

ILC ASIA 2019 ANNUAL REPORT: MULTI-STAKEHOLDER DIALOGUE ON LAND GOVERNANCE





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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ASC	Asia Steering Committee
ALF	Asia Land Forum
СВІ	Commitment-Based Initiative
CSOs	Civil Society Organisations
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
KPA	Consortium for Agrarian Reform
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development



ILC	International Land Coalition
MSP	Multi-Stakeholder Platform
NES	National Engagement Strategy
RCU	Regional Coordination Unit
UNDFF	United Nations Decade of Family Farming
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme



FOREWORD



Saurlin Siagian, ILC Asia Regional Coordinator

In 2019, ILC Asia continued to provide a space for dialogue among stakeholders in the region, **putting people at the heart of land governance**. This report "Multi-stakeholder Dialogue and Land Governance in Asia" is based on the ILC Asia 2019 Annual Report. Here are some of our impact stories brought forth after the 2018 Regional Assembly in Bandung, Indonesia.

Strengthening Data Platforms

In the past year, data has become an important element of ILC Asia's operations. Data platforms are centred on several groups such as the ILC Asia Research Group, Land Watch Asia and LANDex, which are combinations of global and regional initiatives of our larger membership. LANDex was introduced in three training sessions in Central Asia, Southeast Asia, and South Asia. We hope that this data platform can be used as a tool to strengthen community-based land governance, advocate land issues, and provide a dialogue space among members and various parties.

From Quantity to Quality

As we have reached the number of platforms targeted for 2021, we were able to focus on implementing a **New Operating Model**, which aims to improve the quality of our platforms by:

- 1 Encouraging more transformative strategies
- 2 Improving participation process for members and key stakeholders
- 3 Strengthening the check-and-balance processes among members

Changes to the three-year planning model have also given us ample time to develop strategies without being burdened by year-end budget absorption.

Our members have indicated positive feedback and encouragement to this shift as they started to implement the New Operating Model.
However, it is important to recognize that our members move at different paces. The main challenge in 2019 was the rapid turnover of focal points and facilitators within the platforms. Hopefully, these were only symptoms of a process of change, as we pave ways to a steadier platform journey in the coming two years.

Strategic Partners

The past year also gave us the opportunity to expand our network by reaching out to key players of the land movement in the region. From various regional consolidation efforts, we organised a meeting during the Asia Land Forum in Udaipur, India. This activity was in line with our strategy of connecting members with other change-makers in the region.

Members Taking Ownership of the Asia Land Forum

ILC Asia has transformed the regional forum from a business-as-usual activity to a publicly owned space. The 2019 Forum was focused at articulating land issues at the regional level and creating a learning space for participants. The Asia Land Forum became a place to celebrate the Asian community and address ongoing social injustices at the regional level. Out of the total five days, we only spent half a day discussing ILC's governance. We also successfully gained financial support from donors such as Oxfam, ActionAid and Rights Resources Initiative (RRI).

Improving Governance

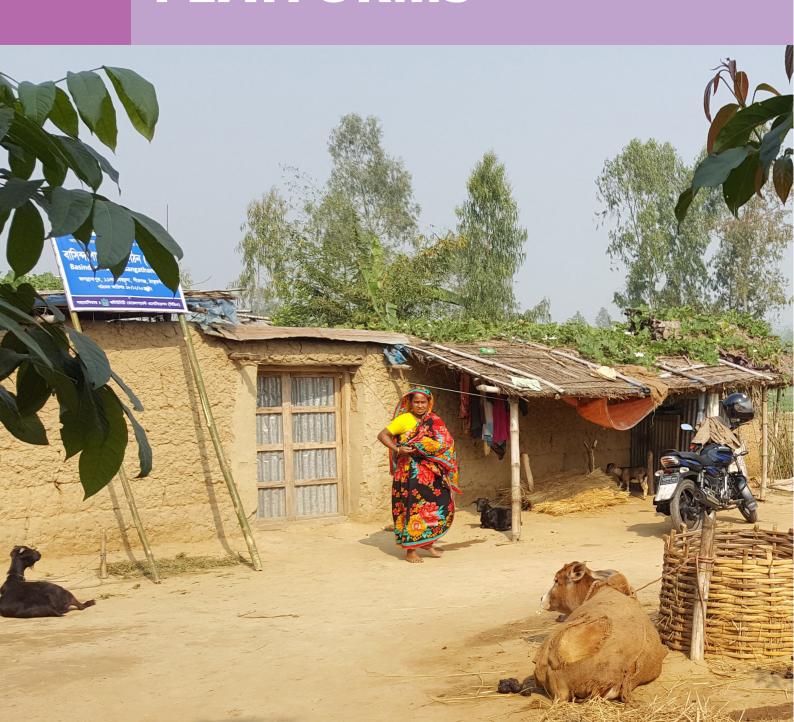
Steering Committee members. After going through an induction period in the first quarter, the Asia Steering Committee (ASC) carried out its duties and helped direct the implementation of our three-year strategy.

Improvement has also occurred in the composition of the Regional Coordination Unit (RCU) staff to better match our targeted workload. RCU now consists of one Regional Coordinator, two Programme Officers, one Communications Officer, one Administration Officer and two part-time consultants. This

service coverage of members in three subregions and the increasing visibility and articulation of information to the public throug important messages in public media and communication products.

This year also saw an increase in our social media engagement, showing an interest from our members and followers to engage in an online conversation and raise awareness on land issues.

