



# 2012 ANNUAL REPORT

Non-Timber Forest Products  Exchange Programme for South and Southeast Asia

# ACRONYMS

<b>AGMIHICU</b>	Agtulawon Mintapod Higaonon Cumadon
<b>AMAN</b>	Aliansi Masyarakat Adat Nusantara
<b>ASEAN</b>	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
<b>ASFCC</b>	ASEAN-Swiss Partnership on Social Forestry and Climate Change
<b>ASFN</b>	ASEAN Social Forestry Network
<b>AIPP</b>	Asian Indigenous Peoples Pact
<b>CADT</b>	Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title
<b>CBE</b>	Community-Based Enterprises
<b>CBHE</b>	Community-Based Wild Honey Enterprises
<b>CCA/DRR</b>	Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction
<b>CLAPS</b>	Community Livelihood Appraisal and Product/Resource Scanning
<b>CMCC</b>	CustomMade Crafts Center
<b>CNWG</b>	Cambodia NTFP Working Group
<b>CSO</b>	Civil Society Organization
<b>DOST</b>	Department of Science and Technology
<b>DOT</b>	Department of Tourism
<b>DTI</b>	Department of Trade and Industry
<b>FA</b>	Forestry Administration
<b>FDS</b>	Forestry Department of Sarawak
<b>FFI</b>	Fauna and Flora International
<b>FMIP</b>	Financial Management Improvement Plan
<b>FPIC</b>	Free and Prior Informed Consent
<b>FRA</b>	Forest Rights Act
<b>ICCA</b>	Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas
<b>IMR</b>	Impact Monitoring Report
<b>IP</b>	Indigenous Peoples
<b>IUCN</b>	International Union for Conservation of Nature
<b>JMHI</b>	Jaringan Madu Hutan Indonesia
<b>MAFF</b>	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
<b>MGF</b>	MicroGrants Fund
<b>NGP</b>	National Greening Program
<b>NTFP</b>	Non-Timber Forest Products
<b>PGS</b>	Participatory Guarantee System
<b>PRM</b>	Participatory Resource Monitoring
<b>PTRI</b>	Philippine Textile Research Institute
<b>REDD</b>	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
<b>RFRI</b>	Rainforest Restoration Initiative
<b>RSPO</b>	Round Table for Sustainable Palm Oil
<b>SIE</b>	Southern Institute of Ecology
<b>SHGs</b>	Self-Help Groups
<b>UNDRIP</b>	United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
<b>WWF</b>	World Wide Fund for Nature

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## Snehlata Nath

President of the  
Board of Trustees

Talking with Balan about the declaration of a Tiger Reserve in India, he said, “...if the forest is not there, nothing will remain for us...” A cliché, a sentence, repeated often. However, it still has to be said and repeated many times.

In 2012, Non-Timber Forest Products-Exchange Programme (NTFP-EP) faced many situations which threatened to destroy forests for mining or industry. Across the region, the laws related to land acquisition favoured industry over the life of forest communities, often displaced and resettled. Seeing the lives of those indigenous people who lost their forests and lands, one could only experience a kind of loss. The people had lost their pride, dress, culture, foods, medicine, and crafts and become wage earners - losing their sovereignty to economic benefit.

Over the years, the emphasis of NTFP-EP has been on setting up community-based NTFP enterprises and linking them to the market. It has also worked tirelessly in advocacy with the authorities to get tenurial rights of indigenous peoples recognized. While these remain of immense importance, it is additionally essential to emphasise and rebuild the relationship with the forest. Cultural revival, subsistence use, conservation, forest foods, medicine, sacred groves all attain significance and form the core of work that wants to ensure well-being of the forests and its people. Some work is on-going amongst partners and more of these aspects will be taken up in the coming years.

Building knowledge about ecological monitoring and customary methods got an impetus in the regional sharing organised in India during the year. Many examples from the community re-affirmed our faith in traditional ecological knowledge.

One of the major challenges amongst the partners of NTFP-EP is to make the enterprises viable and self-supported by community groups. In the coming years, it is essential to strategically work towards this and include capacity building measures and funds to enable communities to be independent.

Internally, the NTFP-EP branches in different countries registered independently with a strategy to build a country level stake. We also had additional staff members who now share the work, both in the office and in the field. The growth led to relooking into policies related to human resources and finance.

On behalf of NTFP-EP, I take this opportunity to thank all our friends, supporters, donors and wish all a momentous 2013.

  
Snehlata Nath



## Non-Timber Forest Products-Exchange Programme for South and Southeast Asia



### WHO WE ARE

About a hundred million people living in and around forests in South and Southeast Asia depend on non-timber forest products (NTFPs) for their subsistence and cash income. NTFPs and NTFP-derived products such as furniture, honey, varnish, beeswax candles, herbal medicine and many others are necessities in urban communities and big cities, too.

However, communities often have no access to strategic information, practical technology, and financial support to make viable enterprises. A handful of organizations saw this link between sustainable use of forest resources and economic development for indigenous peoples (IPs) and forest communities. The Non-Timber Forest Products-Exchange Programme for South and Southeast Asia (NTFP-EP) sprung from a need for these organizations working with forest communities to come together to push for and promote the NTFP concept for forest conservation and livelihood enhancement.

The NTFP-EP is a collaborative network of over 60 non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and community-based organisations (CBOs) working with forest-based communities to strengthen their capacity in the sustainable management of natural resources in the Philippines, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam, and Cambodia.

### WHAT WE DO

NTFP-EP aims to strengthen the capacity of forest-based communities and their support organizations through information exchange of appropriate resource management techniques and experiences, technical support and training, inputs in strategy discussions, documentation of best practices and success stories, mobilization of resources and contacts, advocacy support for local initiatives, and lobby for enabling policies.

Specifically, we work towards:

- **Forest Conservation** through forest management and sustainable harvesting of NTFPs to emphasize the forests' intrinsic relationship with the culture and livelihood of indigenous peoples;
- **Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation** through integration of social forestry in climate change initiatives and agenda;
- **Tenurial Security** and the recognition and enforcement of user rights through legal measures and policy advocacy;
- **Food & Health Security** through the enhancement of subsistence uses of NTFPs, and promotion of IP culture and traditional ecological knowledge;
- **Increased Income** from value addition and marketing of NTFPs, using the low volume, high value approach; and,
- **Community Empowerment** through constituency building, ensuring enabling environments in which various sectors are in support of indigenous land rights and their NTFP enterprises.



