



Annual Report

2025



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Pesticide Action Network Asia Pacific*

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INTRODUCTION

Advancing food sovereignty and climate justice through community action and people-led agroecology

Sarojeni Rengam, Executive Director

In 2025, we at Pesticide Action Network Asia Pacific (PANAP) deepened our commitment to advancing food sovereignty and climate justice through community action and people-led agroecology. Across Asia and the Pacific, this commitment was not confined to policy advocacy. It was grounded in the daily struggles, knowledge systems, and collective actions of farmers, rural women, Indigenous Peoples, and grassroots movements. Throughout the year, we worked alongside our partners to confront the structural drivers of hunger, inequality, and ecological crisis while helping build concrete, community-led alternatives rooted in agroecology.

The global context of 2025 reinforced the urgency of our work. Corporate control over food systems continued to expand, shaping agricultural policies and influencing climate processes, while deepening the marginalisation of small food producers. At the same time, the climate crisis intensified vulnerabilities across rural communities, accelerating land dispossession, biodiversity loss, and livelihood insecurity. In response, we strengthened our efforts to connect local realities with regional and global advocacy, exposing systemic injustices while advancing people-led solutions grounded in rights, sustainability, and resilience.

At the heart of our work is promoting agroecology as both a practical solution and a transformative framework. We facilitated regional cooperation, learning exchanges, and collective action among grassroots organisations. Together with farmers, youth, and rural women, we supported knowledge sharing, capacity strengthening, and the expansion of agroecological practices that restore ecosystems, reduce dependence on external inputs, and enhance climate resilience. These initiatives affirm our belief that agroecology is not only viable but essential in transforming food systems toward equity and sustainability.

We also witnessed and supported the growing leadership of rural women and youth in advancing food systems transformation. Despite facing systemic barriers such as landlessness, low wages, and unsafe working conditions, rural women continue to play a central role in food production, seed conservation, and community organising. Through participatory research, regional assemblies, and grassroots campaigns, we worked with women leaders to amplify their voices and advance their demands for land rights, social protection, and climate justice. At the same time, youth across the region increasingly took on active roles in agroecological innovation, organising, and advocacy, strengthening the intergenerational foundation of our movement.

Alongside these efforts, we intensified our work to confront the harmful impacts of corporate agriculture, particularly the widespread use of hazardous pesticides. Through our Pesticides Programme, we supported community-based research and monitoring to document the realities of pesticide exposure and its impacts on health, livelihoods, and ecosystems. Initiatives such as Community Pesticide Action Monitoring (CPAM) enabled farmers and rural communities to generate evidence, raise awareness, and advocate for policy change. PANAP's regional report "From the Ground Up: Documenting Pesticide Use in Bangladesh, India, Laos & Vietnam"—based on CPAM surveys of 4,392 farmers in Bangladesh, India, Laos, and Vietnam—reveals widespread pesticide exposure affecting entire rural communities. These efforts strengthened our call for the phase-out of Highly Hazardous Pesticides and the transition toward agroecological alternatives that safeguard people and the environment.

Our Information and Communications Programme complemented this work by amplifying grassroots voices and expanding access to critical knowledge. Through publications, digital platforms,

and campaign materials, we supported evidence-based advocacy, strengthened communication capacities among partners, and connected local struggles to broader regional and global movements. By making community experiences visible, we helped build a stronger, more unified movement for food sovereignty and climate justice.

Across all our programmes, it is clear that transformative change is driven by organised communities. Whether through documenting pesticide harms, strengthening women's leadership, mobilising youth, or engaging in international advocacy, we have seen how grassroots action challenges corporate-driven models of agriculture and builds viable alternatives rooted in agroecology, collective rights, and ecological stewardship.

As this annual report reflects, the path toward food sovereignty and climate justice is being forged through solidarity, resistance, and innovation. In the face of deepening crises, we stand with communities across Asia and the Pacific who are not only defending their rights and livelihoods but actively building a just, sustainable, and people-centered future.

From the Ground Up: Community voices on pesticides and agroecology

PANAP's Pesticides Programme strengthened regional action against hazardous pesticides by centring the lived experiences of farming communities, amplifying grassroots evidence, and advancing policy advocacy for safer and agroecological alternatives. Across Asia, the programme supported partners in documenting pesticide harms, building local capacity, and engaging decision-makers, demonstrating how community-generated knowledge can drive systemic change toward food systems that are healthy, equitable, and climate-resilient.

