

# Annual Report

2022



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# Pesticides Programme

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## Evidence collection and awareness building on pesticide impacts on human health and the environment

Smallholder farmers, agricultural workers and indigenous peoples, particularly women and youth, suffer most from the health and environmental impacts of pesticides. Each year, 385 million or almost half of the farming population suffer from unintentional acute pesticide poisoning.

**Community Pesticide Action Monitoring (CPAM)** is an approach for documentation of pesticide impacts and action from grassroots communities. Guided by an understanding pesticide impacts on health and the environment, communities are motivated to address the problem mainly by moving away from pesticides in favour of agroecology. The results of CPAM are shared by partners at the community and national level to create awareness and to support campaigns and policy advocacy. PANAP identifies Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs) to target in campaigns and policy advocacy at the regional and international level.

In 2022, PANAP intensified the capacity building of its partners on CPAM in online and face-to-face workshops. In May, PANAP brought together 20 participants from Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, Cambodia, Vietnam, India, Laos and Bangladesh for a three-day workshop on CPAM and biodiversity monitoring, focusing on the following topics:

- Pesticides use and its health impacts
- Politics of pesticides and the accountability of agrochemical companies
- Importance of biodiversity and strategies for improvement of biodiversity in farms
- Understanding women's exposure to pesticides



The workshop was replicated at the local level in the eight countries, where trainings on various aspects of CPAM, particularly the use of the questionnaire and the web-based application, were held. Meanwhile, partner groups from Vietnam

*Community Pesticide Action Monitoring survey*

(Research Centre for Gender, Family and Environment in Development or CGFED and Society for Rural Development or SRD), Bangladesh (Bangladesh Resource Center for Indigenous Knowledge or BARCIK and Shikkha Shastha Unnayan Karzakram or SHISUK), India (PAN India and Thanal Trust), and Lao PDR (Sustainable Agriculture and Environment Development Association or SAEDA) initiated the CPAM process and carried out the surveys, providing an important evidence base of the use and impacts of pesticides in these four countries. Over-all, 1419 respondents were surveyed in 2022.

In addition, PANAP undertook a **review of unintentional acute pesticide poisoning** (UAPP) in these countries. Key findings shows that the prevalence of UAPP continues to rise in Vietnam, Laos, Bangladesh and India. New to this review is information on child poisoning, with data available for rural children in Vietnam exposed largely via direct contact and aerial drift, and for India where deaths are reported, often resulting from inadvertent ingestion of pesticides stored in homes.

In 2022, we continued to improve on our **biodiversity monitoring tool**, which was developed to monitor the impact of pesticides on species diversity. It was adapted to the local context of Bangladesh where climate change impacts result in flooding in agricultural areas.

## International Policy Advocacy

PANAP is actively engaged in various multilateral and multi-stakeholder processes for concerted efforts to regulate pesticides use, eliminate Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs), and promote agroecological alternatives, working with other regional centers of Pesticide Action Network International and allied organisations.

PANAP's Director for Science and Policy was also instrumental in the publication of *Global distribution of acute unintentional pesticide poisoning: Estimations based on a systematic review* in the journal BMC Public Health. This report was distributed by PANAP to more than 200 government officials, and is now referenced in many publications, media, and policy papers, including reports by UN agencies and Special Rapporteurs.

***PAN International Consolidated List of Bans*** - PANAP completed its 6th edition of the PAN International Consolidated List of Banned Pesticide, revealing the the addition of 73 pesticide active ingredients newly banned by governments in at least one of 168 countries because of threats to human health and/or the environment. The list, the only one of its kind, is a valuable tool for researchers and policymakers and was released in time for the 2022 Conference of Parties meeting of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions (BRS), as well as the 170th session United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Council. Referencing the list to commend

countries that banned HHPs, PANAP called on Member States of the FAO to make urgent progress on the goal to phase-out HHPs globally by 2030.

**Joint Meeting on Pesticide Management (JMPM)** - PANAP participated in meetings and submitted comments on Draft Guideline Documents (DGDs) on phasing out Highly Hazardous Pesticides (HHPs), internet sales of pesticides, aerial application, illegal trade, and suicide with pesticides.

**Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants** - As part of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee (POPRC), PANAP contributed valuable inputs for chlorpyrifos, specifically on its Risk Profile during POPRC18. However, after a lengthy discussion, the POPRC secretariat decided that more intersessional work was required on acute and neurotoxicity impact. The chlorpyrifos Risk Profile with additional inputs will be discussed in the next POPRC.

**Rotterdam Convention on Prior Informed Consent**- The Rotterdam Convention creates legally binding obligations for the implementation of the Prior Informed Consent (PIC) procedure. PANAP provided data on trade, poisonings and environmental impacts of pesticides notified to the secretariat, prepared comments on DGDs, and participated in meetings of the Chemical Review Committee 18. Paraquat met the criteria of the Rotterdam Convention and the DGD will be developed and discussed in CRC19. PANAP did interventions during discussions, however, no major agreement was reached due to pushback from some countries and industries.

**Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management**- SAICM is a voluntary multi-stakeholder approach to chemicals management. Progress on HHPs, which has been identified as an Issue of Concern, has been slow. After more than two years without a face-to-face meeting, representatives met in Bucharest to discuss a new Beyond 2020 framework. A glimmer of hope appeared in light of the commitment of civil society and certain countries to work for a **global phase-out of HHPs in agriculture by 2030**. PANAP's participation in the SAICM process is an important contribution to the work towards this ambitious target. PANAP also sits on the Steering Committee of the SAICM Community of Practice on HHPs hosted by the University of Cape Town.



PANAP executive director Sarojeni Rengam at a civil society action in UNEA 5 in Nairobi, Kenya



*PANAP's Meriel Watts & Alia Diyana at the Stockholm POPRC meeting (left) and Ilang-Ilang Quijano making a public intervention to stop the FAO-CropLife #ToxicAlliance at the 49th UNHRC session (right)*

**United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA)** - Hosted by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), UNEA brings together UN Member States, industries, civil society and other stakeholders for policies to address the world's most pressing environmental challenges. PANAP's Executive Director Sarojeni Rengam, now the Regional Facilitator for Asia Pacific, supported the UNEA draft resolution on the Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste and pressed for more concerted action, including the phase-out of HHPs, during the UNEA 5 held online and in Nairobi.

**Campaign to stop the FAO-CropLife #ToxicAlliance** - PANAP co-coordinates a global campaign to end a partnership agreement between FAO and CropLife International, the association of the world's biggest agrochemical companies. This partnership undermines FAO's priority of minimising the harms of pesticides and efforts to promote agroecology. In 2022, the FAO finally responded to calls for a dialogue, following a petition signed by almost 200,000 individuals. UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food Michael Fakhri urged the FAO leadership to rescind the agreement due to human rights concerns during the 49th session of the UN Human Rights Council, with PANAP making a public intervention in support.