# 2012 **IN REVIEW**



*A Higaonon youth patiently waiting for his  
breakfast outside the long house in  
Mintapod, Philippines  
photo courtesy of Earl Diaz*

In spite of the internal turmoil broiling in Central states of India, coming elections in Malaysia, violence over forest lands in Cambodia, the inconsistency in Indonesia's forest policies, indiscriminate mining escalating in the Philippines, extreme weather events in Indonesia and the Philippines, NTFP-EP has made strides in its work in 2012 with support from various partners.

Key achievements during the year revolve around the 5 thematic focus of NTFP-EP's work – conservation; climate change; food and health security; land rights, tenure and policy; and, enterprise development. There were advances in restoration activities, increased recognition and pride in wild foods and traditional knowledge, and active participation of local, national and regional government bodies, particularly in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), on further mainstreaming social forestry and climate change agendas. Enterprise targets were also exceeded. Across the region, there was more openness in different levels and departments of government to work with NTFP-EP and partners on the issue of non-timber forest products.

Organizationally, country offices were registered in Indonesia and Sarawak, Malaysia; and more staff joined particularly in Cambodia, Indonesia and the regional offices. There were improvements on human resource policies and new institutional policies were adopted to enhance organizational functioning. A financial management improvement plan (FMIP) is being implemented. NTFP-EP expanded its online presence to reach a wider audience on its themes. Fundraising initiatives continued with the submission of various proposals to several donors.

For 2013, NTFP-EP plans to strengthen its conservation program by enhancing resource management tools, building up the NTFP species database, continuing planting NTFP species throughout the network, and regular participation in conservation alliances. It will develop an NTFP-EP climate change adaptation strategy. Focus and attention on subsistence/food and health security will be expanded through, among others, a regional training on food from forest research. Establishing or strengthening existing advocacy desk per country and developing a regional advocacy strategy is also planned. For enterprise development, NTFP-EP will expand its work in the region on community livelihood appraisal and product/resource scanning, among others.



# THEMATIC OUTCOMES

*Cambodian woman participating in the  
Integrated Agriculture Systems with  
community forestry management project  
in Siem Reap Province*

*photo courtesy of Leonard Reyes*

# CONSERVATION



*Sudhakar demonstrates resin collection and monitoring in one of the Keystone communities in the Nilgiris, India  
photo courtesy of Jusupta Tarigan*

Across the region, more information has been collected on NTFP species by staff and partners, for publication and dissemination to the wider public and as addition to the online database. Of the 569 species documented across the region, only 300 of which, mostly wild food species, will be detailed that gives emphasis to food as an important aspect of indigenous culture.

The regional meeting organized in India in October 2012 has enabled 43 representatives from 24 community-based organizations in 6 countries to learn about resource management strategies, experiences and tools. The dissemination of sustainable harvesting and monitoring methods for selected NTFP products helped collectors to use them in their respective NTFPs. It includes honey in Indonesia, resin in Cambodia and mango and bamboo in India. In India, 9 species has been identified as focus of the training on harvest protocols.

Planting efforts in six countries continue as enrichment and for species conservation, particularly for important NTFPs such as dye plants, bemban, resin trees, fruit trees, sago, rubber, and medicinal plants. Collectively, over 301,622 seedlings have been raised, with at least 6 threatened species in India and Malaysia. Restoration

and cultivation activities in the region have benefitted 17 communities and covered at least 300 hectares of replanted areas across the region. In Malaysia, cultivation is not only for the purpose of rehabilitation but more importantly as a safeguard against logging and oil palm expansion threats.

Communities with enterprises in the Philippines and Cambodia gained from the resource management planning and sustainable NTFP management trainings facilitated by NTFP-EP. Protection of sacred groves was a concern also addressed in communities which have them such as in India and the Philippines. Community mapping training has enabled villages in Malaysia to see how they can effectively manage their forest against external threats. Boundary delineation and registration to Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas (ICCA) are being discussed in Indonesia and the Philippines.

It was pointed out and agreed by the board of directors that the conservation aspect of NTFP-EP's work should be in balance with enterprise development across the region. Attention was given to this theme and a coordinator has been assigned to see to the integration of conservation in all aspects of the network's efforts.



# CLIMATE CHANGE

*NTFP-EP Executive Director Crissy Guerrero  
with ASFN key persons during the ASFN  
Knowledge Fair held in Siem Reap, Cambodia  
photo courtesy of Leonard Reyes*

NTFP-EP seeks to integrate and mainstream social forestry in climate change initiatives in the region. It supports regional initiatives namely, the “ASEAN-Swiss Partnership on Social Forestry and Climate Change (ASFCC),” and the “Developing Community Carbon Pools (CCP) for REDD-plus” project.

Through these efforts, NTFP-EP and partners have relayed a strong message on the need for inclusiveness in social forestry and climate change mechanisms in ASEAN and its member states. Emphasis has been on the need to consider as well livelihoods and land tenure arrangements within climate change mitigation (REDD-plus) schemes. As a result of these efforts in the Philippines, the composition and functions of the National Multi-stakeholder council on REDD-plus have been developed and policy studies on Free and Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) and carbon rights are being used to inform policy change in preparation for REDD-plus implementation. Safeguards framework for REDD-plus implementation in the Philippines has also been developed. In Cambodia, through NTFP-EP’s support to the participatory process in developing the Cambodia REDD-plus Programme, civil society and indigenous peoples’ representatives have been chosen to sit in the program executive board. A synthesis report on Cambodian community perspectives on REDD-plus has also been published.

At the regional level, NTFP-EP has promoted engagement of civil society organizations (CSOs) in the ASEAN region, through such events as the “ASEAN-CSO Brown Bag Session” organized in cooperation with the ASEAN and ASEAN Social Forestry Network (ASFN) Secretariats to create better understanding among sectors and to highlight the benefits and constructive role of CSOs to enhance social forestry and climate change policy and practice. This was attended by over 100 ASEAN representatives, the diplomatic community, media, and CSOs in Southeast Asia.

