



PAN Asia Pacific
2018
ANNUAL
REPORT



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INTRODUCTION

PAN Asia Pacific (PANAP) has been at the forefront of building vibrant movements for agroecology across the region by facilitating learning exchanges, organising an international youth assembly, and coordinating a 16-day global action to advance our call for food sovereignty.

Not only have we led the monitoring and documentation of pesticides use in various countries in Asia Pacific, we also looked at the issue of corporate accountability of the agrochemical industry and have been among the keen advocates of a legally binding global treaty on Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs).

Finally, through research on human rights violations and land grabbing; international fact-finding and solidarity missions; and trainings on people's rights and human rights work, we made our contribution to help advance the struggles of rural communities in the region against land and resource grabs.

At a time of mega-mergers of agrochemical companies; reports of a looming ecological disaster caused by insect collapse largely attributed to industrial farming; and intensifying land and resource grabs that cause greater poverty, hunger and human rights abuses, PANAP's sustained work of building a just and pesticide-free future is as relevant and urgent as ever.

PESTICIDES AND CORPORATE ACCOUNTABILITY PROGRAMME

PANAP's Pesticides Programme continued to address the issue of the use of pesticides and its impacts on human health and the environment through capacity building, campaigns and advocacy work. While advancing the progressive ban of HHPs and promoting alternatives, PANAP also challenges the power of agrochemical companies and holds them into account for human rights violations related to the various impacts of their products and practices. PANAP is advancing the call for a comprehensive new global treaty to regulate and phase out HHPs.



“We received positive response from students’ parents. We also create awareness by organising talks, events, as well as put up posters and banners, so that people passing by the school can read.”

*~Nguyen Tien Than
Principal of Dong Dat Secondary School in Vietnam,
on the establishment of pesticide-free buffer zones
around schools*

COMMUNITY PESTICIDE ACTION MONITORING FOR CORPORATE ACCOUNTABILITY

A Health Workers Consultation Workshop was held on 3-5 July 2018 in Hanoi, Vietnam that was attended by 40 participants consisting of health workers, doctors and partners from civil society organisations (CSOs) in 10 countries in Asia Pacific as well as by government representatives of Vietnam. The workshop examined the harmful impacts of HHPs on peoples’ health and the environment. It underscored the need to improve the system of documentation at the grassroots in order to more effectively raise the level of engagement with the state and of corporate accountability.

The Community-Based Pesticide Action Monitoring (CPAM) and the CPAM Mobile App were presented at the workshop. The app, a tool designed by PANAP to facilitate data gathering at the grassroots, was tested in the programmed field visits. This led to valuable suggestions on enhancing the functionality of the app, while also stressing the need for countries to define their research designs. The workshop identified strategies for more effective CPAM: community organising as the backbone of grassroots documentation; capacity training on CPAM tools and methods; linking medical doctors to village farmers in the monitoring of pesticide poisoning and agroecology initiatives; and engaging governments through policy advocacy.

In October 2018, PANAP launched the report [*Of Rights and Poisons: Accountability of the Agrochemical Industry*](#). Of Rights and Poisons is a comprehensive study using CPAM, a participatory action research approach to document

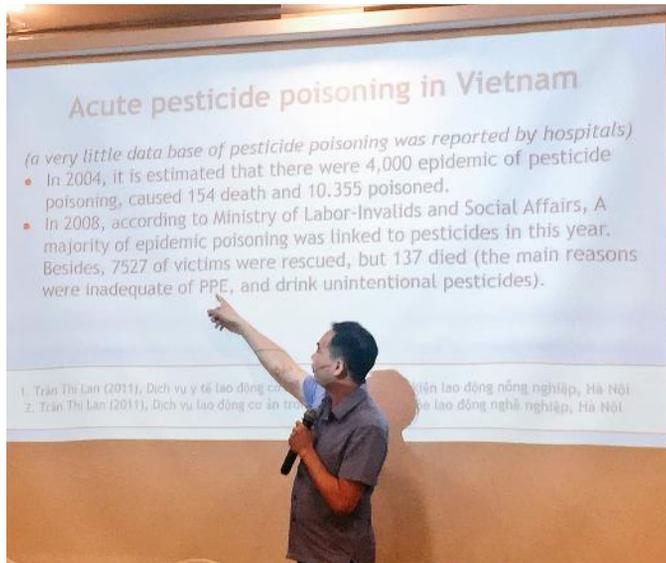


Paraquat decanted in plastic bags were found to be sold in retail shops in India. (Photo by PAN India)



As reported in Of Rights and Poisons, many backpack sprayers do not use Personal Protective Equipment, including women. (Photo by SRED)

and create public awareness on pesticide impacts on human health and the environment. Community members themselves undertook the research, and integrated it with organising and action.



A Health Workers Consultation Workshop in Hanoi, Vietnam was attended by 40 doctors, health workers and CSOs.

The study involved 20 partner organisations from seven Asian countries – Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippines, and Vietnam. It revealed the rampant use of HHPs in these countries, with 50 pesticides in PAN International’s list of HHPs recorded to have been used. With a total of 2,025 respondents, seven out of 10 of the respondents said that they have suffered ill-effects due to pesticide exposure. The report also detailed an overall picture of hazardous conditions of pesticide use in the region. This includes the lack of personal protective equipment and training; lack of proper labeling; improper storage and disposal; and lack of washing and medical facilities for sprayers, among others.

