

# PESTICIDE ACTION NETWORK ASIA AND THE PACIFIC



Annual Report 2010

# ABOUT PAN AP

Pesticide Action Network Asia and the Pacific (PAN AP) is one of the five regional centres of PAN, a global network dedicated to eliminating the harm caused to humans and the environment by pesticides and promoting biodiversity-based ecological agriculture.

PAN AP's vision is a society that is truly democratic, equal, just, and culturally diverse; based on the principles of food sovereignty, gender justice and environmental sustainability. It has developed strong partnerships with peasants, agricultural workers and rural women movements in the Asia Pacific region and guided by the strong leadership of these grassroots groups, has grown into a reputable advocacy

network with a firm Asian perspective.

PAN AP's mission lies in strengthening people's movements to advance and assert food sovereignty, biodiversity-based ecological agriculture, and the empowerment of rural women; protect people and the environment from highly hazardous pesticides; defend the rice heritage of Asia; and resist the threats of corporate agriculture and neo-liberal globalisation.

Currently, PAN AP comprises 108 network partner organisations in the Asia Pacific region and links with about 400 other CSOs and grassroots organisations regionally and globally.

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# OVERVIEW



2010 was an extraordinary year for PAN AP. Among our most outstanding achievements were the culmination of the People's Year of Rice Action (YORA), the release of the landmark Asian and global reports on the use of Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs), and the success of a fact-finding mission in stopping a coal-based power plant project in India. These were a few of PAN AP's responses to the challenges posed by the intensifying food and climate crises. Undoubtedly, these crises will continue to undermine the lives and livelihoods of rural people, but also inspire people's resistance and the emergence of alternatives.

We reached out to new partners and alliances and made a significant impact locally, nationally, regionally and internationally through our community-based activities, research, policy advocacy, and information and educational campaigns. These produced concrete results,

including the Asian and global reports on the use of HHPs, which prompted an independent investigation and the phasing out by a Danish company of the use of paraquat and monocrotophos. Our fact-finding mission in Sompeta, Andhra Pradesh halted the construction of a coal-based power plant on prime agricultural land, a victory benefiting thousands of small food producers. The People's Year of Rice Action (YORA) culminated in a large demonstration in front of the International Rice Research Institute's headquarters in the Philippines, highlighting the need to save Asia's rice culture. The YORA-related activities involved more than a hundred organisations in 15 countries and invigorated the campaign for food sovereignty and Biodiversity-based Ecological Agriculture (BEA).

Internationally, PAN AP provided significant inputs to the Food and Agriculture

Organisation's (FAO) Regional Conference in Korea, and continued to play a key role in the FAO's Committee on Food Security. We engaged civil society organisations and policy makers at the Conference of the Parties (COP) of the Stockholm Convention, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's COP 16, and other important high-level meetings.

Building on our work on climate change, PAN AP launched its Climate Change and Community Resilience Campaign, kick-starting trainings on

Biodiversity-based Ecological Agriculture. We continued to provide strong support to the coalitions we helped create, including the Asian Rural Women's Coalition and the Coalition of Agricultural Workers International. Several evaluations, planning and strategising meetings of our different programmes and campaigns kept PAN AP's work focused, current, and relevant.

This Annual Report highlights the key activities and impacts of each of PAN AP's programmes and campaigns in 2010.

# PESTICIDES PROGRAMME



With the crucial participation of civil society and people's organisations, farming communities, consumers, and decision makers, the Pesticides Programme made very successful contributions to its objectives of raising awareness on the dangers of Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs), taking action to reduce and eliminate HHPs, and promoting sustainable alternatives.

## Heightened Awareness, Growing Capacities

A key to these successes was strategic planning in early 2010, when the **Pesticide Task Force** met to identify and analyse emerging pesticides issues, and to strategise on campaign efforts at the national, regional and global levels. This was followed by the **Community Pesticide Action Monitoring (CPAM) Partners** meeting. With representatives from 12 countries – Cambodia,

China (including Hong Kong), India, Indonesia, Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mongolia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Vietnam – the meeting gave direction to the lively work of CPAM Partners.

The Mekong region is one of the most dynamic regions for growth in Asia. Along with our partners, we mobilised communities, empowering and informing them of health and environmental hazards posed by pesticides, and helped them to explore sustainable alternatives. Over 20 communities participated in awareness-raising activities and CPAM trainings as part of the **Keml Project, "Towards a Non-toxic Environment in Southeast Asia."** These also involved government officials and agencies, as well as the FAO Regional Vegetable Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Programme in South and Southeast Asia.

*“Eleven people from our commune died due to pesticide poisoning, when a pesticide container was used to carry wine. This was a sad event. Pesticides are harmful to our health.”*

**- Mr. Von Von,  
Commune Councilor from  
Cambodia**

*“When pesticides spilled on my back during spraying, I came close to death. Luckily, my family got me to the hospital on time.”*

**- Mr. Sneg Thoeun,  
a vegetable farmer from  
Cambodia**

The highlights of the Kemi Project are as follows. In **Cambodia**, around 2,000 individuals from farming communities in five districts participated in workshops and attracted the attention of local media. In **Yunnan, China**, three CPAM trainings were held in Zhongzhai village. Our local partner, Pesticide Eco-Alternatives Center (PEAC), translated monitoring tools and distributed posters and flyers to reach out to youth and consumers. In **North Vietnam**, our local partner, Research Centre for Gender, Family and Environment in Development (CGFED), translated CPAM tools and held IPM Farmer Field Schools in collaboration with the Plant Protection Department. In **South**

**Vietnam**, our local partner, Research Center for Rural Development (RCRD), held CPAM trainings in the Chau Thanh and Tan Phu districts. Their pesticide monitoring results were then presented in a well-publicised conference. In **Lao People’s Democratic Republic**, around 300 consumers and local government officials participated in the No Pesticide Use Week events in Xiengkhouang province.

