

Getting A Fuller Picture: 2020 CSO Report on SDG Target 1.4 – Philippines



OVERVIEW OF THE STUDY¹

Land and the SDGs

In 2015, members of the United Nations agreed to pursue the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), a set of 17 global goals that countries aim to achieve by 2030.

The SDGs embody a more holistic approach to development and presents enhancements to previous Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) targets. It is therefore not surprising that access to productive land – a resource vital to the survival of rural and urban communities – has been integrated into targets and indicators of the SDGs, most notably in the global goals on eradicating poverty (SDG 1 – No Poverty) and hunger (SDG 2 – Zero Hunger).

Land-related targets and indicators are also embedded in goals on Gender Equality (SDG 5), Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG 11), and Life on Land (SDG 15).

This represents the global recognition that land issues are directly linked to national and global issues – 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.

Unfortunately, at the global level, the land agenda has **not** been prominent in recent SDG reporting processes of governments. In most cases, States do not report on land rights in their SDG Country Reports and Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs).

In situations where State parties include land in their SDG reports, the contents mostly contain descriptions of their programs on land, with little or no discussion on the issues and challenges faced by the rural poor, thus not providing a complete picture of the situation.

CSOs are therefore well-positioned to analyze available data independently and highlight gaps and ways forward in achieving land-related SGD targets.

As Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) have been an integral part of formulating the SDGs, it is but logical that CSOs are involved in monitoring and reporting the status of achieving these global goals. Of particular interest to CSOs working on land tenure rights is Target 1.4.

Target 1.4 is the sole target among land-related SDG targets that specifies the need to provide *vulnerable populations* with *control and ownership* of land and natural resources. The target also aims to ensure that men and women have equal rights to such resources.

With the target being included under SDG 1, land rights are now seen as a central strategy – and a global commitment – towards ending poverty in all forms.

Under Target 1.4, the indicator on secure tenure rights is Indicator 1.4.2:

SDG Indicator 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.

¹ This document is an abridged version of the full report. See <https://angoc.org/portal/>

This indicator and the related indicator on secure rights to agricultural land for the sexes (Indicator 5.a.1²) are both classified by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs) as belonging to Tier II as of March 2021.

This means that while there are internationally recognized methodologies to produce information for these indicators,³ UN member-countries do not regularly produce such data.

A number of civil society organizations have been pointing out inherent issues with the targets and indicators agreed on at the global level. According to the Indigenous Major Group: “The targets under SDG Goal 1 do not fully reflect the special situations of Indigenous Peoples...” (De Luca, 2017).

Further, CSOs have observed that there is also a disconnect between Target 1.4 and the chosen indicators to represent progress towards it – of particular interest is in how the Indicator 1.4.2 lacks in capturing the complex dimensions of tenure security.

In the case of fisheries, their tenure is not necessarily land, but rather is related to access to common resources, therefore they are not reflected in either Target 1.4 or Indicator 1.4.2. Discussions on fisherfolk are often subsumed under SDG 14 (Life Below Water), particularly Target 14.B (Support small-scale fishers).

It is however important to discuss these issues under the broader context of SDG 1 – **ENDING POVERTY**.

The inclusion of “access and control over land and resources” under SDG 1 reflects the global realization that vulnerable populations’ access to land and resources is key to addressing poverty.

Objectives

This CSO Report on SDG 1.4 is a regional initiative of the Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC) and its CSO partners in the Land Watch Asia campaign in Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Nepal, and the Philippines.

The report provides a CSO perspective on the land rights and tenure security of *rural populations* as a contribution towards assessing the performance of countries in relation to meeting SDG Target 1.4.

The study also reviews data available for SDG indicators on land rights, and gives recommendations on how government should report on SDG 1.4.

Aside from the official indicators, it will also discuss other issues that may not be captured by the SDG indicators (ex. land conflicts, informal and customary tenure, transparency, and implementation issues in land governance).

Finally, this paper provides recommendations on land rights policies and programs.

² a) Proportion of total agricultural population with ownership or secure rights over agricultural land, by sex; and, b) share of women among owners or rights bearers of agricultural land, by type of tenure

³ Such as the methodology for gathering globally comparable national data on 1.4.2 and 5.a.1, developed by custodian agencies UN Habitat, World Bank, and FAO: <https://glt.n.net/2019/08/27/measuring-individuals-rights-to-land/>

In addition, this report is being prepared to:

- contribute to sustaining the reporting processes of governments on SDGs, with emphasis on land-related targets;
- lobby governments to use the CSO reports as inputs to their Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) and SDG Country Reports; and,
- pursue the policy work of CSOs on land rights by optimizing the SDGs as a space for dialogue with various stakeholders.

Methodology

This 2020 CSO Report on SDG 1.4 in the Philippines uses secondary land-related data from government as well as civil society organizations and other sources.

Primary data from sectoral focus group discussions among farmers, fisherfolk and indigenous peoples have been incorporated as well.

An online validation workshop CSOs and people's organizations (POs) was conducted on 6 October 2021 to validate the findings and formulate the recommendations included in this draft report.

Finally, a dialogue with the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) on 13 October 2021 to discuss findings and recommendations was organized.

COUNTRY EFFORTS TO PURSUE SDG TARGET 1.4

In President Rodrigo Duterte's memorandum on the formulation of the 2017 to 2022 Philippine Development Plan (PDP), the SDGs were identified as a key consideration, together with the President's 10-Point Socioeconomic Agenda and the *Ambisyon Natin 2040* (Office of the President Memorandum Circular 12 of 2016).

By 2040, it is envisioned that the Philippines will be a predominantly middle-class society where people are deeply rooted in family and community [*“matatag”*], nobody [no one] is poor [*“maginhawa”*] and everyone feels secure in their future [*“panatag”*].

The Philippine Development Plan (PDP) 2017 to 2022 is founded on three pillars: a) enhancing the social fabric [*“Malasakit”*], b) increasing growth potential [*“Patuloy na Pag-Unlad”*], and, c) inequality-reducing transformation [*“Pagbabago”*].

Chapter 8 of the PDP, entitled “Expanding Opportunities in Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries and Ensuring Food Security” is one of the chapters focused on reducing inequality.

The PDP was updated in 2021 to reflect strategies that would enable the country to cope with and overcome the continued disruption brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic.

In this updated version, Chapter 8 consists of three sector outcomes (SO):

- SO 1: Sustainable and Resilient Production and Food Availability Ensured;
- SO 2: Access to Markets of Small Farmers and Fisherfolk Increased; and,

- SO 3: Access of Consumers to Nutritious, Affordable, and Safe Food Improved.