Of Rights and Poisons revealed how pesticides use, especially in the Asia Pacific region, is a human rights issue that thoroughly pervades all aspects of life for its users and their communities.

PROTECT OUR CHILDREN FROM TOXIC PESTICIDES CAMPAIGN

PANAP’s Protect our Children from Toxic Pesticides campaign highlights pesticides’ severe effects on children’s health and mental development, and focuses on children as an especially vulnerable sector that needs immediate attention and long-term protection from harm.

In 2018, over 10 partner organisations from Cambodia, China, India, Laos, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Vietnam held various activities for the Protect our Children campaign. These were mostly fun, educational and cultural activities dedicated to children. This year saw the enthusiastic participation of a large number of schools. Most activities were conducted during the World Environment Day (June 5), International Children’s Day (November 20) and No Pesticide Use Week (held every 3rd to 10th of December to mark the 1984 Bhopal gas leak tragedy in India).

A PANAP-initiated campaign and online petition to establish pesticide-free buffer zones around schools is garnering support. By reducing or stopping pesticide application within a radius of one kilometre or more around schools, a pesticide-free buffer zone aims to put children out of harm’s way.

In Cambodia, partner Cambodian Centre for Study and Development in Agriculture (CEDAC) pushed for pesticide-free buffer zones around schools as part of the campaign. CEDAC found out that pesticide drift caused the poisoning of 30 students in Po Ampil Primary School, Takeo Province in Cambodia. They also recorded the use of over 20 hazardous pesticides in agricultural fields surrounding schools in the said province. This spurred teachers, students and local officials to take action, and call for pesticide-free buffer zones. In Vietnam, a pesticide-free buffer zone was also successfully developed around Dong Dat Secondary School. Due to awareness-raising activities in the area, farmers became concerned about the impact of pesticides on children. Many farmers stopped spraying pesticides, and supported the school in growing banana trees as a buffer to protect the children.



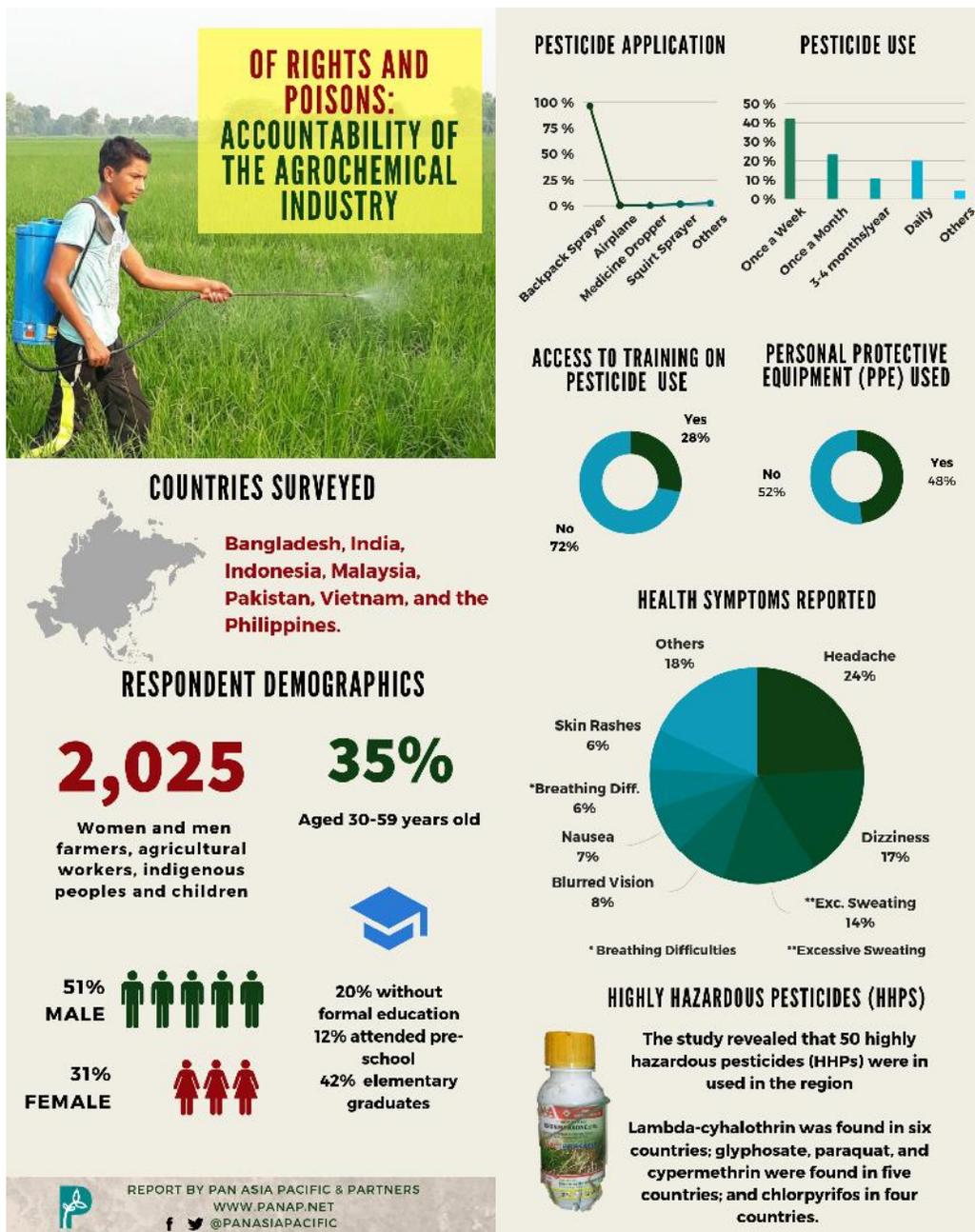
Children working as flower pickers in Tamil Nadu, India, are exposed to Highly Hazardous Pesticides at a young age. (Photo by SRED)

