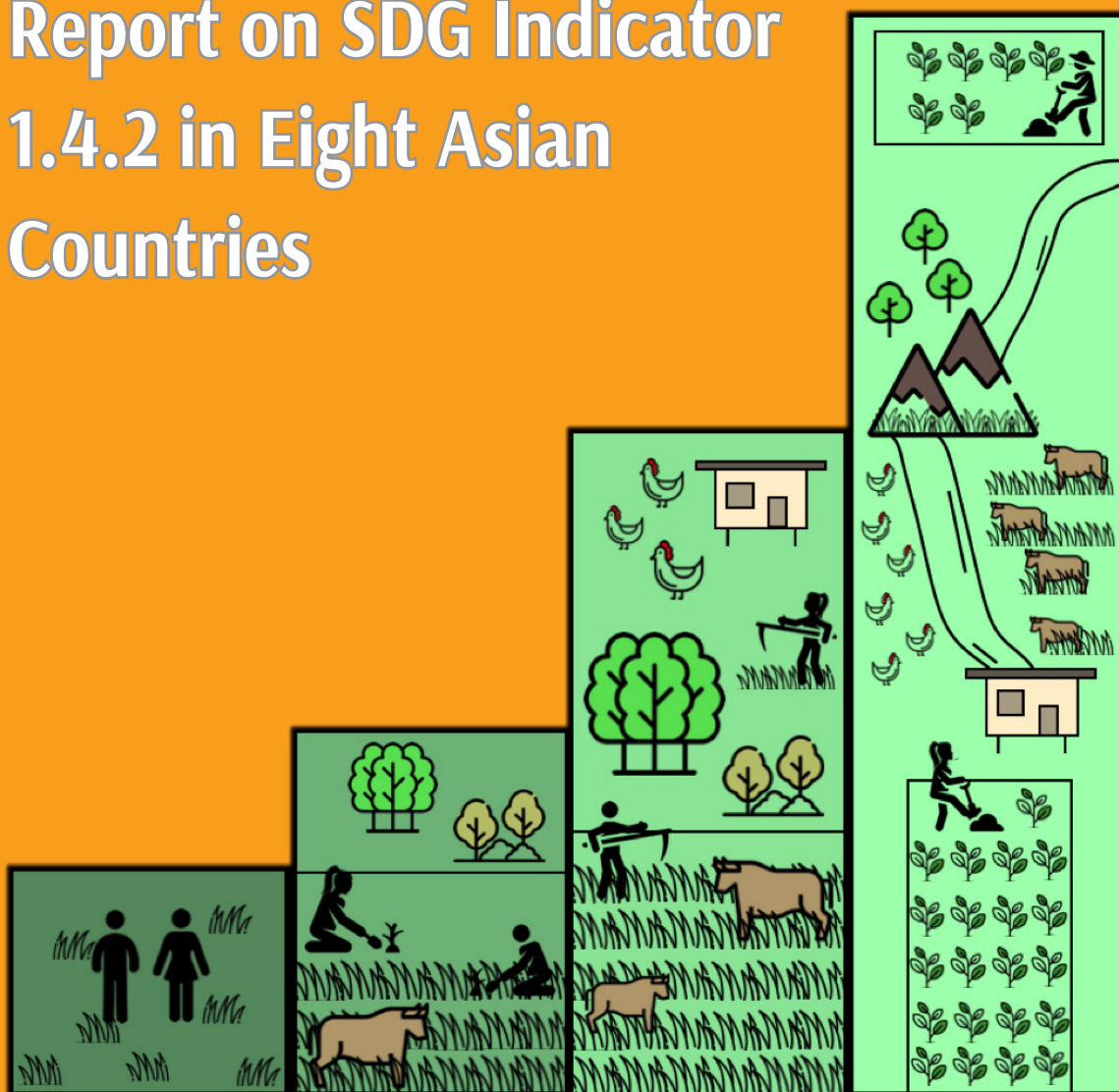


Scoping Paper on the Readiness of National Statistical Offices to Report on SDG Indicator 1.4.2 in Eight Asian Countries





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 member networks and partners work in 10 Asian countries together with 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 is a member of the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN), Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR), Indigenous Peoples' and Community Conserved Areas and Territories (ICCA) Consortium, and the International Land Coalition (ILC).



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

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**Scoping Paper on the Readiness
of National Statistical Offices to
Report on SDG Indicator 1.4.2
in Eight Asian Countries**



Scoping Paper on the Readiness of National Statistical Offices to Report on SDG Indicator 1.4.2 in Eight Asian Countries

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The views presented in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the International Land Coalition (ILC), its strategic partners, and donors.

Commitment Based Initiatives (CBIs) are multi-country initiatives that bring together members of the ILC to develop partnerships and common strategies on one or more of ILC’s 10 commitments to people-centred land governance.



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Foreword

Land is still “key to the development” of Asian countries. Compared to any other previous periods, land and agriculture today are more focused in the global development agenda more than ever (Barkat, 2016). The Post-2015 Agenda, accompanied by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), identifies that “secure rights to land, property, and other assets” are a building block in reducing poverty. This is enshrined in Goal 1 on ending poverty, Target 1.4, to cite:

“By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular **the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources**, as well as, access to basic services, **ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources ...**” (emphasis supplied)

The inclusion of land ownership and control under SDG target 1.4 is significant, as it thrusts land rights into the global agenda. This marks a significant departure from previous decades, when land issues were seen primarily as “local” issues that fell under the exclusive realm of “sovereign states.” Today there is a greater recognition that land issues are linked to national and global issues – due to increasing migration, the rising flow of internally displaced persons and refugees across borders, environmental degradation and climate change due to land use and tenure systems, and the growing incidence of land and resource conflicts. Most importantly, under SDG 1.4, land rights are now seen as a **central strategy** – and a **global commitment** – towards “ending poverty.”

In order to measure land tenure security, one specific indicator has been placed under Goal 1, Target 1.4:

Indicator 1.4.2: *Proportion of total adult population with secure tenure rights to land, with legally recognized documentation, and who perceive their rights to land as secure, by sex and type of tenure.*

A major challenge for the SDG indicators is the need to have globally comparable data, given that land concepts and tenure systems are highly country specific. At the global level, UN-Habitat and the World Bank are the custodian agencies tasked to develop the methodology for monitoring Indicator 1.4.2.



In the process of refining the SDG indicators and methodology for data collection, the United Nations requires that National Statistical Systems, in particular National Statistical Organizations (NSOs), must be engaged. This comes from a recognition that NSOs take the lead in the collection of data, and in the reporting on country progress in the achievement of the SDGs.

To provide a starting point for the engagement between civil society organizations (CSOs) and NSOs, particularly on Indicator 1.4.2 of the SDGs, a regional scoping study was launched in 2018 by the Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC) in collaboration with Land Watch Asia (LWA) partners in eight countries (Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Nepal, Pakistan, and Philippines).

The country scoping studies had three objectives:

- to examine NSO institutions and systems for gathering land data and reporting on Goal 1, Target 1.4, and SDG indicator 1.4.2;
- to document the status of *land* data available with NSOs with particular regard to SDG indicator 1.4.2.; and,
- to explore possible linkages between NSOs and CSOs for strengthening land monitoring, particularly on SDG indicator 1.4.2.

Eight country scoping studies were undertaken by CSOs between March and September 2018. These involved face-to-face interviews with key NSO personnel, and a series of in-country discussions – on the role of NSOs, the task of monitoring SDGs, and on potential engagement between NSOs and CSOs in the monitoring of SDG 1.4.2. These activities culminated in an Asian regional workshop held in Bangkok, Thailand on 14-15 February 2019.

Undertaking the country studies were: the Association for Land Reform and Development (ALRD) and the Human Development Research Centre (HDRC) in Bangladesh; STAR Kampuchea in Cambodia; the South Asia Rural Reconstruction Association (SARRA) in India; the Consortium for Agrarian Reform (KPA) in Indonesia; the National Union of Water Users Association of the Kyrgyz Republic (NUWUA), the Kyrgyz Association of Forest and Land Users (KAFLU), and the Rural Development Fund (RDF) in Kyrgyzstan; Community Self Reliance Centre (CSRC) in Nepal; Society for Conservation and Protection of Environment (SCOPE) in Pakistan; and ANGOC for the Philippines.

These studies form part of a regional LWA initiative entitled “*Sustainable, Reliable and Transparent Data and Information towards Responsible Land Governance*” – coordinated by



ANGOC and supported by the International Land Coalition (ILC) through its commitment-based initiative on the theme of “transparent and accessible information.”

These studies likewise complement an earlier study entitled “*Global status on land tenure security data collection, analysis and on comparable indicators in the SDGs*” of the Global Land Indicators Initiative (GLII) and Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) undertaken in the first semester of 2017 that involved assessments of the capacities of NSOs in 17 countries to report on SDG 1.4.2.

This publication summarizes the results of the eight country studies. It likewise incorporates key recommendations arising from a special roundtable session on SDG 1.4.2 (where representatives of five NSOs participated) during the regional workshop, “*State of Land Rights and Land Governance in Selected Asian Countries*” (Bangkok, Thailand; 14-15 February 2019). This regional workshop was jointly organized by ANGOC, LWA, ILC-Asia, and the Centre for Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP). A major output of the workshop is the Bangkok Declaration on “*WCARRD 40: Recognize, Defend, and Protect Access to Land, Resources and Tenure Security of the Rural Poor,*” which is presented in Annex B of this publication. The Declaration includes a call for **“continuous engagement among NSOs, government land agencies, and CSOs to include and improve national indicators on access to land and other resources, transparency and public access to land data.”**

ANGOC thanks the CSO researchers and the NSOs in the eight countries. We express our particular appreciation to Antonio Quizon and Timothy Salomon of ANGOC for weaving together and integrating the results of the entire process towards the completion of this publication.

Finally, we convey our thanks to the International Land Coalition (ILC) for supporting this initiative.