Specific to SDG 1.4, SO 1 includes “fast-tracking and completion of the parcelization of collectively-titled awarded lands and generation of individual titles.”

The National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), the country’s socioeconomic planning agency, is in charge of SDG monitoring. NEDA monitors the achievement of the SDG targets by overseeing the implementation of the PDP. In performing its task, the agency works closely with the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), which governs and coordinates the decentralized Philippine Statistics System (PSS), composed of the different statistics offices in various government agencies.

An SDG website, SDG Watch, was launched by NEDA to promote further public engagement on the goals (NEDA and PIDS, 2019).

SDG Watch contains the baseline and updated data, including the data source agency for each indicator. The country’s progress in achieving the SDGs can also be viewed on this website.⁴

NEDA also leads the process of reporting on the SDGs by undertaking periodic voluntary national reviews (VNRs).

In the Philippines, NEDA has undertaken VNRs in 2016 and 2019, involving regional and sectoral consultations. The 2019 VNR focused on empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality. The report highlighted Goals 4 (Quality Education), 8 (Decent Work), 10 (Reduced Inequalities), 13 (Climate Action), 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions), and 17 (Partnership for the Goals).

Because the participation of civil society groups in the crafting of the VNR was perceived to be limited,⁵ Social Watch Philippines (SWP), together with partner CSOs such as the Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP), Save the Children, and Philippine Alliance of Human Rights Advocates (PAHRA), organized a broader consultation workshop on the SDGs.

The objective of the consultation was to come up with a parallel report that would provide “an alternative lens to the official reading of the status of SDGs in the country” (Social Watch Philippines, 2019).⁶

Although the consultation focused primarily on six SDGs – SDGs 4, 8, 10, 13, 16, and 17 - agricultural sector issues were also touched upon.

The discussions noted the low productivity of the sector, which could be attributed to the continuing concentration of land in the hands of a few due to the stalled agrarian reform program.

The recommendations included completion of the agrarian reform program, and continuous support for the agricultural sector to improve the income and productivity of small farmers (Social Watch Philippines, 2019).

⁴ SDG Watch: <https://psa.gov.ph/tags/sdg-watch>

⁵ Only one consultation was conducted with CSOs in the Philippine VNR process according to the 2019 VNR

⁶ The Civil Society Organizations that participated in the consultation have also been previously involved in monitoring the implementation of the MDGs, and now the SDGs, and promoting relevant policies for its full realization.



CSOs also recommended the improvement of the country's data collection, analysis, and dissemination systems and processes. In particular, they cited the need for reliable, disaggregated data – i.e., age, gender, race, ethnicity, disabilities, education, geographic location, migratory status, and other relevant factors – to allow for better-targeted pro-poor programs, policies, and investments (Social Watch Philippines, 2019).

In 2022, the government will prepare another VNR, focusing on SDGs 4, 5, 14, 15, and 17.

According to NEDA, this VNR will adopt a future-oriented thinking and scenario planning approach. This means that government will undertake efforts to ensure that optimal conditions exist for the country to achieve the SDGs, and contingency programs will be put in place in case unfavorable scenarios unfold.

This approach is being adopted in response to the COVID pandemic – an unforeseen event that continues to adversely impact the country's progress towards achieving the SDGs.

The VNR will also be accompanied by an SDG Acceleration Plan, which will include, among others, a financing plan and a communications and advocacy plan to support the achievement of the SDG targets (Provido, 2021).

LEGAL POLICIES AND FRAMEWORK ON LAND RIGHTS

The 1987 Philippine Constitution provides the overall legal framework on access to land. The general principles on access to land can be found in Article II, Declaration of Principles and State Policies.

Section 21 declares that the State will “promote comprehensive rural development and agrarian reform.” Recognition of the rights of indigenous cultural communities is provided for under Section 22.

The following provisions in the Constitution further underscore these principles (Ravanera, 2018):

- *Protection of property.* Property can be taken away, but only with due process, and in certain cases, with just compensation (Article III, Sections 1 and 9).
- *Promotion of social justice and human rights.* The use of property must be regulated in the interest of social justice (Article XIII, Section 1 and Article XII).
- *Promotion of rural development and agrarian reform.* The State must undertake an agrarian reform program founded on the right of farmers and regular farmworkers who are landless, to own directly or collectively the lands they till or, in the case of other farmworkers, to receive a just share of its fruits (Article XIII).
- *Promotion of the rights of indigenous communities* establishes the rights of indigenous communities to their ancestral lands. Section 6 of the Article on National Economy and Patrimony requires the State to protect the rights of indigenous cultural communities to their ancestral lands (Article XIII).
- *Promotion of a self-reliant and independent national economy.* The national economy must create a more equitable distribution of opportunities, income,

and wealth and refers to agricultural development and agrarian reform as the basis for industrialization and full employment (Article XII, Section 1).

- *Protection of the right to a balanced and healthful ecology.* Ecological considerations were made as bases for the State’s prioritization and setting of retention limits in undertaking agrarian reform. Congress must determine the boundaries of forest lands and national parks. Such forest lands and national parks are to be conserved. Congress shall provide measures to prohibit logging in endangered forests and watershed areas (Article XIII, Sec. 4). Requirements for conservation, ecology, and development, shall be considered by Congress in the determination of the size of lands of the public domain which may be acquired, developed, held, or leased (Article XIII, Sec. 3).

Thus, the 1987 Constitution articulates “a consistent policy that links land ownership and use to equitable distribution of wealth and to a balanced ecology” (Ravanera, 2018).

Corollary to this main policy are the restrictive policies on the alienation of lands and on the use of alienated and private lands, the policies on the conservation and protection of resources, and the recognition of the rights of farmers, indigenous communities and other marginalized groups” (Ravanera, 2018).

Farmers and Smallholders

The Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP) was instituted by virtue of RA 6657 enacted in 1988.

The program sought to acquire and distribute public and private agricultural lands to all qualified agrarian reform beneficiaries (ARBs). Provisions for support services to beneficiaries and just compensation to landowners are included in the law. It prohibits transfer, conveyance of awarded lands except through hereditary succession (Ravanera, 2018).

The Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), the government agency responsible for implementing the CARP, failed to complete the program’s target of land acquisition and distribution (LAD) within the specified 10-year period.

Thus, the law was extended for another 10 years through RA 8532 (1998), and again, for another five years through the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program Extension with Reforms (CARPER) Law (RA 9700 in 2009) (Ravanera, 2018).

