

2024 ANGOC ANNUAL REPORT

# Enhancing capacities and forging partnerships for a stronger and sustained land rights campaign



ISSN: 3082-2564





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 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.

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A detailed illustration of a rural landscape. In the background, there are several snow-capped mountains under a blue sky with white clouds. In the middle ground, there are rolling green hills with a wooden barn on the left and a person working in a field. In the foreground, there are various scenes of rural life: a woman feeding a water buffalo, a man with a basket, a woman with a bowl, a man and woman shaking hands, a woman sitting with chickens, and a man with a bowl. The entire scene is rendered in a soft, illustrative style with a light green and yellow color palette.

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forging partnerships for a stronger  
and sustained land rights campaign**



**DRAFT**



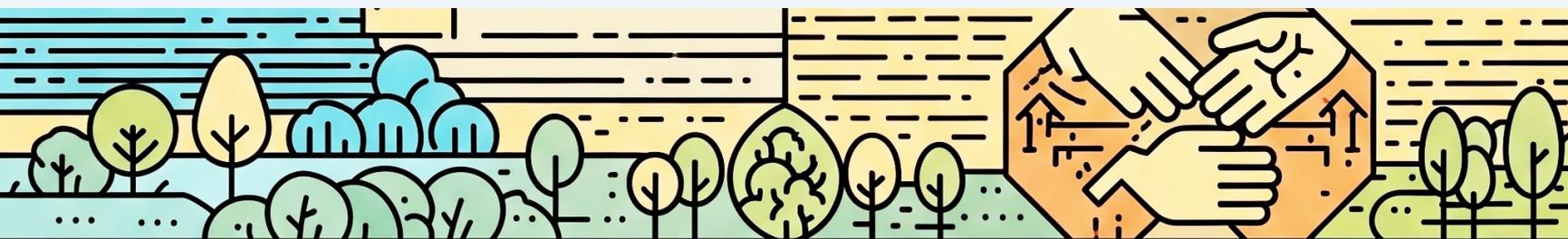
Production team: Nathaniel Don Marquez, Gerard Jerome Dumlao, Marianne Jane Naungayan, Joseph Onesa, Lennie Rose Cahusay

Layout and design: Joseph Onesa

Cover design: OpenAI (2025), Gemini June 30, 2025 version

Citation:

Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC). (2025). *2024 ANGOC Annual Report: Enhancing capacities and forging partnerships for a stronger and sustained land rights campaign*. ANGOC.



## 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

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.

## Table of contents

ANGOC Vision-Mission-Goal	5
Message from Chairperson, Vice Chairpersons, and Executive Director	7
ANGOC's contribution in ensuring and defending land and resource rights	10
ANGOC's contribution to enhancing smallholder agriculture towards sustainable food systems and livelihoods	29
ANGOC's contribution to protecting civic and democratic spaces	37
Institutional Updates	38
2024 Knowledge Products	39
2024 Calendar of Major Activities	48
Board of Trustees	55
Members	56



## Message from Chairperson, Vice-Chairpersons, and Executive Director

Despite transforming economies and growing urbanization, Asia is still largely agricultural and most of the region's poverty is in its rural communities.

Thus, the ANGOC network is still largely focused on improving land rights of Asia's farmers, indigenous peoples, and fisherfolk, and rural women.

The year 2024 saw several initiatives undertaken by the network and its members towards advancing land rights, enhancing land dispute and conflict monitoring, actively engaging land rights networks and government partners, and forging alliances with supporters.

ANGOC convened a regional workshop on land conflict monitoring in February. Held in Jakarta, Indonesia, the workshop brought together 59 representatives from civil society organizations (CSOs), National Human Rights Institutions and Commissions (NHRI/Cs), government agency representatives, international non-government organizations (INGOs), and media entities. Land conflict monitoring reports from six Asian countries were presented during the event, which aimed to: (a) find trends and patterns on land conflicts; (b) bring public attention and a systematic response to conflict cases; and, (c) raise questions, increase public awareness and discussion, and evoke public policy responses to such conflicts. The network also presented the key findings and recommendations of the 2023 land conflict monitoring reports during the Second Technical Working Group meeting of the Southeast Asia National Human Rights Institution Forum (SEANF).

In terms of land disputes, ANGOC conducted a workshop wherein seven case studies on land dispute management were presented by CSOs based in Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Nepal, and Philippines. The cases were packaged into a publication which will help in building awareness and strengthening advocacy for people-centered resolution of land disputes.



To further strengthen partnerships for land tenure security advocacy, the ANGOC network engaged the Asian Development Bank (ADB) Resident Mission Offices in Nepal and the Philippines via the preparation of land tenure security discussion papers.

In relation to smallholder agriculture towards sustainable food systems and livelihoods, the ANGOC network advocated for collective action to strengthen the global food system by supporting producers through the commemoration of World Food Day, participated in the process of updating the Philippine Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan, and conducted learning events among men and women farmers, indigenous peoples, and fisherfolk to enhance awareness on the connection of land rights with climate actions.

In 2024, ANGOC's contributions to protecting civic and democratic spaces were in the form of enhancing partnerships with like-minded networks to support indigenous, land, and environmental defenders to further their advocacy in the Conference of Parties and other global mechanisms.

In the Philippines, the network continuously works with the Commission on Human Rights to lobby for the Human Rights Defender (HRD) Protection Law.

ANGOC celebrated 46 years in 2024. In February, the 36th ANGOC Board of Trustees meeting was held in Jakarta, Indonesia – the first face-to-face meeting since the COVID 19 pandemic.

In June, ANGOC received the 2024 Award of the Aziz-UI Haq Rural Development Medal during the Governing Council Meeting of the Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP). The award is given for outstanding achievements and contributions to integrated rural development for improving livelihoods.



2024 saw ANGOC members and its partners develop and disseminate 46 knowledge products, in the form of regional and national workshop summary reports; information, educational, and communication materials; a video; a poster; published books; academic and research papers; a declaration; and an annual report.

ANGOC continues to be relevant in the struggle for land rights, food security, and improving the lives of rural communities, and the networks plans and projects reflect the network's thrust in the years to come.

Dewi Kartika  
Chairperson

Aneesh Thillenkery  
Vice Chair for South Asia

Nhek Sarin  
Vice Chair for Southeast Asia

Nathaniel Don Marquez  
Executive Director



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

The biggest continent in the world is home to about 60 percent of the world's population. Asia is characterized by transforming economies and growing urbanization. While agriculture is no longer the region's main engine of growth, yet most of the poverty in Asia remains largely rural. Asia has the world's largest rural population, and agriculture remains essential as it continues to be a major source of livelihood and the key to reducing poverty.

**Thus, it is imperative to address issues related to land rights** as land brings a source of livelihood and survival, an increased sense of human dignity and security, gender equality, an increased level of resilience, and the opportunity to break out of one's poverty. For indigenous people communities, the right to land carries the right to self-determination, cultural integrity, and autonomy. For communities and society, access to land is a necessary first step to reduce unemployment and poverty, reduce social tensions and conflicts over resources, increase productivity to ensure food security, achieve sustainable management of lands, and improve overall peace for greater economic and political stability. Not only does agrarian reform bring direct relief to rural poverty; its democratizing effects also enable other pro-poor reforms to work more efficiently.

At the same time, land conflicts in Asia have been increasing in coverage and intensity. Many of these conflicts lead to physical, psychological, economic, and violence against women (VAW). Land rights defenders are being criminalized.

