

Sustaining civil society efforts in the midst of shrinking democratic space

2022 ANGOC
ANNUAL REPORT





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 network members and partners work in 10 Asian countries together with some 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. Thus, the ANGOC network promotes land and resource rights, smallholder agriculture, and human rights and civic participation, by serving as a platform for Asian CSOs to generate knowledge, share tools, and conduct constructive policy dialogues.

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2022 ANGOC Annual Report

ANGOC Vision Statement

“Vibrant, peaceful, diverse Asian rural communities, living in harmony with nature as stewards of the earth, whose members are able to realize their full human potentials, collectively chart their path to development, provide for their present and future needs, and share equitably the fruits of their labors in community celebrations of Life”

ANGOC Mission Statement

“ANGOC network shall advocate and promote land and resource rights, smallholder agriculture, and human rights and civic participation, by serving as a platform for Asian CSOs to generate knowledge, share tools, and conduct constructive policy dialogues.”

ANGOC Goal Statement

For 2021 to 2025, ANGOC as a resource center shall: a) advocate for land and resource rights of the rural poor; b) promote smallholder agriculture towards sustainable food systems and livelihoods; and, c) collaborate with other like-minded groups and individuals towards the protection of civic and democratic spaces through a broad platform of Asian CSOs, communities, and individuals that challenges the development agenda, reforms institutions, and fosters the exchange of critical lessons, tools and approaches towards food sovereignty, equitable land and resource rights, effective and responsible governance, and sustainable livelihoods.

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Message of Chairperson, Vice-Chairpersons, and Executive Director

Overshadowed by the COVID-19 pandemic is another sinister threat hanging over democracy and civic space. In recent years, populist and strongman rule have taken over governments around the world. First to go in these instances is tolerance for dissent and perceived “left-leaning thinking.” The result is that civil society, already saddled with shrinking financial support, has been struggling to keep initiatives afloat.

Shrinking civic spaces and threats to civil society communities are on the rise in Asia. The Philippines, Cambodia, and India are firmly in the grip of anti-democratic regimes, while democratic forces in Thailand and Indonesia are in a relentless tug-of-war with populist and intolerant forces. The government of Myanmar is unabashedly totalitarian.

While successive governments in the Philippines from post-EDSA revolution have shown mostly tolerance to civil society organizations (CSOs), the current and immediately preceding regimes have pushed for more restrictive laws on CSO operations. Governments of Thailand and Cambodia are doing the same.

On the other hand, while poverty, environmental degradation, and social injustice still exist, the development landscape has dramatically changed with the exponential growth of digital technology. Adding to these crises, the socio-economic-cultural repercussions of COVID-19 and the negative impacts

of climate change, necessitate a deep reflection among CSOs on the challenges they face and the directions they need to take in order to still remain relevant.

It is in this context that one of the two main highlights of ANGOC’s work in 2022, apart from the Network’s 16th General Assembly, is a program on protecting and strengthening civic and democratic space.

Convened on 29 June 2022, the General Assembly discussed and approved the network’s institutional reports from 2018 to 2021. The Members likewise mandated the Regional Secretariat to pursue ANGOC’s Strategic Action Plan through its work program for 2022 to 2023. A new set of Board of Trustees would be guiding the Network in the next three years.

In relation to the program on broadening the civic and democratic space, ANGOC has been advocating and promoting human rights and civic participation. For 2022, two major initiatives were undertaken to spearhead such program.

The first set of interventions is the conduct of a seven-country assessment study on the legal, regulatory, policy, financial, and political environment affecting civil society and CSOs in Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Nepal, the Philippines, and Sri Lanka.



The ANGOC network continues to be resilient in the midst of immense challenges in a post-pandemic world and threats to democracy and civil society, and continues to work for its goal of advancing land rights for smallholder farmers, indigenous peoples, and other disadvantaged members of society in Asia.

Dewi Kartika
Chairperson

Aneesh Kumar Thillenkery
Vice Chairperson
(South Asia)

Nhek Sarin
Vice Chairperson
(Southeast Asia)

Nathaniel Don Marquez
Executive Director

The second initiative is a structured reflection process in the emerging challenges and strategic direction of Asian CSOs. A series of in-country focus group discussions among first and second generation of CSO workers were organized to understand the current and emerging issues impacting on the relevance of the CSO sector in seven Asian countries.