In time for the FAO Council's 170th session in June, PAN spearheaded a letter—signed by **430 civil society and indigenous peoples**—to members of the FAO Council reiterating demands to end the alliance, citing how CropLife has “interfered in national policy and exert enormous pressure on governments that take measures to protect people and the environment from pesticide harms.” PANAP also contributed to a report with FIAN International and Corporate Accountability on the deepening corporate capture of the FAO. In July, FAO Deputy Director General Beth Bechdol met with PAN and other CSOs wherein the agency said that there are no plans to further the agreement into a more formal Memorandum of Understanding. This is considered as a major victory of the campaign, while we continue to push for the FAO to rescind its existing agreement to explore collaborations with the pesticide industry.

## Protect Our Children from Toxic Pesticides

Building upon the UN's landmark recognition of the right to a clean and healthy environment, the Protect Our Children from Toxic Pesticides campaign was launched in 2022 with the theme **"Children's Rights to a Pesticides-Free World."** The awareness-raising and policy advocacy campaign—primarily targeted for parents, children, youth and educators—centered on the demand for children's rights to a safe, healthy and pesticides-free environment.

Twenty-three organisations from 11 countries (Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Vietnam) participated in the 2022 POC campaign, with activities garnering over 26,000 participants both in-person and online. Below are the activities conducted and their impacts:

- **Art sessions/competitions**

Art proved to be a powerful expressive tool for children who suffer from, or are just beginning to understand the threats that pesticides pose to their health and the environment. Art competitions involving hundreds of schoolchildren were held by Vikalpani in Sri Lanka; BARCIK in Bangladesh; Yayasan Gita Pertiwi in Indonesia; PACOS Trust in Malaysia; Public Advocacy Initiatives for Rights & Values (PAIRVI) in India; and CGFED in Vietnam. The artworks displayed children's unique insights into the issue. The art sessions were usually accompanied by sessions where harmful impacts of pesticides on human health and the environment were discussed based on the children's own experiences.



*Art competitions held by PAIRVI in India (top) and Vikalpani ni Sri Lanka*

- **Talks/ discussions in schools**

Discussions with teachers, parents, and children of various ages were held in several schools in Malaysia, India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Vietnam to build awareness on the impacts of pesticides. In Bangladesh, school discussions led by BARCIK included not just hundreds of teachers, parents and children, but hundreds of community members as well.

- **Pesticide-free buffer zones around schools**

In schools in Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, a signature petition to set up a pesticide-free buffer zone of at least one kilometer around their school was launched. Dialogues with local elected officials, parents, teachers and school authorities were held to explore the possibility of setting up these buffer zones.

- **Village-level awareness campaign**

PAN India conducted interaction sessions with children of cotton farmers in Dattapur village, Yavatmal district on the harms of pesticides. Andhra Pradesh Vyavasaya Vruthidarula Union (APVVU) organised meetings and rallies with union leaders in 10 villages for demands related to pesticides use and climate change. In Tamil Nadu, Society for Rural Education and Development (SRED) organised village-level awareness activities, encouraging children to “SAY NO TO PESTICIDES” as a part of the campaign for farmers to transition to agroecological practices, such as using natural manure in their fields.

- **Bike tour**

The Pedal Against Poisons bike tour was launched this year, with Thanal Trust conducting two events wherein cyclists traveled to rural villages for interaction with farmers and children, cultural events, and tree planting. To learn about agroecology, cyclists visited the Thanal Agroecology Centre for a rice transplanting session with around 50 students from Kattikulam.

- **Organic kitchen gardens**

Hands-on organic kitchen gardening workshops with children were held in Pakistan by Khoj Society for People's Education, in collaboration with Organica Pakistan. Thanal also held kitchen garden workshops, along with organic vegetables exhibition and awareness-raising on the pesticide contents of Kerala's most famous dishes.

- **Procession/city walks**

In Bihar and Jharkhand in East India, Public Advocacy Initiatives for Rights & Values in India (PAIRVI), with their local partners Lok Vikas Sansthan, Bandi Adhikar Andolan, and Samagra Seva, held procession/city walks with students holding POC banners, placards, and posters, followed by art and speech competitions.

- **Storytelling**

Storytelling and dissemination of Story of Zee the Bee, a children's book by PANAP on the impacts of pesticides, were conducted by PANAP in Malaysia and SAEDA in Laos.

- **Multimedia campaign**

Partners from across the region translated the POC posters in their local languages and displayed these posters, among others, in visible places in schools. Other partners, such as PAN India, also created their own posters on the importance of pesticide-free buffer zones around schools. Creative short videos of children on their perceptions of pesticides and the need for a #PesticidesFreeWorld, including videos on Tiktok, were created by PANAP and partners Yayasan Gita Pertiwi (Indonesia) and MASIPAG (Philippines), and popularised on social media. A short video competition was also held among children by PACOS Trust in Malaysia. A radio broadcast on Solopos FM, one of the biggest radio stations in Surakarta, Indonesia, led by Gita Pertiwi also popularised the issue of children and pesticides.

In 2022, PANAP also revived its #ProtectOurChildren from Toxic Pesticides monthly newsletter, which publishes news, analysis, studies, and other updates in relation to children and pesticides.

- **Chlorpyrifos ban**

Chlorpyrifos, which is linked to brain damage, is one of the Terrible Twenty pesticides that are particularly toxic to children and is being considered for a global ban under the Stockholm Convention. PANAP developed and disseminated a policy brief on the urgent need to ban chlorpyrifos. In New Zealand, PAN Aotearoa New Zealand, Weed Management Advisory, Safe Food Campaign and Soil & Health Association lobbied the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) to urgently speed up the reassessment of chlorpyrifos and released a joint media statement as part of the POC campaign.

## **No Pesticide Use Week**

PANAP commemorates December 3rd as "No Pesticide Use Day" to observe the anniversary of the 1984 Bhopal gas tragedy, one of the biggest poisoning incidents in history. Until December 10th, PANAP and its partners observe "No Pesticide Use Week" to raise awareness on the adverse effects of pesticides use.