As we take on the challenge of ensuring that *all women and men have secure tenure rights to land by 2030*, the task of data gathering and monitoring on SDG indicator 1.4.2 will be crucial in the coming years. We hope that this ongoing CSO-NSO engagement will contribute to the methodological refinement for data gathering on Indicator 1.4.2 of the SDGs.

Rohini Reddy
Chairperson

Chet Charya
Vice Chairperson

Nathaniel Don Marquez
Executive Director



Land Watch Asia Land Monitoring Working Group (LWA LMWG)

BANGLADESH



Association for Land Reform and Development (ALRD) was established in January 1991 as single-focused rights based national networking organization, mandated to facilitate the land and agrarian reform advocacy, mobilization and capacity building of its partners and allies in enabling access to and control over natural resources of the poor, landless and marginalized communities in Bangladesh. In the subsequent decades, ALRD emerged as a professionally trained knowledge network in the land sector to amplify the collective voice of

the marginalized communities in Bangladesh. Currently, it has a network of 200+ NGOs and civil society organizations all across the country.

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CAMBODIA



STAR Kampuchea (SK) is a Cambodian non-profit and non-partisan organization established in 1997 dedicated to building democracy through the strengthening of civil society. SK also provides direct support to communities suffering from resource conflicts like land-grabbing and land rights abuses through capacity building and legal services.

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INDIA



FES

The **Foundation for Ecological Security (FES)** works towards conservation of nature and natural resources through collective action of local communities. In India, FES has played a pioneering role in furthering the concept of *Commons* as an effective instrument of local governance, as economic assets for the poor and for the viability of adjoining farmlands.

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Founded in 1984, the **South Asia Rural Reconstruction Association (SARRA)** has the mandate to strengthen grassroots democracies in the South Asia region. SARRA has functioned as the regional partner of ANGO in building the capabilities of the NGO sector, CSOs and academic institutions to contribute in their empowerment and to enable them to actively participate in development processes. SARRA emphasizes the importance of traditional knowledge by blending with modern development techniques for the empowerment of the poor and powerless communities for their sustainable development.

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INDONESIA



Established in 1994, the **Consortium for Agrarian Reform (KPA)** currently consists of 153 people's organizations (peasants, indigenous peoples, rural women, fisherfolk, urban poor) and NGOs in 23 provinces in Indonesia. KPA fights for agrarian reform in Indonesia through advocacy and the strengthening of people's organizations. KPA's focus on land reform and tenurial security, and policy advocacy on these issues has put the coalition at the forefront of the land rights struggles of Indonesia's landless rural poor, especially with indigenous peoples in several areas in Outer Java. KPA encourages a participatory and pluralistic approach which recognizes the development of different systems of land use and tenure to ensure land rights. KPA is a people's movement that has an open and independent character.

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KYRGYZSTAN



Established in 13 May 2010 as non-profit organization—Association of legal entities, the **Kyrgyz Association of Forest and Land Users (KAFLU)** unites 141 organizations from all regions of the country. KAFLU promotes the principles of sustainable management of land and forest resources adaptive to climate change, preventing conflicts and improving the living standards of villagers, making a worthy contribution to poverty reduction and food security in Kyrgyzstan.

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The **National Union of Water Users Association (NUWUA)** is a nonprofit organization formed on the basis of voluntary participation, self-government, legality, publicity, openness, acting in the public interest with a view to coordinating and facilitating the activities and development of water user associations of Kyrgyzstan. The main objectives of the NUWUA are to: a) promote the development of WUAs; b) coordination of their activities; c) settlement of WUA relations with other economic entities and State bodies; and, d) attraction of loans, grants and other funds from donor organizations to provide technical assistance and improve the irrigation infrastructure of the viable water users' associations that have entered the Union.

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 Facebook: www.facebook.com/WUAUnion



Rural Development Fund

Established as non-profit and non-governmental research organization in 2003, the **Rural Development Fund (RDF)** conducts research, develops policy recommendations and implements activities in the field of rural development. RDF works with specific objectives in the field of forest community/joint management and rangelands, agricultural land, including working with small farmers on irrigation and gardening, working with local communities and developing policies to protect and secure their rights.

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NEPAL



Community Self Reliance Centre (CSRC) has been at the forefront of land and agrarian rights campaign in Nepal. CSRC educates, organizes, and empowers people deprived of their basic rights to land to lead free, secure, and dignified lives. The organization's programs focus on strengthening community organizations, developing human rights defenders, improving livelihoods, and promoting land and agrarian reform among land-poor farmers. Since its establishment, CSRC has constantly worked to transform discriminatory and unjust social relations by organizing landless, land poor and marginalized communities to claim and exercise their rights.

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PAKISTAN



Established in 1990, the **Society for Conservation and Protection of Environment (SCOPE)** is an NGO registered under Societies Act 160 of Pakistan. SCOPE's main focus is working for the protection of natural resources and environment. SCOPE works with national and international partners in order to achieve its objectives. SCOPE is engaged in highlighting issues of land governance in Pakistan through local partners.

With the collaboration of Oxfam Pakistan, the National Peasants' Coalition of Pakistan (NPCP) has been formed to build and strengthen capacity of grassroots peasants and land rights organizations.

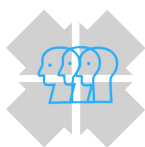
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PHILIPPINES



People's Campaign for Agrarian Reform Network, Inc. (AR Now!) is an advocacy and campaign center for the promotion of agrarian reform and sustainable development. Its vision is to achieve peasant empowerment, agrarian and aquatic reform, sustainable agriculture and rural development.

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Center for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (CARRD) is a non-stock, non-profit organization working for agrarian reform and rural development. CARRD believes in an inclusive rural development that is based on equitable access to and ownership of productive resources.

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Philippine Association For Intercultural Development (PAFID) is a social development organization which has been assisting Philippine indigenous communities to secure or recover traditional lands and waters since 1967. It forms institutional partnerships with indigenous communities to secure legal ownership over ancestral domains and to shape government policy over indigenous peoples' issues.

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Xavier Science Foundation, Inc. (XSF) is a non-political, non-stock, non-profit organization established and designed to encourage, support, assist, and finance projects and programs dedicated to the pursuit of social and educational development of the people in Mindanao. It is a legal and financial mechanism generating and managing resources to support such socially-concerned and development-oriented projects and programs.

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REGIONAL

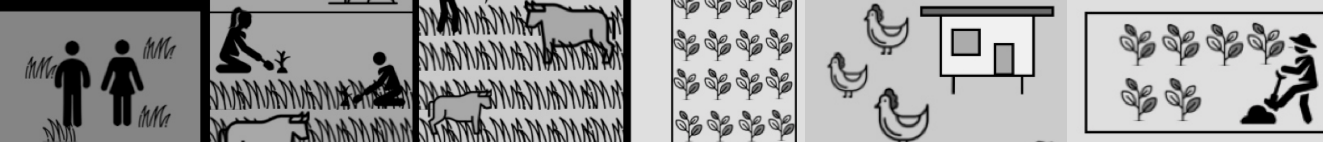


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ANGOC is a member of the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN), Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR), Indigenous Peoples' and Community Conserved Areas and Territories (ICCA) Consortium and the International Land Coalition (ILC).

ANGOC is the regional convener of the Land Watch Asia (LWA) campaign.

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Scoping Paper on the Readiness of National Statistical Offices (NSOs) to Report on SDG Indicator 1.4.2 in Eight Asian Countries (A Summary Report)¹

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

In 2015, Member States of the United Nations committed to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) within a timeframe of 15 years by endorsing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as adopted by the General Assembly under UN Resolution 70/1. The SDGs build on the earlier Millennium Development Goals (MDGs: 2000-2015) and aim to go further to end all forms of poverty, fight inequalities, and tackle climate change. The SDGs consist of 17 broad goals, 169 specific targets, and 230 approved indicators.

To achieve the SDG goals and targets, UN Resolution 70/1 called for a revitalized Global Partnership bringing together Governments, the private sector, civil society, the UN System, and other actors.

Land tenure security under the SDGs

Secure rights to land, property and other assets is seen by the SDGs as a cornerstone in reducing global poverty. This is expressed under Goal 1 and Target 1.4.

SDG GOAL 1: “End poverty in all its forms everywhere.”

SDG TARGET 1.4: “By 2030, ensure that **all men and women, in particular the poor and vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources**, as well as access to basic services,

¹ Written by Antonio B Quizon, Nathaniel Don Marquez, and Timothy Salomon in behalf of the Asian NGO Coalition (ANGOC), Land Watch Asia, and the CBI-8 Working Group for Asia.



ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance.”

Secure rights to land and property especially for poor and vulnerable women and men is seen as a critical element in fighting poverty and social exclusion by ensuring rights to economic resources. Land tenure security is seen as essential to ensure shelter and to enable people and families to access needed services. Thus, SDG Indicator 1.4.2 was launched to provide a globally comparable basis to measure tenure security over land.

SDG INDICATOR 1.4.2: “Proportion of total adult population with secure rights to land, with legally recognized documentation and who perceive their rights to land as secure, by sex and by type of tenure”

Secure land rights are also reflected in other SDGs and associated targets:

- Under Goal 2 – “Zero Hunger” – Target 2.3 seeks to “double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, (and) other productive resources.” This is particularly relevant to Asia as it is home to 70 percent of the world’s indigenous peoples, and accounts for an estimated 87 percent of the world’s small farms that depend on household labor and cover less than two hectares of land. Asia also accounts for 2/3 of people experiencing hunger and poverty globally.
- Under Goal 5 – “Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment” – Target 5a states: “Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws.” Indicator 5.a.1 particularly seeks to monitor women’s ownership of agricultural land.
- Under Goal 11 – “Sustainable Cities and Communities” – Target 11.1 states: “By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services, and upgrade slums.” Indicator 11.1.1 seeks to monitor the proportion of urban populations living in slums, informal settlements, or inadequate housing.

Indicator 1.4.2 is key to monitoring country progress in the achievement of secure land and property rights as an enabling condition for poverty reduction. The data collected for SDG indicator 1.4.2 will likewise be directly relevant to other SDG targets – in particular, to SDG Targets 2.3, 5.a.1 and 11.1.1, as cited above.



