2017
ANNUAL REPORT
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<td>ACCMSME</td>
<td>ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises</td>
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<td>ADSDPPs</td>
<td>Ancestral Domain sustainable development and protection plan</td>
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<td>AGMIHICU</td>
<td>Agtulawon-Mintapod Higa-onon Cumadon</td>
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<td>AK</td>
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<td>APL</td>
<td>Non-Forest Area / Areal Penggunaan Lain</td>
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<td>ASEAN</td>
<td>Association of Southeast Asian Nations</td>
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<td>AWG-SF</td>
<td>ASEAN Working Group on Social Forestry</td>
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<td>CADT</td>
<td>Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title</td>
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<td>CAMPA</td>
<td>Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority</td>
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<td>Indigenous peoples’ and local community conserved territories and areas</td>
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<td>Global Alliance for Green and Gender Action</td>
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<td>Modern Indigenous (MoDI)</td>
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Message from the Chairperson

Maria Teresa Guia Padilla
Chairperson of the Board of Trustees
NTFP-EP’s biggest task is to support local and indigenous communities in South and Southeast Asia in their efforts to secure, protect and manage their territories, natural forests and traditional livelihoods sustainably. We committed to a number of strategies in the current plan from the year 2016 until 2019. In 2017, we organized, facilitated and convened a number of regional knowledge sharing, capacity building and advocacy activities: on wild foods and food security, on women and entrepreneurship, on social forestry and climate change, on free, prior and informed consent (FPIC), on participatory resource monitoring, on indigenous peoples’ and local community conserved territories and areas (ICCAs), and on women, natural resources and livelihoods.

Important research and documentation has been completed on useful NTFPs for their subsistence as well as their cultural and potential commercial values. NTFP-EP research on forest products for health, beauty and creative sectors will be vital contributions to support our community forest/micro-small-medium enterprise partners across the region.

We continue to hold key coordinative roles in national and regional strategic platforms to engage the public, markets and policy with the Panen Raya Nusantara (PARARA) in Indonesia, the CSO Forum on Social Forestry in ASEAN, and the ICCA Consortium in Southeast Asia. We also began our co-coordinator role in the regional exchange programme on women and extractives. We continue to extend our time and inputs for the foundation of a Lower Mekong environmental network.

Our small grant facility – the Pastor Rice Small Grant Fund (PRSGF) is in full swing particularly with its support towards strengthening women leadership, empowerment and capacities for lobby and advocacy. The generous contribution from the Global Alliance on Green and Gender Action (GAGGA) through BothEnds and the Fondo Centroamericano de Mujeres (FCAM) has been instrumental and will also be NTFP-EP’s strategically important in our institutional gender capacity strengthening and in our future advocacies around environmental justice and women’s rights. Through the small grants facility, NTFP-EP’s community and grassroots outreach is expanding considerably.

Finally, we have started to review NTFP-EP’s governance and shall tackle a network-wide process to develop NTFP-EP’s Membership Charter and Partnership Policy. EXCEED – NTFP-EP’s training and advisory programme will also be assessed in 2018.

It has been a fruitful year and we look forward to the same in 2018, especially in continuing to work closely and productively with local and indigenous communities and with partners in civil society, the academe, government, and with other supporters and friends. We especially thank our funding partners particularly BothEnds, SDC, Misereor, IUCN-NL, and SSNC for sharing the NTFP-EP vision with us through the years.
Who we are

About a hundred million people live in the forests of South and Southeast Asia and they depend on non-timber forest products (NTFPs). People in these forests subsist from their incomes on products they produce with NTFPs such as furniture, honey, varnish, beeswax candles, and herbal medicine, and most of these are sold in urban city markets.

However, these forest communities often have no access to strategic information in terms of distributing these commodities, practical technology that will facilitate a smoother chain of production, and financial support that will make their enterprises viable and sustainable. A few organizations then started to help by showing the link between sustainable use of forest resources and economic development for the indigenous peoples (IPs) and forest communities. Over time, the Non-Timber Forest Products-Exchange Programme (NTFP-EP) organically emerged as the different groups worked together to respond to various issues and problems.

The NTFP-EP stands as a diverse and collaborative network of over 100 NGOs and community-based organizations (CBOs) who all work with forest-based communities to strengthen their capacity in the sustainable management of natural resources in Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, and Vietnam.
What we do

For centuries, communities in the region have been using traditional ecological systems, knowledge, and practices to protect forestlands, which in turn have provided them with their basic needs. The goal is to promote forest conservation through the empowerment of forest-dependent communities and the sustainable management of NTFPs.

NTFP-EP employs a participatory strategy that helps strengthen the capacity of forest-based communities and their support organizations, and serves as a platform for information and knowledge exchange of appropriate resource management and forest-based livelihood techniques and experiences. Its network also provides technical support and training, assistance in strategy formulation, documentation of best practices and success stories, mobilization of resources, advocacy for local initiatives, and lobbying efforts for enabling policies.

Its work focuses on four (4) thematic outcomes: Community-Based Conservation (CBC), Indigenous Food and Health (IFH), Tenure Rights and Governance (TRG), and Sustainable Community Livelihoods (SCL). Gender and culture are cross-cutting concerns that are addressed in all thematic outcomes.
Regional Context

Humid afternoon in the middle of Sarawak rainforest Earl Diaz (NTFP-EP Asia)
The atmosphere of NTFP-EP’s work gives us both a sense of hope and fear. Asia holds five (5) of the world’s top 20 economies: China, Japan, South Korea, India and Indonesia, yet also the world’s poorest and most vulnerable. Southeast Asia, through ASEAN, boasts of a strong regional economy with the largest cash holdings for the first time in decades, gaining financial strength, bullish in intra-region investments, and also attractive to investors from outside the region, particularly the European Union. The dominance of China in trade and state governance in and out of Asia also cannot be ignored. While the regional economy is booming, the state of Asia’s tropical forests and natural resources is dismal. Indonesia for example, with “its thriving paper and palm oil industries, is losing more forest than any other country”, according to research made public in 2017 by the University of Maryland and the World Resources Institute. Intra-ASEAN investments are highest in agriculture and mining--yet on the other hand, these sectors are drivers of threats and negative impacts on women and children, and on rural and indigenous communities. Forest loss due to forest conversion for agriculture and mining, and their related environmental harms, directly affects the subsistence of forest-based and rural communities and diminishes their livelihood options. Important NTFPs--for food, medicines, cash income and cultural practices rapidly decline; likewise the transfer of know-how on traditional livelihood such as harvesting of forest products and weaving to the youth, compete with other jobs--off farm or outside of villages.

European populism has given rise to migration conflicts and debates around nationalism and human rights. Likewise in Asia, state leadership moving away from democratic governance are seen in India, the Philippines and Cambodia. For example, the Philippines recorded the highest number of killed environmental defenders in Asia with 48 deaths in 2017, according to Global Witness. Within less than a year of his presidency, the Philippines’ Rodrigo Duterte’s administration has stamped extrajudicial killings in the name of the war against drugs, and silencing of opposition as the norm. In Cambodia, the opposition party, media and a number of NGOs have been forced to close down. In this situation, advocacy for environmental justice and human rights increases in risk and resource requirements. While so, civil society action and strengthening of movements become even more critical and urgent.