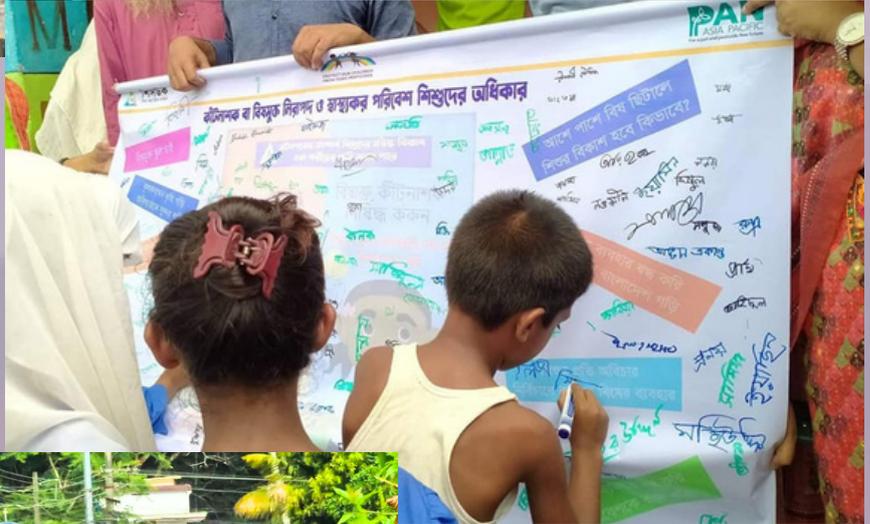
In Bangladesh, our partner SHISUK delivered a presentation "Technology and Strategy for Achieving Safe and Nutritious Food" on December 6th for the 2nd National Conference on Safe and Nutritious Food.

In India, programs were organised by PAN India from December 2nd to 6th for the students, farmers, youth and women in different colleges and villages in Yavatmal.

# PROTECT OUR CHILDREN



MALAYSIA



BANGLADESH



INDIA



INDONESIA

Around 350 students attended interactive sessions that focused on how the Green Revolution changed rural life. A film screening in Dattapur tackled health impacts of pesticides on health and was attended by 60 people, including children. Two public meetings in Manoli and Kinhi village, Ahmednagar district, were participated in by 150 farmers, where the impacts of pesticides on the climate and food systems, rules and regulations on pesticides in India, and the importance of agroecology were discussed.

In Laos, SAEDA held an awareness-raising activity on pesticide impacts in an organic market at Peck district, Xiengkhuang province, wherein the knowledge of participants were tested in a Q&A session and brochures, posters and t-shirts were given away.

In Vietnam, CGFED conducted an event called *“Green Market: Towards pesticide-free agriculture and zero waste”* in the Cultural House of Hai Hau district. In the event, 36 stalls sold pesticides-free products made, farmed and caught by local people including food products, vegetables, fruits, dried products (rice noodles, lotus seeds, turmeric powder and others), meat and seafood. The event focused on promoting agroecology products and eliminating the use of plastic bags and plastic waste. More than 1,000 people attended the event including delegates from the Vietnamese government, and was covered in several local news channels as well.

Meanwhile, PANAP highlighted the **campaign to end double standards in pesticides trade** as part of No Pesticide Use Day. Along with FIAN Brazil, we led the submission of a petition letter signed by 274 Global South civil society groups supporting a proposal by the German parliament to prohibit the exports on EU-banned pesticides. We also signed-on to a similar petition addressed to the European Union, where an export ban on EU-banned pesticides is also being deliberated.



*Field visit by PAN India to cotton farmers in Yavatmal as part of week-long No Pesticide Use Week activities*

# Food Sovereignty Programme

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## No Land, No Life! Campaign

Peasant control over land and resources is crucial to transforming food systems. PANAP's No Land, No Life! Campaign aims to empower rural communities in defending their rights to land and food amid greater corporate control over food and agricultural systems. In 2022, PANAP continued to support its partners in six countries in carrying out **land-related research, capacity building, awareness raising, and advocacy campaigns**.

In Cambodia, our partner Coalition of Cambodian Farmers Community (CCFC) conducted and released a research study of 10 land-affected communities in the country, documenting best practices in asserting land rights. Some communities have received land titles and/or compensation as a result of their campaigns. CCFC also produced and popularised documentary-style videos on rural Cambodian communities asserting their rights to land.

In India, the Andhra Pradesh Vyavasaya Vruthidarula Union (APVU) conducted leadership trainings and public awareness activities among small farmers affected by the Polavaram Megadam project. Community leaders, chosen from the communities affected by forced eviction, were trained and guided to lead the campaign for comprehensive rehabilitation. These leaders identified and addressed various issues, such as pending forest claims, land submergence due to the Polavaram dam, and welfare issues such as old age pensions and health cards.

In Indonesia, Aliansi Gerakan Reforma Agraria (AGRA) engaged with members of the Wadas community, which experienced mass arrests in early 2022 due to its members' resistance to an andesite quarrying project. AGRA and other groups provided legal assistance and mobilised activists to support the release of detained individuals, including releasing a statement condemning the human rights violation and criminalization of land struggles, and visited the village to assist with community coordination and organising. Through collaborative work, the community was able to hold a public discussion and rebuild coordination after the violence, and the detained individuals were freed.

Despite difficulties due to Sri Lanka's economic and political situation, the National Fisheries Solidarity Movement (NAFSO) mobilised local communities to address the social, economic, and environmental impacts of the Point Pedro Industrial Harbour. NAFSO conducted media trainings in 16 areas in order to develop local capacities to document and highlight issues faced by communities affected by the project.

Community members were trained in video production, poster making, and social media, which resulted in more systematic efforts to educate and engage members in their respective districts.

In Pakistan, major infrastructure projects, such as the Northern Bypass in Peshawar, have evicted small farmers from their lands and deprived them of their livelihoods. Pakistan Kissan Mazdoor Tehreek (PKMT) assisted communities facing three court cases filed by a landlord challenging peasants' ownership of 60 acres of land.

In the Philippines, the Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas (KMP) conducted a month-long March of the Landless, building up to the Day of the Landless. Activities included solidarity events in support of farmers facing forced eviction and shootings by private armies in Bulacan province, collective farming in Cavite province, a caravan across the Bicol region to collect farmers' narratives and highlight calls for genuine land reform, as well as a regional forum in Central Luzon to provide legal support for land grab cases.

Each year on March 29, the **Day of the Landless** is commemorated to bring together landless peasants and their advocates to highlight struggles for land in the Global South. Led by the Asian Peasant Coalition (APC), the Day of the Landless plays a significant role in raising awareness on landlessness and land monopoly, while supporting peasant movements for land, food and rights. PANAP, APC, the People's Coalition on Food Sovereignty (PCFS), International League of People's Struggles (ILPS) Commission 6, and the Rural Constituency of the CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness organised the webinar "*Peasants Rise Up vs. Land Grabs & Fascist Attacks.*" New schemes for corporate control over land and resources disguised as "nature-based solutions" to climate change, as well as heightening peasant repression as a response to peoples' resistance were discussed.