Section 14 of RA 6657 and section 13 of RA 9700 also provide for integrated delivery of support services to ARBs, including subsidized credit, extension services and infrastructure.

Indigenous Peoples

The Indigenous Peoples’ Rights Act of 1997 (RA 8371 or IPRA) is a landmark legislation that recognizes the rights of indigenous peoples over their ancestral domains.

It went beyond the decades-long practice of contract-based resource management agreements by issuing ownership titles to the indigenous communities. The law provides for a process of titling of lands through the issuance of Certificates of Ancestral Domain Titles (CADT) (Ravanera, 2018).

Four substantive rights of IPs are addressed by the IPRA, to wit: (i) right to ancestral domains and lands, (ii) right to self-governance; (iii) right to cultural integrity; and, (iv) right to social justice and human rights.

The principle of self-determination enshrined in the IPRA recognizes the right of IP communities to document and delineate their own ancestral domain claims. They are also free to formulate their own Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development and Protection Plans (ADSDPPs), based on their indigenous knowledge systems and practices.

Contracts, licenses, concessions, leases, and permits within the ancestral domains shall be subject to free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC) of the IP community, free from any external manipulation, interference or coercion, and in accordance with their respective customary laws and practices.

Under IPRA, self-delineation is the guiding principle in the identification of ancestral domain claims.

Republic Act 11038 or the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System (ENIPAS) was enacted into law on 22 June 2018, amending Republic Act No. 7586 or the former NIPAS law.

The NIPAS law established a system of protected areas (PAs) in the country, in furtherance of the mandates of the Philippine Constitution on State ownership of resources in the public domain, and the people's right to a balanced and healthful ecology (De Vera, Lingating, Dagdag, et al., 2019).

Essentially, ENIPAS supports the rights to land, territory, and resources of indigenous peoples provided under IPRA. It has also established an additional 94 PAs in the country and expanded the definition of PAs (De Vera, 2021).

Women

The Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law of 1988 (RA 6657), Section 40 (5) states that “all qualified women members of the agricultural labor force must be guaranteed and assured equal right to ownership of the land, equal shares of the farm's produce, and representation in advisory or appropriate decision-making bodies.”

DAR Circular No. 18 s. 1996 mandated the issuance of Emancipation Patents and Certificates of Land Ownership Award (CLOAs) in the names of both spouses as co-owners.

It was only through the CARPER Law (RA 9700), however, that an expressed provision (RA 9700, Section 1) recognized women's right to own and control land “independent of their male relatives and of their civil status.”

CARPER law also mandated the provision of “equal support services for rural women” (RA 9700, Section 15). These rights are aligned with the provision under RA 9710 or the Magna Carta of Women, and its corresponding implementing rules and regulations (IRR) issued in 2010.

Forest Dwellers

Executive Order 263 establishes community-based forest and mangrove management as the national strategy in recognition of the indispensable role of local communities in forest protection, rehabilitation, development and

management. BFAR Fisheries Administrative Order (BFAR FAO) 197-1 gives preference to fisherfolk organizations as well as micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) on the lease of public lands for fishponds and mangrove-friendly aquaculture through the issuance of Fishpond Lease Agreements (FLAs) and Mangrove Aqua-Silviculture Contracts (MASCs) (Rodriguez, 2018 as cited in Ravanera, 2018).

Fisherfolk

The Philippine Fisheries Code (RA 8550) of 1998, as amended by Republic Act No. 10654, provides the framework for the utilization, management, conservation, and protection of the fishery resources.

Among the Code's multiple objectives are: (i) conservation, protection and sustained management of fishery and aquatic resources; (ii) poverty alleviation and the provision of supplementary livelihood among municipal fisherfolk; and, (iii) improved productivity in the industry through aquaculture, optimal utilization of offshore and deep-sea resources, and upgrading of post-harvest technology (Rodriguez, 2018 as cited in Ravanera, 2018).

Section 18 of the Fisheries Code states that all fishery related activities in municipal waters (measured at 15 kilometers from the shoreline) shall be utilized by municipal fisherfolk and their cooperatives/organizations who are listed as such in the registry of municipal fisherfolk.

Small scale fishers in the Philippines are what the Fisheries Code identifies as municipal fishers.

Municipal fisherfolk are persons directly or indirectly involved in municipal fishing and other related fishing activities (Sec 4.56). Municipal fishing on the other hand, refers to fishing within municipal waters using fishing vessels of three gross tons or less, or fishing not requiring the use of fishing vessels (Sec 4.57).

As of 2019 there were 1.9 million registered fishers, the majority of which are in ARMM region (Rodriguez, 2021).

GOVERNMENT MEASUREMENT AND REPORTING OF INDICATOR 1.4.2

In 2017, the Philippine SDG Indicators were assessed through a series of technical workshops and bilateral meetings, and the result was an SDG Assessment Matrix.

In the assessment conducted, 102 out of the 244 SDG indicators were classified as Tier 1, 55 indicators fell under Tier 2, 74 indicators were classified as Tier 3, and 13 indicators were considered not applicable to the country (PSA, 2021).

Indicator 1.4.2 was one of the indicators classified under Tier 3 at the national level (same as the global level). However, the global-level IAEG-SDGs re-classified SDG indicator 1.4.2 from Tier III to Tier II status in November 2017 (IISD, 2021).

Nevertheless, it has remained under Tier 3 in the Philippines.

Indicator 1.4.2 is defined as “the 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” (UN Habitat and World Bank, 2021).

However, in the Philippines, the Philippines Statistics Authority (PSA) still uses the following proxy indicator, which was in use even prior to the adoption of the SDGs (Salomon, 2018):

Proportion of families which own house and lot or owner-like possession of house and lot; rent house/room including lot; own house, rent lot; own house, rent-free lot with consent of owner; rent-free house and lot with consent of owner.

Using this proxy indicator, the proportion of families with access to secure tenure is 96.4 percent. This is based on PSA’s Annual Poverty Indicators Survey (APIS) of 2019, and is reported in the SDG Watch of 26 March 2021.

The PSA does not conduct surveys on land tenure and/or other land issues per se. Some housing tenure data are collected and analyzed through the Annual Poverty Indicators Survey (APIS), the Family Income and Expenditure Survey (FIES), the Census of Population and Housing (CPH), the Census of Agriculture and Fisheries (CAF), and the Integrated Farm Household Survey (IFHS), among others. The PSA may derive data on slums and informal settlements using data from national surveys and censuses of population and housing.

In addition, the PSA also consolidates administrative data from land agencies such as the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and DAR to report on land tenure for 5.a.1 on women’s ownership of agricultural land, which can be inputs to reporting for SDG indicator 1.4.2. (Salomon, 2018).

