



# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2013–2014

# Table of Contents

<b>Introduction</b>	3
<b>PANAP Congress and 30th Anniversary</b> Building Sustainable Communities	3
<b>Food Sovereignty And Ecological Agriculture Programme</b> Fighting land-grab and charting pathways to land and food security	4
<b>Women In Agriculture Programme</b> Empowering rural women	7
<b>Pesticides Programme</b> Working towards reducing the impact of highly hazardous pesticides and regulating their use	10
<b>Holding Corporations Accountable</b>	12
<b>Save Our Rice Campaign</b> Promoting Asian rice culture and rice-based livelihood	13
<b>International People's Agroecology Multiversity</b> Serving the needs of small food producers	14
<b>Information and Communications</b>	15
<b>Dr. Irene Fernandez (1946-2014)</b> A life dedicated to people's struggles	17
<b>Appreciation</b>	18

# Introduction

**PANAP is pleased to share its annual report for 2013-2014. We have been continuing our capacity building, focusing on rural women's leadership. Last year, we launched the "Irene Fernandez Rural Women's Leadership Training" in honour of Irene who was instrumental in advancing rural women's rights.**

The Indigenous Peoples' struggles for their rights to their land, ancestral domain, forest and livelihood continued with renewed determination. Our contribution has been the capacity building of local communities on documentation, mapping and advocacy.

Working with local groups, PANAP has been supporting local campaigns as well as developing and producing various information materials, case studies and videos depicting the successes, resistance and struggles of the communities against land grab. The campaign towards eliminating Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs) is high on our priorities. PANAP has been advancing the elimination of HHPs in the UN processes particularly in the Rotterdam and Stockholm

Conventions and in the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management with some success. Our partners have also organized several creative awareness raising activities and engaged with policy makers at the national level during the year-long campaign on Protecting Our Children from Toxic Pesticides that highlighted children's exposure to highly hazardous pesticides.

Farmer to farmer exchanges and capacity building on Biodiversity based Ecological Agriculture (BEA) has strengthened the local implementation of BEA.

Finally, PANAP celebrated its 30-year anniversary at its 3rd Congress in September 2013 and committed to its goal to advance food sovereignty, gender justice and environmental sustainability.

## PANAP CONGRESS & 30TH ANNIVERSARY September 2013, Penang, Malaysia

**Empowering communities, protecting the environment and building sustainable communities.**

With 71 participants from 23 countries, the Congress reviewed PANAP's performance over the previous four years, identified the current challenges and charted future strategies.

The outcome of the Congress was a coordinated strategy at the local and international levels and a strong commitment of all participants to work together to strengthen grassroots movements in the four areas of work: eliminating pesticides, advancing food sovereignty, empowering rural women and saving our rice from existing and emerging threats.

Among the highlights of the Congress was the Tree of Hope. Congress participants were asked to write down their hopes and dreams for the future, among them, 'Rural women's rights to land and productive resources are recognized and supported' and 'having a Toxic Free World, where future kids are in good health.'



*Participant tying her ribbon to the Tree of Hope*

The 30th anniversary of PAN International was also celebrated simultaneously. To mark the occasion, PANAP launched a book, *Realise, Resist, Reclaim: Celebrating 30 years*, which traced PAN's long fight for pesticide-free and safe environment, sustainable livelihood, people's right to land, resources and food sovereignty, and social and gender justice.

# FOOD SOVEREIGNTY AND ECOLOGICAL AGRICULTURE

## Fighting land-grab and charting pathways to land and food security

**F**ood Sovereignty is the right of people to healthy and culturally appropriate food produced through ecologically sound and sustainable methods, and their right to define their own food and agriculture systems.

One of the biggest threats to people's food sovereignty, especially in recent years, is land and resource grabbing.

Hence, PANAP stepped up its campaign against land-grabbing, supporting small-scale farmers, the landless, indigenous peoples and other small food producers defend their human rights to land and resources, while also helping them achieve some successes in reclaiming their land from illegal encroachment. We have also been active in creating awareness on the implementation of the FAO guidelines on land tenure in Asian countries and in participating in the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) to develop principles that promote responsible investment in agriculture and food systems that contribute to food security.

To strengthen communities' struggles against land-grabbing and human rights violations, PANAP and partners helped them document such violations, raise awareness, campaign and

***These relentless collective efforts reinforced local initiatives and campaigns and resulted in some tangible successes in communities reclaiming their land and resources.***

mobilize wider support through education, training, public meetings and open forums in different countries; at least 200 leaders, local peasants, fisherfolk and indigenous communities were mobilized. These relentless collective efforts reinforced local initiatives and campaigns and resulted in some tangible successes in communities reclaiming their land and resources.

In Sarawak, Malaysia – one of the main areas of our work against land-grabbing – PANAP supported the Sarawak Dayak Iban Association (SADIA) in documenting and campaigning against violations of indigenous communities' native customary rights by plantations, logging firms and other large-scale commercial activities. These efforts enabled the Batang Ai community to stop the logging firm from grabbing their ancestral land and also receive compensation for damages. The community, which had meticulously mapped their ancestral land, filed a court case against the firm which was eventually forced to vacate 356.5 hectares of native land. The company also had to pay the community 59,500 Euros for the cut trees, cleared forests and other damages.