These successful efforts to establish pesticide-free schools were documented in a short video documentary, in collaboration with the Swedish Chemicals Agency (KemI) and Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA).

The [Protect Our Children \(POC\) Watch](#) was launched to closely monitor pesticide poisoning cases among children all over the world. It is a listing of online media and news articles, new studies and journals, as well as videos documenting pesticide poisoning of children. In 2017, the POC social media contents garnered a total reach of 2,769 and 156 engagements on Facebook using the hashtag #ProtectOurChildren. Meanwhile, the hashtag #PesticidesFreeWorld reached a total of 94,464 accounts with 127,903 impressions; 3,781 reach; and 63 engagements on Twitter. The POC Watch continued into 2018, with 1,307 children recorded to have been poisoned from January 2013 to February 2018. The numbers do not yet take into account those children affected by the long-term and chronic effects of pesticides. This monitoring effort has bolstered PANAP's call for governments to improve global pesticide regulations to protect children's rights and well-being.

POLICY ADVOCACY

CPAM results and reports feed into PANAP's advocacy work and campaigns at the international, national and local levels to improve existing policies and regulations on pesticides, or to facilitate the creation of new ones.



PANAP has been active in advocacy work connected to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and Rotterdam Conventions. We have participated in meetings on both the regional as well as global levels. PANAP participated in the technical review committees of both the Stockholm and Rotterdam Conventions. In the POPs Review Committee (POPRC), PANAP provided information on agroecological alternatives to dicofol. In the Chemical Review Committee (CRC), PANAP presented information on the adverse effects of a number of pesticides. One major outcome of the POPRC is the proposed listing of dicofol under Annex 1 of the Stockholm Convention, with the aim of replacing it with agroecological approaches to pest management.

National governments often find it difficult to ban specific pesticides, in particular those that are more motivated to prioritise support for the pesticide or plantation industries. They would also rather prefer to look for the replacement of HHPs by other pesticides. In addition, as a result of the human rights

Some of the key findings in *Of Rights and Poisons: Accountability of the Agrochemical Industry*



PANAP's video feature from *Stories from the Field*, a collection of 25 stories of women farmers practicing agroecology, was featured in the 2nd FAO International Symposium on Agroecology.

violations of companies producing and distributing pesticides as well as the human health and environmental impacts of highly hazardous pesticides, PAN supports the UN Special Rapporteurs' call for a global treaty on pesticides. The lack of a global treaty on highly hazardous pesticides not only leaves a critical gap in the human rights protection framework, but also leaves a critical gap in the global environmental protection framework; and as a result, there are now critically endangered ecosystems, ecosystem services and life forms. Worse, many low and middle income countries (LMICs) face double standards from high income countries (HICs): countries which ban the use of a particular pesticide because it is too hazardous for them, but allow their companies to manufacture it and export it to LMICs. Paraquat is an example of such a pesticide: patented by a Swiss company but banned in Switzerland; banned in the UK, but manufactured there for export to LMICs. Paraquat causes many cases of death from accidental occupational exposure, as well as other chronic and acute effects, every year. Recognising this challenge, PANAP distributed to national governments a [position paper on the need for a global treaty on HHPs](#), during the regional and international Intersessional meetings of the Strategic Approach on International Chemicals Management (SAICM) in February 2018. This engagement helped to facilitate discussions, encouraged inputs and contributed to awareness-building at the regional and global levels for urgent and focused action on HHPs.

PANAP has also been supporting the work on HHPs through participation in the development of technical guidelines that support the International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management. These guidelines were developed by a panel of experts appointed by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and World Health Organization (WHO), called the Joint Meeting on Pesticide Management (JMPPM). Since 2007, HHPs has been a special focus area for the JMPPM in implementing the Code. PANAP is currently leading the contributions to this guideline on behalf of PAN International, which has observer status at the JMPPM. We have contributed with advice for the development of guidelines concerning personal protective equipment, household pesticides and microbial pesticides.

Finally, PANAP led the production of PAN International's Consolidated List of Banned Pesticides, which has proved useful for pesticide regulators as well as researchers. The list of 316 banned pesticides draws on official data from 98 countries. The list serves to show which governments have the most political will to protect their citizens from harm, and is used to encourage governments to place bans on HHPs.