Sources of hope come from grassroots work that continue to persist, and innovations in community-based actions such as: native tree species planting in India and the Philippines, wild foods documentation, culturally based
practice in forest protection, and indigenous elder and youth exchanges about traditional ecological knowledge. Young people's involvement in environmental protection activities in Borneo and Palawan, Philippines are promising. The youth’s savviness with the use of social media could be harnessed more in public campaigns on forest and environmental protection, and the value of promoting indigenous knowledge. Organizing of grassroots women is also active, not only in strengthening entrepreneurship, but also advocating for food and environmental justice.

Both conventional and non-conventional forms of media are being used and often misused for political reasons. Even with the regional trend of attacking freedom of expression, social media use is still gaining wider reach. This however does not automatically translate to good journalistic practices, and in fact results in the propagation of “fake news” from politically-charged groups. With these, NTFP-EP needs to evaluate and assess the best way to make media an ally for its advocacy for people and forests.

There are promising strategic platforms to advocate for women, and local and indigenous community voices on forests, culture and livelihood. The recent United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of Parties (COP) 23 in Bonn, Germany had two critical outcomes promoting human rights; 1) The adoption of a two-year gender action plan and 2) the establishment of a Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform. The CBD COP 13 also advanced the recognition and support for local and indigenous peoples’ community conserved territories and areas (ICCAs), by its Resolution to implement the development and dissemination of “best practice guidance on identification, recognition, and respect for ICCAs in protected area overlap situations”.

CBD COP13 also specifically called on the IUCN, the ICCA Consortium and other interested parties to develop voluntary guidance and best practices on identifying and recognizing territories and areas conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities, including in situations of overlap with protected areas, and their potential contribution to the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. NTFP-EP is an active member of the ICCA consortium and coordinates the Southeast Asia ICCA regional learning network.

Finally, the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) plan of action on social forestry and micro-small, medium enterprise development are highly complementary and presents openings for capacity development of community forest enterprises and strategic market linkages.
Learning from each other

Venues like the ecological monitoring field course in Palu, Indonesia is a testament to the rich and diverse knowledge that NTFP-EP has as a network. One of the attendees was Nguyen Thi My Hanh, the Communication and Knowledge Management Officer of NTFP-EP Vietnam.

Hanh expressed how it has contextualized the crucial link between community-based management of resources and the livelihoods of forest-based communities. She said that the experience of going into the forest with the community to establish a sample plot and interviewing them about useful plants has helped in replicating the same initiative in the documentation of useful plants in Khanh Hoa in Vietnam.
In order to center the network and the work that it does, NTFP-EP organized a Field Course on Community-based Ecological Monitoring in Palu, Central Sulawesi, Indonesia. The vast knowledge of the community in Namo as well as the dynamic sharing among old and new staff focused on the on-ground enterprise and conservation work was a reorientation for the participants: that in all aspects of resource management, traditional knowledge is always the primary consideration. This deepened understanding of the NTFP approach to development will be supplemented by follow up staff capacity strengthening in natural resource management and a simplified toolkit.

The island of Coron in Palawan, Philippines became a venue for the ICCA study visit. Participants from Myanmar, Cambodia, and Vietnam went on an immersion in the Tagbanua’s ancestral waters to learn how they manage one of the country’s most popular tourist spots. This adds importance to the ongoing lobbying for ICCA recognition with state and national governments in Indonesia, Philippines, Malaysia, Myanmar, and Vietnam.

Species documentation including harvest protocols will contribute to the existing database on NTFPs. As an overall theme, the staff have agreed on the #imanythingbutordinary movement to promote NTFPs in social media.

There will be a stronger commitment to support the regional and national ICCA networks, specifically through a regional capacity building event, a joint publication, policy advocacy, development of a defending environmental defenders initiative, and inclusion of other countries into the network.

There are plans of establishing research stations in some country programmes to build participatory resource monitoring (PRM) models.
A regional meeting on indigenous foods was held in India which resulted in spin-off initiatives such as a Voices from the Forest special edition on food and community-led activities celebrating forest foods. Wild foods documentation in three countries has been done, and the writing of a regional publication is ongoing. The youth are getting increasingly involved and interested in their forest foods through documentation and other activities.

As more focus has been given to the indigenous food programme, the network is looking into expanding the theme to start delving deeper into the health aspect, and establishing a team and thematic lead within the organization.

Copies of the book A Pictorial Guide of Some Useful Plants of Sarawak Malaysia have been distributed to partner Penan communities in Malaysia. The development of the book Wild Tastes in Asia is still in the works with its publication set for the next year.

More food documentation will be done with focus on the youth. In line with this, innovative ways to promote indigenous recipes like a forest-themed bar or mobile restaurant (Wild Bar and Forest Cafe) will also be explored.

Sagung Raja, Ba Puak village chief expressed the concern that the Penan youth will soon lose their culture and language because even if the children consume the wild food prepared by their parents, they do not know anymore the food nor the ingredients of the food served to them.

In response to this, the book A Pictorial Guide of Some Useful Plants of Sarawak, Malaysia was developed by and with the Penan community elders of Apo Tutoh. It was written primarily in Penan to cater to the growing knowledge demands of the youth to learn more about food and medicinal plants in their forests.
Enterprise development continues to be one of NTFP-EP’s core strengths. The regional office shared its learning and experiences through case study submissions and advisory roles in regional bodies. A number of studies have been conducted towards the value-addition of various NTFPs in Cambodia and in Indonesia.

The continued engagement at the region through the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) has led to steps in building capacity for community forest enterprises (CFE) in the region. Collaborative proposal developments are ongoing with the ASEAN Coordinating Council on Micro Small Medium Enterprises (ACCMSME) on MSME capacity building and market linkaging. In the pipeline is the development and consultation on Guidelines for MSME Mainstreaming in Social Forestry.

NTFP-EP’s training arm, Expanding Community Enterprises and Economic Development (EXCEED), conducted a training on Women & Entrepreneurship for 26 women participants from the region to learn about integration of women’s empowerment and leadership in the enterprise development.

Four years after its launch, EXCEED is set to be assessed with two trainings scheduled to be conducted by 2018.

Emerging marketing partnerships and linkages have been made in 2017. Intermediaries and community partners from Cambodia, Indonesia, and Philippines were recognized for their ‘conscious’ products and have been invited by Meet the Makers to attend Green is the New Black in Singapore. Thereafter, Meet the Makers was invited to the Philippines indigenous peoples’ Dayaw event, in collaboration with the National Commission on Culture and the Arts.

A region-wide capacity building for CSOs, government point persons on social forestry, and community members is already in its planning stage.
Establishing a reputation for itself, NTFP-EP’s work on Asian Honey has assumed more stipulations in terms of mobilizing support for it. The Forest Harvest Collective Pilot in Indonesia is taking its time in surfacing empirical information about its benefits. Regional and national honey capacity building trainings and workshops are set to happen in the next year, along with the strategic development of networks in country events like the Laos National Honey Meeting. This sets the tone for the early preparatory stages of Madhu Duniya in 2019.

Popularizing NTFPs in the region other than honey also requires stronger image building and promotion. To fulfill this, NTFP-EP is exploring concepts like the Wild Bar/PARARA Cafe, the development of Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) Standards and Good Hinabí Practices for Sustainable Handwoven Ecotextiles.

