

LAND RIGHTS AND SDGs

Securing land rights is central to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in order to, among others, eradicate poverty and hunger (Goal 1), build a world of justice where human rights are protected for all (Goal 16), and protect the environment and fight climate change (Goal 13).

Land Watch Asia, ILC Asia's regional initiative on monitoring data on land governance, conducts studies on the capacity of National Statistics Offices (NSOs) across various countries in Asia to report on SDG 1.4.2. (proportion of total adult population with secure tenure rights to land). The results of this will build on influencing land policy formulation and monitoring the implementation processes in countries involved, thus leading to increased tenurial security of rural farmers, women, and indigenous peoples.

ASIA LAND FORUM & REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

ILC Asia organises the Asia Land Forum (ALF) every year and participation in this event is open to ILC members and external stakeholders. The Forum is a unique occasion for grassroots organisations, NGOs, research institutions and government bodies to develop a common ground in a common ground in pursuing people-centred land governance of land governance. We also use this opportunity to convene with our members in the Regional Assembly, discussing the ways forward in defining our agreed 10 commitments and finding resources to realise land governance.

The Regional Assembly functions as the highest policy-making body in ILC Asia, while the Land Forum serves as a public forum to discuss the latest state of land governance in the region and as an arena for regional institutions and platforms to share experiences, strategies, resources and explore potential areas for collaboration.

GOVERNANCE

ILC Asia's Regional Coordination Unit (RCU) is hosted by the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), in Bogor, Indonesia. The RCU provides technical support to NES and CBI platforms in strategy formulation, operations, communications, knowledge and learning, and administrative matters. Under the strategic supervision of the Asia Steering Committee (ASC), a governance body selected by the Regional Assembly that represents all subregions of Asia, the RCU serves as a bridge between the global and regional dimensions of ILC's work.



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International Land Coalition Asia

INTERNATIONAL LAND COALITION ILC Asia is the regional platform of the International Land Coalition (ILC), a global alliance of civil society and intergovernmental organisations, which contributes to placing people at the centre of land governance. We are a membership-driven network of 59 national and regional civil society organisations in 14 countries, whose vision is to achieve a just, equitable and inclusive world in which land rights are secure and poverty is eradicated.

WHY LAND RIGHTS MATTER

There is widespread recognition that land rights are a fundamental element to addressing major challenges facing humanity: achieving gender equality, overcoming rural poverty, building fair and sustainable food systems that recognise small-scale producers, peace-building, mitigating and adapting to climate change, managing ecosystems, and reversing land degradation.

In Asia there has been an increasing demand for large-scale land acquisitions pushed by corporations and extractive industries, leaving the most marginalised communities vulnerable to land conflicts, forced evictions, and criminalisation for protecting their rights. Although some governments in Asia have made progress in issuing progressive land policies, implementation at the ground lever remains weak. Secure collective land rights shall contribute to reducing inequality and protect the rights of those who live on and from the land

ILC's strength is the diversity of its members and in Asia, most of our members are civil society, community-based and non-governmental organisations working or land rights, indigenous peoples, pastoralism family farming, and women's land rights, among others.

To guide our individual and collective efforts, ILC members agreed on 10 commitments in priority areas of action. These commitments are a compass for our work, and we hope that they also provide a useful focus to others with a transformative agenda on land rights.



Secure Tenure Rights





Secure Territorial Rights for IPs





Effective Actions
Against Land
Grabbing



Strong Small Scale Farming Systems



Equal Land Rights for Women



Locally Managed Ecosystems



Transparent Information and Accountability



Protected Land Rights Defenders



WHAT WE DO

Working towards the realisation of the 10 commitments, ILC Asia has set up national and regional multi-stakeholder platforms:
National Engagement Strategies (NESs) and Commitment-Based Initiatives (CBIs). NESs operate at the country-level by influencing the formulation and implementation of land policies and programmes. Their processes and their platforms are led by national actors, including both ILC and non-ILC members, and have links to regional and global processes of the ILC.

