



NTFP-EP

ANNUAL REPORT 2022



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Non-Timber Forest Products - Exchange Programme Asia

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Cover Photo: A villager from Kampung Ciwaluh, near Bogor, Indonesia, carries a bundle of harvested bamboo through the forest. Photo by Robin Bustamante, NTFP-EP Asia.

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AFA	Asian Farmers Association
AFoCO	Asian Forest Cooperation Organization
AIPP	Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
ASSERT-CBFM	Assessing, Engaging, and Recognizing Community Based Forest Management
AWG-SF	ASEAN Working Group on Social Forestry
ACB	ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity
CBNE	Community-based NTFP enterprises
CBC	Community-based conservation
CBET	Community-based ecotourism
CBO	Community-based organization
CBFM	Community-based forest management
CBNE	Community-based NTFP enterprises
CLAPS	Community Livelihood Appraisal and Product Scanning
CLMV	Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam
COVID-19	Coronavirus disease 2019
CSO	Civil society organization
CT	Customary tenure
FFF	Forest and Farm Facility
FPIC	Free, prior and informed consent
FHCM	Forest Harvest Collective Mark
GAGGA	Global Alliance for Green and Gender Action
GCAV	Gender-equal community agency and voice
GLA	Green Livelihoods Alliance
ICCA	Indigenous Community Conserved Territories and Areas
IFH	Indigenous food and health
IKSP	Indigenous knowledge, systems & practices
ILED	Indigenous-led Education
IPLCs	Indigenous peoples and local communities
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
MRLG	Mekong Region Land Governance
NDC	Nationally-determined contribution
NGO	Non-government organization
NTFP	Non-timber forest product
NTFP-EP	Non-Timber Forest Products – Exchange Programme
OECM	Other effective area-based conservation measure
PO	Peoples' Organization
PGS	Participatory Guarantee System
PRSGF	Pastor Rice Small Grants Fund
SIE	Southern Institute of Ecology
SCAL	Sustainable climate adaptive community livelihoods
SDG	Sustainable development goals
SSNC	Swedish Society for Nature Conservation
TRG	Tenure rights and governance
TEK	Traditional ecological knowledge
WEHRD	Women environmental human rights defenders
WWF	World Wildlife Fund for Nature
YEE	Youth Engagement and Empowerment

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON



Maria Teresa Guia Padilla

Maria Teresa Guia Padilla
Chairperson of the Board of Trustees

NTFP-EP Asia will be turning 25 in the year 2023 and for this report I look back at a fruitful year that passed; at the same time, I would like to celebrate the cumulative contributions of NTFP-EP from its formation to the present. I have served as its Chairperson since 2015 and a member and Trustee since 2010. I take pride in being part of this group – its passionate team and an inspiring set of partners and allies, many of whom have been connected with NTFP-EP for decades and counting. Through the years, these partnerships have been dedicated towards the subject of forests and communities, and non-timber forest products (NTFPs) as a lens to demonstrate age-old traditions and practices that sustain cultures, livelihoods and identities.

A remarkable development at NTFP-EP is how it has expanded and stayed relevant for over two decades; NTFP-EP has continued to channel voices from the forests and to take forward well-grounded ideas to conserve biodiversity, protect territories and ancestral landscapes, improve livelihoods, and strengthen community-based peoples organizations. In 2022, we continued to take decisive efforts to also give voice to the women and youth from forested landscapes. NTFP-EP's thematic programs and the Pastor Rice Small Grant Fund (PRSGF) supported at least 40 community projects, around half of which were by women leaders, activists and environmental and human rights defenders. At least 4 youth focused initiatives including the national youth camps in the Philippines and Indonesia were highlights in the year.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

We have also started using the relevant platforms on forests, biodiversity conservation and climate, where NTFP-EP has entered as observers to speak out for and with our partners and allies on the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities. In 2022, our staff, members, and partners participated in the XV World Forestry Congress (Korea), the 2nd Asia Parks Congress (Malaysia), Climate COP 27 (Egypt), and COP CBD 15 (Montreal). As we gain better confidence and capacity to use these spaces armed with strong evidence on the ground and concrete calls to action, we expect to see in the next years even clearer results of our participation, and the impact of these on the indigenous peoples and local communities that we serve.

NTFP-EP is undertaking increasing important work around the struggles of women, men and youth environmental human rights defenders. In these global platforms and with the use of social media and various solidarity efforts this year, we called attention for example to the particular struggles of the indigenous peoples and local communities in the Sierra Madre and Southern Palawan in the Philippines, against the Kaliwa Dam water supply project and the Ipilan Nickel mining operations respectively. We also started to compile and share good examples of working livelihood and community enterprise models such as in Indonesia with the application of the participatory guarantee system (PGS) for rattan poles and baskets, and the promising emerging collective enterprise examples from Vietnam. We continue to develop the Forest Harvest Collective Mark (FHCM) scheme by launching a 2nd pilot in Vietnam with wild honey. The collective efforts by our staff, members, and our partners deserve mention in all these.

Before the close of the year 2022, we celebrated the successful adoption of the ASEAN Guidelines on Recognition of Customary Tenure in Forested Landscapes by the ASEAN ministers on agriculture and forestry. This is a hallmark accomplishment for us and we hope that in 2023 our continuing partnership with the Mekong Region Land Governance (MRLG) and the Green Livelihoods Alliance (GLA) will help us see its uptake by the ASEAN member states nationally, and that there will be more champions for increased customary forest tenure recognition in the coming years.

We have cause to be inspired and to be encouraged by what we have accomplished and contributed so far towards resilient and healthy peoples and forests. You will read more of these in the report. After 2022, we have eight more years to journey in our 10-year outlook and strategy. Surely not without challenges but we hope to grow stronger in our alliances and be much more competent at what we do. We commit our advocacies and interventions to stay rooted in communities and in collaborative and respectful partnerships.

Our thanks to all our donors and partners, whose support has made NTFP-EP work possible, and proudly anything but ordinary.



WHO WE ARE

WHAT WE DO



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About a hundred million people live in the forests of South and Southeast Asia and they depend on non-timber forest products. People in these forests subsist from their incomes on products they produce with NTFPs such as furniture, honey, varnish, beeswax candles, and herbal medicines, with most of these sold in the urban city market. Indigenous women also benefit from NTFPs through their creation of NTFP-based products with cultural/traditional and practical uses. Such products include handwoven fabrics from abaca in the Philippines, bags made from bemban leaves in Indonesia, among others.

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 the sustainable use of forest resources and economic development for the indigenous peoples and forest communities.

Over time, the Non-Timber Forest Products – Exchange Programme organically emerged as the different groups worked together to respond to various issues and problems.

NTFP-EP stands as a diverse and collaborative network of over 125 NGOs and CBOs that have been working in the field of indigenous peoples and forests for 24 years and has always taken a holistic approach in addressing issues relating to IPLCs, including women and youth, and forests. From being a catalyst, the organization now takes on the role of enabler, facilitator, and guide to its partner communities.

The NTFP-EP, as a regional network, envisions that “Resilient IPLCs with the women and youth in Asia are respected stewards of healthy forests and living securely in their land for generations to come”.

NTFP-EP looks forward to 2030, envisioning a change that requires structural and cultural change, breaking down deeply ingrained culture of singular processes and way of thinking, where other knowledge and ways of doing are not trusted nor recognized, and top-led governance where communities are seen as dependents, weak and marginal, instead of people with equal rights and as competent partners; and where “resting” land and intact forests are seen as unproductive and wasted resources.

The 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.

NTFP-EP’s work focuses on four (4) thematic areas: Community-Based Conservation, Indigenous Food and Health, Tenure Rights and Governance, and Sustainable Climate-adaptive Community Livelihoods. These work in tandem with the three (3) cross-cutting themes of Gender-Equal Community Agency and Voice, Culture & IKSP, and Youth Engagement & Empowerment.

ABOUT THE REPORT

The 2022 Annual Report is the second-year report against the 10-year Linking Peoples and Forests Regional Strategy 2021-2030 of the NTFP-EP in Asia towards Rights, Health and Livelihoods.

NTFP-EP's vision is to see "resilient indigenous peoples and local communities with women and youth in Asia who are respected stewards of healthy forests and who are living securely in their land for generations to come."