Table 1 presents the sources and frequency of land data collection.

Table 1: Sources of Land Data and Frequency of Conduct

Sources	Collected Land Data	Frequency of Collection
Housing and Residential Land Tenure		
Annual Poverty Indicators Survey (APIS) of 2020	Tenure status of dwelling and lot Size of dwelling	Annually
Family Income and Expenditure Survey (FIES) of 2018	Tenure status of dwelling and lot Size of dwelling	Three years
Census of Population and Housing (CPH) of 2020	Tenure status of dwelling and lot Size of dwelling	10 years
Census of Population (POPCEN) of 2015	Tenure status of dwelling and lot Size of dwelling	In-between decennial censuses
DENR Administrative Data	Men and women with residential free patent	Annually
Agricultural Land Tenure		
Census of Agriculture and Fisheries (CAF) of 2012	Ownership of farm holding Size of farm holding Cropped/Cultivated/Irrigated area (by various disaggregation)	10 years
DENR Administrative Data	Men and women with agricultural free patent	Annually

Sources	Collected Land Data	Frequency of Collection
Women and Men in the Philippines: 2016 Statistical Handbook	Emancipation Patent (EP) holders by sex Certificate of Land Ownership Award (CLOA) holders by sex	Not regular
Integrated Farm Household Survey (IFHS) of 2003	Ownership of farm holding Size of farm holding Cropped/Cultivated/Irrigated area (by various disaggregation)	Not regular

Source: Salomon, 2018

Legally Recognized Documentation

Data are available on legally documented rights, and these are available through the administrative agencies issuing tenure instruments (i.e. the DENR, DAR and National Commission Indigenous Peoples/NCIP).

On the other hand, the land data collected through censuses and surveys are usually based on self-declarations, and no verification of legal documentation is done (ANGOC and LWA, 2019).

In relation to Indigenous Peoples (De Vera, 2020)

- As of December 2020, a total of 247 Certificates of Ancestral Domain Titles (CADTs) have been approved, covering a total area of 5,741,389 hectares of ancestral lands and waters, benefitting 1,326,332 individuals. This is by far the most commendable accomplishment of IPRA in the past 23 years. No other country in the world can lay claim to a similar accomplishment. This was achieved with very limited resources and deserves commendation.
- Ancestral waters are also a key part of IP domains. Ancestral waters comprise at least 15 percent of the total coverage of CADTs in the Philippines. There are over 805,000 hectares of marine areas covered by ancestral water claims.
- For CADT registration: only 54 CADTs are registered, 193 are for registration.
- For Certificate of Ancestral Land Title (CALT) registration: 154 are registered, 70 for registration, 25 have been transmitted for registration.
- However, the current delineation process is expensive, long and tedious, focuses more on the technical acceptability of spatial data. In most situations, the process leaves very little participation to the affected communities, and rarely accommodates critical spatial information from the perspective of the local people.

In relation to Farmers (Demaisip and Alvarez, 2021)

- The DAR has distributed 90 percent of its total land acquisition and distribution (LAD) working scope of 4,790,234 hectares out of its 5,351,365 hectares LAD target. The remaining balance as of 01 January 2018 is 561,131 hectares, most of which are from the Bicol, Eastern Visayas, Western Visayas and Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) regions. As of 31 December 2018, DAR indicated that its LAD balance is about 544,327 hectares. This does not include the total area of Government Owned Lands (GOLs) which is covered under CARP based on E.O. No. 75, Series of 2019 estimated to be 150,269.49 hectares.

- Despite the enabling laws, DAR 2015 data show that only 29.5 percent of the 2.4 million ARBs are women. Moreover, women compose only 13.8 percent of ARBs with Emancipation Patents (EP) and 32.8 percent women ARBs with Collective Land Ownership Award (CLOA). This emphasized the need for programs and implementing mechanisms focused specifically on women's land rights.

In relation to Fisherfolk (Rodriguez, 2021)

- As of 2019 the total number of fisherfolk engaged in fishing activities by sector is 1,953,696.
- As of 9 July 2018, there are 1,926,416 registered municipal fishers.
- As of 13 April 2018, there are 201,886 registered boats and 29,504 register gears.

For fisherfolk, registration and licensing in the municipal registry serves as their proof of preferential rights – to be allowed to fish within the 15 kilometers of municipal waters.

Gender Disaggregation of Data

Gender disaggregation of data is done by several government agencies for specific sectors (i.e., DAR for farmer sector, DENR for farmer and fisherfolk sectors).

However, gender disaggregation of data is not applied in all datasets of the government, and not available in all agencies (e.g., NCIP does not provide readily processed gender disaggregated data for indigenous peoples) (Salomon, 2018).

The Province of Cavite participated in the tool development and pilot testing initiative called Evidence and Data for Gender Equality (EDGE)⁷ in 2015 that seeks to improve the integration of gender issues into the regular production of official statistics for stronger evidence-based policy.

In this tool development project, land tenure data was gathered from the principal couple, from both the husband and wife of a household, allowing for meaningful disaggregation of data on land tenure by sex.

Perception of Security of Tenure

Currently, the Philippine government does not measure perception of security of tenure.

CSO COMMENTS ON THE METHODOLOGY AND DATA ON SDG INDICATOR 1.4.2

Specific Issues on Proxy indicator

The Philippine Statistical System (PSS) Reports, on which the land tenure rights are based, pre-date the 2017 launch of the globally agreed methodology for SDG Indicator 1.4.2. As of the third quarter of 2021, the methodology as proposed by

⁷ EDGE is supported by the UNSD, UN Women, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Labor Organization (ILO), Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the African Development Bank (AfDB), the Asian Development Bank (ADB), and the World Bank.

the custodian agencies for SDG 1.4.2 has still not been incorporated in the PSS data gathering.

The SDG Watch reported that 96.4 percent of all households have security of tenure, which includes housing that is under rent and lease. If the definition of security of tenure will not include housing/ home lots under rent and lease, the baseline figure reported on Filipino households with secure tenure over land used for housing may drop to 64.1 percent (PSA, 2020).

In addition, data collected may potentially be over-reported as the census on population and housing also relies on self-declaration on land tenure.

The PSA noted that census/survey respondents are likely to overstate their tenure rights when self-declarations of ownership 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. 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.

This practice of claiming ownership even without legal documentation can affect the accuracy of data collected through surveys and censuses (ANGOC and LWA, 2019).

There have been efforts to produce more accurate and updated data through projects such as EDGE (Evidence and Data for Gender Equality) and SPLIT (Support to Parcelization of Lands for Individual Titling).