Meaning of land tenure security

Land tenure is defined as “the relationship, whether legally or customarily defined, among people, as individuals or groups, with respect to land and related resources” (FAO, 2002). Tenure systems determine who can use which resources, for how long, and under what conditions.

Tenure rights can be held **individually, jointly, or collectively** which means that ownership and control can be attributed to an individual, a couple, or a group respectively (GLTN, 2017). When tenure rights are held jointly or collectively, tenure rights are distributed among recognized rights holders based on applicable tenure systems. Control over land and resources held jointly and collectively are thus exercised in the context of negotiation and consensus among recognized rights holders. For example, when land is jointly owned by a husband and wife, the husband and wife negotiate control over the land based on applicable laws and local customs.

A key element of tenure security is the protection and *enforcement of rights*. On this matter, the central State is the main enforcer of rights. The enforcement of rights is also implemented by communities and customary institutions. On this point, it is asserted therefore that it is important to document informal rights where people exercise tenure rights even in the absence of legal recognition.

There are three main types of security of tenure. First, *legal* tenure security refers to tenure protection backed up by State authority. Secondly, *de facto* tenure security refers to the actual control of land and property, regardless of legal status. Thirdly, *perceived* tenure security relates to the subjective perception of an individual, couple or community that they will not lose their land rights through forced eviction (GLTN, 2017).

According to the custodian agencies of SDG indicator 1.4.2, land rights may be considered secure when the following conditions are met: (1) *there is legally-recognized documentation*; and, (2) *there is a perception of the security of tenure*. Both are necessary to provide a full measurement of tenure security (Kumar, et al., 2017).

Legally-recognized documentation refers to recording and publication of information on the nature and location of land, rights and rights holders in a form that is recognized by government, and is therefore official.

Perception of the security of tenure, on the other hand, refers to the assessment of an individual, a couple or a community of the likelihood of involuntary loss of land regardless of the legal



Box 1: Some reflections on SDG Target 1.4 and SDG Indicator 1.4.2

On SDG Target 1.4: *By 2030, ensure that **all men and women**, in particular the poor and vulnerable, **have equal rights to economic resources**, as well as access to basic services, **ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources**, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance.*

- It is noted that there are 11 years to go (since this paper was published in 2019) towards the achievement of the SDGs including target 1.4.
- On the phrase, “all men and women” – this denotes that property is seen as a universal right as enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, that no one shall be arbitrarily deprived of property.
- On the descriptor, “equal,” in the phrase, “have **equal rights**,” what must be clarified is what constitutes equal rights. Are land tenure rights considered equal when **equity** is achieved wherein all persons are provided a fair share in the distribution of land and related resources? Or are land tenure rights already considered equal when there are **equal opportunities** to access land tenure rights through market or other mechanisms even if such mechanisms do not necessarily lead to an equitable distribution of land and related resources?
- On the phrase, “economic resource,” is land solely considered as an economic resource? It has been recognized that land tenure rights are essential to the enjoyment of other rights—shelter, food and livelihood, water, space and movement, health, access to basic services, personal security, right to shelter and assistance in cases of disaster, and in some situations, citizenship and the enjoyment of political rights. In the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), it has been recognized that indigenous peoples have a special relationship with their land and therefore, land is intrinsically linked to their cultural rights.
- In the phrase, “ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources,” it must be highlighted that ownership and control of land is exercised in varied forms: individually, jointly, communally, etc. It must be examined as well if such land rights are enforced through the State, communities, or other mechanisms.

On SDG Indicator 1.4.2: *“Proportion of total adult population with **secure rights** to land, with **legally recognized documentation** and who **perceive** their rights to land as secure, by **sex** and by **type of tenure**”*

- On the phrase, “secure rights to land,” what conditions are considered to provide secure rights to land? The different types of tenure security must be taken into account in measuring the security of tenure: legal, *de facto*, and perceived.
- On the descriptor, “legally-recognized,” in the phrase, “with legally-recognized documentation,” does this imply that only legal rights over land are to be considered secure? How should the phenomenon of *de facto* land rights enjoyed and enforced by communities and their institutions be considered? Does this behoove States to recognize *de facto* rights and afford unrecognized land rights holders with legal recognition?

On SDG Target 1.4 and SDG Indicator 1.4.2

- Tenure security over land must be seen within the broader societal context wherein threats to the enjoyment of tenure rights are now more than ever taking on many forms – land disputes, development aggression, State expropriation, armed conflict, natural disasters, climate change, etc. As such, it must be emphasized that *perception* of security of tenure is a crucial indicator – i.e., how secure do people really feel about their tenure over their land?
- The data required in SDG indicator 1.4.2 should be disaggregated by sex and by type of tenure. This indicates that women’s land rights should be examined in terms of how land rights are distributed within the household, even if men, women or the couple jointly are recognized as having legal ownership of land; and if men, women or the couple exercise **equal** decision-making and control rights over land. Likewise, the data should show the different types of land tenure, while giving due recognition to the diversity of tenure systems that exist within a country.



status. A perception of tenure is deemed secure when: (a) the landholder *does not report fear of involuntary loss of the land within the next five years* due to, for example, intra-family, community or natural threats; and, (b) the landholder reports having the *right to bequeath (inherit) the land*.

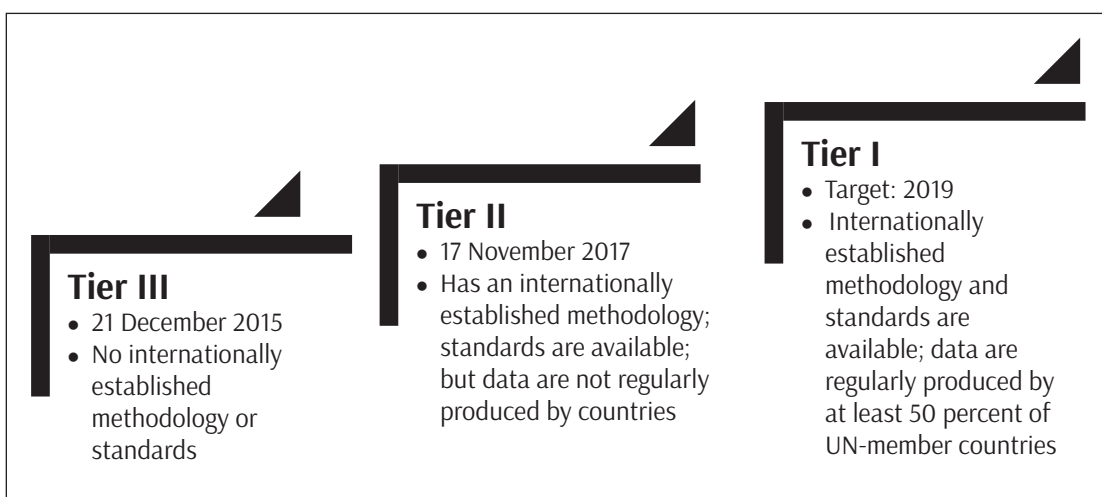
Key monitoring institutions

In 2015, the United Nations Statistical Commission created the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs) composed of Member States and including regional and international agencies as observers. The IAEG-SDGs was tasked to develop and implement the global indicator framework for the Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda.

All SDG indicators are classified into three *Tiers* according to the availability of suitable data sources and methodologies for data collection and analysis, and the extent to which countries are able to track progress against the indicator.

Initially, the IAEG-SDG classified Indicator 1.4.2 under *Tier III*, meaning that no internationally established methodology or standards are yet available for the indicator, but that the methodology is still being developed and baseline data is being compiled. In November 2017, Indicator 1.4.2 was upgraded to *Tier II* status, meaning that the Indicator is conceptually clear,

Figure 1. Three Tiers of SDG Indicator 1.4.2



has an internationally established methodology and standards are available, but data are not regularly produced by countries. Based on UN policy, all indicators need to be at *Tier I* by 2020, meaning that data are regularly produced by at least 50 percent of UN-member countries.



At the global level, UN-Habitat and the World Bank are the custodian agencies for SDG Indicator 1.4.2, and they are tasked to develop the methodology for monitoring this indicator. They have joined forces with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the UN, which is the custodian for Indicator 5.a.1. It may be noted that SDG Indicators 1.4.2 and 5.a.1 largely overlap.²

In the process of methodological refinement of indicators, it is required by the UN that National Statistical Systems be engaged (UNSD, 2017). At country level, National Statistical Offices (NSOs) are tasked to lead in the collection of data requirements of national governments, including data on land. NSOs are also tasked to report on country progress in the achievement of the SDGs. As such, there is need for capacity-strengthening for NSOs and land agencies in data collection, analysis, and reporting.

INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY

Objectives

This scoping study aims to contribute towards the refinement of methodologies for the collection of, and reporting on land data in line with SDG Indicator 1.4.2. The study has three specific objectives:

1. to examine the **NSO institutions and systems** for gathering land data and reporting on SDG Indicator 1.4.2 under SDG Goal 1, Target 1.4;
2. to document the **availability and quality of land data** with NSOs on SDG Indicator 1.4.2; and,
3. to explore possible **linkages between the NSOs and CSOs** for strengthening land monitoring, particularly on SDG Indicator 1.4.2.

Process and Methodology

This regional summary paper summarizes the findings of eight country scoping studies on NSOs conducted between March and September 2018. These studies were carried out by civil society organizations (CSOs) in Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Nepal, Pakistan, and the Philippines.

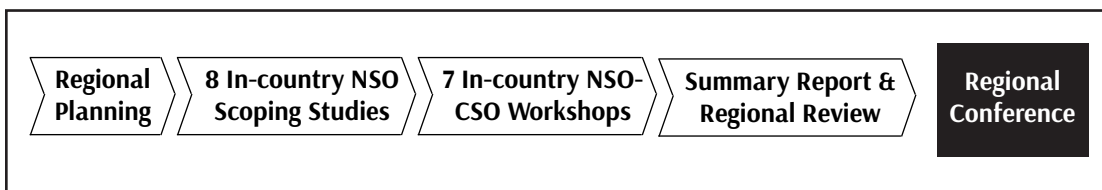
² While Indicator 1.4.2 measures tenure security on all types of land, Indicator 5.a.1 focuses on agricultural land for women, as this is seen as a key input in low and middle-income countries where poverty reduction strategies are frequently based on the agriculture sector.