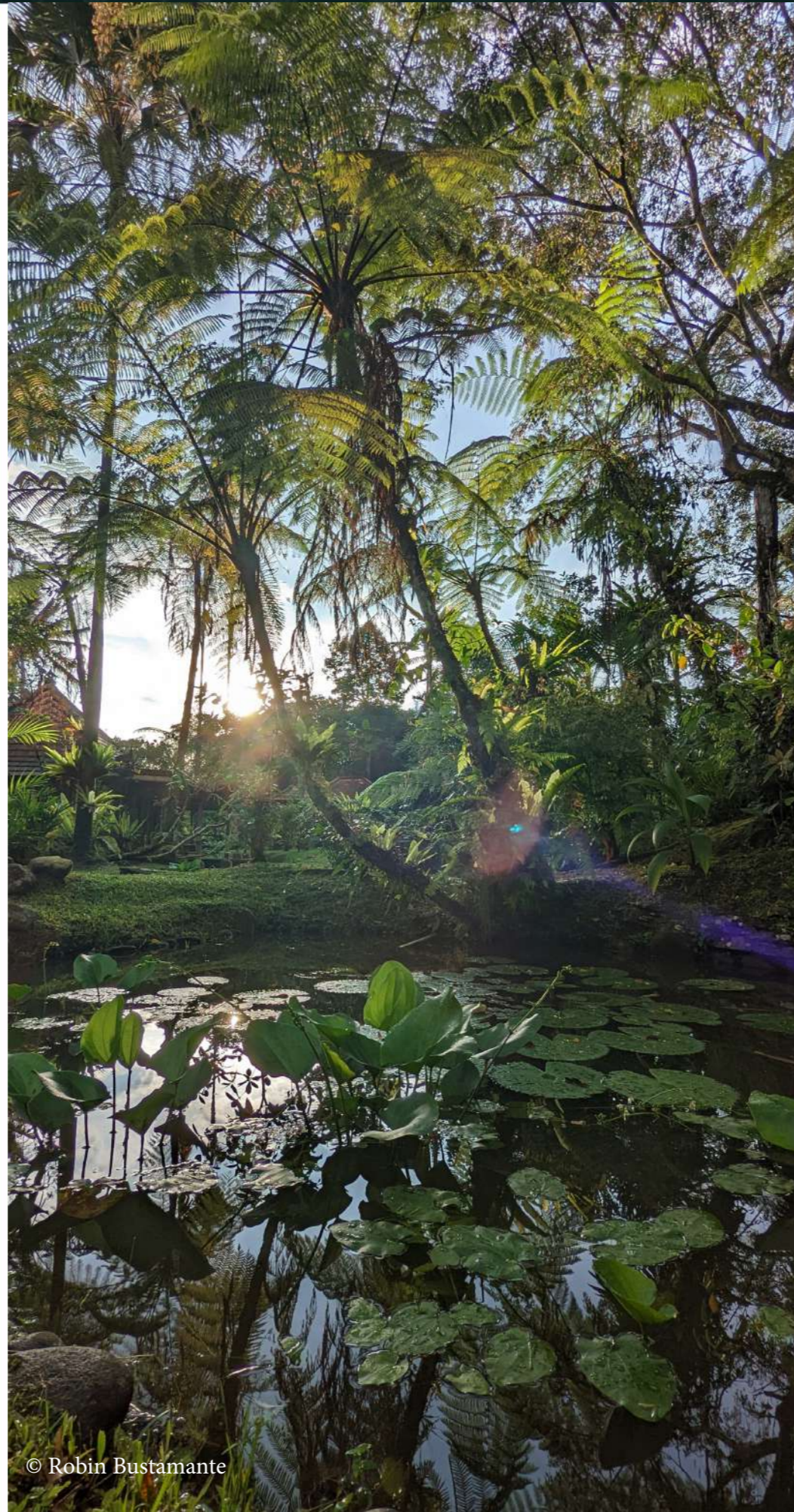
NTFP-EP's annual report from 2021 and each year thereafter is intended to provide a yearly synopsis of achievements across the four pathways that reinforce each other; we expect these ripples of results to accumulate and build up over time into meaningful and long-term impacts.

These accounts shall be shared from across countries where NTFP-EP works—Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Vietnam—and across the thematic programs for which NTFP-EP dedicates its resources.

The report shall consider how NTFP-EP influences and effects changes along these four pathways where:

First, communities including women and youth have enhanced voice and agency, and secured land tenure and livelihoods. NTFP-EP endeavors to improve or enhance the condition of the communities, to strengthen their agency, to amplify their visibility, voice and participation, and to provide them with support in securing their land tenure, food security, and livelihoods from their territories. We take account of how communities in the different countries strengthen community resilience in order to face the accelerating and multiple threats that come their way and empower them to proactively secure and protect their rights, tenure and culture for generations to come. The involvement of women and youth are highlighted for the key roles that they play in securing their communities' resilience.

Second, community-based forest conservation has demonstrated and recognized impacts in keeping IPLC-managed forests intact. NTFP-EP focuses on safeguarding the condition of the forests and natural resources by facilitating the practice and recognition of community-based governance and conservation. The annual report captures community and partners' actions to influence policies, cooperation among stakeholders, and accounts of good practice



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ABOUT THE REPORT

in traditional ecological knowledge as well as new techniques for community-based sustainable resource management and monitoring of forest health.

Third, culture and indigenous knowledge are sustained by communities and are respected by all stakeholders in policies and practice. The report captures stories of inter-generational transfer of culture and enhancing the understanding and respect of their rights, indigenous knowledge, systems and practices (IKSPs) and traditional ecological knowledge by other stakeholders. The report also captures community contributions to sustainable forest management, sustainable development and climate action.

Fourth, gender equality and women's rights are respected, and women are engaged as equal partners by communities and stakeholders. The report accounts for how NTFP-EP enhances the capacity of women and creates the space for them to be recognized as equal actors in their communities and in society in general; in both private and public spheres. The report provides qualitative accounts of women's roles and contributions to the valorization and transmission of traditional knowledge and culture; and in livelihoods and sustainable resource management and conservation.

The annual report also highlights achievements and significant stories of change within each of the thematic programs of NTFP-EP:

- Community-based Conservation
- Indigenous Food and Health
- Sustainable Climate-Adaptive Community Livelihoods
- Tenure Rights and Governance
- Youth Engagement and Empowerment

and the cross-cutting themes of:

- Gender-equal Community Agency and Voice
- Culture and Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Practice.

The report also features organizational highlights as part of the strategy for organizational strengthening, communications and knowledge management, and a summary of the finances of the organization for the year 2022.

Finally, the Pastor Rice Small Grant Fund accessed by multiple partners and the organization's financial highlights are also included in the report.

REGIONAL CONTEXT

In NTFP-EP's 10-year regional strategy, our interventions have three dimensions; they are carried out at the country level which are reinforced and elevated in regional and international advocacies; joint and collective actions among members, together with partners and other networks where NTFP-EP participates; and finally, the regional and international level actions undertaken primarily by NTFP-EP Asia. COVID-19 preempted these, thus our interventions and advocacy plans were stalled for two years.

However, in the post-pandemic year of 2022, the world slowly returned to where we all left off. For rights-based advocacies across the world, civil society returned to face-to-face regional and international platforms and resumed their efforts to give voices to indigenous and local communities, the women and youth about inclusiveness, equal rights, equity, and justice. Civil society organizations maximized whatever tools were available to continue their advocacies during the pandemic period. They built stronger capacities to navigate the digital media with more skillful online presentations, content, and campaigns. But in 2022, we saw again more advocacy actions face-to-face with perhaps a stronger sense of urgency and a clamor for concrete solutions amidst the planetary crisis. Most of the regional and international policy processes came back either in onsite or hybrid modalities. The vulnerability amidst threats of people and their insecurity about the future due to the crisis in health, environment and climate were deeply felt and expressed either way.

Meanwhile, the talks and processes with an outlook towards 2030, that were suspended for at least a year, were resumed in 2022, including for forests (the XV World Forestry Congress) and biodiversity (Convention on Biodiversity COP 15). Following the mainly hybrid COP 26 in Glasgow at the end of 2021, the climate talks in Egypt (COP 27) drew a larger onsite participation than the previous year. Quite aptly the themes on health (both for people and nature), resilience, solutions and finance resonated across the different sectors and global processes. NTFP-EP took active advocacy actions on the three interlinked themes of forests, biodiversity, and climate, and participated more actively with partners in the corresponding regional and international events.