## Unprecedented Research

The publication of the Asian Regional Report created a remarkable impact on the international community and the general public, prompting an independent investigation and pressuring a Danish company to phase out two HHPs.

A joint effort with 12 organisations in eight countries, *“Communities in Peril: Asian Regional Report on Community Monitoring of Highly Hazardous Pesticide Use,”* was based on surveys on HHP use in communities across the region. It was launched in February 2010 at the *Simultaneous Extraordinary Meetings of the Conferences of the Parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions* in Bali, Indonesia. The report received considerable media coverage. It also provided the expertise to other PAN regional centres in Africa, North America and Latin America, which undertook similar community monitoring. The results from the Asian report were subsequently combined with results from Africa, North America, and Latin America. These were published in the report *“Communities in Peril: Global Report on the Health Impacts of Pesticide Use in Agriculture,”* launched in Brussels in June 2010.

The most significant outcome of the report was the announcement by United Plantations (UP), a Danish company in Malaysia and Indonesia and a member of the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO), to phase out paraquat and monocrotophos by January 2011. This was



*Launch of the Asian Regional Report in Bali, Indonesia*



*PAN AP at the UNEP and WC/RILO for Asia and the Pacific Workshop and Seminar to Combat Environmental Crime*

due to pressure brought about by PAN AP, Tenaganita and the media. The results of the community monitoring of HHP use in Malaysia, highlighted in both the Asian and global reports, had initiated an independent investigation by the Danish newspaper Politiken.

The report also provided pivotal information in combatting trade in illegal pesticides. It was presented at the **UNEP and World Customs Organization Regional Intelligence Liaison Office (WC/RILO) for Asia and the Pacific Workshop and Seminar to Combat Environmental Crime** in Beijing, where we

proposed implementing the Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions and FAO Code of Conduct at customs control points, and the use of PAN's pesticide database to combat environmental crime.

## **"No Pesticide Use Week" Celebrations**

Each year, we have led the celebration of the **"No Pesticide Use Week"** (NPUW) to commemorate the Bhopal tragedy and highlight the global anti-pesticides campaign. In 2010, a major milestone was achieved in India when the Kerala Agriculture Minister ordered a ban in Kasargod on the sales of red and yellow category pesticides (similar to WHO Class 1 and 2 pesticides) on December 3, in tacit recognition of the beginning of the NPUW. Major political parties in the state also called for the ban of endosulfan, resulting in widespread media coverage of the issue and the NPUW celebrations.

In total, 12 PAN AP partners and 29 other organisations in nine countries engaged in the one-week campaign. In more than 35 communities, public fora and rallies engaged government officials and enlightened thousands of people across the region about the dangers of pesticides and the existence

*"After learning about the dangers of pesticides during the No Pesticide Use Week, I consulted PEAC on how to reduce the pesticide residues in my vegetables."*

**- Mr. Wu,  
a consumer from Yunnan,  
China**



The Kerala government bans Class 1 and 2 pesticides at the launch of NPUW in Kerala, India



An NPUW rally against pesticides in Wayanad, Kerala

of alternatives. PAN AP publications were extensively used as educational and campaign materials and translated into various local languages, including fact sheets on HHPs.

In the coming year, we seek to expand the NPUW celebration to more organisations and communities, with particular emphasis on the effects of pesticides on women and children.

## Policy Advocacy: Keeping Up the Pressure to Ban Endosulfan

Our international campaign to garner support for a global ban on endosulfan had significant influence in endosulfan being considered at the **Conference of the Parties (COP) of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)** held on April 2011. In preparation for the COP, PAN AP provided documentation on the hazards of endosulfan and gave a human face to poisoned victims. We also denounced the manoeuvres by the Indian government's consultant and industry representative to block the endosulfan review process at both the **POPs Review Committee** and meetings of the **Rotterdam Convention**

**Chemical Review Committee**. To maintain pressure, we made a public statement highlighting the US Environmental Protection Agency's announcement to phase out endosulfan, and called for swift international action to eliminate endosulfan globally.

PAN AP and Tenaganita continued to monitor unsustainable palm oil practices, as well as campaigned on workers' and women's rights and land grabbing. During the **8th Roundtable Meeting (RT8) of the RSPO** in Jakarta in November 2010, information and campaign materials on the hazards of paraquat and WHO Type 1A and 1B pesticides were distributed. The **Regional Meeting on Community Education for Pesticide Risk Reduction** in November 2010 saw the sharing of advocacy tools and paved the way for future collaboration between government officials and network partners in Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, China and Vietnam. Meanwhile, during the **International Union of Foodworkers (IUF) Asia/Pacific Regional Seminar on Health and Safety in Agriculture and Plantations** in December 2010, PAN AP and IUF discussed ways to further engage agricultural plantation workers in India in the campaign to ban HHPs.



# FOOD SOVEREIGNTY AND ECOLOGICAL AGRICULTURE PROGRAMME



The Food Sovereignty and Ecological Agriculture Programme achieved concrete results in policy advocacy and in its support for the struggle of small food producers in asserting their rights to land and productive resources. Significant progress was also made in advocating Biodiversity-based Ecological Agriculture as a means of building community resilience and mitigating the impact of climate change.

## Stopping a Coal-based Power Plant

Our continued support of small producers in their struggle for land and other productive resources reached dramatic new heights this year. **An international fact-finding mission in Sompeta in Andhra Pradesh, India**, saved the land and livelihoods of around 20,000 small food producers and inspired other communities in their struggle against development aggression.