The research process involved several steps:

- A **regional planning meeting** among researchers was held on 12-13 March 2018 to discuss the study outline, methodology and tools (guided questionnaire for NSOs), and workplan for the in-country scoping studies.
- **Scoping studies of NSOs** were conducted in eight countries.
- **NSO-CSO Workshops** were convened in seven countries to discuss the respective study findings.

Figure 2. Overall process in the preparation of the study



- A **regional summary report** was prepared and discussed at a **regional review workshop** among researchers held in Bangkok on 22-23 October 2018.
- The regional summary report was presented and discussed at an **Asian Regional Conference** held in Bangkok on 14-15 February 2019.

Qualitative studies were carried out in eight Asian countries through desk reviews of secondary sources, and analyses of primary data gathered through key informant interviews (KIIs) with officials and personnel of the NSOs in each country. Face-to-face interviews were conducted with the aid of an administered questionnaire/discussion guideline with 21 key questions – both objective and subjective in nature (See Annex A). This questionnaire is a modified version used in an earlier study conducted by the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) and the Global Land Indicators Initiative (GLII) in 2017. All respondents were briefed about the purpose of the study, and on the points for discussion in the KIIs. In most cases, additional information was collected through follow-up interactions between the researchers and NSO officials and technical staff. These often involved visits to NSO offices and e-mail exchanges.

Table 1 below shows the lead CSO researchers and NSO offices per country.

Table 1. CSO researchers and National Statistical Offices (NSOs), per country

Country	CSO researcher	NSO
Bangladesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Association for Land Reform and Development ■ Human Development Research Centre 	Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS)



Cambodia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ STAR Kampuchea 	National Institute of Statistics (NIS)
India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ South Asia Rural Reconstruction Association 	Central Statistics Office (CSO - India)
Indonesia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consortium for Agrarian Reform 	Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS - Indonesia)
Kyrgyzstan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ National Union of Water Users Associations of the Kyrgyz Republic ■ Kyrgyz Association of Forest and Land Users ■ Rural Development Fund 	National Statistical Committee (NSC)
Nepal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Community Self-Reliance Centre 	Central Bureau Statistics (CBS - Nepal)
Pakistan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Society for Conservation and Protection of Environment 	Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS)
Philippines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development 	Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA)

Scope and Limitations

This study covers eight Asian countries that were chosen through convenient sampling based on the location of CSO partners in the Land Watch Asia Campaign.³ These CSOs also constitute the Working Group of the Commitment-Based Initiative 8: “Sustainable, Reliable and Transparent Data and Information towards Responsible Land Governance.”⁴ As such, this study cannot be taken as representative of the whole Asia region.

CSOs undertook eight in-country studies that focused specifically on the capacity of NSO institutions and information systems to monitor and report on SDG Indicator 1.4.2. As such, the research methodology relied on NSOs as the main informants of the studies. Land agencies were not interviewed, although the roles of land agencies in SDG monitoring were reported insofar as they were discussed by the NSOs.

The in-country scoping studies were conducted between March and December 2018.

In India, the researchers from the South Asia Rural Reconstruction Association (SARRA) were based in Bangalore. Thus, instead of interviewing officials at the Central Statistics Office (CSO-India) in New Delhi, the researchers interviewed the regional director of the National Sample

³ Initiated by ANGOC in 2008, Land Watch Asia (LWA) is a regional campaign to ensure that access to land, agrarian reform and sustainable development for the rural poor are addressed in national and regional development agenda through land monitoring, policy work and networking.

⁴ Convened by ANGOC for ILC-Asia, CBI 8 is one of the 10 action areas of ILC’s People Centered Land Governance which aims to promote transparency and accountability through “unhindered and timely public access to all information.”



Survey Office (NSSO) in the Rayalaseema region in the State of Andhra Pradesh where SARRA has its field programs. The researchers chose to engage with the NSSO because this is the agency tasked with collecting the statistical needs of the national government of India within their respective regions. The NSSO functions differently from State-level offices which collect their own statistical data based on the State-level development agenda and statistical program. The NSSO is a field office under the CSO-India, which in turn, is under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI).

For Indonesia, the researcher from the Consortium for Agrarian Reform (KPA) was not able to conduct an interview with the NSO – the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) – for the in-country scoping paper. Instead, the CBS Director for Food and Crops Statistics who attended the Asian Regional Conference on 14-15 February 2019, provided his inputs for this regional paper and likewise provided the responses to the NSO Guided Questionnaire in behalf of CBS-Indonesia.

In all the NSO-CSO discussions and country papers, it was emphasized that land agencies are the ones who keep and maintain administrative records on land tenure. As such, the studies recommended that the role of land agencies for gathering land data and reporting on SDG Indicator 1.4.2, as well as their coordination and data-sharing mechanisms with NSOs, should be further studied.

Organization of the report

This report provides a brief summary of the findings of the country studies. It focuses on four main topics:

1. A review of NSOs and surveys undertaken;
2. Findings on the availability of data for SDG Indicator 1.4.2;
3. Findings on the quality of data for SDG Indicator 1.4.2; and,
4. Prospects for NSO-CSO engagement.

SCOPING REVIEW OF NSOs

Institutional set-up, roles and functions of NSOs

All the countries covered in this study have an NSO established by an act of Parliament or Congress, except for India which was established through an executive issuance. Three of the NSOs (Cambodia, Nepal, Philippines) are under the supervision of the national planning agency



of their country, while the rest are institutionally independent bodies. Half of the NSOs were formed through a *merger* of statistical and research units/offices from different ministries/ departments, while the other half were established to serve a *coordinative function* across different research and statistical units of various ministries/departments. Table 2 provides the legal bases and describes the institutional status of each of the NSOs in the eight countries.

Table 2. Legal basis and institutional status of NSOs

Country	NSO	Legal Basis	Institutional status
Bangladesh	Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS)	Statistics Act of 2013	A coordinative agency merged from four statistical offices across different ministries
Cambodia	National Institute of Statistics (NIS)	Statistics Law of 2015	Under the supervision of the Ministry of Planning
India	Central Statistics Office (CSO)	Resolution of the Government of India on the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation	An office within an independent ministry formed from the merger of the Department of Statistics and the Department of Programme Implementation
Indonesia	Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS)	Law on Statistics of 1997	An independent bureau
Kyrgyzstan	National Statistical Committee (NSC)	Law on State Statistics	An independent committee with coordinative functions
Nepal	Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS)	Statistics Act of 2015	Under the supervision of the National Planning Commission
Pakistan	Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS)	General Statistics Reorganization Act of 2011	Established as an independent entity from separate units across different offices
Philippines	Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA)	Philippine Statistical Act of 2013	A coordinative agency attached to the National Economic and Development Authority as merged from research units of four different departments

Although NSOs are structured differently in each country, they operate with similar roles and functions to wit:

- Undertaking *national censuses and surveys*;
- *Collection, compilation and analysis of statistical data* through primary, secondary and administrative records of government;
- *Setting standard concepts*, including the evaluation of concepts, definitions, classifications;



- *Methodologies and statistical rigor*, including evaluation of computation methods for statistical estimation;
- *Clearinghouse* for the release of official data; and,
- *Public access*: publication of statistical data, and making them publicly available.

NSOs and the SDGs

In all the eight countries, the SDGs have been substantially mainstreamed in the national development agenda as shown in the enactment of policies adopting the SDGs; the establishment of coordinative mechanisms for the implementation, monitoring and reporting of the SDGs; and, the establishment of mechanisms for constructive engagement with CSOs in most countries (i.e, Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Nepal, and Philippines).

Since all countries have mainstreamed the SDGs in their national development agenda, all NSOs have shown commitment to integrate the SDGs in their work operations. Five of the NSOs (in Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Nepal, and Philippines) have issued a policy formally adopting the SDG indicators in the NSOs’ statistical system, thereby setting forth the establishment of mechanisms for data collection and reporting. To date, only India and the Philippines have been able to produce and publish data on the SDGs, particularly on Indicator 1.4.2.

Table 3 below summarizes the status of how the SDGs have been mainstreamed in the work of NSOs.

Table 3. Status of mainstreaming the SDGs in the work of NSOs

Country	Mainstreamed the SDGs in the National Development Agenda	Adopted the SDG indicators in the NSO system	Generated data on SDG Indicator 1.4.2
Bangladesh	Yes	Yes	Partially
Cambodia	Yes	Partially	Partially
India	Yes	Yes	Yes
Indonesia	Yes	Yes	Partially
Kyrgyzstan	Yes	Partially	No
Nepal	Yes	Yes	No
Pakistan	Yes	Partially	Partially
Philippines	Yes	Yes	Yes



In Cambodia, the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) has just recently adopted the SDGs in 2018 and is yet to integrate SDG indicators into their statistical system. The same is the case for Kyrgyzstan and Pakistan.

Pakistan has no specifically-assigned unit for the reporting on the SDGs, particularly for Indicator 1.4.2. This work is currently assigned to the focal person for the Pakistan Social and Living Standards Measurement (PSLSM), a department in the PBS. Bangladesh, Cambodia, and Indonesia have similar progress as Pakistan on establishing mechanisms for data collection and reporting on SDG indicator 1.4.2. The NSOs in Kyrgyzstan and Nepal on the other hand have yet to identify their plans for producing data on the SDGs.

In the Philippines, the PSA publishes *SDG Watch* online (see <http://psa.gov.ph/sdg>), which provides the local definition of the SDG indicators for the Philippines as well as the baseline data for 2015.

Surveys and data sources

Land tenure security can be measured by population-based data using household surveys and censuses which have statistical rigor and are representative of national populations. Table 4 provides a quick scan of the types of censuses and surveys carried out in the eight countries. Further details on the international and national censuses and surveys mentioned in Table 4 have been fleshed out in Box 2.

