

Protecting Land Rights and Ensuring Food Security in the Time of COVID-19

2020

ANGOC Annual Report





Founded in 1979, the **Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC)** is a regional association of national and regional networks of civil society organizations (CSOs) in Asia actively engaged in promoting food sovereignty, land rights and agrarian reform, sustainable agriculture, participatory governance, and rural development. ANGOC network members and partners work in 10 Asian countries together with some 3,000 CSOs and community-based organizations (CBOs). ANGOC actively engages in joint field programs and policy discussions with national governments, intergovernmental organizations (IGOs), and international financial institutions (IFIs).

The complexity of Asian realities and diversity of CSOs highlight the need for a development leadership to service the poor of Asia --providing a forum for articulation of their needs and aspirations as well as expression of Asian values and perspectives.

ANGOC can be reached at:


33 Mapagsangguni Street
Sikatuna Village, Diliman
1101 Quezon City, Philippines
P.O. Box 3107, QCCPO 1101, Quezon City, Philippines
Tel: +63-2 8351 0581 Fax: +63-2 8351 0011
Email: angoc@angoc.org

2020
ANGOC Annual Report



Protecting Land Rights and
Ensuring Food Security in the
Time of COVID-19





Production team: Nathaniel Don Marquez, Denise Hyacinth Joy Musni, Marianne Jane Naungayan, Joseph Onesa, Lennie Rose Cahusay, Roger Nueva

Layout and design: Joseph Onesa

Cover artwork: Kazuyoshi N. Sanada

Photo credits: ALRD, CSRC, KPA, Ekta Parishad, Star Kampuchea, XSF

Citation:

Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC). (2021). *2020 ANGOC Annual Report: Protecting Land Rights and Ensuring Food Security in the Time of COVID-19*. Quezon City, Philippines: ANGOC.

ANGOC Vision Statement

“Vibrant, peaceful, diverse Asian rural communities, living in harmony with nature as stewards of the earth, whose members are able to realize their full human potentials, collectively chart their path to development, provide for their present and future needs, and share equitably the fruits of their labors in community celebrations of Life”

ANGOC Mission Statement

“ANGOC network will serve as a platform for and enhance capacities of Asian CSOs working on food security and sustainable livelihoods through the promotion of land and resource rights and smallholder agriculture”

ANGOC Goal Statement

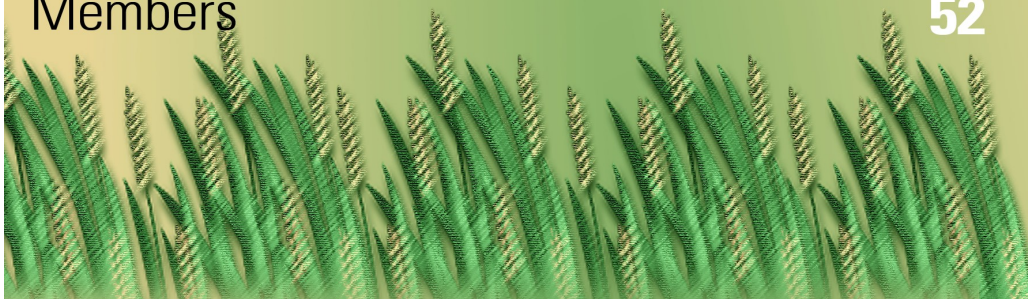
For 2015-2020, ANGOC as a knowledge center shall:

- advocate for land and resource rights of the rural poor; and,
- promote smallholder agriculture towards sustainable food systems and livelihoods

through a broad platform of Asian CSOs (and individuals) that challenges the development agenda, reforms institutions, and fosters the exchange of critical lessons, tools and approaches towards enhanced food security, equitable land rights, effective and responsible governance and sustainable livelihoods.

TABLE of CONTENTS

ANGOC Vision-Mission-Goals	5
Message of the Chairperson, Vice Chairpersons and Executive Director	7
Asia's land and agriculture status in the context of COVID-19 pandemic	11
ANGOC's contribution to pursuing land and resource rights	18
ANGOC's contribution to enhancing smallholder agriculture towards sustainable food systems and livelihoods	28
Institutional Updates	34
2020 Knowledge Products	38
2020 Calendar of Major Activities	46
Board of Trustees	51
Members	52



Message of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairpersons, and Executive Director

2020 is an unforgettable year. It caught us by surprise, as the COVID-19 virus was upgraded as pandemic in March. Suddenly, most of the countries in the world found themselves padlocked and isolated, with little or no information of what to do to stem its tide.

Interaction with communities was reduced mostly through digital means (cellular phones) and face-to-face workshops and other events were redirected to online platforms.

Slowly we have continued and continue to witness how the pandemic has exposed many of our underlying fragilities and risks as a people and a community of peoples – a heartless economy with widening inequities, destruction of our endangered environment, unjust distribution of land and natural resources for shelter and livelihood, growing pollution, and the absence of universal health care, all amidst our planet's growing vulnerability to the impacts of climate change.

Even before the outbreak of COVID-19, as per "2019 State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World" prepared by FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, and WHO, an estimated 821 million people worldwide were already undernourished in 2018, with the majority of the world's hungry people living in low-income countries, where 12.9 percent of the population is undernourished.

The food system is directly affected by the pandemic through disruptions in the food supply chains and markets. At the same time, the capacity to produce and distribute food is hampered as a result of loss of jobs and decreases in purchasing power, especially of those who are poor and vulnerable. Without access to land, markets and inputs, livelihoods of smallholder farmers have even become less secure. Food producers who also rely on non-farm and off-farm work to support their livelihoods are constrained in their ability to travel to their employment. Nationwide lockdowns and restrictions on trade and travel have disrupted food chains, which in turn have crippled the livelihoods of small farmers across Asia, where agriculture remains the backbone of most nations' economies.

This prompted the ANGOC Network to reflect and subsequently issue in eight languages the **Statement on Protecting Land Rights and Ensuring Food Security in the Time of COVID-19** (<https://angoc.org/news/angoc-statement-on-protecting-land-rights-and-ensuring-food-security-in-the-time-of-covid-19/>).

The Network calls for a fundamental restructuring of our food system – towards strengthening local food systems, providing real support for small farmers and producers, building equitable access and control of land and resources, and ensuring sustainable management of resources.

In the absence of government or humanitarian support in the early stages of the pandemic, communities and CSOs have played a critical role during this crisis. Asian CSOs, including the ANGO Network members have been actively calling on their countries' governments to address the crisis through mass testing, support for the public health sector, and aid for poor and vulnerable populations. But they were also very much involved in directly providing aid to constituent communities. A video documentation of such initiatives can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wDDTPzh3uns>.

Donation drives abound. Apart from cash, members such as STAR Kampuchea, Ekta Parishad, and Sarvodaya provided food, water, sanitation materials, seeds, and agricultural support to its partner communities.

Noting the difficulties of producers, CSOs also helped sell agricultural produce and helped deliver them from rural areas to cities, through online markets on social media pages, mobile apps, and partnerships with distributors. In India, Ekta Parishad also initiated livelihood projects in villages to enable communities to cope with the economic difficulties brought on by the pandemic.

In Indonesia, Konsorsium Pembaruan Agraria (KPA), partnered with labor unions to provide food directly sourced from farmers, to laborers impacted by unemployment as many factories close down. KPA also organizes food exchange mechanisms between fisherfolk and farmers affected by the crisis. In Nepal, staff of the Community Self-Reliance Centre (CSRC) contributed Rs. 260,457 (approximately US\$ 2,265) for the food needs of their partner communities. They also provided health and sanitation materials.



Many CSOs advocating for land rights, also became information hubs on health and COVID-19. Organizations released pamphlets, infographics, and videos disseminated through online platforms on how COVID spreads, prevention measures, COVID-19 symptoms, and measures to undertake in cases of infection or health emergencies. In Bangladesh, the Association for Land Reform and Development (ALRD) also distributed IEC video materials which were shown on television.



In Sri Lanka, Sarvodaya mobilized the technological know-how of the youth to launch online IECs tackling COVID, as well as materials intended to counter the new strands of hate speech, stigma, and discrimination pointed against certain groups in light of the emergence of the virus.

Some of ANGOC members, partners and the ANGOC Regional Secretariat have started documenting the effects of the pandemic on local farmers, indigenous, and fisherfolk communities, highlighting their needs and providing policy analyses and recommendations for government to respond to such needs.

It is through these documentation efforts that we are able to understand how tenure insecurity affects food security and adaptive capacity during crises like pandemics; how the lack of strong, localized food systems leave communities vulnerable to hunger during global economic shocks; how control over forests must be provided to indigenous groups because it is through traditional conservation practices that we may prevent the emergence of new zoonotic diseases; among many other things.

It is through these documentation efforts that we are able to understand how tenure insecurity affects food security and adaptive capacity during crises like pandemics; how the lack of strong, localized food systems leave communities vulnerable to hunger during global economic shocks; that control over forests must be provided to indigenous groups because it is through traditional conservation practices that we may prevent the emergence of new zoonotic diseases; among many other things.

At the same time, CSOs pursued monitoring, campaigns, and advocacy work. For instance, the NGO Federation of Nepal (NFN) is directly involved in the monitoring and refinement of government efforts to respond to this crisis.

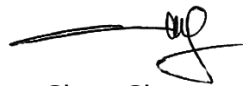
Though the roundtable discussions and workshops that explore the effects of the pandemic on vulnerable groups, and that take into account how societal factors and inequality of access and control over resources contributed to the emergence of the pandemic, CSOs have been working to forward recommendations to ensure that the devastation from this pandemic will never be seen again. For example, the Philippine Partnership for the Development of Human Resources in Rural Areas (PhilDHRRA), apart from conducting its own relief efforts, organized an online forum on *The Importance of Land Use in the Time of a Pandemic*.

Despite the restrictions imposed by the pandemic protocols, the ANGOC Regional Secretariat also continued to conduct fora, workshops, and training courses through online platforms.

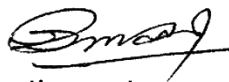
In 2020, ANGOC produced a total of 87 knowledge products which cover topics such as land governance, land tenure, food security and nutrition, resource rights, conservation, and indigenous peoples' rights.

As we enter into a new decade, still battling the COVID-19 pandemic, we come across slivers of hope as countries begin to launch vaccination programs. Yet the previous year also saw increased repression of CSOs and the land rights movements across the region, with the passage of contentious laws such as the Omnibus Law in Indonesia, Anti-Terror Law in the Philippines, and New Farm Laws in India.

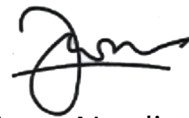
In the midst of 2020's crises, we have come to affirm that the advocacies we have been carrying for decades remain important and relevant. We have also come to see that we as CSOs have to continue being flexible and adaptable, constantly rethinking how we can work towards the changes we desire, for us to be able to cope with every new curve ball thrown our way by this fast-paced world.