In relation **to land and resource rights**, the ANGOC network, through the Land Watch Asia (LWA) campaign, advocates for effective policies to improve rural communities' access, control, and ownership of land. Simultaneously, it also enhances the capacities of Asian CSOs and rural communities to defend their land rights through strategic interventions.



The LWA campaign enhanced the methodology in monitoring land and resource conflicts. Six country monitoring reports and a regional summary have been prepared and presented in a regional dialogue with National Human Rights Institutions and Commissions. A total of 691 land conflict cases were monitored, affecting 454,497 households, and 1,557,564 hectares of land in Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Nepal, and the Philippines.

On the other hand, a growing number of civil society organizations (CSOs) have been engaged in dispute resolution processes. Thus, LWA has initiated the documentation of such experiences in land dispute management with the objective of contributing towards mitigating conflicts. Seven (7) case studies were documented by CSOs from Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Nepal, and Philippines.

ANGOC members in Nepal and the Philippines engaged their respective Asian Development Bank Country Offices through the preparation of land tenure security discussion papers. Such reports were undertaken as inputs to help mitigate the effects of the bank's loans and technical assistance projects, particularly in the land sector. The engagement successfully opened spaces for dialogue and engagement with ADB at the country level, and identified potential areas for continued dialogue.

Finally, as member of international networks and processes, ANGOC continues to raise issues and recommend actions areas to address land conflicts and enhance tenure security of the rural poor. Among these platforms include as Steering Committee Member of the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN), member of the International Land Coalition (ILC), and member of the Technical Reference Group of the Global Land Observatory.

Among the key interventions in 2024 by ANGOC and Land Watch Asia, in partnership with Association for Land Reform and Development (ALRD), STAR Kampuchea (SK), Ekta Parishad (EP),



South Asia Rural Reconstruction Association (SARRA), Land Conflict Watch (LCW), Konsorsium Pembaruan Agraria (KPA), Community Self-Reliance Centre (CSRC), Kaisahan Tungo sa sa Kaunlaran ng Kanayunan at Repormang Pansakahan (KAISAHAN), Center for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (CARRD), Philippine Association for Intercultural Development (PAFID), and Xavier Science Foundation (XSF), are the following:

## Regional initiatives

### *Land conflict monitoring*

In Asia, land conflicts may be traced to enduring historical injustices, inequitable access to land and resources, faulty and weak implementation of past land and resource reforms, emergent clashes between statutory and customary tenure systems, misappropriation of State domains, and the lack of regard for human rights of the disadvantaged and vulnerable sectors (Quizon, 2018). Forms of structural land conflict include land grabbing, intrusion into indigenous peoples' lands, eviction of entire communities from large-scale infrastructure projects pushed by both the government and the private sector, and corporate takeover of common lands long used and managed by communities. It is in this context that land conflict monitoring reports have been prepared to: a) find trends and patterns on land conflicts; b) bring public attention/systematic response to conflict cases; and, c) raise questions, raise public awareness and discussion, and evoke public policy responses.

Jointly organized by ANGOC, LWA, KPA, Commission of Human Rights of the Philippines (CHRP), Commission of Human Rights of Indonesia (Komnas HAM), Timor Leste's Office of Human Rights and Justice (Provedoria dos Direitos Humanos e Justica or PDHJ), and the Southeast Asia National Human Rights Institution Forum (SEANF), a regional workshop was convened last 26-27 February 2024 in Jakarta, Indonesia. Participated by 59 representatives (35 males, 24 females) from CSOs, NHRIs and NHRCs, governments, international organizations, and media, the event: (a) presented and discussed



the findings and recommendations of land conflict monitoring reports in six Asian countries; (b) identified key action areas at the regional level to address land conflicts; and, (c) explored partnerships with other stakeholders in the region.

### Box 1: Major findings of land conflict reports in six Asian countries

#### *Overview of land conflict cases*

- 691 land conflict cases in six Asian countries
- 1,557,564 hectares of land affected by ongoing conflicts
- 454,497 households affected by ongoing land conflicts

#### *Type of land and resource affected by conflicts*

- 400 cases (58%) involved smallholder farming covering 447,883 hectares (29%)
- 99 cases (14%) involved housing and settlements covering 74,040 hectares (5%)
- 86 cases (12%) involved customary lands covering 978,284 hectares (63%)

#### *Stakeholders involved*

- 406 cases affecting farmers, 105 cases affecting indigenous peoples, 87 cases affecting informal settlers
- private companies (260 cases), government agencies and State enterprises (202 cases), powerful individuals (101 cases) as adversarial claimants

#### *Drivers of land and resource conflicts*

- private led businesses (40% of the cases and 40% of the number of hectares affected)
- government projects (25% of the cases and 31% of the number of hectares affected)
- agrarian conflicts (14% of the cases and 1% of the number of hectares affected)

#### *Human rights violations due to land and resource conflicts*

- 110 incidents affecting 654 individuals; 91% males, 7% females, 2% unidentified
- 515 of affected individuals were detained and/or illegally detained; 92 were tortured; 15 were physically injured/assaulted
- 217 incidents affecting 95,021 households



The participants agreed on the following recommendations to address the land conflicts: (a) *undertake immediate action and resolution on land conflict cases*, (b) *ensure the efficient management and administration of existing land and resource tenure reforms*, (c) *practice responsible business*, (d) *enhance land literacy among communities and governments*, and, (e) *enhance and expand land conflict monitoring*.

At the same time, 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. Three strategic objectives were identified: (a) mainstream land rights as human rights; (b) regular monitoring and effective response mechanisms on addressing/mitigating/reducing land conflicts; and, (c) establish/enhance existing NHRI-NHRC-CSO mechanism/s or platform/s at national and regional level to foster coordination and joint activities.

As a follow-up, ANGOC presented the key findings and recommendations of the 2023 land conflict monitoring reports during the Second Technical Working Group of SEANF.

### *Land dispute resolution initiatives of selected Asian CSOs*

Land disputes usually occur between communities, individuals, or families. The more common forms of land disputes include boundary disputes between neighbors, the allocation of rights over community resources, disputes between individual landowners and tenants, and disagreements between parties over land transactions and contracts. These cases are often brought to local mediation bodies (e.g., Council of Elders), or to village or municipal councils, and administrative bodies.

Managing land disputes recognizes and respects the different and often conflicting values and interests of different user groups. When addressed constructively, this can help to stabilize and



improve the sustainability of land and resources, and the benefits that different people, particularly the rural poor, get from using them.

In Asia, a growing number of civil society organizations (CSOs) have been engaged in dispute resolution processes. Thus, documenting and sharing such experiences in land dispute management can contribute towards improving relationships and mitigating conflicts. Seven case studies were documented and analyzed by CSOs from Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Nepal, and Philippines.

