



2015 ANGOC ANNUAL REPORT

**Keeping Food Security at the
Core of Land Governance**



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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 NGOs 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 NGOs (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.



MESSAGE OF CHAIRPERSON AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The year 2015 marked a critical milestone for the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) which realized its goal of transforming the region into a single market and production base under the vision of an ASEAN Economic Community. Along with the wider market access comes bigger challenges that can sprout from increasing foreign investments that compete for national priorities related to food production.

Investment regimes are expected to ease even more, paving the way for a rise in large-scale foreign land acquisitions that can be dramatically adverse in some countries due to the absence, or poor functioning, of regulatory frameworks. The threat is real as investments have led to the conversion of agricultural and forest lands, further bringing harm to the predicament of farming communities who are already struggling with tenurial security. It may be a milestone exclusive to South East Asia, but the concerns that can arise from it reflect the very same priorities that demand attention as well in other parts of Asia.

Land and forests in Asia are seen more from the perspective of commerce rather than as the basis for food security and environmental conservation. The incentive to penetrate bigger markets, courtesy of tariff walls being taken down in ASEAN and beyond, fuels big increases in the production of goods that are heavily extractive of natural resources.

It is a theme that is repeated across Asia where the political environment remains ambivalent towards upholding redistributive land and resource justice. This has pumped up the pressure on the ANGO network and its partners, and in particular through its work in the Land Watch Asia (LWA) campaign, to advocate national governments to ensure land rights and protect communities from losing tenurial security. While there has been no let-up in the urgent work to pursue land rights, LWA managed to make headways in influencing national governments in the area of improving the policy regime. In 2015, the campaign proposed and monitored the implementation of 18 policies that promote and protect farmers' land rights. These are but small successes in the broader aim of protecting communities' tenurial security and keeping food security at the very core of land governance.

Rohini Reddy
Chairperson

Nathaniel Don Marquez
Executive Director



Land and Resource Rights

Context

Land has returned to the international development agenda as witnessed by a number of events. For instance, the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) with membership of 98 countries, endorsed the Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (VGGT) in Rome, Italy in May 2012. Developed as a result of negotiation among different groups of stakeholders – government agencies, civil society, private sector, UN – the VGGT provides a framework for responsible tenure governance that support food security, poverty alleviation, sustainable resource use and environmental protection. It outlines principles and internationally-accepted practices that may guide the preparation and implementation of policies and laws related to tenure governance. While voluntary, the implementation of these guidelines is to be negotiated with governments in the same manner as other FAO voluntary instruments.

However, the political environment in Asia remains ambivalent towards upholding redistributive land and resource justice. Land and forests are seen more as tools for profit rather than as the basis for food security and environmental conservation as manifested in the bias of national land policies towards commercial agri-business or extractive ventures and urbanization.

In addition, there are marginalized groups in different Asian countries for whom the right to land is upheld in principle through national laws but is only weakly safeguarded and rarely enjoyed in actual practice. These are the women, the indigenous peoples, and those subject to religious or cultural bounds (e.g., caste, ethnicity, and the like). There are those vast numbers of small farmers, forest dwellers, and fisherfolk across the continent who are likewise disadvantaged. Through the sheer lack of awareness of their rights and non-exposure to bureaucratic and corporate systems, they are unable to counter the claims of political and economic powers and to wisely evaluate the proffered benefits in exchange for their land and resources. On the other hand, the complexity of customary land tenure makes it difficult for outsiders to comprehend or to codify. State systems often insist that property rights cannot be legally recognizable unless they are established and documented, and done in accordance with official grants from the central state. Further, most Asian states have no legal framework for recognition of customary land rights, nor a mechanism for collective land titling. Neither are indigenous communities recognized as legal entities under statutory law. Thus, the concept of ancestral lands and customary rights over territories and natural resources continues to be a highly contentious issue between indigenous peoples and state governments, as well as between indigenous and non-indigenous populations.¹

¹Quizon (2014). *loc cit.*



In India, both Houses of Parliament passed the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013. The act promises a “humane, participative, informed, and transparent process” for land acquired in the name of industrialization, infrastructure, and urbanization with least disturbance to landowners and others affected. The new law, expected to be pro-poor, is regarded as a victory for land rights advocates in the country. The National Land Reforms Policy, which people’s movements such as the Jan Satyagraha 2012 have demanded, still remains in draft form. Other promises have also failed to materialize.²

As a recent study on women and land in India reports,³ the constitution recognizes equal rights for men and women, including the legal right of women to own land. However, very few actually do. Recent advances, however, have been the Rights to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 and the Hindu Succession (Amendment) Act 2005 which aimed at removing the gender discrimination in the Hindu Succession Act 1956.

With regard to land rights of India’s indigenous peoples, a study⁴ noted that large areas of land were declared as protected areas from 1970 to 2000, causing massive evictions of the communities. There have been positive developments, however. Among these is the *Panchayat* Extension to the Schedule Areas (PESA) Act which addresses the long-standing demand for tribal control over productive land and forest.

In Bangladesh, a new land use policy is being debated in Parliament to supersede the National Land Use Policy, 2001, which is seen as weak despite its noble goal of thwarting agricultural land conversion and ensuring land use efficiency. Moreover, a draft of the Agriculture Land Use Act has been prepared for discussion in Parliament, which hopes to enhance marginalized groups’ access to land (Barkat, 2014).

Legal, religious, and social values hinder women’s ownership of land. Despite the fact that 88% of women are involved in agriculture, they actually own only 4% of the country’s total land. The constitution of Bangladesh recognizes the equal rights of men and women, but property rights are still largely influenced by religious inheritance laws that discriminate against women. Many customary laws of indigenous communities are likewise discriminatory against women.

Meanwhile, the situation of indigenous peoples in Bangladesh⁵ is typified by the inhabitants of the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) vs. the plains or lowland people.

²Jan Satyagraha was a non-violent foot march organized by Ekta Parishad in 2012, where more than 50,000 people – mostly peasants (tribals, landless people, including women) – marched the 350 kilometers from Gwalior to Delhi demanding land and livelihood rights.

³Scoping study on Women’s Land Rights (India) by Association of Voluntary Agencies for Rural Development (AVARD). For more details of the case, contact: avard@bol.net.in

⁴Condensed from the *Study on Indigenous Peoples (Scheduled Tribes of India)* by the Association of Voluntary Agencies for Rural Development (AVARD). For more details, contact: avard@bol.net.in.

⁵As reported in the summary of country papers in the Lok Niti journal on *Indigenous peoples and their sacred lands* that can be accessed at the ANGOC portal <<http://www.angoc.org/portal/>>. Based on *Analysis on the Situation of Indigenous Peoples Customary Land and Resource Rights in Bangladesh* by S. Tripura, S. K. Ripa, and T. Sumaiya of Association for Land Reform and Development (ALRD). For more details of the case, contact: alrd@agni.com.