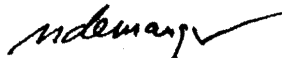
Chet Charya
Chairperson



Jitram Lama
Vice Chairperson (South Asia)



Iwan Nurdin
Vice Chairperson (Southeast Asia)



Nathaniel Don Marquez
Executive Director

Asia's land and agriculture status in the context of COVID-19 pandemic¹

As of 10 December 2020, nearly 18 million people in Asia are infected by the COVID-19 virus, causing the death of more than 300,000 people in the region. Attempts to control the spread of the virus, along with the public's fear of infection, have led to lockdowns and widespread economic distress. The most profound effects of COVID-19 have been on livelihood and food systems, especially of the most vulnerable groups throughout the region. The economic fallout of COVID-19 has resulted in a sudden decline in incomes and revenue across sectors.

The pandemic has inflicted real suffering, deepened pre-existing inequalities and poverty, and raised concerns over governance and the unsustainability of current development models – amidst our planet's growing vulnerability to the impacts of climate change.

The pandemic is triggering a global recession never before experienced since the late 1940s. According to recent World Bank estimates, the global economy is expected to contract by about five percent in 2020². For Asia, the pandemic is projected to result in a loss of 6 to 9.5 percent of regional GDP in 2020.

Overseas remittances, often seen as the lifeline for poor families especially in countries like the Philippines and Bangladesh, is also declining with the loss of jobs abroad. In October, the World Bank estimated that remittances to Low to Middle Income Countries would drop by at least 14 percent by 2021 as a result of the pandemic.

The lives of girls and women have been affected disproportionately and differently from men. Across the region, women earn less, save less, hold less secure and multiple jobs, and are more likely to be employed in the informal sector. They have less access to social protections and are the majority of single-parent households. Household work has increased, with children out-of-school, heightened care needs of older persons and overwhelmed health services. Women are at the forefront of the COVID-19 response as family caregivers and as the majority of unpaid or poorly paid community health workers. Crowded homes, substance abuse, limited access to services and reduced peer support are exacerbating these conditions.³ It is said that a staggering two out of five women in South Asia have experienced intimate partner violence.⁴ And COVID-19 has worsened the situation due to movement restrictions imposed during lockdowns, and families are confined within their homes.

¹ Mainly lifted from the ANGO Statement on Protecting Land Rights and Enhancing Food Security in the Time of COVID-19 and from the paper written by former ANGO Chairperson and Executive Director Antonio "Tony" Quizon for the video conference on *"Land and Food Rights at a Time of Covid-19 and Beyond"* organized by the Association for Land Reform and Development (ALRD) and The Daily Star last 18 December 2020.

² IOM and WFP. "Populations at Risk: Implications of COVID-19 for Hunger, Displacement and Migration." https://www.iom.int/sites/default/files/populations_at_risk_-_implications_of_covid-19_for_hunger_migration_and_displacement.pdf

³ United Nations. "Policy Brief: The Impact of COVID-19 on Women". 09 April 2020. <https://www.unwomen.org/-/media/headquarters/attachments/sections/library/publications/2020/policy-brief-the-impact-of-covid-19-on-women-en.pdf?la=en&vs=1406>

⁴ Solotaroff, Jennifer L.; Pande, Rohini Prabha. 2014. "Violence against Women and Girls: Lessons from South Asia." South Asia Development Forum: World Bank Group, Washington, DC. <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/20153>

Vulnerable groups of the poor, elderly, women, and children not only face greater risks of being infected by the virus, also receive less attention. Competition between priorities for government resources has led to tensions between health care and long-term food security priorities.

As incomes and livelihoods of the poor and vulnerable have been threatened, the poor's access to safe, diverse, and healthy food has been challenged. In Asia, it is estimated that 10.5 million children under five are suffering from wasting, 78 million children stunted, and 17 million overweight even before the pandemic impact (UNICEF 2020). As schools close due to the pandemic, school meal programs have been suspended, significantly affecting low-income children's access to healthy and balanced diets.⁵ In India, over 120 million children have lost access to their mid-day school meals, with the closure of schools due to COVID-19.

The need for secure land and housing tenure has become crucial for everyone, as never before. Most affected are families without security of tenure, living in poor housing conditions and crowded spaces with inadequate ventilation, water and sanitation, who run the risk of being stigmatized and evicted by host communities when health outbreaks occur. They also have low access to health care, and their lack of job security makes them more vulnerable to spikes in food prices. The absence of nutritious food further increases their vulnerability to infections and morbidity.

With restrictions on transportation, daily wage laborers and informal sector workers have lost their incomes, and many are being forced to leave their homes due to their lack of legal tenure and inability to pay rent. Most vulnerable are the homeless and migrant workers who, with the loss of jobs in cities, have been forced to return to their rural roots, many walking hundreds of kilometers just to be with their families. In India, the biggest lockdown in history of 1.3 billion people, has left many millions of migrant workers unemployed and stranded in megacities, forced to take risky, long journeys back to their remote villages. In South Asia, an estimated 10 percent of rural migrant workers have fled the cities and returned to their rural homes.

People in countries and areas of conflict are particularly at increasing risk. In Myanmar, approximately 130,000 internally displaced persons from different communities are confined in camps in Rakhine State, while more than 800,000 – mostly Rohingya who were forced to flee in 2017 – are refugees in Bangladesh.

The pandemic has had disproportional impacts on the lives of indigenous peoples, due to pre-existing barriers in access to health, social security and education, as well as higher incidences of severe poverty, and social discrimination – even as they lose their livelihoods and enter into debt.

⁵ See "Joint statement on nutrition in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic in Asia and the Pacific." 17 April 2020. <https://www.unicef.org/eap/media/5211/file>

Rising poverty, inequality and food insecurity

“ In a pandemic, the poor starve,
while the rich rearrange their menus. ”

According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), world food prices in early 2020 hit a six-year high due to the coronavirus pandemic, further driving food inequality.⁶

More and more, poor households are forced to cut down on the quantity and quality of their food consumption, with potentially lasting impacts on nutrition and health. Already the UN World Food Programme (WFP) has warned that an additional 130 million people could face undernourishment by the end of 2020, on top of the 135 million people who were already undernourished before the crisis.

Small farmers across Asia remain in the frontlines of this pandemic, by continuing to be major suppliers of rice, grains, pulses, vegetables, and seafoods, yet small farmers and producers, rural artisans and indigenous peoples continue to be deprived of access and control over productive resources (i.e., land, water, forests and coastlines) on which they depend for livelihoods. It should be noted that Asia accounts for an estimated 87 percent of the world's small farms. As such, land is essential for food security and livelihoods, particularly for small food producers who generate 80 percent of the world's food. Yet, most of the world's small food producers do not have secure, legally recognized tenure rights.



Moreover, increasing corporate control of the food industry has further compounded the situation of Asia's small farmers as they face a new layer of barriers – difficulty in accessing services, credit and markets, weak extension services, and pricing policies that work against small farmers. This alienation process of farmers from the value chain has been magnified with the onslaught of the COVID-19 pandemic which has undermined the ability of small food producers to access their land and the natural resources they need, thereby rendering them more vulnerable to encroachment on their tenure rights.

⁶“World food prices hit 6-year high amid COVID pandemic.” 03 December 2020. <https://www.dw.com/en/world-food-prices-hit-6-year-high-amid-covid-pandemic/a-55809293>

Throughout Asia today, small food producers are finding their movements and ability to access water, seeds, labor, forest resources, as well as the very land upon which they rely for their livelihoods, severely restricted, leaving them more vulnerable to encroachment on their tenure rights. On the other hand, certain large-scale land-based investments, such as mining, have been declared essential services' thus benefiting from expedited administrative decisions and some de-regulation. There are already documented cases of deals on contested lands, increasing conflicts, evictions, and other land rights-related violations in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. Yet, government measures to protect vulnerable populations, including from evictions, have been ignored in certain places. Compounding this situation, vulnerable groups are experiencing less access to mediation and judicial systems for recourse.

Across Asia, lockdowns to contain the spread of COVID-19 have made farmers and indigenous people more vulnerable to losing their land. Farmers have been unable to tend to their fields, and some indigenous people kept from forests because of restrictions on movement, making it easier for illegal loggers and companies to encroach their land.

Weak tenure rights and poor forest governance have been exacerbated by the pandemic situation, and private companies are said to be moving ahead with their controversial operations. In Indonesia, two farmers were killed in March in clashes over a long-standing land dispute with a palm oil firm in South Sumatra province, according to the Indonesian Forum for the Environment (WALHI). In India, authorities have relaxed environmental norms for mining and industrial projects, with the lockdown making it impossible for people "even to resist" the threats to their land, said Tushar Dash, an Indian forest rights campaigner. Elsewhere in the Asian region, with police and security forces engaged in enforcing lockdowns, cases of illegal logging have been reported in Nepal, Myanmar, Cambodia and Indonesia.⁷

In Eastern Cambodia, news reports say that a Vietnamese agribusiness company Hoang Anh Gia Lai (HAGL) illegally cleared swathes of land in Rattanakiri Province that belonged to indigenous farming communities. Despite pledges to return the land to local farmers (under a mediated agreement back in 2015), the company bulldozed sacred sites, burial grounds, traditional hunting areas, farmlands, wetlands and old-growth forests, while local residents sheltered at their home due to COVID-19.⁸ This case has been a decade-long dispute between the company and 12 ethnic minority communities in Rattanakiri Province.

⁷ See Chandran, Rina. "Land conflicts flare across Asia during coronavirus lockdowns". 15 May 2020. <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-landrights-trfn-idUSKBN22R0U9>

⁸ See East-West Center (2020). "Impact of COVID-19 on Rice Farmers in Southeast Asia", 03 July 2020. <https://www.eastwestcenter.org/system/tdf/private/ewwire052foxetal.pdf?file=1&type=node&id=37821>

Also, governments are pushing through with controversial government projects like dams that seek to displace indigenous communities from their lands. In the Philippines, communities near the site of a planned dam on the Kaliwa River have reported an increased military presence as the government attempts to push the project through during the pandemic amidst quarantine restrictions. The *Alyansa Tigil Mina* (Alliance to Stop Mining) reported that the country is seeing a move to ramp up new mining permits as well as illegal mining during the pandemic.

The pandemic has also increased rural indebtedness, forcing small farmers to pawn or sell-off their lands. In poor countries with little regulatory oversight, moneylenders have targeted rural villages where residents have limited financial acumen. In Cambodia where the average yearly income is a meagre US\$1,700, borrowers in 2019 racked up a total debt of US\$10 billion to microfinance lenders. This puts the kingdom at an average loan of US\$3,804 per person – the highest amount in the world, according to local human rights group *LICADHO*. Defaulting borrowers are often forced to take on new loans to pay old debts. And with a lack of enforcement, illegal lenders have been offering high interest rates of up to 30 percent over a year, according to LICADHO. And with the loss of jobs and incomes, many rural villagers are forced to sell off their homes and farmlands.⁹ Human rights groups in Cambodia meanwhile have called for the government to put a freeze on loan repayments and demanded that lenders return more than one million land titles currently held as collateral.



⁹See Channel News Asia. “‘Strangled by debt’: COVID-19 deepens Cambodia’s loan crisis.” 15 November 2020. <https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asia/microfinance-debt-covid-19-deepens-cambodia-loan-crisis-13553126>

Land rights activists worldwide are at heightened risk now, with their access to justice also stymied because of the lockdowns, said Michel Forst, the former United Nations special rapporteur for human rights defenders. "Land and environmental defenders are sitting ducks," he said in a statement. "If their lives were at risk before, this pandemic has only exacerbated an already difficult situation."

