

CALL FOR PARTICIPATION: Civil Society ICN2 Pre-Conference Event (ICN2 CS Forum)

17-18 November 2014 in Rome, Italy

On 19-21 November WHO and FAO will host the 2nd International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2) in Rome, Italy. The aim of this high-level ministerial conference is to propose a flexible policy framework to address today's major nutrition challenges and identify priorities for enhanced international cooperation on nutrition. Public interest civil society organizations (CSOs) and social movements (SMs) have been engaging with the ICN2 process since the Preparatory meeting in Rome in November 2013 and have committed to coordinating amongst themselves and organizing their collective engagement before, during and after the ICN2. **As part of this commitment, a group of CSOs and SMs are collaborating to hold a two-day Civil Society Forum immediately prior to the ICN2, and we invite CSOs and SMs throughout the world to submit their interest in participating in the Civil Society Pre-Conference Event on November 17-18, 2014 to be held at the University of Rome 3 Jurisprudence Faculty, in Rome, Italy.**

The main objectives of the ICN2 Civil Society Pre-Conference are to:

1. Assemble social movements, farmer's groups and public interest civil society organizations working on issues of malnutrition to assess the burden of malnutrition in-country and align agendas around the increasingly complex challenge of nutrition and its link with other issues;
2. Discuss and finalize the civil society vision statement to be read in the plenary of ICN2;
3. Discuss the civil society and social movements follow-up to the ICN2, including accountability mechanisms to track progress on commitments in the ICN2 political outcome document and framework for action.

Approximately 150 participants from CSOs and Social Movements will be invited to attend the Civil Society Pre-Conference. Pending confirmation from FAO and WHO, these participants would also be invited to partake in the ICN2. We are aiming at having 50% of participants from NGOs and 50% from social movement constituencies of those most affected by malnutrition and food insecurity (peasant farmers, artisanal fisherfolk, indigenous peoples, urban poor, agricultural workers etc.). Representatives from social movements will be selected by the organizations that legitimately represent them.

CSOs and SMs wishing to participate in the ICN2 Civil Society Pre-Conference should meet the criteria outlined below. We are aiming to have a balanced composition of participants in terms of gender, geography (with attention to countries with high burdens of malnutrition), and type and focus of organization.

Criteria for participation in ICN2 Civil Society Pre-Conference:

- Have a clear track record in and/or commitment to nutrition and nutrition-sensitive action and/or interest in exploring how nutrition issues are connected to their organisation's core concerns.
- Have actively participated in the preparatory process to date OR can demonstrate added value (for example by way of expertise or experience) in engaging from here onwards.
- Are connected beyond the ICN2 with networks and groups advancing the vision of the right to adequate food and nutrition for all and/or food security and sovereignty.
- Commit to listening to and engaging with other CS and SM partners and be willing and able to set aside differences, come to consensus where possible, but willing to articulate divergent viewpoints when necessary.
- Commit time or resources to ensure active engagement in the lead up to ICN2 and beyond, and engage in relevant follow up initiatives.

The deadline for applications to attend the Civil Society Pre-Conference is Friday 26 September 2014. [PLEASE APPLY HERE.](#)

Please send any questions to: info@thousanddays.org