This year also saw the formation of the ASFN Civil Society Forum, thus consolidating a constituency to regularly engage ASEAN on social forestry concerns. A statement crafted by 33 CSOs from 8 ASEAN countries proposing measures to strengthen social forestry initiatives and inclusive climate change mechanisms was also raised to ASFN and ASEAN Senior Officials on Forestry (ASOF) bodies.

For its work in the Community Carbon Pools REDD-plus project, NTFP-EP hosted regional policy dialogues wherein lessons from pilot sites were presented in aid of national and sub-national REDD-plus policy development and implementation. Interactive and experiential learning was facilitated through multi-lateral site visits demonstrating practical uses of technical knowledge for practitioners at various levels. Easy-to-understand, story-driven and accessible knowledge materials on REDD-plus have also been made available.

# FOOD & HEALTH SECURITY



*The Punan people in Indonesia treat the forest with respect and responsibility as it is a main source of food for them  
photo courtesy of Wahyu Widhi*

Most NTFP species gathered for the database and for cultivation and rehabilitation are directly linked to food and health security of the communities, including staple foods and medicinal herbs. With the help of a forest foods adviser, NTFP-EP has facilitated discussions on wild foods, not just with communities but also with health and nutrition specialists. Research, documentation, case studies, wild foods assessments, indigenous knowledge workshops and publications of recipes and subsistence uses were conducted in Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines. These help ensure that NTFPs used as food and in cultural practices are given special interest, not only by the media and the wider public, but more importantly the youth of these communities, who will continue their traditions. Film documentation of indigenous life and food was supported in the Philippines. Research studies also strengthen the network's policy advocacy work.

In the Philippines, the national cultural festival and development forum organized in Luzon strengthened the Negrito tribe's awareness on self-determination. Discussions on the possible integration of wild foods in elementary school education are also underway with the Department of Education. An awarding ceremony of a local tribal chieftain in Mindanao recognized his leadership in conservation efforts including forests for subsistence use.

A feasibility study for an NTFP museum in Vietnam has been getting positive feedback from local authorities and communities during consultative visits. Subsistence NTFPs will be featured when the museum has been set up.



*Preparing the native seedlings for planting to restore Vietnamese forests*

*photo courtesy of Vo Thanh Liem*

## INCOME GENERATION

There was an exciting market response to new brands and merchandises introduced by NTFP-EP. These include honey products from NatureWild, fair trade and social marketing arm in Cambodia; various Green shop NTFP medicinal products from India; designer bags from Borneo Chic in Indonesia and goods using natural dyes from CustomMade Crafts Center (CMCC) in the Philippines. Remarkable annual sales for Cambodia, India, Indonesia and the Philippines are shown in Table 1. Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) on rattan certification is another marketing tool that is making headway in Indonesia with commitments from government to support the scheme.

Support to various types of community enterprise formations resulted in increased household incomes of members of those groups. The groups include the Bee Conservation and Wild Honey Enterprises (CBHE) in Cambodia, the women's self-help groups (SHGs) and production centers in India, the women's small enterprise and craft groups in Indonesia and Malaysia and the community-based NTFP enterprises (CBEs) in the Philippines. The increase in household income is documented in the Impact Monitoring Report (IMR) of NTFP-Task Force (TF) from craft products of CBE members in the Philippines.

The NTFP-EP's capacity building programmes had integrated resource use management in its community enterprise development trainings. A specific tool is the "Community

Livelihood Appraisal and Product/Resource Scanning (CLAPS)" developed by NTFP-TF. It aims to increase the knowledge of women and men in forest communities in managing and developing community enterprises and utilizing NTFP resources sustainably. The NTFP resource and the existing skills in the community becomes the basis for the development of potential products for the community enterprise.

The resulting outcome of those initiatives is the increased confidence of more women and men in partner communities to manage their own enterprises and to lead their respective organizations. Capacity building support included trainings on business planning, natural dye application, community enterprise development, and fiber processing, among others. It also included technical assistance and market linking. Communities were also supported to meet their strategic concerns including leadership development, particularly for the youth, and gender equality. Various enterprise interventions contributed to the improvement of the economic status of women and men in forest communities in the region.

Table 1 shows that for 2012, NTFP-EP's support reached a total of 545 villages covering 306 enterprise groups that earned a total gross sale of €376,408.10. At least 6,896 people have directly benefitted from the enterprise development capacity building activities.

COUNTRY	NUMBER OF ENTERPRISES/ GROUPS	NUMBER OF PEOPLE INVOLVED	NUMBER OF AREAS COVERED	NTFPS USED	SALES
<b>CAMBODIA</b>	39 CBEs	1,698 people	85 villages in 10 provinces	bamboo, honey, natural dyes, palm, rattan, resin, soap nut	€48,250
<b>INDIA</b>	160 SHGs & Common Interest Groups	1,334 people	301 villages in 11 provinces	amla, bamboo, banana fibre, Garcinia syrup, gums, hill broom, honey, lac, mahua oil & flowers, neem oil, resins, sal seeds & leaf, tamarind	€ 76,924
<b>INDONESIA</b>	30 CBEs	1,254 people	68 villages	bamboo, beeswax, rattan, honey, leaf fiber, natural dyes, water reed	€66,623
<b>MALAYSIA</b>	3 CBEs	20 artisans	6 villages	bamboo, bemban, pandan	No sales monitored*
<b>PHILIPPINES</b>	74 CBEs	2,590 people	85 villages in 14 provinces	coffee, honey, essential oil, forest seeds, forest fruits (wild citrus, guava, bignay, dagwey, passion fruit), forest vines (rattan, nito, kileb, pandan) & plants (buri, abaca), natural dyes, resin	€184,611
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>6,896</b>	<b>545</b>		<b>€376,408</b>

*The participants of the study tour  
maneuvering through the waters of  
Danau Sentarum, Indonesia  
photo courtesy of Hermanto Hermanto*



## LAND RIGHTS, TENURE & POLICY

At the regional level, engagement with various government parties is making progress within the framework of the ASFN. This year, NTFP-EP and partners organized the first ASFN CSO forum to consolidate CSO views on engaging ASEAN on issues concerning social forestry and climate change. The forum came up with the CSO statement on Community Economy and Livelihood, Forest Access Rights and Tenure, Safeguards and Governance Mechanisms that was discussed at the 3rd ASFN conference.