Community-based Pesticide Action Monitoring (CPAM)

Community-based Pesticide Action Monitoring (CPAM) is a Participatory Action Research approach that enables communities to document, understand, and raise awareness about the impacts of pesticide use on human health and the environment. Through CPAM, communities develop a better understanding of the hazards associated with pesticides and strengthen their capacity to identify and address the problems affecting them. The approach goes beyond documentation and awareness-raising by empowering communities to take collective action to reduce pesticide use, promote agroecological farming practices, and advocate for stronger pesticide regulations.

PANAP's regional report, "From the Ground Up"—based on CPAM surveys of 4,392 farmers in Bangladesh, India, Laos, and Vietnam—reveals widespread pesticide exposure affecting entire rural communities. Most households live within one kilometre of sprayed fields, heightening risks for women, children, and the elderly. The survey identified 96 active ingredients, 53 of them HHPs linked to cancer, neurodevelopmental disorders, and other serious health effects. Unsafe practices, driven by poor access to protective gear, inadequate training, and unclear labelling, contribute to routine exposure during mixing, spraying, and field re-entry.

Framing pesticide exposure as a human rights issue, PANAP urges governments to phase out HHPs, strengthen regulation, establish pesticide-free buffer zones, ensure corporate accountability, and expand agroecological support. The report has been widely shared on social media and used by partners for advocacy and awareness campaigns.

Two national CPAM reports for India have also informed advocacy, while preparations for new training programmes, including one in Cambodia with Oxfam, reflect growing regional demand. By equipping communities with evidence-gathering skills, CPAM strengthens local agency and advances movements for agroecology and food sovereignty.



The newly launched regional CPAM report, "From the Ground Up: Documenting Pesticides Use in Bangladesh, India, Laos & Vietnam"



Schoolchildren in Bangladesh supporting the petition of 1km pesticide-free buffer zone around schools.

in India, Pakistan, Malaysia, and the Philippines promoted composting, organic gardening, natural farming, and seed saving, while grassroots programmes emphasised women’s leadership and youth participation. Creative approaches in Indonesia and Vietnam—such as river monitoring, storytelling, and cultural education—made pesticide issues accessible and fostered ecological awareness. In the Philippines, farmer and youth networks linked pesticide harms to broader struggles for land rights, agrarian reform, climate justice, and accountability. Overall, the POC Campaign reaffirmed that safeguarding children requires not only regulatory reform but also empowered communities practicing agroecology to build healthy, just, and sustainable food systems.

Fact-finding mission on mass pesticide poisoning in the Philippines

PANAP, together with its Philippine partner MASIPAG Visayas, conducted a fact-finding mission following the mass pesticide poisoning at Pis-anan National High School in Antique, Philippines, where 390 people—mostly children and teenagers—were affected after exposure to the Highly Hazardous Pesticide (HHP) cypermethrin. Released during PANAP’s No Pesticide Use Week 2025, the mission found significant regulatory and institutional failures, including unsafe pesticide practices, inadequate emergency response, and weak accountability mechanisms. The findings reinforced PANAP’s advocacy for mandatory pesticide-free buffer zones around schools, the phase-out of HHPs, stronger pesticide regulation, and increased

investment in agroecology to safeguard children’s health and uphold their right to a safe and healthy environment, with a full report to support ongoing policy advocacy and accountability efforts.

Protect Our Children from Toxic Pesticides (POC) strategy development

PAN Asia Pacific (PANAP) also advanced the POC campaign as a strategic, evidence-based response to the pervasive influence of pesticide corporations on farming systems and public health. Drawing on extensive consultations with partners across the region, including organisations in India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, and regional networks, as well as insights from the Agroecology Strategy Workshop in Penang, PANAP developed a comprehensive strategy paper in 2025 that frames pesticide exposure as both a child-rights issue and a manifestation of corporate-driven industrial agriculture. The strategy consolidates field experiences, community testimonies, CPAM monitoring data, and participatory research to document how corporate pesticide regimes shape food production, school environments, and rural livelihoods across Asia.

Moving beyond awareness-raising alone, the strategy outlines an integrated approach combining policy advocacy, community mobilisation, and the establishment of Pesticide-Free Schools as concrete agroecological alternatives. It incorporates documentation methods, exposure monitoring tools, stakeholder mapping, and engagement with national, regional, and international policy processes to strengthen accountability and resistance to harmful corporate practices.

Growing hope for food sovereignty and climate justice through people's actions

As delegates filed into the sprawling convention centre in Belém, Brazil, for the 30th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP30) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the air was thick with a familiar tension. In one corridor, the rhythmic chanting of Indigenous leaders demanding their rights could be heard. In another, the air was crisp with the air-conditioned hum of corporate pavilions. Then there were the food stalls of the “Na Mesa da COP30” program, serving meals grown by Brazilian family farmers and proving that agroecology can feed the world. At the same time, there was also the “AgriZone” pavilion, its gleaming walls sponsored by Bayer and Nestlé, a monument to the very corporate agriculture model driving the climate crisis.