In October, PANAP and its partners from the No Land! No Life! Campaign participated in the Global Month of Solidarity with Peasants, highlighting the need to uphold land rights and food sovereignty for sustainable food systems through a video, statement, webinar and mobilisation.

Each year on October 16, food sovereignty movements commemorate **World Hunger Day**—a response to the official UN World Food Day celebrations. PANAP joined a mobilisation led by peasants, fisherfolk, and indigenous peoples movements in front of the Philippine agriculture department, calling for the reversal of policies and laws that have bankrupt local food producers such as the Rice Liberalization Law, among others. PANAP also co-organised the webinar "*Breaking Imperialist Food Chains,*" with panelists updating on agrochemical TNCs' control over food systems and the situation of hunger, landlessness and landgrabbing in Asia, Latin America and Africa amid neoliberal globalisation and imperialist wars and occupations.

# NO LAND, NO LIFE!



PAKISTAN



INDIA



PHILIPPINES



CAMBODIA



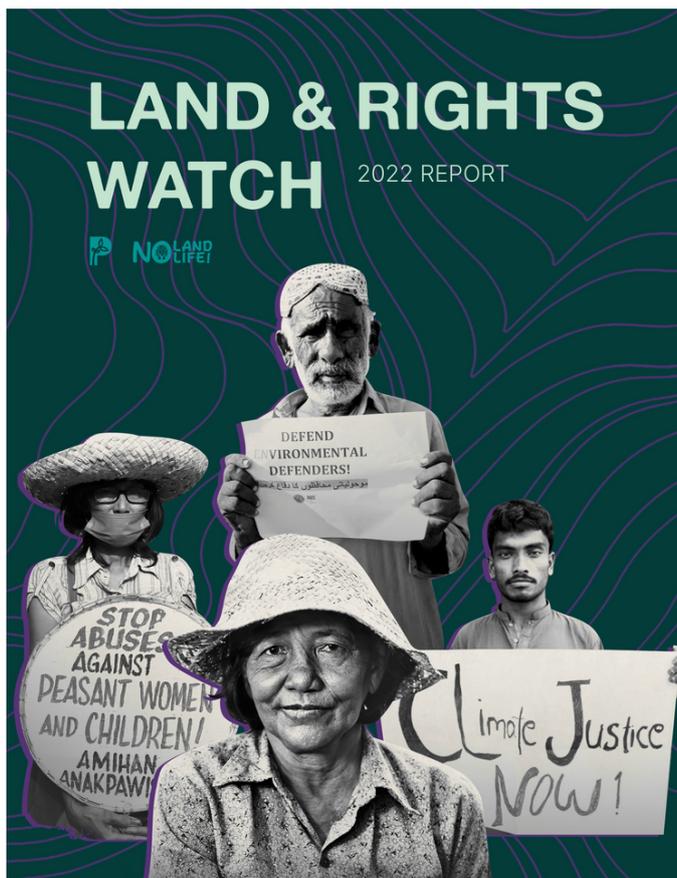
SRI LANKA

PANAP, PCFS, and APC released a joint statement entitled, "Unchaining our food from the shackles of imperialism." Endorsed by 44 organisations from 14 countries, it stated that the implementation of genuine agrarian reform, the assertion of food sovereignty, promotion of people-led agroecology is needed to truly address the food and climate crises.

## Land and Rights Watch: Conflict & the right to food

PANAP continued to keep a close eye on land-related human rights violations (HRVs) through its Land & Rights Watch 2022 year-end report. The report covered data from January to November 2022 and showed that extrajudicial killings were the most common land-related HRVs, followed by arrests, detention, and legal persecution. Meanwhile, indigenous peoples accounted for the most number of victims of land-related HRVs. The police, military, and paramilitary personnel were responsible for most of the violations. Several industries, notably the plantation sector, were implicated in land-related HRVs.

PAN Asia Pacific's monitoring in the last five years have recorded at least two deaths per week in rural communities asserting land rights across the world. Additionally, at least eight people weekly were arrested and detained, and at least two were harassed and assaulted, mostly by state forces.



*PANAP's monitoring of land-related rights violations was cited in the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food's report on violence in food systems*

These findings on land-related HRVs, as well as case studies from our partners, were submitted as inputs to UN Special Rapporteur Michael Fakhri's report on Conflict and the Right to Food. The report, released on December 2022, significantly brings attention to violence in food systems, and was presented to the 52nd session of the UN Human Rights Council in 2023.

Aside from its annual Land & Rights Watch report, the Food Sovereignty programme maintained its monthly No Land, No Life! bulletin, regularly publishing news and information related to land rights and peasant struggles, which are also shared on social media using the hashtag #NoLandNoLife.

## Land and the Climate Crisis

This year, PANAP put the lens on the intersections between land and the climate crisis. We compiled a list of 32 ongoing or planned projects and investments disguised as climate solutions, and published the article, 'Nature-based solutions': Land grabs in nature's name. The article shed light on the land grabbing aspects of projects and schemes in the name of sustainable development and climate change mitigation.

During the **27th UN Conference of Parties on Climate (COP27)**, PANAP published the article Land Monopoly and Climate Crisis, which tackles the impact of land and resource grabs and climate change in the Asia Pacific region. We also published an infographic In numbers: Climate Impacts on food producers, highlighting climate-related disasters and their effects on food producers in the region.

## Strengthening agricultural workers movements

PANAP through the Coalition of Agricultural Workers International (CAWI) continued its efforts of strengthening movements of plantation workers, trade unions, and landless peasants.

In October 2022, CAWI submitted a letter to the Philippine labour ministry urging the immediate conduct of the International Labor Organization's (ILO) High-Level Tripartite Mission (HLTM) to investigate serious violations of ILO Convention 87, amid moves by the Philippine government to postpone the mission. The HLTM was eventually held and conducted successfully on January 2023, and served as an opportunity to address the reported HRVs against Filipino agricultural workers, mostly working in sugar and banana plantations in the country.

## Stop Golden Rice Network

As a co-convenor of the Stop Golden Rice Network, PANAP co-wrote a SGRN statement appealing to the Philippines government to stop the commercialisation of genetically-modified Golden Rice, focusing on how it will make the food crisis worse, threaten Asia's rice heritage, and set the precedent for the entry of GM staple food in the region.

PANAP also joined local protest actions accompanying the filing of a petition against Golden Rice at the Supreme Court, and released a feature article to amplify the voices of rice farmers and women concerned with genetic contamination and human experimentation.

## Asian People's Exchange on Food Sovereignty and Agroecology

PANAP and Magsasaka at Siyentipiko para sa Pag-unlad ng Agrikultura / Farmer-Scientist Partnership for Development (MASIPAG) co-coordinate the Asian People's Exchange on Food Sovereignty and Agroecology or APEX, an exchange platform that aims to strengthen the capacities of people's movements in Asia to achieve food sovereignty through agroecology and people-led development strategies and approaches.