IMPACT BY NATIONAL ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY (NES) PLATFORMS



Bangladesh

NES Bangladesh under the leadership of the **Association for Land Reform and Development**

(ALRD) continued to engage with central government officials, local government representatives, local civil society groups and the media. NES Bangladesh also organised a series of capacity building training to raise awareness on people-centred land governance among CSOs, journalists and local government officials.



IMPACT

For the period of 2019, NES Bangladesh has made the following changes in policy and practices:



Stop illegal stone extraction

NES Bangladesh, in collaboration with other CSOs in Bangladesh such as the Adibashi Forum, Nijera Kori, BELA and BAPA, influenced the High Court direction in stopping illegal stone extraction from Chittagong Hill Tracts Area.



Amendment of Ethnic Group Cultural Institutions Act

In March 2019, NES Bangladesh lobbied the government to amend the Ethnic Group Cultural Institutions Act 2010. With the amended Act, the government officially recognised 50 indigenous groups instead of 27 as stipulated prior to the amendment. This legal recognition has profoundly impacted the life of the newly recognised indigenous communities, among others are listed as ethnic groups in the government census and records (including land census and records, which is prioritised by the government in its land distribution programs and entitled to the social safety net scheme).



Amendment of Law on Brick Manufacturing and Brick Kiln Establishment

NES Bangladesh influenced the parliament to pass the amendment of the Law on Brick Manufacturing and Brick Kiln Establishment to protect the fertility of farmland as a significant amount of topsoil is often sold by farmers to the brick industry.



Application for Khas (public land) plot

NES Bangladesh helped 150 landless families receive a plot of Khas in sub-districts (upazila) within Dinajpur District in March 2019. This achievement was made by helping these families file an application to the Land and Social Service Agency and lobbied the upazila Chief Executive Officer to expedite the distribution of land.

Cambodia

IMPACT

In 2019 ILC Asia members in Cambodia made changes in the following practice areas:





Land dispute resolution

Our member NGO Forum, Indigenous People and Forestry Network's (IPFN), together with other CSOs organised a successful lobbying effort to solve a land dispute in Phnom Doh Kromom that involved the Bunong indigenous people. As a result, the Cambodian Prime Minister intervened in the task of the Mondulkiri Provincial Governor to solve the dispute. In May, the Phnom Penh Post reported that local authorities had ended the land encroachment in Phnom Doh Kromom.





Land as social concessions

The Cambodian Government distributed land as social concession to 402 landless and poor families in Kratie province, the target area of our member, FNN. Each family received one hectare of agricultural land and 30 m × 50 m of residential land.



Capacity building

Through STAR Kampuchea, NES Cambodia in close collaboration with the Provincial and Local Forestry Administration, as well as local authorities, supported 27 community forest organisations by organising workshops to help them prepare the Community Forestry Management Plan for 2,192 hectare of forest land.



India

In 2019, Land Forum India (LFI) increased its visibility as a multi-stakeholder platform on land governance issues. LFI organised the Asia Land Forum and made it an inclusive arena on land governance where strategic partners such as Oxfam, RRI, ActionAid, Welthungerhilfe and Astha played pivotal roles in shaping the agenda of the forum.



IMPACT

Here are some of the changes that LFI made in pursuing people-centered land governance:



Distribution of *Vada* (land to keep livestock)

76 pastoral communities received Vada, 30 of whom were women pastoralists.



Community Forest Rights

93 villagers received Community Forest Rights titles.

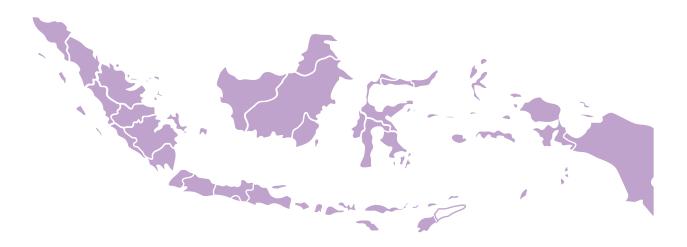


National Policy on Commons

LFI supported pastoralists and activists to participate in consultations for the formulation of the draft National Policy on Commons.



Indonesia



Although NES Indonesia did not report any activities supported by ILC in 2019, the platform continued to make a significant impact while investing their time to develop a new strategy and work plan.

IMPACT



Land dispute resolution

Through combined efforts of NES Indonesia member the Consortium for Agrarian Reform (KPA) and other CSOs, the people of Mangkit Village in North Sulawesi claimed their land and ended a long struggle between the community and a plantation company.

Under KPA's Agrarian Reform in Villages
Programme (Damara), 444 hectares of land
were returned to the Peasant Union, benefitting
491 people in Mangkit village. For over 30 years,
the Mangkit people have been cultivating the
disputed land occupied by PT Asiatik, a coconut
plantation company that eventually split into
three different companies. The Minahasa
Peasant Union (*Serikat Petani Minahasa*), a local
peasant organisation that was supported by
KPA, achieved recognition of the Mangkit's land
in October 2019 and helped ensure that people
were ready to manage their land with a strong
collective governance system.



Advocacy against Land Bill

NES Indonesia also successfully blocked the enactment of the controversial Land Bill through a series of protests, policy advocacy and collaboration with the broader civil society network. CSOs in Indonesia have heavily criticised the Bill for favouring the interest of companies in the extractives sector over those of the environment and vulnerable rural communities, including indigenous groups struggling to maintain already tenuous land rights.