International survey programs are established and standardized data collection modules such as the LSMS, DHS, MICS, WCA that are conducted with the assistance of international organizations. These already include questions on land tenure rights, whether for housing or agriculture, but do not collect data specifically related to “legally-recognized documentation” or information on people’s perception (i.e., “whether their rights to land are secure, or at risk”) (GLTN, 2017). It was found that all countries in this study have undertaken at least four types of international survey programs.

National censuses and surveys are country initiatives, as opposed to internationally-assisted survey programs mentioned above. They exist in all countries and include land data with varying degrees of contribution to reporting on SDG Indicator 1.4.2. Censuses differ from surveys in that the former sets out an exhaustive methodology which covers the whole population, while surveys utilize a sampling strategy, often aiming towards statistical representativeness at 5-10 percent of the population.



All countries in this study have been found to conduct censuses on population and housing, and agriculture. The following are the particular features of the said census methodology:

- **National Population and Housing Censuses** are conducted periodically for all countries, usually every ten years. They include data on housing quality, tenure over the house/homelot (e.g., owner, renter, etc.), lot size, etc. The sampling strategy is often at the household level and therefore, the census is often not able to collect data on other land uses apart from housing and is not able to collect data on homeless people. Censuses of population and housing are able to cover most if not all aspects of Indicator 1.4.1 – i.e., “Proportion of population living in households with access to basic services,” but as for Indicator 1.4.2, the contribution to SDG reporting is often limited to land used for housing.
- **National Agriculture Censuses** are also universal among all countries in this study. They usually focus on land used for farming, and gather data on the total number of landholdings, area under cultivation, the types of land use, types of crops, etc. They also include data on farm sizes and land tenure – whether the land is owned, leased, rented out, tenanted, or under other types of tenure; and on land transactions such as items on lease and sale for the case of Pakistan. Tenure systems and categories for agricultural land vary widely across countries and such, national agricultural censuses often only cover rural areas. The sampling strategy for agricultural censuses vary between farming households (Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, and the Philippines) or at the farm plot level (Kyrgyzstan, Nepal, and Pakistan). For both types of sampling strategies, agricultural censuses are often not able to collect data on landlessness.

Both types of National Censuses often include the collection of data on poverty, living standards, and other social conditions, which can provide an additional lens for analyzing land tenure security data.

Although the National Censuses on Population and Housing and Agriculture both have their limitations in terms of land data by land use – residential and agricultural respectively; they can be used to complement each other. For example in Pakistan, the PBS collects land data through both the National Censuses of Population and Housing, and the Agriculture Census, and complements these data with the Pakistan Social and Living Standards Measurement (PSLM), and Household Income and Expenditure Survey. This is also the case for most countries in this study.



Table 4. Types of surveys being done at country level

	International				National		
	LSMS, poverty surveys	DHS	MICS	FAO WCA	Census of Population and Housing	Agriculture Census	Specialized (with land data)
Bangladesh	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Census of Slum Areas and Floating Population; Household Income and Expenditure Survey; Labour Force Survey
Cambodia	Yes*	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Cambodia Socio-Economic Survey
India	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Indonesia	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Farm Income Survey; Cost of Agricultural Production Survey; National Socio-Economic Survey; Intercensal Agricultural Survey
Kyrgyzstan	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Nepal	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Post-disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA)
Pakistan	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Mouza Census
Philippines	Yes*	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Annual Poverty Indicators Survey; Family Income and Expenditure Survey; Integrated Farm Household Survey

Sources: Key informant interviews, observations, double checked with online sources

Notes:

LSMS = Living Standards Measurement Survey

DHS = Demographic and Health Survey

MICS = Multi-Indicator Cluster Survey

WCA = World Census of Agriculture

* For Cambodia and the Philippines, the socio-economic/poverty surveys conducted locally were based on the LSMS-ISA, but utilized a localized methodology based on a national poverty line.



Each country also conducts its own **specialized surveys** based on its specific needs for statistical data. Especially for land data on agriculture, many countries conduct specialized surveys to complement and update data from national censuses of agriculture as is the case in Indonesia, Pakistan, and the Philippines.

NSOs have also reported initiatives to integrate **specialized questions** in both internationally-assisted survey programs as well as national censuses to respond to particular statistical needs for their country's development planning. For example, in Bangladesh, a special survey was conducted to gather data on the prevalence of slum dwellers and floating populations. In Cambodia, the NIS included in the Cambodia Socio-Economic Survey several questions regarding slum dwellers and boat populations.

Box 2: International Surveys

Living Standards Measurement Survey (LSMS) collects household data that can be used to assess household welfare, to understand household behavior, and to evaluate the effect of various government policies on the living conditions of the population. LSMS surveys collect data on many dimensions of household well-being, including consumption, income, savings, employment, health, education, fertility, nutrition, housing and migration. Three different kinds of questionnaires are normally used: the household questionnaire, which collects detailed information on the household members; the community characteristics questionnaire, in which key community leaders and groups are asked about community infrastructure; and the price questionnaire, in which market vendors are asked about prices. A fourth type of questionnaire, school or health facility questionnaires, is sometimes used as well. (<http://web.worldbank.org/archive/website00002/WEB/DESCRI-2.HTM>)

Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) Since 1984, the Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) Program has provided technical assistance to more than 300 demographic and health surveys in over 90 countries. DHS surveys collect information on fertility and total fertility rate (TFR), reproductive health, maternal health, child health, immunization and survival, HIV/AIDS; maternal mortality, child mortality, malaria, and nutrition among women. (<https://dhsprogram.com/What-We-Do/Survey-Types/DHS.cfm>)

Multi-Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) are household surveys implemented by countries under the program developed by the United Nations Children's Fund to provide internationally-comparable, statistically-rigorous data on the situation of children and women. The first round of surveys (MICS1) was carried out in over 60 countries mainly in 1995 until 1996 in response to the World Summit for Children and measurement of the mid-decade progress. A third round (MICS3) started in 2006 and aimed at producing data measuring progress also toward the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), A World Fit for Children, and other major relevant international commitments. In 2016, the sixth round was launched with an effort towards collecting baseline data for the new set of global goals and targets - the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In early 2018, a total of more than 300 surveys have been completed in more than 100 countries. (https://www.unicef.org/statistics/index_24302.html)

FAO World Census of Agriculture collects data on the state of the agricultural sector in a country. It collects data on size of farm landholding, land tenure, land use, area harvested, irrigation, livestock, labor, and other agricultural inputs. The FAO has been providing programmatic support to countries to carry out their national agricultural censuses. (<http://www.fao.org/world-census-agriculture/en/>)



Other specialized surveys on the other hand have been conducted to respond to urgent statistical needs for development planning, such as the Post-Disaster Needs Assessment conducted in Nepal after the earthquakes in 2015 and 2018.

With regard to public access to land data, data are officially free for summary tables, while microdata come with a fee for reasons of privacy for Cambodia, Indonesia, Nepal, and the Philippines. In Pakistan, the PBS charges a nominal fee to data users outside of the government system.

FINDINGS ON DATA AVAILABILITY FOR SDG 1.4.2

Key features of “data availability” under SDG 1.4.2

The *availability* of national data for Indicator 1.4.2 is assessed along three research questions, to wit:

SDG 1.4.2

“Proportion of total adult population with secure tenure rights to land, with legally recognized documentation, and who perceive their rights to land as secure, by sex and type of tenure”

QUESTIONS on DATA AVAILABILITY

1. Is data on security of tenure rights to land *available*?
2. Is the data based on *legally-recognized documentation*?
3. Does the data include people’s *perceptions on security of tenure*?

In other words, the assessment of *data availability* for Indicator 1.4.2 looks into three factors: (a) the collection of data focused on land tenure rights and tenure security; (b) the collection of data based on legally-documented rights; and, (c) the collection of perception-based data about one’s security of tenure.

Availability of land data at country level

The per country status of *availability* of data on land tenure security is reported in Table 5.



Table 5. Availability of data on land tenure rights

	Collects data on land tenure rights	Collects data on legally-documented rights	Collects data based on perception
Bangladesh	Yes	No	No
Cambodia	Yes	No	Partially
India	Yes	No	No
Indonesia	Yes	Yes	No
Kyrgyzstan	Yes	Yes	No
Nepal	Yes	Yes	No
Pakistan	Yes	No	No
Philippines	Yes	Yes	No

Observations and findings

Key findings based on Table 5 are:

On whether NSOs collect data on land rights:

- All countries collect data on land tenure rights. Most NSOs collect land tenure data at the household level, except for Nepal and Kyrgyzstan, which collect ownership and tenure data at the level of each land or farm plot.
- Land data may come from several censuses/surveys and from data of government land agencies.
 - For example, in Kyrgyzstan the NSC collects land data from the country’s land registration and land titling offices.
 - In addition to data generated from censuses and surveys on land tenure security, the PSA of the Philippines and CBS of Indonesia also consolidate data from land agencies, and they use these data to report on SDG Indicator 1.4.2 and 5.a.1.
 - Given the multiple sources of data on land tenure security, and the diversity of land tenure systems among countries, it is difficult to establish comparability of data across countries.
- It should be noted that Cambodia and Kyrgyzstan come from unique historical contexts where all lands were previously taken over by the Central State. These countries instituted private property only in the past 25 years, and are still currently in the process of registering and redistributing lands to private households.⁵ As such, land monitoring is conducted by their governments through data generated from titling and registration programs.

⁵ The Cambodian Constitution of 1993 reinstated private property, and provides that “all persons, individually or collectively, shall have the right to ownership.” The Cambodian Land Law was later instituted in 2001. The Kyrgyzstan Constitution of 2010 recognizes diversity of ownership forms and guarantees equal legal protection of private, State, municipal and other forms of ownership.