After almost two years of holding discussions and exchanges online due to pandemic-related travel restrictions, APEX partners were able to attend in-person activities under its three tracks, namely, advocacy, agroecology and people-led development. Overall, at least 20 organisations from nine countries participated in activities of the APEX Platform throughout 2022.

- **Advocacy Track**

APEX facilitated the first regional workshop in ***“Communication Advocacy for Food Sovereignty”*** in the Philippines from July 28 to 30, facilitated by the People's Coalition on Food Sovereignty (PCFS). The workshop focused on defining narratives and narrative change as the foundation of advocacy work. The workshop 16 helped partner organisations craft a communications strategy for their advocacy and campaigns.

To enhance their understanding and explore campaigning on pressing issues, APEX partners collectively tackled the Ukraine crisis and its implications on food security, and the impacts of the climate crisis on rural communities in discussions held online in March and October, respectively.

Moreover, the APEX Platform was able to send delegates to participate in civil society side events at the COP27 in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt. Together with other CSOs, APEX delegates from PANAP, BARCIK and SERUNI participated in different actions, networked with different groups, attended sessions related to food systems, and joined the COP's Farmers' Constituency to highlight people's calls for climate justice, which includes a demand for a loss and damage fund. The COP 27 established such a loss and damage fund—an initial victory that needs to be followed through with more robust participation of rural peoples.

## • Agroecology Track

The Agroecology Track kicked off its in-person regional workshops last August 1 to 3 in Nueva Ecija province, Philippines. The workshop focused on **“Farmers Seeds and Seeds Systems,”** wherein partners were able to learn both theoretical and practical agroecological approaches to seeds and seed systems.

Farmers’ rights to seed were discussed, and various partners presented about their local seed systems and how it is tied to food sovereignty. Participants toured the MASIPAG national back-up farm where over 2,000 varieties of traditional and farmer-bred rice were being kept. Participants tried mechanical weeding in rice fields, and MASIPAG shared about their trial farm strategy.

Participants were able to visit one such trial farm by one of the farmer organisations in the neighbouring province of Pangasinan, concluding with a ceremonial seeds exchange with local farmers. There were lots of discussions, sharing of insights and realisations among partners during the workshop.



*APEX Agroecology Regional Workshop on Farmer Seeds Systems in Nueva Ecija, Philippines*

## • People-led Development Track

Participatory Action Research (PAR) activities conducted by APEX partners in their communities the previous year bore fruit in 2022. In Nepal, women groups submitted a proposal to the local government for support on their chemical-free farming methods, and held seed exchange programs. In India, two nurseries were established to promote planting of local tree species.

Communities, partners, and PAR facilitators were able to reflect on the many challenges they face—for example, the Philippine agriculture department’s programs that dole out hybrid and GM seeds and synthetic fertilisers and pesticides; or the lesser yield and lack of government subsidy experienced by a community in Indonesia who is transitioning to the use of organic fertilisers and pesticides. However, there was unity in that identifying problems and making people-led changes one at a time leads to lasting solutions and solidarity among communities.

A regional People-led Development workshop was held in Kathmandu, Nepal from November 29 to December 9, with the theme **“Building Transformative Community Organizations and Leaders for Food Sovereignty.”** The community organisers’ workshop aimed to draw out and collectively reflect on the transformative elements, principles and strategies of community organising for agroecology and food sovereignty. Meanwhile, the leaders’ forum was an opportunity for community leaders to reflect on their roles amid current realities, and exchange ideas and practices on how to overcome barriers in the promotion and upscaling of agroecology towards food sovereignty. A book project featuring stories from rural communities across the region was also planned.



*PANAP's APEX coordinator Terence Lopez at the COP 27 in Egypt*

# APEX PLATFORM



## ADVOCACY



## AGROECOLOGY



## PEOPLE-LED DEVELOPMENT

# Agroecology In Action Campaign

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## Agroecology Learning Exchange & Trainings

An Agroecology Learning Exchange was held in Kerala, India from November 18 to 20 with participating farmers from Bangladesh, Laos, Vietnam, and India. The learning exchange facilitated knowledge sharing and exchanges between the participants on best practices in agroecology, using an informative and hands-on approach.

**Thanal Agroecology Centre** in Wayanad, Kerala has been promoting organic farming since its establishment in 2009. The Centre is an important example of agroecology in action, not only for Kerala and India but also for the region. It holds the largest live collection of paddy varieties in the state, with over 300 indigenous rice varieties. The centre demonstrates that agroecology is sustainable, environmentally sound and economically viable. It has a network of key farmers in surrounding indigenous communities. The centre also organises activities and festivals to outreach to students, academicians, farmers, government officials and to the public.

During the learning exchange, participants learned about ecological pest and disease management, did a hands-on organic inputs preparation, and did a transect walk around the Centre to learn about different agroecological practices. The participants also learned about weed management and uncultivated leafy vegetables, agroecology farm design and management, and composting. There were practical exercises on biodiversity monitoring and soil carbon testing.



*Visit to Thanal's Rice Biodiversity Block (left) and workshop on weed management and uncultivated food (right)*

Participants expressed the need to have more and longer learning exchange programs, as they are highly interested in adopting and implementing agroecological practices from various countries that are appropriate in their local communities.

Agroecology trainings to sensitise farmers on the health impacts of pesticides and to introduce them to agroecological farming methods, including biodiversity and soil monitoring, were also undertaken by partners with the support of PANAP. These trainings involved 2,093 people with 658 women, as well as the youth participating. In Yavatmal and Wayanad districts in Maharashtra, India, there were 280 farmers who were convinced to transition to agroecological practices this year alone.

## 16 Days of Global Action on Agroecology 2022

PANAP and its partners held the annual 16 Days of Global Action on Agroecology from October 1 to 16. With the theme **"Communities Overcoming Crisis,"** the campaign for this year highlighted how rural communities are using agroecology to confront the worsening global food and climate crisis.

The 16 Days campaign in 2022 was participated in by 63 organisations in 17 countries. Now on its 8th year, it continued to provide a platform for people's movements and communities to highlight their agroecology initiatives and build solidarity.

In Cambodia, the Coalition of Cambodian Farmers Community (CCFC) organised discussions in communities affected by landslides in various districts to call for decent housing, land rights, and support for agroecological production, amid threats of displacement from the construction of a new airport and climate-linked disasters.

In China, the Pesticide Eco Alternative Center (PEAC) composed a song entitled "Little Frogs" to raise awareness on the need to protect ecosystems.