Those living in the area covered by the CHT have some advantages due to their special legal and political status, while the plains people are not accorded similar rights. Other structural causes for indigenous peoples being alienated from their land include: the lack of enforcement of the current tenure system and overlap between formal and customary tenure, multiple land claims, inadequate public administration capacity, corruption, uneven distribution of land, and inadequate legal protection for the poor.

In the Philippines, there exists a number of progressive asset reform laws on the alienation of lands and their use, resource conservation and protection, and recognition of the rights of farmers, indigenous communities and other marginalized groups. These laws include the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law (CARL), Indigenous Peoples Rights Act (IPRA), Forestry Code, National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS), and Fisheries Code. Other laws that impact positively on the enabling environment for asset reform are the Local Government Code (LGC) and the Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Act (AFMA). Unfortunately, after decades of implementing these laws, much still needs to be done to achieve their objectives as well as to improve the situation of their intended beneficiaries – the tens of millions of farmers, fisherfolk, indigenous peoples, urban poor, forest communities, and rural women – who continue to live in poverty.

In Cambodia, the Royal Government is still developing its agrarian reform laws following the reign of the Khmer Rouge. The first real change was the passage of the Land Law in 2001, allowing Cambodian nationals to own and transfer land but without explicitly mentioning women. The Constitution, as adopted in 1993, provides that all forms of discrimination shall be abolished and that all persons, individually or collectively, are entitled to the right to ownership, including the right to own land. Unfortunately, the *Chbab Srey*, a customary law which is the traditional code of conduct for women, reinforces the belief in their inferior status and promotes inequality in all aspects of women's family and social life.⁶

With regard to Cambodia's indigenous peoples, a recent scoping study⁷ reported that the laws governing land rights and other customary rights of IPs in Cambodia are very credible and well thought out on paper. The key problem, however, is a near complete lack of implementation of this legal and policy framework.

In Indonesia, the Land Bill should address the skewed land ownership structure in the country, the escalation of agrarian conflicts, and environmental degradation. It is likewise expected to address one of the most enduring problems in the country, the lack of land and natural resources governance.⁸

⁶Condensed from Scoping Study on Women's Land Rights in Cambodia 2013 by STAR Kampuchea. For more details of the case, contact: star-director@starkampuchea.org.kh

⁷From Scoping Study on the Access and Control of Land by Indigenous People in Cambodia by NGO Forum on Cambodia. For more details of the case, contact: ngoforum@ngoforum.org.kh.

⁸Based on KPA's report during the LWA Planning Meeting in Phnom Penh, Cambodia on 15 September 2014.



A recent scoping study⁹ relates how, for centuries now, Indonesia's women farmers have only had access rights to land, while control over land remains in the hands of men. In terms of Indonesia's indigenous peoples, a recent study¹⁰ points out that the Basic Agrarian Law officially recognizes their rights over customary land and has a provision that third parties should secure temporary transfer of customary land rights each time they use customary lands. However, such provisions were later undermined by the passage of the Basic Forestry Law and the Basic Mining Law both in 1967. Recent positive steps have been taken, however, towards upholding IPs' land rights. The Indonesian House of Representatives is preparing the draft Act on Recognition and Protection of IP Rights. At the regional level, regional regulations on the recognition and protection of IP rights have begun to be issued.

The Corporate Agriculture Farming policy of Pakistan remains a mechanism to favor foreign investors at the expense of local communities, whose lands and food security are threatened. The government needs to make its land transactions transparent.

With regard to the situation of women's land rights in Pakistan,¹¹ the National Policy on Development and Empowerment of Women (NPDEW) seeks to provide rural women access to land, agricultural and livestock extension services, support mechanisms and facilities, as well as micro-credit programs. Awareness of such important laws, however, is severely lacking, particularly in the rural areas of Pakistan. There have also been two exceptional initiatives in recent years. Approximately 70% of beneficiaries of state land distribution by the Sindh provincial government in 2009 were women. The second is the introduction of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) Enforcement of Women Ownership Rights Bill, 2012. Under this bill, violation of women's land ownership is punishable by up to five years imprisonment and a fine of up to Rs.50,000.¹²

For indigenous peoples in Pakistan, the systems of oppression that affect them and the history of their people vary. The worst case involves exclusion from the political structure of the state, non-mention in important policy documents, and even denial of relief provisions after natural calamities.¹²

Nepal has finally promulgated its Constitution in September 2015. Concerns remain in relation to the promotion of women's equality and the well-being of marginalized groups. In the country's government programs for women empowerment and gender equality, no significant attention had been given to the promotion of women's land rights.

⁹Scoping Study on Women and Land Rights by Yayasan Bina Desa. For more details of the case, contact: dwiastuti@gmx.net

¹⁰Condensed from *Scoping Study of Indonesia Indigenous Peoples* by Jaringan Kerja Pemetaan Partisipatif/Network for Participatory Mapping (JKPP). For more details of the study, contact: erwin_tea@yahoo.com or jkpp@indo.net.id.

¹¹From Scoping Study on Women and Land Rights in Pakistan by the Society for Conservation and Protection of Environment (SCOPE), abridged in the Lok Niti issue on *Women's Land Rights in Asia*.

¹²*Ibid.*

¹³Condensed from *Scoping Study on Indigenous People – Pakistan* by the Society for Conservation and Protection of Environment (SCOPE), abridged in the Lok Niti issue, *On the Customary Land Rights of Indigenous Peoples in Asia*.



The 2002 revision of the National Code of Nepal has favorable provisions for daughters and widows. New provisions under the Eleventh Amendment Muluki Ain, derived from Hindu law and customary law, grant daughters and sons equal rights to inherit land, challenging long-held cultural practices and social norms. The issuance of joint ownership certificates for wives and husbands has also commenced, hopefully providing greater security to women, protecting them from marital violence, and enhancing their role in decision-making. The indigenous peoples in Nepal can be divided into two distinct regional groups: Hill IPs and *Terai* IPs. As reported in a recent study¹⁴ the government of Nepal does not, however, officially recognize indigenous territories or community ownership of land. As a consequence, there has been no legislation specific to indigenous peoples.

ANGOC's contribution in pursuing land rights

Steering the Land Watch Asia (LWA) campaign, the ANGOC network and its partners have influenced the land policy agenda and processes of their respective national governments in ensuring land rights and protecting communities from losing tenurial security. LWA partners are recognized by their governments as key stakeholders and have been providing technical inputs and constructive reviews of legislation and monitoring of existing policies and programs. The campaign proposed and monitored implementation of 18 policies in seven countries.

LWA partners have sharpened their analysis of land issues through the conduct of various studies: women, indigenous peoples and land-grabbing. Together with the land monitoring reports, partners have produced evidence-based research which they use to support their advocacies. There has been a marked improvement in the quality of reports provided by members in terms of content and style. Claims are substantiated by data which are properly referenced. The use of visuals/graphics in the country reports is evident. Other than policy work, the reports have been used for the land rights literacy campaign with partner communities and people's movements as part of institutional building efforts and building consensus on policy proposals.