Wanita Pulao Omadal (WAPO) is the association of Badjao women from Omadal island, one of the 40 smaller islands that make up the Semporna island clusters in Sabah. They are officially recognized by the Sabah Wildlife Department as honorary wildlife wardens that protect the fragile sea turtle eggs on their islands. Another preoccupation of the women is weaving crafts out of pandanus leaves. They have been relying on this artform to address the poverty situation on the Island.

One of the attendees of the EXCEED training on women and entrepreneurship was Roza Binti Jalalid, Chairperson of WAPO. According to her, the training has helped her and the organization in improving the profitability of their products and engaging the youth who have shown a lack of interest in such projects in the past. She added how this will not only be helpful for their livelihoods, but also for their marine conservation initiatives in the island.
There were sustained efforts to elevate discussions on Social Forestry and Climate Change & Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC), and plans at the national and regional levels to carry the message to a wider audience. At the country level, a partnership agreement has been developed. A series of meetings with government and development partners led to the creation of the National Working Group on Community Based Forest Management or NWG on CBFM (Philippines).

At the regional level, several recommendations on social forestry and on NDC were adopted at the Civil Society Organizations (CSO) Forum and the 7th ASEAN Working Group on Social Forestry (AWG-SF) in Thailand. The adoption of the recommendations by the AWG-SF was due to sustained CSO engagement and participation: about 80 participants from at least 30 organizations and networks in 8 ASEAN countries. A poster presentation was held at the Asia Pacific Forestry Commission.

At the global level, NTFP-EP organized a COP 23 side event on mainstreaming SF and NDCs in partnership with the CSO Forum, Asia Indigenous Peoples’ Pact, German Development Institute (DIE) and Center for Development Research (ZEF) Bonn. The event underscored the importance to strengthen and provide genuine support on existing indigenous knowledge systems and practices, including community initiatives that contribute to climate action through social forestry in managing forested landscapes and the NDCs.

The NTFP policy scoping and assessment in key ASEAN countries is intended to be finished by the next year. With the demand for NTFP-EP’s backstopping support to various local, national, and regional bodies, there consequently stands a stronger demand for innovative packaging and dissemination of policy papers, briefs, and studies.
NTFP-EP will play a more active role in facilitating the formulation of the ASEAN Free Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) guidelines on CC and SF. This means a sustained engagement with processes at various levels linking social forestry and the nationally-determined contributions for advocacy and resource mobilization.

Capacity building of staff and partners on Tenure Rights and Governance issues are scheduled, including one on Intellectual Property Rights, Benefit Sharing and Safeguards.

The ASEAN Working Group on Social Forestry (AWF-SF) is a government driven network with the goal of strengthening ASEAN Cooperation in Social Forestry through the sharing of information and knowledge with and among its partners.

NTFP-EP engages the AWG-SF through the CSO Forum. This year, the forum convened in Thailand to share learnings from the ground and craft advocacy messages on its thematic calls. It was attended by civil society organizations from more than 8 countries to hone action plans toward advancing a people-centered social forestry in the region.

Ms. Mai Thin Yu Mon of the Chin Human Rights Organization in Myanmar delivered the CSO Forum statement in the plenary session of the 7th AWG-SF Conference. The message reiterated the importance of inclusive processes in ensuring the achievement of social forestry and climate change adaptation and mitigation targets.
Gender and culture considerations in NTFP harvesting and Sustainable Forest Management were shared with government, academe and other stakeholders in ASEAN (workshop in developing the Regional Action plan for Agrobiodiversity) and at a global level (side event in COP 23).

Steps have been made towards a more responsive approach to strengthening women’s voice and securing women’s empowerment. NTFP-EP is starting to take a more pronounced role in advocating for the intersectionality of women’s rights and environmental justice agenda. With this, connections have been established with more partners in the region through its Skillshare on Women, Mining and Livelihoods held in India in the latter part of the year. A second skillshare is set to occur in the Philippines in 2018 as a follow up.

NTFP-EP is committed to its gender mainstreaming plan. This includes plans to build on the internal gender analysis capacity and ensuring its translation to its management of programmes and activities across country offices. The formulation of gender learning plans and modules are planned to be made through a formalized gender focal team/working group composed of representatives from the 6 NTFP-EP country networks.

The first skillshare on Women, Mining, and Livelihoods was held in Udaipur, Rajasthan. It was attended by indigenous women, women leaders from communities working in mining, and civil society representatives.

Because of mining in Zawar, Rajasthan, not only are the resources scarce but the living conditions in the area pose serious health and environmental hazards for the communities. The skillshare participants had a first-hand experience of visiting a stream that was severely contaminated with high concentrations of zinc because of the leakage from the tailings dam. They were able get an insider view of the detrimental effects in their interviews with affected community members.

One of the network’s concrete steps forward was the development of the community resource guide. In conducting this, a gender impact assessment tool will be tested for the scheduled second skillshare in 2018.
Punan adiu kds enjoying after their forest learning activity (NTFP-EP Indonesia)
Cambodia

70,796 hectares of forest area covered
In 3 provinces: Kratie, Stung Treng and Mondulkiri: community fisheries (16,488.15 ha), community forests (29,342 ha), community protected areas (24,966 ha)

69,589 Euros enterprise income

18 community-based enterprises
Kratie (4 CBEs), Stung Treng (7 CBEs), Mondulkiri (7 CBEs), 1 national intermediary (NatureWild)

1,055 enterprise members
Men (755), Women (300)

6 indigenous peoples groups
Steang, Bunong, Mel, Krol, Ro Oung, Khonh and Kuy
A general election will be held in 2018. With the existing one party system, people are concerned about the election not pushing through. The current focus on resource extraction for economic development has led to a deteriorating environmental and social situation, and the work space for CSOs is restricted.

Along with this, amendments and movements are occurring for various ministries that are relevant to NTFP-EP’s work in the country. With the country’s commitment to the protection of the forest being observed, three laws [fishery, forestry and protected area] were emended along with the government’s endorsement of a national REDD-plus strategy. After years of development, policy guidelines on NTFPs are currently being developed.

There have also been movements to the ministries’ constituencies. The increased mandate of the fisheries community from 3 years to 15 years have been inscribed in the last draft revision of the fishery law. As for the forestry law, a simply of community forestry management plan (CFMP) being proposed. This is part of the revision process of the community forestry guideline. The contents of the two laws and the protected areas law will be considered and integrated into the environmental code. The agricultural land law has been on halt. This gives leeway for groups advocating for the rights of small farmers who are expected to be impacted by the law. The tendency of the prime minister to avoid any agitation from various groups before the election is arguably the main reason leading to this seizure.
Looking Back

The chopsticks made from Talipot palm tree have been developed successfully with a simple but efficient local technology. The target CBNEs produced their first Talipot chopsticks and introduced this to the market recently, as part of its testing phase. On the other hand, the facilities for community-based ecotourism service delivery were also supported. Kayaking and Camping in Koh Snaeng Community and biking in Koh Pdao Community were added activities. In addition, the improvement of the fermented fish was also carried on during the year to meet the growing market demand.

Collaboration with the Ministry of the Environment continued through a submission of a five-page position paper on the latest draft of the country’s Environmental Code. Points raised were based on 6 important themes: FPIC, public participation, co-management, environmental impact, climate change and protected areas. The draft 10 has been recently released for final public consultation—the extent to which the comments will be taken into consideration is still a topic to be explored in the next consultation to take place in March 2018. The engagement of the NTFP-EP in the halted agriculture law is based on the view that the contents of the law can be influenced through the Shared Resources Joint Solutions (SRJS) advocacy programme component of PAFF, to steer it towards a better management of the country’s land use, particularly the reduction of the land speculation and the encroachment on forested land.