Meanwhile, agrarian reform programs of government have slowed down, as State operations are reduced, and funds are diverted elsewhere.

In many countries many landless agricultural workers are left without work due to travel restrictions, and the setting up of internal border checkpoints. Agricultural workers are not being properly paid during the pandemic. Also, there is virtually no institutional forms of social protection for farmers and agricultural workers.

During the COVID-19 crisis, rural women have become more vulnerable to gender-based violence while facing more limited access to justice since support centers are closed or operated under restricted movement orders. The complexities of government administrative procedures and discriminatory customary and social norms can put women at risk, especially in places where birth certificates, land titles and other legal documents are entrusted to male family members. Given the social and customary barriers, as well as the difficulties in navigating these administrative requirements, it can be particularly difficult for women to secure their land rights. Women often face greater economic losses as a result of such crises (including the COVID-19 pandemic) due to their greater vulnerabilities and lack of tenure security. Indeed, there are reports of women being forced to cede their land after losing their husbands to COVID-19.

Pastoralist and IP communities have also been notably impacted, as national borders have closed, and movements have been restricted within national territories. COVID-19 has also heavily affected indigenous peoples and forest-dependent communities, as many have been prevented from going out to continue the gathering of non-timber forest products. Also, the loss of livelihoods will most likely lead to increased over-exploitation of already scarce natural resources, as well as increased food insecurity and poverty. At the same time, illegal mining, timber extraction and poaching have reportedly increased, due to reduced enforcement capacities and the diversion of political attention towards COVID-19 and economic recovery.

What seems to be unfolding in the current COVID-19 health crisis is an environment where it is easier to violate the tenure rights of vulnerable populations. This underscores the importance of ensuring that the most vulnerable receive enhanced protections during the COVID-19 period and beyond.

Curtailment of civil and political rights at a time of COVID-19

Finally, as politicians and State leaders have taken advantage of the pandemic to consolidate their power and stifle dissent, inequities have further increased that lead to hunger and poverty. Across a number of Asian countries, civilians and social activists alike point out disturbing instances of increased State militarization and aggressive policing; and government crackdowns on dissent, media and free speech.

In the Philippines, dissenters and activists are now being threatened under a new Anti-Terrorism Act of 2020 that many believe was enacted to stifle opposition to the government. The law was hurriedly legislated in July 2020 while the country was under a pandemic lockdown, and in complete absence of any public scrutiny and debate. In the Philippines and elsewhere, public protests are often banned or stifled under quarantine protocols and physical distancing rules. Other leaders have used this calamity to further their power and crackdown on civic space, including in Thailand and Hong Kong.

Media has been among the sectors hardest hit. In the Philippines, the country's largest broadcasting and news group (ABS-CBN) was denied a franchise renewal by the Congress – greatly affecting public access to an independent news, especially in rural areas. In Bangladesh, according to Amnesty International, at least 38 journalists and more than 400 other people have been detained during the first half of 2020 under the Digital Security Act, based on the Bangladesh government's official statistics.¹⁰ According to the US-based Committee for the Protection of Journalists, 2020 was unprecedented in terms of the number of journalists jailed worldwide, particularly by authoritarian governments.¹¹



¹⁰ <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2020/08/human-rights-activists-allies-covid19-under-attack/>

¹¹ The Washington Post. "Record number of journalists jailed worldwide in 2020: Report." 15 December 2020. <https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2020/dec/15/record-number-journalists-jailed-worldwide-2020-re/>

ANGOC's contribution to pursuing land and resource rights

Despite the limitations of the pandemic, ANGOC and the Land Watch Asia (LWA) campaign pursued our goals of taking stock of significant changes in the policy and legal environments; undertaking strategic national and regional advocacy activities on access to land; jointly developing approaches and tools; and encouraging the sharing of experiences on coalition-building and actions on land rights issues.

Among the key contributions of ANGOC and LWA to land rights in the region, and in particular in Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Nepal and Philippines, include:

- development of land conflict monitoring tool contributing to efforts on enhancing capacities of CSOs in evidence-advocacy with the definition of key concepts and terminologies and setting of database system; partners from the six countries have agreed and started to use the system;
- ongoing monitoring of land and resource conflicts in six countries as inputs to Land Watch Asia's policy advocacy and campaign strategy to protect communities and land rights defenders;
- documentation of new trends of landgrabs in selected sectors, as inputs to crafting of a regional campaign;
- advocating for the formulation of National Action Plans (NAPs), with emphasis on protecting land rights and ensuring food security, of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGP BHR);
- started the preparation of CSO Report on SDG 1.4 in seven countries to keep the land agenda by providing a clearer picture of land rights and tenure security of rural populations; and,
- initiated the drafting of a regional paper Tenure-climate change to enhance the capacities of CSOs in understanding and analyzing the link of tenure and climate change; and, informing Land Watch Asia on formulating a regional campaign strategy on tenure and climate change.

The following ANGOC members are engaged in the LWA campaign: the Association for Land Reform and Development (ALRD), Community Development Association (CDA), STAR Kampuchea (SK), Association of Voluntary Agencies in Rural Development (AVARD), Ekta Parishad (EP), South Asia for Rural Reconstruction Association (SARRA), Bina Desa, Konsorsium Pembaruan Agrarian (KPA), and Community Self-Reliance Centre (CSRC).

As the ANGOC Regional Secretariat is based in the Philippines, efforts were undertaken in partnership with land rights CSOs:

- increasing the tenurial security of some 2,953 indigenous households, by mapping 3,409 house lots, 2,728 farm lots and 119 garden lots, and producing some 1,785 certificates of ancestral land occupancy in partnership with Xavier Science Foundation, Inc. (XSF);
- enhancing capacities of indigenous peoples by producing and translating to Tagalog and Cebuano languages, in collaboration with BUKLURAN and PAFID, 14 learning materials covering various topics (legal framework, institutional capacity, engaging other stakeholders); and,
- upon the request of the Commission on Human Rights, 25 regional investigators were trained by ANGOC on the land conflict monitoring, using the framework and database system of the Land Watch Asia.

Major Activities undertaken by ANGOC and LWA Campaign

The ANGOC implemented six major initiatives on land and resource rights—three projects with Land Watch Asia partners at the regional level, and three focused on the Philippines.

Commitment-Based Initiative 9-10: Defending Land Rights and Human Rights Defenders (CBI 9-10)

ANGOC together with Community Development Association/CDA and Association for the Realisation of Basic Needs/ARBAN (Bangladesh), STAR Kampuchea/SK (Cambodia), Ekta Parshad/EP, Centre for Legislative Research and Advocacy/CLRA and Social Development Foundation/SDF (India), Konsorsium Pembaruan Agraria/KPA (Indonesia), Community Self-Reliance Centre/CSRC (Nepal), and the People's Campaign for Agrarian Reform. Inc./AR Now!, and Xavier Science Foundation, Inc./XSF (Philippines) implemented an initiative towards:

- the recognition by National Human Rights Institutions and Commissions (NHRI/Cs) and selected regional institutions working on human rights the role of CSOs in policy discussions on land and human rights;
- contributing to the understanding of new trends of landgrabbing cases;
- the continuing lobbying for the formulation and implementation of national action plans (NAPs) of the United Nations Guiding Principles of Business and Human Rights (UNGP-BHR); and,
- the protection of land rights defenders and organizations from incidences of harassments and violence through the preparation of land conflict monitoring reports.



A planning meeting was convened with members of the Asia Working Group on Land Rights as Human Rights (LRHR WG) to prepare for the second phase of implementation of the CBI 9-10 (Defending Land Rights and Human Rights Defenders) initiative. (Refer to <https://angoc.org/portal/summary-report-cbi-9-10-phase-2-regional-planning-meeting/>)

There are three major components of this phase: a) sectoral landgrab studies, b) UNGP BHR advocacy and c) land conflict monitoring.

In recent years, wealthy food-importing countries and private investors have begun acquiring farmlands overseas for the large-scale production of food, biofuel, livestock & other products. While there are no central databases or detailed statistics to gauge exactly how big the problem is, a World Bank report in 2011 found land demand to be “enormous” and identified large-scale farmland deals covering 56 million hectares in less than a year. Although African countries top the list, the areas covered in Asia are significant and continue to rise.

The new wave of land investments has two new features: one, they are much larger in scale, and two, they are spearheaded by more government-led investment than in the past. This new wave differs from the past foreign and domestic investments: it seeks resources (land, water) rather than commodities and markets; it seeks production for repatriation rather than for commercial export; and, it involves actual production rather than joint ventures or contract farming.

Meanwhile, most Asian governments enacted laws that coddled large corporations. These laws assured ease of corporate entry and return of their investments (ROI) at the expense of the people. Also, while foreign investors are typically large, wealthy transnational firms or rich governments, host countries are poor or sometimes embroiled in political and agrarian conflicts – thus raising questions about the terms and impacts of such acquisitions. Worse, in some cases local leaders are played to cheat their own constituency, farmers are made to compete with other farmers or indigenous groups, and the poor are made to fight with their own class, instead of against the elite class that causes their misery.

It is in this context that Land Watch Asia has embarked sectoral studies on landgrabbing in six countries. These studies will inform in the formulation of a regional campaign strategy that CSOs (in particular Land Watch Asia) shall implement in taking effective actions against landgrabbing. In particular, the studies are being undertaken with the following objectives:

- to describe and discuss the processes (stakeholders, forms of control processes, drivers) and impacts of landgrabbing in a particular sector;
- to describe and identify issues and challenges of policies and mechanisms of the State in relation to the sector; and,
- to formulate recommendations to protect and uphold the tenure rights of individuals and communities in the sector.

Highlights of the issues and recommendations of the draft papers were presented in a thematic side event on “Understanding the new wave of landgrabbing in Asia and its impact on securing land rights for smallholder farmers” which was participated by 166 representatives from CSOs, land rights activists and academe from Asia, as well as international organizations such as the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations. Though each context was unique, common themes are apparent, including: private sector’s encroachment on smallholders’ lands being facilitated by government, with promises of prosperity and economic development that do not materialize; companies seeking protection from State or private armed forces that at times lead to violence; struggles against corporate landgrabbing being protracted and inherited by generations; disregard for or loose implementation of safeguards; widespread displacement, peoples’ lack of access to remedy or at the very least, compensation; among others.

Participants agreed that although landgrabbing is a drawn-out, evolving, complex issue, it remains an urgent cause for concern. At the national level, CSOs must continue to work with communities and other groups to pursue policy dialogues with governments, business sector and intergovernmental organizations to influence policies in favor of stricter investment regulations and providing tenure security. Advocacy as well as monitoring work may be done in collaboration with National Human Rights Commissions/Institutions, in particular to the enforcement of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs-BHR) and the promotion of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests. Capacity building initiatives through joint training, module development and internship programs on understanding business contracts, development of alternative business plans and negotiation are essential. Better documentation of landgrab cases, looking at the money trail of investments as an added dimension can enhance the advocacy lens. At the regional level, a stronger platform to connect the advocacies against landgrabbing must be brought by expanding to other networks, such as groups focused on issues involving community rights, indigenous peoples’ rights, and human rights. Noting that landgrabbing is a globalized phenomenon, civil society should continue to engage international actors in pursuing the creation of a Legally-Binding Treaty on Transnational Companies and Human Rights. As previously done by ANGOC, land rights tribunals may be revived.