Through the various campaign activities, engagement with other stakeholders has expanded. Human rights organizations are engaged particularly in Cambodia, Indonesia and the Philippines since most of the indicators used in the land monitoring reports centered on land conflicts.

¹⁴From the *Study on Status of Indigenous Peoples' Land and Resource Rights* by the National NGO Federation of Nepal. For more details of the study, contact: info@ngofederation.org.



In pursuit of enhancing the methodology and approach of CSO land reform monitoring initiative, partnerships with research/academic institutions have been developed and will continue to be nurtured. Joint publications with the academic/research groups in Bangladesh, Indonesia and the Philippines have been produced. Opportunities to engage CSOs in Lao PDR, Myanmar and Vietnam have increased. While these countries expressed interest in joining the land monitoring initiative of Land Watch Asia, the country contexts and respective capacities should be considered.

Major Activities in 2015



Land Watch Asia (LWA) is a regional campaign to ensure that access to and control of land, agrarian reform and sustainable development for the rural poor are addressed in national and regional development agenda. Facilitated by ANGO, LWA involves civil society organizations in Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan and the Philippines. LWA aims to: a) take stock of significant changes in the policy and legal environments; b) undertake strategic national and regional advocacy activities on access to land; c) jointly develop approaches and tools; and d) encourage the sharing of experiences in coalition-building and actions on land rights issues.

At the country level, in terms of policy changes, LWA members, together with other social movements and CSOs, were able to propose and monitor the implementation of at least 18 policies in seven countries. Such actions have either increased the tenurial security of the rural poor or prevented the drafting or implementation of provisions that negate previous gains on improving access or ownership of land. Specifically:

- In **Bangladesh**, the government finally approved the “**Vested Property Return Act**”. Henceforth, Vested Property (VP) Return Tribunals in 61 Districts have been set up. The **Land Reform Act of 2014** and the **Agricultural Land Protection and Use Act of 2015** are being drafted. The Land Reform Act establishes the rights of farmers and landless peoples over land.
- In **Cambodia**, STAR Kampuchea (SK) in partnership with other CSOs, were able to advocate the Ministry of Environment to monitor the implementation of **Sub-Decree on Economic Land Concessions (ELCs)**. SK reported that the government took back 57,000 hectares that had been awarded to companies via ELCs. As a result, around 587 families from Romeas Hek District in Svay Rieng Province have received land titles. The maximum concession period of ELCs was reduced to 50 years for new contracts from the previous 99.



- In **India**, Ekta Parishad has been effective in the prorogation of the **amendment of the Land Acquisition Act of 2013**. The said ordinance was put on hold, leading to its expiration on 31 August 2015. This stopped land acquisition by investors without the consent of affected farmers and families. Further, as a result of the pressure from Ekta Parishad, the government will implement a 13-point amendment to the **Land Acquisition Law** which will provide direct financial benefit to farmers.
- In **Indonesia**, KPA has been actively leading dialogues and deliberations with the government, arguing that the **Draft Bill on Land** should not be a replacement to the Basic Agrarian Law since the former does not address agrarian reform. KPA and its partners have successfully blocked its passage as provisions on land court, land registration, right to cultivate, and IPs are incorporated under the agrarian reform chapter. KPA has also prepared an alternative version of the **Draft President Regulation on Agrarian Reform** as the current provisions of the government's version do not reflect genuine agrarian reform. On the **Law on Farmer's Protection and Empowerment**, KPA, together with other CSOs held policy dialogues with the government to point out the limitations of the said law: farmers are not allowed to own land and they are prohibited from organizing on their own. As a result, the law will be subjected to further judicial review.
- In **Nepal**, major policies passed, lobbied or monitored include the **National Land Policy, Policy on Haruwa and Charuwa** (ploughmen and herdsman), **Agriculture Development Strategy (ADS)**, the formation of the **Landless Problem Resolution Commission**, and the **Amendment for Land Reform Agendas on the draft constitution**. Through Community Self-Reliance Centre's (CSRC) interventions, the draft of the National Land Policy has been finalized with the inclusion of equitable land distribution, optimum utilization of land, good governance for prosperity and qualitative change in people's standard of living. CSRC contributed to the incorporation of issues of family farming and utilizing lands by the marginalized farmers in ADS by producing a policy brief highlighting the importance of family farming and utilizing available land rather than leasing lands for corporate farming.
- Together with other CSOs in **Pakistan**, SCOPE has been facilitating landless women farmers to acquire titled lands in a peaceful occupation through consultation, policy advocacy, research, and public hearings. The **Sindh Government** has distributed 55,000 of the targeted 200,000 acres of land to 6,000 farmers (4,800 women and 1,200 men) in 17 districts.



- Campaign for Land Use Policy Now! (CLUP Now!) and ANGOC have been lobbying for the passage of a **National Land Use Act** in the **Philippines**. While a number of legislative bills addressing land use issues have been passed, these policies are sectoral and fragmented in approach and do not address priorities for land use that cuts across sectors, thus resulting in an increase in the number of cases of conflicting land claims. To date, the House of Representatives in the 16th Congress passed the bill. However, it got stalled at the Senate. The People's Campaign on Agrarian Reform (AR Now!) has linked with other groups to work on the passage of the **Land Acquisition and Distribution Completion Bill** as there is a continuing need to cover lands eligible for distribution under the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program.

At the regional level, LWA partners produced a number of knowledge products in support of advocacies, in particular 7 scoping studies on women, 7 scoping studies on IPs and 24 land-grabbing cases. Issue briefs for women, IPs and land-grabbing have been prepared to distill issues and recommendations.

On Women's Scoping Studies

In Asia, while pro-women laws and policies may have been codified and formulated, implementation is an entirely separate matter that behooves critical reflection. Indeed, without willful execution of such efforts on the part of governments, and equally important, citizens themselves, the campaign on land rights for women remains constrained.

The gender gap in terms of equitable access and ownership to land can be reversed by changing mindsets. LWA needs to draw more attention not only to the plight of women, but also to whether progress is made towards strengthening women's land rights, specifically using gender-sensitive indicators.

On Indigenous Peoples Scoping Studies

Available data on indigenous populations are based mainly on estimates, as there is no disaggregated data on indigenous peoples in most countries. Today the recognition and protection of indigenous lands has become even more complex in view of growing commercial pressures that include extractive industries (timber, mining), industrial plantations, and development projects. Cases of forcible eviction and militarization cause the loss of lands and livelihoods, community disintegration and conflict, and environmental impacts.

The LWA campaign should thus lobby governments to recognize the rights of indigenous peoples in line with international human rights norms and state obligations. Further, in some countries, there appears to be a dearth of development workers who have the capacity to support IP communities and address their land issues. There is a need to promote dialogue and build understanding among a broader community of CSOs and enhance their capacity to provide support to IP communities and organizations.