However, the biggest criticism of CSOs regarding this proxy indicator is that it is clearly inadequate in terms of measuring types of tenure security.

First, farmlands are excluded from the concept of “house and lot,” and therefore are not covered in this indicator. Secondly, security of tenure should not include rent or lease. Lastly, the proxy indicator, with its emphasis on individual ownership of house and lot, excludes common resources such as ancestral domains and municipal fishing grounds.

More broadly, Peoples Organizations (POs) and CSOs who are active in tenure security issues have reflected on the issue, and realize that tenure security has different implications for farmers, IPs, and fisherfolk.

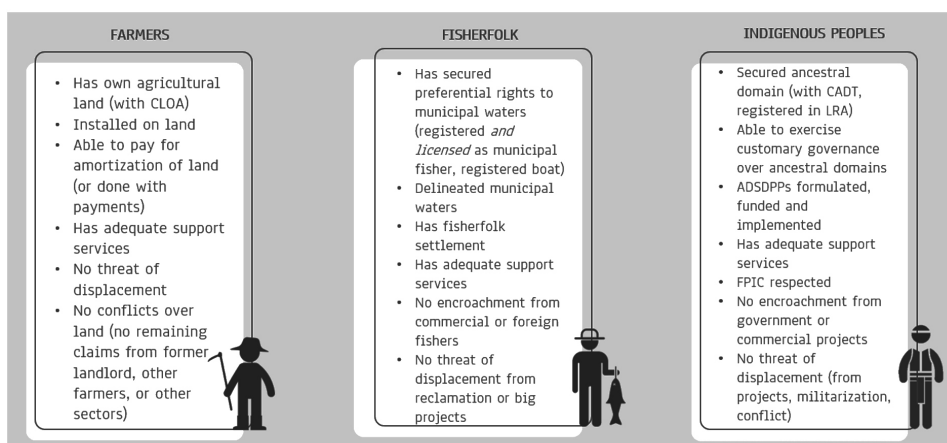
Participants of a focus group discussion (FGD) conducted as part of this study believe that tenure issues in rural areas are much broader than tenure over house and lot.

Broadly speaking, there are key dimensions of secure tenure that are common to farmers, fisherfolk and IPs. These three sectors require legally-recognized rights to resources.

For farmers, it is secure title to and occupation of agricultural land. For fisherfolk, it is preferential rights to municipal waters that have been delineated as such. They also need fisherfolk settlements in which to live. For IPs, it is possession and governance of ancestral domains that are covered by CADTs and registered with the Land Registration Authority.

Figure 1 presents some of the relevant considerations with regard to resource tenure in the rural areas, based on the FGD with POs and CSOs:

Figure 1: Partial List of What Constitutes “Secure Tenure” for the Sectors⁸



This aspect of tenure security is discussed more fully in sections “Legal Policies and Framework on Land Rights” and “Policy and Program Recommendations on Strengthening Land Rights” of this paper.

A second key dimension involves measures to ensure that these resources are productive, thus ensuring that the people and communities concerned can derive a decent livelihood.

In the case of farmers, this means adequate support services such as credit, post-harvest facilities and the like, which will help ensure that they are able to pay the land amortizations. For fisherfolk, support services include community organizing, skills training, capacity building and enterprise development to support the viability of fisherfolk settlements. For IPs this means access to education, health, livelihood projects and other services according to the unique needs of the communities.

A third dimension is freedom from various threats to the enjoyment and exercise of tenure.

Farmers, fisherfolk and IPs are all threatened by encroachments of various commercial interests. Also, due to uncoordinated government policy implementation, resource claims of various communities sometimes overlap, leading to confusion and conflict. These threats are discussed more extensively in “Policy and Program Recommendations on Strengthening Land Rights.”

Comments on Available Data on SDG 1.4.2

As mentioned, the principal sources of land-related data are the line agencies concerned with resource tenure and management.

The following is a listing⁹ of available data, as well as concerns regarding the data, for certain key agencies.

⁸ As presented and discussed during the dialogue between CSOs and NEDA on 13 October 2021.

⁹ The list of government agencies included in this section is not comprehensive

- **In relation to data from DAR**

On land distribution data

- Data on CLOAs distributed are available at the national level
- Women who have CLOAs are reflected as their male counterpart's spouses, but CLOAs do not indicate whether the women till the land
- Unavailable or outdated data on CARP coverage, CLOA registration at the local level
- No registry of farmers per crop who are eligible for land distribution, how many are not yet installed on distributed land

On support services

- *Data on support services are either scant or not updated*
- *In most cases, data are not sex-disaggregated, type of services are not specifically defined, and not readily accessible*

Other concerns

- *Inconsistent or unavailable data on converted and convertible lands*
- *Inconsistent data at municipal, provincial, and national levels*
- *Inconsistent data between and among CARP-implementing agencies (DAR, DA, LBP, NIA)*
- *No data on overlapping claims*
- *Data not updated since 2018*
- There are currently no mechanisms on gathering perceptions of tenure security

- **In relation to data from NCIP**

- Only estimates on the number of IPs are available
- Data on number of indigenous peoples living within titled ancestral domains are available, but may not be sex-aggregated
- Data are not consolidated at the national level
- Data have not been updated since 2018
- There are currently no mechanisms on gathering perceptions of tenure security. There was one study (NSCB CAR in 2013) commissioned by the government to assess perceptions on IP tenure security and resource governance – however this was only done once for a particular project
- No data on how many ASDPPs have been funded and implemented
- No data on how many ASDPPs have been harmonized with Comprehensive Land Use Plans (CLUPs) and other relevant resource management plans of local government units (LGUs), as supported by a council (*Sanggunian*) resolution
- Inconsistencies between data gathered by LGUs (which are defined by political boundaries) and data gathered by NCIP (which cut across political boundaries, such as in the case of CADTs)

- **In relation to data from the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR)**

- National-level fisherfolk registration is available from BFAR, disaggregated by region and province

- National data on boat registration and catch per unit also available
- However, LGUs and CSOs lack access to updated data, disaggregated by gender
- BFAR faced challenges in integrating data from FishR¹⁰ and from Juan Magsasaka¹¹
- Data on municipal water delineation are available, but must be collected from different agencies
- Although fisherfolk settlements are mandated to be established under the Fisheries Code, there are presently no guidelines to implement this. Hence, there are no available data on such settlements.¹²

Broader Land Data Issues

Aside from the data available (and unavailable) from the various land- and resource-related agencies, there are broader issues regarding land data in the Philippines.