In Indonesia, JPIC Kalimantan has organised a campaign with the Ma'anyan Dayak indigenous people to demand the protection of their local seeds, and held a training for Indigenous women on creating eco-enzyme organic liquid fertilisers.

In the Philippines, Youth for Food Sovereignty, cultural workers of Sinagbayan, and AMIHAN National Federation of Peasant Women held several discussions on the peasant situation and food crisis with women and peasant advocates, along with a theatrical production *Indi na Maliwat*. Agroecology X organised the agroecology fair *Salu-Salo* for small farmers to showcase their local products. Food Today, Food Tomorrow held a cooking demo and discussions on hunger and agroecology.

In Vietnam, CGFED launched a social media campaign to share how agroecology helps the communities that they work with overcome crisis situations.

In Bangladesh, women farmers held seed exchanges and meetings on agroecology organised by SHISUK, culminating with the planting of 200 trees by the youth. BARCIK led discussion meetings, cultural events, human chain, rally, dialogue, and village consultations to push for agroecology and raise awareness on protection from pesticide harms, with some activities focusing on senior citizen farmers and girls. Trainings on alternative pest management, including the production of pest repellents from locally available herbs and medicinal plants were held. A protest action and food fair by the indigenous Hajong women was held during the International Rural Women's Day.

In India, APVVU organised gatherings with displaced Indian villagers and agricultural workers in Andhra Pradesh to demand the right to food and higher wages. Keystone Foundation organised several activities with indigenous peoples. The Paharia from Jharkhand held discussions in several villages on strengthening their traditional Jara-Kurwa, an innovative cropping cultivation system that sustainably manages their rich forests. Farmers from Mamar village showcased kitchen gardens to raise awareness on the ability to produce food without chemical inputs. In the Saranda forest region, communities staged a street play Natak to showcase traditional agriculture. Kheriya Sabar villagers from West Bengal held a mobilisation and training on agroecology. Pahari Korwa farmers exhibited their traditional seeds; while a training held in Jashpur district, Chhattisgarh. Meanwhile, the Odisha partners organised several activities. In Deogarh district, Sambalpur Social Service Society (SSSS) held agroecology trainings and community discussions on how local food varieties can help mitigate the ecological crisis. Villagers from Sambalpur and Sonapur district held a discussion on traditional farming and forest food preservation. In honor of women farmers, Lok Chetna Manch and Chintan International held a community discussion on food security, seed security, and rural women's rights in Uttarkhand.

In Pakistan, PKMT and Roots for Equity held public activities to call for climate action and the banning of Highly Hazardous Pesticides. Khoj Society for People's Education developed an illustrated booklet on the hazards of pesticides to children.

In Sri Lanka, Vikalpani Women's Federation commemorated Rural Women's Day and World Hunger Day through a training on seed conservation.

PAN Africa in Senegal held a round table with farmers and local elected officials. A rural farmers organisation in the Niayes guested in a radio programme to discuss the impacts of corporate control over food systems on small farmers, the climate crisis and agroecology as an alternative.

In Ivory Coast, Young Volunteers for the Environment / Jeunes Volontaires pour l'Environnement (JVE) provided training and technical support to help local cooperatives transition to agroecology.

# 16 DAYS OF GLOBAL ACTION ON AGROECOLOGY



INDIA



SENEGAL



BANGLADESH



CAMBODIA

## The International People's Agroecology Multiversity

The International People's Agroecology Multiversity or IPAM is a research-learning-action approach to agroecology that focuses on small-food producers and farming communities. IPAM promotes agroecology as a sustainable approach to agriculture and food production and development, in the framework of food sovereignty, ecological and social justice. It is an innovative approach developed by a network of farmers and women's organisations, NGOs, researchers and academic institutions.

IPAM is a network of **Field Learning Sites** (FLS) situated in different communities across regions. The FLSs are training centres or campuses of farmers' fields, CSOs, institutions and universities that offers on-site learning on agroecological farming methods, innovations and techniques. To date, there are 60 IPAM Field Learning Sites with 29 groups in 12 countries that include Aotearoa (NZ), Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Vietnam.

The IPAM website remains a useful tool to highlight, share and support partner's work on agroecology, their resources and calls for actions. This year, IPAM joined as a contributor to the **FAO's Family Farming Knowledge Platform**, which gathers digitised quality information on family farming from all over the world. IPAM resources are now featured in the platform, a worldwide knowledge reference on family farming that can assist policy makers and other stakeholders by facilitating policy discussion, policy design and decision making.



# Women In Agriculture Programme

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PANAP ensures the participation and leadership of rural women and the incorporation of a rights-based approach to gender justice, in all of its programmes.

Rural women, particularly women farmers, indigenous women and agricultural workers, continue to be disadvantaged and discriminated against and have limited options for developing new and adequate sources of livelihood. In addition to gender discrimination, rural women experience social and economic exclusion due to their ethnicity, age, (dis)ability, nationality, caste, religion, or sexual orientation. Nearly 58% of economically active women in Asia work in the agriculture sector but less than 20% hold secure tenure of the lands they farm and face impediments such as the lack of access to credit, infrastructure, irrigation and machinery. As agricultural workers, they receive very low wages, face insecure conditions of work and lack access to social services.

Rural women are also more vulnerable to exposure to pesticides. Chronic exposure to pesticides has been linked to cancer, Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases, hormone disruption, developmental disorders and sterility.

Climate-induced disasters such as drought and flooding further put rural women at risk. Climate-sensitive sectors such as rural women stand to further decline in productivity and sustainable livelihoods. Women who lack access to social protection mechanisms also unable to withstand the onslaught of climate-induced disasters, as well as other external shocks such as the COVID-19 pandemic and food price hikes.

For 2022, PANAP focused on developing policies and programs for women in agriculture with the following objectives:

- Ensure a **rights-based and gender-responsive approach to food sovereignty and agrobiodiversity** with equitable access to land, resources, assets and institutions, and fair and equitable sharing of benefits.
- Foster **women's engagements in and control over agroecological food production** that restore biodiversity, regenerates the agroecosystem and provide resilience against climate change and other calamity and disaster risks.
- Valorise and develop solutions based on **women's indigenous, local and traditional knowledge, innovation and practices**, particularly in the construction of sustainable food systems, biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, climate change mitigation and adaptation.

## Asian Rural Women's Coalition (ARWC)

PANAP remains committed to strengthening the rural women's movement in the region through the Asian Rural Women's Coalition (ARWC), for which PANAP served as the Secretariat for the last 14 years.

Last May 30, 2022, PANAP organised an ARWC meeting in Penang, Malaysia, with the aim to reconvene and reconstitute its Steering Committee, endorse and approve new members and finalise the draft of the coalition's constitution and by-laws.