Finally, ANGOC continued its advocacy and capacity enhancement interventions through sharing and dissemination of strategic land rights studies in global and regional events.

ANGOC's contribution in ensuring and defending land and resource rights

One of the keys to ending poverty is ensuring that the poor and vulnerable sectors of society have secure land tenure and access to natural resources and basic services. Given that the United Nations has clearly articulated in the Social Development Goals (SDGs) "to end poverty in all its forms," (Target 1.4), it is imperative to mainstream land rights in the global development agenda in order to defeat poverty and social exclusion.

Unfortunately, landless rural households are prevalent in Asia and land reforms, if any, have yet to be fully implemented or have been reversed. Policies and mechanisms that give weight to the recognition and support of the rights of indigenous people are weak. Women still do not enjoy the same rights to land as men, especially in South Asia – even if these are enshrined in their countries' Constitutions. Massive land grabs in Asia continue to fuel the global rush for land, leading to rampant and sometimes deadly conflicts.

This seemingly unjust and highly volatile situation has led the ANGOC network and Land Watch Asia (LWA) campaign to advocate for transformative and effective land and resource policies and programs for marginalized rural communities to have enhanced control or access to land and natural resources. ANGOC has continuously implemented several studies and capacity-enhancement initiatives toward this end.

CSO Report in SDG Target 1.4

The land agenda still does not figure prominently in recent SDG reporting processes of governments, despite land ownership and control being included under SDG Target 1.4. In fact, many States do not report on land in their SDG Country Reports and Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs).

To help manage this huge gap in information, CSO reports on SDG 1.4.2¹, were prepared for Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Nepal, and the Philippines.

According to the reports, there were varying indicators and methodologies for reporting on SDG 1.4.2 among the countries studied.

For Bangladesh, the metadata related to indicators 1.4.1 and 1.4.2 in the 2017 VNR are not yet finalized. There was no mention of indicator 1.4.2 in the 2019 VNR. Cambodia does not have indicator 1.4.2 in its current list of SDG indicators.

Indonesia also does not have specific data on indicator 1.4.2, but it does have a proxy indicator on the use of land for housing and shelter. Its 2020 VNR has one paragraph on the status of housing under SDG 1, and also mentions "secure

¹SDG Indicator 1.4.2 refers to 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.

tenure rights to land through the implementation of agrarian reform and social forestry” as one of the 11 policy responses in social protection reform aimed at eliminating extreme poverty by 2024.

In Kyrgyzstan, indicator 1.4.2 is measured based on the definition contained in the State reporting form No. 22 *“On the availability of land in the Kyrgyz Republic and their distribution by categories, owners, land users and lands”*.

The proxy indicator used by the Government of Nepal for 1.4.2. is: *“Proportion of total adult population with secure tenure rights to land [as shown by]: a) Share of bottom quintile in national consumption [%]; and, b) Households having properly/tangible assets in women’s name [% of total]”*.

The Philippines also uses a proxy indicator for SDG 1.4.2, which is *“Proportion of families which own house and lot or owner-like possession of house and lot”*.

While there are existing mechanisms for constructive engagement with CSOs in most of the countries studied, it is quite limited to participation in consultation-workshops for the preparation of VNR’s and membership in SDG-related consultative bodies, as in the case of Cambodia and Nepal.

None of the countries collect or report perception data on tenure rights. However, CSOs have conducted community-level discussions and interviews, which have yielded interesting insights on local perception of security of land tenure.

The challenges faced by CSOs in pursuing land rights in the SDGs, particularly in SDG 1.4, necessitates a major intervention in the formulation and effective implementation of policies and programs in order to secure and protect the land rights of the rural poor. As indicated in the country reports, CSOs shall continue their efforts for policy agenda and reforms and recognize that an increased and sustained civil society participation in governance is needed to effect meaningful changes. Scaling-up research in aid of advocacy efforts and effective sharing of knowledge and lessons are some of the initiatives implemented by CSOs towards this end.

The findings and recommendations from the CSO reports on the implementation of SDG 1.4 in their respective countries were presented and served as inputs to the Global Land Indicators Initiative (GLII).