Data sets within and among government agencies are inconsistent with one another. In addition, agency websites are at times slow, return errors, and do not contain updated information.

Available government data on violations on land and resource rights are gathered using different methodologies per agency and come in different formats.

In some agencies, cases of violations are filed as individual reports which are not digitally encoded nor summarized. In addition, there are no official data on landlessness in the Philippines, and data on informal settlers are only estimates.

Also, while there are some data on forest users and communities whose tenure rights are recognized, there is no census of forest dwellers.

CSOs also experience various problems when accessing government data. In most situations, CSOs are unable to access pertinent data despite letters and follow-ups.

Requesting data from the government's Freedom of Information (FOI) portal does not ensure access to data and does not even ensure responses from concerned agencies, despite what is contained in Executive Order No. 2 (on peoples' constitutional right to information) and despite the procedures stated in FOI portal.¹³

¹⁰ FishR is a registry system for municipal fisherfolk, which integrates data from the National Statistics Office's basic sector registry system and from the existing registration system of BFAR.

¹¹ Juan Magsasaka is a government project which aimed to update the National Farmers and Fisheries Information System (NFFIS).

¹² There are, however, several local initiatives on establishing fisherfolk settlements – such as in Aroroy, Masbate.

¹³ Executive Order No. 2 was issued in 2016 to operationalize the people's constitutional right to information. For this purpose, the Freedom of Information portal – www.foi.gov.ph – was set-up. Requests made through this platform are automatically sent to the agencies concerned for immediate processing. According to the FOI portal, the standard processing time for data requests is 15 working days, but agencies may extend the processing time to no longer than 20 working days.

HOW THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC HAS AFFECTED LAND RIGHTS

Presently, COVID-19 is not just a health issue but it has turned into an economic issue as well.

Those who were greatly affected were the poor – the farmers, fisherfolk, agricultural workers, landless people, indigenous peoples, and slum dwellers.

The nationwide lockdowns and restrictions have affected food supply chain. People were forced to stay at home, thus making secure housing and land tenure crucial especially now.

There were reported incidents of people taking advantage of this situation through illegal logging, illegal mining, and land grabbing.¹⁴

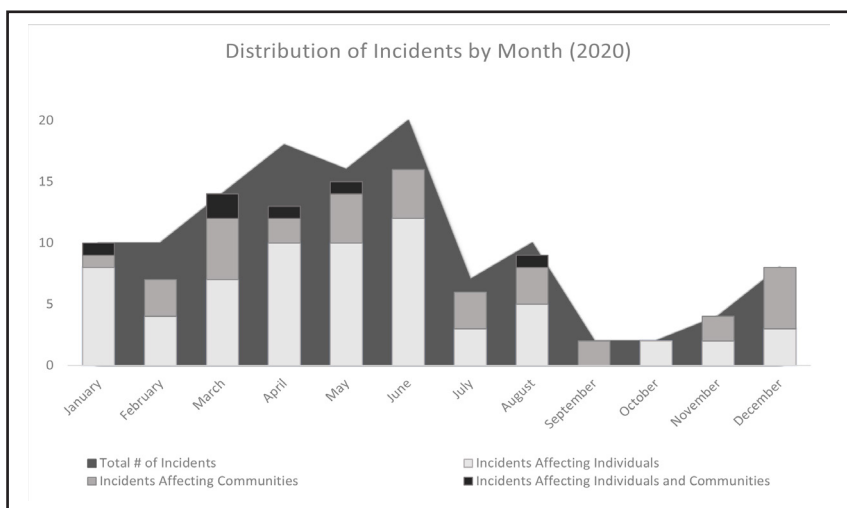
In the 2020 Land and Resource Conflict Monitoring done by ANGO (Salcedo, 2021), 147 incidents of human rights violations which were linked to defending land rights were recorded.

These incidents, which included killings, arrests, and harassment of smallholders and activists, affected 287 individual victims and 58,295 households.

The monitoring also found that the incidents of human rights violations were highest during the first four months (March, April, May, and June) of implementation of lockdowns and community quarantines to curb the COVID-19 pandemic (see Figure 2).

In an international webinar jointly organized by the Association for Land Reform and Development (ALRD) and The Daily Star held last 18 December 2020, Antonio Quizon, former Chairperson and former Executive Director of Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development, said,

Figure 2. Human rights violations per month, according to ANGO’s 2020 Land and Resource Conflict Monitoring Report



¹⁴ Quizon, A.B. (2021, January 25). Ensuring land and food rights at the time of COVID-19 and beyond. The Daily Star. Retrieved from <https://www.thedailystar.net/round-tables/news/ensuring-land-and-food-rights-the-time-covid-19-and-beyond-2033181>

“In the Philippines, more than two million hectares of lands have been contested in the last nine months which is way more than the normal times. An estimated 252,241 households have been adversely affected by these conflicts” (ALRD, 2020)

COVID-19 has also affected the farmers as food producers. With strict travel restrictions, it became difficult for them not only to distribute their goods, but also to access their land and the natural resources.

There were also reports of an increase in illegal mining, together with increased militarization in areas with land disputes, especially in territories of indigenous peoples (The Daily Star, 2021).

The COVID-19 pandemic has also exposed the problem of limited access of fisherfolks to the market. Even if they were allowed to fish, they were not able to market their produce. Meanwhile, traders and buyers were also not able to access their harvests. With the lack of storage facilities, the fishers were forced to sell their harvests at lower price, leading to low income (Rodriguez, 2021).

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR GOVERNMENT TO PRODUCE A MORE ACCURATE REPORT ON LAND TENURE SECURITY

Four sets of recommendations on measuring and reporting SDG 1.4 are identified through the consultation processes with the farmers, indigenous peoples, fisherfolk, and CSOs.

In relation to “Tenure Security” Indicators

CSOs, NEDA, and PSA should work together to develop a consensus working definition of “tenure security” for the different basic sectors, and to discuss how to produce accurate nationally consolidated tenure security data.

This will be a challenging process involving many consultations and discussions; however, it is necessary, considering the centrality of land tenure issues in addressing the country’s problems of poverty and disempowerment.

NEDA and PSA, in consultation with CSOs, must also discuss the appropriateness and feasibility of implementing the methodology for producing data on 1.4.2 and 5.a.1, as proposed by the global custodian agencies.

Lastly, the PSA, in consultation with CSOs, DAR, DENR, NCIP, BFAR and the LRA, should consider the implementation of a survey on perceptions on tenure security. At the same time, CSOs can provide studies on this issue as well, to provide additional perspective.