To raise awareness and gather support for the campaign, PANAP helped organize a broad forum at the Hilton Hotel in Kuching, Sarawak in November 2014 in cooperation with SADIA and the European Union (EU) delegation to Malaysia. Fifteen diplomatic leaders, including



*Indonesian farmers led by the Alliance of Agrarian Reform Movement (AGRA) press for genuine agrarian reform and a stop to land grabbing in the country (Photo credit: Ario Adityo)*

ambassadors from the EU led by Luc Vandebon, Head of the EU delegation, attended the forum which highlighted pressing issues affecting the indigenous communities in Sarawak, including education, employment, forestry development projects and the right to native land. Some 120 participants, mostly leaders and members of indigenous communities also attended the event.

In Indonesia, PANAP's partner, Alliance of Agrarian Reform Movement's (AGRA) campaign helped local communities reclaim their land annexed by large plantation companies. Farmers in Morowali, Central Sulawesi, forced PTPN Number 14, a government-owned palm oil plantation firm, out from 150 hectares of their land. The farmers are now campaigning for proper title to the land. Similarly in Takalar, South Sulawesi, 1,109 families asserted their customary rights over some 900 hectares of land that were being claimed by a sugar plantation also owned by PTPN No. 14. Eventually, the local government was compelled to recognize the customary rights of the farmers.

In Sri Lanka, strong protests by fisherfolk and local communities in Iluppanthivu Island, Kalpitiya supported by local group, NAFSO forced Qube Lanka Ltd., an Indian firm, to halt construction work and abandon plans to "develop" some 460 acres (around 186 hectares) of community land into a luxury resort.

People's protests also led to the resignation of the Deputy Economic Minister; with the new Minister committing that the Kalpitiya communities will not be displaced by the government's tourism and development projects.

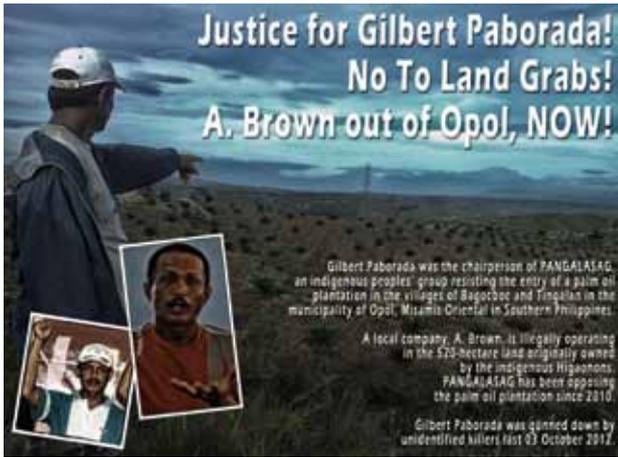
Farming and indigenous communities in the Asian region continue to face serious threats to their collective customary rights to land and resources from big business interests and governments. Community leaders and advocates of their rights also face heightened political repression. In the Philippines, for example, at least 138 farmers and 55 indigenous people have been killed in the past five years.

One of the victims was Gilbert Paborada, an indigenous leader from Opol, Misamis Oriental in Mindanao where PANAP had held a fact-finding mission in May 2012 on reported land-grabbing by a palm oil company. In October, Paborada was gunned down. Until today, his murder remains unresolved and justice elusive but the campaign to bring the perpetrators to justice is still ongoing.

PANAP also continued to support regional networks that work to protect the rights of marginalized rural people. With PANAP's support, for instance, the Coalition of Agricultural Workers International (CAWI) could strategize and plan how it can move forward with its



*Ambassadors and other diplomatic leaders from the EU attended the forum on indigenous peoples' rights in Sarawak that was co-organized by PANAP, Sarawak Dayak Iban Association (SADIA) and the EU Delegation to Malaysia. The forum was held in Kuching, Sarawak last 26 November 2014. (Photo credit: PANAP)*



campaigns on access to land; protection of labour rights including health and safety, related to pesticides use; and protection of the rights and welfare of migrant and women workers.

This strategizing and planning meeting followed the CAWI General Assembly in 2013; PANAP had supported this General Assembly, reinvigorating the coalition in conducting coordinated activities and campaigns.

CAWI is looking forward to becoming a vibrant campaign network of agricultural workers and

advocates of land rights and access to resources, and PANAP has committed to be a vital part of it.

Policy advocacy at FAO – towards land and food security: PANAP has been actively pursuing policy advocacy on issues related to land, resources and food security at the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation. It is involved in several Working Groups (WGs) under the Civil Society Mechanism (CSM) of the FAO's Committee on World Food Security (which is considered the UN global decision-making forum dealing with food security, agriculture and nutrition issues). PANAP was involved in three WGs -- on voluntary guidelines on land tenure; responsible agricultural investment (RAI); and biofuels and food security.

Notably, it has been developing strategies to implement and pilot-test voluntary guidelines on land tenure in Asian countries in collaboration with other civil society organisations.

As a 'Point Organisation' and 'Lead Discussant' for South-East Asia on the RAI process, it has also been contributing to the development of the CSO position on RAI (following the earlier rejection by CSOs of a World Bank-led development of the RAI principles).



# WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE

## Empowering Rural Women

**E**mpowering rural women is PANAP's core strategy for social change. It has devised several platforms for "training and building women leaders of the future".