Land Conflict Monitoring

ANGOC and its partners in the Land Watch Asia (LWA) campaign enhanced its land conflict monitoring methodology used in preparing land conflict reports in six Asian countries, namely: Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Nepal and the Philippines. The report, which was initially released in 2018 and updated every two years thereafter, seeks to understand the nature, drivers, and impacts of land conflicts; document instances of human rights violations against communities and land rights defenders; and, provide recommendations to address the roots of land conflict anchored on a fundamental shift in development thinking.



Working on the premise that land rights are human rights, the report is grounded on the responsibilities of governments, National Human Rights Institutions/Commissions, and the private sector as duty-bearers in ensuring that local communities of small farmers and indigenous peoples are not deprived of their right to land.

The report was shared in several events during the Global Land Forum as organized by the International Land Coalition (ILC).

At the country level, partners pursue their national campaigns towards land and resource rights.

Bangladesh

The Association for Land Reform and Rural Development (ALRD) has constantly engaged governments in policy

dialogues on land governance and *khas* (State) land, women's land rights, water rights, land rights of religious minorities, rights of indigenous peoples and excluded communities (in the Chittagong Hill Tracts area). In addition to these efforts, ALRD is also working to spark the youth's interest in farming – since Bangladesh has a predominantly young population – through its land and youth empowerment initiative.

The Community Development Association (CDA), another ANGOC partner in Bangladesh, has been ensuring and protecting the marginalized sector's rights to *khas* land, sharecropper, water, forestry, vested properties, and common lands.

India

Ekta Parishad has been actively campaigning for the full implementation of the Forest Rights Act of 2006 (FRA), and push the government to pursue a progressive land reform agenda. Among the actions taken to this end is a 350-kilometer march (*Janadesh*) from Gwailor to Delhi, and the formation of a *South Indian Forum for Access to Land and Livelihood Resources*, which will serve as a platform for various networks in India promoting mutual solidarity, legal, and advocacy support to the local land and resource struggles.

Nepal

The Community Self Reliance Centre (CSRC), along with other CSOs, has been closely working with 14 local government units in Nepal for the Identification, Verification, and Recording (IVR) of landless and informal settlers through the

data management system at local government, community consultation, and mobilization of technical experts for designing, verifying and recording of landless and informal settlers. CSRC has also strengthened the capacity of landless and informal settlers and provided them legal and political orientation on land and agrarian issues to aid in the implementation of the IVR processes at local level.

Landless and land-poor families (945 in total to-date) were also organized into cooperatives to help improve their livelihood.

Philippines

The Philippine Partnership for the Development of Human Resources in Rural Areas (PhilDHRRA) has members facilitating distribution, and acquisition of land tenure instruments for landless farmers and indigenous peoples (IPs).

The Center for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (CARRD) has assisted 399 farmer leaders representing 3,139 agrarian reform beneficiaries (ARBs) in mobilization and negotiation to resolve claims.

The Philippine Association for Intercultural Development (PAFID) has continuously been assisting IPs and landless farmers for accurate mapping activities in support of their tenorial claims.

On the other hand, ANGOC continues to promote inclusive, gender-responsive and fit-for-purpose land tools and approaches to improve land and natural resources tenure

security of smallholder farmers, particularly women and youth in the Philippines – under the initiative, *“Consolidating the Application of Innovative Land Tools for Promoting the Land Rights of Smallholder Farmers in the Philippines,”* supported by the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN). The application of land tools have led to an increased perception of tenure security by the indigenous groups particularly through the issuance of over 3,000 Certificates of Customary Land Occupancy. For 2022, ANGOC in partnership with the Xavier Science Foundation, Inc. (XSF) focused on: (a) consolidating the gains of documenting rights of IP communities, and (b) promoting land rights initiative.





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Among the activities undertaken contributed to enriching the knowledge on land issues and interventions towards enhancing tenurial and food security include:

- Organizing learning sessions for IP organizations in Northern Mindanao to share the Secure Access to Land and Resources (SALaR) experience;
- Updating the Social Tenure Domain Model (STDM) which served as a tool to record land tenure data of the indigenous people in the project site;
- Re-documentation of Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title (CADT) applications of the two indigenous partner organizations (NAMAMAYUK and PTTA) based on new guidelines of the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP);

- Reprinting and sharing of the various policy briefs and learning materials during learning workshops and local events; and,
- Conducting policy discussions with the Regional Land Use Committee (Region X) and its member-government agencies.