Coordination with the government continues in Cambodia where plans to support national and provincial community forestry programmes have also been prepared in cooperation with the Forestry Administration. NTFP-EP Cambodia and the Asian Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP) have been successful in consolidating indigenous peoples in the country and facilitating discussions on the emerging national REDD-plus mechanisms.

In India, the consultation with the Tribal Affairs Minister and a Planning Commission member has brought up field realities to the national level. Follow up activities are being

planned. For advocacy on existing policies, there have been successes in India to remove the ban on NTFP collection in the Sathy region in Tamil Nadu. Twenty-eight (28) village forest committees are now harvesting and selling NTFPs as a result. To provide greater awareness to the Indian public, one of the largest consumers of palm oil in the world, Indian CSO partners were invited to observe in the Round Table for Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) proceedings in Singapore in November. This was in preparation for a broad strategy on oil palm advocacy in India.

In Indonesia, NTFP-EP has joined forces with the Ministry of Forestry in promoting its 30 priority NTFP products, particularly for two products, namely forest honey and rattan.

The Forestry Department of Sarawak (FDS) in Malaysia agreed to join a study tour to West Kalimantan, Indonesia with their community partners to learn about NTFP development for future application in Malaysia. Workshops conducted on forest rights have increased awareness and empowered local communities in Baram in Sarawak, Malaysia.

One of the many species of plants in the  
Adhivasi herbal gardens

photo courtesy of Narendra



## MICROGRANTS FUND

Since 2007, NTFP-EP has been administering a small grants facility referred as MicroGrants Fund (MGF) to support community-based NTFP initiatives in South and Southeast Asia. The grant facility aims to reach more local organizations and communities that are less likely to have access to funding from traditional donors. Several donors supported the facility.

For 2013, there were at least 14 grantees for the year that implemented community projects on various themes (resource management, land tenure, livelihood, lobby and threats). The total amount covering those projects was around €70,000 and another €64,125 was transferred to Keystone, NTFP-EP partner in India, for the “Untold Story” small grants initiatives.

Below are some of the MGF grantees and projects implemented in 2012:

1. **Ponlok Khmer (PKH)** in Preah Vihear, Cambodia for the project “Support and building capacity of Preah Nimith Community Based Ecotourism Development in Kampong Sralao II - capacity building of community to manage ecotourism and conserve natural resources, environment and biodiversity.
2. **Naya Jyoti Samaj Sevi Sanstha (NJSSS)** in Chhattisgarh, India for the project “Dialogue from the Other End” - a conservation project to restore plant species for herbal garden and fruit/food medicinal trees at home gardens and revived local knowledge thru traditional space of the Adhivasi.
3. **Perhimpunan Hanjuang Mahardika Nusantara (PHMN)** in Indonesia for the project “Assessment of potential distribution of palm sugar as a potential commodity of forest villagers” - aims to improve the sustainability of forests through the utilization of palm tree as source of palm sugar, a potential commodity of forest communities.
4. **Communities Information and Communication Centre (CICOM)** in Sarawak, Malaysia for the project “Land Is Life: Empowering Indigenous Communities to Protect Land, Territories and Resources for Sustainable Livelihood” - supports the empowerment of the indigenous communities to promote sustainable management of the rainforests & its river ecosystem and stop the development of the mega HEP dam.
5. **Ancestral Land/Domain Watch Network (ALDAW)** in Palawan, Philippines for the project “The Impact of Mining and Oil Palm Plantations on NTFPs” - a research project to illustrate the uses & applications of various plants by local indigenous populations living in areas impacted or to be impacted by mining & oil palm development, in various municipalities of Palawan.

# COUNTRY INITIATIVES

**A misty morning in Apo Tutoh, Malaysia**  
*photo courtesy of Earl Diaz*



# CAMBODIA

Lakhena of CNWG interviewing community members about wild foods in Ratanakiri province, Cambodia  
photo courtesy of Lav Yep

NTFP-EP in Cambodia focused on strengthening local networks. Technical support was given to CBHE and members of the Cambodia NTFP Working Group (CNWG). The support included installing and building capacities in internal control systems, business planning, financial management, NTFP resource monitoring, among others. CBHE has nurtured good relations with the Forestry Administration (FA) that endorsed a three-year exemption on honey transport permits to the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF).

CNWG facilitated enrichment planting and rehabilitation of forest habitats in 2 provinces. It assessed 2 forest areas for potential NTFPs including Dipterocarp balsams (oleoresins), solid resin, honey, rattan, Smilax and yellow ginger. The NTFP species database with over 200 entries has additional 200 wild food species. Research is ongoing on nectar sources of *Apis dorsata*. Bee monitoring methods, learned from community monitoring system in Mondulkiri, were shared to members of CBHE in other provinces. Local knowledge and protocols on sustainable resin collection and management were disseminated. A Resin Forum gathered key stakeholders from government and communities to discuss issues on the resin trade.

NTFP-EP and Nomad published a book on wild foods diversity and food recipes of the Bunong indigenous group to increase awareness on food and health security. It also conducted two wild foods workshops in Ratanakiri involving 60 participants. Two workshops organized on Sustainable

Participatory NTFP Management and CBE attended by 73 representatives from partners, local authorities and communities. Three case studies on mainstreaming NTFP enterprise development as a strategy in community forestry was undertaken in partnership with FA and some members of CNWG like World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) Cambodia and Ponlok Khmer.

CNWG continues its policy analysis work on bottlenecks and opportunities for NTFP development. Awareness raising events promoted civil society and IP engagement in community forestry and the REDD-plus Programme in Cambodia. NTFP-EP convened the CSO REDD-plus network and worked on the IP Alliance project and the IP Working Group on REDD-plus. It aims to raise awareness on IP rights, access to land, natural resources management, forestry and biodiversity conservation.

For enterprise development, NTFP-EP Cambodia supported 39 CBEs with 1,648 individuals in 85 villages across 10 provinces. It provided technical support to CBHE on business and financial matters. With CNWG members, they facilitated two intensive training sessions on CBE involving 55 participants. NatureWild redesigned its logo, produced its profile brochure, and participated in four product fairs. It developed new products from wild honey and beeswax, resin and NTFP-based crafts and market tested wild soap nuts. It set-up a new honey filtering and drying room and developed its sales and finance recording system that posted a total of €48,250 sales for 2012.