In May 2022 at the World Forestry Congress held in Seoul, Republic of Korea where the State of the Forests 2022 report was launched, the major role of forests in the light of major global agreements and targets to 2030 such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Global Forest Goals, the Paris Agreement and the Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework was highlighted. Halting deforestation, restoration of forests and resilient and sustainable green economies such as agroforestry and supporting sustainable value chains were described as the pathways to contribute to these important global goals. In a Special Side Event on Rural Finance and Forest and Farm Producers' Enterprises at the Centre of the 'Green Recovery' NTFP-EP spoke about the key barriers that forest and farm producers face in accessing funding from private investors and institutions, and the challenges in meeting the required investment and financing criteria. NTFP-EP suggested that a facilitatory or intermediary entity that is built from the ground up could be identified to help overcome these issues and as a more effective way of reaching a wider net of forest and farm producers. Rural finance must be made available and

accessible to small and community-based forest enterprises without prejudice to stimulating self-financing mechanisms and solidarity-based financing schemes. Together with other civil society and farmers group allies such as the Asian Farmers Association for Sustainable Rural Development (AFA) we highlighted the utmost importance that rural finance reaches the people on the ground; and that development assistance must be adapted to meet the needs of forest and farm producers.

In the same month, NTFP-EP with other ICCA Consortium members in the Asia Pacific took to the 2nd Asia Parks Congress in Sabah, Malaysia and where the Api Api Declaration was delivered and whose messages are still carried today. The Api Api Declaration highlighted that the Congress was appreciated given that for the first time, a dedicated forum and other spaces to integrate indigenous peoples and local community voices were provided at the Congress, unlike the first one that was held in Japan in 2013. 247 indigenous people representatives were behind the declaration which was remarkable. The IPLC declaration delivered a strong message about rights-based conservation, seeking accountability and redress for violations on the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities in the name of conservation. The importance of people and environment together with equal importance and value as both life or representing life and not at the expense of one or the other was the collective tone put across.

In July 2022, the release of 2 assessment reports by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), the "Sustainable Use of Wild Species" and the "Diverse Values and Valuation of Nature" presented important findings, principles, and implications for the post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. The assessment reports gave unequivocal conclusions about the importance and contribution of wild species to biodiversity and to people's livelihood, well-being and to economies. The report concludes, thus, that the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework must take crucial consideration on being able to achieve the balance between the health and well being of both people and nature. The reports highlighted the importance of integrating sustainable use and management of wild species in the global biodiversity framework, and in future conservation and economic policies as they would affect both people and nature. These global reports amplify NTFP-EP's regional work on the sustainable harvest and management of non-timber forest products including of wild foods and the essential principles and values of customary governance, of traditional ecological knowledge and wisdoms. The global reports complement the ASEAN-adopted Guidelines on Sustainable Harvest and management of Select Non-Timber Forest products (2021) and the ASEAN guidelines on the Recognition of Customary Tenure in Forested Landscapes (adopted in October 2022) by the NTFP-EP.

At the 27th Conference of Parties (COP) of the UNFCCC in Egypt, NTFP-EP had a delegation from our members and partners network – of women, youth, CSOs and indigenous peoples and local communities. It was our first COP with a delegation of more than three (3) people. It was an important learning experience on how to navigate a huge platform effectively, and on finding a meaningful opportunity and space to speak. For sisters of the Women in Action on Mining in Asia (WAMA) we had



a meaningful side event space to dialogue with the Green Climate Fund, the Adaptation Fund, and the official party of Canada at a side event, moderated by NTFP-EP on Gender Just Climate Finance. Adolfin Kuum, a woman environmental human rights defender (WEHRD) and community leader from Timika in West Papua, together with other WAMA sisters delivered a strong message about the need for genuine and just actions, and accountability for losses and damages associated with long standing malpractices in the extractive sector. They called for and demonstrated that women are articulate, have leadership capacity and are vital contributors to a transformative change that is needed to protect, create, or restore healthy ecosystems. We also celebrated the global recognition of the excellent barefoot ecology work of Keystone Foundation, a member of the NTFP-EP network as an example of a gender-just climate solution. Ms. Bhavya George representing Keystone received the Gender Just Climate Solutions Award at the COP in person.

Being at the COP was also an important learning about being in a constituency to speak the strongest and loudest. We narrowed down to four key constituencies in which to be part of- indigenous peoples, women, youth, and environmental NGOs. But we also observed that it is important to also assess where and how strong the smallholder farmers constituency is. At the COP, the Sharm el Sheikh joint work on agriculture was agreed. It delivered a vital work plan that was committed for financing, which would include scaling up activities on regenerative agriculture, agroecology, and agroforestry. A few other important headlines at the COP included the agreement to finalize the funding arrangements under the Santiago network on loss and damage, and making a just transition-phasing down on fossil fuels and critically reforming finance for energy and climate-a reality.

Finally, the year was capped with the adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework at the Convention on Biodiversity COP 15. This is considered a landmark agreement that will guide global action for biodiversity protection until 2030 with a prominence in clear text of the role of indigenous peoples and local communities and of women. The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework contains 4 over-arching goals and 23 targets which aim to address biodiversity loss, restore ecosystems, protect indigenous rights and ensure gender equality in the implementation of the framework. The plan includes concrete measures to halt and reverse nature loss, including putting 30 percent of terrestrial and other ecosystems and areas of biological importance under effective conservation and management by 2030. It also contains proposals to increase finance to developing countries; further discussions about a global biodiversity fund shall proceed in 2023.

The close of the year landed with a fair sense of fulfilment having been part of a global dialogue and seeing and hearing an affirmative and louder voices from the NTFP-EP network about the rightful inclusion of indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth in development decisions; respect for the indigenous peoples and local communities right to a decent life, sustainable livelihood, safe and healthy environment and most of all a just future. We look forward to the stronger and more visible advocacy actions, and louder and clearer voices from the forests in the coming years.



COUNTRY STORIES



CAMBODIA

20		multi-stakeholder platforms used for advocacy
3		species documented
2,558		members of CBNEs
\$47,552		annual sales from enterprises
26		communities with secured permits
51,427		hectares under community management

NTFP-EP Cambodia, officially registered with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, has been implementing activities since 2008. With technical support from the National Council for Sustainable Development (NCSD) and Ministry of Environment, they align their work with the regional strategic direction and NCSD's strategic action plan. The program aims to improve the livelihoods of natural resource-dependent communities through community-based enterprise and eco-tourism, while actively participating in sustainable natural resource protection and conservation. Funding is provided by SDC, SIDA, USAID/GPL, IUCN NL, and AFoCO CLMV.

Currently, NTFP-EP Cambodia is actively involved in the operation of 11 Community-Based Enterprises (CBEs), comprising 6 honey group processing initiatives, 3 community-based ecotourism projects, and 2 Traing processing groups. These endeavors are supported by SDC, SIDA, and GPL. Although the number of CBEs has decreased compared to the previous year, the number of community members involved remains unchanged.

NTFP-EP Cambodia maintains its engagement with these communities, providing project monitoring and technical support whenever needed. This ongoing collaboration involves a total of 15,245 individuals, including 7,227 females, belonging to 4,230 households. These communities are situated

in Kratie, Stung Treng, and Phreah Vihear provinces. From 2018 to 2021, NTFP-EP Cambodia closely collaborated with the provincial department of agriculture, forestry, and fisheries, specifically with the forestry administration and local authorities. The objective was to provide technical support in establishing 12 wild honey collection groups, consisting of 2,872 people, including 1,263 females, from 1,261 households in Kratie, Stung Treng, and Phreah Vihear provinces. These groups reside in or near community forestry areas and benefit from non-timber forest products. Active members are engaged in natural resources management.

Wild honey products have become a significant income source for the communities, alongside farming and livestock activities. Between 2018 and December 2022, the sale of wild honey generated a total income of US\$160,341.15. To ensure sustainable natural resource management and conservation, community members contribute US\$1,873.17 to community forestry for patrolling and conservation. These groups have undergone training on the Sustainable Harvesting Protocol and implemented the Participatory Guarantee System (PGS).

NTFP-EP Cambodia closely collaborates with local authorities, including provincial departments of ecotourism, environment, agriculture, forestry, and fisheries. With support from the provincial governor and the ministry of tourism, the program successfully



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established five Community-Based Ecotourism (CBET) initiatives along the upper Mekong River. These CBETs involve 10,548 individuals, including 4,965 females, from 2,523 households. The CBETs are located in Kratie province (Koh Phdao and Koh Samseb) and Stung Treng province (Samros Koh Han, Borie O'svay, and Phnum Chumrok Stat). CBETs generate an income of up to US\$85,933.15 and contribute US\$1,016.84 to natural resource management through patrolling and conservation efforts.

NTFP-EP Cambodia provided technical support to establish five Traing processing groups in Chheb district, Preah Vihear province. These groups consist of 1,825 people, including 999 females from 446 households. The members actively participate in forest patrolling and contribute to forest conservation and regeneration. The processing groups produce various items such as chopsticks, spoons, frying spoons, walking sticks, swords, and spears. Their product sales generate an income of up to US\$12,075.21, with a contribution of US\$126.69 to community forestry for patrolling and conservation.