Kyrgyzstan



Given the recent establishment of NES Kyrgyzstan, the platform has only made preliminary changes in policy and practice up to 2019, as follows:



Forest Users Act

NES Kyrgyzstan provided recommendations to the Minister of Agriculture and the Director of State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry on the Forest User Act. The development of the recommendation was validated through a series of roundtable discussions between government agencies, civil society and international organisations.



Capacity building

NES Kyrgyzstan enhanced capacity of three piloted pasture user unions on sustainable management and planning of pasture resources use. This is significant in the context of Kyrgyzstan given the situation of overgrazing that has led to land degradation.



Promote transparency

NES Kyrgyzstan increased transparency in forest management by raising awareness of forest users (*jaamats*) on the Forest Use Plan which was attended by State Forest Units.



Mongolia

NES Mongolia was officially launched in

Feb 2019

and started to implement its action plan in July 2019. Hence, it is too early at this reporting period to assess what changes in policy and practice NES Mongolia has produced. Nonetheless the platform has consulted with various land actors in the country in formulating its strategy, ranging from government officials, FAO, UNDP, IFAD and non ILC members. NES Mongolia aims to secure land rights for marginalised and

vulnerable communities including herders, low-income urban area inhabitants, ethnic minorities and women. To reach them, NES Mongolia will use strategic interventions such as creating an enabling policy and social atmosphere to formulate and implement pro-people land on pasture users.





Nepal

The Land Governance Working Group (LGWG) continues to provide a space for all its members to connect routinely, identify common positions, as well as influence and lobby politicians, federal and local government to introduce and implement policies that put people in the forefront.

Working in tandem with the Nepali Ministry of Land Management, Cooperative and Poverty Alleviation, LGWG was able to leverage its unique position and opportunity to scale up their initiatives to the local governments. LGWG also teamed up with media platforms such as the Association of Community Radio Broadcasters, to inform the public on land governance issues.



IMPACT

In 2019, the LGWG together with its partners and allies influenced the Nepal Government at the federal, national and local levels to implement the following policies:



Land Use Act 2019

A law aimed at regulating land use by categorising it in various purposes, such as agriculture and housing.



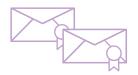
National Land Policy 2019

The policy recognises tenure and equitable access to land for the landless, women, smallholder farmers and informal settlers in the Nepalese society.



Joint Land Ownership (JLO)

Local governments in the Belakka Municipality, Baijanath Rural Municipality and Helambu Rural Municipality implemented JLO in their respective jurisdictions, based on government plan and policy in 2011 and 2012.



Tenancy Rights

409 individuals (86 of whom were women) secured their tenancy rights (received land) from the district Land Reform Office after completing the application, in accordance with Land Reform Act 1964, assisted by NES members.

Philippines



NES members in the Philippines continued to make an impact through expanding its network and collaborating with 27 organisations including farmers, fisherfolks and indigenous people. It also built the capacity of more than 147 paralegal volunteers and farmers on issues such as the National Land Use Act and the National Integrated Protected Areas System Act.

IMPACT

MES members in the Philippines have made the following changes both in practice and policy:



National Integrated Protected Areas System Act (E-NIPAS)

NES Philippines through PAFID together with other indigenous people's organisations influenced the passing of key legislations and expanded on the E-NIPAS.



Claiming land titles

NES members AR Now!, CARRD, PAKISAMA and TFM contributed to the claiming of land titles for 11,000 farmers in the Negros Island Region and Leyte.



Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries (ARB)

NES Philippines assisted 10,100 ARBs to claim land covering 4,251 hectares in Capiz, Iloilo, Batangas, and Negros Occidental.



IMPACT BY CROSS-COUNTRY INITIATIVES AND FACILITIES

A Asia Family Farming

In 2019, the Asia Family Farming Initiative focused its work on developing the platform's triennium strategy (2019-2021). During the Asia Land Forum in Udaipur, members of the platform placed a

specific focus on promoting the United Nations Decade of Family Farming (UNDFF) at the national level by forming and strengthening the National Committee on Family Farming.



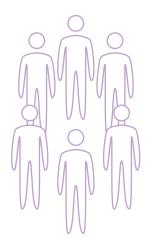
B

Diverse Tenure Systems (Central Asia Pastoralist Alliance & South Asia Pastoralist Alliance)

In 2019, the Diverse Tenure System Initiative under a shared platform strategy lobbied respective governments of the platform's members to implement laws and amend existing policies in the following countries:

- 1 Uzbekistan: Pushed the government to enact the Law on Pasture, which was passed this year. This law stipulates the duties of stakeholders in pasture management. Members of the Central Asia Pastoralist Alliance (CAPA) along with other stakeholders influenced the government and parliament in passing the law.
- Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and 2 Kazakhstan: Helped amend existing land policies in Central Asian countries, such as the 2013 Tenure Rights of Pasture Group in Tajikistan, the 2011 Pastureland Law in Kyrgyzstan, and the 2017 Pasture Law in Kazakhstan. The focus of the amendment was to improve pasture land tenure in said countries. Members and partners of CAPA lobbied and held consultations involving governments, NGOs, and academia, as well as herders and community members, to address the 'loopholes' of existing laws.
- Mongolia: Influenced its national government to officially endorse and promote 2022 as the Year of Rangeland and Pastoralist.

- Acres of grazing land was handed back to pastoralist in Jungi village.
- India: With the combined efforts of the South Asia Pastoralist Alliance and civil society movements, the Kutch district government in Gujarat, India, handed back 90 acres of grazing land to pastoralists in Jungi village. Initially this grazing land was encroached by wind farms and the Forest Department. The Jungi pastoralists, supported by the South Asia Pastoralist Alliance (SAPA), held a dialogue with the state government and organised a campaign in front of the Forest Department office.