In order to increase awareness among smallholder farmers on pressing land issues, the following activities were conducted:

- Organization of the *“Land and Resource Agenda in the Ferdinand Marcos Jr. Administration: Exchange Workshop Among the Basic Sectors”* last 23 August 2022 which was participated by 16 leaders (8 females, 8 males) representing national networks of farmers, fisherfolk and indigenous peoples. This event facilitated the sharing of the basic sectors’ respective priority issues on land and resource, and the challenges faced in engaging the new administration;
- Organization of the forum on *“Youth and Land – A Summit for Young Defenders towards Responsive Tenure Security”* last 16 December 2022 were some 39 young leaders representing the 21 barangays (villages) within the Mt. Kalatungan landscape exchanged views on the role of youth in resource governance;
- Engaging the government through the Stakeholder Chamber on SDGs hosted by the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA). ANGOC, as a member of the said mechanism contributing in developing its three-year roadmap; and,
- Finalization of the 2021 Philippine Land and Resource Conflict Monitoring Report. On 11 April 2022, ANGOC organized an online roundtable discussion with 21 CSO

representatives (9 females, 12 males) working with farmers, indigenous peoples, and fisherfolk to present the main findings and initial recommendations of the 2021 Land and Resource Conflict Monitoring Report. The report was eventually submitted to the Commission on Human Rights (CHR).

LandMonitor Report

ANGOC is the lead partner of the LandMonitor project for the Philippines. The initiative, co-led by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the International Land Coalition (ILC), responds to a persistent and well-documented lack of national-level data and reporting on land tenure. This initiative: a) reviewed the existing status of reporting of SDG 1.4.2 by the Philippine Government; b) promoted broader discussion among basic sectors and CSOs on their understanding of land tenure security; and, c) generated ideas on how to initiate the reporting on the larger dimensions of land tenure security in the Philippine VNR, including the need for developing Philippine SDG indicators in line with SDG 1.4.2.

The LandMonitor Report was presented during the IFAD-Philippines Annual Country Programme Review (APCoR) *“Revisiting the past, sharing lessons, strategizing for the future”* last 14-15 December 2022 at Waterfront Insular Hotel, Davao City, Philippines. The event engaged around 40 representatives (21 women, 19 males) from government agencies (19), civil society organizations (8) and IFAD Philippine Country Office.

Affirming the findings and recommendations, the participants reinforced the importance of land tenure security in the country’s context that IFAD should consider in its operations in the Philippines. In particular, it was proposed to include activities related to strengthening the land and resource tenure security of small farmers, fisherfolk and indigenous peoples.



ANGOC's contribution to enhancing smallholder agriculture towards sustainable food systems and livelihoods

Asia is home to 75 percent of the world's farming households, 80 percent of whom are small-scale farmers and producers. Small-scale Asian farmers feed the world, yet they belong to the poorest, most vulnerable, and most food insecure segments of their countries' populations.

At the same time, smallholder farms in the Asian region are particularly vulnerable to more frequent extreme weather events, experiencing the highest frequency and magnitude of extreme weather events. Around 72 percent of the total frequency of intense natural disasters have been recorded in Asia and Pacific in 1971 to 2010 (Thomas, et al., 2013).

Hence, the ANGOC network strives to build communities of practitioners sharing and disseminating new information, technologies, and best practices in relation to smallholder agriculture and food sovereignty.

At the regional level, the ANGOC network continues to promote smallholder agriculture for food security and sovereignty, and raise consciousness on the link of land tenure and climate change to a wider audience.

World Food Day

The theme for ANGOC's World Food Day in 2022 is "Small producers lead the way to a better production, nutrition, environment, and a better life for all."

Despite global initiatives being implemented to "build a better world," the poor and vulnerable are still left behind in terms of human development, innovation, and economic growth. Effects of COVID-19, climate change, and international conflicts have further worsened the situation of the small and rural producers and impeded their efforts to bring food to the rest of the population. Thus, supporting small producers, especially in these challenging times, is key to ensuring better nutrition for all people.