On the other hand, the endorsement of the UNGP-BHR further defined the key duties and responsibilities of States and business enterprises with regard to business-related human rights abuses. Henceforth, the Working Group on Business and Human Rights (UNWG) has recommended that National Action Plans (NAPs) can be an important means to promote the implementation of the UNGP BHR (DIHR, n.d.). Among but not limited intended outcomes once NAPs are implemented include: a) stronger legal frameworks, b) more effective incorporation of human rights standards in law and rule of law; c) stronger national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights; and, d) improved national harmony, reducing risks of internal conflict.

Almost nine years have passed since the endorsement of the UNGP-BHR. Hence, it is fitting to investigate of the current status of the NAPs of the UNGP-BHR; and to what extent have communities and land rights defenders used the UNGP-BHR as a tool to defend and to protect their rights to land. Thus, the LWA Land Rights as Human Rights Working Group shall provide CSO inputs to the NAPs, with focus on land rights.

The third component, the land conflict monitoring is an enhancement of the ongoing work of LWA as land and resource conflicts over time have increased in number, coverage, and intensity. Building on the monitoring initiative of 2018, the next phase for year 2020 will seek to implement a common and more systematic way to gather data and to report on land conflicts.

A regional land conflict monitoring training for CSOs was conducted, using tools and methods developed by ANGOC and KPA. During which, the working land conflict database, user guides, definition of terms related were finalized at the regional level. This intervention has further clarified key concepts, identified units of analysis and finalized data gathering methodologies. (Refer to https://angoc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/CBI_9-10_Training_Report-1.pdf)

This monitoring initiative and landgrab studies were shared in the webinar on “Land Tenure Security for Urban and Rural Communities in Cambodia” organized by the Land and Housing Rights Network (LAHRIN), Cambodia National Engagement Strategy Platform, and STAR Kampuchea.

Land Rights as Human Rights: Protecting Land Rights and Rights Defenders in Southeast Asia

With the support of the United Nations Development Programme Business and Human Rights Program for Southeast Asia, this initiative shall contribute to the processes in formulating a National Action Plan (NAP) of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) in support of protecting land rights and environmental defenders in Cambodia, Indonesia, and the Philippines. Activities have raised awareness and facilitated the flow of information from civil society to government and the broader public, on land conflicts and violations against human rights defenders. Local CSO partners were likewise trained on land conflict monitoring.

On the other hand, a series of roundtable discussions with CSOs and rural poor sectors (farmer, fisherfolk, indigenous peoples) in tandem with National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) to raise awareness on UNGP-BHR and to formulate their inputs to the NAPs. Through the roundtable discussion, participants will agree on particular recommendations on the inclusion of protection of, respect for, and remedy for violations against land rights and land rights defenders in the NAP. As for Cambodia, an assessment on the feasibility of establishing an NHRI is underway. On the other hand, ANGOC's engagement with the Philippines Business and Human Rights Working Group has resulted in the publication of a guidance document that provides a foundational guide on how to implement respect for human rights in the Philippine business setting. Such document serves as a tool that stakeholders can use to help them understand the UNGP- BHR and their specific roles in the overall protect, respect, and fulfill human rights framework.

Commitment-Based Initiative 8: Sustainable, Reliable, and Transparent Data and Information toward Responsible Land Governance (CBI 8)

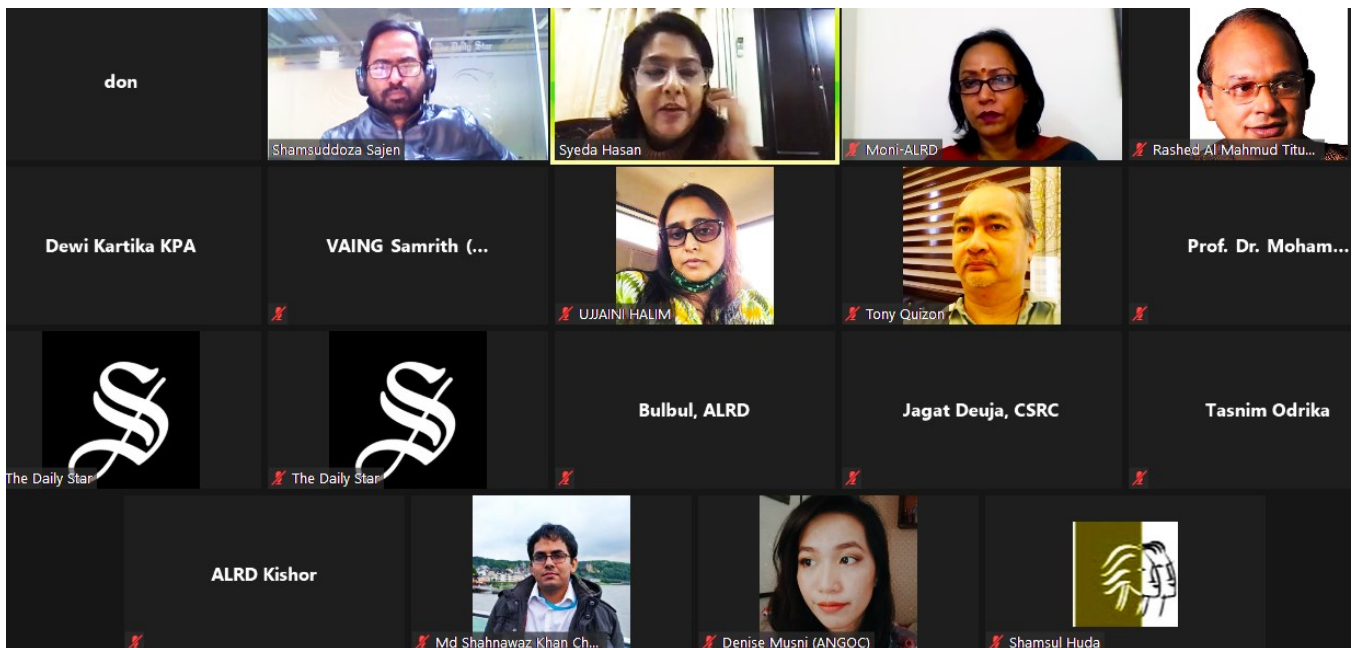
For the second phase of CBI 8, the Land Watch Asia (LWA) campaign shall contribute in influencing the land policy formulation and implementation through evidence-based advocacy by building on the gains of Phase 1 through:

- continuing engagements with NSOs on the land-related SDGs (particularly SDG 1.4.2) and government land agencies through the preparation of CSO Country Reports on Land Rights SDG Target 1.4;
- preparing a regional paper that shall contribute to enhancing the capacities of LWA partners in understanding and analyzing the link of climate change, land tenure rights and land governance; and,
- assessing the potential use for policy work the data generated from selected LANDex indicators.

As CSOs have been an integral part of formulating the agenda 2030, it is but logical that CSOs are involved in monitoring and reporting the status of the implementation of the SDGs. Much so, the inclusion of land ownership and control under SDG target 1.4 is significant, as it thrusts land rights into the global agenda. Under SDG 1.4, land rights are now seen as a **central strategy** – and a **global commitment** – towards “ending poverty.”

However, the land agenda has not been prominent in recent SDG reporting processes of governments. In most cases, States do not report on land in their SDG Country Reports and Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs). In situations where State parties include land in their SDG reports, the content mostly contain description of their programs on land, with little or no discussion on the issues and challenges faced by the rural poor, thus not providing a complete picture of the situation. Thus, CSOs are well positioned to analyze data independently and highlight gaps and ways forward.

From a CSO perspective, the report will offer a clearer picture of land rights and tenure security of *rural populations*, to assess countries' performance in relation to meeting **SDG Target 1.4**. 1.4 is the sole target among land-related SDG targets that *specifically* looks into *vulnerable populations' control and ownership* of land and natural resources. This report also covers data available for SDG **indicators** on land rights, which provide direct information on progress towards Target 1.4. The report will also discuss other qualifiers of land rights and tenure security that may not be captured by the SDG indicators at first glance (ex. land conflicts, informal and customary tenure, transparency and implementation issues in land governance). As such, the 2018 State of Land Rights and Land Governance in Asia prepared by Land Watch Asia will be updated and supplemented by other studies.



Finally, this report will provide recommendations on how governments report on land rights, to aid the monitoring of progress towards SDGs and to better assess policies and programs on land and resource rights.

Country reports will be prepared by ALRD (Bangladesh), SK (Cambodia), FES, SARRA (India), Bina Desa (Indonesia), NUWUA (Kyrgyz Republic), CSRC (Nepal) and ANGOC, AR Now!, CARRD, NFR, and PAFID (Philippines).

Results of the 2018 studies and this current initiative have been shared in the global launch of PRINDEX Report and the East Asia Pacific regional event *"The Importance of Data for Donors Working on Land and Property Rights in East Asia and the Pacific."*

At the same time, the second phase of the CBI 8 initiative will focus on the effect of climate change on resources and land rights. This is particularly relevant because of the pressing need to understand how climate change impacts on rights to land, and how rural stakeholders may adapt to the changing climate.

The Asia and the Pacific region experiences the highest frequency and magnitude of extreme weather events. This undertaking is in line with LWA's strategy to enhance the capacities of civil society organizations to study the linkages of land with food security, climate change, and other emerging issues/themes. This regional paper shall:



- illustrate and discuss how the rural poor, especially those without tenure rights, disproportionately suffer the most from the effects of climate change on their lands and livelihoods;
- illustrate and show (the lack of) tenure security and resource rights increases the vulnerability of the poor, and reduces the capacity of farmers, indigenous peoples, fisherfolk, and the urban poor to cope with the changes brought about by climate change; and,
- document positive case experiences that illustrate how improved land governance and resource rights can increase poor people's capacity to adapt to climate change.

Finally, as part of the ongoing efforts to enhance the land monitoring initiative of ANGOC and Land Watch Asia, the campaign shall implement selected LANDex indicators, and will be analyzing together the resulting indices, to determine whether and how the data from the selected LANDex indicators be used by Asian CSOs for policy and advocacy work. LANDex is a tool developed by the International Land Coalition (ILC) which complements the 2018 *State of Land Rights and Land Governance*¹² report of the Land Watch Asia. LWA will be generating LANDex-based information that may be used to reinforce, substantiate, and enhance the Working Group's existing and ongoing land monitoring studies, such as the 2020 CSO Report on Land-Related SDGs. Further, LWA will be proposing enhancements to methodologies for LANDex 5C.1 and 8C that align to the extent possible with existing enhancements to methodologies, given that data for Asia presently are not available.