Title	Summary
<p><i>Indigenous Women Take the Lead in Mediating Disputing Claims to Ancestral Land</i> by A.K.M Bulbul Ahmed, Association for Land Reform and Development (ALRD), Bangladesh</p>	<p>Two sisters from the Munda indigenous community in Shyamnagar Upazila, Sathkira District of Bangladesh, were threatened with eviction from their ancestral land when a claimant presented a deed proving that their father had sold the land without their knowledge. Sundarban Adivasi Munda Sangstha (SAMS), an NGO, reinforced the sisters' claim by citing a regulation that the claimant had failed to show when the land was bought. The sisters were then able to negotiate to have the land transferred to them after paying a much lower price. Without the NGO's help, the sisters' husbands would have decided on their behalf.</p>
<p><i>Indigenous Communities Take Back their Land through the Peace Table</i> by Community Legal Education Center (CLEC), Cambodia</p>	<p>Despite being threatened by landgrabbers, the Chi-Klorb Bunong indigenous community had no recourse to the formal judicial system. At the same time, national and local mediation systems were biased against them. The Community Legal Education Center (CLEC) provides a viable alternative dispute resolution mechanism called the Peace Table, a grassroots solution that encouraged local participation and engagement in disputes. It also integrated customary practices in proposed solutions and used local methods of dispute resolution. This mechanism fostered trust from indigenous peoples and enabled them to arrive at an agreement with adversarial claimants in a peaceful, empowering manner.</p>



Title	Summary
<p><i>A Village Land Dispute Finds Resolution as Part of a National Land Reform Movement</i> by Ekta Parishad (EP), India</p>	<p>In the late 1990s, six tribal women from the village of Amkuhi in Madhya Pradesh State, India went up against the most powerful personalities and groups in their village following their occupation of government land. Needing to make a living, the women refused to leave the land despite threats of eviction and several court cases filed against them. The NGO Ekta Parishad worked with these women to strengthen their claim to the land. Land reform movements set in motion by Ekta Parishad in the early 2000s reinforced women's efforts at the village level, and the Amkuhi women are now awaiting their land certificates.</p>
<p><i>A Dalit Community Fights Eviction through NGO-Facilitated Land Dispute Resolution Process</i> by Santosh K.C., Community Self-Reliance Centre (CSRC), Nepal</p>	<p>The Musahar community in the Saptakoshi Municipality, Saptari District, Province 2 of Nepal, faced eviction to make way for the rehabilitation of an irrigation system. Despite repeated efforts, including underhanded means, the community stood their ground. against eviction. An NGO eventually guided them to comply with the requirements for getting access to land.</p>
<p><i>Farmers Overcome Conflicts on Collectively Titled Land</i> by Marie Joy Q. Demaluan, Center for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (CARRD), Philippines</p>	<p>Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries (ARBs) in Barangay Bayuyan, in the Western Visayas region of the Philippines, are unaware that a certificate of land ownership award had been issued to them under the Government's agrarian reform program 24 years ago. However, the discovery did not automatically confer land ownership because the land was collectively titled and needed to be subdivided. The NGO Center for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (CARRD) shepherded the ARBs through the arduous process of becoming aware of their rights under the law, the capacity to engage with the agrarian reform department, subdividing the collective land title and acquiring individual certificates, and resolving other issues following their occupation of the land.</p>



Title	Summary
<p><i>Community 3-D Mapping as a Tool for Resolving Territory-Bound Land Disputes</i> by Giacomo Rambaldi, Sahlee Bugna, Angela Tiangco and Dave de Vera, Philippines</p>	<p>The Cordillera Administrative Region of the Philippines had long been a hotbed of land conflicts affecting indigenous peoples and cultural communities. Land pressure from logging and mining operations, forest conversion, and encroachment on IP areas had ignited conflicts between IPs and the central government. Conflicts resulting from boundary disputes had even erupted in IP communities. Some of these had been resolved through peace pacts or <i>bodong</i>, which included a sketch of the disputed area and agreed boundaries. In the municipality of Balbalan, Kalinga Province, the number and complexity of conflicts required the use of a highly detailed scale relief model to facilitate a series of consensual conflict-resolution processes.</p>
<p><i>Land Dispute Resolution and Management: The NAMAMAYUK Experience in Bukidnon, Philippines</i> by ANGOC and Xavier Science Foundation (XSF), Philippines</p>	<p>The <i>Secure Access to Land and Resources</i> (SALaR) project of the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN), implemented in the Philippines by the Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC) in partnership with the Xavier Science Foundation (XSF), used the Social Tenure Domain Model (STDM) as a tool to address land conflicts involving indigenous peoples and cultural communities in Bukidnon Province, specifically of the indigenous peoples organization (IPO), <i>Nagkahiusang Manobong Manununod sa Yutang Kabilin</i> (NAMAMAYUK). The STDM is a pro-poor, participatory and gender-responsive land information tool that aims to close the gap between the formal land system and tenure arrangements that are not recognized by the statutory and legal system. STDM enhanced the awareness of NAMAMAYUK members on land tenure security and strengthened their capacity to use existing mechanisms and to coordinate with land administration bodies to claim their land.</p>



Formal dispute resolution processes, such as filing of complaints before judicial courts, are seen as a last resort for poor, marginalized, and disadvantaged groups. Administrative mechanisms have proven to be better at delivering quicker resolution of conflicts, although these can only address specific types of disputes given the limited jurisdictions of government agencies.

Moreover, administrative mechanisms tend to be reactive, as they deal with disputes on a case-to-case basis, making them ill-equipped address broader land issues.

The case studies highlight the following key approaches in land dispute management:

*Strengthening or modifying traditional land dispute and conflict resolution processes in order to address current needs and adapt to new realities.* Traditional dispute resolution mechanisms are methods rooted in local culture and customs, and passed down through generations. They focus on restoring relationships, building harmony and peace, and addressing the interests of the parties involved, rather than just determining who is right. However, they also need to cope with changes in demography, cultural practices, and local realities.

*Process documentation.* Documenting the process is crucial because circumstances may have changed from the time the parties last met. Parties also need to recall how certain decisions were reached, and the conditions for their implementation.

*Planning.* Facilitating a process where people can plan, set targets, and set schedules is very important. Without this, people may struggle to make progress in resolving their disputes as they are preoccupied with their daily activities. The importance of analyzing the nature of the land dispute and conflict should be emphasized since parties often enter the dispute resolution process without understanding the coordinates of the contested area, parties involved, and historical context of the land tenure relations.



*Participatory mapping.* Land disputes often revolve around spatial issues, including boundaries. Participatory mapping is a valuable tool for analyzing the problem, by understanding the location and size of the contested area, its resources, and its physical boundaries – from the perspective of people. The process can range from simple sketch maps, to advanced 3D modeling and use of global positioning systems (GPS).

*Facilitation of dialogue.* Land disputes may escalate if left unresolved. CSOs play a crucial role in initiating, convincing, and facilitating dialogue among people and communities involved, within a conducive and safe environment. Facilitation is a vital service that CSOs can provide in the land dispute resolution process.

*Advocacy.* Civil society organizations actively advocate for broader development goals, such as improving the rural poor's access to land through a rights-based approach. Advocacy is crucial for bringing about policy changes and institutional reforms to protect the rights of the poor.

### *Mainstreaming land tenure security in the Asian Development Bank*

Along with civil society organizations across the Asian region, the ANGOC network emphasizes that access and control over land and natural resources should be in the hands of small producers, with adequate support from government; that the land and resource rights of farmers, farmworkers, fisherfolk, and indigenous peoples who are key to resource conservation must be protected; and that agriculture and food systems must be transformed to directly respond to the needs of small producers, indigenous communities, and the urban poor.

Multilateral development banks (MDBs), such as Asian Development Bank (ADB), through their loans and technical assistance projects, have directly or indirectly been financing initiatives that impact on



land tenure security of communities. For instance, certain investments such as dams, roads and large-scale infrastructure have displaced communities and eroded their rights to land, particularly among indigenous peoples.