On Land Grab Cases

The cases documented by the Land Watch Asia campaign on this increasing competition for land tell of farmers losing their land, indigenous communities being driven away from their ancestral lands, mangrove forests cleared, women alienated from their productive resource, livelihood lost and increasing incidences of conflicts and insurgencies. Generally, these land acquisitions are seemingly happening within the bounds of national and international legal frameworks.



As governance of these resources is weak and vulnerable to legal maneuverings, policy and legal interventions need to be strengthened. Laws and programs have to be improved in consonance with the current global guidelines on land tenure and responsible agricultural investments. LWA has to rethink its

strategies and institute new approaches, such as advancing smallholder agriculture and local food subsidies, broaden the land rights movements (incorporating the human rights dimension) and strengthening land governance.

On the other hand, LWA has organized or participated in a number of regional events:

GLTN 6th Partners' Meeting and Side Events (31 October-06 November 2015; Nairobi, Kenya)

ANGOC and its national network member in Bangladesh, the Association for Land Reform and Development (ALRD), participated in the GLTN 6th Partners Meeting and its side events. It was an opportunity to understand better GLTN and to meet its various partners. ANGOC shared its work in VGGT. Similarly, ANGOC provided inputs in the tools development processes of Fit for Purpose Land Administration, Land Use Planning and Global Land Indicators Initiative. ANGOC likewise participated in the brainstorming session among GLTN, ESCAP, Habitat and RMI to strengthen partnership in Asia.

Sixth Asia-Pacific Urban Forum (19-21 October 2015; Fairmont Hotel, Jakarta, Indonesia)

The Sixth Asia-Pacific Urban Forum (APUF-6) was convened by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). It is a multi-stakeholder event where urban policy actors discuss emerging and critical urban development issues. A parallel session organized by GLTN with ANGOC as rapporteur, "Handling Land towards the New Urban Agenda in Asia-Pacific (20 October 2015)," highlighted the need for the new urban agenda to address critical people-to-place dimension. ANGOC and GLTN launched their respective publications (*2014 CSO Land Reform Monitoring* and *Land Tenure in Asia and the Pacific*) as a side event during the 6th APUF. The idea of formulating a region-wide set of guidelines on land (similar to the Africa Land Policy Initiative) has been broached while the need to work together at the regional level remains a daunting task.



Regional policy forum on land administration and land use planning (18-19 October 2015; Century Park Hotel, Jakarta, Indonesia)

The forum was organized by ANGO and the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN). The 42 participants agreed to work on three areas: policy, tooling and information networking. At the core of land administration and management systems should always be the people, focusing on peoples' relationship to the land, their context and their community. Systems should also recognize the plurality of tenurial forms from formal to informal.



ILC Regional Assembly (6-10 October 2015; Chiang Mai, Thailand)

This event focused on the formulation of a regional work plan taking into consideration global trends and the new strategic objectives of ILC. An ANGO representative served as a resource person sharing the coalition's work on the voluntary guidelines and facilitated the planning sessions. ANGO was then designated to anchor the development of the work program in transparent information and accountability while some of the LWA partners will take the lead in the land-grab campaign and human rights.



Global Land Forum and Assembly of Members of ILC (12-14 May 2015; Dakar, Senegal)

With the theme "Land governance for inclusive development, justice and sustainability: Time for action," the Global Land Forum focused on the key role of land and resource rights towards creating a better world post-2015. An ANGO representative was one of the panelists of the breakout session on "The role of non-state actors in the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines."



ANGOC hosted a booth in the Ideas Fair, an open space for the forum participants to exchange ideas, experiences, knowledge, and solution-oriented tools and approaches. ANGOC featured the LWA campaign, highlighting how it has served as a platform for land advocates and CSOs to strategize and share campaign activities.

Regional workshop on land monitoring initiatives (21-22 April 2015; Brentwood Hotel, Quezon City, Philippines)

The workshop jointly organized by ANGOC, ILC Asia and GLTN had 42 participants representing CSOs, intergovernmental organizations (GLTN, FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific) and research institutions. The regional workshop aimed to: present and discuss the country land monitoring reports; enhance the land monitoring framework in the light of pressing issues and global initiatives; and explore ways forward to continue to build a regional platform for common action towards an accountable and effective governance on land.



Annual World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty (23-27 March 2015; Washington DC, USA)

This annual event organized by the Development Economic Resource Group of the World Bank aims to promote the exchange of best approaches and practices by governments, civil society, academe and private sector. The 2015 theme “Linking Land Tenure and Use for Shared Prosperity” highlighted land tenure’s far-reaching implications for the socio-economic welfare of society.

MRLG Regional Consultation and Planning Workshop (4-6 March 2015; Bangkok, Thailand)

ANGOC participated in the workshop organized by the Mekong Region Land Governance (MRLG) Project. The workshop brought together active stakeholder representatives of Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, and Vietnam and identified regional-level key reform actors to prepare a first-year plan for regional-level learning and advocacy component activities. ANGOC shared its analysis on land governance issues based on the studies conducted by LWA.

ILC Asia Steering Committee (19-20 February 2015; IBIS Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand)

ANGOC facilitated the meeting of the steering committee of ILC Asia. Major agenda items discussed were: a) 2014 performance review of ILC Asia regional coordination unit and host; b) work plan and resource mobilization for 2015; c) preparations for the upcoming Assembly of Members and Global Land Forum (Dakar, Senegal; 11-16 May 2015); and d) engaging intergovernmental organizations.



International Conference on Contested Access to Land in the Philippines and Indonesia: How Can the Rural Poor (Re) Gain Control? (16-17 February 2015; Asian Center and University Hotel, University of the Philippines, Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines)

ANGOC participated in an international conference organized by the Amsterdam Institute for Social Science Research (AISSR-University of Amsterdam), and the Asian Center and Third World Studies Center (TWSC) of the University of the Philippines. The conference provided a venue to share experiences on land grabbing and vulnerabilities of the rural poor in land deals in Indonesia and the Philippines. ANGOC was one of the panelists of the session, "Challenges and dilemmas of advocacy: addressing corporate land acquisitions session." The presentation highlighted the land grabbing cases documented by LWA partners in the Philippines and Indonesia, and the recommendations were forwarded from the agreements of the Asian Peoples Land Rights Tribunal held last 16-17 January 2014 at the University of the Philippines Diliman, Quezon City.

Smallholder Agriculture towards Sustainable Food Systems and Livelihood

Context

As a follow-up to the Rio+20 conference, governments and the international community have agreed to develop a new set of goals, targets and indicators that will be used for measuring and accelerating progress in reducing hunger and poverty. The Post-2015 Agenda is accompanied by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which build on the earlier Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). About 10 of the SDGs have implications on land, as the report of the High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda proposed a target on "secure rights to land, property and other assets" as a building block in reducing poverty. An important contribution thus to the implementation of Rio+20 outcome is to design a framework for collecting and monitoring tenure security.