Across these platforms, in 2014, it mobilised and trained 560 women leaders and reached out to at least 87 organisations of farmers, Dalits, indigenous women, agricultural workers, women from mountainous regions, young women, and also women media practitioners, local officials and academicians.

### BUILDING RURAL WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP:

In 2012, PANAP had initiated a systematic process of capacity-building among rural women, focusing on developing community leadership and building women's movements for change. This process made significant strides in 2014, expanding both in scope and reach, with seven

leadership training programmes held at the local, national and regional levels across five countries in Asia and West Africa. The training combined analytical, leadership and technical skills for lobbying and campaigning, and practice and policy advocacy of ecological agriculture. It sought to sharpen rural women's understanding of related issues and social perspectives. (This leadership programme has now been named after Irene Fernandez, PANAP's chairperson, who passed away in 2014; she was instrumental in developing the programme.)

The training has had a tremendous impact on building up the participants' confidence, capacity for leadership and knowledge of issues. "After

*the training, I realized that I am a leader. I will build awareness among other women and share what I have learnt in the training",* said Katherine Chanan, a farmer in Pakistan. "I now have a better understanding of land-grabbing and its impact on women. And I am equipped to train women on themes such as food security, globalisation and advocacy", responded Adetonah Sounkoura, an environmentalist from Benin.

Following this, KHOJ, a women's group in Lahore (Pakistan) developed a policy brief demanding that the local government address the issues of food insecurity and malnutrition, and involve women in related decision-making issues. In Mali, Benin and Senegal, PAN Africa organised leadership workshops of rural women which led to women demanding that their governments support biodiverse ecological agriculture (BEA) or ecological agriculture. In Andhra Pradesh, India, PANAP partners, Sahanivasa, a local group and APVVU or Andhra Pradesh Agricultural Workers Union held a forum, rally and a signature campaign on the Social Security Act.





Rural women attending a training and discussing a policy brief on *The Lingering Crisis of Food Insecurity & Malnutrition in Lahore, Pakistan*, September 23-27, 2014.



Launching of Irene Fernandez Leadership Training for Rural Women, July 27-31, 2014 in Mamalla, Chennai, India. Twenty women attended the training.



Women attending a leadership training workshop in Velingara, Dakar, Senegal, last October 27-29, 2014.

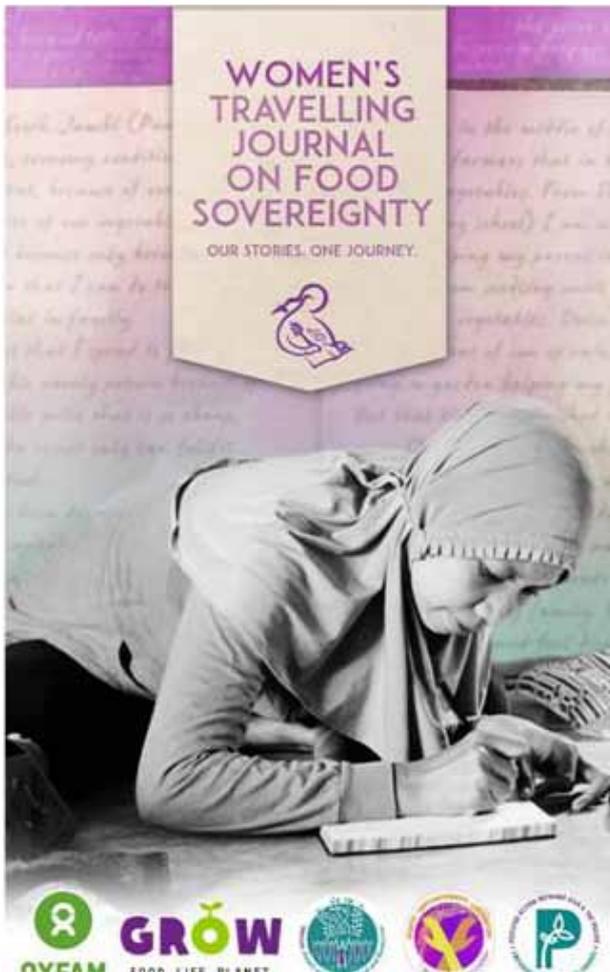


## WOMEN'S TRAVELLING JOURNAL – AN INNOVATIVE INITIATIVE:

The Travelling Journal, “Our Stories, One Journey: Empowering Rural Women in Asia”, launched together with eight partner groups from the Asian Rural Women’s Coalition and Oxfam’s East Asia GROW, is an innovative initiative in empowering rural women. The Journal offers a new platform for them to articulate their struggles and concerns and carry their voices to other women in the region (and also to women around the world), thus helping to forge solidarity around shared concerns.

It documents rural women’s life stories and experiences, their family and community concerns, and their fight to secure their rights to land and resources, and other problems. The stories include loss of native lands to big plantations, pollution of the environment and food sources by toxic chemicals, and declining incomes due to rising costs of seeds and farm inputs.

They also tell how climate change is impacting their harvests, as well as how indigenous communities are struggling to preserve their



Poster for the WOMEN'S TRAVELLING JOURNAL: a compilation of rural women's journal entries from 7 countries in Asia-Pacific.

traditional culture. The women writers' accounts are developed into feature stories with photographs, which are then compiled and published. In 2013, the first Journal, launched on 8 March (International Women's Day), travelled through eight Asian countries and then went on a five-day exhibition at the FAO in Rome where it generated much interest among various groups.

