

February 2013

## The Hunger Project - Switzerland

Event of The Hunger Project Switzerland and Germany with Fraueninfo:  
„Female quota – What does that mean globally?“  
on the 12 March at 7 p.m. in the Royal Auditorium in Basel

The quota-discussion is held in whole Europe. The well-known Parliamentary Speaker o.d. from Germany, Rita Süßmuth, will give a brief insight. In India, one third of all council seats are reserved for women (in some areas 50%). Rita Sarin, Country Director of The Hunger Project in India, will report on what this law means for overcoming chronic hunger and poverty. In the ensuing panel discussion, these speakers will exchange views on the benefits of female quota together with Petra Jen-



ner, CEO Microsoft Switzerland, Matthias Mölleny, founder and CEO of “PeopleXpert” and Helena Trachsel, Director Office for Gender Equality for men and women in Zurich. The discussion is led by the former Swiss TV presenter Helen Issler. It will be an exciting evening, enriched with an aperitif. You are cordially invited and we are looking forward to your active participation! Please recommend this event and sign up by email, fax, telephone or mail to the indicated hunger project-address below. We would be delighted to see you on this occasion.

THE  
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PROJECT



### THE HUNGER PROJEKT SWITZERLAND

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## The Hunger Project – Global News

### THP against rape

The Hunger Project Bangladesh and National Girl Child Advocacy Forum have organized a Human Chain on 3 January, 2013 in front of the National Press Club raising voice to bring the rapists of a young girl child and their perpetrators to exemplary penalty. More than 400 representatives of 37 organizations, institutions and the civil society have participated in the assembly and expressed their revulsion against these rapscallions.

On 6 December, 2012, a band of rapists captivated a 15 year old school girl, Sathi Akter Moyna, of Madhupur, Tangail, in a place and molested her for 4 consecutive days. The rapists also recorded the whole incident in video. The girl was then left unconscious on a rail track, from where she had been salvaged by the locals. The traumatized girl has been admitted to the One Stop Crisis Centre at Dhaka Medical College Hospital. Her condition is deteriorating day by day. She is now under intensive treatment with sedatives and psychiatric counseling.

On 14 December, the family of the girl was offered with a



monetary compensation in a local arbitration. The family refused to accept the offer and filed a case in local Police Station on 30 December. The police has arrested the rapists and their abettor but surprisingly who seemed to get bail. The Hunger Project and National Girl Child Advocacy Forum have organized a protest in the court yard on 2 January, 2013, which then influenced the process to send them for remand.

The Country Director of The Hunger Project Bangladesh, Dr. Badiul Alam Majumdar mentioned rape as the most heinous act and asked the government to immediately proceed for the most appropriate punishment for these culprits. THP Bangladesh initiated a nation-wide protest against rape in the premises of the National Parliament on 10 January 2013, in collaboration with some other congruous organizations.

### Story of an Epicenter Partner in Burkina Faso

„My name is Bella Habibou, resident of the village of Boulkon, from the township of Arbolé. I am 41 years old. We are currently in August and it is the lean period, I've come to buy grains for my family at the food bank of the epicenter.

You know this year rains having not been sufficient during the past season harvests also were bad. The small quantity of grain we had, we've consumed it at the end of six months. I went to the market but I did not find grain to buy, the grain seller told me his stock has been emptied one week ago.

At the same time the committee of the epicenter gave information to the populations of the partner- villages that at the epicenter's food bank, they will proceed to the sale of grain at fair prices and on credit that is refundable as soon as the first harvest is acquired. That's the reason I've come to buy some. I realized that the suggested price was twice as cheap and



in addition to that I also had the possibility of having it on credit.

We are 6 in all: my husband, our 3 children, my husband's little brother and myself. I have got a bag of 100 kilograms and that could help me to make it to the period of early harvests like maize and soja. Taking in

account this situation, the government had also placed at the disposal of the populations stocks at reduced prices but the quantity was insufficient. Facing this situation we recognize the necessity of the food bank for our populations and that comforts us for a great mobilization regarding its supply at the convenient period through the purchases

and the installation of the Community fields as well as the need for a multiplication of the cereal banks in other villages.

We once more thank Hunger-Project and by the same way all its partners for this support how much priceless for the populations' food self-sufficiency achievement.”