Women's Land Rights: Enriching Land Movement in Asia

Through various activities at the national level, the Women Land Rights (WLR) Initiative connected with more than 150 grassroots women, local authorities, CSOs and journalists to raise awareness of women's rights over land and natural resources. Here are the initiative's achievements in 2019:

- "Understanding Gender Relations in the Land Discourse". This study was focused on the legality of land rights in five countries in Asia: India, Indonesia, Nepal, Cambodia and Bangladesh. The study is expected to become a key reference to promote ILC Asia members' work in policy advocacy and campaign on gender justice at the national and regional levels.
- In Nepal, training sessions, rallies and campaigns contributed to the upscaling of the Joint Land Ownership (JLO) scheme program in Ramdhuni municipality, Itahari sub-metropolitan city, and Sundar Haraicha.



D Locally Managed Ecosystems

In this reporting period, the platform made the following achievements:

- 1 Documented and published good practices on locally managed ecosystems, compiling case studies from 10 member countries on how local forest users, IPs and communities manage natural resources.
- 2 Strengthened strategic partnership with members of the platform in eight countries.
- Drafted triennium strategy (2019-2021) and institutionalised internal governance, representing three sub regions: Southeast, South and Central Asia.

Advancing Indigenous People's Land Rights Recognition through Evidence Based Advocacy

This platform produced the following achievements in 2019:

- 1 Documented a baseline study on land, territories and resources of indigenous people in the region.
- Enhanced the visibility of the Indigenous People's Land Rights
 Platforms at regional and global forums such as the Asia Pacific Forum on SDGs (APFSD), United Nation Permanent Forum for Indigenous Peoples (UNPFII) and High Level Political Forum (HLPL).
- Built capacity of indigenous people's organisations and land rights activists on participatory mapping and data gathering.
- Connected more than 200 activists from indigenous people's CSOs, youth organisations, fisherfolks and women constituency-based organisations at strategic regional forums such as APFSD and Asia Pacific Regional CSOs Engagement Mechanism.

Securing the Future: Land Rights for Rural Youth

Here are the initiative's key achievements in the following countries:

- 1 Philippines: At the country level, Land Rights for Rural Youth (LR4RY) supported the establishment of a young farmers' network in the Philippines. This network consists of 16 CSOs led by PAKISAMA, an ILC Asia member.
- India: In India, an initiative called Go
 Rurban was established to build a
 network between urban and rural
 youths. The idea of the programme was
 to bring young people from the cities
 to experience living in a rural setting.
 In this reporting period, Go Rurban has
 engaged with more than 200 urban
 youth from 20 states in the country.

Indonesia: In Indonesia, through our member RMI and other stakeholders, LR4RY initiated a school to equip indigenous youths to become food artists. The initiative, called "Seniman Pangan" or "The Food Artists", involved the Indonesian Ministry of Education, Ministry of Environment and Forestry, FAO and JAVARA, a private social

enterprise focused on food. Four young women, 11 young men and seven facilitators participated in the two-day training, which resulted in further collaboration plans such as increasing youth entrepreneurship skills in managing non-timber forest products from customary forests and farm land.

G

Land Watch Asia on Sustainable, Reliable and Transparent Data

This platform made achievement in the following areas:

The Land Watch Asia (LWA) built strategic collaboration on promoting land rights and people-centered land governance with regional offices of the United Nations (UN-HABITAT, FAO, ESCAP, UNDP and OHCHR) and the Centre for Integrated Rural Development in Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP). This collaboration resulted in the "Bangkok Declaration on WCARRD @40: Recognize, Defend, and Protect Access to Land, Resources and Tenure Security of the Rural Poor".



2 LWA produced and published a country scoping study of National Statistics Organisations (NSOs) and land data. This scoping study opened an opportunity for NSOs to engage with CSOs working on land rights at the national level. This opportunity was reflected in NSOs' commitment to pursue continuous dialogue with CSOs on developing methodology for measuring SDG indicator 1.4.2.

At the regional level, LWA expanded its coverage to Central Asia through the inclusion of CSO partners in Kyrgyzstan. In addition, participation of ANGOC members from China and Sri Lanka, and CSO partners from Thailand during the regional workshop on Land Rights and Land Governance on 14-15 February 2019 generated interest to engage in similar activities

Working Group on Mainstreaming Land Rights as Human Rights (WG-LRHR)

This platform made achievement in the following areas:

- Published a monitoring report on land conflicts in six countries: Indonesia, Philippines, Cambodia, Bangladesh, Nepal and India. This knowledge product has been used by CSOs outside of the ILC network to influence their respective governments in developing the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights.
- At the national level, WG-LRHR influenced the Bangladeshi chairman of the National Human Rights Institute to co-organise with UNDP a national dialogue on Business and Human Rights (BHR). In Indonesia, WG-LRHR through ILC member KPA and other CSOs contributed to the formulation of the National Action Plan on BHR led by the Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs in early 2019.
- WG-LRHR connected CSOs, both ILC and non ILC members, with four national human rigths institutions at the nations level in Indonesia, Bangladesh, Philippines and Nepal. This allows civil society contribution to the development of the National Action Plan on BHR.
- WG-LRHR created space for 35 local CSOs and communities in six countries to monitor land conflict in their respective areas by contributing through land conflict monitoring.