Facilitated also by the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (rai) have been approved during its 41st session last 15 October 2014. The rai covers all types of investments in agriculture and food systems, though voluntary and non-binding. The process was borne out of the increase in agricultural investments, which unfortunately in some cases have intensified competition for agricultural lands to the extent that reports abound of land grabbing, displacement of occupants, unfair deals and erosion of agricultural resources.

At the regional level, with the ASEAN Economic Integration in 2015, investments are expected to pour in, while the regulatory frameworks in most countries in South East Asia are either not in place or not functioning.

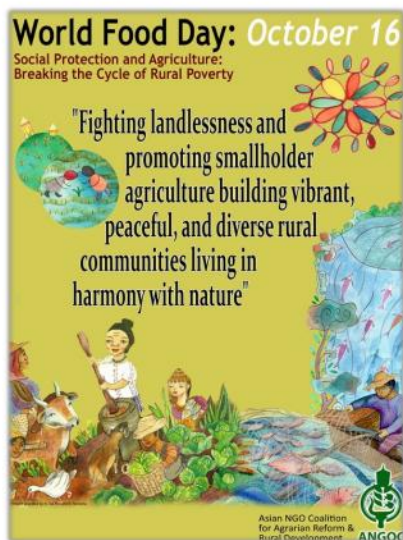


The increasing large-scale foreign land acquisitions, driven by rising world food prices and the growth of the biofuels industry, continue to displace communities and erode their tenurial security. Most of these investments have resulted in the conversion of agricultural, forest and foreshore lands into plantations and commercial/industrial centers. Deforestation and mining are destroying watersheds, biodiversity and indigenous cultures.

ANGOC's contribution to promoting smallholder agriculture in 2015

Food self-sufficiency and the importance of agricultural research were among the critical concerns that topped the agenda of national and international fora that ANGOC participated in to advance the interests of smallholder agriculture. In particular, agricultural research and innovation was a common theme in the many activities that were organized to highlight the need to secure adequate food production for growing populations. Securing land rights remained a top concern in 2015, while the raging debate on land use necessitated a rethink of the smallholder agriculture agenda to include a pronounced shift in response to trends in agricultural research.

Major Activities in 2015



World Food Day (WFD) in 2015 was marked with the theme “Social Protection and Agriculture: Breaking the Cycle of Rural Poverty” recognizing the importance of stimulating production and social protection (such as economic, social, and environmental policies and programs) in reducing poverty and food insecurity in the long term. ANGOC celebrated WFD with its theme “Fighting Landlessness and Promoting Smallholder Agriculture in Building Vibrant, Peaceful, and Diverse Rural Communities Living Harmoniously with Nature.” ANGOC emphasizes the role of fighting landlessness and promoting smallholder agriculture through securing land rights of farmers in attaining self-sufficiency for all – from tillers to the people in the hope of alleviating poverty and providing a food-secured world. Facilitated by ANGOC, the Asian Alliance Against Hunger and

Malnutrition (AAHM-Asia) focused its information sharing activities on key issues that impinged on the lives of smallholder farmers in the region.

Other major events that ANGOC participated in the year include:

High Level Policy Dialogue on Investment in Agricultural Research for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific (08-09 December 2015; Rama Garden Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand)

Many challenges to the region’s agriculture have yet to be addressed. These include poor productivity, low affordability of and access to food, high food inflation, weak household and community food and nutritional security, persistent malnutrition and the lack of assurance in food safety.



Farmers also have limited technical skills and poor access to information and capacity development opportunities to improve their production, processing and marketing practices. Keeping the needs of renewed advocacy in view, the Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI)¹⁵ in collaboration with the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR), Thailand's Department of Agriculture, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations – Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (FAO RAP), Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR) and International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) organized a *High Level Policy Dialogue on Investment in Agricultural Research for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific*. A total of 130 participants attended the dialogue. Among the issues discussed included the need for investment in agricultural research to be

enhanced to meet the challenges of feeding more than 9 billion people by 2050 and ensure the well-being of future generations.

42nd Committee on World Food Security (12-15 October 2015; FAO HQ, Rome, Italy)

The 42nd session of CFS addressed a series of agenda items related to: CFS and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) challenge; the 2015 report on the State of Food Insecurity in the World (SOFI); policy convergence including recommendations on Water for Food Security and Nutrition, and the Framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crises; coordination and linkages between CFS and other food security and nutrition stakeholders at the global, regional and national levels; ongoing work streams including the Global Strategic Framework for Food Security and Nutrition (GSF), the outcomes of the High-Level Forum (HLF) on Connecting Smallholders to Markets, the report on the findings of the CFS effectiveness survey, and the Multi-year Programme of Work (MYPoW) and priorities for 2016-2017; the role of CFS in advancing nutrition; and organizational issues.

National Conference on Food and Nutrition Security (12-13 October 2015; Muntinlupa City, Philippines)

The University of the Philippines-Los Banos Interdisciplinary Studies Center on Food Security (UPLB-ISCFs) organized the conference under the theme "The Philippine Food and Nutrition Security Agenda: Setting Strategic Directions and Actions." Agriculture and food security experts, academicians, local government units, CSOs, farmer and consumer groups shared knowledge and experiences on the methodologies for assessing food and nutrition security, production issues, marketing and post-harvest, governance of delivery systems on food and nutrition security and food safety.

¹⁵APAARI is a unique voluntary, membership-based, self-mandated, apolitical and multi-stakeholder regional organization in the Asia-Pacific region that aims to promote and strengthen agriculture and agri-food research and innovation systems through partnerships and collaboration, capacity development and advocacy for sustainable agricultural development in the region. For more details, visit: www.apaari.org



GFAR Constituent Assembly (24-26 August 2015; Ramada Gardens Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand)

The Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR) Constituent Assembly assembled over 100 representative stakeholders to consider and renew its role, purpose and governance. This landmark Assembly formed a key step in a process of governance review, reform and renewal of the Global Forum in response to the changes in the world of agricultural research and innovation since the Forum was first established in 1996. This landmark Assembly has provided a resounding endorsement of the reform and renewal of GFAR:

- **New vision:** *“The Global Forum makes agri-food research and innovation systems more effective, responsive and equitable, towards achieving Sustainable Development outcomes.”*
- **New mission:** *“Partners in the Global Forum, at national, regional and international levels, advocate for, and catalyze Collective Actions that strengthen and transform agri-food research and innovation systems.”*
- **GFAR Collective Action:** *“A multi-stakeholder program of work at national, regional or international level, initiated by three or more partners and prioritized by the Global Forum, always including producers and with a particular focus on women and youth. Partners agree to commit and generate resources together, in actions or advocacy that strengthen and transform agri-food research and innovation systems towards shared demand-driven development aims and which add value through their joint actions.”*

Interest institutions will be encouraged to become Partners in GFAR.