Drums at a festival, in Bastar, Chhattisgarh.  
photo courtesy of Madhu Ramnath

INDIA

NTFP-EP partners in India continue their efforts at nursery establishment, planting and seed collection, with 30 species of seeds exchanged and 234,600 seedlings transplanted from at least 28 nurseries. Their work also focused on the protection and augmentation of sacred groves, village ecologists training, and ecological monitoring training. An ongoing experiment of gum yielding trees has so far identified 12 species. Trainings on sustainable harvesting were conducted for six NTFPs – *Apis dorsata* (honey), *Canarium strictum* (resin), gooseberry and *Garcinia* spp. (fruits), *Phoenix* spp. (palm), *Ichnocarpus* spp. (fiber) and other medicinal plants for at least 566 harvesters. The harvesting protocol publication was translated into a regional language, which influenced the local Forestry Department to stop the unsustainable harvesting of *Garcinia* fruit. Work on cycads has also caught interest of people that led to the development of a sub-network on cycad conservation.

In Maharashtra, the adhvasi women celebrated a Wild Food Festival to highlight the importance of traditional forest foods. Across the states, partners continue to compile wild foods for the database, with about 200 species listed, including fish and other aquatic animals, yams and tubers, flowers, and fruits.

Advocacy work has advanced, with linkages established with government entities and influential personalities. Research and policy papers on forest management and NTFP-based livelihood, tendu leaf management, and bamboo management were presented. The expansion of

the NTFP-EP work on Forest Rights Act (FRA) awareness and implementation has facilitated 326 community forest rights claims and 3,329 individual claims. Border disputes of 21 villages in Orissa have been settled.

NTFP-EP partners organized capacity building activities for enterprise development. Those undertakings include: (1) a fibre workshop and exposure to a women's cooperative, sal leaf value addition training with 417 participants; (2) training and tool kits provided to 65 gum pickers; and, (3) marketing skills, value addition, product development, sustainable harvesting and development of business plans given to 29 primary cooperatives.

More than 160 SHGs and Common Interest Groups covering 490 families have been formed. Those formations aimed at protecting natural resources, increasing the productivity of NTFPs, and ensuring quality control of products for better prices. A honey harvesters' cooperative with 32 members and a producer company of NTFP collectors were established.

Among the major NTFPs produced and value added were amla, hill broom, honey, tamarind, *Garcinia* syrup, lac, sal seeds, bamboo and mahua flowers. Overall, the communities' bargaining power has increased with the strengthening of groups and cooperatives, provision of equipment such as solar driers and decortication machines, and establishment of storage facilities.



Drying collected Rattan  
photo courtesy of Madhu Ramnath

# INDONESIA

The achievement of the year for the Indonesia programme is the registration of the independent NTFP-EP Indonesia Foundation otherwise known as “Yayasan Pengembangan Sumberdaya Hutan Indonesia”.

It was also a good year for the new business, Borneo Chic, in marketing modern heritage handbags made of fibers, reeds and cane from the forest. It recorded a total annual sale of €26,350, a 25% increase from the previous year. The business has assisted in marketing products from over 400 artisans across the island. Its market outlets expanded to include the Jakarta airport and two locations in Bali.

Another positive development is the traction gained on the PGS rattan certification project where standards have been developed with government personnel, rattan farmers, CSOs and traders and are now being tested in both East and Central Kalimantan.

Rehabilitation is ongoing with natural dye nurseries and out-planting taking place in at least 4 villages in Sintang, West Kalimantan. Complementary to this, eco-cultural zonation is taking place where areas of high cultural and ecological value for the Dayak Desa are being delineated and negotiated with the government and private sector.

Similarly, the indigenous territories of 2 Dayak Punan villages have been mapped with the assistance of PADI, a local organization, and Aliansi Masyarakat Adat Nusantara (AMAN), the indigenous peoples’ alliance. Through this process, 33,935 hectares have been mapped in the Dayak Punan’s search for a tenurial instrument and scheme of forest management most suitable to their indigenous group.

NTFP-EP Indonesia facilitated the national meeting of Jaringan Madu Hutan Indonesia (JMHI), the Indonesian forest honey network and is assisting in its process of transition. Product development on bee by-products is underway as well as expansion to new areas such as the island of Flores. The film, Mahdu Duniya, was also produced.

Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Response (CCA/DRR) are also themes provided with great attention during the period, especially considering the intense weather changes that affected the production of NTFPs in West Kalimantan.

Finally, NTFP-EP has continued to provide secretariat support to the Working Group on ICCAs in Indonesia.



*Festivities during the International Day of  
Indigenous Peoples in Malaysia*

*photo courtesy of Sze Ning*

# MALAYSIA

In 2012, NTFP EP in Malaysia has successfully engaged the FDS when they agreed to collaborate on the cross-country study visit to Danau Sentarum National Park. The visit, scheduled in February 2013, will focus on forest honey and craft development. Equally important, indigenous communities were empowered to negotiate and engage state agencies and multinational companies.

Rubber tree rehabilitation efforts continued. It involved seven (7) Penan villages who planted an estimated 1,500 rubber seedlings with a survival rate of 80-95%. Two additional newcomer villages developed 2,480 rubber seedlings at the end of the year. Rehabilitation provided the participating communities with an alternative livelihood and strengthened their capacity to conserve their forest and native land. The Penan youth were actively involved in the rehabilitation efforts that built up their leadership and unity.

In efforts to strengthen and empower local leaders, youth and women, two workshops were organized to tackle indigenous people's culture, rights, resources and current issues. Key topics included state, national and international laws i.e. United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and its links to indigenous peoples culture, way of life and social economic situation. Long-term interventions with the Penan communities have also empowered them to engage with government and corporations. In particular, six Penan communities, five of which were semi-nomadic, formed an action committee to organize stakeholder dialogues

with Sarawak Forestry Corporation and logging giant Ta Ann Holdings. They successfully raised their concerns on the development of a certifiable forest management plan. Further, a semi nomadic Penan tribe effectively negotiated with national oil company, Petronas, to reroute a gas pipeline and obtain satisfactory compensation for 8 hectares of land which the pipeline will occupy.