Land tenure, land use, and climate change

Those without secure land tenure are most vulnerable to the dire effects of climate change and natural disasters. Unfortunately, tenure issues rarely come up in discussions related to climate change. Thus, ANGOC prepared a paper that sought to analyze the relationship of tenure, land use, and climate change based on experiences of rural communities in Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Nepal and the Philippines.

ANGOC and the Global Forum on Agricultural Research and Innovation (GFAR) organized a webinar on "Understanding the links of land tenure, vulnerability, and climate-led disasters" on 14 July 2022 wherein the highlights of the discussion paper were further shared, and discussed possible follow-up actions in support of the recommendations outlined in the study.

At the country level, ANGOC member's initiatives have contributed to the network's thematic program on Smallholder Agriculture towards Sustainable Food Systems and Livelihoods.

Bangladesh

The increasing trend of land grabbing and acquisition by both private and government sectors poses a serious threat to smallholders in Bangladesh. Farmers' access to land for their food and livelihoods are severely impacted by river erosion, climate change impact, infrastructure, and industrial expansion. This leads to more migration into cities, which in turn produces more problems because no law exists to enable such migrants access to public land like *khas* and other abandoned lands.

To ensure that small farmers have access to land, along with support services such as technology, credit, access to markets, information, among others, ALRD and CDA have been continuously advocating for the passage of the proposed National Land Use Policy.

China

The China Association for NGO Cooperation (CANGO) has been promoting sound and sustainable development of agriculture and livelihoods of local farmers through their programs on: a) reserve seed conservation, and b) sharing of best practices on climate change adaptation initiatives in among different regions in China and between China and a number of Southeast Asian countries.

India

The Association of Voluntary Agencies for Rural Development (AVARD) supports the smallholder farmers and farmers' organizations on access to credits, infrastructure, and farming inputs.

The South Asia Rural Reconstruction Association (SARRA), on the other hand, engages professionals, corporations, and academe on concerns related to soil, crops, livestock, and environmental protection.

Philippines

Among the ongoing initiatives of the PhilDHRRA include assistance to farming communities for organic farming, improvement of soil fertility, alternative pest management, animal husbandry, and poultry integration.

PhilDHRRA also assists smallholder farmers in diversifying their produce to include organic rice, muscovado sugar, and in processing surplus harvests into other value-added products. The network is also heavily involved in the implementation of coastal and natural resources management programs.

ANGOC's contribution to protecting civic and democratic spaces

Basic and universal human rights, as defined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of the United Nations, is the fundamental premise of people-centered development. However, there has been an increase in State militarization and aggressive policing, government crackdowns on dissent and free speech in recent years.

Asian governments are no exception to this trend, and this is quite disturbing since many CSOs work on human rights, land rights, and rural development in agricultural areas where majority of their people reside.

In order to shed more light on the phenomenon of shrinking civic space, particularly in Asia, ANGOC spearheaded two regional studies in 2022: a) an assessment of the legal and political environment of CSOs, and b) emerging challenges and responses of Asian CSOs. Partner-countries involved in the studies include Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Philippines, and Sri Lanka.

The more salient points of shrinking civic space in the seven countries studies are as follows:

Bangladesh

Threats to CSO initiatives in Bangladesh are not new, given that the country is mostly under military rule. However, threats to CSOs are not necessarily coming from State agents. The

role of civil society in the country's development, mostly in the rural areas, is widely accepted, especially for raising political awareness, lobbying for political change, and humanitarian relief.

The important role that CSOs play as a pressure group and watchdog for democracy is also widely acknowledged in Bangladesh. However, this role sometimes clashes with anti-democratic ideals and initiatives, which leads to tensions and sometimes violent actions against CSO advocates.

CSOs thus need to strengthen their internal governance mechanisms and structures in order to maintain their strong watchdog stature in the eyes of the public. Building a strong coalition of CSOs within the country and forging strong ties with the international CSO community can also help shield Bangladesh NGOs from threats.

Cambodia

Since 2015, new laws regulating NGOs, trade unions and political parties, have had a chilling effect on Cambodia's civil society. Criminal charges have been levelled against human rights defenders, labor activists, and even opposition politicians, which sometimes led to imprisonment. The escalation in restrictions on fundamental freedoms even led to the closure of independent media outlets.