PANAP Executive Director Sarojeni Rengam at the Second meeting of the intersessional process of SAICM in Stockholm, Sweden.

AGROECOLOGY IN ACTION CAMPAIGN

In 2018, PANAP and our partners and network of youth, rural women, farmers and small food producers, fisherfolk, rights advocates and development organisations continued building on agroecology across the region and reached out even further across the globe. Amid the ever-worsening impacts of climate change and chemical-based farming on rural communities, the programme focused on the youth and its unique role in advancing the movement for agroecology.



“Youth should be united to form and strengthen the unions to engage in the implementation of land reforms and distribute lands to the landless.”

~Ambikka from Chittoor Mandal, India, in the Rural Youth Vlog released during the 16 Days of Global Action on Agroecology

YOUTH IN AGROECOLOGY

On 28-30 March 2018, 20 individuals from 17 organisations in eight countries gathered in Jakarta, Indonesia for a regional training and consultation workshop, PERSATUAN: Uniting Communities towards Agroecology. Participants, most of whom were youth representatives, came from Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Vietnam. In the said training and workshop, sessions on agroecology advocacy and movement-building towards agroecology were facilitated by PANAP and partner groups. Participants united behind regional campaigns for corporate accountability against HHPs, Golden Rice, and other genetically modified crops.

Right after, PANAP co-organised the 1st International Youth Assembly of the Youth for Food Sovereignty (YFS) on 31 March to 2 April 2018, also in Jakarta. It was attended by 41 individuals from 29 organisations in 10 countries. The assembly aimed at building and strengthening rural youth solidarity for food sovereignty, genuine agrarian reform, and welfare of rural communities; facilitating learning exchanges among participants; and crafting a programme of action to guide country and local initiatives.

The assembly agreed to expand membership to Latin America and Africa; raise awareness on youth and agriculture issues; undertake research and education work on youth issues and indigenous knowledge and practices; partner with academic



Members of Youth for Food Sovereignty after the 1st International Youth Assembly in April 2018, Jakarta

institutions; do media work; and engage with international agencies. PANAP intends to build on this momentum and provide YFS with the needed support. The goal is for the rural youth to exercise their rights fully and develop their leadership potential.

In October 2018, with the theme Youth on the March: Building Global Community for Agroecology and Food Sovereignty, the annual 16 Days of Global Action on Agroecology was launched. Now on its fourth year, the campaign aims to raise awareness on the benefits of agroecology on food security, health, the environment, and the economy and welfare of food producers and rural communities. Participating partner organisations held a multitude of activities ranging from rallies, youth workshops, fora, discussions, street actions, community dialogues, radio talk shows, podcasts, farmers' markets, exhibits, theatre productions, seed festival, and organic farm visits, among others. Overall, these activities reached out to more than 400,000 individuals in 40 countries in Asia, Latin America, Africa and Europe.

The calls that united various people and organisations during the 16 Days of Global Action on Agroecology were “Advance Agroecology! Defend Food Sovereignty! Youth Rise Now! Rural Women Rise Up! Resist Corporate Control on Agriculture! and Pesticides-Free World!” The campaign once again proved that the building blocks of a global ecological agriculture movement are sturdily in place, with PANAP proving its capacity to provide a leadership role.



Youth in India participate in grassroots activities for the 16 Days of Global Action on Agroecology.



Students of KHOJ Society for People's Education celebrate World Habitat Day through a Science Fair as part of the 16 Days of Global Action on Agroecology.

STOP GOLDEN RICE CAMPAIGN

The threat of the widespread commercialization of genetically engineered Golden Rice looms large in the region, with field tests slated in the Philippines, and release and propagation impending in Bangladesh. PANAP actively engaged in the regional campaign to stop the commercialization of Golden Rice and other genetically engineered products in Asia. PANAP is a convener and steering committee member of the Stop Golden Rice Network (SGRN), which is active in local, national and regional-level advocacy against Golden Rice. In April 2018, the SGRN spearheaded an International Conference in Manila, Philippines, which was participated in by different organisations in Asia Pacific as well as Australia, New Zealand, and Canada. Strategising for a global campaign against Golden Rice was an integral part of the said conference.

INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S AGROECOLOGY MULTIVERSITY

The International People's Agroecology Multiversity (IPAM) is a research-learning-action approach to agroecology that focuses on small-food producers and farming communities. It is a network of Field Learning Sites (FLSs) situated in different communities. FLSs are training centres or campuses of farmers' fields, NGOs, institutions and universities that offer on-site learning and collaboration on agroecological farming methods, innovations and techniques. While still in the process of building the IPAM portal as a dynamic online hub for various learning approaches on agroecology, PANAP partners continued to conduct different activities in the FLSs.



MASIPAG organised a Youth Environment Camp in May 2018, Mindanao, where PANAP facilitated a workshop on agroecology advocacy.

Development, attended by 60 youths. In the said camp, PANAP facilitated a workshop on agroecology advocacy along with sessions regarding environmental issues. Meanwhile, in Sri Lanka, Vikalpani held a day-long workshop on agroecology and agriculture among the village youth (August 2018).