For enterprise development, NTFP-EP supported initiatives to empower women and initiated craft development with women artisans. As steering committee member of 'Crafts Development and Women Empowerment' project led by the Malaysian Indigenous Peoples Network, NTFP-EP facilitated capacity building on enterprise development. The process looks into a more holistic aspect of CBE that includes product development, marketing, and in the second phase, resource management. It included an exposure and training organized in the Philippines which involved other CSOs and indigenous artisans.

As a means to empower women, NTFP-EP collaborated with CSO members and women artisans from 12 villages - 4 villages each from Sabah, Sarawak and Peninsular Malaysia - to establish Jalinan Warisan Orang Asal, a women's association. It will further support Jalinan to establish village level CBEs through its members in the second phase. Towards the end of the year, JALINAN has obtained a booth for the National Craft's Day sales and exhibition in Kuala Lumpur scheduled on February 2013.



# PHILIPPINES

*Ati youth showing off their traditional wear during the Dimgo ke Eata Rigo Festival  
photo courtesy of Beng Camba*

NTFP-EP through NTFP-TF works with partner NGOs and CBEs from Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao in the Philippines. NTFP-TF developed resource management plans and documented the sustainable harvesting practices in 9 areas. An evaluation of the Participatory Resource Monitoring (PRM) project in the last 3 years was conducted for Palawan and Bukidnon. NTFP-EP adviser, Dr. Mary Stockdale, conducted a PRM workshop for honey gatherers in Quezon province.

NTFP-TF actively engaged the government-led National Greening Program (NGP). Along with the Rainforest Restoration Initiative (RFRI), they influenced government to allocate more areas for reforestation to communities using indigenous seedlings. NTFP-TF partners entered an agreement with the government's environmental department to cover a total land area of 2,005 hectares to be planted with native species. They established 18 common nurseries while their members also set-up several backyard nurseries.

The ancestral domain in Mintapod, Impasug-ong, Bukidnon, Mindanao was mapped and submitted to the government for recognition in the ASEAN Social Forestry Network registry. NTFP-TF also supported partners in completing requirements for Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title (CADT) in 4 areas in Luzon and in delineating 7 ancestral domain claims including over 30 villages in Quezon province. The ancestral domain plan of the Agta-Dumagat-Remontado is being finalized and a 3D map is being constructed for their ancestral domain.

Two cultural revival festivals were held. The Dimgo ke Eata Ribo (Dream of all Aeta Festival) held in the Visayas in February with 200 participants and Tebewen, the first National Negrito Cultural Revival Festival, held in Luzon in October with over 400 community participants. There were video documentation of these events including the conservation work of Datu Amay Mantangkilan Cumatang, Datu and Tribal Leader and Head Claimant of Agtulawon Mintapod Higaonon Cumadon (AGMIHICU) in Bukidnon, who was the Darrell Posey Field Fellowship Awardee in France in May.

NTFP-TF's partnerships with government agencies were enhanced with its support to CBEs. Tie-ups with Philippine Textile Research Institute (PTRI), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Department of Tourism (DOT) and Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) focused on technical support, funding, market, product development and design, labeling and packaging.

The Philippines used IMR, a simplified impact monitoring of community enterprises on household incomes. NTFP-TF's IMR marked a 29% increase in household income from crafts products of members of the 17 CBEs monitored. On marketing, most CBEs explored and focused on local markets. They participated in many provincial and regional trade fairs where they generated most of their sales. Local and foreign tourists had accessed their products from outlets in local malls and souvenir shops. The Manila market is through CMCC, the marketing arm of NTFP-TF.



*Native seedlings are grown in nurseries*  
photo courtesy of Vo Thanh Liem

NTFP-EP partner in Vietnam, Southern Institute of Ecology (SIE) re-established itself as an organization. It slowed down their activities in 2012 but continued to work on biodiversity inventories and conservation planning in protected areas. It had proposed areas for conservation in Vietnam. It has compiled about 200 NTFP species that added to the database, including a newly discovered plant species. Indigenous uses of NTFPs of the Choro community in Cat Tien National Park were documented and an extensive research of the biodiversity of Takou Nature Reserve was conducted.

In the Nui Chua National Park, a Cham traditional healer has been supported in planting 40 species of medicinal plants in a 500 m<sup>2</sup> garden. In Takou Nature Reserve, 3,000 root cuttings of wild yam species have been prepared to help meet food requirements of farmers and reduce pressure on the forest. Five hundred (500) seedlings of the liana *Cyclea barbata*, and 50 kilograms of hazel *sterculia* seeds have also been prepared.

Planning for the first NTFP museum was conducted through several reconnaissance visits, negotiations with local authorities and other entities, and community consultations. It was agreed that it will be established in a K'Ho community near Langbian Mountain in Da Lat. This eco-museum will be used to preserve and promote the cultural heritage of the ethnic minorities of Vietnam, including their intrinsic relationship with nature and the NTFPs that are vital to their existence.

Meanwhile the campaign against mining in Kien Luong has gotten support from the media, IUCN Vietnam, and international scientists. SIE has been trying to protect the karst area by establishing it as a nature reserve. News from a local newspaper cited a high-rank provincial official's claim that Kien Giang province has decided to protect the hill from mining and they called for cooperation to conserve the hill and its special biodiversity, as established by research of SIE. They are also cooperating with a film maker from the national television company to produce a documentary on the biodiversity of Kien Luong.



*Sago is a staple food for some indigenous tribes in Sarawak, Malaysia. It is the starch extracted from the trunk of a sago palm.*

*photo courtesy of Dominic Langat*

# ORGANIZATIONAL UPDATES



*A showcase of NTFP products during the  
ASFN Knowledge Fair in Siem Reap, Cambodia  
photo courtesy of Leonard Reyes*

Organizationally, the NTFP-EP family is growing. In addition to the Phnom Penh, Cambodia branch office, offices in Jakarta, Indonesia and Sarawak, Malaysia secured official local registrations. Staff complement increased with six (6) new staff hired – deputy director, grants development officer, climate change officer, conservation and resource management coordinator, finance and administration coordinator, and accountant. Human resource policies were strengthened. One Board of Trustees meeting was conducted. A financial management improvement plan (FMIP) was developed with financial management consultants contracted by Cordaid. The FMIP is already being implemented to further strengthen financial systems.