India

Control over NGOs in India is institutional, ever since the enactment of the Foreign Contribution Act (FCRA) in 1976, by the government of then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. The FCRA, which seeks to regulate NGO by making them accountable for foreign funds in order “to stop misappropriation of foreign funds for political purposes,” required NGOs to file annual reports with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs – even if they did not receive any funding for the year. The law adversely affected NGO activities since its stringent reporting requirements imposed by the government effectively limited access to foreign funding.

The law was revised in 2010 during the administration of then Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. The FCRA was amended to require NGOs to renew their registration every five years, wherein previously registration was perpetual. This requirement effectively grants government control on which NGOs will be allowed to operate in India.

Indonesia

Threats to NGO activities in Indonesia does not primarily come from the government, as freedom of expression in Indonesia is better than during the “New Order” era. However, there is a new threat in the form of “buzzers,” digital whistleblowers who monitor anti-government activities and demonize civil society activists, especially those involved in agrarian conflicts.



Nepal

In Nepal, civil society organizations act as the bridge between international development entities and government agencies. Thus, it is widely accepted that each play a different yet complementary role in the country’s development. As such, government repression of NGOs in Nepal are more of control rather than monitoring. Government treatment of NGOs varies from time to time, and there are some NGOs that receive better treatment from the government. Government control over NGOs are usually through registration requirements and processes, access to funds, and freedom to implement programs and projects in the field.

Philippines

After the People Power revolution of 1986, CSOs have enjoyed mostly government support for the next 30 years. When Rodrigo Duterte came to power in 2016, he plunged the country into a new era of populist-authoritarian rule, which severely affected CSOs. Those who were deemed critical of the administration were even branded as “leftist” organizations.

The enactment of the Anti-Terrorism Act in 2020, along with the issuance of Executive Order 70 creating the National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (NTF-ELCAC) gave extreme elements in government and the military a powerful legal framework for their “anti-insurgency” initiatives.

Unless repealed, these instruments will continue to define how anti-insurgency operations will be conducted for years to come and the “mindset” underlying these laws will continue to influence the conduct of law enforcement and military.

Activists and critical elements from the media have always been under some level of threat even during “supportive” administrations, but the Duterte regime made the situation significantly more dangerous because of the former president’s confrontational style and dependence of military solutions to the country’s problems.

Sri Lanka

While NGOs in Sri Lanka that focus on development and social welfare projects are generally left alone by the government, those that are into human rights, peace, empowerment –

mainly operating in the northern and eastern parts of the country – were subjected to more scrutiny.

The aftermath of the Easter Sunday attacks of 2019 saw more surveillance operations being undertaken by State agents, effectively curtailing citizens’ rights and freedoms and NGO efforts.



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Institutional Updates

Convened last 29 June 2022, the 16th ANGOC General Assembly discussed, reviewed and ratified the network's work program from 2019 to 2021. The members likewise discussed and approved the regional work plan and indicative budget for 2022 to 2023, as well as elected the Board of Trustees. To facilitate the conduct of the Assembly, two preparatory meetings provided an opportunity for members to reflect on how the ANGOC Strategic Action Plan (ASAP) for 2021 to 2025 can effectively implemented drawing from the diverse expertise and outreach, both of the membership and outside the network.

The following decisions and corresponding actions were thus undertaken:

- Ratified the minutes of 15th ANGOC General Assembly and approved the annotation of minutes of 15th ANGOC GA and action taken.
- The members unanimously approved the triennial report for operations covering the period 2019 to 2021 and ratified the 2019 and 2020 ANGOC Annual Reports.
- The 2021 ANGOC Annual Report was finalized based on inputs from members.
- The members unanimously approved the financial updates covering the period 2020 to 2021.
- The members unanimously approved the work plan and budget for 2022 to 2024.
- The members unanimously elected a new set of Board of Trustees for 2022 to 2025: a) Chairperson: Dewi Kartika, KPA; b) Vice Chairperson for South Asia: Aneesh Thillenkery, EP; c) Vice Chairperson for Southeast Asia: Nhek Sarin, SK; d) Treasurer: Marie Joy Demaluan, PhilDHRRA; and, e) Secretary: Rowshan Jahan Moni, ALRD.
- The members unanimously passed a resolution to thank the outgoing Board of Trustees (BoT).