In January 2014, the second Journal initiated by Asia-Pacific Research and Resource Centre for Women and ARWC<sup>1</sup> was launched, travelling through 14 countries in Asia and Africa.

The subject of the journal was sexual and reproductive health and rights of rural women. In the same year, the third Journal was launched

in October in time for the Rural Women's Day and World Food(less) Day. It travelled to 50 women from 6 countries, covering the main subject of food sovereignty. It is due to come out on March 29, 2015.

### WOMEN ASSERT RIGHTS TO LAND AND RESOURCES:

At least 11 groups in eight countries in Asia and Africa joined the global campaign, Women Assert Rights to Land and Resources, on women's rights to land and resources that PANAP and its partners launched in 2014.

Simultaneous events were held across several countries on International Women's Day (in March) and Rural Women's Day (in October), underscoring rural women's rights and roles in agricultural development and food security, the impact of land and resource-grabbing on them and the need for reforms such as the implementation of genuine agrarian reform and support to biodiverse ecological agriculture, to name a few.

The campaign brought public focus on women's equal right to access, own and control land and other resources, their crucial role in providing food security, and hence the need for their meaningful participation and leadership in making related policies decisions.

PANAP believes that these issues are at the heart of achieving food security, food sovereignty and gender justice. They also top rural women's priorities.



Partners of PANAP posing for a group photo for the launch of the Women's Travelling Journal (WTJ).

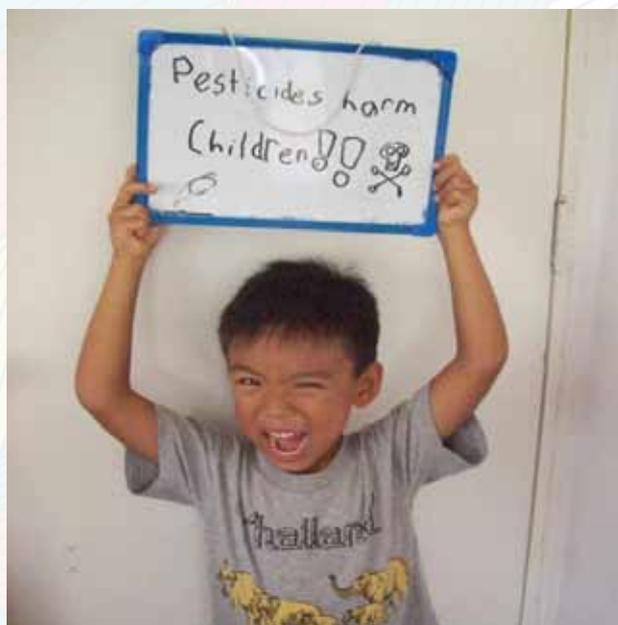
<sup>1</sup> The secretariat of Asian Rural Women's Coalition (ARWC) is hosted by PANAP

# PESTICIDES PROGRAMME

Working towards reducing the impact of highly hazardous pesticides and regulating their use

**PANAP's pesticides programme addresses the issue of the use of pesticides and its impact on human health and the environment.**

Ongoing campaigns and advocacy work advances the progressive ban of highly hazardous pesticides, promotes safer alternatives including biodiversity based ecological agriculture and challenges the power of agrochemical companies in influencing agricultural policies and practices.



5 year old David from Philippines – “I like eating organic food and stay away from junk food. Pesticides harm children.”



“A healthy body comes from healthy food.” – 9 year old Zhang Juan Xian from China draws her understanding of health

## PESTICIDES AND CHILDREN:

“Children today are sicker than they were a generation ago. From birth defects to childhood cancers, asthma and autism, a wide range of childhood diseases and disorders are on the rise<sup>2</sup>, said a recent report. Assessing the latest scientific evidence, it said: “Pesticides are one key driver of this sobering trend”. Early-life exposure to pesticides can affect children’s physical and mental growth and cause behavioural problems, which will also impose a heavy ‘health burden’ on society.

Protecting children’s health and well-being from toxic pesticides and advocacy on eliminating highly hazardous pesticides (HHPs) were the focus of the pesticides programme. Two campaigns, one global and another regional, mobilised children and other sections of people and received massive response, especially on social media.

In June 2014, PANAP, together with PANNA, launched a global campaign, “Protect Our Children from Toxic Pesticides”, highlighting the threats children faced from pesticides and demanding the phase-out of 20 HHPs. A range of materials were produced – a popular booklet on children and pesticides, factsheets on the 20 pesticides, an infographic, bookmarks, stickers and colouring sheets for children – and widely disseminated through conventional as well as social media.

Later, on 20 November (International Children’s Day), PANAP and partners hit the social media again for an Asia-Pacific regional campaign

<sup>2</sup> A Generation in Jeopardy: How Pesticides are Undermining our Children’s Health and Intelligence by Pesticide Action Network North America (PANNA), 2013.



*A family during the launch of the 'Protect our Children' (POC) Campaign in Penang, Malaysia*

(#PesticidesFreeWorld#), covering 11 countries. The Campaign gained massive following with 11,000 viewers on Twitter and 173 organisations signing a petition for the phase out of the HHPs.