It is in this context that the ANGOC, Community Self-Reliance Centre (CSRC) and CSO partners have engaged the ADB Resident Mission Offices in Nepal and the Philippines through the preparation of land tenure security discussion papers.

Specifically for Nepal, two focus group discussions (FGDs) were conducted and were participated by 19 representatives (nine females and 10 males) from CSOs, media, and bilateral organization. Key informant interview (KII) was conducted with ADB staff as well as Ganesh Prasad Bhatta, Joint Secretary of Ministry of Land Management, Cooperative and Poverty Alleviation (MoLMCPA). Finally, in 13 May 2024, a roundtable discussion with ADB Nepal Country Office was organized by CSRC to present the paper. The event was participated by 15 representatives (13 males, two females) of various CSOs, government official, an advocate, and a journalist.



**Box 2: Key findings and recommendations: Land tenure security discussion paper for ADB Nepal***Land governance challenges:*

- *Weak land administration and management.* Cadastral surveys could not cover the entire land that people had been utilizing for various purposes, following their own social, and cultural model of tenure. Due to the lack of recognition by State policies and legal provisions, many tenants are unrecognized and unregistered, resulting to forced evictions from public and forest lands.
- *Women's land rights.* Nepal has made considerable progress in terms of women's rights, gender equality, and women's empowerment over the last two decades, but the country's conservative social set-up are still barriers to women's land ownership. One notable exception in this regard was found among women living in nuclear families, who were found to have more liberty and support from families, and thus enjoy more rights and demonstrate a higher degree of land ownership than women from other groups (IOM, 2016). However, ownership does not necessarily translate to control. It was consistently observed that women do not necessarily have control over property even if it is under their name, and decisions are made by the men, whether father, husband, or the son (IOM 2016).
- *Land conflicts.* Land conflict in Nepal has been a long-standing and complex issue rooted in historical, social, economic, and political factors. In recent years, the impact of climate change has further exacerbated land conflicts. As part of the Land Watch Asia (LWA) campaign's initiative on land conflict monitoring, CSRC documented 49 land conflict cases in 24 districts throughout the country between 1 January and 31 December 2023, affecting 18,713 households on 5,590 hectares of land. Government projects and programs and conservation projects are the leading cause of conflict, while private-led business enterprises and landlords are the biggest perpetrators<sup>1</sup>.
- *Long-distance travel and mobility constraints.* Mobility of people in villages is severely constrained because of geographical remoteness. People must travel to the Village Development Committee (VDC) Center and District headquarters on foot or by cycle for any kind of administrative matters. Moreover, the distance and limited mode of transportation, coupled with the burden of household work particularly limit women's mobility (IOM, 2016).

<sup>1</sup> 2023 Nepal Land Conflict Monitoring Report. Community Self-Reliance Centre (CSRC).



- *Administrative and institutional barriers.* Women reported facing harassment when they engaged in land-related transactions. Women who visited the land offices recounted that they were asked personal questions about their family, husbands, and children, which were not asked of men.

*ADB in Nepal.* The Nepal Country Partnership Strategy (CPS), 2020 to 2024 of the ADB aims to improve infrastructure for private sector-led growth, improve access to decentralized services, and strengthen environmental sustainability and resilience. The strategy targeted women and disadvantaged social groups among its beneficiaries (ADB, 2019).

ADB's main investment in Nepal is currently in infrastructure, energy, and urban development and transport sectors. At present, ADB has no programs in the country for the land sector. In 2007, it helped Nepal develop a reliable Land Administration Management System, through a USD 350,000 grant to Nepal's Strengthening Land Administration Services project. ADB also supports road widening projects, which require converting farmland to other uses.

*Recommendations.* There is a pressing need for a comprehensive study of land tenure issues associated with development projects. The lack of sufficient rehabilitation efforts from governmental and non-governmental sectors, compounded by the absence of a strong database, exacerbates the challenges affected communities face. To achieve high economic growth, and ensure the growth is inclusive, it should focus on making its cities compact and increasing its urban economy, reducing pollution, meeting the SDGs, protecting agricultural land, and implementing risk-sensitive land-use policy.

In the Philippines, the process started with a hybrid meeting of CSO representatives with their counterparts the ADB Country Office at the ADB Headquarters in Manila. ANGOC then organized an FGD among 19 representatives (12 males, 7 females) of peoples' organizations, non-governmental organizations and regional civil society groups

A roundtable discussion (RTD) between ADB and Philippine CSOs was organized on 5 June 2024, participated in by 17 representatives (12 females, five males) from basic sectors, CSOs, government (National Anti-Poverty Commission) and ADB, to present and discuss the paper.



**Box 3: Key findings and recommendations: Land tenure security discussion paper for ADB Philippines**

*Land governance challenges.* Some emerging challenges include:

- *Collective Certificates of Land Ownership Awards (CCLOAs).* A large portion of land distributed has been issued under collective CLOAs. Some beneficiaries are experiencing challenges such as transfers for heirs of deceased agrarian reform beneficiaries (ARBs) and drawbacks in terms of non-payment of land amortization.
- *Land rights of women.* There are a number of laws that have been enacted recognizing and appropriating legal rights of women. However, while the legal and policy frameworks in the recognition of women's rights are in place, implementation is wanting. The latest available data from DAR (2015) showed 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) (Marzan, 2023). Data from the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) and the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) are unavailable or not updated.
- *Support services.* To make their lands more productive, agrarian reform beneficiaries need access to credit, avail of innovative technologies, and participate in the market supply chains. Their organizations also need to be equipped on organizational and financial matters.
- *Overlap of Certificates of Land Ownership Awards (CLOAs) with ancestral domains.* An initial inventory undertaken by the Department of Agrarian Reform in 2021 showed that there are at least 138,438 CLOAs that are within ancestral domains with Certificates of Ancestral Domain Titles (CADTs) or are in the application process for titling (DAR, 2022). This covers 1,379,485 hectares. Similarly, 64 Protected Areas overlap with 84 CADTs, affecting a total of 1,227,159 hectares of ancestral domains<sup>2</sup>.
- *Limited capacity of the indigenous peoples to use and assert their rights over their ancestral domains.* The recognition of traditional governance is largely ceremonial and is not institutionalized among the local government units (LGUs) and government agencies.

<sup>2</sup> Cross reference of World Database of Protected Areas (WDPO) 2020, LandMark, 2019 and NCIP List of CADTs, 2018. (BUKLURAN and PAFID 2018).



- *Absence of clear Implementing Rules and Regulations of the Fisheries Code.* This has impeded the execution of the Fisheries Code as the situation has slowed down delineation of municipal waters, non-implementation of fisherfolk settlements, non-issuance of public lease agreements, and increased vulnerability to disasters.
- *Overlapping jurisdictions of land agencies.* With the multiplicity of land laws, four agencies have the power to issue land titles -- i.e., DENR, DAR, NCIP and judicial courts (De Vera, et al., 2022). Given the outdated land classification system, unclear boundaries between forestlands and A&D land, and self-delineation of ancestral domains, intersecting tenurial instruments have been issued by these agencies resulting in overlapping rights and land claims.
- *Increasing land conflicts.* These overlapping tenurial claims and intersecting jurisdictional mandates have triggered conflicts among farming and IP communities. It also weakened their tenurial security in dealing with external pressures. In 2023, as reported by ANGOC in its "Philippine Land and Resource Conflict Monitoring Report", a total of 211 ongoing cases of land and resource conflicts in the Philippines have been recorded. These cases cover approximately 749,844.50 hectares, and affect some 81,848 households.<sup>3</sup>

***ADB's development strategy in the Philippines and programs related to land and agriculture.*** ADB's past and current engagements with the Philippine government focused more on agriculture, natural resources, and rural development. In 2008, it approved a loan of USD 70 million to fund the Agrarian Reform Communities Project II. The project was intended to help the government reduce rural poverty by implementing the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP) and strengthening the capacity of the agrarian reform communities (ARCs) (ADB, 1998). This was followed by the Integrated Natural Resources and Environmental Management Project (2012 to 2021).