- In Nepal, land data is gathered by CBS on a land parcel level. The data shows that, on average, a landowner in Nepal owns at least two small parcels of land with a total size below half of a hectare. This level of fragmentation of land parcels is a result of the complex land tenure systems in Nepal and the multiple land transfers that have occurred through generations of inheritance within the family, between individuals/families, and with the State or other religious/cultural institutions.
- A key issue is the interpretation of data on security of tenure over land. One key question is how to determine which tenure categories should be considered as “secure” in terms of tenure rights. For instance, are tenants considered to have security of tenure? In the case of Pakistan, for example, tenants may not be considered as having “security of tenure” especially where tenancy rights over land are not formally documented and have no formal enforcement mechanisms. In Nepal, the rights of tenants are protected and enforced by law, and also provided legal documentation by the State.

On whether data on land is based on legally-documented rights:

- For countries that collect data on legally-documented rights, the data is mainly sourced from the administrative records on land tenure instruments issued and/or registered by land agencies. These countries include Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Nepal, and Philippines.
- Most countries rely on household surveys and *self-declarations* for documenting land rights, without having to validate such results with land documents. The surveys often ask household respondents about their tenure status over their homelots and farm plots, but do not require them to show documentary proof (e.g., titles, registration papers, contracts, etc.) to support their self-declarations.
- When data on land tenure security is based on self-declarations, there is a tendency to over-declare one’s security of tenure. People are likely to assert or claim their rights to their homelots and farm plots, even if such right is not legally-recognized.
 - Responses based on self-declarations are affected by the mandate/s of the government functionary asking the question on tenure rights. In India and Pakistan, the land agency tasked to survey, register and administer lands is also often the revenue collector of land taxes – a remnant of the bureaucracy under the British colonial system that introduced the land revenue system. Land revenue departments are powerful bodies, and the general public is wary of the agency that maintains land records. Therefore, if the land agency does its own surveys, respondents are likely to give answers that the agency wants to hear, to avoid any consequences.
 - In the Philippines, the PSA noted that census/survey respondents are likely to overstate their tenure rights when self-declarations are not validated through formal documentation. Respondents are likely to assert their land rights even without legal



recognition, and they do this to avoid the threat of eviction from their homes. This can potentially skew the data, given the fact that censuses/surveys are administered by the Philippine government, which has in the past, evicted informal settlers from their homes, especially those living on public lands.

- The legal framework among countries also differ in terms of the importance given to legal documentation, and on whether such documents are kept within households.
 - In Nepal, much of *de facto* tenure among tenant-farmers is not documented or registered. Under existing law, a person who has been utilizing the land for more than 25 years, though without a land registration certificate, is also considered as the true owner of the land. Also, the Land Survey and Measurement Act of 1963 stipulates that land may be registered on the basis of an unofficial deed if it has been in the uninterrupted possession of an individual for 15 years.
 - In Pakistan however, agricultural tenants should have in their possession the proper tenancy documents; without these, tenants are unable to avail of government’s support services. Thus, agricultural tenants are more likely to keep their tenancy documents in their homes. And in the case of a flood or natural calamity, the compensation is paid only to the landlord, not the tenant as contained in Ref Form 145 for compensation claims.
 - In addition, legal documentation of land rights is not a guarantee of security of tenure since there are many cases of overlapping claims and tenure instruments over common plots of land. This phenomenon was reported in Cambodia and the Philippines most notably concentrated in the traditional territories of indigenous peoples.
- There are existing proposals to use proxy indicators utilizing administrative data instead of self-declarations gathered through the use of survey and census:
 - In Bangladesh, the Ministry of Land is tasked to provide administrative data on land rights.
 - In Kyrgyzstan, a proposal is being pursued to use registry documents to report on SDG 1.4.2.
 - In Nepal, the Ministry of Agriculture, Land Management and Cooperatives has been assigned to produce administrative data for SDG 1.4.2.
 - In the Philippines, the Department of Environment of Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) and National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) have been assigned to produce administrative data for SDG indicator 5.a.1. To date, the DENR and DAR have been able to generate and submit administrative data on tenure instruments issued, disaggregated by sex of rights holders.



On whether data includes peoples’ perceptions

- All countries do not collect perception data on tenure rights.
- It was noted that Cambodia partially reports on people’s perception of tenure security over land because the NIS, the NSO of Cambodia collects specific data on the experience of land conflict in their agricultural plot and migration/displacement as a result of land conflict. This data from the Cambodia Socio-Economic Survey of 2015 is an innovative strategy to measure tenure security over land specifically focusing on the level of threat experienced by households against land conflict. This method can also be used, if ever, for other threats such as armed conflict, natural disasters, and climate change, among others. (<http://www.nis.gov.kh/nis/CSSES/Final%20Report%20CSSES%202017.pdf>).

FINDINGS ON DATA QUALITY FOR SDG 1.4.2

Key features of “data quality” under SDG 1.4.2

The status of *quality* of national data for Indicator 1.4.2 is assessed along two research questions to wit:

SDG 1.4.2

“Proportion of total adult population with secure tenure rights to land,

with legally recognized documentation,

and who perceive their rights to land as secure, by sex and type of tenure.”

QUESTIONS on DATA QUALITY

On SCOPE of COVERAGE:

- Includes ***slums & informal settlements***
- Includes ***collective & communal land rights***

On DISAGGREGATION:

- By ***sex*** and ***type of tenure***
- By ***land size*** and ***income group***

Quality of land data at country level

On scope of coverage. Available land data is assessed whether it reports on populations *in slums or under informal tenure* (including those living in public lands and public spaces, pastoralists and indigenous communities) whose tenure rights are not legally-recognized. These poorest sectors are sometimes not visible or are unaccounted for in government surveys, yet they are the focus of SDG Goal 1, and specifically of SDG Target 1.4. The second set of questions relates



to whether the reporting on land data includes tenure under *collective ownership* like the case of collective or cooperative farms, or recognized *communal rights* like for the case of indigenous peoples' lands.

On disaggregation. Available land data on security of tenure rights is assessed whether it is *disaggregated by sex, type of tenure, land size, and by income group*. Disaggregation by sex and by type of tenure are directly mentioned and are thus required for reporting on Indicator 1.4.2.

The country status of *quality* of data on land tenure security are reported in Table 6.

Table 6. Quality of land data

	SCOPE of COVERAGE		DISAGGREGATION			
	Includes Slums & Informal Tenure	Includes Collective/ Communal Tenure	By Sex	By Type of tenure	By Land size	By Income group
Bangladesh	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cambodia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
India	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Indonesia	Yes	No	Partial	Yes	Yes	Partial
Kyrgyzstan	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Nepal	Partial	No	Yes	Partial	Yes	Yes
Pakistan	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
Philippines	Partial	Partial	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Observations and findings

On data on slums and informal settlements

- Cambodia collects data on slums and informal settlements because of an active State program on land registration and titling, which involves the land distribution to homeless/ landless populations.
- India and Indonesia collect data on slums and informal settlements as part of their national censuses of population and housing. However, these censuses rely on self-declarations on land tenure, where the extent of landlessness and informal settlers may potentially be under-reported.
- The cases of the Nepal and the Philippines are similar to India and Indonesia. However, the NSOs in both countries admitted that the data on slums and informal settlements are under-reported.



On data on collective and communal tenure

- Most (6 out of 8) countries surveyed did not generate data on collective land ownership or communal land tenure. The exceptions are Cambodia and Philippines, which have policies on communal tenure and collective titling systems for indigenous peoples.
 - Cambodia is a country that provides legal recognition for land rights of indigenous peoples under the 2001 Land Law, and issues *communal titles* under Sub-Decree 83 on Communal Land Titling. Records for these are readily available and are gathered by the NIS.
 - In the Philippines, the PSA has indicated its intention to include lands *collectively transferred* through Certificates of Land Ownership Awards (CLOAs) and Emancipation Patents (EPs) under the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP), as well as *indigenous peoples' communal lands* that are legally-recognized and issued with Certificates of Ancestral Domain Titles (CADTs) under the Indigenous Peoples Rights Act (IPRA). Data from the DAR on lands distributed under agrarian reform is already being collected by the PSA, while data on ancestral domains from the NCIP are still to be submitted to the PSA.

On disaggregation by sex

- Most countries do not disaggregate land tenure rights by sex. In most household surveys, it is the sex of the “household head” that is recorded. As such, women’s land rights is usually recorded as ownership of land by “female-headed households.”
- In Cambodia, land for housing and farming were reported in terms of sole ownership of wife, husband, or jointly.
- In Kyrgyzstan and the Philippines, land agencies are able to disaggregate land tenure instruments issued and registered by sex of holder.
- In Indonesia, the Inter-Censal Agricultural Survey (ICS) of 2018 was able to gather data on the sex of landowners of farmlands, but joint spousal ownership data were not collected.
- There is partial sex-disaggregated data on land rights in Nepal, because the data collected and reported are on the ownership of each land parcel.

On disaggregation by type of tenure

- All countries are able to disaggregate data by type of tenure. For Nepal, the full complexity of the actual tenure system was not accurately captured by the survey methodology used, and hence is considered only able to “partially” disaggregate data on land tenure security by type of tenure.
- Regarding the disaggregation of data on tenure security by type of tenure, the question is how the data is to be interpreted. It is crucial to nationally determine which categories



of land tenure are considered as secure. For example, the SDG Watch in the Philippines reported that 98 percent of all households have security of tenure, which includes housing that are under rent and lease. It was argued by the Philippine researcher that such definition of security of tenure in the Philippines should be adjusted to not include housing/homelots under rent and lease. Given such proposed revision, the baseline figure reported in the Philippines may be changed from 98 percent to 62 percent of Filipino households with secure tenure over land used for housing.

- In Kyrgyzstan, the types of tenure reported is based on the types of registry documents issued.

On disaggregation by land size

- All countries disaggregate land data by land size for both homelots and agricultural lots.

On disaggregation by income group

- All countries except Pakistan are able to disaggregate data by poverty line or quintile of income groups based on national income thresholds.
- However, for Indonesia, land data are partially disaggregated by income group, as the data are available only for housing, and not for agricultural lots.