Land rights in the Philippines

ANGOC participated in the stakeholder consultation organized by the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) and the World Bank in relation to the Support to Parcelization of Lands for Individual Titling (SPLIT) project. ANGOC raised the concern that the act of parcelization is very sensitive since it comes many years after the Certificates of Land Ownership Awards (CLOAs) have been issued. About 20-25 percent of the land will actually fall under the public domain (roads, easements, creeks, etc).

¹² https://angoc.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/State_of_Land_Rights_Land_Governance.pdf

Moreover, it is like agrarian reform all over again because many of the original beneficiaries may have died. In other circumstances, farmers have already subcontracted out part of their land. In short, the real issue will be social justice and social protection again for the poorest, especially against entrenched local elites and interests. There are also cases where a whole parcel of land is collectively owned, and only the perimeter boundaries have been identified. Thus, there is potential for internal conflict. Moreover, sometimes the parcelization process calls for a second round of beneficiary identification (inclusion/ exclusion proceedings), and there is a problem of patronage system (getting favor through affiliation or friendship with authorities).

One of the recommended actions was to review the draft safeguard documents of the SPLIT Project. In partnership with AR Now!, CARRD, Kaisahan, PAFID, PAKISAMA, TFM and XSF, ANGOCC coordinated the preparation and submission of said inputs to World Bank. ANGOCC likewise followed-up with DAR the case of Mangyans, the indigenous group in Mindoro island where their ancestral domains are included in the land distribution component of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program. Such incidence is a test-case for the SPLIT project which among others aims to address land conflicts as a result of overlapping claims by different rightsholders, i.e., farmers and indigenous peoples.

On the other hand, ANGOCC contributed towards enhancing the capacities of indigenous peoples in recognizing and defending their land and resource rights over their traditional territories and natural resources. Among the contributions of the ANGOCC are:

- together with Bukluran and PAFID, steered the development and publication of learning materials for indigenous peoples on various topics (key legislations, institutional capacities including note taking, facing the media, conducting meetings, writing proposals, understanding financial statements); these materials have been translated in Tagalog and Cebuano languages; and,
- documentation of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic to land tenure security of IPs in selected municipalities of Mindoro and Bukidnon provinces.

Improving Tenure Security of Smallholder Farmers in Select Areas in the Philippines

More than one-fifth of the Philippines' total population - 22 million - still live below the national poverty line (PSA, 2015), majority of which are in the rural areas, and in particular the indigenous peoples. Legislated in 1997, a landmark law, the Indigenous Peoples Rights Act (IPRA) puts Philippines as the first country in Southeast Asia to enact a policy that recognizes, protects, and promotes the rights of indigenous cultural communities/indigenous peoples (ICCs/IPs).

Unfortunately, its implementation has met a number of challenges, thereby falling short of its promises to uplift the lives of IPs. It is in the context that ANGOC has partnered with the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) and collaborated with the Xavier Science Foundation, Inc. (XSF) on the initiative *Secure Access to Land and Resources (SALaR)* through the support of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) of the government of Germany.



To date, around 2,953 indigenous households and migrant settlers in two municipalities in Bukidnon province have been benefitted, as 1,785 certificates of ancestral land occupancy have been produced by the project. Knowledge products were developed on landscape governance, briefers on indigenous peoples' rights, land conflicts and engaging women and youth in land governance.

Land rights and land conflict monitoring training for CHR Regional Offices

ANGOC organized and facilitated a training course through series of webinar for 25 field investigators of the Commission of Human Rights of the Philippines (CHRP). The initiative oriented the participants on land rights and land governance principles, and introduced the land conflict monitoring initiative of ANGOC. Towards the end of the course, an action plan on monitoring land conflicts was formulated by the CHRP regional offices.

ANGOC's contribution to enhancing smallholder agriculture towards sustainable food systems and livelihood

In 2020, ANGOC continued to guide the program implementation of the working group on Commitment-Based Initiative (CBI) on *Strong-scale Farming Systems*. A regional forum was convened to promote and strengthen multi-actor partnerships that contribute to positive policy changes in family farming in line with the UN Decade of Family Farming (UNDF). The event raised awareness on the contributions of family farmers on achieving the sustainable development goals of reducing poverty and hunger, the status of the National Committees on Family Farming (NCFFs) and recommend actions toward ensuring food security and enhancing tenure security. As such, ANGOC shared its knowledge and initiatives on supporting smallholder agriculture. At the same time, as National Action Plans (NAPs) are expected to be formulated by NCFFs to operationalize the UNDF, ANGOC contributed in the drafting of the NAP for the Philippines.

On the other hand, the ANGOC network continues to advocate its position on food security and land rights through the celebration of and publication of the 2020 World Food Day poster.

ANGOC has also been involved in activities of the Green Bills Network (GBN) in lobbying for environmental laws including the proposed National Land Use Act (NLUA), along with the Sustainable Forest Management Act, Indigenous Peoples' Conserved and Community Areas Bill, and Alternative Minerals Management Bill – collectively coined as the "Green Bills." As an offshoot of the planning and development activities led by the GBN in 2019, the Philippine GreenPrint microsite was launched during the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples on 9 August 2020. The microsite serves as a brief yet informative source of material for the said bills.

A political mapping of key members of the 18th Congress towards the so-called "green bills" or environmental bills was also conducted to assess power play.



Today, there are 18 separate NLUA bills filed in the Lower House, and four NLUA bills filed in the Upper House. All bills, in both houses, are pending in the committee levels. The Executive, headed by the National Economic Development Agency, is also crafting an executive order version of the land use bill.

ANGOC is presently engaged in an initiative implemented with the Xavier Science Foundation and Catholic Media Network, and supported by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), which aims to contribute to enhancing land tenure and food and nutrition security of the rural poor in Northern Mindanao. This goal shall be pursued through on-radio discussions, awareness-raising, and information exchange on pressing concerns on land, natural resource management, environment, climate change, gender, among others. In addition, the initiative will formulate a feasibility study on the establishment of food hubs to address concerns related to smallholders' livelihoods and consumers' food security and nutrition.

Major Activities undertaken by ANGOC in smallholder agriculture towards food security and nutrition

Specific interventions are outlined below:

2020 World Food Day

For this year, the ANGOC Network celebrated WFD amidst a global COVID-19 pandemic which now threatens the health status and food security of individuals, families and communities worldwide. Billed as *OUR FyouthTURE: Protecting Land Rights and Ensuring Food Security in Asia Post-COVID-19*, the **online celebration** discussed the implications of the issues and recommendations raised in the ANGOC statement to the work of civil society in Asia in the context of COVID-19's "new normal" and beyond. With the FAO's global WFD theme of "**Grow, nourish, sustain. Together**" a call for global solidarity to help the most vulnerable people to recover and make food systems more sustainable, stronger and resilient to shocks." The said theme reinforces with the calls of the said ANGOC Statement.



ANGOC invited three distinguished resource persons to share their views on the statement as a springboard for further reflections by the ANGOC Network Members.



Kushi Kabir, Chairperson of ALRD and a prominent grassroots leader noted that the event is timely given the pandemic, as well as 15th October is International Rural Women’s Day. She stressed on **women’s rights and empowerment**, in particular to give recognition of their work, so they can earn respect. Women as producers continue to feed their families and work in their fields too. However, they are vulnerable and more marginalized as in most cases, they are not

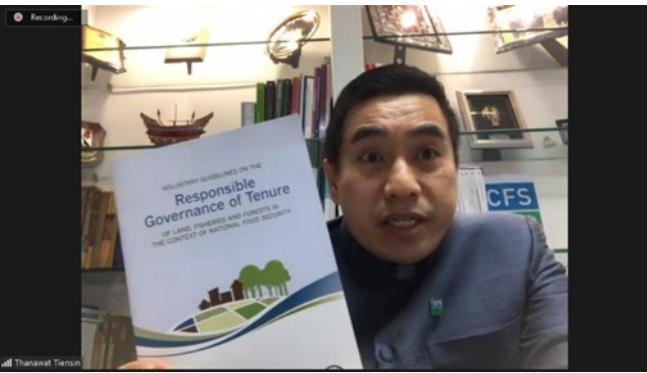
being paid. In this pandemic, they are the first to lose their jobs. It is sad to note that global statistics have recorded increased records on violence against women during this pandemic. Finally, she remarked that the ANGOC is comprehensive and touched on the issues on the ground. Agreeing with theme of the statement of “Food and Freedom, Jobs and Justice, Land and Labor, Peace and Prosperity,” Kushi added another slogan of “respect for people” given the increased violations of human rights and shrinking civic space.

A founder of ANGOC and its former ANGOC Chairperson, Archbishop Antonio “Tony” Ledesma, SJ reminded the members of the origins of ANGOC, which was founded 31 years ago in 1979 in the framework of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (WCARRD). The overall theme of the Statement — food, jobs, freedom, land and labor, peace and justice – is more relevant as ever as the 350 million rural poor in the 1970s have doubled despite advances in technology.



He recalled that in the first week of October 2020, Pope Francis issued an encyclical “Brothers All” calling for inclusive development and that we should work as one family, working on one world, and taking care of our world. Solidarity is essential in caring for the “neighbor” in need. Thus, he noted that we should see ourselves in inclusive development in terms of solidarity with others and our local communities.

The ANGOC Network should proactively help them vis-a-vis the worsening plight of rural and urban poor in the light of pandemic. ANGOC needs to be involved in protecting domestic human rights (in terms of domestic violence and protection of minorities). Archbishop Tony encouraged everyone to promote vegetable gardening for many rural households as well as urban gardening. Families who have adopted these have increased their food security. This is a strategy for reducing food kilometers.



Chairperson Thanawat Tiensin of Committee on World Food Security (CFS) who joined the online event, reaffirmed the ANGOC Statement, noting that the food systems are challenged in this pandemic as the environment continuously has deteriorated. Given that food issues have a lot of complexities, CFS needs the support of CSOs, farmers organizations, producers to transform food systems into being more sustainable and resilient. As such, the challenge for CFS is how to bring policies

into action at the ground level. The Chairperson thus encouraged ANGOC to engage and support the work of the CFS, in particular to the upcoming UN Food Systems Summit.

As we commemorate WFD in the middle of a fierce battle against a global pandemic, ANGOC launched its WFD Theme, "Protecting Land Rights and Ensuring Food Security in the Time of COVID-19." As communities face crises of hunger, malnutrition, and reduced livelihood in the midst of this health crisis, and as big, global businesses struggle to cope with disrupted value chains, it becomes clear how nations can ensure food security during and beyond the COVID-19 pandemic: through supporting small-scale food producers and family farmers, protecting their rights to land, enabling community-based conservation and resource management, and localizing food production and distribution systems. Only through secure land rights and supporting smallholders will the world be able to *Grow, Nourish, and Sustain, Together*.

ANGOC's theme for World Food Day this 2020 is also expounded in a Statement issued by the network's members, available in seven languages.

