

Theme 3: Key Areas for Action

The NHRIs and NHRCs agreed with the major recommendations from the country monitoring reports. They also agreed that they should work with CSOs in order to effectively respond to the volume and complexity of land conflicts. Though they have their own ways of working, NHRIs, NHRCs, and CSOs share a commitment to pursue social justice, human rights, equality, and peace.

In order to address land conflicts, a collaborative and programmatic approach should be undertaken. At the same time, country contexts and dynamics should be considered.

Three parallel group discussions were organized. The table below summarizes and consolidates the outputs of the discussions.

Goal: Reduce land conflicts and recognize land right as s human right through enhanced partnerships among CSOs, NHRIs, and NHRCs	
Strategic objective	Key interventions
Mainstreaming of land rights as human rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formulate common advocacy statements on land rights as human rights; • Conduct educational and training programs, interactive sessions to discuss land rights as human rights; • Formulate National Action Plans on the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, with a strong land rights component.
Regular monitoring and effective response mechanisms on addressing/mitigating/reducing land conflicts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct joint CSO-NHRI-NHRC land conflict monitoring; • Maximize advances of information technology and develop tools for more timely monitoring and reporting as well for efficient response mechanism on land conflict cases; • Involve CSOs in investigation/fact-finding missions of NHRIs and NHRCs on land conflict cases; • Conduct human rights audit/due diligence of businesses.
Establishment/Enhancement of existing NHRI-NHRC-CSO mechanism/s or platform/s at national and regional levels to foster coordination and joint activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organize a learning event to promote understanding of the work of NHRIs, NHRCs, and CSOs; • Undertake joint advocacy in support of: (1) strengthening the mandates of NHRIs and NHRCs; (2) passage of legislations and implementation of programs to protect land and human rights defenders; and, (3) an increase in the budget of NHRIs, NHRCs to enable them to fulfill their mandates.

Conclusion

Throughout this Summary Report, ANGOC and CSO partners of LWA have made the case that hard, verifiable data on land conflicts are essential to evidence-based advocacy for enshrining the human right to land in development programs and interventions, if not yet, in codified laws.

However, land data are just tools, a means to an end — to push governments to act on behalf of the landless, the dispossessed, and the violated. The land conflict monitoring supports the campaign's advocacy on securing land and resource tenure of the rural poor.

The conflicts that LWA recorded in 2023 are just the tip of the iceberg. Even now, as this report is written, more conflicts have erupted and old conflicts remain unsolved. Thousands if not millions of poor people are suffering human rights violations.

A big part of advocacy work is generating public awareness. The LWA campaign shall leverage the data for greater mass media engagement.

For its part, the Chairperson on the Southeast Asia National Human Rights Institution Forum (SEANF) shall include land conflict monitoring as a major action agenda of the said Forum.

Together with governments, NHRIs, and NHRCs, CSOs must redouble our efforts to overcome the challenges that stand in the way of our ultimate goal — land and resource reform, and the kind of development that millions of rural poor deserve yet remains out of their reach.



The **Global Land Tool Network (GLTN)** is an alliance of global, regional, and national partners contributing to poverty alleviation and the Sustainable Development Goals through increased access to land and tenure security for all. The Network's partnership of organizations is drawn from the rural and urban civil society, international research and training institutions, bilateral and multilateral organizations, and international professional bodies. GLTN takes a more holistic approach on land issues and improves on global land coordination through development, dissemination and implementation of pro-poor and gender responsive land tools. These tools and approaches contribute to land reform, good land governance, inclusive land administration, sustainable land management, and functional land sector coordination.



The **United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)** helps the urban poor by transforming cities into safer, healthier, greener places with better opportunities where everyone can live in dignity. UN-Habitat works with organizations at every level, including all spheres of **UN-HABITAT** government, civil society, and the private sector to help build, manage, plan, and finance sustainable urban development. UN-Habitat envisions cities without slums that are liveable places for all, which do not pollute the environment or deplete natural resources.

This publication summarizes the discussions at the Asian regional workshop on “Monitoring of lands under conflict – incidence, drivers, and impacts” held on 26 to 27 February 2024 in Jakarta, Indonesia. Representatives of National Human Rights Institutions and Commissions and civil society organizations from Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Philippines, and Timor Leste gathered to discuss six country reports on the incidence, drivers, and impacts of land conflicts involving poor communities. An action agenda was formulated towards the goal of reducing land conflicts and violations of human rights, and for recognition of the right to land as a human right.



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