Notable initiatives

Finally, some notable initiatives have been found:

- In the Philippines, the Evidence and Data for Gender Equality (EDGE) project was carried out in 2015. It is a multi-country initiative also conducted in Mongolia and Georgia, where a methodology for gathering data on SDG 5.a.1 was pilot-tested. Data on security of tenure of both husband and wife in a household were gathered along with data on whether their tenure was enshrined in a legally recognized document. Data was also gathered on the perceived rights of the husband and wife, whether the land was solely or jointly owned, and what their perceived rights are in terms of decision-making about the use, sale, and bequeathing of their residential, agricultural, and other lands. (<https://unstats.un.org/edge/pilot/philippines/philippines.cshtml>)
- In Kyrgyzstan, a methodology for computing Indicator SDG 1.4.2 was proposed. Instead of using “self-declared” survey methodologies, the NSC proposed a proxy indicator using official records from their register of deeds (Department of Cadastre and Registration of Rights to Immovable Property) and projecting this vis-a-vis the total adult population. The



proposed definition of “adult” is 16 years old and above, which is the existing data collected, since the “labor force” is defined as persons of 16-65 years of age.

$$D = \frac{\text{No. of adults with guaranteed tenure rights (Land Registration data)}}{\text{Total number of adults (Population data)}} \times 100$$

Thus, this proposal from the NSC was developed when Indicator 1.4.2 was still under *Tier III*. It can be a useful approach particularly for countries with an efficient land administration system. It should be noted that private property in Kyrgyzstan was formally reinstated only in the 1990s, as under the previous Soviet regime, all lands were legally under State ownership.

LOOKING FORWARD

Overall assessment

- It must be noted that the NSOs themselves do not deal with land policy issues and in general, have no in-house expertise on matters of land tenure. NSOs are focused on collecting land data, and for policy matters, they coordinate with the relevant land agencies.
- In the eight countries included in this study, most NSOs have no existing engagement with CSOs particularly on land, but most are open to engagement. The following starting points have been identified at the country level:
 - In Cambodia, the NIS gathers inputs from a multi-stakeholder body including CSOs through the Technical Working Group on Population and Poverty Reduction. NGO Forum on Cambodia and the Cooperation Committee for Cambodia is part of this TWG.
 - In Nepal, the NSO is engaged with the academe and research institutes for the production of data. Support is also earned from international donors for the attainment of statistical needs.
 - In the Philippines, the NSO gathers inputs from CSOs on the determination of indicators and design of methodology.
- Defining SDG 1.4.2 is currently seen as a task of the custodian agencies, WB, UN-Habitat, FAO, and NSOs. There is still no clear and official role yet for CSO engagement in defining the data collection methodologies for the SDGs.



Prospects for NSO-CSO Engagement

- SDG 1 and 1.4 offer an opportunity to pursue security of land rights in national policy agenda. However, the SDGs by themselves will not lead to any major shifts in land policy and governance without strong moral and political pressure from citizens and civil society. Thus, CSO engagement in SDG 1.4.2 is crucial.
- It is recommended that CSOs continue the engagement with NSOs in terms of:
 - utilizing existing or setting up new coordination mechanisms between NSOs and CSOs;
 - increasing understanding of NSOs on land issues; and,
 - defining the methodology and indicators in collecting data for SDG Indicator 1.4.2.
- CSOs can benefit in partnering with academic institutions to enhance the partnership with NSOs.
- CSOs can be the bridge in organizing activities where NSOs can present data with the sectors and civil society.
- Moreover, there is a need to examine *public availability of, and access to data* of the NSOs and related government agencies in relation to SDG monitoring and reporting, and more specifically, to land data as required under Goal 1.4.

Conclusion and way forward

Although this paper is about monitoring SDG indicator 1.4.2, the bigger task is achieving tenure security for all adult women and men. There are 11 years remaining, until 2030, to achieve SDG 1.4.2 as a target. On this point, the task of tracking progress starts with concretely defining where countries already are and where they should go. It is with much optimism that this paper aims to contribute towards realizing by 2030, SDG indicator 1.4.2 be successfully measured in Asian countries. ■

ACRONYMS AND TERMS USED

ALRD	Association for Land Reform and Development (Bangladesh)
ANGOC	Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development
BBS-Bangladesh	Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics
CBI	Commitment Based Initiative
CBS-Indonesia	Central Bureau of Statistics
CBS-Nepal	Central Bureau Statistics
CSO	civil society organization
CSO-India	Central Statistics Office



CSRC	Community Self Reliance Centre (Nepal)
DAR	Department of Agrarian Reform (Philippines)
DENR	Department of Environment of Natural Resources (Philippines)
DHS	Demographic and Health Survey
EDGE	Evidence and Data for Gender Equality
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GLII	Global Land Indicators Initiative
GLTN	Global Land Tool Network
IAEG-SDGs	Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators
ICS	Inter-Censal Agricultural Survey of 2018 (Indonesia)
ILC	International Land Coalition
KPA	Consortium for Agrarian Reform (Indonesia)
LWA	Land Watch Asia (campaign)
LSMS	Living Standards Measurement Survey
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MICS	Multi-Indicator Cluster Survey
NCIP	National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (Philippines)
NIS-Cambodia	National Institute of Statistics
NSC-Kyrgyzstan	National Statistical Committee
NSO	National Statistical Office
NSSO	National Sample Survey Office (India)
NUWUA	National Union of Water Users Associations of the Kyrgyz Republic
PSA	Philippine Statistics Authority
PSLSM	Pakistan Social and Living Standards Measurement
SARRA	South Asia Rural Reconstruction Association (India)
SCOPE	Society for the Conservation and Protection of the Environment (Pakistan)
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SK	STAR Kampuchea (Cambodia)
UN	United Nations
WCA	World Census of Agriculture

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Annex A: Guided Questionnaire for NSOs

Scoping Study on National Statistics Offices in Eight Asian Countries

(A component of the CO-TRAIN initiative implemented by Land Watch Asia)

This survey form shall be accomplished through a key informant interview (KII) of their country's NSO representative/s. The researcher shall be responsible for filling up the form below.²

COMPONENTS

This assessment is structured around four components: **i) land data, ii) structure and composition, iii) public access to land data, and iv) CSO engagement.**

LAND DATA includes variables related to **availability of land data** and **land data quality.**

STRUCTURE AND COMPOSITION include variables related to **coordination and collaborative arrangements** at the country level for collecting, analysing, and reporting data.

PUBLIC ACCESS TO LAND DATA include variables related to the **degree of transparency** and **manner of access** of data for the public.

CSO ENGAGEMENT includes **perceptions** on CSOs and their capacity to generate relevant and reliable data.

Overall, the survey proper is expected to take **30 to 60 minutes.**

RESEARCHER INFORMATION

Country	
CSO	
Name of researcher	
Position of researcher	

**if there are more researchers, please provide information at the back of this sheet*

² This questionnaire was developed by ANGOC and Land Watch Asia partners. It is a modified version of the online survey tool used by the Global Land Indicators Initiative (GLII) and Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) in an earlier study **Global status on land tenure security data collection, analysis and on comparable indicators in the SDGs** undertaken in 2017.



RESPONDENT/S PROFILE

Date of KII: _____

NSO: _____

Name	Position	Sex		E-mail address	Years in Service	
		F	M		In NSO	In public service

AVAILABILITY OF LAND DATA

- (1) Have at least one of the **surveys** in the matrix below been **implemented in the last 10-15 years**? Please put a check (✓) in the cell aligned with the respective surveys along the second column on the matrix below if yes. Leave blank if no.
- Have at least one of the **surveys** been **implemented in the last 5-6 years**? Please put a check (✓) in the cell aligned with the surveys along the third column on the matrix below if yes. Leave blank if no.
 - Have at least one of the **surveys** been **implemented in the last 1-3 years**? Please put a check (✓) in the cell aligned with the surveys along the fourth column on the matrix below if yes. Leave blank if no.
 - What **other land and housing-related surveys** have been conducted by the NSO? Please spell out the said survey in the last rows. Please indicate with a check (✓) if they have been **implemented in the last 10-15, the 5-6 years, and/or 1-3 years** in the cells aligned with the surveys along the second, third, and fourth columns respectively. Leave blank if none.
 - Take note of the **remarks** made by the NSO representatives.



Survey	10-15	5-6	1-3	Remarks
Living Standards Measurement Survey (LSMS, poverty surveys)				
Living Standards Measurement Survey-Integrated Survey on Agriculture (LSMS-ISA)				
Demographic and Health Survey (DHS)				
Multi-Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS)				
FAO World Census on Agriculture - Urban Inequities Surveys				
National Household Survey				
National Population and Housing Census				
Other land and housing-related surveys, please specify: _____ _____ _____				
Other land and housing-related surveys, please specify: _____ _____ _____				

(2) Did any of the surveys in item # 1 include information on the **legal documentation of land and/or housing rights** held by respondents?

Yes, which? _____

No

(3) Did any survey include information on whether or not **people feel or perceive that land, housing, or property rights are secure, or at risk in any way?**

Yes, which? _____

No



Please share your (NSO) **views on areas for improvement on AVAILABILITY OF DATA ON SDG INDICATOR 1.4.2** related data in various country level instruments – household surveys, population and housing census, and other land-related data initiatives.

LAND DATA QUALITY

(4) Did any of the surveys **disaggregate data by gender of the land holders**: male household head, female household head, joint spousal land holding?

Yes, which? _____

Partially, which? _____

How partially? _____

No

(5) Did any of the surveys include information on **land parcels owned or held collectively** by community or other types of groups?

Yes, which? _____

Partially, which? _____

How partially? _____

No

(6) Did any of the surveys capture **disaggregated data by income groups**?

Yes, which? _____



Partially, which? _____

How partially? _____

No

(7) Did any of the surveys capture **disaggregated data by type of tenure** (lease, ownership, renting, etc)?

Yes, which? _____

Partially, which? _____

How partially? _____

No

(8) Did any of the surveys capture **disaggregated data by slum/informal settlement?**

Yes, which? _____

Partially, which? _____

How partially? _____

No

(9) Did any of the surveys capture **disaggregated data by uses of land** – agricultural, residential, commercial, etc?