This was the reality of 2025: a year of profound contradictions, where the rhetoric of climate justice collided with the entrenched power of corporate greed. For PANAP’s Food Sovereignty programme and its partners across the region, it was also a year that further clarified and strengthened our collective path. It was a year we did not just observe the disconnect; we actively worked to bridge it, sowing seeds of resistance against corporate plunder and control, and cultivating a powerful, people-led vision for food sovereignty and climate justice.

Exposing the corporate grip on food systems

PANAP arrived in Belém with a clear mission: to expose how the corporate grip on global food systems is strangling real climate action. An analysis of the Sharm el-Sheikh Joint Work on Agriculture (SJWA) negotiations revealed a disturbing trend. Even as negotiators paid lip service to agroecology and Indigenous knowledge, the real push was for “precision agriculture,” AI, and other techno-fixes, what PANAP termed “corporate greenwash” designed to sustain profits, not the planet. The negotiations collapsed, pushed to 2026, but the fingerprints of over 300 Big Ag lobbyists were all over the draft texts, a 14% increase from the previous year.



PANAP troops to the Bayer-sponsored AgriZone in Belém during COP30 to protest corporate greenwashing and takeover of climate talks

The Brazilian presidency’s umbrella political declaration for COP30, the “Global Mutirão,” was meant to signal hope. Yet, in a staggering omission, it failed to mention agriculture, food systems, or the smallholder farmers who are the backbone of the Global South. PANAP argued this was no accident, but a direct reflection of the power of the agribusiness lobby. Corporate agri-food giants like Bayer and Nestlé were not just observers; they were major sponsors of the official space for discussing agriculture and climate.

Still, PANAP and our partners strived to highlight people-led agroecology as a real climate solution. At the official venue of the COP30 negotiations, we organised a side event to showcase our partners’ successful agroecology initiatives from Bangladesh, Indonesia, and the Philippines. Outside the official negotiations, we joined people’s movements from around the world in alternative COP30 assemblies and mass mobilisations, including through the Peoples Rising for Climate Justice (PRCJ), to demand food sovereignty, advance people-led agroecology, and challenge corporate control over global agri-food systems.

PANAP and our partners witnessed firsthand the power of the alternative to corporate-driven, profit-oriented false climate solutions: the farmers, Indigenous Peoples, and social movements demanding climate justice. These encounters were not passive observations; they became the lived experience for PANAP's campaign and advocacy, informing our statements, analyses, and calls to action shared across our network. The stories of resistance from the streets of Belém were turned into a powerful tool for education and mobilisation, showing partners that their local struggles are part of a global fight.

Land is life: Defending people's rights

The fight for climate justice is inseparable from the fight for land. In 2025, PANAP's "Land & Rights Watch" monitoring under its No Land, No Life! campaign painted a chilling picture of what that fight costs, documenting, among others, that the Philippines remains the deadliest country in Asia for farmers, Indigenous Peoples, and land activists. But behind those statistics are faces and stories.

One such story unfolded in Negros, Philippines, where three development workers from the Paghida-et sa Kauswagan Development Group, Inc. (PDG) were arrested on fabricated charges. For over 37 years, PDG has stood with farmers, helping secure land tenure for 4,500 families and fighting against destructive mining and plantation projects. Their "crime"? Defending the right of communities to their land and livelihoods. With our allies, PANAP immediately issued a statement, condemning the arrests and framing this attack as part of a broader crackdown on civil society. We called on our global network to secure signatures, share solidarity messages, and amplify the call to uphold the rights of farmers and their advocates, helping generate international attention and keep the case in the spotlight amid escalating repression in the country.

The stories of repression echoed across the region. In Indonesia and Nepal, massive protests by young people, farmers, and workers demanding accountability and an end to corruption were met with violence. PANAP stood in solidarity, issuing a statement that mobilised support from 55 groups in 18 countries, linking the struggles of those fighting for economic justice in the streets of Jakarta and Kathmandu to the broader fight against corporate control and for people's sovereignty.

Standing with Palestine

2025 saw the official UN declaration of famine in Gaza, essentially confirming how Israel and its Western allies, led by the US, have weaponised food as a tool for the ongoing genocide of the Palestinian people. The UN's official famine declaration in August was not a natural disaster; it was a man-made crime, a deliberate act of war and genocide. For PANAP, this was the ultimate perversion of everything we fight for. The destruction of over 2.3 million olive trees, which are not just a source of income but a symbol of Palestinian identity and connection to the land, was an attack on food sovereignty itself.

