



## RIGHT TO FOOD AT COUNTRY LEVEL



Monthly Progress Note /// December 2012

[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 month of December 2012 provided the project with the opportunity to organize, participate to a number of events and achieve important outputs. An important milestone was reached in **Mozambique** on December 14, when SETSAN, launched its website at <http://www.setsan.gov.mz/>, which undoubtedly represents an important tool for the secretariat’s communication, information and advocacy in areas related to FNS. The launch was chaired by His Excellency the Minister of Agriculture José António Pacheco Candugua and attended by different State institutions and organizations. The website is probably the first governmental virtual platform to explicitly include the right to food and present it as an institutional mandate. The Project supported the process behind its creation and launch, a continuation of FAO efforts aiming at supporting the implementation of the e-Government Strategy of Mozambique which has taken place in the past years.

In the context of its **Global Level Services**, the Project made possible the participation by the UN Special Rapporteur on the right to food Olivier de Schutter at a parallel session entitled “The Right to Food: How is it relevant to investment in agriculture and rural development?” organized on 18 December 2012 within the FAO *Investment Days*. The hour-and-a-half long session had the overall objective of exploring the interrelationship between the right to food and investment in agriculture and rural development (ARD), and how the two complement and reinforce each other. In his key-note speech, Olivier De Schutter outlined how the rights to food framework guides effective and sustainable ARD investment. He observed that “the role of the right to food in investment in ARD is basically one of squaring the triangle, i.e., taking the concerns of local communities in the tripartite relationship among capital exporting state, investors and the host state”. He added that respecting human rights gives investors a social license to operate and enables them meet the expectations of local communities, consumers, shareholders as well as states.

The Global Level Services component was key to the finalization of the *Guidance Note: Integrating the right to adequate food into food and nutrition security programmes*. The Guide is the result of an inter-departmental participatory process and close collaboration between the Integrated Food Security Support Service (TCSF) of the Policy and Programme Support Division (TCS) and the Right to Food Team of the Agricultural Development Economics Division (ESA), with numerous contributions from practitioners and experts from the field and FAO headquarters. The Guide will be shared with all relevant stakeholders in 2013.

Finally in **Bolivia**, on 7 December 2012, the National Project Team gave a training workshop for Journalists and Public Opinion Leaders. The workshop was attended by the most representative national media and it had the purpose of making the participants more aware about the importance of the right to food and how to access reliable information on food and nutrition security in Bolivia. It ended with the establishment of a network of such media representatives.

As we complete a very successful year 2012, we from the Project Team would like to wish the readers of these monthly progress notes a very happy New Year!

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*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.*

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