

## Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2) 19 – 21 November, 2014, Rome

ICN2 started with the registration in FAO building Rome on November 19. There were more than 172 countries participated in the conference where state level (government) representatives, public sector, non –state organizations (NGOs), academia, UN organizations and dinners and civil society were present.

In the second day of conference, very respected religious dignitary Pope Francis urge politicians from around the world to view food and nutrition and the environment as global public issues at this important time when nations are more tightly linked with each other than ever before. He further added that despite there being enough food for everyone, food issues are regularly subject to manipulated information, claims about national security, corruption and 'teary-eyed' evocations of economic crisis, Francis said. "That is the first challenge we need to overcome," he said, urging that the rights of the human person need to be embedded in all aid and development programs.



There were plenary and several parallel sessions were arranged on various issues and case studies at the conference

At the time of special remark FAO Director-General José Graziano da Silva said that it is first time in the history, humanity can say that misery is not fate and that hunger is completely avoidable," said while introducing the pontiff. "The presence of his Holiness here with us today reflects an ecumenical meeting on this point that is that is increasingly spreading among peoples of different latitudes, cultures and points of view.

Queen Queen Letizia of Spain delivered a speech on Thursday at the ICN2 where she highlighted the special role of women in combating unacceptable levels of hunger in the world. Furthermore, the Spanish queen suggested that more educational opportunities to women would contribute to improved nutrition. She also urge the food industry to reconcile commercial interests and political responsibility and join the campaign to eradicate obesity, an epidemic that no country in the world has managed to conquer. Queen also highlighted the need of research on nutrition matter and pointed out the requirement of raising the funds that needed to support scientific research to make an independent and effective breakthrough of malnutrition.

Minister of Agriculture Ministry also delivered his speech on that occasion and stated various progress made by Nepal to combat malnutrition and various strategies on agriculture are also being made to make priority of people's wellbeing. In one of the

Parallel session about UN Nutrition Network's support to countries' stunting reduction efforts was done with case study of Bangladesh, Rwanda and Peru. All the three UN Nutrition Network's support UN agencies presented a success stories about their respected countries. In a concluding remarks Werner Schultink, Director Nutrition, UNICEF expressed his happiness that since his tenure of last 20 years no talk about nutrition like of today is been happened e.g. all the very important persons like Pope and Queen started speaking about nutrition which is a testimony of increasing interest in Nutrition. He admired the role of civil society to raise the voice for needful action is emerged as very important and further stressed for result based budget to accelerated the nutrition action.