At the community level, disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation were mainstreamed into the work of three community groups (community-based enterprises,
community forestry and community fisheries) via dissemination materials such as checklists poster.

Given the current political setup and internal organizational capacities, NTFP-EP Cambodia has decided to set-up strategic dimensions of its operations. Taking value in NTFP-EP’s strength in knowledge exchange and learning, NTFP-EP Cambodia recognizes the need to learn from the experiences of other NTFP-EP country offices in improving staff capacities, specifically for administrative, human resources, and financial aspects of its organizational development. Adapting NTFP-EP’s general manual of operations to the context of Cambodia was also identified as a key activity for 2017. Technical support from NTFP-EP Asia is needed with the launch of an Enterprise Development Programme of 2017-2020 which is expected to be completed by April 2017. This institutional strengthening will not only improve the capacities of its staff, but also of the network of civil society organizations which developed under the guidance of NTFP-EP.

Moving Forward

Over the years, although the initiative to establish a CBNE Service Centre was not yet official, the discussion on how the Center and its products should be developed were widely discussed among the programme team. It is hoped that implementation will start by 2018.

The exposure learning continues to be a good tool to learn about a similar practice elsewhere for CSOs.
indigenous peoples groups

Andh, Bhagata, Bhatara, Bhumia, Bhumij, Bhunjia, Chenchu, Cholanaicken, Durwa, Gadaba, Gond, Halba, Ho, Irula, Jenu Kurumba, Kamar, Kathanaicken, Katkari, Khadia, Khotia, Koitoor, Kolam, Konda Dora, Konda Reddy, Kondh, Kota, Koya, Kurumba, Kutia, Lanjia Saora, Mankdia, Manya Dora, Nukadora, Paniya, Paraja, Santhals, Saora, Sholiga, Sidar, Thakar, Toda, Urali, Valmiki, Yanadi

community-based NTFP enterprises

INDIA
Compared to the previous year, not much has changed in terms of environment and governance as far as the tribal populations are concerned. The present government has continued to dilute the various laws enshrined within the Forest Rights Act (FRA) and the Panchayat Extension for Scheduled Areas (PESA) for the well-being and protection of the tribal people. In particular, there have been moves to force the establishment of tiger reserves in various parts of the country (Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, etc.) and then declare these forest zones inviolate, meaning the eviction of the adivasi people within these tracts. In most cases the people have inhabited these forests for several generations and the government’s decision has led to much unrest and conflict. It must be noted that these moves of the state are against the law and the spirit of the FRA.

Over the last 2 years and still ongoing, is the implementation of the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) Act, apparently to reforest large tracts of land to compensate for forests that had been diverted for non-forestry purposes. This “scheme”, entrusted to the state forest departments, is driven by very large funds and the state departments vie with one another to find lands to afforest – notwithstanding the fact that they have no rights within areas that are claimed by adivasi (and traditional forest dwelling peoples) within the FRA. Within the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act too, no mention is made about the FRA and the latter is usually violated.
Looking Back

Most of the partners in the 8 states are working on the FRA, especially attempting to claim community forest resource rights for the people they are working with, and also framing conservation management plans. In some states the partners have shown successes. The year also saw many exchanges between partners to improve their skills in community-led conservation, documentation, and several training programmes/workshops that focused on the FRA and the PESA.

Another aspect that gained importance was the merger of NTFP-based livelihoods and agriculture which, though a reality and practiced by most adivasi people as a lifestyle, had been kept apart. There were concerted efforts to bring these two together, and also bringing some of the agricultural produce to the market for sale. Other partners have continued with the harvesting, processing and sale of select NTFPs, and used the harvest protocols. The harvest protocols, developed some years ago, has been translated into more vernacular languages.

Due to the lax policies that fail to enforce strict environmental safeguards, some areas are threatened with granite quarrying and coal mining. The partners have been campaigning against these projects using the PESA and FRA and have achieved some degree of success. Overall, despite the threats and the problems faced – including the ongoing conflict between the Maoists and the security forces in large tracts of central India – the network kept to its agenda. One only hopes that the following year will be a better one, and one that is more conducive to the adivasi and conservation agenda!
Moving Forward

The network strongly calls for a recognition of Habitat Rights under FRA & Recognition of forest rights in & around Protected Areas. This can hopefully be achieved by building on the concept of Green Tiger Reserves. Earlier work of State Policy Analysis can hopefully contribute to the evolution of the National NTFP Policy in the country. Policy and position papers on some of the most relevant advocacy issues are to be made to address conflicting forest governance regimes.

NTFP-EP India also sees a more participative role in monitoring afforestation programmes, specifically in select sites for NTFP, biodiversity, food security, and culture orientation.

When we talk about indigenous health, much focus is given on food with little or no discussion on health traditions. In 2018, NTFP-EP India will take a more proactive role in the revitalization of local health traditions: wild foods and medicinal plants documentation, publication, celebrations of festivals on wild foods.

The country programme also aims to establish NTFP processing centers towards the development of new products and strengthening of market linkages. On the sustainability aspect, there will be an increased utilization of harvest protocols for better practices and stronger livelihood interventions to further strengthen the forest conservation & management plans from a community livelihoods orientation.
INDONESIA

1,359 hectares of forest area under community conservation
Namo Village forest (490 ha), Lonca village forest (685 ha), Desa Empaka Kebiau Raya (37 ha), Gemba Raya (32 ha), Ensaid Panjang (112ha), Karya Jaya Bhakti (3ha)

280 species of non-timber forest products documented

15 indigenous peoples groups
Bidayuh, Desa, Iban, Ngaju, Benuaq, Kaili, Pekurehua, Lore, Punan, Merap, Bahau, Basap, Melayu, Bugis, Jawa

33 community-based NTFP enterprises
East Kalimantan (7 craft producer groups), West Kalimantan (23 craft producer groups), Central Kalimantan (1 craft producer group), Central Sulawesi (2 groups)

56 communities
East Kalimantan (28 communities), West Kalimantan (18 communities), Central Sulawesi (8 communities), North Kalimantan (2 communities)
With the national elections set for 2019, the socio-political context in Indonesia has become increasingly more polarized. The forestry sector continues to be affected by the rampant criminalization brought about by tribal and religious conflicts in some parts of the country.

Fortunately however, support for tenurial issues continue to grow. WGII, the working group on ICCAs in Indonesia has successfully set-up the PM&PG to investigate territorial domains. More and more community leaders are already documenting their indigenous systems knowledge and practices. A consultation meeting with these leaders is being scheduled during the first quarter of 2018.

With the boom of eco-tourism in many areas, 2 million hectares of forest lands have been allocated for social forestry schemes in the past year.
Looking Back

NTFP-EP Indonesia has decided to focus on livelihoods issues that are prevalent in the discussion of poverty alleviation in the country.

Originally held in Indonesia, Meet the Makers flew all the way to Singapore which featured Borneo Chic as one of its exhibitors. This has led to ongoing and regular collaboration with Coopita, a Singaporean organization that utilizes an ecommerce platform to market partner products and provide some initial leads for honey distributor contacts.