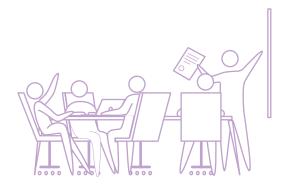
П

Building Research Network in Asia through Preliminary Study on the Economic Corridor & Ecological Crises in Contemporary Asia

Similar to the Asia Family Farming Initiative, this platform is mainly focused on developing its triennium strategy in this reporting period. So far, it has done the following activities to produce a solid and transformative strategy:



- 1 Established a group of activist researchers that consists of ILC Asia members from Mongolia, Cambodia, Philippines, Indonesia and Thailand, who all met in Bogor, Indonesia to discuss their research design and share each other's research experience.
- 2 Documented the initial draft of the research findings with the title "Beyond Asia Economic Corridors: The Emergence of Extreme Dispossession, Exploitation and Extraction in Asia".



Leadership Programme

Based on ILC Strategy 2016-2021, ILC needs to place specific attention on institutional strengthening of its members. The objective of the institutional capacity building is to ensure strong intergenerational leaders that promote sustainable leadership within organisations and a solid ILC global network. At the 2017 General Assembly in Kyrgyzstan, ILC Asia members supported the ambition of creating the Leadership Program for Agrarian Activists and Community Organizers in Asia, addressing members' need to empower grassroots movements in delivering land campaigns. It is hoped that the new generation of leaders born out of this programme will further strengthen our membership.



The successor generation/second liners of ILC Asia members and their own/partner current grassroots leaders are the targeted participants in the proposed leadership training program. They are those who have been noted with leadership potential and are expected to take on leadership roles in ILC member organisations. In this reporting period, the Leadership Programme has completed the following activities:

A curriculum of the Leadership Programme was developed that highlighted the three leadership dimensions: *Personal, Organisational, and Systemic.*



Developed eight re-entry plans implemented by young leaders with small seed funding from ILC.

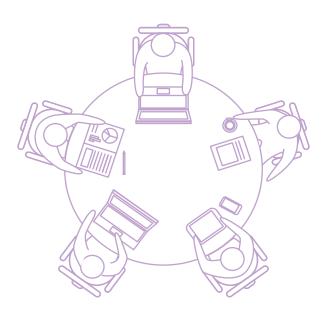




K Piloting LANDex in Nepal

Discussions on how ILC could monitor the status of people-centred land governance at the national level started back in 2008. Followed up with regional workshops in Bogota, Colombia and Bogor, Indonesia in 2016 and 2017 respectively, it was agreed that there was a dire need to address rangelands monitoring and build a common framework on the concept of people-centred land governance.

There are a number of global land governance and rights-oriented framework such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance of Tenure (VGGT), the Global Land Indicators Initiative (GLII) and the United Nation Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). Thus, developing land monitoring tools that are based on ILC's 10 commitments may well be aligned with the diversity of land issues found within these governance frameworks.



This platform organised activities and made achievements in the following areas:

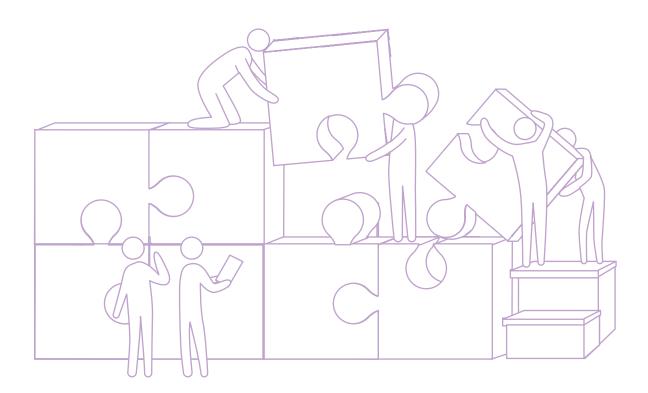
- 1 Organised technical training and political launch event in Kathmandu, Nepal, in October 2018. Twelve constituency-based organisations such as Indigenous Peoples, UN Agencies, government agencies and academics from Nepal participated in the training.
- Collected data for all LANDex indicators. The preliminary result of the piloted LANDex shows that a legal framework is already in place to regulate land governance, yet land administration remains inadequate to maintain land ownership data by demographics.
- The Nepali Central Bureau of Statistics,
 National Planning Commission and
 the Ministry of Land Management,
 Cooperative and Poverty Alleviation
 (MoLMCPA) are committed in using
 LANDex at the national level to
 contribute to SDGs reporting target.

Community Land Protection Initiative

In April 2019, two ILC Asia members Wahyubinatara Fernandez of RMI and Jagat Deuja of CSRC Nepal participated in the Community Land Protection Learning Initiative workshop in London, United Kingdom. Initiated by ILC, Namati and the International Initiative for Environment and Development (IIED), the workshop was designed to build a supportive cross-regional community of practice that facilitates learning between community land rights advocates. It equips ILC members with the practical skills to support communities to document and protect their indigenous and customary lands while strengthening local land governance, natural resource management, and the land rights of women and marginalised groups.