PANAP's response was immediate and multifaceted. As our Executive Director, Sarojeni Rengam, unequivocally stated, "What Israel is doing in Gaza and the West Bank is an atrocious war crime." But the network moved beyond condemnation. We initiated a global unity statement, "End the genocidal famine, stop imperialist complicity in Palestine!", which was endorsed by over 150 groups from 26 countries. The unity statement was released to mark World Hunger Day on October 16, 2025. PANAP provided a platform for its partners, such as the Palestinian Farmers Union (PFU) and the Arab Group for the Protection of Nature (APN), to share their testimonies, ensuring their voices were heard across Asia and beyond. We actively promoted and supported the "Right to Resist: International People's Tribunal for Palestine," recognising it as a critical platform to build a people's case for justice and accountability.



PANAP secretariat and its partners show solidarity with the Palestinian people and denounce the genocidal weaponisation of food

This was not just about solidarity from afar. It was about making the connection clear for PANAP partners across Asia: the fight for Palestinian liberation is our fight. It is the fight against the same imperialist forces that prop up corporate agriculture, militarise rural communities, and treat land and life as commodities at the expense of the people's food sovereignty.

Power of agroecology

While much of 2025 was spent exposing corporate power and control at COP30 and other policy spaces, defending the people's right to land and resources, and standing against genocide, people-led agroecology, as an important component of food sovereignty, remained central to PANAP's work and initiatives.

Throughout the year, PANAP facilitated exchanges and learning sessions in which farmers shared best practices in agroecology. The "Landless Voices" consultation series, organised with the People's Coalition on Food Sovereignty (PCFS) as part of the March 29 Day of the Landless 2025 campaign, brought together rural communities online to discuss how the climate crisis is being exploited to grab their lands and to share strategies on campaigning, community organising and mobilisation, and advocacy. The theme "Land and Climate Change" focused on the lived reality of communities facing land grabs for "green" energy projects or carbon offset schemes that threaten to displace them from their farms or ancestral domains.

PANAP also deepened its analysis of the forces at play. A position paper, "Climate imperialism: How false solutions attack Indigenous Peoples' rights," laid bare how profit-driven climate "solutions" like carbon markets and large-scale renewable energy projects are leading to new waves of land grabbing and human rights abuses. Another, "Imperialist monopoly power in global agri-food systems," traced the immense concentration of power in the hands of a few corporate giants and the financial oligarchs who back them, providing PANAP partners and allies with the tools to understand the systemic nature of the oppression, displacement, and dispossession of rural communities in the region.

Future sown in solidarity

Looking back on 2025, it would be easy to feel despair. The forces of imperialism, corporate greed, and militarism seem more entrenched than ever. The

official climate talks once again failed, allowing corporations to further tighten their stranglehold on agri-food systems. Governments continued to repress their people. And genocide was allowed to unfold with impunity.

But if there is one thing we have learned from our partners and communities, it is that despair is a luxury they cannot afford. In the face of bombs and bulldozers, they continue to plant olive trees and food crops. In the face of red-tagging and arrest warrants, they continue to organise for land rights. In the face of corporate-dominated policy spaces, they continue to organise seed exchanges and build seed banks. They continue to assert food sovereignty and prove that agroecology is viable and essential.

PANAP's work in 2025 was to be a conduit for this unbreakable spirit. It connected Filipino farmers facing militarisation to the global land rights movement. It amplified the voice of the Palestinian farmer whose olive grove was destroyed, ensuring it was heard in the halls of power in the region. It armed partners with analysis to see through the greenwash of corporate climate solutions. It did not just report on the attacks; it also helped build solidarity networks, PANAP's contribution to strengthening a vibrant global movement for food sovereignty.

The seeds sown in 2025 were planted in difficult soil. But as PANAP looks ahead, it knows that the most resilient crops are those that are deeply rooted. Roots that are intertwined with farmers, Indigenous Peoples, and rural communities across Asia and beyond. From these roots, a future of food sovereignty and climate justice will grow, fought for every single day by small food producers and rural communities.



Despite increasing corporate power and worsening repression, rural communities around the Asia Pacific continue to assert their rights to land and resources

Cultivating resistance, nurturing futures: Agroecology in action across the region

PANAP's agroecology work is guided by the Agroecological Asia Pacific 2030 Vision, first articulated in 2024 and strengthened at the 2025 Penang workshop. This vision anchors collective efforts for agroecology, climate justice, and food sovereignty. A regional planning meeting highlighted the growth of a CSO-led movement, with initiatives ranging from women-led gardens in India and youth farming in the Philippines to seed banks in Sabah and farmer engagement in Bangladesh. Farmer field schools, local markets, and collective farms continue to sustain agroecological knowledge and practice.