On its second run, NTFP-EP Indonesia successfully hosted Panen Raya Nusantara (PARARA) 2017 together with 26 CSO and 85 local communities as well as the national government. This year, Cafe PARARA became a hit attraction to the festival goers as it offered a variety of food and drinks from the forest. The festival became a successful lobbying platform to promote indigenous sustainable livelihood in the country, given the media and public attention it has garnered.

NTFP-EP Indonesia has also been able to convince Bupati Sintang to release Bupati Decree (SK Bupati) on eco culture zonation to support natural dyes and tenun ikat. The decree has given the right to the local community in Ensaid Panjang, Gemba Raya, karya Jaya Bakti and Emapak Kebau Raya to manage their forest as eco culture zonation. This brings the total area for eco culture zonation to 135 ha and located in non-forest areas (APL).

As part of WGII (Working Group ICCAs Indonesia), NTFP-EP Indonesia became a co-host in Panel 5 (Community Rights in Conservation Areas: Recognition and the Role of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities) in Tenure Conference 2017. As of 2017, a total of 21 ICCAs in Indonesia have already been documented by WGII.

A value chain study for sago and nutmeg in Riau and Papua provinces has been conducted in collaboration with Bogor Agriculture University, WALHI Riau and Belantara Foundation.
Documentation continues to be one of the network’s strength in Indonesia by looking into the NTFP management and utilization practices through CLAPS in Berau, Kutai Barat and Mahakan Hulu districts.

In an observable trend, the practice of utilizing foods from the forest are decreasing from the older generation to the younger generation, especially for indigenous people in North Kalimantan. NTFP-EP Indonesia has started implementing a programme that aims to provide a grounded description of the forest condition. It involves an experiential knowledge exchange between the youth and the elders to learn about forest resources that are used for subsistence. The Dayak Punan and Dayak Merap from Long Adiu were involved.

Moving Forward

The recently concluded festivals have much potential in gaining the active participation of the youth in many communities. The forest foods data was integrated into a map embedded in the country programme’s NTFPs database.

With the passing of a Bupati decree, NTFP-EP Indonesia will further strengthen its support to social forestry schemes through community assistance, lobbying, and advocacy in Sintang as well as in other villages in Namo, Lonca, and Poso districts.
MALAYSIA

5 indigenous peoples groups
Penan, Dayak Iban, Kayan, Kenyah and Kadazan Dusun (main ethnic group in Sabah and Sarawak)

20 hectares of forest under restoration/rehabilitation

2 producer groups
2 women’s groups: 27 from Long Iman and 39 from Long Jaik

9 communities

136 households

3,021 Euros enterprise income
Changes are imminent for CBOs in many rural areas like Sarawak and for Malaysia as a whole, with a change of federal government after the 14th general elections in May 2018. Prior to this, a new chief minister of Sarawak state was appointed when the former chief minister passed away in 2017 after only one year in office. This was quite unfortunate as the latter was supportive of NTFP-EP.

Presently, all native land cases in Malaysia have suffered a legal rollback. The Federal Court of Malaysia ruled in late 2016 that Native landowners who do not already have secure title over their native lands have no proprietary or usufruct rights over those lands, if commercial licenses/leases for logging and forest plantations have been granted by the state to corporate concerns over those same lands. Natives only have the right to be compensated at low rates in such cases. This ruling has had an impact on all work in the Penan villages in Sarawak where NTFP-EP Malaysia works.

Unfortunately, the Long Jaik Penan community also lost their native customary rights land case in the Court of Appeal on a technicality in mid-2016. However, they are now refiling their case under a different section of the law, namely via native law and the native court. This is to resolve a conflicting claim to their native lands from a neighbouring Penan community first before they can assert their ownership of their native customary lands against commercial encroachment. Nevertheless, the Federal Court decision of late-2016 also now jeopardises their rightful claims as well.

The commercial license awarded to a logging and oil palm company over the Long Jaik community lands was extended, but for oil palm and pulp paper forest plantations.

With financial support from BothENDS, NTFP-EP has begun research among native smallholders in Sarawak on the appeal and impact of oil palm cultivation on their lives, livelihoods, communities and the environment. The aim of the research is to explore the viability of making a case for the diverse cultivation of food and cash crops among smallholders that guarantees environmental sustainability and which also guarantees food security.
Looking Back

In Long Selulung, 14 medicinal plants species commonly used to treat minor illnesses were identified, documented and planted in the herbal garden. Information pertaining to the use, harvest, maturity and identification of these plants were gathered from the elders who are experts in medicinal plants, while the youth also participated during the documentation process so as to learn from their elders. Together with the villagers of Long Selulung, NTFP-EP organized a Forest Food Festival which featured a sharing of sago recipes, games and traditional skills, and was attended by representatives from nine nearby villages. This festival was held to mark their first harvest of their wild sago which NTFP-EP Malaysia helped plant in 2007.

About two acres of land was cleared and planted with cassava as an immediate backup food supply for Long Jaik. Planting cassava was initiated by the community this year once they realized that the planting of rice (like they usually do annually) was not feasible due to excessive rainfall during what should have been the dry season. Cassava was thus seen as an alternative to buffer their staple rice food stocks.

Two land rights workshops were held in two separate villages: the response to the Long Jaik Land Rights Workshop and the participation from the community was overwhelming; representatives from nine (9) villages received the Land Rights Workshop in Long Selulung well.

These workshops were aimed at strengthening the villagers’ knowledge about their rights over their ancestral land which is also contained in the Sarawak Land Code. As a result of these two workshops, awareness, knowledge and inspiration increased among the youth and elders in wanting to defend their lands from plantation and logging encroachment.

A series of meetings and discussions were held in both Long Selulung and Long Jaik on how to deter threats to their lands. As for Long Jaik, they are at a loss about how to tackle all these threats, apart from depending on the outcome of their court case against the oil palm plantation and the Sarawak Government. The first step therefore was to set up a nursery for Gaharu Wood and Rattan, with the aim of planting the seedlings in degraded forests within their territory so as to protect their native lands.
However, due to limited forested lands left untouched due to oil palm plantation encroachment, there were hardly any Gaharu saplings to be found in the forest. Nevertheless, after a few trips 53 Gaharu seedlings were collected and planted in the nursery. These seedlings have yet to be transplanted into the identified forested areas surrounding the village.

In Long Selulung, the community suggested to plant rubber in the identified degraded forest. In 2017 alone, 1,768 rubber seedlings were deliberately planted at the entrance of identified village forests areas nearby. This strategy has worked so far in marking their native land boundary and hindering the logging company’s re-entry into their traditional land area during the next logging cycle in a few years’ time.

Besides planting rubber, some community volunteers helped to map and upgrade their land use by global positioning system (GPS), marking some major forest resources (NTFPs) like the tajem, rattan, medicinal plants locations along with the location of their previous forest settlements. Before mapping was done, there were discussions with the villagers (men, women and youth) to collect rough information about the location of their forest resources and NTFPs within their territory.

NTFP-EP Malaysia also undertook focused work with the two Penan women’s groups in two communities to produce rattan-based CBNEs: Pengepemung Modoo Tana’ingan Baa’ (PMTB) of Long Iman, Mulu and Peng Menaget Urip Asen (PMUA) of Long Jaik, Upper Belaga (Sustaining Indigenous Way of Life Group).