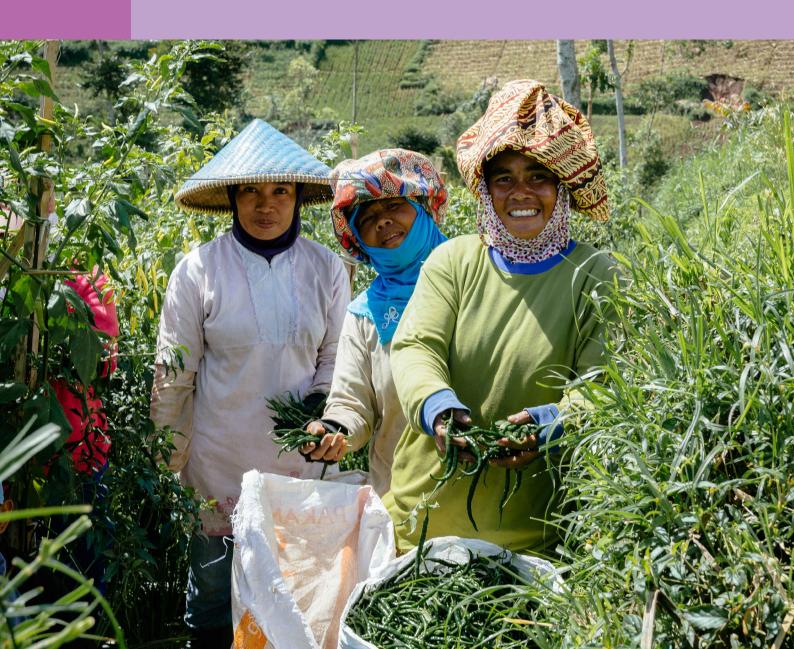
The current cohort is still in the process of completing the programme until April 2020. They are now at the stage of applying learning through direct implementation of community land protection efforts in communities.

Two videos produced by ILC Secretariat provide a brief profile of each of our participating members.



3

TRANSFORMING PLATFORMS FROM QUANTITY TO QUALITY: REFLECTION FROM ASIA





RCU and the Global NES and CBI team introduced the New Operating Model (New OM) to all platforms using several methodologies, including webinars, self-reflection and assessment notes, individual virtual meetings, and regional facilitators meetings.



While members and platform facilitators have started to adopt the New OM, we recognise that much effort still needs to be done to ensure that all platforms are moving in the same pace and direction. We learned that some methods might not be suitable for certain platforms. Each methodology's effectiveness relies on the platform's maturity, nature, and context (including power relations among members).



Challenges



Some platforms did not have a committed full-time facilitator.

One of the biggest challenges we faced this year was to learn that not every single platform (NES and CBI) in Asia had a full-time, committed facilitator. Some members expressed different opinions on the importance of having a facilitator and the implementation of platform activities. Nonetheless, we think that having a committed facilitator will bring about a significant difference. It would ease the exchange and flow of information for members of the platform and improve the introduction of the New OM.



Different understanding of 'multi-stakeholder' plarform. Members of ILC Asia platforms had a different understanding and application of the concept of 'multi-stakeholder platform', and thus, responded differently to the New OM. Since many of them were civil society and grassroots organisations, the idea of transforming their respective platform into an inclusive multi-stakeholder one that would involve other actors such as the private sector and government officials, might seem daunting for them.



ILC is seen as a donor. The narrative of ILC as a donor was still dominant among most platforms. Shifting away from this narrative is not that easy given that ILC's operations on both NES and CBI platforms are acquainted with granting and funding.



Opportunities



The spirit of ILC One Team will present greater opportunities to assist platform members, transforming the priority to the quality of platforms.



ILC as a global network presents a great opportunity to engage with other stakeholders especially intergovernmental organisations.



There is room to expand the role of platform facilitator from administrative tasks to outreach and engagement with broader actors. This will enhance the platforms' reputation and credibility both within and beyond the platforms.



Maintaining quality of platforms' strategy and action plan (structure, content and legibility for external readers) will be one modality to promote our platforms and build partnership with broader actors/entities.



Producing knowledge tools of each platform, such as NES and CBI factsheets and videos.



4

REGIONAL ALLIANCE BUILDING



A

Approaches, meetings and exchange visits with Strategic Partners



As aligned with our Triennial Work Plan, ILC Asia seeks to further strengthen our leverage in the regional land movement by connecting with actors and organisations beyond our membership. Continuing the previous year's friendship with ILC global members, ILC Asia platforms have been linked with FAO and IFAD at the regional level.

We successfully organised a Strategic
Partnership Meeting during the Asia Land
Forum week in Udaipur, which was attended
by the Rights and Resources Initiative (RRI),
the United Nations Economic and Social
Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP),
the Cadasta Foundation, the Business Human
Rights Resource Centre (BHRRC), the Samdhana
Institute and the Mekong Region Land
Governance (MRLG). We also indicated other

potential strategic partners who expressed their interest in future collaboration, such as UN Habitat, the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) and Bothends

Exchange visits have been done where those respective organisations invited ILC Asia to their events such as the Asia Pacific Urban Forum (APUF) in Penang hosted by UN Habitat, AICHR Consultation on the Right to Development in Jakarta and a conference on Indigenous Peoples hosted by Samdhana Institute in Yogyakarta.

We have indicated concrete output deriving from these partnerships, such as a commitment with Samdhana Institute and ILC platforms in Southeast Asia, initial talks on collaboration with the AICHR in promoting the right to development and a collaboration with MRLG to work closer with ILC platforms in the Mekong region.

Spontaneous commitments were made during the strategic partners meeting in Udaipur, such as the formation of working groups on issues of land rights defenders and sustainable land mapping. Participants committed to align their respective organisations' strategy with this new action plan.