The Agroecological Asia Pacific 2030 Vision reflects PANAP's long-term commitment to transforming food and farming systems toward food sovereignty, climate justice, and social equity. Rooted in the experiences and leadership of farmers, rural women, Indigenous Peoples, youth, and agricultural workers, the vision advances agroecology as a people-led alternative to chemical-intensive, corporate-controlled agriculture.

At its core, the vision promotes biodiversity-based ecological agriculture that restores soil health, protects ecosystems, and eliminates dependence on highly hazardous pesticides. It centres farmers' knowledge, innovation, and rights—recognising that sustainable food systems must be built on local knowledge, collective practice, and equitable access to land, seeds, and resources.

The 2030 Vision also emphasises movement-building and systems transformation. It seeks to strengthen grassroots organisations and regional solidarity to challenge corporate control over agriculture, resist harmful policies, and advance people-led solutions. Agroecology is not framed merely as a set of practices, but as a holistic socio-ecological transformation that integrates environmental sustainability with gender justice, livelihood security, and democratic participation.

The 2030 Vision strategically aims to start the process of mainstreaming agroecology as a viable policy option for governments in Asia Pacific. The Vision is for policymakers to include agroecology as among the programs that will be supported by governments for their national climate action plans, including for mitigation and adaptation. The Vision is also mindful of the 2030 deadline to achieve climate commitments in relation to the SDGs and the Paris Agreement.

The Agroecology in Action campaign has expanded to more than 120 groups across 12 countries, with strong participation from women, youth, and Indigenous Peoples. Policy engagement is expanding, though corporate agriculture remains dominant. Globally, the International People's Agroecology Movement (IPAM) has built a network of 115 Field Learning Sites in 20 countries, showcased on its improved website. The annual 16 Days of Global Action on Agroecology reached over 20,000 people in 12 countries, with the 2025 theme highlighting rural women's leadership and children's vulnerability to pesticides.

PANAP also strengthened evidence-based advocacy through four thematic fact sheets and a biodiversity research article. These outputs critiqued corporate-driven food systems—digital agriculture, genetic engineering, climate technologies, and carbon farming—while documenting how agroecology supports biodiversity and resilience. Together, they equip partners and communities with resources to challenge dominant narratives and advance farmer-led agroecology as a sustainable alternative.

Country highlights

BARCIK (Bangladesh): BARCIK organised campaigns combining public action and intergenerational learning to promote toxic-free schools and agroecology. Human chains, storytelling, lectures, and dialogues on indigenous seeds, agrobiodiversity, and pesticide risks reached over 640 students, farmers, youth, elders, and journalists.

SHISUK (Bangladesh): SHISUK conducted school and community campaigns through orientations, quizzes, pledges, tree planting, teacher training, and a community fair, reaching over 300

participants. The campaign also collected 1,500 signatures supporting pesticide-free buffer zones, strengthening awareness, women's leadership, and collective action.

In India, the Society for Rural Education and Development (SRED) advanced agroecology through student training in natural farming, collective organic farming, and community advocacy. Village meetings and public campaigns raised awareness of pesticide risks, promoted organic alternatives, and mobilised opposition to GM paddy varieties.

SAHANIVASA (India) linked pesticide issues to food sovereignty, gender justice, and workers' rights through distributing 10,000 pamphlets, public campaigns, advocacy, and creative outreach including signature drives, and memoranda to officials, it elevated local demands to state-level policy. Vermicomposting in 15 schools gave students hands-on experience in pesticide-free farming, strengthening ecological skills and promoting agroecology as a climate-resilient alternative.

Gita Pertiwi (Indonesia) empowered women, youth, and communities through river monitoring, school programmes, radio discussions, and World Food Day events, raising awareness on food safety, environmental protection, and reducing pesticide use while strengthening collective action for agroecology and food sovereignty.

SAEDA (Laos) conducted school-based agroecology and pesticide awareness campaigns in four schools, engaging students, teachers, and local officials through participatory learning. The initiative secured commitments to integrate pesticide, food safety, waste management, and climate issues into school curricula, demonstrating the potential of school-led action to influence local education and policy.

PACOS (Malaysia) promoted agroecology through trainings on sustainable farming, waste management, composting, and local food systems, while advocating against UPOV and strengthening grassroots action for food security.

Tenaganita (Malaysia) engaged migrant and refugee women and children in organic gardening, shared meals, and peer learning during the 16 Days of Global Action. The activities strengthened food sovereignty, women's leadership, and pesticide-free farming practices.