In July 2010, the combined forces of State police and private goons violently dispersed the peaceful mobilisation of Sompeta villagers, killing three peasants and injuring several hundreds more. The villagers were resisting a coal-based power plant to be built on



*Morning rush. Women in Sompeta walk along a road surrounded by lush and productive farms that were declared by the government as a "wasteland".*

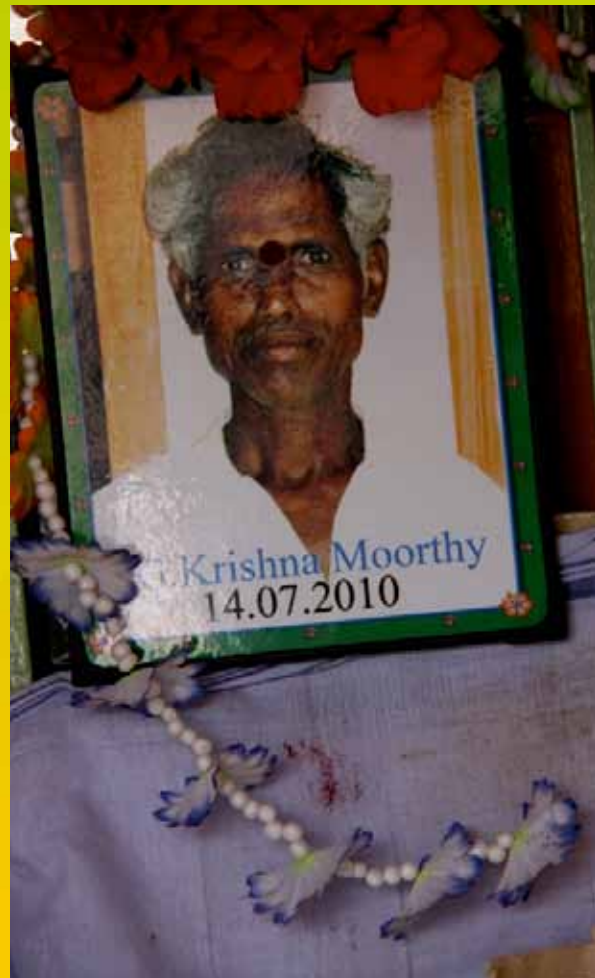


*Near Sompeta, another village called Kakarapalli is facing the same dilemma: a coal-based power plant is about to be built. Women took to the streets and stopped the truck that brings supplies to the coal plant.*

779 hectares of lush agricultural land which the government had suddenly declared a “wasteland.” Together with eminent civil society members from Asia-Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD), Nepal Development Lawyers’ Association, Peoples’ Coalition on Food Sovereignty (PCFS), National Anti-Poverty Movement – Andhra Pradesh (NAPM-AP) and Andhra Pradesh Vyavasaya Vruthidula Union (APVVU), PAN AP investigated the incident in September 2010. The result was **Speak Out**, a comprehensive documentation on the plight of Sompeta, which strongly outlined the legitimate demand of these communities to stop the project.



*The International Fact-Finding Mission team visits D. Gavaraya, a 58 year-old peasant whose severe leg injury prevented him from working for several months.*



*A picture of G. Krishna Moorthy greets visitors to his house. He was one of the three persons killed in the Sompeta incident on July 14, 2010.*



*(Top) Angry women talk to the members of the International Fact-Finding Mission team in Kakarapalli. They are desperate to stop the coal plant as it will displace them and their livelihood.*



*(Left) Healing but not forgotten. Baddi Viswanathan shows his healing wound to the International Fact-Finding Mission team. He was one of the protesters violently attacked by the police and hired goons of the power plant.*

*“Who will enjoy electricity in our villages, when we will be begging on the streets of big cities?”*

**- Ms. Sheshamma, an elderly village woman, on the potential impact of the power plant project in Sompeta.**



Women in Sompeta narrate how they were badly beaten by the police on July 14, 2010.

The issue was popularised at the regional and international levels through an online petition. Several UN Special Rapporteurs were also asked to conduct a formal intervention. In January 2011, the project's proponent, Nagarjuna Construction Company, finally scrapped its plan to build the power plant after India's National Environmental Appellate Authority quashed its environmental clearance application due to the pressure generated by local protests and international support generated by PAN AP.

PAN AP and its partners continued to monitor land grabbing cases in the region. Our work resulted in the publication of *Turning Point*, a policy paper and an offshoot of the Special Release that is now being published and

*"Great, congratulations! Nice to know the community in Sompeta can now resume their normal lives."*

**- Shen Maglinte, Deputy Executive Director, Wellspring of Science and Technology (SIBAT), Philippines**

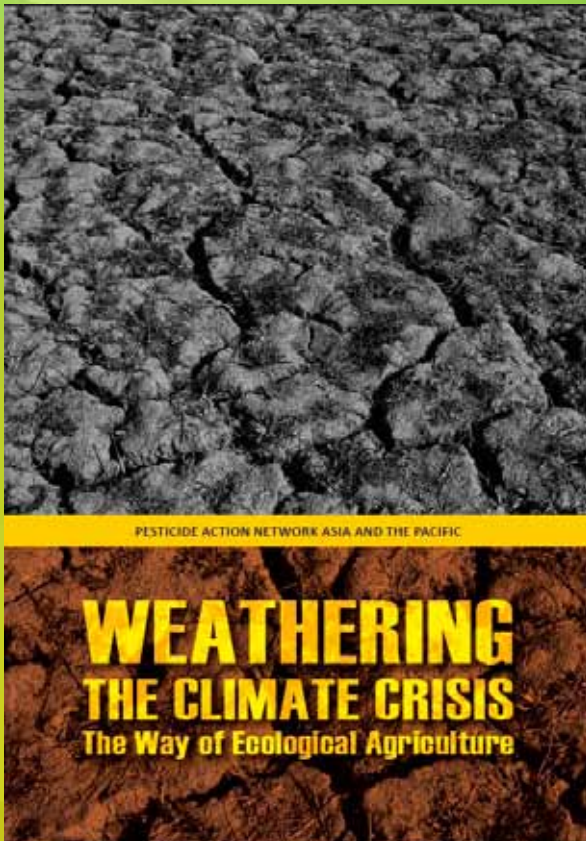


*Turning Point's maiden issue discusses the global land grabbing phenomenon and its impacts on food sovereignty.*

circulated regularly by the PCFS. **Turning Point's** maiden issue, **"Global Land Grabbing: Eroding Food Sovereignty,"** traces the roots of the land grabbing phenomenon and places it in the context of the current global economic crisis. The issue was launched on December 10, 2010, International Human Rights Day.