В

ILC Asia's Participation in Jai Jagat 2020



ILC Asia is actively involved in supporting the Jai Jagat 2020 Action initiated by Ekta Parishad, an Asia member. Jai Jagat is a call for global justice and peace through a year-long foot march that started from

New Delhi India October 2019 Geneva Switzerland October 2020

ILC Asia is involved in solidarity through the support of sending participants, media publications and financial support. During the campaign launch on 4 October 2019 in New Delhi, ILC Asia and dozens of its members attended the event and participated in a peaceful march to the Gandhi memorial.

This year also marked the launch of Jai Jagat 2020 Fellowship Programme, as initiated by ILC Secretariat. Representations from five ILC Asia member organisations -- Josua Situmorang of Konsorsium Pembaruan Agraria (KPA), Siti Marfuah of RMI, Melissa of Pambansang Kilusan ng mga Samahang Magsasaka (PAKISAMA), Vijendra of BJSA India and Rahman of CDA

Bangladesh -- have been selected as Jai Jagat fellows, marking the highest number of participation among all regions.

At the time of writing this report, all five fellows from Asia were currently participating in the three-week programme that consisted of nonviolent training and foot marches alongside all Jai Jagat participants. Fellows were expected to commit to the programme for one year, apply their learnings and contribute to bringing change back home by empowering local communities.



5

COMMUNICATIONS AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

Knowledge Management

This year ILC Asia published three institutional documents, namely ILC Asia 2018 Annual Report, ILC Asia Triennial Work Plan 2019-2021 and ILC Asia Strategy Paper. We also published and distributed a pre-event electronic brochure of the Asia Land Forum.



B Communications

The communications role in RCU Asia underwent a transition after the previous officer had decided to step down from her role in January 2019. The position was then left vacant until May 2019 and in June, the new officer stepped in. During this transitional period, ILC Asia's communications and outreach was left dormant and as the new officer resumed, new approaches and strategies were being implemented to revive our communication practices.

ILC Asia continues to reach our audience such as our members, partners, the general public and donors by disseminating information and messages on ILC Asia official website, Twitter, Facebook Group and bi-monthly newsletters.



ILC Asia Website

Since September 2018



24 Articles

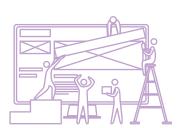


Blogs



2 Videos

ILC website is currently undergoing a transformation process and set to launch in January 2020. There is a possibility that regions will have their own sub-sites instead of just tabs at the top of the page like the current system. With the new website, we hope to better convey our message by showing better content management and quality information that members and the general public can easily access.



Monthly Newsletters

Throughout this reporting period, ILC Asia has circulated



6Newsletters



578Recipients



188Opens
(the number of times a recipient opens our email)



We have recently started to use our newsletters to promote members' new publications or knowledge tools in the form of an extract. As this falls under our main strategy to connect, share and inspire each other with best practices, the reports of these campaigns show that the number of 'opens' is significantly higher than the usual monthly update campaigns. It is worth exploring the idea of sharing our platforms' resources and publications in a more attractive, packaged content.

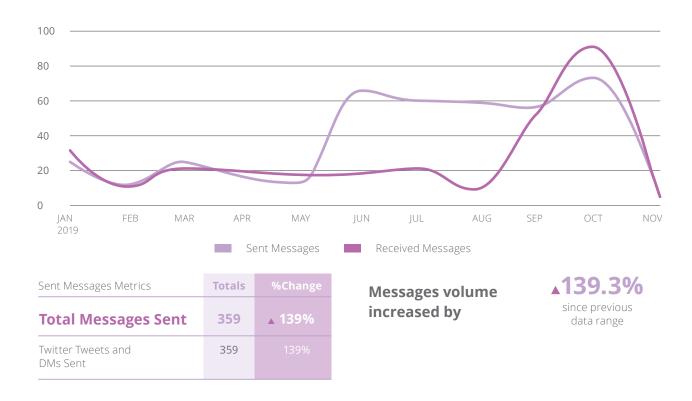


Social Media

Twitter

1,697 followers on Twitter

Throughout this reporting period we've had a stable increase of followers, averaging at 15 new followers per month or 12.6% increase on a year-on-year basis.





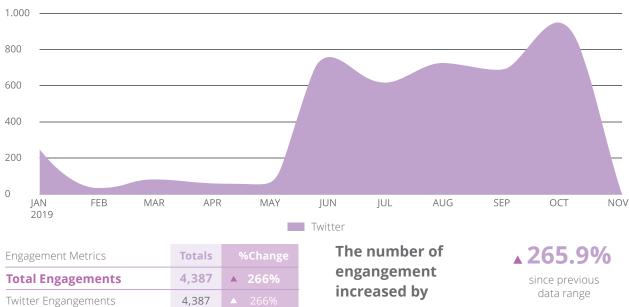
Twitter Message Volume

Message volume means the number of tweets we share each day. The numbers show that there has been a spike from May to October 2019. A simple analysis could be that the spike in the past two months was attributed to the 'reactivation' of tweeting from its dormant phase in the previous four months when the Communications Officer position was

still vacant. In addition, the Regional Forum & Assembly created an opportunity to gain momentum to amplify our voice on social media. This resulted in a spike in sending out tweets and in return, gaining new followers.