A series of workshops and trainings on operating and managing CBNEs were conducted for the women of these two groups aimed at empowering them. Some of the trained community members were able to join the government-organized NTFP Carnival in Kuching. The participants were glad they participated in the carnival as they gained new network contacts, ideas and inspiration to further develop their products.

In July 2017, NTFP-EP Malaysia reconstituted itself and was officially registered as a business organisation under Malaysian law. NTFP-EP Malaysia now has two legal director-shareholders and a Management Board.
Meanwhile, the year was a time of change in transition for the Malaysia team. The Country Facilitator left in June. In the absence of an Executive Director, the Malaysia Board Chairperson doubled up as the interim in-charge, albeit part-time.

Apart from regular NTFP-EP organized regional trainings, staff are encouraged to attend local trainings that may be of benefit to their personal and professional growth. Staff have since attended social enterprise trainings, first aid courses and shall soon be attending agriculture courses run by the government agriculture department.

Moving Forward

By January 2018, the number of office staff will have increased to four. The two new staff are an administration and finance officer and a full-time researcher on oil palm and smallholders.

To diversify funding sources, new donors are being explored via the Global Environmental Facility, Small Grants Programme hosted by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).
3,436 hectares of forest under community conservation/restoration

20 indigenous peoples groups
Agta-Dumagat-Remontado, Agta/Ati, B’laan, Gadang Higaonon, Ifugao, Ifugao, Kalinga, Kankanaey, Mandaya, Mangyan, Manobo, Palawan, Panay-Bukidnon, Sama, T’boli, Tagbanua, Tausug, Tinggian, Yakan

9 non-indigenous peoples groups
Aklanon, Antiqueno, Boholano, Capisnon, Ilocano, Ilonggo, Marinduqueno, Negrense, Romblon

42 community-based NTFP enterprises
National marketing intermediary (1)
Local marketing intermediaries (4)

176,304 Euros enterprise income

2,023 direct beneficiaries
Female (1,433), Male (590)
Democratic institutions are slowly being eroded behind a backdrop of continually increasing human rights violations. High-impact activities such as mining and oil palm plantation are steadily expanding.

On a positive note, partnerships with responsible government agencies and offices have resulted in positive advocacy policy outcomes.

After thorough discussions, the working group is confident that the House of Representatives committee on Indigenous Cultural Communities will accept the said bill.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources Forest Management Bureau (DENR-FMB) has released the draft policy on NTFPs.

Partnerships with the National Commission on the Culture and the Arts (NCCA) have also resulted in an expanded reach on providing assistance to cultural communities in the conservation of their cultural art forms.

*Earl Diaz (NTFP-EP Asia)*

*Agta kid playing with his brother*
Looking Back

NTFP-EP Philippines’ robust participation in different working groups at the local and national levels has contributed to successful outcomes in its advocacy strategy. The Department of Natural Resources (DENR) released the draft NTFP Policy and created the National Working Group on Community-based Forest Management. The Congress’ Technical Working Group on ICCA approved the draft ICCA bill during the latter part of the year. A Joint National Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title (CADT) Forum was organized with Bukluran, the Philippine ICCA Consortium. Puerto Princesa City passed a resolution asking assistance for strengthening of NTFP industry in Palawan as a result of a fruitful NTFP Forum in the province.

To help strengthen communities’ capacities in governing over their ancestral domains, two Landscape Governance Assessments were conducted in General Nakar and Northern Sierra Madre National Park. Assistance was extended to 19 indigenous peoples’ organizations (IPOs) in securing tenure, drafting and updating of ADSDPPs (management plans), mediation training and other related governance activities, covering more than 274,000 ha. of ancestral domains. Support has also been given to the permitting process for almaciga CBNEs.

The conduct of Gender Sensitivity Workshop in Sierra Madre led to the formation of women groups and submission of Gender and Development (GAD) Plans to the local government units (LGUs). With the success of the previous culture and youth camps, two local adaptations have been conducted this time with the Palaw’an communities in Southern Palawan and Higaonon in Bukidnon.

In continuing its ICCA work, documentation was held in Patagonan of AGMIIHCICU, in Bukidnon and Bertas of Brooke’s Point and Mt. Irid in Palawan. In Mindanao, six temporary nurseries were established and partner communities outplanted indigenous trees seedlings for a total of 65 ha. forestland, in addition to drafting of resource management plans and conduct of participatory resource monitoring. In Palawan, the almaciga areas were mapped along with the update of the sustainable harvesting protocols through video
and printed forms. These were done in supple-
ment with the training on sustainable harvest-
ing and mapping of NTFP resources. A similar
training on almaciga and monitoring of NTFPs
was also conducted in Sierra Madre.

The sustainable community livelihoods
programme of NTFP-EP is constantly expand-
ing: in terms of geographic reach, organization
of new CBNEs, and identification of ardent
leaders for training and mentoring on enter-
prise development. This stems from the contin-
ued work on strengthening the capacities of
CBNEs in improving their product develop-
ment, processing, and marketing through
mentoring of enterprise managers.

Through the project Enhanced Schools of
Living Tradition (SLT), NTFP-EP Philippines
was able to expand its reach to 11 cultural
communities and assist them in the conserva-
tion of their cultural art forms. It has deepened
the communities’ appreciation and valuation of
their indigenous heritage through the effective
institutionalization of the SLT Centers.

It was this year that NTFP-EP Philippines
acquired trademarks for CustomMade Crafts
Center (CMCC), Modern Indigenous (MoDI),
NTFP, as well as a certification mark for the
Philippine Forest Honey Network (PFHN) and
Good Hinabi Practices (GHP).
Moving Forward

After much time spent in legislative delays, it is hoped that the NTFP policy will be finalized within the next year. NTFP-EP Philippines will make its presence stronger in various working groups: Philippine ICCA Working Group, National Work Group for CBFM, Rainforest Restoration Initiative, Aksyon Klima, Alyansa Tigil Mina, and Zero Extreme Poverty. Following through the landscape governance activities conducted in 2017, follow-up of action plans and trainings will be made in Sierra Madre and Mindanao. Support to IPOs will continue, along with assistance to their local struggles: oil palm research in Palawan, and training on engagement with business and support to local campaigns against dams, mining, and oil palm.

In sustaining its efforts in ICCAs, mapping and documentation will continue in three sites. Along with this, outplanting and establishment of nurseries will also be part of the continual updating of the resource management plans per area. Permanent plots in Palawan and Sierra Madre will be the pilot sites of the PRM for honey. The target deputation of Bantay-kalasan is also expected to happen. NTFP-EP Philippines also sees establishing a bigger partnership with the academe as PRM progresses.

With the growing demand for indigo, there will be an expansion in its production and marketing. Support to new enterprises will be imparted through capacity building on product development and financial management. Marketing support through creative labeling, packaging, and promotions will also be covered. The adoption of GHP and the PFHN protocols through PGS will begin with pilot projects in one area per landscape.

