

GETTING A CLEARER PICTURE:

REGIONAL SUMMARY

Civil Society Reports on Progress Towards SDG Target 1.4 in 7 Asian Countries, 2020



SDG Target 1.4 seeks to ensure that all men and women, particularly the poor and vulnerable, have equal rights to ownership and control over land and other forms of property. Unfortunately, while this target's inclusion under SDG Goal 1 (ending poverty), signifies a new global recognition that secure land tenure should be a central strategy in combating poverty, this land agenda has not been prominent in recent SDG reporting processes of governments.

Target 1.4: 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, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance.

Target 1.4.2: Proportion of total adult population with secure tenure rights to land, (a) with legally recognized documentation, and (b) who perceive their rights to land as secure, by sex and type of tenure.

LAND AND SDGS

Under SDG 1.4, land is viewed mainly as an "economic resource," and thus, CSOs point out that other functions and values of land should not be overlooked.

SDG 1.4 also mentions ownership and control over "natural resources," which should include tenure over water bodies and water resources.

It is noted that all seven countries have not yet fully reported on the status of land rights and security of tenure under Target 1.4 in their SDG Country Reports and Voluntary National Reviews.

COUNTRY EFFORTS IN MAINSTREAMING THE SDGS

In all seven countries, the SDGs have been mainstreamed in the national development agenda through the enactment of policies, incorporation in long- and medium-term development plans, and establishment of coordinating mechanisms to implement and monitor the SDGs.

Most National Statistics Offices are still in the process of developing and further refining country SDG indicators. The current state of development of specific indicators and methodologies for reporting on SDG 1.4.2 currently varies among countries.

GOAL 1:

END POVERTY
IN ALL ITS
FORMS
EVERYWHERE

SUMMARY FINDINGS

LIMITED CSO ENGAGEMENT

The level of engagement of CSOs in the government's SDG monitoring and reporting process remains very limited. Instead, parallel processes on SDG monitoring and reporting are being undertaken by CSOs within countries, with potential for future engagement with respective governments.





The SDGs have emphasized the importance of secure land rights in eradicating poverty. However, data is a complicated and potentially divisive subject matter.

The larger task is to work towards tenure security for those who deeply depend on land and natural resources, until and beyond 2030. This entails close and constant cooperation between and among communities, CSOs, government land agencies, NSOs, and global custodian agencies in order to identify the present status of land rights, come up with achievable targets, and work jointly towards common goals.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

OFFICIAL DATA RELATED TO SDG INDICATOR 1.4.2

Availability of land tenure data

Indicator 1.4.2 is not included in the monitoring of SDGs in Bangladesh and Cambodia, proxy indicators have been adopted in Indonesia, Nepal, and Philippines, while data from the land registry will be used for reporting in Kyrgyzstan.

On legally-recognized documentation

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.

Some countries (Indonesia, Nepal, Philippines) will rely on household surveys and self-declarations for documenting

On gender-disaggregation

Most countries do not disaggregate land tenure rights by sex. Women's land rights are usually recognized when ownership of land or housing by "female-headed households" are recorded.

On perception of tenure security

NONE of the countries collects or reports perception data on tenure security. This data gap is filled by CSO research.

It must be emphasized that perception of security of tenure is a crucial indicator.

On perception of tenure security

All countries are able to disaggregate data by type of tenure. However, it is important that data gathering methods are able to capture the diversity of tenure systems that exist within a country.

LAND RIGHTS

Download the full report here: <https://tinyurl.com/LWA-SDG-2020>

For more details, contact ANGOC at angoc@angoc.org

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