Knowledge Products

For 2022, ANGOC and partners have developed and continue to disseminate these 27 knowledge products:

Published papers/studies

Papers/Studies

Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC). (Ed.) (2022). *Future Challenges for CSOs: Conversations with Two Generations of CSO Workers in Asia*. ANGOC.

Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC). (Ed.) (2022). *Shrinking Civic Space: The legal and political environment for CSOs in seven Asian countries*.

Community Self Reliance Centre (CSRC). (2022). *CSO Assessment Study: Legal and Political Environment for Developmental/Rural Development NGOs in Nepal*. [Paper prepared by CSRC of Nepal for the project, "Study on Legal and Political Environment for CSOs in Asia" implemented by the Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC) and supported by the Fair Finance Asia (FFA) through the Initiatives for Dialogue and Empowerment through Alternative Legal Services (IDEALS)].

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Calendar of Major Activities

JANUARY

19 - Partnership for Development Assistance in the Philippines Inc. (PDAP) Board of Trustees Meeting, *Online*

24 - Convergence group meeting update, *Online*

FEBRUARY

9-10 - Asia-Pacific Regional Consultation in Preparation for CSW6: Achieving Equality and the Assessment of all Women and Girls in the Context of Climate Change, *Online*

14 - ANGOC's 43rd Anniversary

22 - Asia-Pacific Regional Consultation FAO Country Consultation for the Philippines, *Online*

MARCH

8-11 - 36th FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific, *Online*

17 - IFAD Philippines COSOP Review Stakeholders' Meeting, *Online*

22-24 - Asia-Pacific Rural Development and Food Security Forum 2022, *Online*

28 - Safe Space Session for HRDs & CSOs: 28 March, UN South Asia Forum on Business and Human Right, *Online*

28-30 - Third South Asia Forum on Business and Human Rights, *Online*

APRIL

7 - Philippines SDG Stakeholders' Chamber Pledge of Commitment Ceremony, *Online*

7 - CIRDAP Execom Meeting, *Online*

8 - ANGOC-ILC-PBSP Business and Human Rights Learning Event Part 1, *Online*

11 - Focus group discussion on 2021 Philippines Land and Resource Conflict Monitoring Report, *Online*

28 - Consultation for Asia and the Pacific on Sustainable Development and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, *Online*

MAY

9 - GLTN Steering Committee Meeting, *Online*

16 - Planning Meeting with Country Writers on Legal and Political Environmental for CSOs in Asia, *Online*

19 - GFAR Steering Committee Meeting, *Online*

26-27 - Regional workshop on Innovations in Land Governance: Pathways Towards Disaster Resilience and Pandemic Recovery, *Online*

26-31 - 2022 ILC Global Land Forum, *Dead Sea, Jordan*

JUNE

1 - Philippines SDG Stakeholders' Chamber Quarterly Meeting, *Astoria Plaza, Quezon City, Philippines*

3 - ANGOC-ILC-PBSP Business and Human Rights Learning Event Part 2, *Online*

8 - First Preparatory Meeting for ANGOC 16th General Assembly, *Online*

22 - Second Preparatory Meeting for ANGOC 16th General Assembly, *Online*

24 - Meeting with Country Writers on Legal and Political Environmental for CSOs in Asia, *Online*

29 - ANGOC 16th General Assembly, *Online*

JULY

8 - Online Meeting with Country Writers on Legal and Political Environmental for CSOs in Asia, *Online*

11 - Making Women's Land Rights a Reality in the 2030 SDG Agenda: A side event in conjunction during the High Level Political Forum, *Online*

12 - Regional Exchange on the Emerging Challenges and Strategic Direction of CSOs in Asia, *Online*

14 - Webinar on Understanding the Links: Land Tenure, Vulnerability, and Climate-led Disasters, *Online*

21 - Focus Group Discussion among Second Generation of CSO Workers on Challenges and Responses of CSOs in the Philippines, *Online*

22 - Online Meeting with Country Writers on Legal and Political Environmental for CSOs in Asia, *Online*

28 - Focus Group Discussion among First Generation of CSO Workers on Challenges and Responses of CSOs in the Philippines, *Online*