In India, Kudumbam organised a three-day training on organic farming (April 2018). In Malaysia, PACOS Trust organised an exhibit on natural farming and agroecology, and conducted knowledge sharing and training on compost making and natural farming (October 2018). In Pakistan, Khoj Society for People's Education conducted a Science Fair on Habitats at the Khoj School for Community Education (October 2018). In the Philippines, MASIPAG (Farmer-Scientist Partnership for Development) Mindanao conducted a Seed Preservation and Management Training (May 2018) wherein traditional seed saving practices were demonstrated. MASIPAG Mindanao also organised the Youth Environment Camp for Agroecology and Rural

REGIONAL LEARNING AND EXCHANGE PLATFORM TOWARDS FACILITATING CHANGE PROCESSES FOR FOOD SOVEREIGNTY IN ASIA (RLEP)

The Regional Learning and Exchange Platform towards Facilitating Change Processes for Food Sovereignty in Asia (RLEP) is the dynamic and needs-oriented learning process for MISEREOR partner organisations across Asia. It deals with acquiring or deepening concepts; a repertoire of participatory methods for facilitation, analysis and dialogue; and values and skills to support grassroots initiatives and movement-building within the framework of food sovereignty. It consists of five workshops for Southeast Asia and five workshops for South Asia that started in 2017 and will culminate in 2019.



4th Regional Learning and Exchange Platform towards Facilitating Change Processes for Food Sovereignty in Asia (RLEP) in Ende, Indonesia

In 2018, PANAP coordinated four RLEP workshops—two for the Southeast Asia group, and two for the South Asia group. The first two workshops were held in the island of Bohol and the region of Bicol, Philippines during the first half of the year. They carried the themes, *Our PAR Praxis and Locating Agroecology as Countervailing Knowledge to Advance People-Led Development for Food Sovereignty* (South Asia group), and *Using Participatory Action Research in Community Organising to Advance People-Led Development for Food Sovereignty* (Southeast Asia group).

The other two workshops were conducted in Ende, Indonesia with the theme, *Contemporary Issues on Food Sovereignty and Facing these Challenges through PLD*; and in Lalitpur, Nepal with the theme *Emerging Global Issues on Food Sovereignty and Collective Strategies to Counter the Challenges*.

The RLEP workshops were a chance to reach out to other organisations who plan to create a global action network on food sovereignty. PANAP's partners in Southeast Asia such as MASIPAG (Philippines), METTA Development Foundation (Myanmar) and in South Asia such as BARCIK Resource Centre for Indigenous Knowledge (Bangladesh), Pakistan Kissan Mazdoor Tehreek (PKMT) and Roots for Equity (Pakistan) and Vikalpani Women's Federation (Sri Lanka) participated in the workshops.

FOOD SOVEREIGNTY PROGRAMME

The shrinking democratic space for civil society and people's organisations campaigning for food sovereignty and the people's right to land and resources was deeply felt in the Asia Pacific in 2018. In the Philippines, for instance, political killings – including massacres – of farmers and indigenous people continued with impunity. In Cambodia, public gatherings and demonstrations were severely restricted, preventing peasant and indigenous communities in land-related conflicts from even submitting legitimate petitions before government bodies.

Based on PANAP's monitoring, there were at least 98 farmers, farm workers, fishers, indigenous people and land activists killed in 2018 due to conflicts and struggles over land and resources in 63 monitored cases worldwide. Half of the victims and almost 40% of the cases of these land-related killings were in Asia Pacific.

Amid this worsening state of human rights in the region, PANAP and our partners remained persistent in moving forward the campaign to stop land grabbing and advance the people's rights through the *No Land, No Life!* initiative.

“The problem is our sand and rocks are used for the Port City. The sea belt is a nourishing bed with a variety of fish, now it is a mixture of mud and rock. It has led to a drastic reduction of small fish.”

*~Marcus Antony Fernando,
fisher from Negombo Lagoon,
interviewed during the International
Fact-Finding and Solidarity Mission
on effects of the Colombo Port City*



NO LAND, NO LIFE! CAMPAIGN



Fact-finding mission on landgrabbing by a sugarcane company in Boh village, Preah Vihear, Cambodia.

In 2018, PANAP helped organise three International Fact-Finding Missions (IFFM) in cooperation with other regional networks and local partners and groups in Cambodia and Sri Lanka to document the impact of growing Chinese investments on farming, fishing and indigenous communities; and in the Philippines to document the impact of Martial Law and militarization on farmers and indigenous groups as well as to show solidarity with those affected by human rights atrocities.

On 9-14 September 2018, an IFFM on the economic land concession (ELC) granted by the Royal Cambodian Government to Chinese-owned company Guangdong Hengfu Group Sugar Industry Co., Ltd. was held in the province

of Preah Vihear. The ELC, covering 42,422 hectares, has resulted in land grabbing and has affected the livelihood of thousands of families whose sustenance and source of income are tied to their farmlands and the forests. The reduction in the soil's fertility as a result of deforestation, and the degradation of soil and water as a result of Hengfu's use of harmful chemicals in their sugarcane plantation and factory, have reduced the productivity level of the remaining farmlands. It has also resulted to fish kills and livestock poisoning, and lack of potable water in some villages.