Initiative on Strong Small-Scale Farming Systems

ANGOC is a member of ILC's working group on building strong small-scale farming systems, which focuses on United Nations Decade of Family Farming (UNDF). For 2020, two major interventions were undertaken by the working group. The first is the organization of a regional workshop Asia Land Forum: *Sustaining Family Farming in Asia-Pacific through inclusive, farmer-driven approaches*. ANGOC serving as one of the panelists in one the thematic workshops "Land, Food Systems and Covid-19," highlighted the need to restructure the current development paradigm in the light of the disruptions in the food supply chains and markets. ANGOC likewise shared its statement on protecting land rights and ensuring food security amidst the pandemic, which was used as one of the main reference materials for preparing the declaration of the regional workshop.

The second key intervention includes the drafting of the Philippine Action Plan for the UN Decade of Family Farming. Led by the Pambansang Kilusan ng mga Samahang Magsasaka (PAKISAMA) with support from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) in the Philippines, series of Agriculture Rural Development Knowledge and Policy Platform (ARDKPP) Technical Working Group Meetings were conducted with the Philippine CSOs and with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to discuss the agenda of the CSO-led UNDIFF National Action Plan. The Agricultural Training Institute of the Department of Agriculture (DA-ATI), the agency leading the formulation of the Philippines' National Action Plan on Family Farming (NAPFF), has been engaged in the said meetings and has expressed their support in the CSO initiative and assured to consider the CSOs' inputs to the national action plan. Framed in the seven pillars of the UNDIFF, the CSO UNDIFF National Action Plan submitted to DA-ATI covers proposals on indicative actions towards the agriculture, forestry, and fisheries (AFF) sector of the Philippines and with recognition of the roles of the agricultural households, indigenous peoples, women, and youth in AFF. Various policies suggested for formulation, review, enactment, and strict implementation were also included in the proposal.

Campaign for the National Land Use Act in the Philippines

For 2020, ANGO's actions on the campaign for the National Land Use Act (NLUA) revolved on engagements with partner CSOs' activities -- particularly on the lobbying of Green Bills (which include NLUA) led by the Green Bills Network; and involvement in the review of the five areas of the Land Sector Development Framework (LSDF) of the Land Management Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR-LMB). For the latter, ANGO provided as inputs the proposed agenda on upholding and advancing the rights of the farmers, indigenous peoples, and fisherfolk sectors; the enactment of the NLUA; as well as the need for a tenure-responsive land use planning in the Philippines.

Mitigating the impact of COVID-19 through enhancing food, nutrition and tenure security or rural households in Northern Mindanao

On 16 March 2020, the government imposed an enhanced community quarantine (ECQ) over the entire island of Luzon. The primary objective of the ECQ is to flatten the curve, corresponding to the daily trend of cumulative cases. Other provinces and cities outside Luzon, including Bukidnon province also started to impose a lockdown. The demands of a growing population for food security, and the very fragile status of the environment, necessitate the need to improve land governance and rationalize the land use of Bukidnon province, southern Philippines.

This pandemic provides an opportunity to rethink the development framework and to put tenure rights and food security of the rural poor at the center of discourse. At the same time, the situation necessitates a joint formulation of (practical) concept localizing the national policies based on the demands and the experiences by local government units and affected communities.

As a short-term response in mitigating the impacts of COVID-19, this undertaking aims to contribute in enhancing land tenure and food and nutrition security of the rural poor in Northern Mindanao. In particular, this initiative supported by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) aims to: a) promote awareness raising and facilitate exchange of information to clarify/respond to some of the pressing concerns of various stakeholders (land, natural resource management, environment, climate change, gender, among others); b) formulate strategy/concept that would mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on land tenure security and food security and nutrition; and, c) recommend policies and programs to adapt to a “new normal” state of affairs in the rural sector. Information awareness is carried through the airing of community radio programs. A feasibility study is being undertaken to determine the viability of establishing a food hub that will link the IP producers of Bukidnon to the consumers of Cagayan de Oro City.



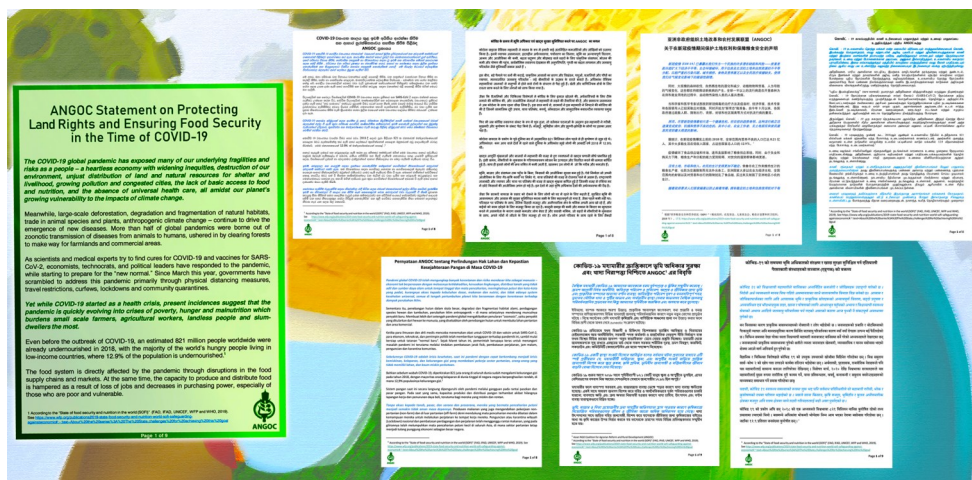
Institutional Updates

The main highlight of 2020 is the formulation of the network's statement on protecting land rights and ensuring food security amidst the pandemic which has exposed many of our underlying fragilities and risks as a people. The pandemic highlighted that we live within a heartless economy with widening inequities, destruction of our environment, unjust distribution of land and natural resources for shelter and livelihood, growing pollution and congested cities, the lack of basic access to food and nutrition, and the absence of universal health care, all amidst our planet's growing vulnerability to the impacts of climate change. Demanding for immediate actions to resolve the systemic inequities that render people susceptible to the effects of the pandemic, members of ANGO network called for the following:

- support the global call for a safe, effective *"COVID 19 People's Vaccine"* that, once developed, should be widely produced and made universally accessible to all nations and people, free of charge,¹³ and unhampered by an intellectual property rights regime;
- join many nations and groups in the call for an immediate ceasefire in active armed conflicts in all parts of the world, in order to focus on the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic;
- urgent debt relief and debt cancellation for poor developing countries and especially those that suffer from internal conflicts;
- support the formulation and implementation of land policies and programs of governments that promote access and tenure security to land, forests, waters, and pastures of smallholder farmers, fishers, indigenous peoples, rural women, youth, and other marginalized sectors;
- develop programs in support of implementation of agrarian reforms and provision of adequate support services to smallholders, recognition and respect of land and territorial rights and resource governance of indigenous peoples;
- uphold the spirit and compliance of international human rights instruments (e.g., CEDAW, UNDRIP, UNGP BHR, Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure) specific to land rights for marginalized sectors;
- ensure the integrity of safeguard mechanisms that regulate public and private land investments and strengthen local mediation mechanisms for resolution of land and other resource conflicts; and,
- conduct effective implementation of social and environmental impact assessments, and adherence to Free Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) during the designing of projects.

¹³ See GCAP Asia statement, May 2020

Translated to Bahasa, Bengali, Hindi, Mandarin, Nepali, Sinhala, and Tamil, the Statement has been widely circulated and shared with other stakeholders including media, international organizations and NHRIs. Its accompanying video was presented in a number of global and regional events including the regional launch of PRINDEX and the Partners' Meeting of the Global Land Tool Network. Subsequent papers were produced and shared in various fora such as the regional workshop on "Ensuring land and food rights at a time of COVID-19 and Beyond" organized by the Association for Land Reform and Development (ALRD) and the "China-ASEAN Activists Online Seminar: New Opportunities to Promote Practical Cooperation between China and ASEAN Towards an Equitable and Sustainable Land and Smallholder Agriculture" organized by the China NGO Network for International Exchanges (CNIE), where the China Association for NGO Cooperation (CANGO) is a consortium member.



In observance of this year's World Food Day, ANGOC organized an online conference to discuss the implications of the issues and recommendations raised in the ANGOC statement to the work of civil society in Asia in the context of COVID-19's "new normal" and beyond. In terms of thematic areas for engagement, ANGOC members identified the following:

- joining CSOs in lobbying for debt cancellation of third world countries;
- documenting and disseminating good experiences/cases of land and agrarian reform;
- working towards women's rights and empowerment;
- engaging in inclusive development in terms of solidarity in our society and local community (e.g. use of local inputs [eg. organic local fertilizers]; engaging in inclusive business; rural and urban gardening);
- making food systems resilient by bringing producers closer to the consumers;
- promoting agroecological innovations;
- advocacy for sustainable land use planning; and,
- supporting for rural communities through capacity building to make them resilient (i.e., social entrepreneur); addressing illiteracy in rural areas; ensuring the support of the local governments are reaching the rural poor; and, providing skills for returning migrant workers.

The above themes will be undertaken by the Network in partnerships with strategic linkages such as rights activists and groups, urban CSOs and groups and youth mobilization for agriculture.

2020 saw the continuation of the commemoration of the 150th birthday of Mahatma Gandhi. Ekta Parishad (EP) led the ANGOC members in honoring the values that Gandhi espoused through its *Jai Jagat Global March for Justice and Peace*. Ekta Parishad carried numerous discussions on pursuing social reforms rooted on non-violent movements online.

In 2020, the ANGOC network lost two of its leaders — Dr. GN Reddi of South Asia Rural Reconstruction Association (SARRA) and PM Tripathi of the Association of Voluntary Agencies in Rural Development (AVARD). While ANGOC mourns their passing, the network will honor their memories and contributions by continuing their work on sustainable agriculture and land rights in India and in Asia.



Finally, ANGOC continues to steer the direction by sharing the perspectives of rural communities and civil society organizations in enhancing food security and ensuring land and resource rights to the following global networks:

Global Forum for Agricultural Research and Innovation (GFAR)

As one of two CSO representatives in the GFAR Steering Committee, ANGOC has continuously raised the importance of restructuring the food system given the onslaught of the COVID-19 pandemic.

With the hiring of new GFAR Secretary in motion, it is expected that the network will be revitalized and the operationalization of its next mid-term plan. Currently, efforts are undertaken to initiate some of the collective actions of the network that were previously formulated by the steering committee.

Global Land Tool Network (GLTN)

ANGOC's membership in the GLTN Steering Committee has been renewed during its 8th Partners' Meeting. Midway to the implementation of the third phase of its strategic plan, GLTN continues to develop land tools and facilitate policy discussions on land reforms in selected countries. ANGOC has put forward the following areas of work that GLTN can explore as it moves to the remaining phase of its current plan: a) addressing and mitigating the impact of COVID-19 pandemic; b) understanding the link of tenure and land rights with climate change and resource governance; c) exploring the link of land rights and peace and human rights; and, d) developing, disseminating and providing training courses on alternative means of communication with partners, with communities, with governments and other land stakeholders.

Indigenous Peoples' and Community Conserved Areas and Territories (ICCA) Consortium

ANGOC participated and shared its network's experience in matters related to governance during the 16th Global Assembly of the ICCA consortium. At the regional level, ANGOC provided inputs in the drafting process of the strategic plan of the Southeast Asia regional platform. ANGOC's land conflict monitoring initiative was shared to the regional steering committee members to explore collaborative action. At the country level, ANGOC continues to work with ICCA members to promote and respect the recognition of the rights of IPs to their ancestral lands.