The 22nd and 23rd issues of *Voices from the Forest*, NTFP-EP's bi-annual publication, were released in 2012. NTFP-EP also produced two (2) short films -- CSO 101 shown during the ASFN conference and the *Madhu Duniya* film documenting the Forest Honey Network Conference held in Indonesia. The *Dasar-dasar Ekologi* (Indonesian translation of Delbert Rice's *Basic Upland Ecology* book) was published and distributed to 200 individuals.

NTFP-EP strengthened its online presence to reach a wider audience on its themes. Two issues of the bi-monthly e-newsletter *NTFP-EP Exchange News* were released,

reaching 278 individuals in 15 countries. The NTFP-EP website was visited 17,186 times by 13,267 unique visitors from 152 different countries. The facebook, twitter and flickr accounts were likewise maintained.

Fundraising efforts for the year focused on developing strategies to expand funding source for country programs and projects.

In 2012, NTFP-EP was able to get additional support for its regional programme covering the 5 themes – conservation, climate change, food security, enterprise development and land rights and policy advocacy. Its donors were BothEnds, Catholic Organization for Relief & Development Aid (CORDAID), Ecosystem Alliance (EA), and International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). Country and project-specific initiatives that were organized for the year including research studies, trainings and community projects were funded by other donors. They include ARUN Japan, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Philippines, Team Energy, Flora and Fauna International (FFI), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Philippines and Global Environment Center through the Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau (PAWB) of the Philippine government's environmental department. Other earnings for the year also came from consultancies on NTFP-EP's core competencies and thematic focus.

# CHALLENGES & LESSONS LEARNED



*Slain tribal leader Dexter Condez's fight for  
Ati tenurial rights over the 1,032-hectare domain in  
Boracay Island, Philippines continues on  
even after his death  
photo courtesy of Yasmin Arquiza*



As the scope of work expands, whether going into agro-forestry and horticulture technology in Cambodia or animal/fish species and mushrooms in India – **there is a need for continuous enhancement of capacities of staff and partners.** In Indonesia, one of the learning is that the success of the project, particularly the crafts project, is contingent on the capacity of the partner NGOs to deliver effective training and mentoring activities at the field. This means, investment in capacity building of field staff is important. Working closely with the senior management of partner NGOs is also crucial to ensure consistency and commitment in any project, especially when NGOs are overcommitted to begin with.

**Ensuring the sustainability** of community enterprises as well as community organizations is likewise a challenge. There is need to further probe and look into the readiness of forest-based communities to engage in enterprise based on capacities and skills and NTFP resources available in their localities. For some communities, there is need to ensure that they fully understand and internalize the importance of some business concepts such as time delivery, supply commitment, among others.

Efforts of NTFP-EP and partners in **engaging the private sector** has increased in recent years – from tapping into company's corporate social responsibility in India, Malaysia, Philippines and Vietnam, or engaging with rattan manufacturers in Indonesia. This engagement requires a process and time to understand and build trust among stakeholders before effective partnerships can be forged. It is imperative for the NGO project holders to assess the benefit of involving the private sector in their work and advocacy. For civil society partners, they need to have clear parameters in engaging with the private sector and criteria on who to partner with.

While **engagement with government** has generally progressed across countries this year, sustaining and deepening these relationships is still a challenge. This is due to the fact that some government units have sensitivities on the issues of NGOs such as tenure, land rights, plantation expansion and the like.

Finally, a **stronger base** to address tenurial security issues should be strengthened across the region in the face of increasing threats to forests due to expansion of plantations, mining, dams and other mega projects.

A young boy is seen from the chest up, swimming in a clear, shallow stream. The water is turbulent as it flows over large, dark, mossy rocks. The background shows lush green foliage and a hazy sky. The overall scene is bright and natural.

*An Agta youth takes an afternoon dip in the clear waters of Sierra Madre, Philippines*  
*photo courtesy of Leonard Reyes*

# LOOKING FORWARD TO 2013

For 2013, NTFP-EP plans to strengthen its conservation programme across the region by enhancing resource management tools, building up the NTFP species database, continuing planting NTFP species throughout the network, and regular participation in conservation alliances.

NTFP-EP plans to take serious steps to expand its focus and attention on subsistence/food and health security through, among others, a regional training on food from forest research. Existing resource assessment tools would be expanded to include wild foods and other resources. NTFP-EP plans to establish or strengthen existing advocacy desks per country and develop a regional advocacy strategy. For enterprise development, NTFP-EP plans, among others, to expand its work in the region on community livelihood appraisal and product scanning.

Towards organizational strengthening, a regional staff meeting will be organized in early 2013; another board meeting will be scheduled in April; the NTFP-EP communications plan will be finalized and communications plans per country will be developed; a monitoring and evaluation improvement plan will be formulated and implemented to strengthen NTFP-EP monitoring and evaluation processes; the FMIP implementation progress will be monitored; the fund raising plan for NTFP-EP will be finalized to include non-grant fund raising strategies and fund raising guidelines.

Some of the key activities expected to happen in the country offices are the following:

1. training and setting up of a participatory resource monitoring system in at least two provinces, either for honey or resin in Cambodia;
2. conduct of climate change adaptation-disaster risk reduction (CCA)/DRR assessments in Danau Sentarum, Indonesia to develop livelihood strategies as CCA coping mechanisms;
3. reviewing and strengthening livelihood options with a modern outlook to minimize migration of the youth in India;
4. in Malaysia, coordination with the Borneo University in executing negotiation, mediation and paralegal trainings for Indonesian and Malaysian (Sarawak) NGOs will be done;
5. enterprise building activities will be implemented for almaciga as well as trainings on sustainable harvesting both for almaciga and honey will be conducted in the Philippines;
6. the field guide to NTFPs in Takou Nature Reserve will be published in Vietnam.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT**

**The Board of Trustees**  
**NON- TIMBER FOREST PRODUCTS-  
EXCHANGE PROGRAMME INCORPORATED**  
#18 Marunong St., Brgy. Central  
Diliman Quezon City

*Report on the Financial Statements*

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Non- Timber Forest Products-Exchange Programme, Incorporated (NTFP-EP), which comprise the balance sheet as at December 31, 2012 and the statement of operations, statement of fund balances, and cash flows statement for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

The financial statements as at December 31, 2011 were audited by other auditor who issued an unqualified opinion.

*Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements*

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Philippine Financial Reporting Standards for SMEs and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

*Auditors' Responsibility*

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with Philippine Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement. An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on our judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, we consider internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

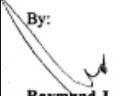
We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

*Opinion*

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Non- Timber Forest Products- Exchange Programme, Incorporated (NTFP-EP) as of December 31, 2012, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Philippine Financial Reporting Standards for SMEs.

**MANAIG, MANAIG & CO., CPAs**

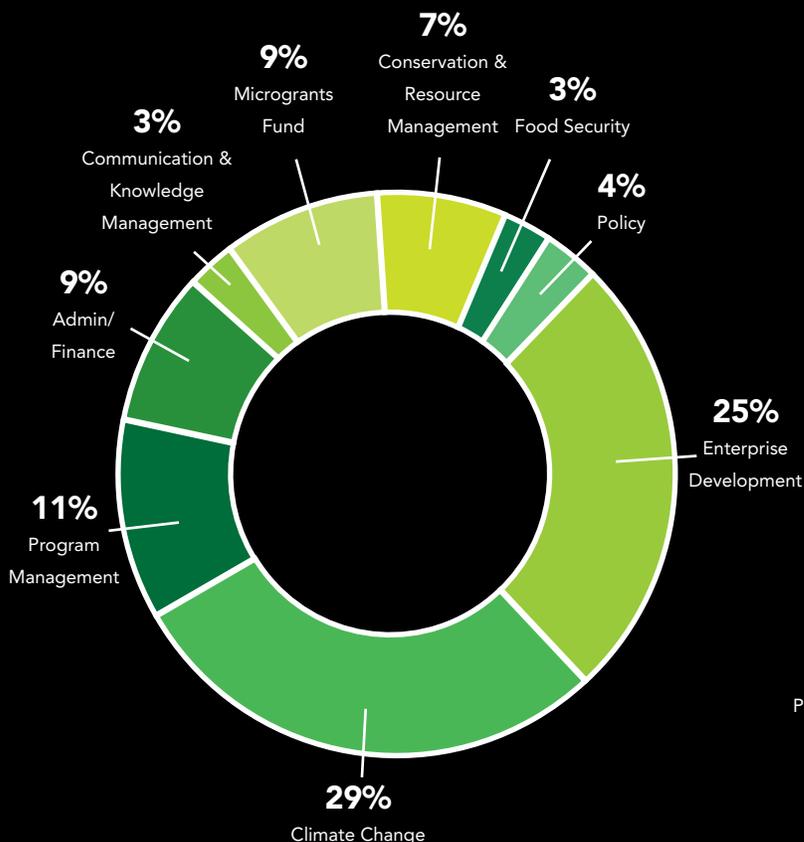
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BIR Accreditation No. 09-002390-1-2012  
Valid until 03.22.2015  
SEC Accreditation No. 0184-F Group C  
Valid until 06.19.2013  
PTR No. 4907786  
Issued last 01.15.2013  
CTC No. 33997289 01.10.2013  
TIN 193099278

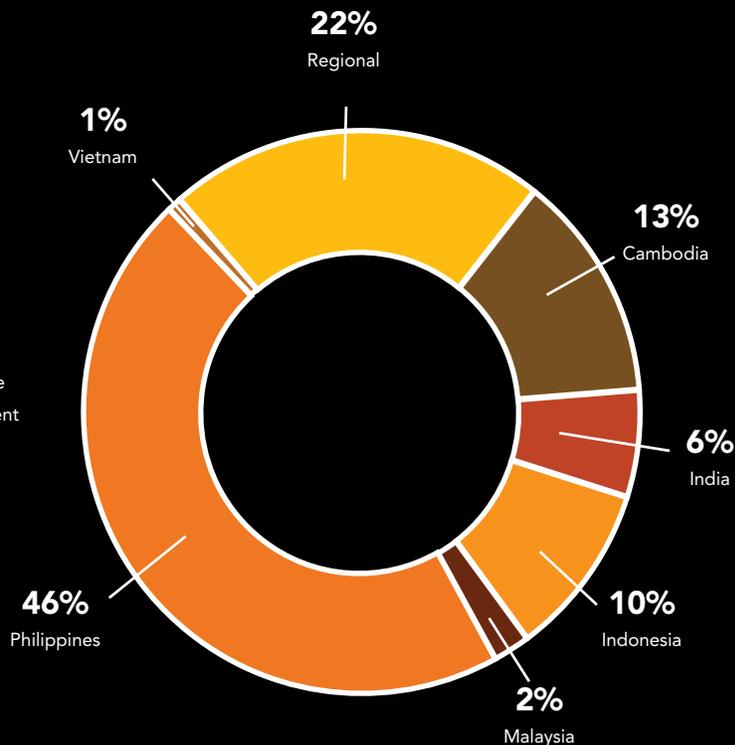
April 10, 2013  
Calamba City, Laguna  
Philippines

# FINANCIAL REPORT

## THEMATIC DISTRIBUTION OF NTFP-EP EXPENSES



## GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF NTFP-EP EXPENSES



For 2012, NTFP-EP spent a total amount **1,507,829 euros** for its various programs in the various countries. The pie graphs above show the spending per theme and per country. Largest expenditures were for climate change and enterprise development programs. Greater disbursements this year were also possible from micro-grants fund

NTFP-EP regional office funds for 2012, have been audited by an independent auditor.

The network has been supported by Dutch, German, Swiss, Belgian and Japanese donors. It also received support from the European Union and United Nations. These grants are on a project basis and future operations of the organization have not been guaranteed, so NTFP-EP is continuously searching for donors and partners with similar purpose and approaches to sustain the network's objectives.



**NTFP-EP**

**2012 Annual Report**

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*An elder coming to the aid of the Ati boy  
preparing for their cultural presentation  
during the Dimgo ke Eata Rigo Festival  
in the Philippines  
photo courtesy of Beng Camba*