International Fact-Finding Mission on the effects of the Colombo Port City on fishing communities in Sri Lanka

On 27 November – 1 December 2018, an IFFM on the impacts of the Colombo International Financial City (CIFC) or more popularly known as Colombo Port City was co-organised with the National Fisheries Solidary Organization (NAFSO) in Sri Lanka. The Chinese-funded CIFC, the largest single foreign direct investment in Sri Lankan history, is expected to become a major maritime hub and financial centre. However, there are major environmental concerns – sand mining, rock mining, and soil erosion—that directly impact around 30,000 fisherfolk. Fishers reported the depletion of fish catch and loss of certain fish species, their displacement from their normal fishing grounds, and the washing away of houses near the coastline.

On 6-8 April 2018, an IFFM to *Defend Filipino Peasants' Land and Human Rights against Militarism and Plunder in Mindanao* was held in the Philippines. From interviews with around 200 farmers and indigenous peoples, the mission concluded that the military, police, paramilitary and auxiliary units committed cases of human rights violations (HRVs) ranging from extrajudicial killings to torture, forced evacuation, harassment and intimidation, coercion, strafing, and food and economic blockade. These HRVs were found to be committed against individuals and communities opposing large-scale mining and plantation expansion mostly encroaching on ancestral lands.

The IFFMs served as an opportunity for PANAP and its partners to show support and solidarity to the communities that face land conflicts. One of the results of the missions was that community members appreciated more the need to organise and strategise their campaigns to assert their rights.

The findings and recommendations of the IFFMs were submitted to various policy makers, including the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, human rights commission and parliament. The submissions projected broad support for these local struggles, and urged further investigation and immediate action.



Farmers from Pakistan join the Global Day of the Landless activities. (Photo by PKMT)

TRAININGS AND DIALOGUE ON HUMAN RIGHTS WORK AND PEOPLE'S RIGHTS



National training on people's rights and human rights work in Chittoor, Andhra Pradesh, India

To sustain the *No Land, No Life!* campaign, PANAP and our partners held national trainings and dialogues with policy makers. Two (2) national trainings on people's rights and on building a movement of rural communities were held in Cambodia and India. The trainees consisted of more than 50 activists, campaigners, community organisers and leaders. These trainings on people's rights and human rights work reinforced the capacity of PANAP partners in carrying out their local campaigns against land and resource grabbing.

The training in India, co-organised with the Andhra Pradesh Vyavsaya Vruthidarula Union (APVVU), was held in Chittoor on 27-28 November, and was mostly attended by representatives from APVVU communities in the states of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. They have been filing petitions for the government to revoke the development permits of unutilised special economic zones and to give them back to the communities.

The training in Cambodia was co-organised with the Coalition of Cambodian Farmers Community (CCFC) and was held in Phnom Penh on 25-26 September 2018. The 29 participants included community representatives from Kampong Spue, Preah Sihanouk, Svay Rieng, and Thbong Khmom provinces — all of whom were eager to learn about land rights and how to contest economic land concessions.

In Indonesia, a national dialogue with the commission on human rights was held in April 2018 to follow up on the cases of land grabbing and human rights violations that were previously filed by PANAP partners led by the Alliance for Agrarian Reform Movement (AGRA). A national conference was also organised in Jakarta that gathered representatives of communities from 18 provinces around the country facing various land grabbing and environmental issues.

LAND & RIGHTS WATCH 2018

Launched on the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Land & Rights Watch 2018 Yearend Report was PANAP's major research output for the *No Land! No Life!* campaign. It closely monitored human rights abuses against communities opposing land and resource grabbing. The data and information were culled from online news and articles as well as from the reports of our partners and networks. The report was a useful reference material for our partners, for the media, and for researchers working on land and human rights issues.

Overall, 135 cases of killings; arrests, detention, and legal persecution; threats, harassment and physical assault; and displacement that are related to land conflicts and struggles were monitored in 21 countries. Every week in 2018, two people were being killed for resisting land grabs; and three more were being arrested and detained.

PANAP also produced other education and information materials to raise public awareness on the issue of land grabbing and human rights violations. Feature articles, infographics, posters and a short video were produced and distributed through our social media accounts throughout 2018. On Facebook, these materials registered a reach of almost 123,000; more than 8,800 engagements; almost 1,600 likes; and almost 1,300 shares. On Twitter, they generated more than 1,600 likes and almost 2,200 shares. In addition, more than 20 national and global news organisations have published the reports and articles released by the campaign.

Lastly, PANAP also continued to support the efforts of its national partners in carrying out field researches on specific land policy issues at the local level. One such research in 2018 was on the impact of agribusiness venture arrangements (AVAs) on agrarian reform beneficiaries, small to medium landowners, women, children and indigenous peoples in the four regions of Mindanao in the Philippines. The research results will be used to inform local and national policy makers on the issue of AVAs in the country.

WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE PROGRAMME

PANAP has worked towards mainstreaming the work of the Women in Agriculture Programme. Participation of women is a priority in all the programmes of PANAP. In the trainings, documentation and policy advocacy, women play an important role.