The meeting was attended by incumbent Steering Committee members Tenaganita (Malaysia), Center for Sustainable Rural Development (SRD, Vietnam), Society for Rural Education and Development (SRED, India), Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women (ARROW) and Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD); and newly-endorsed Steering Committee members Vikalpani (Sri Lanka), Amihan (Philippines) and Seruni (Indonesia). The Secretariat was passed on to Seruni, with commitment from PANAP to support operations.

In 2022, the ARWC released statements that provided an overview of the situation of rural women in the region, as well as specific struggles in need of solidarity and action. On March 8 International Women's Day, the ARWC raised the issue of women's exposure to toxic pesticides, in particular, how the vulnerability and marginalisation of rural women of the Global South aggravate their continued dependency on chemical inputs; and how access to land and resources to allow women to shift to more sustainable alternatives. On October 15 International Rural Women's Day, the ARWC expressed solidarity with all rural women across the world in defense of land, rights, sovereignty, dignity and justice against worsening attacks of fascist, exploitative and patriarchal policies – citing cases of worsening human rights abuses in the Philippines, India and Indonesia.



*Meeting of the Asian Rural Women's Coalition Steering Council in Penang, Malaysia*

## Social protection and labour rights for rural women

This year, PANAP became part of a new project in cooperation and coordination with the Belgium Directorate-General Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid (DGD) through OXFAM Belgium and Oxfam in Cambodia.

PANAP recognises the critical role of social protection in strengthening its work in food sovereignty, agroecology, nutrition, agriculture, poverty eradication and rural development, as well as in its efforts to enhance the resilience of rural livelihoods to shocks and stresses. The project identifies women working in the food production, particularly farmers, agricultural workers and indigenous peoples as those who are in dire need of improved social protection and labour rights.

The project seeks to address the abovementioned areas of focus in relation to improved social protection and labour rights, in the following main areas of concern: 1) rural women's empowerment and rights focusing on social protection; 2) impacts of climate change and Covid-19 as vulnerabilities of women farmers, agricultural workers and indigenous peoples; and, 3) impacts of pesticide use and digitisation of agriculture on the lives and livelihoods of rural communities. The project also aims to engage with governments and duty-bearers via social dialogue, campaigning, multi-stakeholder initiatives, mechanisms and negotiation, to be reinforced by national and regional campaigns and advocacy work.

On October 3 to 5, PANAP held a First Strategy Meeting for the project in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, attended by Rural Women's Association (Cambodia), CGFED (Vietnam), SAEDA (Laos), Seruni (Indonesia) and Tenaganita (Malaysia). We brainstormed with partners on a research and documentation strategy to identify gaps and develop campaigns to assert entitlements/rights.

PANAP also attended the Regional DGD Kick-Off Meeting spearheaded by Oxfam in Phnom Penh, Cambodia on November 9 to 11. The meeting brought together partners of the project in order to understand each other's work and programmes and explore further collaboration. PANAP brought to the table discussions on social protection and occupational health hazards involving harmful pesticides use in communities and how the reduction and/or prohibition of the use of hazardous pesticides can ensure safer workplaces for rural women, among other gender-responsive issues.



*Strategy meeting on social protection and labour rights for rural women in Phnom Penh, Cambodia*

## Irene Fernandez Rural Women Leadership Training

On November 15 to 17, PANAP, in coordination with partner organisation Thanal, held a three-day leadership training for rural women in Kerala, India. The workshop was attended by 14 rural women leaders and trainers from Vietnam, Laos, India, and Bangladesh.

The Irene Fernandez Leadership Training for Rural Women is dedicated to the late Fernandez, former Chairperson of the Steering Council of PANAP. Fernandez was a teacher and social activist, and was instrumental in developing a training programme for rural women to strengthen their capacities and skills on leadership.

The workshop tackled women's oppression and assertion of rights. Topics discussed were pesticide impacts on women's health; corporate control over food systems and its impact on women; food sovereignty, biodiversity and agroecology and their interconnectedness with women's rights. Understanding their situation as women workers and farmers, participants realised the importance of gender equality and empowerment in facilitating change. In general, the participants said that the workshop sessions inspired them and equipped them with new ideas, methods and strategies, which they plan to bring to their communities as women leaders.

PANAP partners also organised gender trainings in their own localities, with around 1,200 people participating. Overall, 1,062 women were involved in the revitalisation of the Irene Fernandez Leadership Training for Rural Women this year.



“ We need to strengthen ourselves so that we can fight (against oppressors), fight for our rights, our future, our children.

- Monju (above), woman leader from Bangladesh

# Information and Communications Programme

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PANAP considers a robust and effective information and communications campaign as a crucial component of advancing its many advocacies.

In 2022, PANAP published 25 **press releases and statements** to articulate our positions on various pressing issues encompassing all our programme areas. We consistently highlighted the need for an ambitious target to eliminate HHPs in agriculture by 2030 in all of our policy engagements. We commended Malaysia for its ban on HHPs carbofuran and chlorpyrifos. We exposed the continuing lack of accountability of Syngenta for the pesticide poisoned victims of Yavatmal in India. We amplified our calls for the FAO to end its indefinite agreement with CropLife. We expressed support for indigenous communities in Indonesia who were arrested while protesting mining operations, as well as the forcible displacement of fisherfolk in the Philippines for a tourism project. We made known our position on land, agroecology and climate justice in time for the COP 27 talks. We supported a proposal for a German and EU export ban on prohibited pesticides.

PANAP appeared in 19 **media reports** globally. This includes an interview on the glyphosate ban in Vietnam, which was published in Alternatives Economiques, a French magazine specialising in economic issues. The need for government support for agroecology was also highlighted in an interview with BusinessWorld, a Philippine publication. Meanwhile, PANAP-supported activities by partners across the region also reached significant media coverage in TV, newspapers, online publications, and radio.

PANAP also published 12 **features and analysis**. We analysed the War in Ukraine using the lens of food sovereignty. We put the spotlight on gender and pesticides, highlighting the vital role of women in minimising pesticide harms and environmental degradation. We humanised fisherfolk and farming communities fighting landgrabbing and displacement in the Philippines, as well as small farmers who are victims of pesticide poisoning in Vietnam. On World Hunger Day, we exposed the latest schemes of agrochemical TNCs to further its control over food systems. We made sure that our written articles and publications are accompanied by infographics and other effective visuals on social media to maximise impact.

In 2022, we launched the maiden issue of **CounterPoint**, a publication on PANAP's perspectives on policies and emerging trends related to food sovereignty and rural peoples. On Earth Day April 22, we released "*Transforming agriculture: Agroecology and the right to land*," which centres on the tenets of agroecology as an important pillar of people's food systems, with case studies in the region.