## Proposing Genuine Solutions to Climate Change

While governments and international agencies continue to evade the root causes of climate change and focus instead on carbon trading and other deceptive solutions, PAN AP published an incisive handbook entitled **"Weathering the Climate Crisis: The Way of Ecological Agriculture."** Launched during the **United**



The handbook, "Weathering the Climate Crisis: The Way of Ecological Agriculture" advocates biodiversity-based farming systems for mitigating climate change, hunger and poverty.

**Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's COP 16** in Cancun on December 2010, the handbook pinpointed agriculture as the most vulnerable sector to the effects of the climate crisis. It discusses how abrupt changes in weather are threatening the livelihoods of small food producers and indigenous peoples throughout the Asia-Pacific region. The handbook concludes that Biodiversity-based Ecological Agriculture (BEA) plays a major role in mitigating climate change and in providing livelihoods for rural poor communities. Copies of the handbook, the only material advocating BEA to deal with climate change, were distributed to government negotiators and CSOs participating in the COP 16.

During the COP 16, PAN AP was also active in several events and actions calling for genuine



No to transgenic seeds! Agrochemical corporations' false solution to climate change is highlighted in Cancun.



Participants at the UNFCCC meetings in Cancun commemorate the Bhopal incident with a silent march.



At the climate change meetings in Cancun, Mexico in December 2010, thousands of protesters oppose the inclusion of the World Bank in the climate negotiations.

solutions to climate change. PAN AP and its partners are now preparing for the COP 17, which will be held in South Africa on November 2011.

## Presenting People's Perspectives to the FAO & UN

At the international policy level, PAN AP continued to actively participate in the Committee on Food Security (CFS) of the FAO. In the **CFS meetings in Rome** and the **regional FAO meeting in Korea**, PAN AP provided critical viewpoints on the right to land and food. We distributed materials that contributed to discussions on the food crisis, as well as on the FAO's future plans on food security and climate change. Furthermore, representatives from 11 CSOs and organisations of indigenous peoples, peasants, rural women and agricultural workers

were mobilised by PAN AP during these meetings, enabling them to articulate their concerns and viewpoints to the FAO.

PAN AP also engaged in two highly **significant consultations with Olivier De Schutter, the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food**. We facilitated the participation of 20 local groups working on land rights issues to the consultations in preparation for a report to the UN General Assembly on access to land and agrarian reform. Held in March 2010 in Kuala Lumpur for South East Asia, and in Chennai for South Asia, these consultations with the UN Special Rapporteur enabled communities to share how the denial of access to land affected their right to adequate food. Their inputs provided the UN Special Rapporteur with a well-grounded overview of the situation, and were eventually reflected in his October 2010 report to the UN General Assembly.

## WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE PROGRAMME



In 2010, the Women in Agriculture (WIA) Programme made several important contributions in addressing gender inequalities and gender injustices through strengthening the capacities of women in agriculture, and providing support and visibility to their struggle against corporate agriculture and for access to seeds and genetic resources.

### Women Perspectives on Access to Seeds and Genetic Resources

A key achievement for the WIA Programme was its **critical engagement with the UN's Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)** before and during the CBD COP 10 meeting in Nagoya, Japan in October 2010. This engagement highlighted the need for a protocol that would recognise and protect women's rights to land, seeds, water and other productive resources.

PAN AP attended several CSO consultations in the Philippines, and was an observer during the Philippine government's consultations. In preparation for the CBD COP 10, PAN AP completed a comprehensive policy paper on the trends and developments of international trade agreements and environmental treaties related to access to genetic resources, especially seeds and intellectual property rights. This was useful to local partners in understanding the technical issues involved in the CBD.

During the CBD COP 10, PAN AP was instrumental in putting forward community and women's perspectives on access to seeds and genetic resources during the CSO consultations on the Access and Benefit Sharing Protocol. We reiterated the need for governments and CSOs to consistently translate these international agreements to the local reality in order to respect and protect the rights of indigenous and



Virgie Dammay (right), an indigenous women farmer from the Cordillera, Philippines, participated in the Convention on Biological Diversity COP 10 meetings and side events in October 2010 in Nagoya, Japan.

local communities, especially women. PAN AP facilitated the participation in the meeting of an indigenous woman farmer, Virgie Dammay from Cordillera, Philippines, who spoke about the impact of such a protocol on women farmers and how access and benefit-sharing could take place. She was steadfast in urging governments “to genuinely recognize and protect our rights to land, territories and resources; and protect our traditional knowledge, skills and contribution, especially of women, in biodiversity-based ecological agriculture.”

Our *Statement on Women and Genetic Resources*, emphasizing the importance of BEA

and putting a stop to corporate agriculture and land use, was distributed and warmly received by delegates. Other relevant articles and statements were also released to bolster our positions.