Schools, teachers, local government units and CSOs in the region were mobilised to organise interactive and fun workshops which created wide awareness and gave guidelines on how to protect children from pesticides in schools, homes and public places; children painted, drew cartoons and spoke about their vision for a pesticide-and poison-free world.

### MONITORING PESTICIDE IMPACTS AND PROMOTING ALTERNATIVES – TOWARDS A NON-TOXIC SOUTH-EAST ASIA:

With this ambitious goal, PANAP and its partners continuously strive to monitor and document the adverse impacts of pesticide use, raise awareness among people and train farmers in pesticide-free ecological farming. Over 3,000 farmers, women, youth, government officials and consumers participated in workshops, campaigns, radio shows, etc. on the impact of pesticides and in monitoring work in China, Vietnam, Lao PDR, Cambodia and the Philippines in 2014.

In China, PANAP's partner, Pesticide Eco-Alternatives Centre (PEAC), drew huge followings on their websites, around 5,567,040 page visits. Over 300 farmers, previously trained in ecological farming by our partners currently act as key farmers and resource persons. Key farmers continuously share their expertise and knowledge with other members in their community. Partner groups also engaged with policy-makers in their countries to work towards a ban of specific pesticides.

### INTERNATIONAL ADVOCACY ON ELIMINATING HHPs:

Considering the severe harm pesticides cause in the developing countries, policy advocacy at the international level focused on demanding a progressive ban on HHPs particularly at meetings of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM); and the inclusion of paraquat, which has injured countless farm and plantation workers and farmers in the developing world in the Rotterdam Convention (also known as the PIC Convention).

This PIC Convention or "prior informed consent" is a mechanism for information sharing on government regulatory decisions on chemicals and prevents the imports of unwanted pesticides. PANAP is also working for the inclusion of chlorpyrifos in the Stockholm Convention that was created to protect human health and the environment from persistent organic pollutants.

This action comes after the success of Thanal, PANAP's partner together with other groups who were able to get endosulfan onto the list of pesticides in the Stockholm Convention for a global ban.

At all these forums and Conventions, PANAP has also been strongly advocating, with concrete examples from field studies, the need to recognise the use of HHPs as a major health concern in developing countries and therefore the need to adopt agroecological alternatives.



*Meriel Watts (Pesticide Action Network, Aotearoa New Zealand and Senior Scientist of PANAP) spoke at the technical briefing on the case for dealing with highly hazardous pesticides*

# HOLDING CORPORATIONS ACCOUNTABLE

**D**ecember 3, 2014 marked the 30th anniversary of the Bhopal gas tragedy, the world's worst industrial disaster. Thousands of people lost their lives when, this day in 1984, a pesticide plant run by Union Carbide leaked about 40 tonnes of the deadly methyl isocyanate gas into the air in the central Indian city of Bhopal.

Thirty years on, thousands of children are still being born with brain damage, missing palates and twisted limbs because their parents were exposed to the gas or water contaminated by it.

PANAP, together with partners, Thanal and PAN India, was in Bhopal, India at the anniversary in solidarity with the victims and survivors of the tragedy. It joined hundreds of survivors and activists from around the world who took to the streets, chanting slogans and demanding harsher punishment to those responsible and for higher compensation for the victims. People burnt effigies and a banner emblazoned with the logo of Dow Chemical which had since bought over Union Carbide. Unsurprisingly, Dow Chemical to this day maintains that it has no liability because it bought Union Carbide more than a decade after the cases had been 'settled'.

With the lack of accountability and liability, agrochemical transnational corporations (TNCs) continue to freely produce and sell highly hazardous pesticides like paraquat produced by Syngenta, which is one of the most widely used



*Candle Light Vigil and Homage to the Dead – parents, survivors, NGOs*

***“Pesticides grossly violate the rights of our children to a healthy and sustainable environment that will allow them to ‘survive and thrive’ and ‘learn and grow’, in the words of the UN. As adults and parents, we should make it our responsibility to ensure that the health and future of our children are not jeopardized by these harmful chemicals and pesticides,”***

*said Jayakumar, Director of Pesticide Action Network India and co-chair of PANAP Task Force*



*Participants of the 30th Anniversary Rally which include Jayakumar Chelaton from Thanal/PAN India (in brown)*

herbicides in the world and poses considerable harm to people and the environment – its adverse and chronic health effects are recognized and there is no antidote available.

In order to address and tackle these human rights violations, PANAP began its Campaign on Corporate Accountability. At the Bhopal anniversary, PANAP spread the word about the harms of the pesticides and how the TNCs should be made liable for their actions.

# SAVE OUR RICE CAMPAIGN

## Promoting Asian rice culture and rice-based livelihood

**Save Our Rice Campaign capitalizes on the political, social, cultural and economic significance of rice to Asians.**

Since its inception in 2003, the campaign has sustained and intensively worked to counter the real and present threats to a commonly shared rice heritage, and further supports small rice producers and consumers in the region.

The five pillars of rice wisdom encapsulate the essence of Asia's rice heritage – Rice Culture, Community Wisdom, Biodiversity-Based Ecological Agriculture, Safe Food and Food Sovereignty.

### CAMPAIGN'S TIMELINE

Our network of a handful of partners from various countries has grown to almost 35 active partners who represent grassroots organizations and local civil society organizations in the region.