The Irene Fernandez Women's Leadership Training (IFWLT), a programme developed by PANAP took off in Vietnam, resulting in women trainees adopting agroecological practices and taking the lead in organising organic markets. (The IFWLT training program was named after the late Irene Fernandez, a pioneer of PANAP and the women migrants' movement in Malaysia and a prominent social activist.) To raise awareness on the breast-cancer causing effects of pesticides, PANAP's booklet *Breast Cancer, Pesticides & You!* was also translated into Vietnamese and widely distributed. In addition, key women farmers from China, Cambodia and Philippines were part of the capacity building at the regional level using the IFWLT methodology. In order to move beyond the level of participation, PANAP and partners have also supported strengthened leadership among women. In Vietnam, women have formed the Women's Pioneer Group and have actively conducted CPAM and have started their own farmers market at the district level. These women have gone on to train other women in their community as well.



The women of PAN Africa discuss on the role of young people in agroecology and the challenges they face. At least 28 of the 100 groups outreached during the 16 Days of Global Action are either women's groups or women-led groups.

The booklet [*Stories from the Field: Women Working Towards a Non-Toxic Environment*](#), launched in 2017, was distributed in national, regional and global meetings related to chemicals and the environment. [Videos](#) of women from PANAP's partners CEDAC in Cambodia and SAEDA in Laos, featured in *Stories from the Field*, were shown in the main foyer of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) during the UN Food and Agriculture Organization second International Symposium on Agroecology in Rome last April 2018. In cooperation with KemI and SIDA, PANAP also produced the video, [Women in Agroecology: Stories from The Field](#), documenting women practicing agroecology.

For the Agroecology Campaign, most of the partner organisations we work with are women-led, such as Society for Rural Education and Development (SRED) in India, Vikalpani National Women's Federation in Sri Lanka, KHOJ Society for People's Education in Pakistan and PACOS Trust in Malaysia. They are at the forefront of advancing agroecology advocacy through organising, education, mobilising and building movements in their respective countries. Meanwhile, Unyon ng Manggagawa sa Agrikultura (National Federation of Agricultural Workers) and MASIPAG in the Philippines, BARCIK in Bangladesh, Kudumbam in India and CEDAC in Cambodia are working directly with women's groups in their respective communities. Furthermore, in the 16 Days of Global Action on Agroecology, at least 28 of the 100 groups outreached are either women's groups or women-led groups.

PANAP also ensured that women had substantial participation in the trainings on people's rights and movement building that we and our partners organised in 2018. Women community leaders and campaigners on land grabbing issues comprised about 46% of the total number of participants in these trainings. We deem it important to give due focus on women because of the leadership role that they play in their communities in resisting land grabbing and defending the people's rights to land and resources. Based on PANAP's monitoring, there were at least 53 women victims of human rights violations related to land conflicts and struggles in 2018. Most of them (31 women) were victims of arrests, detention and legal persecution. There were also 14 women farmers, indigenous people and land activists killed as well as eight (8) victims of threats, harassment and physical assault.

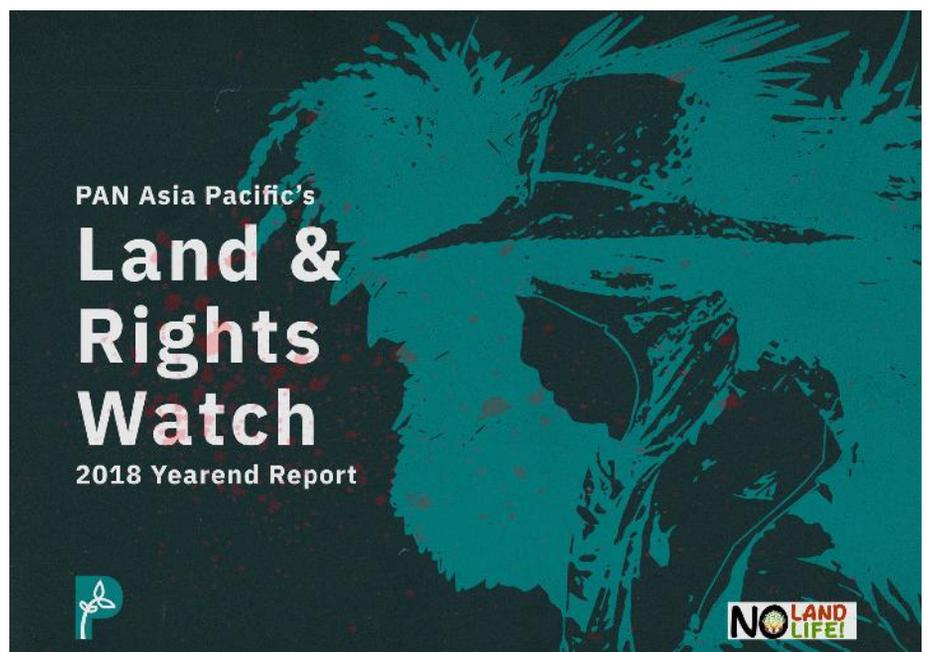
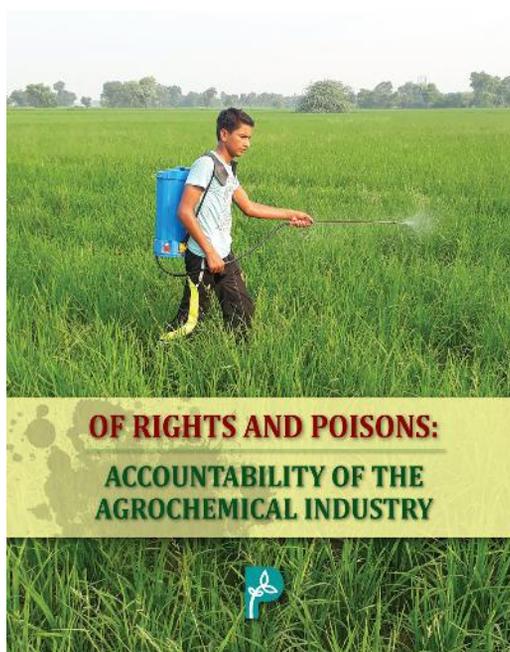
“Hunger today is less about the lack of food but more about the systemic deprivation of food that the world could actually produce in abundance. What needs to be done is to dismantle the monopoly control over food, land and market by big private capital; uphold food sovereignty and right to development of peoples everywhere; implement genuine agrarian reform; and promote agroecological systems as the sustainable and healthier systems of food production.”