In relation to the 2022 VNR of the Philippines

The situation of land rights is recommended to be included, noting that secure land rights are vital for an agricultural population like the Philippines, are key to addressing poverty, and considering how secure tenure will enable many Filipinos to be resilient in the face of climate change and pandemics.

Since the next VNR will be focused on selected SDGs prioritized by the High-Level Political Forum for 2022, Table 2 presents how land rights may be highlighted in the pre-selected priorities (SDG 4, SDG 5, SDG 14, SDG 15, and SDG 17).

Table 2. Land rights and the 2022 VNR

HLPF Priority	Land/Resource-Related Target Under the SDG	Information That May Be Included or Issues That May Be Tackled in the 2022 VNR of the Philippines
SDG 5 – Gender Equality	5.a - 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	Women’s ownership of agricultural lands under the CARP/ER Registered women fisherfolk Women indigenous peoples with CADT
SDG 14 – Life Below Water	14.b - Provide access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets	Fisherfolk and boat registration Threats to municipal fishers (foreign and commercial encroachment) Non-establishment of fisherfolk settlements
SDG 15 – Life on Land	15.1 - By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements	IP issues, noting the linkages between customary governance and resource conservation CADTs issued and registered, number of beneficiaries FPIC issues
	15.2 - By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally	IPs with sustainable development plans Issues with ancestral domains and protected area overlaps Forest dwellers with sustainable management plans
SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals	17.19 - By 2030, build on existing initiatives to develop measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement gross domestic product, and support statistical capacity-building in developing countries	Progress towards addressing data issues in the Philippines Data convergence and harmonization initiatives Government-CSO data sharing and partnerships

In relation to the Country’s SDG Reporting Process

CSOs are willing to partner and engage with NEDA, with the latter being the lead government agency in preparing the country’s VNRs and other SDG-related reports.

The 2022 VNR of the Philippines is a starting point. It is recommended that NEDA convene a workshop among the various land and natural resource agencies (DAR, NCIP, BFAR, DENR, LRA, etc.), PSA, peoples’ organizations, and CSOs, to discuss land and resource rights in the context of the SDGs. This will be an opportunity for the agencies to present their accomplishments on land and resource tenure security and for which CSOs can provide feedback.

In relation to the Overall Data Landscape

To address data inconsistencies across land agencies, it is recommended that NEDA and PSA convene regular inter-agency meetings to provide updates on data convergence and reconciliation.

To address the various problems faced by CSOs in accessing land-related data from State agencies, it is proposed that government strengthen the implementation of the Executive Order on Freedom of Information (FOI), and ultimately enact a law on FOI.

It is also proposed that the timeliness, accessibility, and local disaggregation of data repositories in government agency websites be improved and regularly updated. During this pandemic, citizens will access government data mostly through the websites of the various departments.

POLICY AND PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS ON STRENGTHENING LAND RIGHTS

In reporting land rights, the following policy and implementation issues should also be considered:

On Indigenous Peoples' Land Rights

Land and justice agencies must establish an efficient and practical system to address overlapping claims on land.

Upon the recommendation of indigenous peoples, the DAR-DENR-LRA-NCIP JAO 1 series of 2012, which makes ancestral lands/domains very vulnerable to encroachment as it exacerbates the delay in processing and registration of CADTs, should be nullified.

In lieu of JAO 1, a multi-sectoral conflict resolution mechanism should be established at the local level (*barangay*, municipality) to immediately respond to community grievances (Salcedo, 2021).

Another threat to IP ancestral domain rights is sec.13 of the IRR of the ENIPAS law, which provides that in cases of overlaps between ancestral domains and protected areas, only the ADs covered by CADTs and CALTs will be recognized and respected.

This contradicts the provisions of the IPRA law and the ENIPAS law itself, which guarantee recognition of IP ancestral lands, and their rights to govern these lands, by virtue of their presence in these territories since time immemorial (De Vera, et al., 2019).

Perhaps a better basis for the recognition and respect of ancestral domain tenurial security is by declaring the indigenous territory as part of conservation areas based on their traditional practices.

A new conservation scheme tagged as the “Indigenous Community Conserved Areas” (ICCAs) refer to natural and/or modified ecosystems containing significant biodiversity values, ecological services, and cultural values, voluntarily conserved by indigenous cultural communities/indigenous peoples through customary laws or other effective means (Ravanera, 2018).

Identified under the ICCAs are the protected areas and sustainable indigenous forest resource management systems and practices.

Recognized also are the rights of the IPs to the sustainable use, management, protection and conservation of the land, water, air, minerals, plants, animals and organisms.

Likewise, the areas of economic, ceremonial and aesthetic value based on their traditional knowledge, beliefs and practices – are respected. ICCA practice has been gaining ground in the Philippines and worldwide as well as efforts at institutionalizing them at the national level.

On Women's Tenure Security

There are three national laws that specifically mention women's land rights.

These are the Indigenous Peoples' Rights Act of 1997 (IPRA) for indigenous women, the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program Extension with Reforms (CARPER) for women farmers, and the Fisheries Code for fisherwomen.

In the Magna Carta of Women and several administrative orders from the DAR (AO 1-11) and the DENR (AO 91-04, AO 96-24, AO 96-29), it is mandated that titles be issued in the name of both spouses, under a provision known as joint titling. However, there are no specific provisions on titling for fisherwomen and indigenous women (ANGOC, 2015).

In addition, gender-disaggregated data should always be gathered wherever possible to promote better-targeted policymaking.

As previously mentioned, the Evidence and Data for Gender Equality (EDGE) project was pilot-tested in the province of Cavite. To address the data gap in SDG Targets 1.4.2 and 5.a.1, it is proposed that the EDGE Project be replicated nationwide with recommended improvements based on the report that was released in 2018 by PSA.

On Land Conflicts and Land Rights Defenders

Land conflict is an issue that the Philippine government needs to monitor and address more effectively.

These conflicts are rooted in historical injustices, poor implementation of asset reform laws, the encroachment of big business in rural areas, and the government's own infrastructure projects.

The country has become a global hotspot with regards to land conflicts and the resulting human rights violations.

In 2019 alone, Global Witness (2020) recorded 26 murders related to agribusiness in the Philippines, that is 90 percent of all agribusiness-related attacks in Asia, and the highest share of agribusiness-related killings globally.

In the same report, it was also found that mining was the sector with the highest incidents of deaths worldwide and Philippines had the most mining-related killings with 16 deaths (Global Witness, 2020, in Salcedo, 2021).