The organization collaborates closely with the

Ministry of Tourism, Provincial Department of Tourism, Ministry of Environment, and Provincial Department of Environment in Kratie and Stung Treng provinces. With support from the deputy provincial governor, they have developed the Community-Based Ecotourism (CBET) Voluntary Guideline specifically for the upper Mekong River region. This guideline serves as a crucial reference for community facilitators and contributes to the overall CBET guideline.

NTFP-EP Cambodia has developed three five-year master plans for CBETs in Samros Koh Han and Borie O'svay in Stung Treng province, as well as Koh Samseb in the Sambo district of Kratie province. They have also produced an upper Mekong Trail map from Kratie to Stung Treng, extending to the border of Laos PDR. Furthermore, they have published a bird book for Koh Samseb and released the second edition of the Mekong Bird book during the Tour Operations Workshop at MoT on February 20th, 2023.

With funding support from USAID-GPL, NTFP-EP Cambodia has supplied CBET materials and equipment to Borie O'Svay, Phnom Chumrok Sath,

Somros Koh Han, and Koh Samseb CBETs in Kratie and Stung Treng Provinces. The provided materials include kayak boats, paddles, tents, sleeping bags, pads, pillows, lamps, mountain bicycles, cycling helmets, CBET information boards, and education toolkits. SDC and SIDA have contributed soft skills in institutional capacity building, tour operation, market promotion, product development, market linkage, services, waste management, and bird watching.

The selection of a competent CBE management committee is crucial for ensuring sustainable CBE development. These individuals possess the necessary skills, business acumen, and willingness to take risks to invest for profitability. An effective committee can inspire and mobilize members, encouraging them to contribute shares towards the business operations.

Social media has played a significant role in expanding the reach of the PaFF program and sharing its impacts beyond the intended target areas. For instance, the Facebook page of Koh Samseb CBET garnered over 10,000 likes, facilitating the dissemination of information about CBET and raising awareness beyond the three local communities.

BENEFITTING COMMUNITIES THROUGH TRAINING PROCESSING

Two Traing Processing Groups in Preah Vihear province, Cambodia, have been making significant strides in sustainable community development. Sangkae Traing Processing Group is located in Sangkae village, which consists of 102 families with a population of 230. Chhaeb Lech Traing Processing Group operates in Chhaeb Lech Village, with a population of 1,743 across 363 households.

These Traing Processing Groups have received support from the Greening Prey Lang (GPL) project, funded by USAID. The GPL project has enabled various activities to enhance the groups' operations and impact. Training workshops have been conducted, covering areas such as policy advocacy, lobbying, entrepreneurship, leadership, facilitation skills, and sustainable management of non-timber forest products (NTFPs).

Furthermore, the Traing Processing Groups have benefited from market linkage opportunities, including participation in the Weekend Market. These connections have allowed the groups to establish



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networks and attract potential buyers for their Traing products. Annual workshops have also facilitated knowledge sharing and collaboration within the Community-Based Enterprise (CBE).

To ensure sustainable practices, the Traing Processing Groups have implemented monitoring systems for Traing harvesting, quality control, and financial record-keeping. They have extended their protocols and standards to both group members and non-members within the Community Forestry, aiming to promote responsible resource management.

Financial management coaching and bookkeeping support have been provided to strengthen the groups' financial capabilities. The Traing Processing Groups have actively participated in the Community Forestry Network (CFN) and Prey Lang Community Protected Area Coordinating Committee (PCFPCC) network meetings, fostering collaboration and networking opportunities.

As a result of these efforts, the Traing Processing Groups have achieved several positive outcomes. They have been recognized by the commune council as sub-groups under the Community Forestry, increasing their visibility and influence. Effective communication and market connections have been established by the leaders of the groups. The strong commitment demonstrated by the CBE members

has contributed to the sustainable development of their communities.

The availability of Traing resources has ensured a consistent supply for processing activities. Technical and financial support from NTFP-EP, funded by GPL and other sources, have played a crucial role in the groups' growth. The Traing Processing Groups have also benefited from market availability and the production of high-quality products, attracting buyers and generating income for the communities.

Looking to the future, the Traing Processing Groups have outlined their next steps. They plan to focus on product promotion and market linkages to expand their customer base. Additionally, Traing restoration efforts will be prioritized to ensure the long-term sustainability of this valuable resource. The groups aim to improve production techniques and product quality, aligning with market demands and enhancing their competitiveness.

Overall, the Traing Processing Groups in Preah Vihear province have made significant progress in community development through sustainable practices and active collaboration. With ongoing support from projects like GPL and the dedication of their members, these groups are paving the way for economic growth and environmental stewardship in their communities.



INDIA



The last year (April 2022 to March 2023) saw several global events that affected and influenced India and its policies. Some of these events had an impact on the status of India's forests and forest peoples, which is the prime concern of the NTFP - Exchange Programme India.

Most of the EP-India network partners, who work together in eight states of India, have continued to engage with the Forest Rights Act. They have motivated and supported Adivasi communities in filing claims for their territories, and where successful, have helped in formulating traditional management plans for these areas. This has been a challenging task, as various obstacles have hindered the smooth implementation of the Act, such as the apathy of the Forest Department, the granting of Community Forest Rights in the name of the FD rather than the village council, reduction in the area claimed by the community, and violations by the state or private sector in areas that have been granted.

According to government figures, 2,146,782 titles have been granted under the Individual Forest Rights, covering an area of 4,568,053 acres, and 102,889 Community Forest Rights titles were granted, covering an area of 122,618,81 acres. On a positive note, several state governments have been proactively promoting the implementation of the FRA.

Various factors, including the war in Ukraine, have led to a fuel crisis and a resurgence of coal-based energy. Despite India's Nationally Determined Commitments, which include creating an additional carbon sink of 2.5 to 3 billion tons of carbon dioxide equivalent through additional forest and tree cover by 2030, the demand for fossil fuels continues.

The Indian coal minister remarked that there is no possible transition away from coal until 2040 and beyond. These new projections for energy are said to require 294,000 hectares of land and displace 165 villages, most of which are home to forest-based communities. Another threat to India's forests, especially its groundwater, is the expansion of palm oil. The intention, possibly to reduce the drain of foreign currency, is to become self-sufficient in palm oil and have one million hectares of land under palm oil cultivation by 2030. Several states, especially Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and the northeastern states, are making significant progress toward achieving their targets.

Despite this rather grim backdrop, most partners are engaging with the youth, and many have women-led projects in their field areas. Initiatives such as wild foods, large-scale reforestation efforts, restoration of water bodies, and efforts to revive and rejuvenate indigenous cultures and languages are all underway.

TRADITIONAL ECOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE OF BHUYANS AND JUANGS

The Bhuyan and the Juang of Keonjhar district are referred to as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs). They practiced shifting cultivation, but nowadays they cultivate vegetables and rice in the lowlands. They understand natural phenomena and animal behavior well enough to predict rain. Accordingly, they prepare for plowing, sowing, and making other decisions regarding cultivation. Certain elders in the community, known as 'disharie,' also help in weather prediction; they are said to be spiritually endowed. However, this knowledge is now fading out. Nonetheless, this accumulated and traditionally passed-on knowledge plays an important role in the conservation of landscapes, especially in the context of climate change and increasing human population and pressure.

Ecologists usually aim to conserve the commons (land, water, and forest) and their biodiversity through research, action, and advocacy in partnership with local people. This work primarily focuses on conservation measures alone, such as controlling

forest fires or managing CFR areas in the present times.

Rural life is a web that links many areas of ecological concern. For instance, traditional farming did not use chemical inputs and is now known as organic farming. Farming has been a part of human culture for thousands of years, including rearing cows and bullocks, adding manure to the soil, planting trees, conserving water, protecting the environment, domesticating animals, and revering certain wild animals—all of which have been integral to our religious values. People are aware that any human interference with nature and natural resources is based on the principle of quid pro quo. Overexploitation of nature leads to unsustainable development. When comparing Juang and Bhuyan Pidha agricultural practices to modern agriculture, these differences become more apparent.

The traditional tools and equipment used by most Adivasi peoples are very simple. For example, the fish traps used do not kill all the fish in the water bodies; in fact, when a fish with eggs is found, it is released back into the water. Similarly, NTFP collectors have sustainable harvesting practices. They leave



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a portion of what they collect unharvested so that other creatures depending on that resource can also thrive and potentially spread the seeds. Unfortunately, competition and market forces erode these noble qualities in people, replacing need with greed. Without explicitly using the words, Adivasi communities seem to have understood the interdependency between the lithosphere, hydrosphere, biosphere, and atmosphere. They followed methods of soil conservation, water conservation through the excavation of large tanks (muda, kata, bandha, sagar, tanks) that lasted throughout the year, and forest and wildlife protection and conservation. Instead of relying on governments and their laws, the community had its own laws and rules that were strictly adhered to, and violations were dealt with appropriately.