### Rural Women’s Movements: Stronger than Ever

To kickstart PAN AP’s Women’s Leadership Building Programme, women leaders from network partners throughout the region gathered for the **Rural Women’s Leadership and Perspective Building Strategy Meeting** in



Women’s Leadership Building meeting in progress





*(From left) Vernie Yocogan-Diano of Innabuyog Women's Organization, Marjo Busto Quinto and Sarojeni Rengam of PAN AP during the successful launch of the Booklet on Women's Resistance and Struggles, which was attended by more than a hundred women from 11 countries in Asia.*



*Participants of the WIA Task Force Meeting*

September 2010 in Penang. The meeting was considered as a stepping-stone to strengthen women's movements in the context of food sovereignty, gender justice and ecological agriculture. It was agreed that a series of trainings will be piloted in 2011 to develop highly-skilled rural women leaders to lead their communities to take action on their rights. The WIA Programme also convened its **6th Task Force Meeting**, where plans for the next three years were created and affirmed.

At a conference co-organised by the Asian Rural Women's Coalition in July 2010, PAN AP launched the booklet ***Women's Resistance and Struggles: Asserting our Rights to Land, Resources and Livelihood (Booklet 2: Land and Resources, Claiming Our Rights)***. It documented the displacement of rural communities in India, Thailand and the Philippines, as due to development projects that denied women access to land and resources. The launch was an opportunity to highlight and share the issues and struggles of women in agriculture with other groups. The booklet is a testament of the struggles and resistance of organised groups in

asserting and reclaiming their rights as women, and as a sector. Vernie Diano, an indigenous leader from Cordillera said during the launch, "These are our stories, our resistance, our victories." (*For more information on our work with the ARWC, please turn to the section on Network Building*)

The booklet series, as well as other publications by the WIA Programme this year, "***Ruined Lives, Ravaged Livelihoods,***" "***Who's Controlling the Food Now?***" and "***Module on Documenting Women's Knowledge in Agriculture,***" continue to be effective advocacy tools for various women's groups and movements in highlighting stories of victorious resistance against corporate agriculture and promoting BEA in the context of gender justice.

Mainstreaming gender concerns in all our programmes and campaigns is a priority for PAN AP. Gender perspectives are always incorporated in our publications and statements. Women are deeply involved in meetings, workshops, trainings, and policy advocacy work.

## THE SAVE OUR RICE CAMPAIGN



The Save Our Rice Campaign once again brought to the forefront people's actions to address threats to Asia's rice culture, through the Year of Rice Action (YORA). YORA is a campaign against corporate-led rice research and technologies, and which promotes the Five Pillars of Rice Wisdom: Rice Culture, Community Wisdom, Biodiversity-based Ecological Agriculture, Safe Food and Food Sovereignty among small rice farmers and consumers.

### Year of Rice Action: 101 Ways to Save the Rice of Asia

The first People's Year of Rice Action (YORA) is shining testimony to the relevance, growth and success of the Save Our Rice Campaign. From 4 April 2009 to 4 April 2010, 101 activities were held under the theme "Rice for Life and Livelihood! 50 Years of IRRI is Enough." Twenty-

six anchor organisations worked with 179 local partners in 15 countries in Asia to raise awareness and build public solidarity. In various creative ways, thousands of people across the region collectively confronted the root causes

*"The YORA campaign reminds us once again why rice is important for us, and how we can keep our rice. I hope we can work further in the Rice Campaign for safer health and land."*

**- Kim Jai-Ok, President,  
Consumers Korea**

*"YORA was an opportunity to highlight the significance of rice diversity in our region. It was wonderful to see farmers appreciating the uniqueness of traditional varieties. It helped bring back the lost memories attached to these varieties."*

**- Usha Jayakumar, National Coordinator, Save our Rice Campaign, India**



*At a YORA workshop in Yunnan, China, a woman dressed in Zhuang indigenous costume shares on the ill effects of pesticides.*



*PAN AP partners at the YORA culmination in the Philippines*



*Children asserting their right to safe food, in a street rally against GE food in Japan.*



*Participants in the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) YORA workshop in Sheikhupura District, Pakistan*



*The Rice Campaign Coordinator with other speakers and the organizing team of the Planet Diversity Forum in Nagoya.*

*“YORA brings us closer together to protect our rice, makes us stronger to challenge corporate monopoly agenda, and gives us better understanding to move forward.”*

**- Sakiul Millat Morshed,  
Executive Director,  
SHISUK, Bangladesh**



*Rural women celebrate the 'pongal' festival for YORA in Tamil Nadu, India*



*A YORA forum on land reform highlights the issue of land grabbing in Indonesia*

*“It was in the late 1980s when KMP (Peasant Movement of the Philippines) started its campaign against IRRI’s plunder and control of Philippine agriculture. We were very few then. KMP worked closely with PAN AP and APC, and our campaign against IRRI became Asia-wide. Later, it became global. This is the result of WORA and YORA. We will continue our campaign to protect rice farmers.”*

**- Danilo Ramos, KMP and  
Asian Peasant Coalition  
Secretary General,  
Philippines**

of the food crisis and the threats to Asia’s rice heritage.

The YORA culminated in a **huge public rally in April 2010 in Laguna, Philippines, the headquarters of the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)**. Around 700 farmers and international delegates from 11 Asian countries gathered to demand IRRI’s closure. The event, jointly organised by PAN AP and RESIST Network in the Philippines, reflected the growing momentum of YORA, marked by numerous **citizens’ juries, festivals, exhibitions, public rallies, and other activities** that attracted widespread public participation and media coverage.

The YORA featured efforts to resist corporate control over seeds, particularly GE rice and hybrid rice, and to defend the rights of small rice farmers and rice consumers in Asia. In 2010, 30 YORA activities engaged people across

the region in lobbying against the dangers of GE rice and IRRI's corporate-led agricultural research, as well as promoted the struggle for land rights and women's rights.

PAN AP, in collaboration with the Asian Peasants Coalition, participated in a regional dialogue on how to **resist the expansion of hybrid rice** in the region. We also collaborated with the RESIST Network to **oppose the promotion, development and field testing of Bt eggplant in the Philippines.**

The Rice Campaign Coordinator joined a street rally and forum organised by the NO GMO Campaign of Japan in Nagoya in October 2010. At the *Planet Diversity Forum: Aiming for a World without GMOs*, she spoke about the campaign against GE rice in Asia and the importance of the consumer movement.