NTFP-EP Philippines aims to mainstream gender in all the facets of our work but always in consideration and with utmost respect to the culture and traditions of the indigenous groups.
In 10 major areas: Mekong Delta (Kien Giang), Southern East (Tay Ninh, Binh Phuoc, Ho Chi Minh), Southern Central (Khanh Hoa, Ninh Thuan, Binh Thuan, Binh Dinh), Central Highland (Lam Dong, Dak Nong)

458,223 hectares of forest covered

150 species of non-timber forest products documented

7 indigenous groups
Kinh, Kho me, Raglai, Bana, Chăm, S’tiêng, M’Nông

10 protected areas covered

4 harvester groups
250 women, 200 men

92 communities

2,592 households
As one of the fastest-growing economies in Southeast Asia, Vietnam has set its sights on becoming a developed country by 2020. The country has made economic and social progress and began advancing economic and social rights. For NTFP-EP Vietnam, development work on the environment focuses on the concerns of indigenous communities and advocating for their well-being and livelihood.

The edible fruits and tuberous roots of Dang Sam (Codonopsis javanica), is commonly used by communities living in the mountainous parts of Vietnam. The leaves can be used for soup and fried food and dried roots in a special herbal Dang Sam chicken soup.

Nguyen Le Xuan Bach (Southern Institute of Ecology)


**Looking Back**

NTFP-EP Vietnam’s work on studying and documenting indigenous food and health in the country has made significant impact in at least 5 provinces. Special focus has been given to beekeeping training (Raglai and Bana), collection of muses, knowledge, and economic values of NTFPs (Raglai, Bana, K’ho, Ma, and S’tieng), as well as sustainable management of specific NTFPs (Raglai and Bana).

Sharing of experience and knowledge in sustainable harvesting is NTFP-EP Vietnam’s main priority for community-based conservation. Trainings on Velvet Tamarind conservation for Nui Chua National Park and honey conservation for An Toan Natural Reserve have been conducted. Useful NTFPs like Velvet Tamarind are continually explored as a sustainable source of income for Raglai communities at Nui Chua National Park. This has resulted in the planting of valuable trees with local households using 6,350 seedlings.

Documentation efforts in the medicinal plants in Dak Nong, and useful plants of Raglai people in Khanh Hoa Provinces, the Lingzi mushroom in Bu Gia Map National Park, and a survey on a prospective ecotourism in Can Gio have also been conducted. Initiatives were also conducted to support honey-related projects in Bu Gia Map National Park and An Toan Natural Reserve.

Useful NTFPs like Velvet Tamarind are continually explored as a sustainable source of income for Raglai communities at Nui Chua National Park. This has resulted in the planting of valuable trees with local households using 6,350 seedlings.
Moving Forward

Results of the documentation of indigenous food and health will be made available through a biodiversity database and publication that will contribute to the biological and medical potential of NTFPs used by indigenous communities.

Complementing established work on conservation, NTFP-EP Vietnam will be conducting more training and building processing facilities. This opens up the discussion to firm up sustainable honey management plans which include: collection and monitoring, establishment as a legal entity, product standards, quality and safety, marketing, as well as supply chain.

As one livelihood intervention, the cultivation of better-yielding banana and papaya as cash crops will help subsidize the economic needs of partner communities while anticipating the growth of the velvet tamarind trees. Technical training and material support will be provided in the future.

The newly established NTFP-EP Vietnam office is housed under the Southern Institute of Ecology (SIE) under Vietnam’s Academy for Science and Technology. NTFP-EP Vietnam will continue to operate as SIE’s partner in implementing projects on ecological systems and biological resources, conservation education and integrated management of these resources and ecosystems. There however continues to be challenges as the office expands, thus requiring enhancement of personnel and financial structures within the country programme.
Organizational Highlights
The Regional Staff Meeting was held at the SEARCA Guesthouse, Los Banos, Laguna, Philippines. Priorities and scope of regional thematic programmes have been agreed along with apposite strategies including advocacy plans. The 2016-2019 Strategic Direction was also reviewed. Discussions on the operational management systems and capacity of NTFP-EP Asia and support of NTFP-EP offices were also made. One of the recommendations from the meeting was the clarification of the governance and management arrangement of NTFP-EP in terms of the relationship and coordination between the Asia and country programmes.

Meanwhile, network extensions in Laos, Myanmar, India and Mongolia have promising potential to develop outreach and interventions in new countries/networks within the sub-regions.
There have been significant movements in the different programmes of NTFP-EP. The Philippine and Asia offices moved physical addresses in June and September respectively. While NTFP-EP Malaysia has been registered in the country as an official entity in 2017, its Country Facilitator officially left the office end of June.

In November 2017, the Audit Committee composed of the Board Treasurer, a Trustee, and an independent party from Keystone who serves as the Committee Chair convened for the first time. Together with the Keystone financial consultant, the committee held a meeting to discuss the audit committee guidelines, their comments on the 2016 audit and schedule for 2018.
Communication & Knowledge Management

In line with the 2016-2019 Strategic Direction, there is an increased demand for Communication and Knowledge Management in the work that NTFP-EP does, both at the country and regional levels. As such, NTFP-EP continued producing relevant knowledge products to reach the right knowledge bearers. With the approved Strategic Direction, NTFP-EP produced popular easy-to-digest informational materials for specified target audiences.

Country offices in Indonesia, Cambodia, and India have successfully set-up their own websites to contain more updated local and contextualized content. Support has also been provided to strategic communication events. More content has been produced this year to support NTFP-EP’s work under its thematic programmes.

As an improvement to the already insightful Voices from the Forest, NTFP-EP’s bi-annual newsletter, NTFP-EP decided to put a more curatorial twist to information dissemination and knowledge sharing by having a thematic focus on its issues, the first being Community-based conservation.

There is a planned formalization of NTFP-EP’s important role as a knowledge broker through its Knowledge Center. For the next year, NTFP-EP is set to launch innovative ways of reaching out to its target audiences with much more efficiency and less footprint: through webinars and e-lectures.

The proposed communication toolkit is also envisioned to support the popularization of the 2016-2019 Strategic Direction to streamline the messages that NTFP-EP as a network is sending across.

A skillshare session on effective presentations and facilitation was held during the Regional Staff Meeting.
The NTFP-EP strategy to mobilize resources and raise funds for its work in the region was not limited to proposal development and responding to calls for proposals by donor agencies such as the European Union. It has accepted invitations from like-minded organizations, as partners in implementing various projects, and strengthened its consultancy and training activities.
The artful Javanese city of Yogyakarta hosted the participants of the EXCEED training on women and entrepreneurship. The training covered the potential of women in entrepreneurship by exploring their skills and learning how others have addressed not only the entrepreneurial, but also the social challenges that they have faced as women leaders in their own communities.

The training had 26 women participants coming from diverse backgrounds. They were all able to learn from the valuable experiences and inputs of WWF Indonesia and two local partners: Asosiasi Pendamping Perempuan Usaha Kecil (ASPPUK), a network of local women organizations working to capacitate women in Indonesia, and Lawe, a community social enterprise focusing on women groups that transforms handwoven fabric into functional products.
By the end of 2017, the Pastor Rice Small Grants Fund, supported by the Global Alliance for Green and Gender Action (GAGGA-PRSGF) had currently supported a total of 59 grants for individuals and organizations in Southeast and South Asia. Of the 59, 3 strategic grants, 16 small grants and 23 travel grants were awarded, with an additional 17 small grants already provisionally approved and scheduled for awarding.

2017 was the second year of the project, during which time NTFP-EP stepped up its GAGGA grantmaking, primarily in the Philippines, and spread out the grants in priority countries – Cambodia, Indonesia, and Vietnam. There were an increasing number of grantees, falling more under the small grant facility criteria. Direct access to women’s groups, which is more than half of the total grantees supported, means increased access for support to women to further their advocacy for women’s rights, and higher participation in environmental protection.