A 2020 study by ANGOC was able to document a total of 223 ongoing cases of land conflict taking place within 5.59 percent (1,695,397 hectares) of the total territory of the Philippines. The most frequent was between smallholder farmers/producers against private companies/corporations (36.2 percent)

followed by ICCs/IPs against private companies/corporations (13.1 percent), and ICCs/IPs against the government (7.96 percent).

In terms of type of conflict, the study identified six types, as well as the percentage of cases falling under each type: private investment (56.6 percent), clashing tenure systems (11.2 percent), public-private partnership (9.4 percent), resistance to land reform (9.4 percent), resource conflict (6.4 percent), and government projects (7.1 percent).

Thus, it is clear that the most frequent conflicts were those between marginalized sectors and the private sector, in the context of the latter's investments such as plantations and mining operations (Salcedo, 2021).

There is a need for land agencies to enhance and intensify monitoring and documentation of land and resource conflicts in implementing resource reform programs and to make the data on land conflicts available to the public. A joint monitoring tool on monitoring conflicts may be explored between government agencies and civil society organizations.

Enforcement of fishery laws and policies has also been weak resulting in intrusion of commercial fishing vessels inside the municipal waters; poaching in marine protected areas; rampant use of illegal fishing gear and practices such as dynamite and poisonous/noxious substances; continued conversion of mangrove forests into fishpond areas, and illegal wildlife trade.

Illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing in the Philippines is believed to be widespread, although its actual magnitude remains to be quantified (Rodriguez, 2021).

Needless to say, all of these violations have led to numerous conflicts between and among fisherfolk communities, government, and various commercial interests.

On Improving Land Administration

There is a need to discard the country's Torrens System and adopt a fully administrative approach to the recognition of land rights and the resolution of land disputes.

This includes streamlining the land administration system and possibly, forming a single land administration agency with clear roles and responsibilities, and setting forth institutional reforms towards efficiency, transparency, and accountability.

This should be accompanied by the adoption of a citizen-focus rather than a process- and regulation-focus in the delivery of land administration services. Where possible, commitments on quality, turnaround time, and cost of key services should be made clear.

There is a need to adopt a mass program to systematically register rights to land, bearing in mind social justice principles as laid down in the 1987 Constitution (Ravanera, 2018).

In addition, CSOs need to closely monitor the implementation of SPLIT and other government programs related to land rights and land tenure.

In 2016, the ICCA bill was filed in the 17th Philippine Congress. Once passed, the legal system will likewise fully recognize the ICCAs and ICC/IP rights to their

ancestral domains as well as their right to maintain, protect, regulate access, and prohibit unauthorized intrusion.

With regards to agrarian reform, the need for support services should not be neglected. These services, such as post-harvest facilities, credit, irrigation, and the like, are essential in making the awarded lands productive and profitable, and thus ensuring that farmers will be able to have a secure livelihood and retain the property over the long-term.

The provision of support services is built into the agrarian reform legislation. Unfortunately, these support service programs remain severely underfunded and poorly implemented. CARP implementing agencies have varying processes, and requirements for farmers to access support services, and the mechanisms to coordinate and deliver support services are inadequate. When the service delivery function of the Department of Agriculture (DA) was devolved to Local Government Units (LGUs) under the Local Government Code, very limited funds were allocated to agriculture extension (Demaisip and Alvarez, 2021).

CONCLUDING REMARKS

This paper focused on monitoring SDG 1.4.2. However, the overall objective is to ensure tenure security for farmers, indigenous peoples and fisherfolk, in line with the SDG slogan of “Leave No One Behind.”

The basic sectors and CSOs are one with the global community in the effort to achieve the SDGs. In this undertaking, partnerships between government and non-government actors are essential.

It is therefore a major step forward that, during the October 2021 dialogue with POs and CSOs, NEDA expressed its willingness to work with the aforementioned sectors and expand stakeholder participation in the SDG monitoring and reporting processes.

It is hoped that this collaborative process will promote a broader conversation on the full meaning and significance of tenure security, and how it should be measured and attained. □

Acronyms

ADSDPP	Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development and Protection Plan
AO	Administrative Order
APIS	Annual Poverty Indicators Survey
ARBs	Agrarian reform beneficiaries
BFAR	Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
CADT	Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title
CAF	Census of Agriculture and Fisheries
CALT	Certificate of Ancestral Land Title
CARP	Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program
CARPER	Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program with Extension and Reforms
CPH	Census of Population and Housing
CSO	civil society organization
DAR	Department of Agrarian Reform
DENR	Department of Environment and Natural Resources
ENIPAS	Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System
EO	Executive Order

FAO	Fisheries Administrative Order
FIES	Family Income and Expenditures Survey
FOI	Freedom of Information
FLA	Foreshore Lease Agreement
FPIC	free, prior and informed consent
IAEG-SDGs	Inter-agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators
ICCs	indigenous cultural communities
ICCA	indigenous community conserved areas
IFHS	Integrated Farm Household Survey
IPs	indigenous peoples
IPRA	Indigenous Peoples' Rights Act of 1997
IRR	Implementing Rules and Regulations
IUU	Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing
LAD	Land and acquisition distribution
LBP	Land Bank of the Philippines
LGU	local government unit
NAMRIA	National Mapping and Resource Information Authority
NCIP	National Commission on Indigenous Peoples
NEDA	National Economic Development Authority
NIPAS	National Integrated Protected Areas System
PDP	Philippine Development Plan
PSA	Philippine Statistics Authority
PSS	Philippine Statistics System
RA	Republic Act
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
VNR	Voluntary National Review

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People's Organizations:

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- Calumangan Yusay Farmers Association (CAYFA)
- Damayan ng mga Manggagawa, Magsasaka at Mangingisda sa Bansa (DAMBBA)
- Laghit Alicante Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Association (LAARBA)
- National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC) - Farmer Sectoral Representative
- National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC) - Fisherfolk Sectoral Representative
- National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC) - Indigenous People Sectoral Representative
- Negros Occidental Federation of Farmers Association (NOFFA)
- Pambansang Kilusan ng mga Samahang Magsasaka (PAKISAMA)
- Pambansang Koalisyon ng Kababaihan sa Kanayunan (PKKK)
- Pambansang Katipunan ng mga Samahan sa Kanayunan (PKSK)

Civil Society Organizations

- Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC)
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- Center for Empowerment and Resource Development, Inc. (CERD)
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- Non-Timber Forest Products-Philippines (NTFP-Philippines)
- Oceana Philippines
- Pangangisda Natin Gawing Tama (PaNaGaT) Network

- Philippine Association For Intercultural Development (PAFID)
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