~Sign-on statement on World Hunger Day, endorsed by 104 organisations and individuals



In 2018, PANAP has published two reports which are useful references for its network partners, and for researchers tackling issues on corporate accountability, land and human rights. These are:

- ▶ *Of Rights and Poisons: Accountability of the Agrochemical Industry*
- ▶ *Land & Rights Watch: Yearend Report 2018*



Of Rights and Poisons: Accountability of the Agrochemical Industry highlights results of seven-country study on the impact of HHPs on people's health and the environment. The report found that the agrochemical TNCs, their subsidiaries as well as local pesticide manufacturers and distributors are producing and distributing HHPs that cause acute and chronic health effects particularly to children and other vulnerable people. The report was sent to the Chair of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the elaboration of a legally binding instrument on TNCs and other businesses within the framework of human rights. In addition, the results of the report were presented in the workshop organised in the International Rice Conference—it received mainstream media coverage in India as well as social media coverage.

Meanwhile, the *Land & Rights Watch 2018* monitored 135 cases of killings; arrests, detention, and legal persecution; threats, harassment and physical assault; and displacement that are related to land conflicts and struggles in 21 countries. The report provided a glimpse of the alarming state of human rights affecting indigenous peoples, farmers, farmworkers and others in rural communities around the globe that are defending their right to land and resources.

PANAP has also published seven blogs and feature stories, 15 press releases and statements, and 29 issues of the *No Land, No Life!* regular and special bulletin. These were also sent out to various listserves, namely: the partners listserve which has 151 members; general information listserve which has 271 members; the NoLandNoLife listserve which has 454 members; the ProtectOurChildren listserve which has 264 members; the Asian Rural Women's Coalition (ARWC) listserve which has 152 members; the Corporate Accountability listserve which has 144 members; and the media listserve which has 308 contacts.

PANAP has distributed a total of 2,782 print information materials in various meetings and events globally.

From June to December of 2018, the PANAP website (www.panap.net) has recorded a total of 687,306 hits and 95,662 visits with a monthly average of 8,087 unique visitors to the site. Over the year, the website has recorded a total of 12,764 successful online downloads of various publications and information materials.

PANAP has also produced various multimedia content—including photos, memes, infographics, and videos—in social media platforms to share information on issues and actions, and to reach and engage with a wider audience.

On its Facebook page, PANAP has made a total of 315 posts that gathered 263,915 impressions and 9,456 engagements. There was a total of 484 new likes on PANAP's FB page, which by the end of the year totaled to 2,848 likes. On Twitter, PANAP posted 172 tweets that gathered 209,854 impressions and 2,862 engagements. There are now a total of 1,126 followers on its Twitter handle @PANAsiaPacific, recording 93 new followers in 2018.

As a major media event in October 2018, the *16 Days of Global Action* was successful in reaching out to over 400,000 people in 40 countries in Asia, Latin America, Africa and Europe. With the theme *Youth on the March: Building Global Community for Agroecology and Food Sovereignty!*, PANAP and its partner organisations organised various local and national collective actions and events.

On October 16, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)'s World Food Day, PANAP released a sign-on statement entitled "*World Hunger Day: Zero Hunger Is Possible With Food Sovereignty, Agroecology And People's Right To Development.*" The statement asserted that chronic hunger and food crises are preventable, and that global and national policy makers should heed the people's legitimate demand for the protection and promotion of their access to and control over their land and resources; of their food sovereignty; and of their right to genuine development. The sign-on statement was endorsed by 104 organisations and individuals.



Poster for 16 Days of Global Action for Agroecology

APPRECIATION

PANAP 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

Anwar Fazal	Peoples' TransAction, Malaysia
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Kim Jai Ok	Consumers Korea
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Pesticides Task force members

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In its 26 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 more than 100 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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