As more grant projects have started and are closing this year, the stories generated from the ground have been of inspiration and progress. However, they also speak of the challenges that women continue to face as they assert their rights as women, and as users and protectors of natural resources.

The statement of the funding criteria has been simplified and sharpened, making it clearer to potential grantees what the funding is aimed at. Visibility of the grant was also improved through the webpage, and brochures advertised and were given to potential applicants. These materials have also been revised to clearly and explicitly state that the projects supported are for grassroots activities and actors, with initiatives contributing directly to the achievement of environmental justice and/or women’s empowerment, capacity-building and advocacy.
In May 2017, the hiring of a programme officer also helped in better coordination and in fast-tracking the grantmaking process. She assisted in expanding the grant search, conducting capacity building activities with partners such as workshops on proposal writing and development, as well as monitoring of grantees.

For 2018, NTFP-EP plans to step up the grant-making in the primary countries, especially in Cambodia, Indonesia, and Vietnam and secondary network countries – Laos, Myanmar and Thailand. As of now, many proposals on livelihoods have been approved. Nonetheless, a balance of grants across other thematic coverage of the PRSGF will be ensured in the following period by being more purposive in the search for more initiatives related to natural resources management (including water and NRM as it links to right to food/food security), tenure, response to threats, and climate change mitigation and adaptation.

A skillshare on women, natural resources, and livelihoods was held in India. The event was aimed at strengthening the capabilities of women grassroot groups to mobilize and advocate against high impact industries such as mining.
Summaries
Below is a list of all publications produced under NTFP-EP Asia.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PUBLICATION TITLE</th>
<th>TYPE</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016-2019 Strategic Directions Paper</td>
<td>Book</td>
<td>Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSO Forum Country Updates</td>
<td>Briefs</td>
<td>Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTFP-EP Organizational Brochure</td>
<td>Promotional Material</td>
<td>Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voices from the Forest Issue No. 32</td>
<td>Newsletter/ Magazine</td>
<td>Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voices from the Forest Issue No. 33</td>
<td>Newsletter/ Magazine</td>
<td>Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Forestry Action</td>
<td>Poster/ Infographic</td>
<td>Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical engagement of CSOs and its contribution to meaningful, sustainable, and</td>
<td>Poster</td>
<td>Cambodia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>responsive social forestry to the challenges of climate change: The CSO Forum on</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Forestry in ASEAN Experience</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partners for Forestry and Fisheries Stories of Change</td>
<td>Newsletter</td>
<td>Cambodia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partners for Forestry and Fisheries (PAFF) Annual Report 2016</td>
<td>Report</td>
<td>Cambodia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partners for Forestry and Fisheries (PAFF) six month report</td>
<td>Report</td>
<td>Cambodia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community-based Ecotourism (CBET) Situation Analysis</td>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>Cambodia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Reports (Kratie &amp; Stung Treng)</td>
<td>Report</td>
<td>Cambodia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Billboard (Kratie &amp; Stung Treng)</td>
<td>Billboard</td>
<td>Cambodia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fish Value Chain Report</td>
<td>Report</td>
<td>Cambodia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partners for Forestry and Fisheries (PAFF) Folder</td>
<td>Promotional Material</td>
<td>Cambodia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leaf Litter (January) Issue No. 5</td>
<td>Newsletter</td>
<td>India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leaf Litter (July) Issue No. 6</td>
<td>Newsletter</td>
<td>India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leaf Litter (September) Issue No. 7</td>
<td>Newsletter</td>
<td>India</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Projects Completed

Below is a list of all projects that ended in 2017. Thank you to all our donors and partners who have made these possible.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DONOR</th>
<th>PROJECT NAME</th>
<th>COVERAGE</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Both ENDS</td>
<td>Global Alliance for Green and Gender Action: Engendering Women in Forest Livelihoods and Conservation Year 1 (Jan 2016 - Feb 2017)</td>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>€ 250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Both ENDS</td>
<td>Global Alliance for Green and Gender Action: NGO Fund (Aug 2016 - Apr 2017)</td>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>€ 50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Both ENDS</td>
<td>Global Alliance for Green and Gender Action: Engendering Women in Forest Livelihoods and Conservation Year 2 (Mar 2017 - Aug 2018)</td>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>€ 250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)</td>
<td>Business Incubation Case Study (Aug - Oct 2017)</td>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>$ 2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swiss Development Corporation (SDC)</td>
<td>Support to Forestry and Fishery Communities (Nov 2014 - Jun 2017)</td>
<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>$ 2,100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU-ENRTP / WWF Cambodia</td>
<td>Sustaining Biodiversity, Environmental and Social Benefits in the Protected Areas of the Eastern Plains Landscape of Cambodia (Dec 2013 - December 2017)</td>
<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>$ 192,622</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Financial Highlights

NTFP-EP Asia’s statements of assets, liabilities and fund balance (in Peso)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>24,451,364</td>
<td>13,266,61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts and other receivables</td>
<td>843,941</td>
<td>1,709,253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other current assets</td>
<td>4,621,300</td>
<td>2,764,157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>29,916,605</strong></td>
<td><strong>17,740,021</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE |        |            |
| Current Liabilities |        |            |
| Accounts and other payables | 8,588,914 | 4,468,191  |
| Advances from a related party | 2,188,062 | 2,698,518  |
| **Total Current Liabilities** | **10,776,976** | **7,166,709** |

| Fund Balance |        |            |
| Unrestricted | 805,311 | 3,338,287  |
| Restricted   | 18,334,318 | 7,235,025  |
| **Total Fund Balance** | **19,139,629** | **10,573,312** |

29,916,605 17,740,021
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REVENUES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>58,565,441</td>
<td>36,773,837</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest income</td>
<td>13,811</td>
<td>9,066</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>1,448,677</td>
<td>1,171,936</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>60,027,929</strong></td>
<td><strong>37,954,839</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project costs</td>
<td>37,003,235</td>
<td>21,586,864</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salaries</td>
<td>9,663,705</td>
<td>5,808,289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative costs</td>
<td>3,400,037</td>
<td>3,056,568</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meals and accommodation</td>
<td>734,341</td>
<td>253,123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign exchange losses</td>
<td>365,948</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel and transportation</td>
<td>294,346</td>
<td>921,374</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td><strong>8,566,317</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,328,621</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*NTFP-EP’s financial statements were audited by Reyes, Tacandong & Co., an independent accounting and consulting firm. The full audited report can be made available upon request.

**Based on PhP to Euro exchange rate as at December 29, 2017.
Expenditure Distribution in Euros

- **Operations**: 111,755
- **EXCEED Trainings**: 2,250
- **Pastor Rice Small Grants Fund**: 118,165
- **Programme Costs**: 594,916
Thematic Distribution of Programme Costs in Euros

Other Programme Costs*
127,156

Community-based Conservation
39,676

Gender & Culture
13,123

Indigenous Food & Health
29,534

Sustainable Community Livelihoods
113,965

Tenure Rights & Governance
271,463

* Other Programme Costs include management and technical support, planning, monitoring and evaluation, communication and knowledge management, regional meeting & exchanges.
For more information about the NTFP-EP, visit:

- www.ntfp.org
- facebook.com/ntfpep
- @ntfp_ep

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