- A **new governance structure** will be operationalized as follows:
 - ∞ GFAR Partner Assembly will meet every three years
 - ∞ Constituencies of Partners coming from the regions will nominate participants to the Partner Assembly.
 - ∞ A multi-stakeholder Steering Committee will meet every year between meetings of the Partner Assembly. The Steering Committee is composed of global partners, Regional Fora and Partners from other constituencies, selected by the Partner Assembly.

Roundtable Discussion on Agricultural Land for Food Security (04 June 2015; Marco Polo Hotel, Quezon City, Philippines)

ANGOC and the CLUP Now! have been engaging in constructive dialogues with the Philippine Congress as well as government agencies regarding the importance of enacting a National Land Use Act as it is seen as a critical piece of legislation that will provide a rational, holistic, and just allocation, management, utilization, and development of the country's land resources.



The demands on land include food self-sufficiency, safe and affordable housing, real estate development, industrial use, conservation of forests and watersheds, to climate change adaptation. The Philippine population breached the 100 million mark in 2012 and of the country's total land area of 30 million hectares, around 9 million hectares are used for agriculture. The growing population further ratchets up the need to secure the country's agricultural land to guarantee a constant supply of rice. But given the

growing demands of market forces for land, the debate rages on whether it is necessary to protect agricultural lands to ensure food self-sufficiency or allocate lands based on optimal economic use.

It was in this context that ANGOC and CLUP Now! organized the policy discussion entitled "Philippine Agricultural Lands: Are They Worth Protecting?" with assistance from the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and the Foundation for the Philippine Environment (FPE).

Notable experts from the government, academe and CSOs agreed to submit to the Philippine Congress the following definition of prime agricultural land:

"as those areas, generally alluvial lands, suitable for agricultural production (field and horticultural crops, livestock and aquaculture); inclusive of those with existing infrastructure and amenities that enhance productivity and viability and those that still be brought to productive agricultural activity through the provision of such infrastructure and technological development; areas with locational characteristics that make them productive and economically viable such as those proximal to markets and additionally provide non-market benefits and amenities to society; as well as those within and around these areas, inclusive of fragile and vulnerable to climate change ecosystems"

There was also a recommendation to disallow the conversion of prime agricultural lands. Dr. Gelia Castillo asserted that agriculture and fisheries are the only means by which the country produces food. Technology only aids in improving food production but it cannot produce food. Land is needed to produce food, particularly rice. Dr. Castillo noted that production, productivity, harvested area and consumption may dip but population always goes up. Therefore, there is a need to allocate land and to be prepared for population growth. "There is a need to leave space for rice; to allocate as 'sacred' this hectareage at the provincial level where actual monitoring can be done more easily," Dr. Castillo emphasized.



Institutional Updates

In 20 April 2015, the 14th ANGOC General Assembly meeting was convened in Brentwood Suites, Quezon City, Philippines. Among the major decisions taken by the members were:



- The Members ratified and approved the following ANGOC institutional documents:
 - ∞ Minutes of 13th ANGOC General Assembly cum 30th Board of Director Meeting (Bangkok, Thailand; June 2011)
 - ∞ Minutes of 32nd ANGOC Board of Directors Meeting (Quezon City, Philippines; January 2014)
 - ∞ 2013 and 2014 External Financial Audit Reports
 - ∞ 2014 ANGOC Annual Report
 - ∞ Minutes of 32nd ANGOC Board of Directors Meeting

- The Members ratified the decisions taken by the ANGOC Board since the 13th General Assembly (June 2011) until January 2014:
 - ∞ Appointment of Fr. Francis Lucas as Chairperson Emeritus of ANGOC
 - ∞ Acceptance of membership applications of Community Self-Reliance Centre (as institutional member from Nepal) and Community Development Association (as institutional member from Bangladesh)
 - ∞ Application of ANGOC to Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas (ICCA) consortium
 - ∞ Continue to convene the Asian Alliance Against Hunger and Malnutrition

- The ANGOC Members approved the next ANGOC Strategic Action Plan for 2015-2020, confirming the proposed mission, goals and program areas on land rights and smallholder agriculture.

- Elected the new set of ANGOC Board of Directors for 2015-2018.



List of Publications

Land Watch Asia
LAND USE

**Philippine Agricultural Lands:
Are They Worth Protecting?**

Digested by
MARICEL ALMOJUELA-TOLENTINO AND CONRAD S. TOLENTINO
from the proceedings of the conference on "Are Private Agricultural Lands
Worth Protecting?" June 4, 2015, Pasig City, Philippines

**Philippine Agricultural Lands: Are They
Worth Protecting?**

ANGOC and the ICA Campaign have been working to advance the land rights of the rural poor through protecting and promoting the gains of... Thus, ANGOC and CLUP have been stepping in to coordinate dialogues with the Philippine Congress as well as governmental agencies.

ANGOC

ANGOC INTERNATIONAL LAND COALITION MISEREOR GLTN

**A Regional Workshop on Land
Monitoring Initiatives:
Proceedings**

21-22 April 2015
Brentwood Suites, Quezon City
Philippines

**A Regional Workshop on Land
Monitoring Initiatives: Proceedings**

World Food Day: October 16
Social Protection and Agriculture:
Breaking the Cycle of Rural Poverty

"Fighting landlessness and
promoting smallholder
agriculture building vibrant,
peaceful, and diverse rural
communities living in
harmony with nature"

2015 World Food Day Poster

PHILIPPINE PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT
for Agrarian Reform &
Rural Development

ANGOC

Land Watch Asia
2013 CSO Land Reform Monitoring in Asia

Reclaiming our rights to land

Land Watch Asia (LWA) and the Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC) launched the CSO Land Reform Monitoring Initiative in 2010. The initiative was driven by the need to develop the LWA network's capacity on monitoring land reform and to strengthen its evidence-based advocacy. Guided by the question of whether farmers have their land at the end of the day, we developed the monitoring framework using key indicators on policies, land tenure, and access to land (see Box 1).