AUGUST

3 - Philippines SDG Stakeholders' Chamber Quarterly Meeting, *Astoria Plaza, Quezon City, Philippines*

12 - 34th PDAP Annual Membership Meeting, *Online*

23 - Land and Resource Agenda in the Marcos Administration: Exchange Workshop among the Basic Sectors, *Verjandel Hotel, Quezon City, Philippines*

SEPTEMBER

2 - Online Meeting with Country Writers on Legal and Political Environmental for CSOs in Asia, *Online*

5-6 - Global Land Tool Network Partners' Land Tools Review Workshop, *GLTN Headquarters, Nairobi, Kenya*

5-6 - GLTN Steering Committee Meeting, *GLTN Headquarters, Nairobi, Kenya*

6 - Regional Data Consultation - building ILC Asia regional data package, *Online*

7 - GLTN Sustainability Workshop, *GLTN Headquarters, Nairobi, Kenya*

7 - GLTN Rural CSO Cluster Meeting, *GLTN Headquarters, Nairobi, Kenya*

26-28 - 12th Working TOGETHER Meeting, We Effect, *Park Inn, Bacolod City, Philippines*

29-01 October - ECCR Learning, Assessment and Planning Session, We Effect, *Park Inn, Bacolod City, Philippines*

OCTOBER

5-6 - Regional Workshop on Farmers' Rights, *Verjandel Hotel, Quezon City, Philippines*

13 - GFAR Steering Committee, *Online*

16 - World Food Day

19-21 - Fourth ICCA Southeast Asia Regional Assembly, *Karen Eco Lodge, Chiangmai, Thailand*

NOVEMBER

9 - GLTN Rural CSO Cluster Meeting, *Online*

16 - Focus Group Discussion: Women, Land Tenure and SDGs, *Online*

17 - Safeguard Policy Architecture and Policy Directions: In-Country Consultation with Civil Society Organizations, *ADB Headquarters, Mandaluyong City, Philippines*

22-23 - SDG Summit: Ambisyon Natin 2040, *Astoria, Pasig City, Philippines*

25 - Focus Group Discussion: Basic Sectors and SDGs, *Online*

29-30 - GLTN Network Partners' Country Learning Exchange Webinar, *Online*

DECEMBER

1 - Philippines SDG Stakeholders' Chamber Quarterly Meeting, *Astoria Plaza, Quezon City, Philippines*

1 - KLMPE in Retrospect: Reflect, Sustain and Improve, *Online*

2 - Validation Workshop: LandMonitor Report, *Online*

6-9 - 2022 Fair Finance Asia General Assembly (GA), *Crowne Plaza Bangkok, Thailand*

7 - Roundtable Discussion on Climate Change, the Environment, and Human Rights, *Online*

7-8 - Global Land Indicators Initiative (GLII) @ 10 (2012-2022) Partners and Stakeholders' Meeting, *Online*

12 - Regional Learning Exchange on Securing Land Rights of Smallholder Farmers: The Secure Access to Land and Resources (SALaR) Project Experience, *Online*

12 - How can the Philippines ensure economic growth while respecting human rights?: A panel during the seminar on Business and Human Rights – Challenges and Opportunities, *UAP, Quezon City, Philippines*

14-15 - Philippines Annual Country Programme and COSOP Completion Review, *Waterfront Hotel, Davao City, Philippines*

15 - Conflict Resolution in Ancestral Domain: A Knowledge Sharing for Secure Access to Land and Resources, *Hotel de Susana, Valencia City, Bukidnon, Philippines*

15 - GFAR Steering Committee Meeting, *Online*

16 - Youth and Land: A Summit for Young Defenders towards Responsive Tenure Security *Hotel de Susana, Valencia City, Bukidnon, Philippines*

16 - GLTN Steering Committee Meeting, *Online*

Members

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Cambodia

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China Association for NGO Cooperation (CANGO)

India

Association of Voluntary Agencies for Rural Development (AVARD)
Ekta Parishad (EP)
Gandhi Peace Foundation (GPF)
South Asia Rural Reconstruction Association (SARRA)

Indonesia

Bina Desa
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Nepal

Community Self Reliance Centre (CSRC)
NGO Federation of Nepal (NFN)

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Philippine Partnership for the Development of Human Resources in Rural Areas (PhilDHRRA)

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