## Practising Biodiversity-based Ecological Agriculture (BEA) of Rice

In 2010, two major training programmes equipped local farming communities with the knowledge, skills, and inspiration to practice biodiversity-based ecological agriculture (BEA).

In collaboration with our local partner MASIPAG, a regional training workshop was held in Nueva Ecija, Philippines, involving farmers from 14 organizations in 11 Asian countries. The training addressed topics such as seed conservation and breeding, climate change adaptation, and community empowerment. Many participants, inspired by the training, have already trained other farmers in their own communities, sharing the lessons that they have learned on BEA.

Another training was held in Sabah, in collaboration with our local partners PACOS Trust in East Malaysia and KUDUMBAM in India. Participants came from two indigenous farming



*Participants practising rice breeding techniques at MASIPAG's trial farm*



*Participants preparing a rice plot for transplanting on a hill slope in Sabah, Malaysia*

communities struggling with low capacities and yields. Trainers from KUDUMBAM taught BEA practices to cope with pests, diseases, and low yields. The farmers are currently putting these lessons into practice.

## Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change on Rural Rice Communities

Our studies on the impacts of climate change on rice farming communities in Asia, which commenced in 2008, have helped ascertain the impacts of climate change on the ground, as well as the adaptive capacities and needs of the communities, especially women. Seventeen baseline studies and three Phase 2 studies by 16



*Women in Uttarakhand, India taking seedlings for planting – preserving traditional rice varieties is part of their adaptation to climate change*



*A woman farmer showing one of the consequences of drought in the province of Pangasinan, Philippines*

network partners, have been conducted so far. These studies have been a useful tool to raise the community awareness and understanding of climate change. Droughts, floods and salinity were the three most common impacts addressed by the studies, across the region.

Fortunately, in places such as Uttarakhand, India, women farmers preserve traditional rice varieties as part of their adaptation. Across the region, PAN AP and its partners continue to promote BEA for building community resilience to climate change.

## First Asia Pacific Rice Film Award



The first Asia Pacific Rice Film Award (APRFA) and the second round of the Asia Pacific Rice Journalist Award (APRJA) 2008/2009, attracted entries from promising filmmakers and journalists across the region. The APRFA's winning entry was *"SRI - Challenging Traditions, Transforming Lives"* by Gautam Chintaman, a film that focuses on the benefits that the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) has brought to the lives of rural Indian women in the hill state of Uttarakhand. Filmmakers from Bangladesh and Indonesia won second and third places respectively. Indian journalist Anitha Reddy won the APRJA 2008/2009 with her entry, *"Paddy that Survives the Flood."* The



*Anitha Reddy (right) receiving the APRJ Award*



*Network partners in a break-out session during the Rice Council meeting*

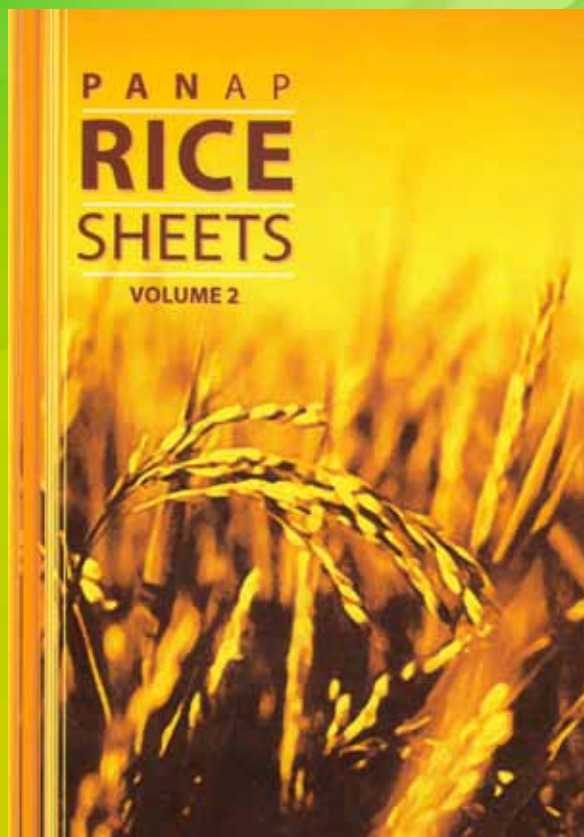
article, hailing the Varada basin farmers' use of traditional flood resistant rice varieties, was originally published in the Deccan Herald, and is now posted on the PAN AP website.

## Growing From Strength to Strength

The Rice Council, currently composed of 30 partner organisations, met in November 2010 to evaluate the past three years of the campaign and to plan for the next three years. The body was unanimous that Rice Campaign strategies and activities had strengthened the capacity of partners and local communities, built awareness, achieved policy gains, and consolidated the network. However, burning challenges remain, so effective strategies to address these were devised.

## Power Rice Sheets!

Rice Sheets, short but informative publications tackling different aspects of rice issues, have proven to be among the most popular publications of PAN AP. Easy to understand, useful, and in a form that is easy to distribute, fact sheets have been translated into different



languages by our partners, a clear indication of their relevance. The Rice Sheet on Climate Change has been translated in 21 languages and is being widely used in communities. This year, five new Rice Sheets and one handbook, Rice Sheets Volume 2 (consisting of four previously published Rice Sheets), were produced.

The Rice Campaign also sent out 24 E-Rice Updates to its partners, informing them of the latest and most significant developments in the campaign, and a total of 14 press releases or statements, which articulated our positions to the general public. Rice Videos, or compelling audio-visual representations of the issue, are now being popularised as well.



## INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION



Training partners in policy and media advocacy, making available thousands of relevant publications, and maintaining four websites are the Information Communication Programme's most remarkable achievements for the year.

### Training for Policy and Media Advocacy

In March 2010, PAN AP gathered twenty partners from 11 countries (Cambodia, China including Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Vietnam) for a **Training of Facilitators (ToF) on Policy and Media Advocacy** in Penang, Malaysia. The training aimed to develop strategies for policy advocacy and dealing with the media, and enabled participants to strategise on the most effective tools to bring the campaign against pesticides to a higher level and expand the

network. Participants agreed that the training subsequently helped them reach out to local communities and governments.



*Participants during the ToF on Policy Advocacy and Media*

## Thousands of Publications Made Available

Over the years, PAN AP has prided itself in producing timely and useful resource materials and publications targeting its network partners and the general public. A total of 17,101 materials were published while 11,529 were distributed this year. Ranging from books and bulletins to fact sheets and posters, these materials addressed various issues such as human health and the environment; developments in food sovereignty, climate change, and rice; and women's issues and struggles against corporate agriculture. In order to reach the grassroots audience, local partners translated our

publications into Sinhala, Khmer, Tamil, Bahasa Indonesia, Bahasa Malaysia, Mandarin, Iban, Punjabi, Laotian and Vietnamese.

### List of PAN AP publications (2010):

- o The Special Release on Scarcity, Insecurity and Poverty: Agricultural Workers amid the Global Financial Crunch (bulletin)
- o Speak Out entitled 'Power Struggle: Sompeta Against Power Plant (bulletin)
- o Weathering the Climate Crisis (The Way of Ecological Agriculture) (handbook)
- o Climate Change and Crop Protection (Anything Can Happen) (monograph)



- o Turning Point entitled “Global Land Grabbing: Eroding Food Sovereignty”. (Turning Point is an offshoot of PAN AP Special Release, aimed at raising awareness and providing critical analyses on food sovereignty issues.) (bulletin)
- o Ruined Lives... Ravaged Livelihoods: Impact of Agrochemical TNCs on Rural Women (book)
- o Women’s Resistance and Struggles: Asserting our Rights to Land, Resources and Livelihood. Booklet 2: Land and Resources – Claiming Our Rights
- o Who’s Controlling the Food Now? A Look into Corporate Agriculture and Gender (book)
- o Module on Documenting Women’s Knowledge in Agriculture (booklet)
- o Communities in Peril: Asian Regional Report on Community Monitoring of Highly Hazardous Pesticide Use (book)
- o Communities in Peril: Global report on the health impacts of pesticide use in agriculture (book)
- o Pesticides: Sowing Poison, Growing Hunger, Reaping Sorrow (book)
- o Paraquat Monograph
- o ‘Breast Cancer, Pesticides and You’, and reprinted ‘Stop Paraquat, Save Women’s Lives’ flyers
- o PAN AP Rice Sheet: Rice Lands: Still Under Siege (fact sheet)
- o PAN AP Rice Sheet: Asia’s Seed Laws - Control over Farmers’ Seeds (fact sheet)
- o PAN AP Rice Sheets: Rice and the Energy Crisis (fact sheet)
- o PAN AP Rice Sheet: Rice Plant Hopper Outbreaks: A Man Made Plague? (fact sheet)
- o PAN AP Rice Sheet: Saving the Rice Seed (fact sheet)
- o PAN AP Rice Sheets: Volume 2. (A handbook of 4 previous Rice Sheets.)
- o E-Rice Updates
- o E-Pesticide Updates
- o PAN AP Diary (e-newsletter)

## New PAN AP Website

In June 2010, the new PAN AP website was launched. Under a more efficient content management system, the website is now more navigable and has a more appealing look. Our website <http://www.panap.net> generated a monthly average of 162,108 hits, 14,076 visitors and 50,582 page visits. Aside from the main PAN AP website, we are also maintaining three other websites relevant to particular areas of work of each programme and campaign. These are the Rice Wisdom website <http://www.ricewisdom.org>, and the websites of the Asian Rural Women’s Coalition <http://www.asianruralwomen.net> and the Coalition of Agricultural Workers International <http://www.agriworkers.org>.



## NETWORK BUILDING



PAN AP maintains relationships with partner organisations in Southeast Asia, South Asia, and East Asia, and continues to expand and collaborate with numerous other local organisations and regional and international networks. This year, our work with rural women and agricultural workers coalitions was invigorated, and a new global partnership for democratising agricultural research was developed.

### Strengthening Coalitions

#### ✿ *The Asian Rural Women's Coalition (ARWC)*

PAN AP acts as the ARWC Secretariat, coordinating its plans and managing its mailing list, website and information-exchange initiatives. This year, we also organised its

Steering Council meeting, and attended two important conferences co-organised by the coalition. The Women Resisting Crisis and War: A Conference on the Impacts and Women's Responses to the Economic and Climate Crisis and War, held in the Philippines in July 2010, saw over 100 women exchanging stories on surviving hunger, climate change and war, and their various strategies of resistance. Meanwhile, the Montreal International Women's Conference, held in Canada on August 2010, was the start of a process of building an international women's alliance.

This year also saw increased involvement of the ARWC in our work on food sovereignty, with PAN AP representing the coalition in its engagement with the FAO's Committee on Food Security and contributing to the CSO report to the FAO's Voluntary Guidelines on Land Tenure and Natural Resources Tenure, with a



*Participants from the Women Resisting Crisis and War Conference in the Philippines*



*Members of the ARWC Steering Council meeting*



*Participants looking at the discussion charts during the IIED-PAN AP Workshop*

focus on rural women. Through PAN AP, ARWC also became involved in selecting women members of the Coordination Committee of the International Food Security and Nutrition Civil Society Mechanism, a parallel forum with the FAO.

