



Concerns over food insecurity in developing countries are reflected in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture by 2030. Given that land plays an important role in the livelihoods of most people in developing countries, food security and poverty reduction cannot be achieved unless issues of access to land, security of tenure, and the capacity to use land productively and in a sustainable manner are addressed.

Thus, the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) is implementing "Secure Access to Land and Resources (SALaR)" through the support of Germany's Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), with the overall goal of improving land and natural resources tenure security of rural smallholder farmers in Uganda, the Philippines, and Laos.

In the Philippines, while a number of land laws are being implemented, several gaps need to be addressed to improve the situation of their intended beneficiaries. Hence, "Improving Tenure Security of Smallholder Farmers in Select Areas in the Philippines" aims to contribute to the goal of SALaR.



The **Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC)** is a regional coalition of national and regional CSOs in Asia actively engaged in promoting food sovereignty, land rights and agrarian reform, sustainable agriculture, participatory governance, and rural development.



The **Xavier Science Foundation, Inc. (XSF)** is a legal, non-stock, non-profit, non-government organization advocating programs and projects that will alleviate poverty and promote social empowerment. XSF serves as a conduit of funds to support development projects, innovative programs, fora, and dialogues.



The **United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)** is working towards a better urban future. Its mission is to promote socially and environmentally sustainable human settlements development and the achievement of adequate shelter for all.



The **Global Land Tool Network (GLTN)** is an alliance of global, regional, and national partners contributing to poverty alleviation through land reform, improved land management, and security of tenure particularly through the development and dissemination of pro-poor and gender sensitive tools.



The **German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)** is the primary State development body in Germany. BMZ's governing principle is the protection of human rights, which includes the right to live in peace and freedom, and to help address the poverty issues in the world.

*This project is implemented by the Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC) in partnership with Xavier Science Foundation, Inc. (XSF), with technical and financial support from Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) and Germany's Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).*

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## IMPROVING TENURE SECURITY OF SMALLHOLDER FARMERS IN SELECT AREAS IN THE PHILIPPINES



**Part of a broader project called Secure Access to Land and Resources (SALaR) of Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) as facilitated by UN Habitat**

Implemented By:



With support from:



## OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT

More than one-fifth of the Philippines' total population - 22 million - still live below the national poverty line (Philippine Statistical Authority, 2015). Those living in the uplands and engaged in forestry activities have the highest incidence of poverty at 68 percent. Majority of these upland dwellers are indigenous peoples (IPs) estimated to be between 10 to 20 percent of the national population (PIDS, 2012). Ironically, these communities who rely on agriculture for a living are also considered "food poor."

In 1997, the Indigenous Peoples Rights Act (RA 8371 or IPRA) was enacted, which was a landmark legislation recognizing the rights of indigenous peoples over their ancestral domains. After 20 years, 18 percent of the total land area of the Philippines are now covered by 221 approved Certificates of Ancestral Domain Titles (CADTs) with a total area of more than 5.4 million hectares. Of these, more than 51 percent are located in Mindanao and 26 CADTs are situated in the province of Bukidnon.

Unfortunately, there are emerging issues constraining the full implementation of the law, such as limitations of the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), the government agency entrusted to implement IPRA, jurisdictional overlaps among agencies mandated to implement land laws, and commercial pressures such as mining, tourism and agricultural investments. Also, the impact of climate change has had its toll on forest resource conservation.

The targeted rural poor smallholder farmers are the indigenous peoples (IPs) given that they are among the poorest and the most disadvantaged social group in the country.



## PROJECT OBJECTIVES

This Project shall enhance the tenurial security of about 2,500 households of indigenous peoples in two municipalities in Bukidnon, Northern Mindanao. This project has three targeted outcomes:

- increased uptake of land tools, approaches, frameworks, and policy guidelines that are pro-poor, fit-for-purpose, and gender responsive;
- strengthened capacity of change agents and rural poor women, men, and vulnerable groups to implement pro-poor, fit-for-purpose, and gender responsive land tools and approaches; and,
- improved awareness among stakeholders on issues and measures for improving land and natural resource tenure security for poor women, men, and vulnerable groups.

## PROJECT COMPONENTS

### Component 1: Land Tools Implementation

Address the limited skills and capacities of communities on land tools and approaches. Among the major activities are to: a) validate and further analyze the tenurial security concerns of the communities; b) prioritize, select, and re-design (if needed) the appropriate land tools; and, c) implement, assess and document the selected land tools.

### Component 2: Capacity Development

Map out and prioritize the capacity needs vis-à-vis the resource available in the communities. Possible areas for strengthening the organizations of the IPs include leadership, management and finance.

### Component 3: Fostering multi-stakeholder dialogues

Build awareness and foster multi-stakeholder mechanisms among change agents to improve tenurial security.

### Component 4: Knowledge, Learning and Dissemination

Document key interventions and extract lessons learned to improve knowledge on land issues and measures for improving tenure security of target groups and influence policy and practice.

### Component 5: Program Management

Ensure the effective and efficient implementation of the project by regularly reviewing the implementation and preparing re-entry plan to address issues faced by the project.

Indigenous People's Organization	Municipality	Barangays/Sitio Covered in AD	No. of HHs	Area
Miarayon Lapok Lirongan Tinaytayan Talaandig Tribal Association (MILALITTRA)	Talakag	Brgy. Miarayon, Brgy. Lapok, Brgy. Lirongan, Sitio Tinaytayan of Brgy. San Miguel	2,500 <sup>(1)</sup>	11,367 ha. <sup>(1)</sup>
Portulin Talaandig Tribal Association (PTTA)	Pangantucan and Maramag	Brgy. Portulin, Brgy. New Eden, Brgy. Conception and Brgy. La Roxas	230 <sup>(2)</sup>	6,679.83 ha. <sup>(3)</sup>
Nagkahiusang Manobong Manununod sa Yutang Kabilin (NAMAMAYUK)	Pangantucan	Sitio San Guinto of Brgy. Bacusanon; Sitio Balmar, and Sitio Bugwak of Brgy. Nabaliwa	208 <sup>(2)</sup>	3,506 ha. <sup>(4)</sup>

#### References:

(1) MILALITTRA CDP 2014 to 2018; (2) ECOSEED Project Profiling Survey (2018); (3) PTTA ADSDPP; and, (4) NAMAMAYUK ADSDPP