### A CASE STUDY

The Rice Campaign, in collaboration with PAN Philippines, successfully completed the rice-based livelihood project which started in 2012 in Tago, Philippines.

The project, which sought to build capacity and promote rice-based livelihood among communities saw several achievements – the establishment of a trial farm with varieties of rice seeds donated by MASIPAG; community organization; onsite-learning including crop-cycle observations for biodiversity-based ecological agriculture and local visits; workshops on ecological agriculture, alternative pest management, herbal medicine including community-based marketing (e.g. post-harvest handling and processing, packaging, storage,

distribution and local marketing) and, farmer-consumer-multi-stakeholder partnership schemes.

### TESTIMONIES

“The Rice Campaign has helped us organize the community on a common agenda which has helped strengthen other community interventions.” (SHISUK, Bangladesh)

“A discussion on the different pesticides being used by farmers in rice fields and their impact on human health and rice ecosystems led to hundreds of farmers trying to grow rice without chemical fertilisers and pesticides.” (Living Farms, India)

“The festivals on red and organic rice held in conjunction with CORA were instrumental in highlighting the nutritional and medicinal benefits of red rice and other traditional rice varieties that were until then unknown to the public and thereby convincing/continuing to convince many to consume these healthier types of rice. For instance, Sahaja Samrudha's revenue from organic rice has to date reached more than 4 million rupees after holding a rice fair during CORA 2011.” (Sahaja Samrudha, India)



**Figure 1: Campaign Timelines**

# INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S AGROECOLOGY MULTIVERSITY

Serving the needs of small food producers

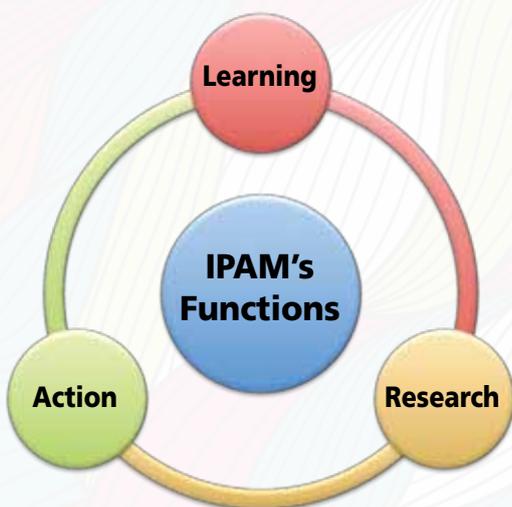
**P**ANAP's dedication to promoting biodiversity based ecological agriculture or agroecology which nurtures earth, promotes social and ecological justice, empowers small scale food producers and ensures food sovereignty, naturally led to the inception of the International Peoples' Agroecology Multiversity (IPAM).

The core concept here is to put farmers, farming communities, small scale food producers and fisherfolk at the centre, celebrating and positioning their on-the field innovations and traditional practices which are dominated otherwise by 'experts and scientists'.

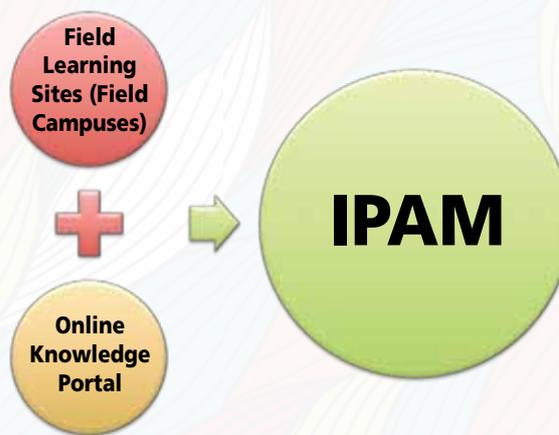
IPAM will document, enrich and propagate the knowledge farmers generate which challenges the current system of knowledge, agricultural practices and indeed the development model driven by global institutions and agribusiness which has contributed to a global crisis in agriculture and further failed to resolve the problems of inequality and lack of resources for those who need it the most.

IPAM's functions are as follows:-

- i. **Research** covers scientific, action and participatory research on agroecological zones (combination of soil, landform and climatic characteristics), crops, institutions, communities, culture and practices.



**Figure 2: IPAM's Function Diagram**



**Figure 3: IPAM's Institutional Structure**

- ii. **Action** includes community – building and mobilization for the promotion of agroecology for a sustainable future. It uses collaboration, campaigns, network solidarity and alternative institutional building
- iii. **Learning** uses innovative and radical pedagogies such as community-based, people to people, synchronous-asynchronous and dialogue-based learning methods.

At present, IPAM has been evolving at two levels; the development of the online knowledge platform to promote agroecology and social infrastructure that will support, monitor, and provide directions to achieve IPAM's objectives.

The social infrastructure comprises 'field learning sites' and campuses across Asia-Pacific which serve as learning and training centres located in various agroecological zones where structured training sessions will be conducted. Our field learning sites consist of our partners' areas of work throughout the Asia and Pacific region.

# INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

**PANAP is dedicated to helping improve the skills and capacity of its partners and staff. In this context, the three-day training on Media and Advocacy held in Penang in September 2014 was a major event.**

About 51 participants from 13 countries, representing PANAP partners in various programmes, and the PANAP staff joined the training, which was both a productive and fun event. The training helped the participants acquire new skills and capacity in media work – how to maximize the use of social media platforms for advocacy and campaigning, how to effectively engage the mainstream media, etc. As a result, partners have been able to design effective media campaign plans to support ongoing campaigns on rural women, pesticides and food sovereignty.

A new website, launched in May 2013, is continuously being enhanced for better and

***“Media and communication, when done effectively, help in mobilizing people, in generating favorable public opinion and in influencing policy makers,”***

*– Sarojeni Rengam*

easier usability. The website had a monthly average of 278,887 hits, 15,570 visitors and 48,270 page views. The staff, network partners and the general public are able to access timely and relevant information and resource materials on certain issues.



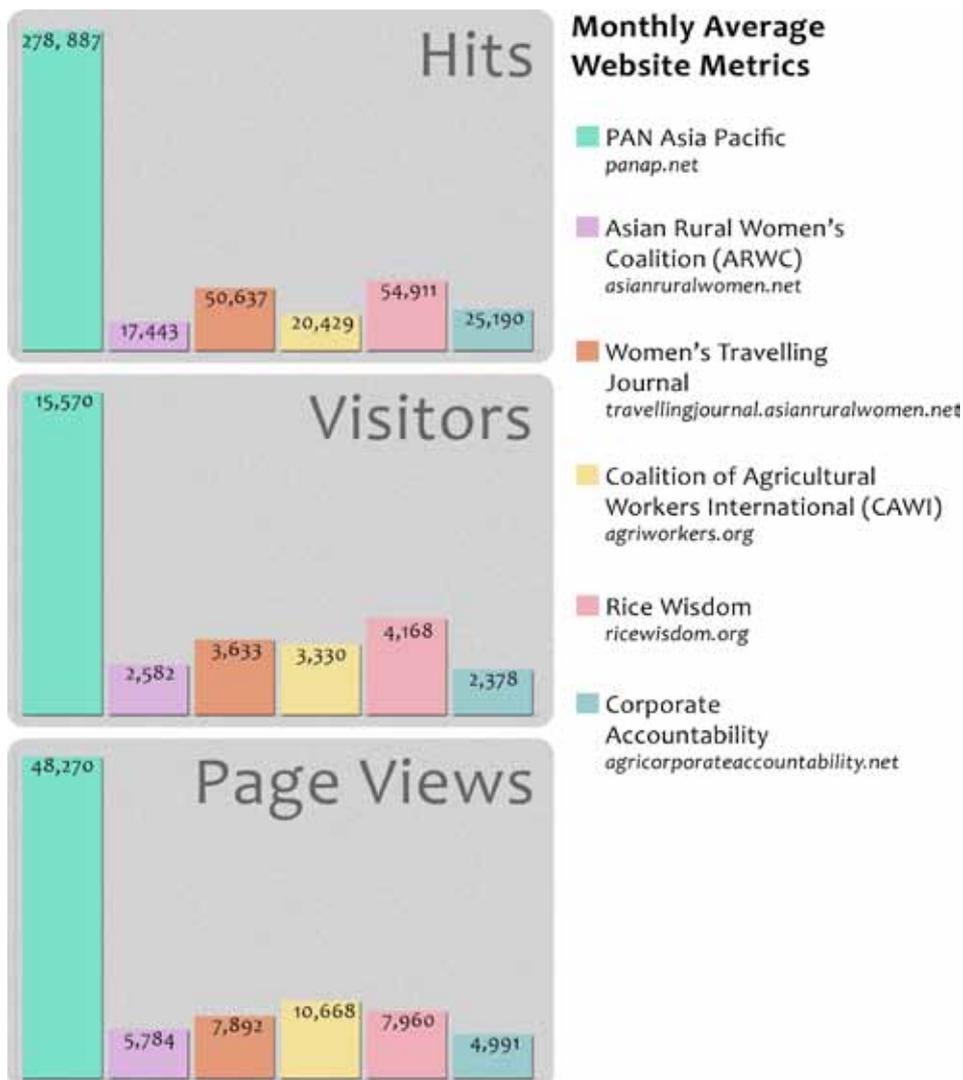
*Participants to PANAP's training on media and social media held from 25-27 September 2014 in Penang, Malaysia*

# Information Distribution

- **18,483** publications distributed at various meetings and events
- **193** e-updates and alerts were sent out to listserves and mailing lists

## Our Listserves

- **746** PANAP listserv members
- **153** Asian Rural Women's Coalition (ARWC) listserv members
- **144** Rice listserv members
- **944** Permanent People's Tribunal (PPT) listserv members



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## DR. IRENE FERNANDEZ (1946-2014)

### A life dedicated to people's struggles

PANAP records with deep sorrow the passing away of Dr. Irene Fernandez, Chairperson of its Steering Council on 31 March 2014 at the age of 67. Irene was instrumental in setting up PANAP as an independent regional network in the early 1990s. Over the years, her leadership, insights and advice helped PANAP fulfill its commitment to work in the interests of small farmers, farm workers, rural women, migrants, indigenous peoples and other marginalized sections.