The degradation of the commons can be attributed to weak tenure rights, erosion of local institutions, and the misguided belief that local communities are ineffective managers of their shared natural resources. The Gramsabhas and other community institutions support communities in securing tenure over their commons. Where the Forest Rights Act applies, communities are supported in claiming rights over their commons, such as community forests. In areas with wastelands, local institutions assist village communities in acquiring long-term leases and expanding pasturelands. Many civil society groups enable local communities to map their common

lands (wastelands and pastures) and register them in the Prohibitory Order Book or Panchayat Asset Register to prevent their diversion for other uses. For effective local forest management:

- 1.** The community can prepare biodiversity registers to document the flora and fauna within their village jurisdiction and monitor them over time.
- 2.** The community can seek the assistance of elder people and traditional healers to document rare, endangered, threatened, and extinct species of both flora and fauna.
- 3.** Intellectual Property Rights of the communities need to be documented and preserved to prevent them from disappearing from the community.
- 4.** The Environment and Forest Department, Government of Odisha, has established the Medicinal Plant Conservation Board to promote in-situ conservation of medicinal plants specifically identified by traditional healers and now protected by Van Surakshya Samitis.

All traditional ecological knowledge within the community is an asset. The new generation often does not give it importance as alternatives are available in the market. However, this knowledge and skill should be revived, documented, stored, and utilized at the community level so that the next generation can continue to practice it.

(Written by Pravat Mishra, from NTFP-EP India's Leaf Litter March 2023 issue)



INDONESIA

19		local civil society partners
8		indigenous communities supported
16		NTFP species documented
16		CBNEs operating
16,892		hectares of forests used for enterprises



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There have been significant changes in the Indonesian context that have directly impacted local and national work. These changing contexts are outlined below:

COVID-19 remained an issue throughout 2022, with a substantial decrease in the number of infected persons only towards the end of the year. On December 30, 2022, Indonesian President Mr. Joko Widodo announced the revocation of regulations on restrictions for community activities (Pembatalan Pembatasan Kegiatan Masyarakat or PPKM).

Village fund allocations for a quick response to COVID-19 were also finally stopped. Initially intended to accelerate social forestry applications, these funds should be reallocated back to social forestry activities after the COVID situation became more relaxed.

The turbulence surrounding the issuance of the Omnibus Law Bill in 2020 led to the withdrawal of powers and authority from local agencies, returning them to the Central Government. This means that NTFP-EP Indonesia must work intensively with the Central Government, coordinating with the Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MoEF) and the Ministry of Village.

In 2021, the role of KPH (Forest Management Unit-FMU) shifted from an operational function in the

State Forest Lands (SFL) to a more facilitative role in managing the SFL, as outlined in Government Regulation No. 23. This change affected the processes and legalization of developing business units or collaborations for enterprise development in Social Forestry areas.

The risks of frequent natural disasters in remote and disaster-prone areas of the landscapes persist, such as in Central Sulawesi (earthquakes, landslides), and Central Kalimantan (floods, forest fires). This necessitates continuous close work and coordination with the Disaster Risk Task Force for updates.

The fatigue or loss of motivation experienced by the IPLCs (Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities) due to the influx of programs/interventions by a large number of CSOs/NGOs also needs to be considered. It is necessary to improve communication and organization among target communities, facilitate as much as possible, understand the fundamental problems/issues, and adopt innovative approaches in working with the IPLCs.

After the COVID-19 pandemic changed the working set-up for NTFP-EP Indonesia from 2020 to 2021, regular office work resumed in 2022, although it still depended on the current situation. We continued to work closely with partners, local governments, and

communities in the landscapes of Central Sulawesi and Central Kalimantan.

The most important activities achieved in 2022 by thematic area are as follows:

Tenure Rights and Governance: Moa Village, Sigi, Central Sulawesi has obtained a permit for Customary Forest from the Ministry of Environment and Forestry. They will manage a 1,484-hectare Customary Forest area. Bulili Village, Poso, Central Sulawesi is in the process of submitting to the Working Group of ICCAs.

Community-Based Conservation: Established a nursery of NTFPs (Non-Timber Forest Products) in Namo Village. This nursery is managed by community members as part of PGS ROLES. They have started creating a small arboretum using plants from the nursery.

Indigenous Food and Health: Publication of the Best Practices of NTFP products in Namo Village. This book explains the use of NTFP products such as rattan, pandan, forest honey, and medicinal plants.

Sustainable Climate-Adaptive Livelihoods: Four villages (Moa, Pilimangkujawa, Bulili, and Bariri) in Central Sulawesi have successfully documented their NTFP products. Communities in Toro Village and Mataue Village, Central Sulawesi have also received training on improving the quality of bark cloth products.

The pandemic is not a major challenge in our project areas now. However, natural disasters such as landslides in Sigi and Poso, Central Sulawesi and floods in Central Kalimantan have significantly affected project implementation. We have resolved this by carefully choosing the right time to start activities, considering the flood and landslide conditions.

Next year (2023) is an important political year, as there will be elections for parties and the President of Indonesia in 2024. Therefore, we must pay more attention and make greater efforts when organizing activities at the local and national levels. The lack of a documentation process is also a challenge for us. We need more time to maximize the use of social media to share our activities.



MALAYSIA

- 11 target communities reached
- 2 operational women's CBNE groups
- 71 indigenous CBNE members
- 8 platforms for advocacy and community participation
- 42,646 hectares under community management

The year 2022 was hectic for NTFP-EP Malaysia and its partners as the country returned to normal. Due to the pandemic, all physical activities had been delayed the previous year. So in 2022, partners began pushing activities to meet urgent deadlines.

As Malaysia recovered and allowed face-to-face activities to be conducted without strict restrictions, the partners were occupied with pushing all pending activities that were put on hold due to the pandemic, including meeting the community face-to-face. Safety measures during traveling and face-to-face meetings/gatherings continued to be taken seriously, considering that there were still a few villagers who chose not to get vaccinated.

During this time, NTFP-EP focused its project work primarily in the Belaga and Apoh-Tutoh regions of Sarawak. NTFP-EP Malaysia observed changes in some of the women, particularly in terms of increased confidence and how they shared ideas and initiated activities within their village in Long Meraan.

In May 2021, the only bridge connecting the villages in the Apoh-Tutoh river basin (where our landscape Long Meraan is located) was washed away by massive floods caused by climate change and deforestation. Logging debris clogged the bridge,

leading to its collapse. In 2022, the repair works had not yet been completed, further challenging the work in the landscape. As a result, reaching that landscape required crossing the river via a small boat during favorable weather conditions and then renting a 4x4 car once on the other side to reach the village.

NTFP-EP Malaysia underwent a change in their registration type and name, and is now registered as an association under the name Persatuan Pemeliharaan dan Pemuliharaan Alam Sekitar Sarawak (PELIHARA).

Although there were limited implementation of activities, the SSNC project was able to support community meetings to facilitate community dialogue on forest rights and conservation. Plans to document their ICCAs will be included in the agenda for 2023.

Most of the activities planned in 2022 did not take place due to the issue with NTFP-EP Malaysia's registration, which made fund transfers difficult and fieldwork impossible. Major adjustments to the work plan will have to be made in 2023. A lesson learned from this experience is the need for closer coordination with the NTFP-EP Asia office and regional partners to better strategize on upcoming activities.

STANDING IN SOLIDARITY AGAINST "SLAPP" SUITS

NTFP-EP Asia and NTFP-EP Malaysia have joined 160 global civil society organizations in sending a solidarity letter to demand that timber company Samling withdraw its lawsuit against SAVE Rivers and its board members.

Samling filed a lawsuit against SAVE Rivers, alleging defamatory statements related to consultations with local communities in the context of the certification process under the Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme, endorsed by PEFC International. Samling is seeking an apology, an injunction to prevent SAVE Rivers from reporting community claims, and damages amounting to 5 million ringgit or 1.1 million US dollars: approximately 45 times SAVE Rivers' annual budget.

The letter was signed by numerous international leaders in climate justice and the environment, including Greenpeace, Friends of the Earth, Rainforest Action Network, and IUCN Netherlands. Prominent national human rights and conservation organizations also joined including SUARAM, RimbaWatch, Freedom Film Network, and Teoh Beng Hock Trust for Democracy. Additionally, the Gerenai Community Rights Action Committee, representing all communities within Samling's Gerenai Forest Management Unit, sent a separate letter of solidarity. The letter acknowledges that most of the articles deemed defamatory by Samling

were a result of SAVE Rivers' pursuit of inclusivity, accurate information, and clarity.