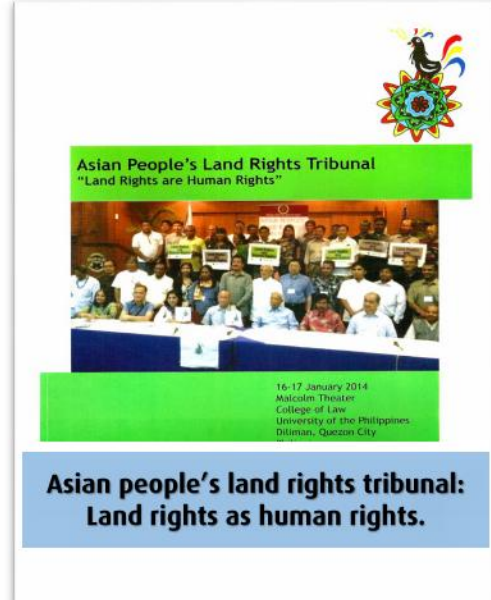
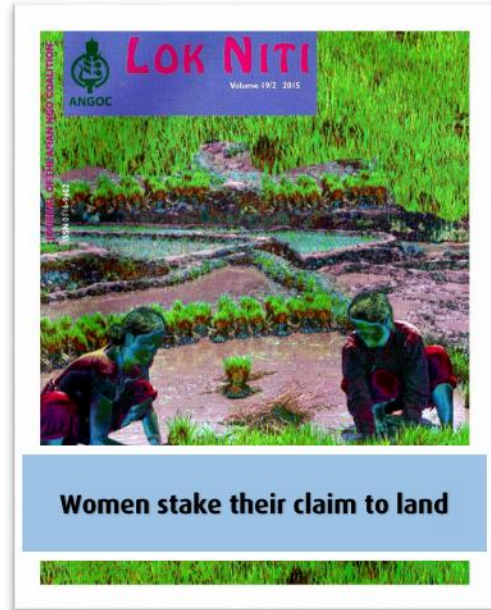
Secure land tenure lies at the core of people's land rights. Without land tenure security, communities may be easily displaced and forcibly evicted. Land conflicts or land disputes – we use them interchangeably here – highlight the challenges and threats communities face in order to maintain access to and full control of their lands. The alarming rise of land grabbing in Asia – large scale land acquisitions by governments or corporations – is one of the main reasons behind land conflicts.

For the 2013 report, we decided to bring into focus land conflicts, including killings, harassments, and detentions in the name of land, as well as evictions. The country reports are summarized in this regional paper.

Moreover, the data on land conflicts are fresh – and highly – suggested the strong correlation between land grabs and rights violations for rights defenders and communities alike. Reports from our partners in Cambodia and Indonesia, most especially,

**CSO Land Reform Monitoring Report:
Reclaiming our Rights to Land**

of the country reports as summarized in this regional paper.





Land Watch Asia
LAND USE

Land, Property and Tenurial Rights in a Changing Coastal Environment

DENNIS CALVAN
NGOs for Fisheries Reform

ANGOC and the IMA campaign has been working to enhance the land rights of the poor poor through protecting and promoting the gains of... This, ANSOC and CLIP have been engaging in constructive dialogues with the Philippine Congress as well as government agencies

Land, property and tenurial rights in a changing coastal environment.

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Land Watch Asia
LAND USE

Striking a Balance: Agricultural Interests vis-a-vis Housing Concerns in the National Land Use Act

Digested from a paper by
CARMINA B. FLORES-OBANIL

ANGOC and the IMA campaign has been working to enhance the land rights of the poor poor through protecting and promoting the gains of... This, ANSOC and CLIP have been engaging in constructive dialogues with the Philippine Congress as well as government agencies regarding the

Striking a Balance: Agricultural Interests vis-à-vis Housing Concerns in the National Land Use Act

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Land Watch Asia
Issue Brief

Women's Land Rights in Asia

Overview

In Asia, land issues affect women in ways that call for serious deliberation and action. Suffice it to say, the legitimate concerns of females transcend generations and geographical borders. Attaining a viable livelihood, meeting basic resource needs and having adequate housing are just some of the issues that affect women. There is, however, a pressing need to heed the voices of rural women in particular. The poor are swelling in numbers and the condition of poor rural women lies on the fringes of the global economic agenda.

Agriculture is the main driver of economic growth in many developing Asian countries, where women's contribution is equal to or exceeds that of men (FAO, 2011). However, despite their critical role in agriculture, most women remain landless. Rural women are neither recognized nor duly compensated for their labor, which includes field preparation, planting, weeding, working in backyard gardens, harvesting, taking care of their productivity, a primary reason behind the sector's underperformance in many Asian countries. Given the same support like inputs, women are just as productive as men. Sains adequate land rights, however, women cannot invest in land improvement, and as a corollary, they cannot access other support services. Women have less access to agricultural support services than men (Mb'o-Tchouaou & Colverson, 2014), and this adversely affects their agricultural productivity (Mensah-Dak, et al., 2011). This sorry state has even forced some women landowners to give up their land (Mori & Sumatya, 2013).

There is increasing evidence revealing the ripple effects a woman creates when she learns how to best manage a piece of land that she can call her own. Strengthening women's land rights is a key strategy for combating hunger and alleviating poverty (Gunsberg, 2013). Furthermore, land ownership can serve as a source of capital, financial security, food, water, shelter, and resources –

Women's Land Rights in Asia

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Land Watch Asia
Issue Brief

On the Customary Land Rights of Indigenous Peoples in Asia

Overview

Asia is home to about 70% of the world's estimated 370 million indigenous peoples (FAO, 2015, par. 2). In Southeast Asia, indigenous peoples comprise as much as 30% of the total populations in Lao PDR and Burma, 14% to 17% in the Philippines, to 1.2% in Cambodia. Their estimated numbers range from a high of 92 to 40 million in Indonesia, to a low of 200,000 in Cambodia.

In South Asia, indigenous peoples comprise an estimated 37% of the population in Nepal, 15% in Pakistan, 8.6% in India, and 1.2% in Bangladesh (NPA, 2013; ILO, 2013a; AVARD, 2014; and Inapura, et al., 2013). In terms of numbers, India has the largest indigenous and tribal population in Asia (80 million people), comprised of over 500 distinct communities (ILO, 2013a, par. 1).

Available data on indigenous populations are based

Who are the Indigenous Peoples?

Indigenous peoples across Asia are known by different names: ethnic minorities, hill people, uplanders, orang aoi, mayanokot adat, tribes, scheduled tribes, adiwasi, cultural communities and religious minorities. Historically, some culturally-loaded terms were used to distinguish them from the dominant majority: hill tribes (Thailand), minority nationalities (China), cultural minorities and non-Christian tribes (Philippines), aborigines (Postcolonial Malaysia), and isolated and alien peoples (Indonesia).

While there is no universal legal definition of "indigenous peoples," official documents cite four defining attributes of indigenous peoples, which have gained wide acceptance: (i) self-assertion or self-identification, (ii) a definable territory, (iii) historical resistance to colonization, and (iv)

On the customary land rights of indigenous peoples in Asia

ANGOC and Land Watch Asia also thank the contributing authors of the ongoing studies on Indigenous Peoples, as listed in the

ANGOC



Land Watch Asia
Issue Brief

Upholding Farmers' Land Rights: The fight against land grabs*

Dismissed as a waning sector in the last two decades of the 20th century, agriculture is back in the economic agenda. Along with it, the free flow of capital rediscovered the economic potential of land. Only this time, commercial interest on land is not limited to agriculture. Mining, real estate development, industrial zones and tourism compete for the same resource.

Unfortunately, governance of land and other resources in many Asian countries is weak and managing these resources has become a big challenge. Many of the laws and practices, including land tax collection and dispute resolution, have been handed down from colonial regimes without much updating.