Recently, it supported the Competitive and Inclusive Agriculture Development Program (CIADP) aimed at increasing the competitiveness and inclusiveness of the agriculture sector (ADB, 2022), and the implementation of the National Irrigation Master Plan (NIMP) and the Flood Risk Management Master Plan (FRMMP).

***Recommendations.*** Among the proposed initiatives from the CSO sector are regular information exchange between ADB and CSOs, engaging CSOs in country programming, and holding policy dialogues on land governance and other related issues. Further exchanges between ADB and CSOs in the Philippines are encouraged to define the details of the modalities.

<sup>3</sup> See 2023 Philippine Land and Resources Conflict Monitoring Report at <https://angoc.org/portal/>



Given that land tenure security is a complex issue and that ADB is a multifaceted institution, several tracks of engagement can be explored. A number of potential areas to upscale the engagement with ADB on land tenure security shall then be pursued.

*On compliance to environmental and social framework.* CSOs shall scrutinize on what kind of environmental and social compliance the project must have to implement the safeguard policy of ADB. On gender issues, for example, CSOs shall provide feedback on ADB-financed projects as to what extent women's land rights are ensured or protected.

*On land, rural development, and food security.* This touches on operational strategy approach where CSOs can engage the ADB agricultural sector in terms of knowledge sharing and learning of rural development topics, including land.

*On unresolved and complicated conflicts.* ADB has the Office of the Special Project Facilitator (OSPF) which intends to conduct more outreaches with civil society organizations (CSOs) so that when there is an issue of project implementation. When necessary, CSOs shall reach out and report the issues to the OSPF.

## Land rights initiatives in the Philippines

### *State of Asset Reform in the Philippines*

In 2018, ANGOC, in partnership with AR Now! (Peoples Campaign for Agrarian Reform), PAFID (Philippine Association For Intercultural Development) and NFR (NGOs for Fisheries Reform), coordinated the process of formulating the *"State of Land and Resource Tenure Reform in the Philippines."* The report: (a) assessed the extent of implementation of asset reform laws, in particular



the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP), Indigenous Peoples Rights Act (IPRA) and Fisheries Code; (b) identified emerging issues in their implementation; and, (c) recommended action for the effective implementation of such reform programs.

The said report was updated in a series of consultations. ANGOC coordinated the preparation of sectoral papers on agrarian reform, fisheries, and ancestral domains. ANGOC then prepared a consolidated report of the three sectoral papers. The draft report was then presented and validated in a workshop organized by ANGOC and National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC) last 6 May 2024 with participants from 54 representatives (29 females, 25 males) of basic sectors.

Table 1. Status of asset reform by sector vs total scope, as of 2018 to 2022

Program / Indicator	Unit used	Accomplished (a)	Total scope (b)	Accomplishment as percent of total scope (a/b) x 100
<b>CARP in private lands (DAR)</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lands redistributed as percentage of total CARP target scope</li> </ul>	Area (ha)	4,845,105 (2022)	5,463,827 (2022)	89%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Percentage of tenanted agricultural lands under formal leasehold contracts</li> </ul>	Area (ha)	1.8 million <sup>[a]</sup>	<i>no data available</i>	<i>n.a.</i>
<b>Ancestral domains/ancestral lands (NCIP)</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ancestral lands covered by CADTs</li> </ul>	Area (ha)	5,971,345 (2022)	<i>no data available</i>	<i>n.a.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ancestral waters covered by CADTs</li> </ul>	Area (ha)	805,897 (2022)	<i>no data available</i>	<i>n.a.</i>



Program / Indicator	Unit used	Accomplished (a)	Total scope (b)	Accomplishment as percent of total scope (a/b) x 100
• Ancestral lands covered by CALTs	Area (ha)	17,148.2051 (2022)	<i>no data available</i>	<i>n.a.</i>
• No. of indigenous peoples in CADT-awarded areas, as percentage of total IP population	No of persons (men and women)	1,363,342 (2022)	<i>no data available</i>	<i>n.a.</i>
• No. of indigenous peoples in CALT-awarded areas, as percentage of total IP population	No of persons (men and women)	1,319,176 (2022)	<i>no data available</i>	<i>n.a.</i>
<b>Municipal waters (LGUs/BFAR)</b>				
• Percentage of coastal LGUs with completed delineation of municipal waters	No. of LGUs	79 <sup>[b]</sup>	930 coastal municipalities	8.5%
• Percentage of municipal fishing households benefiting from the establishment of fisherfolk settlements	No. of households	0	1.93 million municipal fishers	0%

[a] Cumulative figure of the area covered under registered leasehold contracts, over the years.

[b] Number of LGUs with the municipal ordinances required to complete the process of municipal waters delineation.



Thereafter, an *Inter-agency Dialogue on Land Governance* was jointly organized by ANGOC and NAPC last 28 May 2024 to present the main finding and recommendations of the said study. Seventy-one representatives (40 males, 31 females) from farmers, indigenous peoples, fisherfolk, urban poor, CSOs, government agencies and international organizations appreciated the consultative process in preparing the status report on three resource reform programs. As a way forward, participants agreed to: (a) maximize government mechanisms, (b) continue policy work and review of relevant policies, (c) accelerate/strengthen implementation of existing policies and programs on land and natural resources, and, (d) data and information sharing by government agencies to CSOs.



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

The *State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World* as reported by the FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO in 2021<sup>4</sup> rings an alarm bell and encourages everyone to act in reversing the worsening trends. Each and everyone's contribution will be decisive in attaining the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) specifically the targets of ensuring access to safe, nutritious, and sufficient food for all and eradicating all forms of malnutrition.

Asia hosts 75 percent of the world's farming households, with 80 percent being small-scale farmers and producers. Despite feeding the world, these small-scale farmers are among the poorest, most vulnerable, and food insecure in their countries.

Multiple factors driving this worsening food insecurity and malnutrition have been identified including conflict, climate change and economic slowdowns and downturns. Unfortunately, those hardest hit are the poor and the marginalized. The high cost of healthy diets coupled with persistent high levels of income inequality put healthy diets out of reach for around three billion people, especially the poor, in every region of the world in 2019.<sup>5</sup>

With a food systems lens, access to land emerges as a central concern in the discourse on food security considering that improved tenurial status provides households with an overall security that comes from their independence to make informed decisions over lands, crops, and livelihoods. They are able to more efficiently allocate their resources to improve their productivity and well-being. Thus, secure land among the smallholder food producers can substantially contribute to food security, promote broad-based growth and help expand the rural economy.