In Nepal, Caritas mobilised cooperatives, students, and civil society to collect 824 signatures submitted to municipal offices in Kapilvastu

and Makawanpur, strengthening advocacy for pesticide-free buffer zones. Social Work Institute (SWI) also advanced local policy dialogue by submitting a 100-signature petition to Badhiyatal Rural Municipality calling for a 1-km pesticide-free zone around schools.

In Pakistan, Khoj promoted agroecology through trainings, school programmes, and workshops on soil health, composting, and natural seeds, empowering children, women, and communities to grow food sustainably. Its work extended to policy analysis, media engagement, and regional dialogue, helping scale awareness and influence national strategies for food sovereignty and climate resilience.

Masipag Visayas (Philippines) Visayas strengthened agroecology through workshops on soil regeneration, composting, seed saving, and ecological gardening, empowering children, women, youth, and farmers to conserve biodiversity and build climate resilience.

NNARA Youth (Philippines) mobilised students and rural communities through forums, immersions, and actions on agrarian reform, agroecology, and climate justice, strengthening youth solidarity with farmers and fisherfolk.

Good Food Community (Philippines) used child-friendly activities such as community cooking, storytelling, and ecobag printing to connect pesticide awareness, healthy diets, and agroecology among students, parents, and teachers.

In Sri Lanka, Vikalpani launched a scoping study on agroecology, seed systems, and biodiversity governance, which identified major policy gaps and weak coordination. While sustainability is increasingly recognised in policy frameworks, agroecology remains narrowly framed. The study highlights clear opportunities to advance farmer-led seed systems and biodiversity-based agriculture through existing policy spaces.

The Research Centre for Gender, Family, and Environment in Development (CGFED) in Vietnam reached around 750 pupils and broader stakeholders through creative education and strong institutional collaboration. Using *The Story of Zee the Bee* for role-play and performances, the campaign made pesticide impacts engaging and accessible for children. Distribution through women's union networks and media expanded its reach, demonstrating how culture-based approaches can translate complex issues and influence local institutions.

Advancing rural women's rights and leadership in Asia

In 2025, PANAP strengthened rural women's leadership generating grassroots evidence through community-based participatory research (CBPR), supporting community action, advancing policy advocacy, and strengthening regional movements.

Unequal fields: Documenting rural women's realities

To mark Rural Women's Day, PANAP launched *Unequal Fields: Advancing Land Rights, Labour Protection, and Sustainable Livelihoods for Rural Women in Southeast Asia*. Based on CBPR in Malaysia, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, and Indonesia, the report documented rural women's experiences of insecure land tenure, low wages, weak social protection, and climate impacts, while highlighting collective responses rooted in rights and justice. This launch coincided with the 16 Days of Global Action on Agroecology (October 1–16).

CBPR ensured women's voices shaped the evidence, informing policy debates on land and labour rights, gender-transformative social protection, and climate-resilient food systems. Building on these findings, the research is informing a regional policy brief to be launched in 2026 to advance advocacy on land rights, decent work, social protection, and women's leadership within ASEAN and other policy platforms.

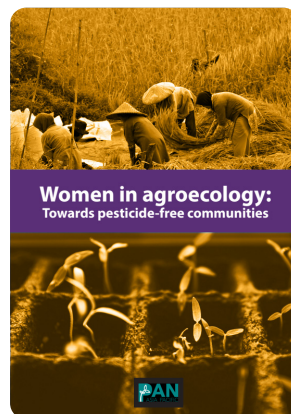
From research to local action

Following the CBPR, the 16 Days campaign translated evidence into community action.

In Vietnam, CGFED engaged around 1,000 students, teachers, farmers, and officials on pesticide risks, and agroecological alternatives. In Laos, SAEDA reached over 300 participants through school-based activities on sustainable agriculture and climate resilience, while Tenaganita in Malaysia trained refugees, migrants, and local women and youth in home gardening, seed saving, and organic farming.

Together, these initiatives strengthened women's leadership while promoting pesticide-free, climate-resilient food systems.

PANAP also amplified women's knowledge and leadership through publications and regional movement-building. To celebrate International Women's Day, PANAP and Thanal (India) launched *Women in Agroecology: Towards Pesticide-Free Communities and Agronari – Celebrating Women Farmers and Agroecology*, featuring stories of 46 women from India, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Laos, and Vietnam. The booklets documented women's transition to people-led agroecology and highlighted their role in restoring biodiversity, strengthening livelihoods and advancing climate resilience. These tools underscore women's central role in building sustainable, pesticide-free food systems and serve as advocacy tools for equitable rural livelihoods, food sovereignty, and climate adaptation across Asia.