Yes, which? _____



Partially, which? _____

How partially? _____

No

Please share your (NSO) **views on areas for improvement on DATA QUALITY ON LAND AND HOUSING** in various country level instruments – household surveys, population and housing census, expert assessment, and other land-related data initiatives.

STRUCTURE AND COMPOSITION

(10) Do formal **coordination and information sharing arrangements** exist among land agencies and NSO?

Yes, with which agency/ies? _____

At what levels? _____

No. Why not? _____

(11) Please share your (NSO) **views on areas for improvement on COORDINATION, COLLABORATION, and INFORMATION SHARING ARRANGEMENTS** between land and data agencies in the country for SDG land- and housing-related data collection and reporting.



PUBLIC ACCESS TO LAND DATA

(12) Are land data **readily available online**?

- Yes, which land data? _____

- No

(13) Are land data **available upon request**?

- Yes, which land data? _____

- No

(14) To access land data, does the government require a **fee**?

- Yes, which land data? _____

- Why is there a fee? _____

- No

(15) Please share your (NSO) views on **areas for improvement on public access to land data** related data in various country level instruments – household surveys, population and housing census, expert assessment, and other land-related data initiatives.

CSO ENGAGEMENT

(16) Do you have existing engagements with CSOs? What?

- Yes, what? _____

- With whom? _____



No, why not? _____

(17) How do you see **data generated by CSOs**? Do you consider their data relevant and/or reliable? Why?

(18) What **potential partnership/s with CSOs** do you wish to explore in relation to *land data*?

(19) Do you have other **comments (NSOs)**?

EXPRESS GRATITUDE FOR THE TIME. ASSURE THEM THAT THEIR RESPONSES ARE APPRECIATED.

OBSERVATIONS (CSO researcher)



Annex B: Bangkok Declaration on WCARRD@40:

“Recognize, Defend, and Protect Access to Land, Resources and Tenure Security of the Rural Poor”

WE, the participants of the “Regional Workshop on Land Rights and Land Governance”, hailing from members of the Land Watch Asia campaign of people’s organizations, land rights social movements and civil society advocates, together with partners from cooperating government agencies, national statistical offices, development and intergovernmental bodies, have gathered from 14-15 February 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand to mark the **40th year of the World Conference for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (WCARRD)**.

WE RECALL that...

The WCARRD adopted “The Peasants’ Charter” in 1979 that brought global recognition and multi-stakeholder consensus on the imperative for agrarian reform to fight hunger and poverty and fulfill rural development. It previously emphasized the principle of “Growth with Equity through People’s Participation” through access to land, water and other natural resources; people’s participation in designing, implementing and evaluating rural development programs and policies; the integration of women in rural development; access to inputs, markets and services; extension and research activities.

WE RECOGNIZE that 40 years later...

- Land reforms brought about complete agrarian transformation in East Asian countries through an egalitarian land distribution and development of rural institutions. However, land reforms in other Asian countries contributed little or no transformation of agrarian structures as large landholdings remain untouched.
- The collective perseverance of people’s land rights movements across Asia successfully asserted the demand for tenure and asset reforms as a continuing agenda both at the national and global arena.
- Land rights and tenure security are now enshrined as critical issues in significant global conventions and programs of action, such as the Earth Summit, World Food



Summit, World Summit on Sustainable Development, the Beijing Conference on Women, the Social Summit, among others.

- The customary rights and self-determination of indigenous peoples over their ancestral domains and territories are embedded in the UN Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).
- With the escalating and conflicting demands of varied interests and land-related investments on the use of land, forests, waters and other resources, States and global bodies adopted the Voluntary Guidelines for Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Forests and Fisheries (VGGT) and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGP BHR).
- Land is back in the global agenda and not just a domestic concern with the passage of the Sustainable Development Goals 2030 Agenda and the Magna Carta on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in the Rural Areas, which aims to better protect the rights of all rural populations, including peasants, fisherfolks, pastoralists, agricultural workers, and indigenous peoples.

WE REMAIN CONCERNED that...

- Ironically, 75 percent of the world’s farming households are found in Asia where more than half a billion people suffer from hunger and food insecurity and are still landless or near landless.
- The rural poor’s access to land and resources in Asia remain unresolved with agrarian and other land reform programs still unfinished or are poorly implemented in countries.
- Indigenous peoples who contribute significantly to global conservation with their customary practices find their domains highly threatened by encroachment of private and public investments and programs.
- There is little or no formal recognition of women as farmers even when their contribution to agriculture has increased.
- Land reconsolidation and “land grabbing” by private investors is escalating in response to a market-driven land rush to lease large tracts of land for food or commercial crops. This insatiable demand for the world’s natural resources is causing more land use and resource conflicts, leading to violence and dispossession of the rural poor.
- Natural and human-made disasters have displaced the poor and vulnerable and kept them from regaining their land and resource rights in affected areas.
- Transparency and accessibility of land-related data by the rural poor are still limited.



- Human rights and democratic freedoms are diminished and suppressed with a global resurgence of State autocracy, which takes away the control of resources by the rural poor.

OUR CALLS, OUR COMMITMENTS

WE ASSERT that LAND to the rural poor is more than just an economic asset but defines their lives, identity, inclusion, and dignity. Therefore, their legal and customary claims, access and control over land, forests, water bodies and common resources must be recognized, defended and protected.

We, thus, encourage those accountable and responsible to pursue the equitable and continued distribution of land assets and resources to the rural poor, especially by upholding the commitments of the Sustainable Development Goals on land and resource rights, and the Magna Carta on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in the Rural Areas.

We join the global land rights community in advocating for the following:

- 1) Enactment and enforcement of national legislation and policies that promote access and tenure security to land, forests, waters, and pastures of smallholder farmers, fishers, indigenous peoples, rural women, pastoralists, youth, differently-abled persons, and other marginalized sectors; and prevent the unnecessary destruction and conversion of fertile land, forests and water bodies in favor of urbanization and infrastructure development;
- 2) Implementation of agrarian reforms and provision of adequate support to smallholders to improve farm productivity and increase participation in the value chain;
- 3) Legal recognition and respect of land and territorial rights of indigenous peoples and promotion of locally-managed ecosystems by indigenous peoples, pastoralists and traditional forest users;
- 4) Implementation of integrated water resources management on joint use of transboundary river flows, and introduction of effective and transparent mechanisms for water distribution, through amendment of laws regulating the issues of water users on tariffs and subsidies for costs of on-farm irrigation systems and development of policies to improve water management at the local level;
- 5) Upholding the spirit and compliance of international human rights instruments (e.g., CEDAW, ICCPR, ICESCR, ICERD, CBD, Paris Agreement, UNGP BHR, Voluntary



- Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure, ILO 169, UNDRIP, UNDROP, etc.), specific to land rights for marginalized sectors, such as smallholder farmers, indigenous peoples, rural women, tenants, sharecroppers, leaseholders, agricultural laborers, fisherfolk, pastoralists;
- 6) Ensuring 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;
 - 7) Support the ratification of the UNGP BHR as a legally-binding instrument at country levels;
 - 8) Effective implementation of social and environmental impact assessments, and adherence to Free Prior Informed Consent (FPIC);
 - 9) Continuous engagement among National Statistical Offices (NSOs), government land agencies and CSOs to include and improve national indicators on access to land and other resources, transparency and public access to land data; and,
 - 10) Safeguarding of political and democratic space of civil society organizations and people's organizations by recognizing the vital role of people's organizations and NGOs/CSOs in inclusive development through regular consultations and dialogues between government and communities.

WE commit to uphold and pursue these recommendations and synergize efforts towards a more people-centered governance of our land and resources through multi-stakeholder partnership to realize the spirit of the Sustainable Development Goals that no one should be left behind.

15 February 2019; Bangkok, Thailand

SIGNED:

National Statistical Offices

- Hem Raj Regmi, *Central Bureau of Statistics, Nepal*
- Mursabekova Gulzeinep, *National Statistics Committee, Kyrgyzstan*
- MA Kadarmanto, *Central Bureau of Statistics, Indonesia*
- Lay Chhan, *National Institute of Statistics, Cambodia*
- Faith Lea Cabrera, *Philippine Statistics Authority*



Government land agencies

- Marie Grace Pascua, *National Commission for Indigenous Peoples, Philippines*
- Shankar Bahadur Thapa, *Ministry of Land Management, Cooperative and Poverty Alleviation, Nepal*
- Sagynbayey Askarbek, *Ministry of Agriculture, Kyrgyzstan*

Civil Society Organizations

- Francis Lucas, *Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC), Regional*
- Tevita B. Taginavulau, *Center for Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP), Regional*
- Chet Charya, *STAR Kampuchea, Cambodia*
- Ward Anseew, *International Land Coalition (ILC), Global*
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- Rohini Reddy, *South Asia Rural Reconstruction Association (SARRA), India*
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INTERNATIONAL LAND COALITION

The **International Land Coalition (ILC)** is a global alliance of civil society and intergovernmental organizations working together to put people at the center of land governance. Their shared goal of ILC's over 200 members is to realize land governance for, and with people at the country level, responding to the needs and protecting the rights of women, men and communities who live on and from the land.

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Compared to any other previous periods, land and agriculture today are more focused in the global development agenda more than ever. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) towards 2030 state that “secure rights to land, property, and other assets” are a key building block in reducing poverty. In order to measure land tenure security, one specific indicator has been placed under Goal 1, Target 1.4.2: Proportion of total adult population with secure tenure rights to land, with legally-recognized documentation, and who perceive their rights to land as secure, by sex and type of tenure.

This publication serves as a starting point for engagement between civil society organizations working on land and National Statistics Offices (NSOs) in the context of land data and its governance. It discusses the availability, quality, and public access of data in relation to Sustainable Development Goal Indicator 1.4.2 on land tenure security in Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Nepal, Pakistan, and the Philippines. It also discusses the current institutional set-up of NSOs and their coordination mechanisms with land agencies in their respective countries within their national statistical systems.