The United Nations Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and the Business and Human Rights Resource Centre have recognized that this lawsuit may be classified as a Strategic Lawsuit Against Public Participation or SLAPP.

A SLAPP suit is a legal action taken by a more powerful entity, such as a corporation or government, against individuals or organizations that speak out or engage in public participation on matters of public interest such as the environment in SAVE Rivers' case. The primary purpose of a SLAPP suit is not necessarily to win the case but rather to intimidate, silence, or financially burden the defendant and deter them from further activism or criticism.

SLAPP suits often target individuals or groups advocating for environmental protection, human rights, social justice, or other public causes. They can take the form of defamation lawsuits or other legal actions that allege harm to the plaintiff's reputation. However, their underlying aim is to suppress dissent, stifle public participation and drain the defendants' financial resources.



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PHILIPPINES



In the Philippines, 2022 signaled the loss of many government champions with the results of the May 2022 national and local elections. The new administration has since prioritized the promotion of the mining industry, under the guise of 'economic recovery' from the pandemic, as well as 'special economic zones' inside ancestral domains.

With this, the entry of large extractive and intrusive projects—mining, industrial monocrop plantations, dams—without a genuine free and prior informed consent process, intensified in 2022. This has wrought division within indigenous communities, which added to the psychosocial, mental, and physical challenges already experienced by partner IPLCs. Both in online and offline spaces, dissenters and environmental defenders have been persistently red-tagged (falsely accused of being members or sympathizers of communist insurgencies.) Fake news and disinformation are still widespread on social and even traditional media. And while mobility has increased due to easing pandemic restrictions, security threats continue to hinder field work.

The adverse effects of the climate crisis are increasingly being felt by indigenous and local communities in the Philippines. 2022 brought

stronger typhoons, flooding, landslides.

The changes in context in 2022 emphasized the greater need to re-engage and strengthen relationships with local government champions, to ensure the safeguarding of forest landscapes, and the inclusion of indigenous peoples and local communities in decision-making. The recognition of indigenous peoples' organizations in local governance is vital to meaningful participation in forest governance. In 2022, several of our partner IPLC organizations in Palawan and Northern Mindanao, especially women and youth, gained seats in local governance and multi-stakeholder bodies, representing their communities. In Sierra Madre, indigenous youth were also given seats in the governing board of the IP federation covering five ancestral domains.

NTFP-EP Philippines, in 2022, continued its work with indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs) towards their sustainable governance and management of forest landscapes through sustainable livelihoods, favorable policies and programs, enhanced, transmitted culture, and the active participation of women and youth.

In Palawan and Mindanao, indigenous peoples' organizations and individuals alike—majority were women and youth—secured seats in local development councils. In Mindanao, a Higaunon woman leader was also affirmed as local Indigenous Peoples Mandatory Representative. NTFP-EP Philippines' partner IPLC organizations continued to work towards their accreditation by local governments towards greater IPLC representation, and access to government programs.

Indigenous youth continued to form and strengthen organizations and expand networks in 2022. This year, an IP youth network was formed in southern Sierra Madre, and the UGNAYIN National IP Youth Network at the national level. Members of the UGNAYIN Network are also regular co-hosts of the online Ugnayan: Komunidad + Kalikasan show, a platform for sharing stories, advocacies, and calls to action from IPLCs in the Philippines. During the campaign season for the 2022 national and local elections, IPLCs held dialogues with local and national candidates to push forward the IP and environmental protection agenda.

With extractive and intrusive projects swiftly gaining entry in forested ancestral domains, NTFP-EP Philippines continued to support IPLCs' assertion of their rights to free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC). In the southern Sierra Madre, Dumagat indigenous peoples reaffirmed their position against the Kaliwa Dam, despite the issuance of a Certification Precondition by the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP). The Dumagat IPs and leaders of affected communities sent a petition addressed to the NCIP to express their resistance to the large dam project.

In Palawan, the rapid entry of mining applications within old-growth forests in the Mt. Mantalingahan Protected Landscape in 2022 followed the lifting of the ban on new mining agreements in the previous year. IPLCs – especially youth and women – with CSOs, intensified the Save Palawan Forests campaign as multiple mining companies embarked on marathon FPIC consultations with communities.

Despite this, NTFP-EP Philippines worked towards greater recognition of ICCAs. In Mindanao, two adjoining Higaunon communities mapped and



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declared 17,000+ hectares of their ancestral forests as Pina, Iglalaw daw Bahaw-bahaw, their shared ICCA, towards recognition of their customary governance and effective conservation last July. Another Higaunon community also identified 4,700+ hectares of their ancestral domain as their ICCA in 2022.

Rainforestation, or the practice of community-based forest restoration and NTFP-based livelihoods development, continued with partner communities in 2022. In Sierra Madre, community-based group SIKAP sa Pag-uglad ng Daraitan, planted 5,000 more native trees to meet their reforestation targets. In Palawan, the Samahang Katutubong Tagbanua ng Mariwara (SKTM), a group that makes baskets from pandan and other fibers, planted native and fruit trees in degraded areas in their ancestral domain in Narra. This was triggered when they discovered that charcoal making had already degraded their forests

and prompted the inclusion of forest restoration as a strategy in their ancestral domain plan.

Support for community-based NTFP enterprises continued. In Palawan, almaciga enterprise group Samahan ng mga Palawano sa Amas, Brooke's Point (SPABP) finally received its approved almaciga license, with a three-year validity (previously, licenses were valid only for one year).

Under its program to safeguard culture, NTFP-EP Philippines continued to monitor and support eight Schools of Living Tradition (SLTs) in indigenous cultural communities across the country. In Visayas, NTFP-EP Philippines continues to work with partner local communities in gaining government support for Aklan Piña Handloom Weaving, which was declared a Provincial Cultural Treasure the previous year.



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VIETNAM



In early March 2022, as the COVID-19 pandemic began to subside, the restrictions were lifted, making it easier to carry out face-to-face activities and direct meetings with local communities. However, it was observed that the capacity of some local communities remained low following the pandemic. Therefore, additional resources such as human resources, finance, and time were needed to support them, resulting in fewer interventions being made.

By October 2022, the Euro value had dropped by 20% in exchange for the Vietnamese currency, leading to a reduction in funds available for activities. This decline in value was directly influenced by fluctuations in gas/oil prices and supply, as well as the impact of the open Vietnamese economy, which put pressure on individuals and enterprises.

Furthermore, Article 10 of Decree 80, issued on 8 July 2020, stipulated that NGOs and CSOs must undergo a consultation process with five different governmental bureaus and obtain disbursement from the National Treasury for international non-refundable foreign aid. This lengthy paperwork and disbursement procedure, taking 6-12 months, posed risks of project/program delays or nullification in Vietnam.

NTFP-EP Vietnam has been actively engaged with various initiatives, programs, and activities with IPLCs

from 29 communities across 14 provinces along three landscapes for seven years. The organization focuses on sustainable community livelihood development and biodiversity conservation.

Notable outcomes have been achieved under five objectives, including the extension of the NTFP-EP network, local livelihood development, development of sustainable raw material resources, establishment of a database of local knowledge and forest conservation, and promotion of community forest allocation procedures. Most IPLCs have shown positive changes and a better understanding of the importance of NTFPs in their lives. They have taken initiative in resource management and livelihood development. Through training courses, seminars, festivals, and other activities, they have become more active, developed their own potential products, improved packaging and labeling, enhanced product storage, and enhanced marketing skills. These developments reflect great potential for achieving project goals.

In terms of organization, the Southern Institute of Ecology merged with the Institute of Applied Materials Science, with the former retaining all governance responsibilities. This merger was carried out under Decision No. 1828/QD-VHL dated November 4, 2021, as outlined in Decision No. 288, Document Decision No. 289, and Decision No. 309. NTFP-EP partners in Vietnam, including Tropenbos,

PanNature, and Caritas Da Lat, have acquired knowledge in women's rights, gender equality, child protection, human rights, sexual harassment, and appropriate working behaviors. They have implemented a newly established Code of Conduct, which is mandatory for all NTFP-EP Vietnam staff and partners in all activities. Training workshops were conducted on June 6-10, 2022, in Da Lat City, Lam Dong Province, and on September 12, 2022, in Ho Chi Minh City. Although all partners expressed their commitment to this approach, it should be noted that not all individual activities, including some conducted by NTFP-EP Vietnam, were able to meet the requirement of having 50% female participation. This was partially dependent on the specific circumstances of each case.