Women in Agroecology



Agronari

Strengthening the regional movement: ARWC General Assembly 2025

In December, the Asian Rural Women's Coalition (ARWC) Gathering and Assembly brought together 50 leaders from 36 organisations across 12 countries under the theme "Strengthening Solidarity to Advance Food, Land, and Climate Justice for Rural Women in Asia." Participants addressed shared challenges of land dispossession,

climate change, militarism, labour exploitation, migration, debt, and shrinking civic space.

Discussions highlighted how neoliberal policies, corporate monopoly, and false climate solutions shape rural and Indigenous women's realities, while emphasising their roles as food producers, seed keepers, and defenders of land. SRHR was linked to food sovereignty, labour, and climate justice.

The Assembly underscored resistance through collective farming, agroecology, education, advocacy, and cross-border solidarity, with strategies on youth engagement, intergenerational organising, and reclaiming political spaces. Regional priorities included agroecology, agrarian reform, labour rights, care work, SRHR, debt cancellation, pesticide bans, and protection for displaced communities.

The gathering also marked the successful transition of the ARWC Secretariat from SERUNI (Indonesia) to Vikalpani (Sri Lanka), ensuring continuity and renewed commitment to regional advocacy and solidarity. The gathering reaffirmed rural women's collective power as a driving force for transformative change in Asia.

Amplifying voices through statements

Through ARWC, PANAP ensured rural women's voices were elevated in key moments throughout 2025. On International Women's Day, the statement "Rural Women Rise Up! Fight Back for Rights, Empowerment and Liberation!" highlighted rural

women's central roles in sustaining food systems while demanding rights to decent wages, safe work, land and resource rights, decision-making, and socio-economic justice. In December, a solidarity statement on Cyclone Ditwah documented the disproportionate impacts of climate disasters on rural women, recognising their resilience and leadership in sustaining food systems and community wellbeing, and reinforcing calls to defend land and livelihoods, advance climate-resilient practices, and resist structural oppression.

PANAP Participation in Regional Strategy Meetings, 2025

Throughout the year, PANAP further strengthened regional advocacy by participating in strategic convenings on feminist food sovereignty, the blue economy and phase-out of fossil fuels and agrochemicals.

These engagements expanded alliances, elevated rural women's voices in regional policy discussions, and reinforced coordinated advocacy.

Together these initiatives strengthened rural women's collective leadership, from generating grassroots evidence and mobilising communities to shaping regional agendas, ensuring that women's experiences and solutions remain at the centre of efforts in advancing food sovereignty, agroecology, labour rights, and climate justice.



PANAP engages in regional strategy spaces in 2025, including the Feminist Food Sovereignty Convening by Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development in Sri Lanka, advancing food sovereignty and rural women's leadership.

Women, youth, and communities for agroecology and climate justice

In 2025, PANAP continued coordinating the Asian People's Exchange on Food Sovereignty and Agroecology (APEX Platform) with Magsasaka at Siyentipiko para sa Pag-unlad ng Agrikultura / Farmer-Scientist Partnership for Development (MASIPAG), Kindermissions, and Misereor as consortium partners.

The Platform's four working groups—Asserting Climate Justice, Strengthening Food Sovereignty Movements through People-Led Development, Food Systems Transformation, and Women, Youth, and Children—are led by APEX partners. These groups organised learning exchanges, workshops, and other activities that contributed to the platform's objectives: strengthening food sovereignty movements in Asia and advancing genuinely sustainable food systems and climate justice through people-led development, agroecology, and advocacy, with particular emphasis on women and youth in rural areas.

The Women, Youth, and Children Working Group held a regional workshop in Colombo, Sri Lanka, where partners from Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, and the Philippines developed a gender-sensitive framework for documenting pesticide impacts and women-led agroecology, strengthening evidence for grassroots organising and policy advocacy. The workshop built on PANAP's decades-long advocacy exposing the human and environmental harms of pesticides and aimed to strengthen evidence that directly supports grassroots organising, policy engagement, and regional advocacy.