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<sup>4</sup> FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO. 2021. *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2021. Transforming food systems for food security, improved nutrition and affordable healthy diets for all*. Rome, FAO. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cb4474en>

<sup>5</sup> Ibid



In relation to smallholder agriculture towards sustainable food systems and livelihoods, the ANGOC network shall: a) strengthening land rights and tenure security, b) facilitate effective participation of the rural food producers in the food value chain, and 3) promotion of sustainable food and agriculture practices. Specifically, the ANGOC network shall:

- advocate the adoption of pro-poor, equitable, and gender-responsive land policies and implementation (e.g., lobbying for national legislation of land use, promote localized food security and land use planning and management, empower women to influence local institutions for improved access to and control over resources);
- enable smallholder producers to participate and engage in food systems and improve access to nutritious, affordable, and safe food for all (increase the recognition and participation of women and youth as food producers, facilitate direct linkages between smallholder producers and consumers); and,
- advocate for and enhance capacities of smallholders on agroecology, biodiversity and climate preparedness and resilience practices (boost recognition of smallholders as on-farm conservators, protect the farmer seed systems, monitor national plans and strategies on climate change, agroecology, and biodiversity).

Among the key interventions in 2024 by ANGOC in this program area included the following:

- contributed in the process of developing a women-led social contract land rights and climate justice;
- advocated for collective action to strengthen our food systems by supporting smallholder producers through the commemoration of World Food Day;
- engaged the process of updating of the Philippines Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan; and,
- enhanced awareness among Philippine farmers, indigenous peoples and fisherfolk of relevance and connection of land rights in the Philippines on Nationally Determined Contributions and carbon financing through the conduct of learning events



### *Gender mainstreaming in monitoring initiatives on land rights and climate change*

The gender dimension is wanting in land governance monitoring. While a number of studies on women's land rights have been undertaken, there is a need to develop capacities in gender mainstreaming on monitoring land-related targets.

Currently, global climate responses tend to be State-driven and favoring certain technical, research, and professional stakeholders without adequate listening to women and girls – especially at grassroots level. The concept of a new social contract has gathered momentum as a promising framework for rebalancing stakeholder relationships and redirecting players, principles, priorities, and processes towards monitoring and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), international environmental standards, gender equality, and human rights. Hence, there is a need for transforming land rights and climate justice through a women-led renegotiated new social contract.

It is in this context that an Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on *“Transforming Land Rights and Climate Justice through a Women-Led Renegotiated New Social Contract”* was co-organized by the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN), GLTN Rural International Civil Society Organizations Cluster (through Huairou Commission [HC] and the ANGOC), in partnership with the GLTN Research and Training Cluster with the University of East London (UEL), Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST), and United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). The EGM was attended by 20 representatives (15 females, 5 males) from across the GLTN Rural, Urban, Professional, and Research and Training clusters and CSO partners.

The main outcome from the EGM is *“The Quezon City Framework for Developing a Women-Led New Social Contract to Enhance Land Rights and Climate Justice.”*



#### Box 4: Objectives of new social contract

- Amplifying the voices of women and girls, indigenous peoples and local communities (IPs and LCs) in decision-making processes relating to land rights and climate justice.
- Ensuring that land governance, land reform, and equitable access to land, water, and natural resources are the building blocks for climate resilience.
- Recognizing and protecting indigenous peoples and local communities' access to land and culture, supporting customary use, management, and governance of land and natural resources.
- Addressing gender discriminatory laws, policies, and practices that hinder equal land rights for women and girls.
- Ensuring full involvement of all stakeholders, particularly women and girls from communities most vulnerable to climate change in formulation, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of policy instruments for land-based climate change adaptation and mitigation.
- Adopting open data principles and standards, including adhering to FAIR and CARE principles when publishing land governance and climate change data.
- Developing new normative arrangement to respect, protect, and enforce the land rights of displaced persons especially vulnerable women and girls.
- Allocating adequate funding for grassroots women through community-informed approaches to loss and damage, protection, and compensation.
- Generating an enabling environment through which women's voices including grassroots and minority women is reflected in priorities, needs, and leadership and can be effective.
- The purpose of multi-stakeholder engagement should be to address gaps through the spirit of solidarity and mutual interests, particularly ensuring information flows and technical skills for full participation of women in land rights and climate justice.
- To build an effective new social contract for the implementation and monitoring of continuous progress on land rights and climate justice.



Moving forward, the participants agreed to continue the institutional strengthening of GLTN and partners on climate change issues, including on engaging with Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) in their respective countries.

### *World Food Day*

For World Food Day 2024, ANGOC called everyone to *“Support our Land’s Stewards, Sustain our Future.”* This theme emphasized the vital role of farmers and rural communities as the primary stewards of land and land resources. With ensured land rights and access to support services and fair markets, farmers shall be empowered to practice sustainable agricultural practices that contribute to both food security and environmental integrity.

### *Engaging the process of updating of Philippines Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan*

The Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (PBSAP) envisions that *“By 2028, biodiversity is restored and rehabilitated, valued, effectively managed and secured, maintaining ecosystem services to sustain healthy, resilient Filipino communities and delivering benefits to all.”* With the adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, the Philippines has updated the PBSAP through a series of consultations.

In December 2024, the National Land Coalition in the Philippines (NLC-PH) convened a national workshop which was participated by 50 representatives of farmers’ alliances and rural development NGOs to familiarize them with the Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (PBSAP), and discuss their perspectives and contributions to its enhancement and effective implementation. The said consultation was organized jointly with the Biodiversity Management Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR-BMB).



### Box 5: Agriculture and PBSAP

The agriculture sector, particularly the farmers, is now striving to establish a similar platform to ensure their substantial and effective participation in the PBSAP process. Farmers need to recognize and expand the vital role they play in biodiversity conservation through their activities in soil and water management, plant genetic resources conservation, sustainable agriculture, and the transformation of food systems. The following are highlights from the workshop organized by NLC-Philippines:

*On the understanding of the participants from the farming sector on the KMGBF-PBSAP targets and its importance to farmers in general.* PBSAP/KMGBF and their target indicators are fairly new to the participants coming from the farming and fisheries sector, as well as local officials supposed to help achieve the framework and targets. The link between agriculture, fisheries, and biodiversity needs to be better established and discussed with the farming and fisheries communities.

*On threats to obstacles to farmers' efforts in biodiversity conservation.* Farmers emphasized that addressing continuous land conversion and land grabbing must happen for biodiversity conservation to be sustained. Farmers must also own and control the use of their land and resources to practice sustainable farming (e.g., diversification, organic methods, etc.). Land ownership programs of government for smallholder farmers must be completed. Other threats identified were: intensifying climate change affecting rice harvests and farmers' incomes, extinction of species, increasing invasive species, conflicted implementation (conventional agricultural programs vs. sustaining agricultural practices), among others.

*On confusing government priorities between conservation and economic development.* There are many conflicting policies and programs between conservation and economic development. Government (both local and national) tends to develop programs that violate laws protecting the environment and promoting biodiversity conservation.



Among the recommendations include: a) formulation of comprehensive land use plans (CLUPs); b) tree planting including mangroves; c) rehabilitation of abandoned fishponds; d) intercropping (vegetables/legumes); e) organic fertilizer production; f) lobbying of the National Land Use Act; and, g) revitalize traditional and upland rice varieties through seed-banking.