#### ☀ **Coalition of Agricultural Workers International (CAWI)**

As the secretariat for the CAWI, PAN AP organised a major meeting in October 2010, where a one-year work programme was outlined, membership expansion was designed, and a conference and general assembly in 2012 was planned.

### **Global Solidarity: IIED-PANAP Inter-Regional Exchange Workshop**

An inter-regional exchange workshop with the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) on **“Democratising Agricultural Research for Food Sovereignty”** brought together more than 50 farmers, pastoralists and activists from about 20 countries from Africa, Asia, Europe and South America. Held in Penang, Malaysia in October 2010, the workshop served as a platform for our partners to share experiences and draft plans of action that include participatory action research, women-led seed conservation, and farmer-scientist dialogues. The IIED-PANAP workshop closed with an outpouring of appreciation for the shared wisdom and aspirations of participants, resulting in renewed vigor for global solidarity.

# APPRECIATION

PAN AP would like to thank the following people and organisations for their support and generosity in helping to formulate, enhance and improve the work of the organisation in order to meet the challenges and commitments within the vision we have adopted.

## PAN AP Steering Council

Irene Fernandez  
*Tenaganita, Malaysia*

Anwar Fazal  
*Peoples' TransAction, Malaysia*

Sarojeni V. Rengam  
*PAN AP, Malaysia*

Fatima Burnad  
*SRED, India*

Jayakumar Chelaton  
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Kuang Rongping  
*PEAC, China*

Meriel Watts  
*PAN Aoteaoroa/New Zealand*

Nasira Habib  
*KHOJ, Pakistan*

Romeo F. Quijano  
*PAN Philippines*

**THANK YOU to our network partners who have continued their support through information sharing, networking and linking with us on key activities.**

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## Rice Council members

Sikkha Sastha Unnayan Karzakram  
(SHISUK/Education, Health and Development Program), Bangladesh

Bangladesh Resource Centre for Indigenous Knowledge (BARCIK), Bangladesh

Cambodian Center for Study and Development in Agriculture (CEDAC), Cambodia

Pesticide Eco-Alternatives Center Yunnan (PEAC), China

Society for Rural Education and Development (SRED), India

Andhra Pradesh Vyarusaya Vruthidarula Union (APVVU / A Federation of Agricultural Workers, Marginal Farmers, Fisher Folks and Forest Workers), India

KUDUMBAM LEISA Network, India

THANAL, India

Beej Bachao Andolan (BBA), India

Living Farms, India

Aliansi Gerakan Reforma Agraria (AGRA/ Alliance of Agrarian Reform Movement), Indonesia

Koalisi Rakyat Untuk Kedaulatan Pangan (KRKP/ Indonesia Food Sovereignty Network), Indonesia

Gita Pertiwi, Indonesia

NO GMO Campaign, Japan

Consumers Korea, Korea

Sustainable Agriculture and Environment Development Association (SAEDA), Lao PDR

ERA Consumer/Consumer International, Malaysia

Southeast Asian Council for Food Security and Fair Trade (SEACON), Malaysia

Partners of Community Organisations (PACOS), East Malaysia

Sarawak Dayak Iban Association (SADIA), East Malaysia

All Nepal Peasants' Federation (ANPFa), Nepal

Khoj-Society for People's Education, Pakistan

Lok Sanjh Foundation, Pakistan

Resistance and Solidarity Against Agrochemical TNCs (RESIST), Philippines

Magsasaka at Siyentipiko para sa Pag-unlad ng Agrikultura (MASIPAG/ Farmer-Scientist Partnership for Development), Philippines

Sibol ng Agham at Teknolohiya (SIBAT/ Wellspring of Science and Technology), Philippines

AMIHAN, National Federation of Peasant Women, Philippines

Future In Our Hands Development Fund (FIOH Fund), Sri Lanka

Vikalpani National Women's Federation, Sri Lanka

Foundation of Reclaiming Rural Agriculture and Food Sovereignty Action (RRAFA), Thailand

Center for Sustainable Rural Development (SRD), Vietnam

Our SPECIAL GRATITUDE also goes to the following organisations for their support without which we would not have been able to carry out our work:

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- CAFOD, UK
- Christian Aid, UK
- Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)
- Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst (EED), Germany
- FIAN – FoodFirst Information & Action Network, Germany



- *Global Fund for Women (GFW), U.S.A.*
- *Katholische Zentralstelle für Entwicklungshilfe (KZE), Germany*
- *Misereor, Germany*
- *Oxfam-Novib, The Netherlands*
- *Swedish Chemical Inspectorate (KemI)*
- *Universite Catholique de Louvain (UCL), Belgium*

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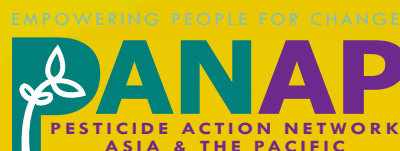
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The PAN AP 2010 Annual Report highlights the network's most outstanding achievements in eliminating the dependence on pesticides, in working for food sovereignty and Biodiversity-Based Ecological Agriculture (BEA), in empowering rural women, and saving Asia's rice culture. It describes Community Pesticide Action Monitoring efforts and the unprecedented research PAN AP undertook on monitoring the Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs), both of which advanced the campaign to ban HHPs such as endosulfan and paraquat. The report also highlights the network's Community Resilience Campaign, advocating BEA to mitigate the effects of climate change at the grassroots level. It further illustrates PAN AP's critical engagements with international policy-making bodies such as the Food and Agriculture Organization and United Nations on food security, biodiversity, and climate change. Most importantly, the report reflects the vibrancy and continued growth of the network, as can be seen from the highly successful People's Year of Rice Action and activities that have resulted in wider public understanding, participation and support in advancing the food sovereignty of small rice farming communities as well as rice consumers. The year 2010 was indeed another landmark year, building on past victories and paving the way for the future.



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