REBUILDING TRADITIONS THROUGH LONG HOUSES

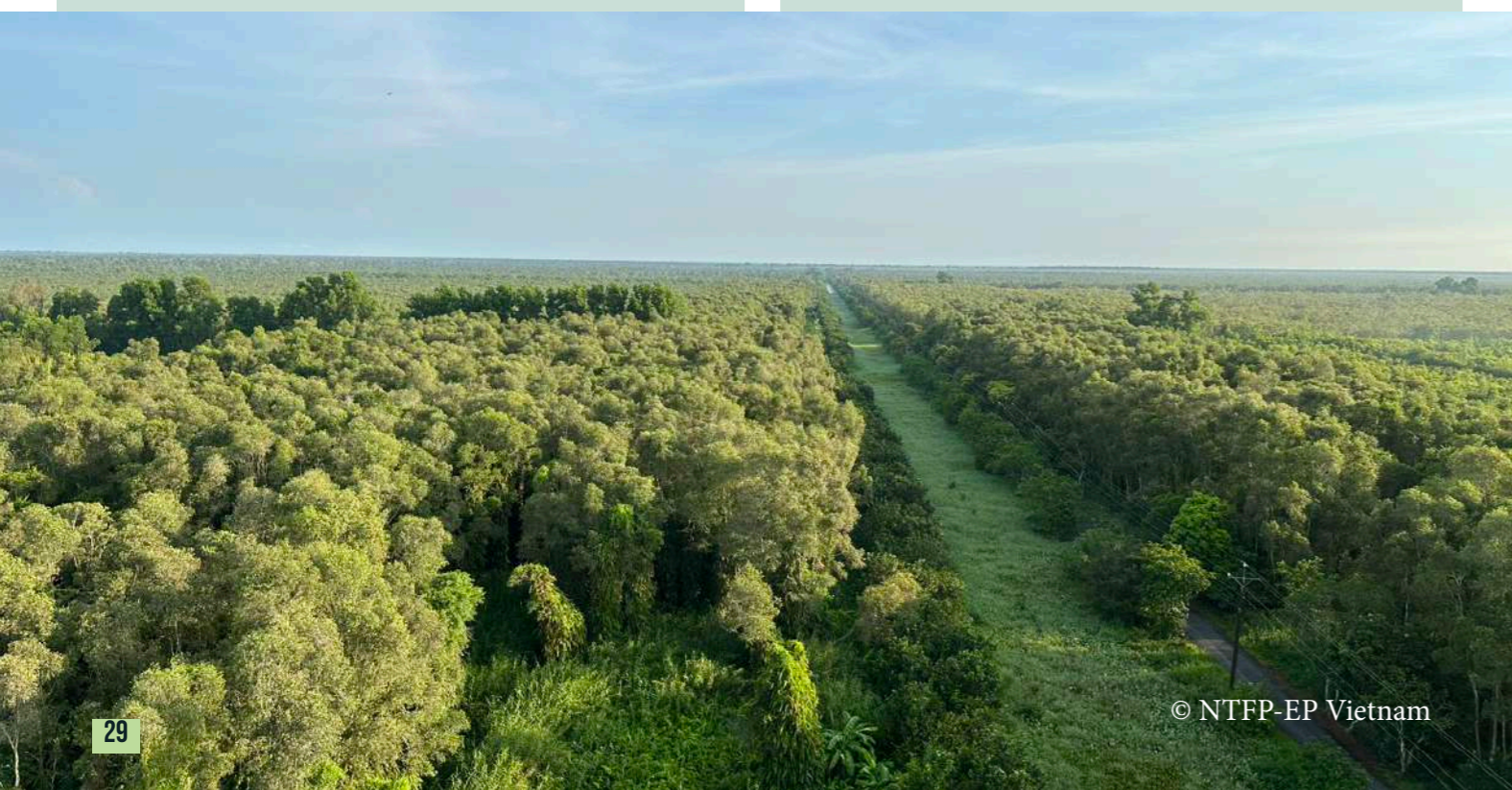
In the southern region of Vietnam, the Chau Ma and other ethnic minority groups have a rich tradition of using a long house as the central gathering place for their villages, where they engage in their traditional culture. However, the presence of long houses in only a few villages today indicates a decline in their indigenous culture. The reconstruction of a long house for the Chau Ma group in Loc Tan Commune, Bao Loc City, Lam Dong Province provides them with an opportunity to revitalize their customs, preserve traditional practices, and serve as a venue for promoting local products. This project's success is notable because it began as an ambitious initiative by a group of passionate young villagers and only

became a reality through shared understanding, strong support, donations, and effective cooperation among the entire local community, social organizations, private enterprises, and the local government.

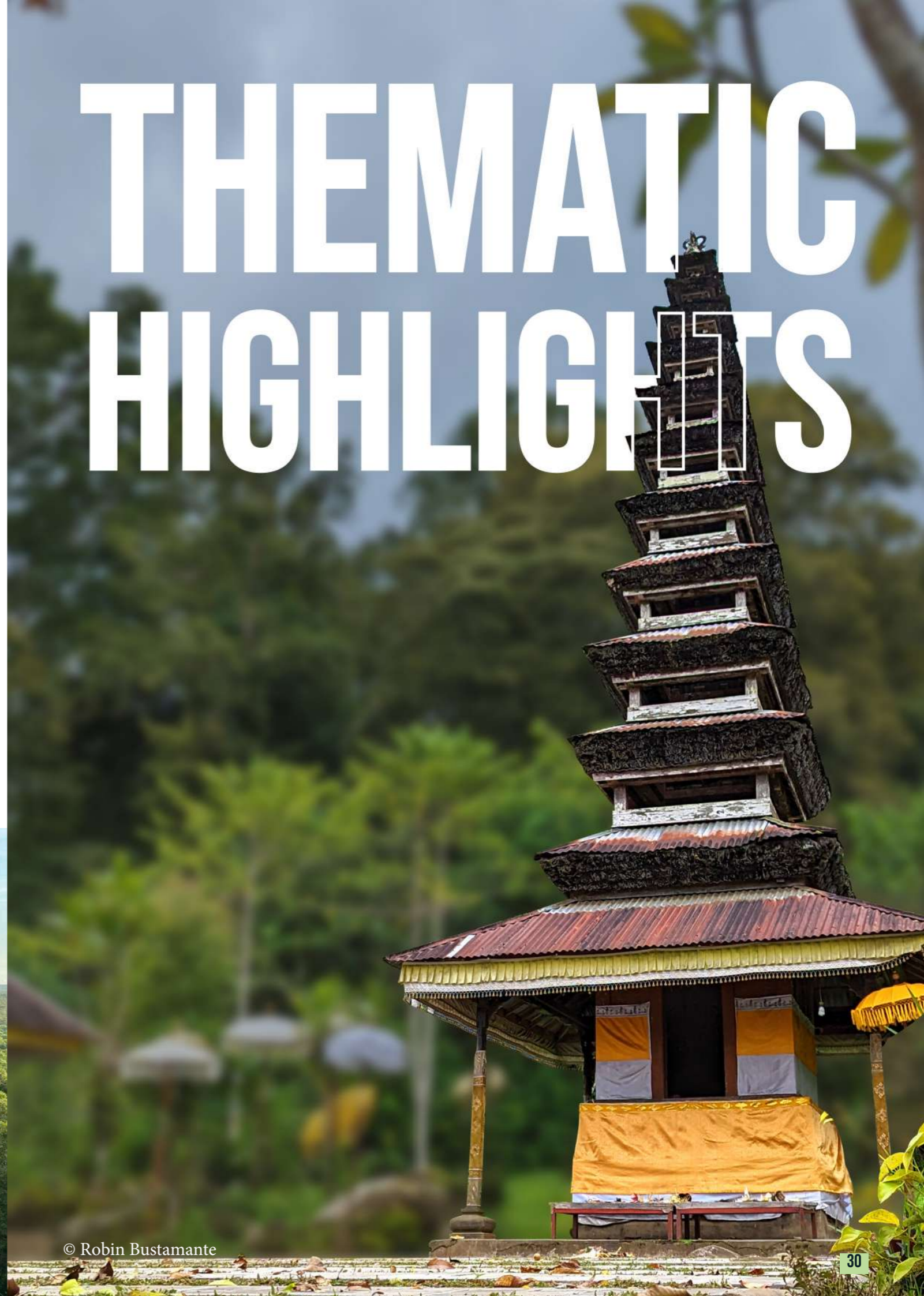
Another significant benefit of rebuilding the long house is the creation of an open space for local children to transfer knowledge from the older generation to the younger one through storytelling. Instead of being immersed in smartphones, televisions, or games after school, the children engage in traditional folk games, learn about indigenous skills such as weaving, and even participate in local dance groups that receive weekly training. Additionally, the community has established a community enterprise focused on eco-tourism programs related to their culture, which has garnered support from various stakeholders.