### *Learning events on Nationally Determined Contribution and Carbon Financing*

The Philippines submitted its first Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) to the UNFCCC on 15 April 2021, promising to cut down the country's greenhouse gas emissions by 75 percent from 2020 to 2030 for the sectors of agriculture, transport and energy, wastes, and industry. ANGOC, in partnership with the National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC), organized a learning event for farmers, indigenous peoples, and fisherfolk to understand the link between land tenure and climate change. While tenure has traditionally been viewed from the perspective of an individual, family or community, climate change is often viewed from a global perspective and is attributed to the collective or human use or abuse of natural resources. The connection often becomes clearer only when viewed from a broader perspective, a panoramic view from which relationships can be observed.

Through the exchanges, the Climate Change Commission (CCC) and the Department of Agriculture Climate Resilient Agriculture Office (DA-CRAO), expressed their commitment to work with Peoples Organizations (POs) and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to ensure that land rights shall be incorporated in the implementation of such plans and in future iterations of these documents.

On a similar effort, ANGOC and NAPC organized a "Learning event on the nature of carbon markets" last July 2024. Implementing carbon credit projects takes a significant amount of personnel while the long-term nature of these projects also takes a toll on the lives of the surrounding communities.



Knowing that the policies and regulations of carbon markets in the Philippines are still under development, the indigenous peoples (IP) and farmers sectors whose land these projects are built on are particularly vulnerable to the challenges of the developing carbon market.

The rate of environmental degradation is outpacing conservation efforts, requiring a 45 percent reduction in emissions by 2030 to avoid severe planetary changes. Reforestation and carbon offset projects alone are insufficient to achieve this goal while coal power plants and petrol vehicles continue to proliferate as global consumption remains high. At this point, carbon offsetting is not enough. While carbon reduction is essential, there is a need to monitor how companies and governments are doing their share in the reduction end.

It is essential to clearly define and transparently address the access and benefit-sharing mechanisms for both carbon and non-carbon benefits, as well as the grievance mechanisms available for communities to raise concerns and complaints. Furthermore, ensuring the full and effective participation of communities throughout the entire process — from initial design through implementation, monitoring, and reporting of carbon transactions — is critical.

Other interventions of ANGOC included raising the importance of land tenure and need for enhancing capacities of smallholders on agroecology and climate preparedness during the consultation organized by the FAO Country Office towards the formulation of its country programming framework for 2025 to 2028.



## ANGOC s contribution to protecting civic and democratic spaces

Asian countries are experiencing varying degrees of shrinking civic spaces and threats to civil society. Fundamental rights are being suppressed while key actors exercising these rights are persecuted. Individuals and organizations working for human rights, land rights, and rural development, as well as rural women, are those most affected.

In relation to **civic and democratic space**, 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 a majority of their people reside.

State militarization and aggressive policing, government crackdowns on dissent, and curtailment of free speech are still on the rise, affecting many CSOs whose development work is mostly in rural areas and related to land rights.

For 2024, ANGOC has contributed by providing insights and suggesting key action areas in supporting land and human rights defenders through the Alliance for Land, Indigenous, and Environmental Defenders (ALLIED). Through this network, advocacy and positions to the Conference of Parties and other global mechanisms regarding secure participation and active engagement of indigenous, land, and environmental defenders (ILEDs).

In the Philippines, ANGOC in partnership with the Commission on Human Rights (CHR) prepared a discussion paper contributing to the lobbying of an effective Human Rights Defender (HRD) Protection Law. It analyzed the salient features of the five pending bills in the Congress, as well as discussed the key areas for enhancing the bills.



## Institutional Updates

### *36th ANGOC Board of Trustees Meeting*

In relation to **institutional updates**, the 36th ANGOC Board of Trustees Meeting was convened in February 2024. It was hosted by the Konsorsium Pembaruan Agraria (KPA), a national network member in Indonesia. The status report covering the fiscal years 2022 to 2024 were formally ratified by the Trustees. At the same time, the proposed two-year work plan (covering 2024 and 2025) and indicative budget were approved.

### *ANGOC receives the 2024 Award of the Aziz-Ul Haq Rural Development Medal*

During the opening ceremonies of the 24th Session of Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP) Governing Council Meeting last June 2024, the Council bestowed ANGOC as one of the recipients of the 2024 Aziz-Ul Haq Rural Development Medal. The said award is given in recognition to an individual or organization for outstanding achievements and contributions to integrated rural development for improving livelihoods, reducing poverty and increasing the food security of rural people in Asia and the Pacific Region and for contributions to CIRDAP. The late Mr. Aziz-Ul Haq, was the first Director of CIRDAP and the Former Minister of Agriculture and Forestry of Bangladesh.



## 2024 Knowledge Products

ANGOC, LWA members, and partners have developed and continue to disseminate these 46 knowledge products:

### *Workshop Summary Reports: Regional*

ANGOC and Huairou Commission (HC), and University of East London (UEL). (2024). *Transforming Land Rights and Climate Justice through a Women-led Renegotiated New Social Contract: An Expert Group Meeting Summary Report*. ANGOC and HC.

ANGOC. (2024). Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC). *Monitoring of lands under conflict — incidence, drivers, and impacts: A Regional Workshop Summary Report*. 26-27 February 2024, Jakarta, Indonesia. ANGOC.

ANGOC. (2024). Planning Meeting for Mainstreaming land rights in the Asian Development Bank (ADB). 15-16 January 2024, Ibis Styles Bangkok Silom, Bangkok, Thailand. [Unpublished workshop summary report].

Community Self-Reliance Centre (CSCRC). (2024). *ADB-CSO Roundtable Discussion on Land Tenure Security in Nepal*. [Unpublished workshop summary report].

### *Workshop Summary Reports: Philippines*

ANGOC and National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC). (2024). *Inter-Agency Dialogue on Land and Resource Tenure Reform in The Philippines and Presentation of the 2023 Land and Resource Conflict Monitoring Report*. May 28, 2024, LWUA Auditorium, LWUA Building, MWSS Compound, Quezon City, Philippines. [Unpublished workshop summary report].

ANGOC. (2024). *ADB-CSO Roundtable Discussion on Land Tenure Security in the Philippines*. 5 June 2024, Joy Nolstag, ADB Avenue, Pasig City, Philippines. [Unpublished workshop summary report].



### *Information, Educational and Communication Materials*

ANGOC. (2024). *Lands under Conflict – Incidence, Drivers, and Impacts: An infographic of monitoring reports from six Asian countries, 2023*. ANGOC. [Infographic].

ANGOC. (2024). *Secure land rights: Exploring their central role in climate change mitigation and adaptation in the Philippines*. ANGOC. [Issue Brief prepared with support of the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN), United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), and We Effect].

ANGOC. (2024). *Carbon Market – Carbon currency: Understanding carbon markets in the Philippines*. ANGOC. [Issue Brief prepared with support of the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN), United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), and We Effect].

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- Ahmed, B. A. K. M. (2024). *Bangladesh Land Conflict CSO Monitoring Report 2023*. Association for Land and Resource Development (ALRD). [Paper contributed to the project, “Strengthening land governance through promotion of land tools and approaches” with the financial support from the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) and United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)].
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- Brown, J. (2024). *Managed Retreat as a Pathway to Community Recovery and Rehabilitation in the Wake of Disasters: A Case Study of Community Resettlement in the Sinking Island of Ghoramara, West Bengal, India*. [Paper prepared by LANDESA for the initiative "Strengthening land governance through promotion of land tools and approaches" supported by Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) and United Nations Human Settlement Programme (UN-Habitat)].
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## *Declaration*

Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC), Huairou Commission (HC), University of East London (UEL), Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST), Global Land Tool Network (GLTN), and United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). (2024). *The Quezon City Framework for Developing a Women-Led New Social Contract to Enhance Land Rights and Climate Justice*. [Declaration].