International Land Coalition (ILC)

ANGOC continues to convene the working groups on addressing landgrab and defending land rights as well as the accessible and transparent information. Details of the work done on these working groups are included in this annual report under the section on ANGOC's contribution in pursuing land and resource rights.

In conjunction with the ILC Asia Regional Assembly for 2020, ANGOC served as a panelist in the thematic workshop "*Exchange Learning on Collaboration of ILC IGOs and CSOs Members on Land Governance at country level in Asia*" where ANGOC presented some of the challenges of the SPLIT Project funded by the World Bank.

2020 Knowledge Products

ANGOC, Land Watch Asia and partners have developed 87 knowledge products for the year. They have been disseminated through meetings and uploaded in our website found at <https://angoc.org/portal/>

Published

- Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC) and Land Watch Asia (LWA). (2019). *State of Land Rights and Land Governance in Eight Asian Countries: Forty Years after the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development*. Quezon City: ANGOC.
- Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC). (2020). *2019 ANGOC Annual Report: Strengthening civil societies and upholding land tenure security for a food-secure Asia*. Quezon City: Philippines: ANGOC.
- Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC) and Xavier Science Foundation, Inc. (XSF). (2020). *Landscape Governance: A Training Manual*. Quezon City and Cagayan de Oro City: ANGOC and XSF.
- Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC) and Xavier Science Foundation, Inc. (XSF). (2020). *Stories of hope from Mt. Kalatungan: The Manobo and Talaandig experience in defending and conserving their ancestral lands*. Quezon City and Cagayan de Oro City: ANGOC and XSF.
- De Vera, D., Lingating, R., Dagdag, J., Bordey, F., Reyes, G., Salomon, T., Baguilat, T. (2019). *Critique on the Implementing Rules and Regulations of the Expanded National Integrated Protected Area System and Implications to the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*. Quezon City: Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC), Bukluran Ng Mga Katutubo Para sa Pangangalaga ng Kalikasan ng Pilipinas (BUKLURAN, Inc.) and the Philippine Association for Intercultural Development (PAFID).

Information, Education and Communication Materials, Leaflets and Brochures

- Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC) and Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). (2020). *The Long-Standing Need for a National Land Use Act*. [Brochure].
- Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC) and Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). (2020). *The State of Land and Resource Tenure Reform in the Philippines, and the Voluntary Guidelines on the Governance of Resources (VGGT and VGSSF)*. [Brochure].
- Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC). (2020). *Issue Brief: Land Tenure and Poverty in Ancestral Domains*. ANGOC, XSF, and GLTN of UN-HABITAT.

- Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC) and Xavier Science Foundation, Inc. (XSF). (2020). *Building food-secure communities through enhanced tenure security: Insights of indigenous peoples in Bukidnon, Philippines*. ANGOC, XSF, and GLTN of UN-HABITAT.
- Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC) and Xavier Science Foundation, Inc. (XSF). (2020). *Enhancing Tenurial Security of Smallholder Farmers in Northern Mindanao, Philippines*. [Brochure]
- Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC) and Xavier Science Foundation, Inc. (XSF). (2020). *Pagpauswag sa Seguridad sa Pagbaton sa Yuta sa mga Gagmay nga Mag-uugma sa Pilipinas*. [Brochure]
- Alim, J.I. (2020). *Going Online and Participating in Webinars*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Alim, J.I. (2020). *Pag-online ug Pag-apil sa mga Webinar*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Alim, J.I. (2020). *Pag-oonline at Paglahok sa mga Webinar*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Alim, J.I. and Salomon, T. (2020). *Bayad alang sa Mga Serbisyo sa Kinaiyahan*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Alim, J. I. and Salomon, T. (2020). *Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES)*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Baguilat, T. Jr. (2020). *Basics of Meetings: Setting the Agenda*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Baguilat, T. Jr. (2020). *Basic Parliamentary Procedure in Conducting Meetings*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Baguilat, T. Jr. (2020). *Batayang Kaalaman sa Pagpupulong at Pagtatakda ng Agenda*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].

- Baguilat, T. Jr. (2020). *How to Conduct Effective Meetings*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Baguilat, T. Jr. (2020). *Mga Panguna sa mga Panagtigum, Pagtakda sa Agenda*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Baguilat, T. Jr. (2020). *Paano Magsagawa ng Maayos na Pulong*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Baguilat, T. Jr. (2020). *Panguna nga Pamaagi sa Parliyamantaryo nga Pagpahigayon sa mga Miting*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Baguilat, T. Jr. (2020). *Pangunahing Pamamaraang Parliyamanto*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Baguilat, T. Jr. (2020). *Unsaon Pagdumala ang Epektibo nga mga Tigum*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Cagan, L. (2020). *Participatory Enumeration and Social Tenure Model (STDM)*. ANGOC, XSF, and GLTN of UN-HABITAT.
- Cagan, L. (2020). *Youth in Landscape Governance*. ANGOC, XSF, and GLTN of UN-HABITAT.
- Gonzalez, R. (2020). *Pag-intindi sa mga Financial Statements ng mga Social Enterprises*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Gonzalez, R. (2020). *Pagsabot sa Pinansyal nga Dokumento Para sa Social Enterprise (Negosyo)*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Gonzalez, R. (2020). *Pagsulat og Project Proposal*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Gonzalez, R. (2020). *Pagsusulat ng mga Panukalang Proyekto*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].

- Gonzalez, R. (2020). *Understanding Financial Statements of Social Enterprises*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Gonzalez, R. (2020). *Writing Project Proposal*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Lucas, F. (2020). *How IPs can Prepare for Radio and TV Interviews*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Lucas, F. (2020). *Facing the Media*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Lucas, F. (2020). *Pag-atubang sa Media*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Lucas, F. (2020). *Paghahanda sa mga Panayam sa Radyo at Telebisyon*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Lucas, F. (2020). *Pagharap sa Media*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Lucas, F. (2020). *Pagsasalita sa Publiko*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Lucas, F. (2020). *Pagsulti sa Publiko*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Lucas, F. (2020). *Paunsaon nga ang Lumad Maka-Preparar para sa Interbyu sa Radyo o TV*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Lucas, F. (2020). *Public Speaking*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Musni, D. (2020). *Women, Land, and Agriculture in Relation to Food Security*. ANGOC, XSF, and GLTN of UN-HABITAT.
- Naungayan, M. (2020). *Harmonization and Mainstreaming of Forest and Local Land Use Plans*. ANGOC, XSF, and GLTN of UN-HABITAT.

- Naungayan, M. (2020). *Youth Engagement in Food Security and Land Governance*. ANGOC, XSF, and GLTN of UN-HABITAT.
- Quizon, A. (2020). *Ang Pagsusuri at Pagbubuo ng Polisiya*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Quizon, T. (2020). *Giunsa pagkuha ang imong kaugalinganon nga mga nota sa mga miting*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Quizon, A. (2020). *How to take your own notes during meetings*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Quizon, A. (2020). *Pagsusulat ng tala (notes) sa mga pagpupulong*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Quizon, A. (2020). *Pagtuki ug Kag-umol sa Palisiya: Usa ka Kinatibuk-ang Ideya*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Quizon, A. (2020). *Policy Analysis and Formulation: An Overview*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Reyes, G. (2020). *Kalasangan, Pagkalbo sa Kakahoyan, ug Proteksyon sa Kalasangan-Kahayopan*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Reyes, G. (2020). *Forest, Deforestation, and Forest-Wildlife Protection*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Reyes, G. (2020). Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC). ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Reyes, G. (2020). *Libre, Nauna, ug Nahibal-an nga Pagtugot*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].
- Reyes, G. (2020). *Malaya, Nauuna, at Maalam na Kapahintulutan*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, "Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation"].

- Reyes, G. (2020). *Pagprotekta sa mga Kagubatan at Buhay-ilang*. ANGOC, BUKLURAN, PAFID, and VOICE. [Learning material prepared for the project, Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities in Nature Conservation].
- Salomon, T. and Marquez, N. D. (2020). *Tenure Security and Conflicts on Land and Natural Resources*. ANGOC, XSF, and GLTN of UN-HABITAT.

Declarations/Statements

- Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC). (8 September 2020). *ANGOC Statement on Protecting Land Rights and Ensuring Food Security in the Time of COVID-19*.
- Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC). (8 September 2020). Pernyataan ANGOC tentang Perlindungan Hak Lahan dan Kepastian Kesejahteraan Pangandi Masa COVID-19. (Bahasa, as translated by Konsorsium Pemberaun Agraria)
- Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC). (8 September 2020). *ANGOC Statement on Protecting Land Rights and Ensuring Food Security in the Time of COVID-19--Bangla version*. (as translated by Association for Lan Reform and Development)
- Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC). (8 September 2020). *ANGOC Statement on Protecting Land Rights and Ensuring Food Security in the Time of COVID-19--Hindi version*. (as translated by Ekta Parishad)
- Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC). (8 September 2020). *ANGOC Statement on Protecting Land Rights and Ensuring Food Security in the Time of COVID-19--Nepali version*. (as translated by Community Self-Reliance Centre)
- Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC). (8 September 2020). *ANGOC Statement on Protecting Land Rights and Ensuring Food Security in the Time of COVID-19--Mandarin version*. (as translated by China Association for NGO Cooperation)
- Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC). (8 September 2020). *ANGOC Statement on Protecting Land Rights and Ensuring Food Security in the Time of COVID-19--Sinhala version*. (as translated by Sarvodaya Shramadana Movement)
- Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC). (8 September 2020). *ANGOC Statement on Protecting Land Rights and Ensuring Food Security in the Time of COVID-19--Tamil version*. (as translated by Sarvodaya Shramadana Movement)

Poster

Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC). (2019). *World Food Day 2020 Poster: Protecting Land Rights and Ensuring Food Security in the time of Covid-19*. [Poster].

Unpublished Materials

Sadik Habnan Buhid Tribal Association, Inc. and ANGOC. (2020). *Impact of COVID-19 to IPs in Bongabon, Misamis Oriental, Philippines*. Sadik Habnan Buhid Tribal Association, Inc. and ANGOC.

Project Reports

Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC). (2020). *Enhancing Tenurial Security of Smallholder Farmers in Northern Mindanao, Philippines*. [Inception report].

Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC). (2020). *Enhancing Tenurial Security of Smallholder Farmers in Northern Mindanao, Philippines*. [Mid-term report].

Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC). (2020). *Improving Tenure Security of Smallholder Farmers in Select Areas in the Philippines*. [Terminal report].

Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC). (2020). *CBI 9-10 – Defending Land Rights and Land Rights Defenders Land Rights as Human Rights Working Group*. [Mid-term report].

Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC). (2020). *Regional Training on Land Conflict Monitoring, 5-6 March 2020, Amaris Hotel Pancoran, Jakarta, Indonesia*. [Summary report].

Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC). (2020). *CBI 9-10 Phase 2 Regional Planning Meeting, 3-4 March 2020, KPA Office, Jakarta, Indonesia*. [Summary report].

Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC). (2020). *Understanding the new wave of landgrabbing in Asia and its impact on securing land rights for smallholder farmers: Breakout Session on Landgrabbing in conjunction with the ILC Asia Land Forum, 8 October 2020*. [Summary report].

Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC). (2020). *Sustainable, Reliable and Transparent Data and Information towards Responsible Land Governance (CO-TRAIN) – Phase 2, CBI 8 Regional Planning Meeting, 3 November 2020*. [Summary report].

Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC). (2020). *Narrative and the Financial Report for Project on "Land Rights as Human Rights: Protecting Land Rights and Rights Defenders in Southeast Asia."* [Progress report].

Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC). (2020). *Mitigating the impact of COVID-19 through enhancing food, nutrition, and tenure security of rural households in Northern Mindanao.* [Status report].

Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC), Bukluran Ng Mga Katutubo para sa Pangangalaga sa Kalikasan sa Pilipinas (Bukluran) and Philippine Association for Inter-Cultural Development (PAFID). (2020). *Recognizing the Indigenous Communities behind the Conservation of Nature: a project pursuing the full and effective participation of indigenous communities in the implementation of the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System (ENIPAS).* [Milestone report].

Videos

Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC). (2020). *ANGOC Statement on Protecting Land Rights and Ensuring Food Security in the Time of COVID-19.* [Video]

Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC). (2020). *ANGOC Members' Initiatives During the Covid-19 Pandemic.* [Video]

Association for Land Reform and Development (ALRD). (2020). *ALRD's COVID response in Bangladesh.* [Video].

Community Self-Reliance Centre (CSRC). (2020). *CSRC's COVID response in Nepal.* [Video].

Ekta Parishad. (2020). *Ekta Parishad's COVID response in India.* [Video].

Sarvodaya Shramadana Movement. (2020). *Sarvodaya's COVID response in Sri Lanka.* [Video].

STAR Kampuchea. (2020). *STAR Kampuchea's COVID response in Cambodia.* [Video].

2020 Calendar of Major Activities

JANUARY

- 15 Philippines Country Consultation: 35th Asia and the Pacific Regional Conference (APRC), Marco Polo Hotel, Ortigas Center, Pasig City, Philippines
- 16-18 ENIPAS Orientation for Manobo communities of Tinuy-An Waterfalls Protected Landscape Sibadan Fish Cage Resort, Port Lamon, Hinatuan, Surigao Del Sur, Philippines
- 30 Workshop on Land and Property Rights for Sustainable Development Norwegian Mapping Authority Auditorium, Hammersborggata 6, Oslo, Norway
- 30 Forum on Enhancing Rights and Tenurial Security of IPs in Bukidnon SEARSOLIN, Cagayan de Oro City, Philippines
- 31 Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) Steering Committee Meeting Norwegian Mapping Authority Regional Office, Storgata 33A, Oslo, Norway
- 31 ENIPAS Orientation for Obo-Manobo and Bagobo-Tagabawa of Mt. Apo Nature Park Villasan Farm Resort, Magpet, North Cotabato, Philippines

FEBRUARY

- 1 ENIPAS Orientation for Obo-Manobo and Bagobo-Tagabawa of Mt. Apo Nature Park Villasan Farm Resort, Magpet, North Cotabato, Philippines
- 5 Committee Hearing on HB 5507 (Second Phase of Agrarian Reform) House of Representatives, Quezon City, Philippines
- 11-13 CBI 9-10 Preparatory Meeting KPA Office, Jakarta, Indonesia
- 11-13 ENIPAS Orientation for Buhid and Bangon Mangyan communities affected by the Iglit-Baco Natural Park Jopats Resort, Batuhan, Poblacion, Bongabong, Silangang Mindoro, Philippines

MARCH

- 3-4 CBI 9-10 Regional Planning Meeting KPA Office, Jakarta, Indonesia
- 5-6 Regional Training on Land Conflict Monitoring Amaris Hotel Pancoran, Jakarta, Indonesia
- 10 CBI 2 Philippines Partners' Meeting Partnership Center, Quezon City, Philippines

APRIL

- 10 Forest Foundation IP PAMB Meeting
- 22 People's Dialogue Webinar: COVID-19 in the Age of Extractivism and Climate Change - Voices From the South
- 23 1st Regional CBI 9-10 Working Group Meeting

MAY

- 7 2nd Regional CBI 9-10 Working Group Meeting
- 22 LCM Collaborative Discussion with Philippine Partners Philippines – Part 1
- 29 3rd Regional CBI 9-10 Working Group Meeting

JUNE

- 1-4 2nd ICCA Southeast Asia Regional Assembly
- 2 GLTN Land Rights Recognition for Ecosystems Restoration, Improved Livelihoods and Food Security
- 19 4th Regional CBI 9-10 Working Group Meeting
- 25 Consultation with CSOs on Updating the Land Sector Development Framework (LSDF) 2019-2040 – Part 1
- 25 LCM Collaborative Discussion with Philippine Partners Philippines – Part 2

JULY

- 2 Consultation with CSOs on Updating the Land Sector Development Framework (LSDF) 2019-2040 – Part 2
- 12 5th Regional CBI 9-10 Working Group Meeting
- 15 Global Launch of PRINDEX Report: *An Asian CSO Perspective on Land Rights and Land Governance*
- 26 DD Coalition Data Working Group
- 31 Rights Conference Public Session on Defender Data: *"A line on defenders – building alliances and technical solutions to better track threats to land and environmental defenders"*

AUGUST

- 6 Land Conflict Monitoring Interview with Tecnicas Rudas
- 24 PAHRA Consultation-Validation on CSO National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights
- 25-28 Land Rights and Land Conflict Monitoring Training for CHR Regional Offices
- 27 6th Regional CBI 9-10 Working Group Meeting
- 28 Philippines BHR Working Group Meeting
- 28 DD Coalition Data Working Group

SEPTEMBER

- 1-4 Thirty-fifth Session of the FAO Asia Pacific Regional Conference, Bhutan
- 2 DD Coalition Data Working Group
- 3 7th Regional CBI 9-10 Working Group Meeting
- 7-11 2020 Fair Finance Asia General Assembly
- 21 FGD on Expansion of Oil Palm Plantations in IP Areas
- 28 ANGOCT RTD on the Status of the Philippine NAP on the UNGP BHR
- 29 Planning Conference for UNDP Implementation in the Philippines

OCTOBER

- 5 CBI 9-10 Preparatory Meeting for Asia Land Forum
- 6-7 Asia Land Forum: Sustaining Family Farming in Asia-Pacific through inclusive, farmer-driven approaches
- 8 Understanding the new wave of landgrabbing in Asia and its impact on securing the land rights for smallholder farmers: Side event in conjunction with Asia Land Forum
- 8 Exchange Learning on Collaboration of ILC IGO and CSO Members on Land Governance at Country Level in Asia
Breakout session during Asia Land Forum

- 9 ILC Asia Regional Assembly, Bogor, Indonesia
- 15 *OUR FyouthTURE: Protecting Land Rights and Ensuring Food Security in Asia Post-COVID-19* ANGOC Network Conference and Celebration of the 2020 World Food Day
- 16 Defend Defenders Coalition Country Workshop-Philippines
- 23 NES Meeting with World Bank on SPLIT Project
- 26 Green Bills Meeting
- 26-28 16th ICCA Global Assembly

NOVEMBER

- 3-4 Kathmandu Democracy Forum
- 3 CBI 8 Regional Planning Meeting
- 12 PRINDEX East Asia and the Pacific Launch: *"The Importance of Data for Donors Working on Land and Property Rights in East Asia and the Pacific"* – Land Rights and Land Governance Challenges in Asia
- 18 8th Regional CBI 9-10 Working Group Meeting
- 19 CBI 8 – Regional Orientation on LANDex
- 20 NES Cambodia webinar: Land Tenure Security for Urban and Rural Communities in Cambodia
- 24-26 DDC Data Working Group - Global Workshops
- 26 Philippine Land Conflict Monitoring Updates with Philippine CSOs
- 27 Fair Finance Asia General Assembly
- 27 PDAP Annual Membership Meeting, Quezon City, Philippines
- 27 China-ASEAN Activists Serial Online Seminar "Seminar 1: New Opportunities of RCEP to Promote Practical Cooperation between China and ASEAN Towards an Equitable and Sustainable Land and Smallholder Agriculture"

DECEMBER

- 1 Rural Communities in Defense Against COVID-19 Side event during 8th GLTN Partners' Meeting Nairobi, Kenya
- 2 GLTN Global Learning Exchange Session
- 2 Country Learning Exchange Session Session 1 of 8th GLTN Partners' Meeting Nairobi, Kenya
- 2-4 8th GLTN Partners' Meeting, Nairobi, Kenya
- 4 DDC Data Working Group Meeting
- 3 CBI 8 – LANDex Focus Group Discussion #1 – Southeast Asia
- 7 CBI 8 – LANDex Focus Group Discussion #1 – South Asia
- 8 Philippines BHR Working Group Meeting
- 8 ICCA Southeast Asia Regional Strategic Planning
- 11 Defending the Defender Coalition: Outcomes from the Coalition Virtual Meeting and Impact on the Coalition Advocacy Strategy for 2021
- 14 Fair Finance Asia Meeting on 2021 Case Studies on Agri-Business
- 14-15 Planning for GLTN Learning Exchange Visit La Roca, Pansol, Laguna, Philippines
- 15-16 ANGOC Year-end Review and Planning La Roca, Pansol, Laguna, Philippines
- 17 Fisherfolk Focus Group Discussion
- 18 Regional Workshop on "Ensuring land and food rights at a time of Covid-19 and Beyond" Dhaka, Bangladesh
- 18 CBI 8 – LANDex Focus Group Discussion #2 – South and Southeast Asia
- 21 Guidance Document on Business and Human Rights Virtual Launch Quezon City, Philippines
- 22 9th Regional CBI 9-10 Working Group Meeting

Board of Trustees (2019-2022)

Chairperson:	Chet Charya, SK
Vice Chairperson for South Asia:	Jitram Lama, NFN
Vice Chairperson for Southeast Asia:	Iwan Nurdin, KPA
Secretary:	Roel Ravanera
Treasurer:	Fr. Francis Lucas
Chairperson Emeritus:	Fr. Francis Lucas

Members

Bangladesh

Association for Land Reform and Development (ALRD)
Community Development Association (CDA)

Cambodia

STAR Kampuchea

China

China Association for NGO Cooperation (CANGO)

India

Association of Voluntary Agencies for Rural Development (AVARD)
Ekta Parishad (EP)
Gandhi Peace Foundation (GPF)
South Asia Rural Reconstruction Association (SARRA)

Indonesia

Bina Desa
Konsorsium Pembaruan Agraria (KPA)

Nepal

Community Self Reliance Centre (CSRC)
NGO Federation of Nepal (NFN)

Philippines

Philippine Partnership for the Development of Human Resources in Rural Areas (PhilDHRRA)

Sri Lanka

Sarvodaya Shramadana Movement (SARVODAYA)

Individual members

- Antonio Ledesma, S.J.
- Antonio Francis Lucas
- Antonio B. Quizon
- M.V. Rajasekharan
- Roel Ravanera
- Edgardo Valenzuela