The cases documented by members of Land Watch Asia on this increasing competition for land tell of indigenous communities being driven away from their ancestral lands, mangrove forests cleared, women alienated from their productive resource,

New Institutional arrangements

All these land acquisitions are seemingly happening within the bounds of national and international legal frameworks. Though there are a lot of intimidations, secrecy in negotiations and transgression at times, they follow legal procedures. It is not like a conquistador subjugating the community and assimilating all the lands. Through international agreements and national master plans, new rules of the game have been instituted and unfortunately, rural communities are losing out.

In Indonesia, large-scale land transactions are part of the government's master plan to take advantage of global investments and compete in the market. In India, the State government itself facilitated the establishment of the Korean steel plant along with a port and iron ore mines. The marketing agreement of the banana export plantain in Southern Philippines was negotiated and signed by the farmers of their own volition.

Upholding farmers' Land Rights: The fight against land grabs

as listed at the end of this article. ISSN: 2 224-1360

Land Watch Asia
LAND USE

Land Use and Development in Northern Mindanao

ROEL R. RAVANERA
Institute of Land Governance, Xavier Science Foundation

ANSDC and the IRR concepts have been working to enhance the land rights of the rural poor through protecting and promoting the gain of Thus, ANSDC and CLUP have been engaging in constructive dialogues with the Philippine Congress as well as government agencies

Land use and development in Northern Mindanao

ISSN: 2 224-1360 ANSDC



2015 Calendar of Major Activities

JANUARY

8 GCAP Meeting (PRRM Office, Quezon City, Philippines)

FEBRUARY

- 6 Forum on Property & Tenurial Rights in a Changing Coastal Environment (PhilDHRRRA, Quezon City, Philippines)
- 10 Philippine Development Forum Working Group on Sustainable Rural Development Meeting (Department of Agriculture, Quezon City, Philippines)
- 11 National Land Use Act Bill Public Hearing (Philippine Senate, Manila, Philippines)
- 16-17 Conference on Contested Access to Land in the Philippines & Indonesia: How can the Rural Poor Re(gain) Control? (University of the Philippines, Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines)
- 19-20 ILC Asia Steering Committee Meeting (IBIS Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand)
- 24 Policy Forum on Municipal Water Delineation (PhilDHRRRA, Quezon City, Philippines)
- 27 Preparatory meeting for the FAO Technical Cooperation Programme on the Voluntary Guidelines in the Philippines (Icon Hotel North Edsa, Quezon City, Philippines)

MARCH

- 3-6 Mekong Region Land Governance Regional Consultation & Planning Workshop (Bangkok, Thailand)
- 11 Mobilization for the Notice of Coverage Campaign (Philippine House of Representatives, Quezon City, Philippines)
- 23-27 Annual World Bank Land & Poverty Conference (World Bank, Washington DC, USA)

APRIL

- 15-24 GIS-Based Participatory Zoning Training (SEARSOLIN, Cagayan de Oro City, Philippines)
- 20 14th ANGOC General Assembly (Brentwood Hotel, Quezon City, Philippines)
- 21-22 Regional Workshop on Land Monitoring Initiatives (Brentwood Hotel, Quezon City, Philippines)
- 23 Land Watch Asia Planning (Brentwood Hotel, Quezon City, Philippines)

MAY

- 8 AR Now! General Assembly (Fersal Hotel-Malakas, Quezon City, Philippines)
- 12-14 ILC Global Land Forum & Assembly of Members (Dakar, Senegal)
- 26 Forum on "Inclusive Growth in the Next Philippine Development Plan, Justice in the Post 2015 SDGs" (Luxent Hotel, Quezon City, Philippines)

ANGOC

**JUNE**

- 4 Roundtable Discussion on “Agricultural Land for Food Security” (Marco Polo Hotel-Ortigas, Quezon City, Philippines)
- 19 Roundtable Discussion on “Agrarian Reform and Rural Development Issue Paper” (CARRD, Quezon City, Philippines)

JULY

- 14 Focus Group Discussion on Governance of Tenure of Public/Forest Lands (Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Quezon City, Philippines)
- 25 Green March (Quezon City Circle, Quezon City, Philippines)

AUGUST

- 5-7 Regional sharing workshop on the Voluntary Guidelines (Yangon, Myanmar)
- 11-12 ILC National Engagement Strategy Quarterly Meeting (Hotel Dominique, Tagaytay City, Philippines)
- 24-25 GFAR Constituent Assembly Meeting (Ramada Garden Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand)

SEPTEMBER

- 9 Forum on “Progress & Prospects of Philippines Agrarian Reform and Rural Development” (Fersal Hotel-Malakas, Quezon City, Philippines)
- 10 Workshop on Philippine Land Monitoring Report (University of the Philippines, Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines)
- 14 Meetings with WALHI & KPA (Jakarta, Indonesia)
- 17 PDAP Annual Membership Meeting (ANGOC, Quezon City, Philippines)
- 18-19 The Future of Philippine Agriculture: Scenarios, Policies & Investments under Climate Change (EDSA Shangri-La, Quezon City, Philippines)

OCTOBER

- 6-9 ILC Asia Regional Assembly (Chiang Mai, Thailand)
- 10 ILC Asia Communication Planning Workshop (Chiang Mai, Thailand)
- 12-13 National Conference on Food and Nutrition Security (Muntinlupa City, Philippines)
- 12-15 42nd Session of the Committee on World Food Security (FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy)
- 18-19 Regional Forum on Land Administration and Management (Century Park Hotel, Jakarta, Indonesia)
- 20 Sixth Asia-Pacific Urban Forum (Fairmont Hotel, Jakarta, Indonesia)
- 21 ANGOC Caucus (Century Park Hotel, Jakarta, Indonesia)

**NOVEMBER**

- 1-6 Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) Partner's Assembly (United Nations, Nairobi, Kenya)
- 25-26 IFAD Knowledge and Learning Forum (Bureau of Soils and Water Management, Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines)
- 27 Preparation for VGGT TCP in the Philippines (Ramada Hotel, Binondo, Manila, Philippines)

DECEMBER

- 1-2 Right to Adequate Food Summit (Quezon City, Philippines)
- 7 Top Level Dialogue: "The Strategic Direction of the Commission on Human Rights" (La Breza Hotel, Quezon City, Philippines)
- 8-9 High Level Policy Dialogue on Investment in Agricultural Research for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific (Rama Garden Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand)
- 8-10 ILC Coalition Council Meeting (IFAD Headquarters, Rome, Italy)
- 14-15 Workshop on Land Governance and Human Rights (FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy)
- 14-16 Regional Multi-Stakeholder Consultation on Land Governance in Asia and Pacific Region (Bangkok, Thailand)



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Bina Desa
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Wahana Lingkungan Hidup Indonesia (WALHI)

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South East Asia Rural and Social Leadership Institute (SEARSOLIN)

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