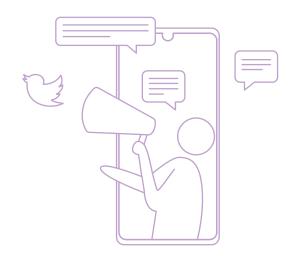
Group Engagement





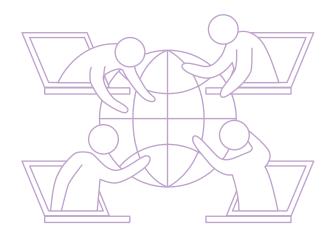
Twitter Engagement

The spike shown since May 2019 may be attributed to the increasing number of tweets sent out. This is part of the communications team's objective in reviving ILC Asia social media. We can analyse that by sending more tweets, our followers become more engaged in our conversation. However, we should also keep in mind that numbers do not necessarily translate to better social media engagement. It's important to keep in mind what kind of content we want to put out that best reflects ILC Asia's and our members' work.



Facebook Group

ILC Asia continued to use Facebook Group to reach out to members in sharing opportunities, ILC best practices, and requesting members to provide updates on their work. The close-knit Facebook Group allows us to initiate intimate conversations, though in some cases hinders us from doing a wider outreach to the general public. This prompts us to consider creating a public Facebook Page where we can track our engagement on social media.



Internal Communication

ILC Asia uses email and WhatsApp as the platform to communicate internally with members. A new Google Group (ilcasiamembers@googlegroups.com) has been created in the hopes that it would ease off sending messages to the whole membership without having to type in all email addresses at once. The active presence of NES Facilitators and CBI focal points make it easier to communicate with the members, as those project facilitators were integrated into the WhatsApp group.

We successfully organised a communication webinar with NES and CBI facilitators in November 2019. Participants were expected to develop a solid communications strategy for their respective platforms in order to support their campaign objectives.





REGIONAL GOVERNANCE



A

Asia Land Forum

This year's Asia Land Forum and Regional Assembly was held from **30 September to 4 October** in Udaipur, India, with our members Land Forum India (LFI) and MARAG as the hosts. Here are some of the highlights from the event:

Funding



ILC managed to gain financial support for the Forum as we engaged with strategic partners in the region, such as the Rights and Resources Initiative (RRI), Oxfam India, ActionAid, Welthungerhlife (WHH), and Astha.

Participation



The Forum successfully provided a dialogue space between civil society, grassroots organisations, and policy-makers, with 92% member participation level (50 out of 54 civil society organisation members participated in the event).



On the first day, we successfully invited officials of the Rajasthani Government, national parliament members and 800+ local community members.

Events



CSO members collaborated with intergovernmental organisations to organise thematic parallel sessions.



On the last two days, members had the opportunity to connect with local communities by going on field visits and joining the Jai Jagat 2020 march.



Members signed the Charter of Demands of the People and the Udaipur Declaration.

Media



The Forum was able to gain approximately 25 news coverage by national and international media outlets.



Our social media gained traction with 50 new Twitter followers and increased engagement by 330%.

B Regional Assembly

The Regional Assembly was successfully convened with members agreeing on the following major decisions:



Regional Coordination Unit

The Asia Regional Coordination Unit (RCU), which has been hosted by the Consortium of Agrarian Reform (KPA) since 2013, will find a new host in 2020. In October 2019, the Asia Steering Committee (ASC) sent out an open call for RCU hosting to national and international members in Indonesia. ASC was to decide on the new host at the end of 2019, and the transition from KPA to the new host will be finalised in June 2020. RCU hosting will remain in Indonesia until the end of the current strategy period in 2021.



Regional Assembly

An open call for the 2020 Regional Assembly was shared to the floor, with the caveat that the host might have to raise funds directly to cover the majority of the costs. Further update regarding budget and its possible limitations of ILC support to the event will be informed after the ILC Global Council Meeting in January 2020.



Udaipur Declaration

Members drafted and discussed the Udaipur Declaration as a means to express our demand to governments in the region in pursuing people-centred land governance.



C Asia Steering Committee (ASC)

In order to oversee the implementation of ILC Asia's strategies and work plans, an induction was carried out to the new ASC members during the first four months of appointment.



Yogyakarta:

Face-to-face ASC meeting

Rome:

Council meeting

Jakarta:

Face-to-face and two virtual ASC meetings

D

The Second Regional Facilitators Workshop

In July 2019, MARAG hosted a regional facilitator meeting in Ahmedabad, India. Here are some of the highlights from the meeting:



Attended by 16 ILC platform facilitators and local points.



The main topic was the new Operating Model, platform criteria, and coordination of the RCU and facilitators.



Achieved mutual understanding regarding the new Operating Model and the challenges of existing platforms, including the high turnover of facilitators and finding the best methodology to orchestrate the journey of each platform.

E Resource Mobilisation

This year, the RCU team together with our members successfully attracted donors to support NES Nepal (Land Governance Working Group), NES Kyrgyzstan and the Asia Land Forum.



was covered by multiple donors



was supported by external donors



A concept note on participatory mapping in collaboration with JKPP was submitted to the EU Representative Office in Indonesia

CONCLUSION

2019 was a strong year for ILC Asia. Despite the numerous challenges that our members faced, we continued to create an impact at the local, national and regional level on the communities we worked with. The year largely gave us an opportunity to expand our network by collaborating with government officials in member countries, giving us room to push for policies that put people at the heart of land governance.

Finally, ILC Asia is learning to better serve its membership. Changes in its staffing and the new Operating Model should help our platforms strengthen its performance.

The next big step for us is to maintain our significance as a key actor in the land movement. By having our members as ILC Ambassadors, we are confident that although it takes strenuous efforts to achieve land governance that prioritises local communities, we are making significant progress.



ILC Asia Members













































































































Our Donors



















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