Press Release of
FAO Representation in Nepal

On Wednesday May 27, the three Rome-based UN food agencies published the 2015 edition of their annual The State of Food Insecurity in the World (SOFI) Report.

The SOFI Report by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), and the UN World Food Program (WFP), presents new figures on the number of under-nourished people in the final year of the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) cycle, and identifies critical factors in the effort to combat hunger.

MDGs and Nepal

In 2013 – the latest year for which figures are available, the Government of Nepal and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) predicted that most of the targets – including those related to poverty and hunger, universal primary education, gender equality and women’s empowerment, and child mortality and maternal health, were likely to be met by the end of 2015. The targets that are unlikely to be met include those related to HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, environmental sustainability and global partnership.

According to “Nepal, Millennium Development Goals: Progress Report 2013”, the country is on track to reduce by half the population living below the poverty line (in comparison to the 1990 baseline). The contribution of remittances to poverty reduction is huge but its sustainability is doubtful. Regarding employment, the report says although the target could be attained, full and productive employment and decent work for all is unlikely to be achieved.

The Post – 2015 agenda for eradicating hunger in Nepal

At the dawn of the next chapter in Nepal’s continued efforts to eradicate hunger, FAO is fully committed to working with Government in this vital task. The Organization stands shoulder to shoulder with Government as implementation of the Zero Hunger Challenge begins. ¹

Following the launching event of the Zero Hunger Challenge (ZHC) in December 2014, the Government of Nepal has made institutional arrangements for the formulation and implementation of the National Action Plan, 2025.

Despite the recent devastating Earthquakes in Nepal the ZHC Initiative in Nepal will continue with its commitment to meet the goals of ZHC by 2025.

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¹ In response to the global problem of hunger and malnutrition, United Nations (UN) Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon launched the Zero Hunger Challenge (ZHC) at the Rio+20 Conference on Sustainable Development in June 2012, where he announced his vision for the future – a world free from hunger and malnutrition, Nepal launched ZHC initiatives on 19 December 2014.