An ardent human rights advocate, Irene was also co-founder and Director of the Kuala Lumpur-based non-government group, Tenaganita (Women's Force), which promotes the rights of migrant workers and poor and oppressed people in Malaysia. She fought tirelessly to defend their rights and advance their welfare, and against injustice and oppression anywhere. She was also the Director of CARAM-Asia and the Vice-



Chairperson of the International Migrant Alliance, and helped establish several women's and human rights organizations in the South-East Asian region.

Her passing away is therefore a big loss not only to the human rights movements in Malaysia but to global movements striving for a just and better world order.

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## OUR SPECIAL GRATITUDE

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:

- Bread for the World, Germany
- CAFOD, UK
- Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- European Union
- Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst (EED), Germany
- Grassroots International, U.S.A.
- Inter Pares, Canada
- Japanese Fund for For Global Environment, Japan
- Katholische Zentralstelle für Entwicklungshilfe (KZE), Germany
- Oxfam GB, United Kingdom
- Swedish Chemicals Agency (KemI)
- Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA)

## APPRECIATION

**P**ANAP 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.

### PANAP STEERING COUNCIL

Irene Fernandez	Tenaganita, Malaysia
Anwar Fazal	Peoples' TransAction, Malaysia
Fatima Burnad	SRED, India
Jayakumar Chelaton	Thanal, India
Kim Jai Ok	Consumers Korea
Koa Tasaka	PAN Japan
Kuang Rongping	PEAC, China
Meriel Watts	PAN Aotearoa/New Zealand
Nasira Habib	KHOJ, Pakistan
Romeo F. Quijano	PAN Philippines

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

### PESTICIDES TASK FORCE MEMBERS

Jayakumar Chelaton	THANAL, India
Meriel Watts	PAN Aotearoa/New Zealand, New Zealand
Hewagallage Chandra	VIKALPANI, Sri Lanka
Irene Fernandez	Tenaganita, Malaysia
Keam Makarady	CEDAC, Cambodia
Koa Tasaka	PAN Japan, Japan
Kuang Rongping	PEAC, China
Nasira Habib	KHOJ, Pakistan
Romeo F. Quijano	PAN Philippines, Philippines
Rossana Dewi	Gita Pertiwi, Indonesia

### WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE TASK FORCE MEMBERS

Irene Fernandez	Tenaganita, Malaysia
Fatima Burnad	SRED, India
Estrelita Mariano	Amihan, Philippines
Victoria Lopez	Sibat, Philippines
Nasira Habib	KHOJ, Pakistan
Ji Min	Eco Women, China

### RICE STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Balam Banskota	ANPFa, Nepal
Charito P. Medina	Masipag, Philippines
Kim Jai Ok	Consumers Korea, Korea
Oswald Quintal	KUDUMBAM LEISA Network, India
Poguri Chennaiah	APVVU, India
Rhoda Gueta	APC, Philippines
Sakiul Millat Morshed	SHISUK, Bangladesh
Usha Jayakumar	THANAL, India

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## PANAP STAFF LIST 2014

Sarojeni V. Rengam	Executive Director
Rosmah Ismail	Administration & Finance Director
Marjo Busto Quinto	Programme Coordinator (Women in Agriculture)
Anncelia Brendaline	Finance Officer
Arnold Padilla	Programme Officer (Food Sovereignty & Ecological Agriculture)
Chela Vasquez	Programme Officer (Pesticides Programme)
Daisy-Mae Alegado	Programme Assistant (Women in Agriculture)
Deeppa Ravindran	Programme Officer (Pesticides Programme)
Elnard Arellano	IT Development Officer (Information & Communication)
Gopal Sambamurthy	Programme Officer (Corporate Accountability)
Janarthani Arumugam	Campaign Officer (Rice Campaign)
Junita Nurhaiyum	Programme Assistant (Pesticides Programme)
Lorelei Covero	Programme Assistant (Women in Agriculture)
Morana Lefilliatre	Campaign Assistant (Rice Campaign)
Nadarajah Manickam	Campaign Coordinator (Rice Campaign)
Shakunthala Shunmugam	Programme Officer (Corporate Accountability) & PA to the Executive Director
Shila Kaur	Consultant (Pesticides Programme)

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\*Note: Main photograph on cover – After winning their battle for land rights, a group of Dalit women decided to undertake collective farming with the help of Tamil Nadu Women's Forum (TNWF) and the Society for Education and Rural Development (SRED). (Photo credit: SRED/TNWF)

In its 22 years of existence as an independent organisation, PANAP has situated itself in the grassroots movements in Asia and has gained strength from these linkages. This can be seen through the successes of its campaigns, training and policy advocacies that have strengthened people's movements, publicised their issues, and united various movements. The interactions with local communities have enriched the solidarity among grassroots organisations, advocacy groups and individuals.

Currently, PANAP has 103 partner groups in Asia and the Pacific region, and it outreaches to more than 400 CSOs and grassroots organisations in Asia and globally.

The empowerment of women has been a conscious effort within PANAP staff, its programmes, and its network. It has been able to systematically ensure women's involvement and integrate gender views in various projects and activities.

The organisation works within the framework of food sovereignty i.e. people's and communities' right to decision making on food and agriculture, right to land and productive resources and, the right to safe and ecologically produced food. The reduction and elimination of pesticides is still its mandate but it is also focused on other hazardous technologies.

Overall, PANAP's work continues to provide impetus to improve the lives of the marginalised communities. The organisation empowers communities for change and advance food sovereignty, ecological sustainability and gender justice.



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