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## 2024 Calendar of Major Activities

### JANUARY

- 15-16 Planning Meeting for Mainstreaming Land Rights in the Asian Development Bank, *Silom, Bangkok, Thailand*
- 16 GFAiR Learning Exercise Workshop, *Online*
- 18 GFAiR Learning Exercise Workshop, *Online*
- 26 Consultation with Philippine CSOs on the Draft ADB Safeguards Policies, *ADB Headquarters, Pasig City, Philippines*

### FEBRUARY

- 5-7 World Bank East Asia and Pacific (EAP) Regional Workshop on the Recognition and Formalization of Land Rights in Forest Areas, *Coron, Palawan, Philippines*
- 14 ANGOC's 45th Anniversary
- 23 36th ANGOC Board of Trustees Meeting, *KPA Office, Jakarta, Indonesia*
- 23-25 Writeshop on Land Dispute Management, *KPA Office and Jakarta Selatan, Jakarta, Indonesia*
- 26-27 Regional workshop on land conflict monitoring, *Jakarta Selatan, Jakarta, Indonesia*



29 Expert Group Meeting on “Transforming land rights and climate justice through a women-led renegotiated new social contract, *Quezon City, Philippines*”

## MARCH

1 Expert Group Meeting on “Transforming land rights and climate justice through a women-led renegotiated new social contract, *Quezon City, Philippines*”

12-13 We Effect Philippine Partners Meeting, *Quezon City, Philippines*

14 ALLIED General Assembly, *Online*

22 GFAiR Steering Committee Meeting, *Online*

## APRIL

3 5th SDG Stakeholder Chamber Quarterly Meeting, *Pasig City, Philippines*

3 GLTN Steering Committee Meeting, *Online*

4 Orientation-Planning Meeting with National Anti-Poverty Commission, *Quezon City, Philippines*

11 LandMonitor Philippines-Brazil Learning Chat, *Online*

30 Global Land Observatory, 2nd Reference Technical Working Group Meeting, *Online*



## MAY

- 6 Preparatory meeting for Inter-agency Dialogue on Land Governance, *Quezon City, Philippines*
- 7 Learning Event on Nationally Determined Contribution, *NAPC Office, Quezon City, Philippines*
- 12-15 Third GROW Partners' Meeting, *Davao City, Philippines*
- 13 ADB-CSO Roundtable Discussion on Land Tenure Security in Nepal, *Kathmandu, Nepal*
- 13-17 World Bank Land Conference, *WB Headquarters, Washington DC, USA*
- 16 Women's rights track: "Transforming land right and climate justice through women-led renegotiated social contract *WB Headquarters, Washington DC, USA*
- 21-23 Envisioning sustainable agricultural future: A national workshop, *Quezon City, Philippines*
- 28 Interagency Dialogue on Land Governance, *NAPC Office, Quezon City, Philippines*

## JUNE

- 4-5 CIRDAP Governing Council Meeting, *Online*
- 5 ADB-CSO Roundtable Discussion on Land Tenure Security in the Philippines, *Pasig City, Philippines*



6 ICCA General Assembly Part 1, *Online*

12-13 ILC Asia Mid-year Members' Meet, *Online*

20 LEAD Allied Core Group Meeting, *Online*

25 ICCA General Assembly Part 2, *Online*

27 ICCA General Assembly Part 3, *Online*

## JULY

4 GLTN Steering Committee Meeting, *Online*

10-11 Second Technical Working Group of Southeast Asia National Human Rights Institutions Forum, *Online*

12 Learning Event on Carbon Financing, *Quezon City, Philippines*

15 Side event on 2024 High Level Political Forum: Practices of Rural Green Development under Climate Crisis, *Online*

## AUGUST

5-8 39th Technical Committee Meeting of CIRDAP, *Online*

6-7 National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan Workshop, *Tagaytay, Cavite, Philippines*



- 15 National Land Use Campaign Strategy Meeting, *Quezon City, Philippines*
- 20 Inception Workshop: Formulation of the FAO Country Programming Framework (2025-2028) for the Philippines, *Quezon City, Philippines*
- 28 Global Land Tool Network Steering Committee Meeting, *Online*

## SEPTEMBER

- 2 ADB Environmental Action Plan: Discussion with CSOs, *Online*
- 3 Workshop: Formulation of the FAO Country Programming Framework (2025-2028) for the Philippines, *Quezon City, Philippines*
- 12 36th PDAP Annual Membership Meeting, *ADF Office, Pasig City, Philippines*
- 12 Technical Working Group Meeting of Global Land Observatory, *Online*
- 13 Forum on Human Rights Defenders Bill, *Commission of Human Rights, Quezon City, Philippines*
- 20 General Assembly of ALLIED, *Online*
- 25-28 We Effect Partners' Meeting, *Cebu City, Philippines*



## OCTOBER

- 7 GFAiR Agroecology Workshop, *Online*
- 11 Preparatory meeting for national workshop on enhancing farmers' participation in the NBSAP, *DENR HQ, Quezon City, Philippines*
- 16 World Food Day: *Support our land's stewards, Sustain our future*
- 21-25 Fair Finance Asia General Assembly, *Pasay City, Philippines*

## NOVEMBER

- 6 Agricultural Development for Food Security: Addressing Challenges Technological Transformation, Sustainability, and Good Governance, *ADB Headquarters, Pasig City, Philippines*
- 7 Validation workshop on the Interim Report of the 2024 Philippine Land and Resource Conflict Monitoring Report, *QC Hall, Quezon City, Philippines*
- 25 Consultation on Philippine National Voluntary Review, *Quezon City, Philippines*
- 26-27 ILC Assembly of Members, *Online*
- 27 Inter-agency dialogue on the Interim Report of the 2024 Philippine Land and Resource Conflict Monitoring Report, *CHR Office, Quezon City, Philippines*



- 27-30 Second Asian Philanthropy Forum, *Online*
- 29 Preparatory meeting for the 2025 Asia Land Forum, *Online*

## DECEMBER

- 2-3 National Workshop towards increasing the participation of Farmers in the PBSAP Implementation, *Quezon City, Philippines*
- 6 National Tripartite Industrial Peace Council - Meeting on the Human Right Defenders Protection Bill, *OSH Center, Quezon City, Philippines*
- 17 National Land Coalition Meeting, *ANGOC Office, Quezon City, Philippines*
- 19 Preparatory meeting for the 2025 Asia Land Forum, *Online*



## Board of Trustees (2022 to 2025)

Chairperson:	Dewi Kartika, KPA
Vice Chairperson for South Asia:	Aneesh Thillenkery, EP
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## Members

### *Bangladesh*

Association for Land Reform and Development (ALRD)

Community Development Association (CDA)

### *Cambodia*

STAR Kampuchea

### *China*

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

Konsorsium Pembaruan Agraria (KPA)

### *Nepal*

Community Self-Reliance Centre (CSRC)

NGO Federation of Nepal (NFN)



### *Philippines*

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

### *Sri Lanka*

Sarvodaya Shramadana Movement (SARVODAYA)

### *Individual members*

- Antonio Ledesma, S.J.
- Fr. Francis Lucas
- Antonio B. Quizon
- Roel Ravanera
- Edgardo Valenzuela



# 2024 ANGOC ANNUAL REPORT

