSAN, the main institutional partner of the Project, were heavily involved in the Meeting of the Ministers of Labor and Social Action of the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (CPLP), held in Maputo from 23 to 26 April. The final declaration adopted by the Ministers reaffirms the commitment of CPLP countries to strengthen the right to food, recognizing its fundamental role in the eradication of hunger and poverty in CPLP countries. Furthermore, the Declaration highlights the importance to pursue a social protection strategy in conjunction with other complementary sectors, such as education, health and agriculture which will maximize its positive impact on food security and nutrition.

Earlier on, the project also organized a [training on the right to food](#) for the members of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), an independent institution recently established with the function of safeguarding and promoting human rights within the country. Objectives of the training were to mainstream the right to food on their mandate and work plan and provide the members tools to monitor the right to food realization as well as its integration into national normative, strategies and policies. The training also aimed to open new perspectives for long-term institutional cooperation.

In the context of its Global Level Services, upon invitation of the Regional Office for Southern Africa of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the project made possible the participation by Ms Cecilia Luna Lopez, Senior Consultant , Right to Food, and Ms Marianna Bicchieri, FAO staff based in Mozambique, to the *Seminar on the implementation and promotion of Economic Social Cultural Rights: Discrimination in the context of the right to food in Southern Africa*. The seminar was organized by the OHCHR Regional Office for Southern Africa (ROSA), in close cooperation with the Government of Malawi and the UNCT Malawi, in Lilongwe, Malawi, on 3 and 4 April 2013. It had the objective to address the gaps in the realization of the right to food and to contribute to efforts by Member States to bridge such gaps, by discussing experiences and good practices, and by enhancing the capacity of civil society and NHRIs to contribute to the realisation of the right to food. FAO Officers had the opportunity to share experiences on how to integrate the right to adequate food in national policies, legislation and institutions; particularly, they discussed the lessons learned during the drafting process of the right to food law in Mozambique and issues related to gender discrimination in access to land.

The component was also key to the contribution made to the International Conference on Forests for Food Security and Nutrition, held in FAO headquarters on 13-15 May 2013, through the development of a background paper entitled [“A right to food based approach to enhance the contribution of non-wood forest products to food security and nutrition”](#) and developed in April 2013. This paper illustrates – through descriptions, analyses, examples and practical recommendations for all stakeholders involved in policy-making – how a right to food-based approach can be beneficial for the non-wood forest products (NWFP) sector. It also aims at equipping policy-makers with human rights tools that will maximize the contribution of NWFPs to improved food security and nutrition and to the realization of the right to food for all.

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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