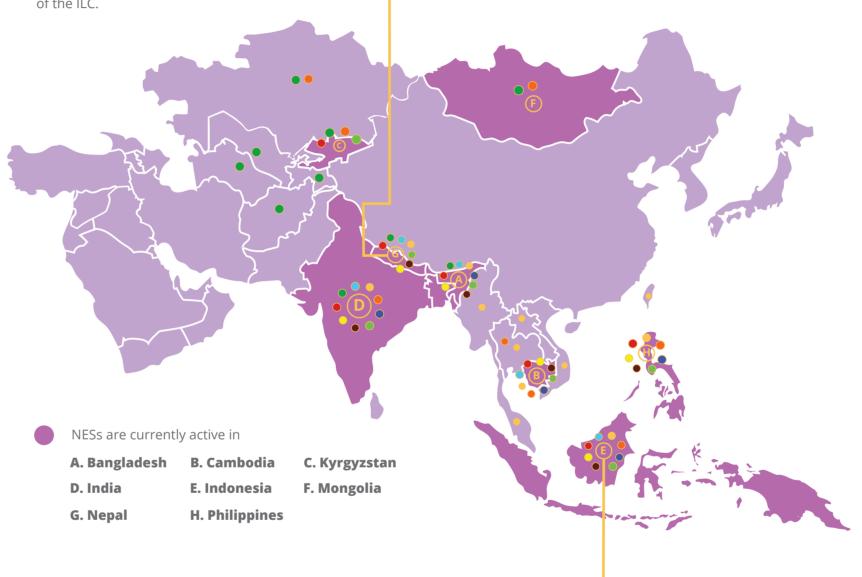
OUR IMPACT

The impact of our work, expressed through the achievements of our NESs and CBIs, has resulted in significant transformations in Asia. In working towards people-centred land governance, the efforts and commitments of our initiatives have often translated into changes in policy and practice at the local and national level.

NEPAL

The joint and complementary efforts of the Land Governance Working Group (LGWG), which is chaired by the country's Ministry of Land Management, Cooperative and Poverty Alleviation, NES Nepal and civil society organisations and development partners have led to the 7-8th Amendment of the Land Act of 1964 in Nepal.

The Government of Nepal endorsed the amendment and put the law into effect in 2018, committing to provide land for housing purposes to the Dalit community purposes. The amendment represents a significant step towards addressing landlessness and poor urban planning that has disadvantaged marginalised communities.



THEMATIC FOCUS COUNTRIES Family Farming Philippines, Bangladesh, Nepal, Cambodia, Indonesia, India, Kyrgyzstan Rangelands Initiative Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Nepal, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan Women's Land Rights Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Nepal Territorial Rights for India, Nepal, Philippines, Cambodia, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, Vietnam, Laos, Myanmar, Taiwan Indigenous Peoples Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, India, 6 Locally Managed Ecosystems Indonesia, Thailand, Cambodia, Philippines Youth and Land Rights Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Philippines Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Transparent Information and Kyrgyzstan, Nepal, Philippines Accountability

Nepal, Philippines

Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia,

CBIs are regional platforms through which ILC Asia members engage with each other to advance change at national and regional level, developing partnerships and common strategies on one of ILC's 10 Commitments. In Asia, our members jointly work on the following thematic areas:

Asia Rangelands Initiative

39 million hectares of pastureland across Central Asia secured

The Central Asia Pastoralist Alliance (CAPA) members were highly involved in the drafting and implementation of six land-related policies, including amendments to pasture laws across Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, and Mongolia. These policy developments prompted the recognition of pastoralist and herder community land

rights, securing more than 39 million hectares of pasturelands and affecting the livelihoods of over 80,000 households. The South Asia Pastoral Alliance (SAPA) is working with various government agencies to improve the legislative framework on drylands and rangelands related policies. These include the formulation of the first National Land Policy in India, and the implementation of a novel rangelands policy plan in Afghanistan.

INDONESIA

Presidential regulation on the establishment of the Agrarian Reform Task Force

9 & 10 Protected Land

Rights Defenders

The 2018 Global Land Forum held in Bandung, Indonesia, and co-organised with ILC members in the country was a key momentum for President Joko Widodo to issue a presidential regulation on the establishment of a special task force on agrarian issues (Perpres GTRA). The enactment of the presidential regulation was subsequently followed by the creation of smaller units of the task force at the district, provincial and national level, which included representatives of peasant organisations. In September 2019, ILC member the Consortium for Agrarian Reform (KPA) and its allies had the opportunity to sit down with the President to evaluate the implementation of the presidential regulation.