World Nutrition Cape Town 2016

Workshop proposal

Grabbing of natural resources, deprivation and displacement of indigenous peoples and the impact on the enjoyment of the human right to food and nutrition

Type of session - interactive presentations

Contributor details

Dr Flavio Luiz Schieck Valente (facilitator) FIAN International – Senior Advisor –Brazil

1. Mrinal Tripura – Coordinator, MAleya Foundation. Bangladesh – The Chitagong Hill Tracts case
3. Shruti Patidar– IUF. Assistent, India – The case of the Adivasi Tea Workers in India

The objective of the workshop is to exchange information among the three national experiences, identify common patterns of violations and to discuss ways through which public health professionals and academics can work together with Human Rights Defenders to document the structural pattern of the violations and damages caused to indigenous peoples by the aggressive grabbing of natural resources. The workshop consists of the presentations of the three cases, followed by the identification of common patterns of violations and possible ways in which public health professionals can support the documentation of the causal links, with the facilitated involvement of all participants.

Motivation – Indigenous peoples are, throughout the globe among the most affected by all forms of malnutrition, and in many countries for sure the most affected. This has been traditionally the result of discrimination, public policies that are not culturally adequate and the increasingly faster grabbing of the natural resources and territories traditional under the use and control of these peoples. At the same time, the indigenous population are usually rural, dispersed and mostly “invisible” to the State and to the public eye. This invisibility is even worse in what it relates to nutritional data, since the data are rarely stratified according to ethnic background, which few exceptions, and when they are the indigenous peoples sample, is usually too small to be statically
analyzed and compared to other groups. Therefore, the diagnosis of grave nutritional situations can only be made through localized case studies, which are usually beyond the technical capacity of regular human rights and/or development NGOs, and even of local public services. The proposed workshop deals with all the themes proposed for the Congress, without exception, demonstrating the challenge posed by frontal clash between the “development at any cost” and the basic survival of the indigenous peoples, and other traditional populations who depend on the sustainable access to and control over their territories for their livelihoods, and to feed the excluded. The panelists will have the role of presenting the cases and serving as resource people for the identification of the patterns of violation. The other participants are expected to come up with concrete proposal on how academia and researchers can support the documentation of the causal links, propose strategies to tackle the structural determinants, as well as emergency treatment for acute cases of malnutrition. The workshop is expected to have at least the following outcomes beyond the identification of structural patterns of violation and for strategies to overcome them:

1. Concrete steps towards the establishment of technical/institutional partnerships with nutrition institutions/groups to support each one of the cases;
2. Establishment of a working group in WPHNA or under the umbrella of the Global Network for the Right to Adequate Food and Nutrition, to facilitate the follow up process.

No known conflicts of interest.

FIAN International
IUF
FIAN Brasil
Maleya Foundation

1. Author Name and Surname – Flavio Valente
2. Co-Author/s Name and Surname – Mrinal Tripura, Valeria Burity, Shruti Patidar
3. Topic of Abstract/s - The right to health, food, water, land and resources
4. Title of Abstract/s - Grabbing of natural resources, deprivation and displacement of indigenous peoples and the impact on the enjoyment of the human right to food and nutrition
5. Type of Abstract/s (Example: Oral/Poster/Workshop) Workshop