Another Colombo workshop, hosted by Vikalpani, brought together 22 women from 19 organisations across nine countries to build leadership in food sovereignty and agroecology. Over three days, participants shared strategies to confront landlessness, low wages, climate impacts, and pesticide exposure, linking local struggles to regional realities. The event preceded the Asian Rural Women's Coalition Assembly, attended by APEX partners. Youth partners marked International Youth Day on 12 August with activities in Nepal, where the Social Work Institute and Caritas Nepal engaged youth farmers, cooperatives, and NGOs in discussions on agroecology and climate resilience. At the national celebration, Ashish Thani of SWI

stressed youth's role in transforming agriculture through eco-friendly practices. In Bangladesh, SHISUK mobilised a multi-sectoral youth movement, engaging over 600 youth nationwide with agroecological skills and advocacy tools for food sovereignty and climate justice. In the Philippines, MASIPAG Luzon organised a Regional Youth Camp to strengthen youth participation in Peoples' Organisations (POs) and Provincial Coordinating Bodies (PCBs). The camp's two segments—YES, I WILL LEAD! and Youth ACE!—boosted youth engagement, leading to increased membership, committee participation, and the formation of youth committees supporting farmers' rights.

Through the Food Systems Transformation group, the Peasant Movement of the Philippines (KMP) held Tudlingan sessions in Central Luzon, Bicol, and Negros. These trainings combined theory and practicum to build youth skills in agroecology, food sovereignty, land rights advocacy, and digital campaigning, equipping young landless peasants with practical tools for organising. In November 2025, APEX partners joined COP30 in Belém, Brazil, through the Asserting Climate Justice Working Group. Representatives from Bangladesh (BARCIK, SHISUK), India (NAAWU, Thanal Trust), Indonesia (SERUNI), the Philippines (MASIPAG), and PANAP presented agroecology as a non-market climate solution under Article 6.8 of the Paris Agreement at an official side event attended by over 80 participants, co-organised with Alliance Bioversity International–CIAT, the Agroecology Coalition, Biovision Foundation, and IFOAM Organics International.

At the event, the online book *Agroecology for Climate Justice: Stories from the Global South* was launched, featuring case studies from Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Nepal, and the Philippines. Beyond the side event, APEX members joined the People's Summit (Cúpula dos Povos), co-facilitating a session with Brazilian allies on grassroots climate solutions, attended by 60 participants from Asia, Latin America, Africa, and North America. MASIPAG and SERUNI highlighted women's leadership in advancing agroecology.

APEX members also joined the Global Day of Action rally, where about 70,000 people marched through Belém calling for climate justice.

Communications for change, amplifying people-led agroecology

PANAP's Information and Communications Programme aims to provide timely and relevant information to staff, network partners, women's organisations around the region and the public; to advance access to and use of information for PANAP staff and network partners; to improve communication capacities and media relations to meet organisational goals and; to expand a wide base of support for PANAP's work and actions.

Newly published campaign materials

In 2025, PANAP, in collaboration with its network partner organisations, have made available some new, useful and relevant information materials to support its programmes and campaigns. These are as follows:

Land and Rights Watch 2024 Report

PANAP documented nine Indigenous Peoples killed in land conflicts, 98 arrests, 38 cases of harassment, and the displacement of 2,400 due to land and resource grabbing.

PAN Asia Pacific Holds the 2nd Farmers-Scientists Conference and Fourth Congress

Highlights key discussions and outcomes from PANAP's 2nd Farmers-Scientists Conference and Fourth Congress.

Beyond Chlorpyrifos: Transitioning to Safer Pest Management for Key Crops in Southeast Asia

Outlines non-chemical alternatives to chlorpyrifos for rice, vegetables, cereals, and citrus in Southeast Asia and China.

From The Ground Up: Documenting Pesticide Use in Bangladesh, India, Laos, and Vietnam

Based on 4,392 farmers, the report identifies 96 pesticides (53 Highly Hazardous), detailing practices, risks, and the need for stronger regulation and safer approaches.

Unequal Fields: Advancing Land Rights, Labour Protection, and Sustainable Livelihoods for Rural Women in Southeast Asia

Amplifies rural women's voices, exposing landlessness, poverty wages, unsafe work, climate impacts, and toxic pesticides, while urging governments to uphold rights, dignity, and equality.

Establishing PANAP's organisation profile through social media

In 2025, PANAP's Facebook page had 130 posts, totalling 64,531 impressions and 14,501 interactions. PANAP's YouTube account registered 3,003 views and recorded a total of 106.6 hours of view time.

Providing easier access to information and resources through websites

PANAP is continuously improving access to its communication channels to share a variety of useful and relevant information and resources with its audience through its websites. In 2025, the PANAP website (www.panap.net) registered a total of 3,599,434 hits, 1,096,297 page views and 573,986 visits. In addition, the PANAP website recorded a total of 109,260 downloads of its resource materials. On another website, IPAM (www.ipam-global.org) registered a total of 644,849 hits, 404,307 page views and 63,104 visits.

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 of the vision we adopted.

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Anwar Fazal	People's TransAction, Malaysia
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In its 33 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.