PRESS RELEASE

Deutsche Welthungerhilfe and FAO intensify cooperation

Agreement covers food security, right to food, land tenure rights and sustainable development

9 September 2013, Bonn/Rome - The non-governmental organization Deutsche Welthungerhilfe and FAO will work more closely in their fight against hunger and poverty. The organizations signed an agreement on Monday in Rome, to promote the progressive realization of the right to food and improvements of the governance of land tenure for the benefit of all, with an emphasis on vulnerable and marginalized people.

“Only if we work together will we be able to successfully eradicate hunger and poverty,” said FAO Director-General José Graziano da Silva. “Cooperation with civil society groups like Welthungerhilfe is crucial to make the right to adequate and healthy food a reality.”

Deutsche Welthungerhilfe and FAO will work closely together to:

- engage in joint operational and training activities to promote and enhance food security and responsible governance of the tenure of natural resources;
- organize policy seminars, conferences, training workshops and expert meetings for promoting food security and sustainable economic development at global, regional and country level;
- promote networks on global, regional and national level in the fight against hunger and poverty;

“Deutsche Welthungerhilfe and FAO are both focusing on the eradication of hunger. The new cooperation will aim at results-oriented initiatives like the creation of Agriculture Business Centres to exchange knowledge about innovative agricultural production methods with smallholders and to inform about land tenure rights and how they can be realized,” said Wolfgang Jamann, Secretary-General of Welthungerhilfe.

Welthungerhilfe, founded in 1962, grew out of FAO’s Freedom from Hunger Campaign. It has carried out more than 7,100 projects worth approximately € 2.5 billion in more than 70 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America and is presently working in 39 countries.