L'ÉCONOMIE À LA PORTÉE DE TOUS

CATALOGUE DES RESSOURCES ABC DE L'ÉCONOMIE



## AGRICULTURE Le Vietnam bannit le pesticide le plus utilisé au monde

LE 17 AOÛT 2022 04 min

**[Ils l'ont fait]** Ils n'ont pas forcément du pétrole mais ils ont des idées pour réussir leur transition écologique. En s'appuyant sur des décisions judiciaires et des travaux scientifiques qui ont mis en évidence la toxicité du glyphosate, le Vietnam a décidé de l'interdire en 2019. Un premier pas dans la lutte contre les pesticides.



SÉRIE 12/17

Magazine article on the glyphosate ban in Vietnam features an interview with PANAP

In der EU nicht zugelassene Pestizide

## Exportverbot mit Schlupflöchern

Ackergifte, die in der EU verboten sind, sollen auch nicht exportiert werden dürfen. Kleinbauern im Globalen Süden begrüßen das grundsätzlich.



Das von Cem Özdemir geplante Ausfuhrverbot ist schon mal ein guter Plan. Kann er noch drauflegen? Foto: Julian Rettig/imagio

### SCHWERPUNKT PESTIZIDE



Öko / Ökologie 4. 12. 2022, 17:58 Uhr



### THEMEN

#Cem Özdemir, #Kleinbauern

BERLIN taz | 274 Menschenrechts-, Kleinbauern- und Umweltorganisationen aus dem Globalen Süden unterstützen das von der Bundesregierung geplante **Exportverbot von hierzulande untersagten Pestiziden**.

PANAP's support for a German export ban on banned pesticides cited in a German newspaper

PANAP released timely and relevant reports related to its campaigns in collaboration with other organisations, namely, *“State Of Chlorpyrifos, Fipronil, Atrazine And Paraquat Dichloride In India”* with PAN India and *“Corporate Capture at FAO: Industry’s Deepening Influence on Global Food Governance”* with FIAN International and Corporate Accountability. We also contributed an article on gender and pesticides for the *Pesticide Atlas 2022*, a publication by Heinrich Böll, Friends of the Earth Europe and PAN Europe.

PANAP website, mailing lists, and social media accounts in Facebook, Twitter, Youtube and Instagram serve as the primary vehicle for information dissemination. Subscribers and engagements continue to grow. For instance, various PANAP publications and information materials registered more than 25,000 downloads; PANAP videos had almost 5,200 views in YouTube alone.

PANAP also participated in various global campaigns for food sovereignty, climate justice, and corporate accountability through social media messaging and awareness-raising online events.

As its contribution to Local Future’s annual World Localisation Day in June, PANAP with Khoj, Peasant Movement of the Philippines, and PAN North America co-organised a webinar entitled, *“Agroecology in Action for Localisation and Food Sovereignty.”* The campaign on localisation aims to establish food security through scaling back food and economic structures to the level of communities– thus, allowing regions and locales to maintain a steady supply of food for themselves, while maintaining independence from neoliberal economic forces.

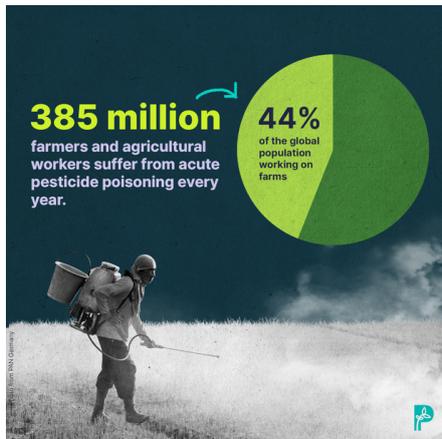
During the International Monetary Fund-World Bank’s annual meetings in October, we joined the IMF-WB Out of Recovery (#RecoverOurFuture) Campaign, in particular by calling on the IMF-WB to stop funding land grabs. In November, PANAP also produced photos and videos of its staff and partners participating at COP27 side events, as well as community members, highlighting rural people’s demands for land and agroecology as part of the climate justice campaign of the alliance Peoples Rising for Climate Justice.



*Publications that PANAP produced and contributed to in 2022*



Protect Our Children from Toxic Pesticides campaign poster (left) translated to local languages (right)



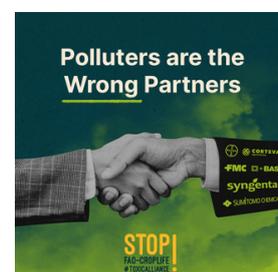
Various infographics released by PANAP

On December 5th, we spearheaded another **Global Day of Action to Stop FAO-CropLife #ToxicAlliance**, coinciding with the 171st session of the FAO Council and the formal submission of a letter to council members on behalf of 11 global CSOs (PAN, PublicEye, IPEN, FIAN International, Friends of the Earth, AFSA, Third World Network, IUF, IITC, CIEL and IATP). PANAP prepared a social media toolkit, centered on the messaging that the FAO's strategies on climate change and science and innovation must be free from pesticide industry influence. This was shared by allied CSOs, with a reach of at least 750,000 on Twitter.

To popularise the extent of unintended acute pesticide poisoning around the world in support of efforts to phase-out HHPs globally, PANAP released a series of infographics highlighting regional and country statistics which shows that there is no safe use of toxic pesticides in the Global South. Through social media, we also highlighted the story an organic rice breeder in the Philippines, who developed his own flood-tolerant variety as part of MASIPAG's collection. During COP 27, we also used social media messaging to highlight false solutions to climate change peddled by agrochemical and seed TNCs.

On World Biodiversity Day, PANAP popularised little-known facts about the impacts of pesticides on biodiversity; as well as the PAN-recommended target of reduction of two-thirds in pesticide use and toxicity to halt catastrophic biodiversity loss.

PANAP also served as a panelist in several webinars organised by partners and other allied groups, including *"Drone based-pesticide applications: Implications and regulations"* with PAN India; *"Nature-Based Solutions or Corporate Collusions?,"* a side event for UNEA 5.2; and *"Human rights, pesticide poisoning and vulnerable populations"* by the Centre for Pesticide Suicide Prevention.



*Global Day of Action to stop the FAO-CropLife #ToxicAlliance*

# APPRECIATION

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PANAP would like to thank you 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 the vision we have adopted

## PANAP STEERING COUNCIL

Glorene Amala Das  
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PAN Japan  
PEAC, China  
KHOJ, Pakistan  
Philippines  
Vikalpani, Sri Lanka

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

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

- Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)
- Katholische Zentralstelle für Entwicklungshilfe e.V. (KZE) / Misereor
- Marisla Foundation
- Oxfam Belgium

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In its 30 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 109 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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