By providing a physical space for cultural activities and knowledge transfer, the rebuilt long house not only preserves the Chau Ma group's heritage but also fosters a sense of community and connectivity among its members. It serves as a symbol of cultural revitalization and a hub for promoting local identity and products. The collaborative efforts and enthusiastic engagement of the local community, social organizations, private enterprises, and the local government have played a crucial role in bringing this project to fruition and ensuring its ongoing success.

THEMATIC HIGHLIGHTS



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COMMUNITY-BASED CONSERVATION

N TFP-EP has been advocating for inclusive conservation and the health of forests, ecosystems and NTFP resources through supporting community management initiatives and strengthening tenurial security. Throughout the years, the network has practiced close cooperation between relevant authorities and communities through policy engagement, joint monitoring of forest health indicators, supporting culturally appropriate governance systems, multi-stakeholder partnerships, and the implementation of community-grounded sustainable resource management techniques and forest/ecosystem restoration practices.

In its latest strategic plan, NTFP-EP identified community-based conservation as a pathway to realize its 2030 vision of resilient IPLCs with the women and youth in Asia as respected stewards of healthy forests and living securely in their land for generations to come. In 2022, members of the network met to discuss NTFP-EP's current strategies on community-based conservation during the Bersama regional network meeting. The meeting

provided a venue for unpacking experiences and current practices of the NTFP-EP members that prove effective for natural resources management, and which highlight the vibrancy and effectiveness of traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) or indigenous knowledge systems and practices (IKSPs).

Work on documentation of NTFPs continued for the most part of 2022. Training on action research was done with the youth, resulting in the production of action research documentaries in the form of videos and case studies. Studies were conducted to document availability as well as sustainable harvest and resource management for key NTFPs such as rattan and honey (Indonesia, Philippines) and various wild foods and drinks (India, Indonesia, Vietnam).

NTFP-EP Asia also continued to serve as the Regional Secretariat hub for ICCA Southeast Asia in 2022. As such, NTFP-EP supported the production of a seminal publication featuring case studies of ICCAs Territories of Life in the Southeast

Asia region. This was done in partnership with members of the ICCA Southeast Asia Consortium and with support from donors such as WWF-Sweden, and SSNC. An in-person regional assembly of the ICCA Southeast Asia Consortium was co-organized by NTFP-EP Asia and KESAN in Chiang Mai, Thailand in October 2022. Highlights of the session included the validation of the Consortium's five-year strategic plan, as well as learning sessions on country updates, inclusive conservation examples, and on other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs).

At the regional level, work on the Forest Harvest Collective Mark (FHCM) Association continued, linking the themes of community-based conservation and sustainable, climate-adaptive livelihoods. Work on policy advocacy for NTFPs involved having a discussion on the guidelines and standards of rattan in Forest Harvest Collective Mark. Peer expert groups for NTFPs (e.g., honey, textiles, rattan) were formed.

Activities under the Participatory Guarantee Systems (PGS), a quality assurance system used by local stakeholders to guarantee quality, sustainability and traceability, continued to be strengthened through the partnership with SSNC. The PGS is used by local stakeholders and operates beyond the usual third-party certification systems. PGS ROLES (from the Bahasa Indonesia "Rotan Lestari" meaning "Sustainable Rattan") is an Indonesian participatory certification system for sustainable rattan products implemented through a collaboration of institutions and customized to the local context.

A new community was engaged for expansion of economic interventions as the PGS was also introduced to rattan farmers in Ketab village. NTFP-EP Indonesia continued to work with the stakeholders to collect the data. At the same time, work on rehabilitation and restoration of NTFPs was pursued in Namo village in Kulawi Sub District, Sigi District, Central Sulawesi. Namo village was devastated by natural disaster in 2018 and community members found it difficult to harvest rattan and other products because of landslides and damaged roads. NTFP-EP Indonesia made the initiative of holding a stakeholder meeting to survey NTFPs in Namo village. Documentation and rehabilitation of NTFPs was identified as a key strategy by representatives of the Village government, Village Forest Management Unit,

Customary leader, women, and youth. A decision to make a nursery of NTFPs and an NTFP arboretum was made. A book on good practices on NTFPs in Namo village was produced and made available in Bahasa Indonesia and in English.

In the Philippines, a highlight from 2022 was the creation of a technical working group for the Iraan ICCA in Palawan. A team for community-based resource management and monitoring was formed. The indigenous people's organization applied for accreditation at the local government unit (LGU) level in the Municipality of Rizal, Palawan. They were granted by the LGU a cash grant of Php 40,000 to support almaciga gathering and trading enterprise. Other updates on the Palawan landscape ICCAs include the output of community maps on their almaciga resin forests. Community plans for the establishment of plant nurseries for native trees and almaciga resin was also done for both the Iraan and Bunog ICCAs.

In Malaysia, although there was limited implementation of activities, the SSNC project was able to support community meetings to provide community dialogue on forest rights and conservation. Plans to document their ICCAs will be included in the agenda for 2023.

In India, work on restoration of closed mines was piloted. The experience of trying to restore former mining areas yielded a lot of reflections, including the challenge of identifying actions related to community-based restoration and climate, and the need for expertise and learning exchanges among countries on this kind of work. Larger scale restoration projects have the potential to greatly benefit indigenous communities.

NTFP-EP Cambodia shared about ecotourism as an indirect strategy they have adopted for conservation. Though not focused on NTFPs alone, it helps raise awareness and promote conservation of the valuable NTFPs found in the Mekong region.

A reflection on the need to assess the readiness of communities for these kinds of activities considering their impacts was floated. NTFP-EP Vietnam has assisted several communities in their conservation and livelihood initiatives on honey, wine, and coffee. They have also engaged stakeholders from both the community and government to work on community-based monitoring, particularly in An Toan – Binh Dinh Vietnam. Meanwhile, in Kon Tum province, community forest mapping and sustainable forest management planning was done through workshops which involved the participation of IPLCs, including the women and the youth.

Amidst the backdrop of rising sea levels and impacts of climate change threatening lives and livelihoods of many communities, effective community-based conservation practices offer hope and present itself as a bright spot that can contribute to solving the twin crises on climate and biodiversity. Clearly, communities play an important role in conservation

and the sustainability of our planet. The NTFP-EP network in 2022 reaffirmed its interest and commitment in linking peoples and forests, and in parallel, building its own capacities as an organization to be able to showcase evidence on viable community-based conservation models and come up with a repository of information on the NTFPs that the network is helping to conserve, protect, and sustainably use.

TERRITORIES OF LIFE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA PUBLICATION LAUNCHED

A report produced by the ICCA Southeast Asia Consortium featuring vibrant case stories from the region on territories of life was launched at the 2nd Asia Parks Congress last May 2022 and has also been released and made available online. It is the first report of its kind with a particular focus on the Southeast Asia region, where various ICCA initiatives have been thriving for over a decade. The





book showcases stories about the effective and strong traditional governance systems that conserve nature, strengthen cultures, and sustain biodiversity.

The publication “Celebrating Territories of Life in Southeast Asia” lets its readers discover the situation, context, contributions, and values of indigenous and local community conserved territories of life through the extensive and grounded experiences of the members of the ICCA Consortium in Southeast Asia. The report is both a celebration and a call to action: a celebration of all the efforts in protecting territories of life despite all odds, and an invitation to support many communities who are still in the middle of conflict and struggles for their land, for peace, and for life.

Stories highlight how traditional governance systems, sustainable livelihood practices, and indigenous knowledge contribute to the achievement of global conservation targets. It makes the case that ICCAs-Territories of Life are vital for the conservation of the planet’s remaining natural resources. Whether officially recognized or not, numerous ICCAs in the region governed by indigenous peoples and local communities remain as strongholds of the last remaining intact forests and marine ecosystems.

Voices from the ICCA Consortium membership in Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines and Vietnam show how indigenous communities are documenting, defending, and sustaining their territories as written from the perspective of indigenous peoples and local community members themselves, as well as from other ICCA members.

A discussion on the threats facing territories of life in Southeast Asia and the struggles for recognition of their traditional tenurial claims and challenges around intergenerational transfer of knowledge are tackled. The book also discusses gaps in research, policy, and interventions, along with recommendations and insights towards a more enabling environment for indigenous peoples and local communities who govern and manage these territories of life.

While the cases presented in the book are only a handful of examples from the region that is home to many and diverse Territories of Life, it offers

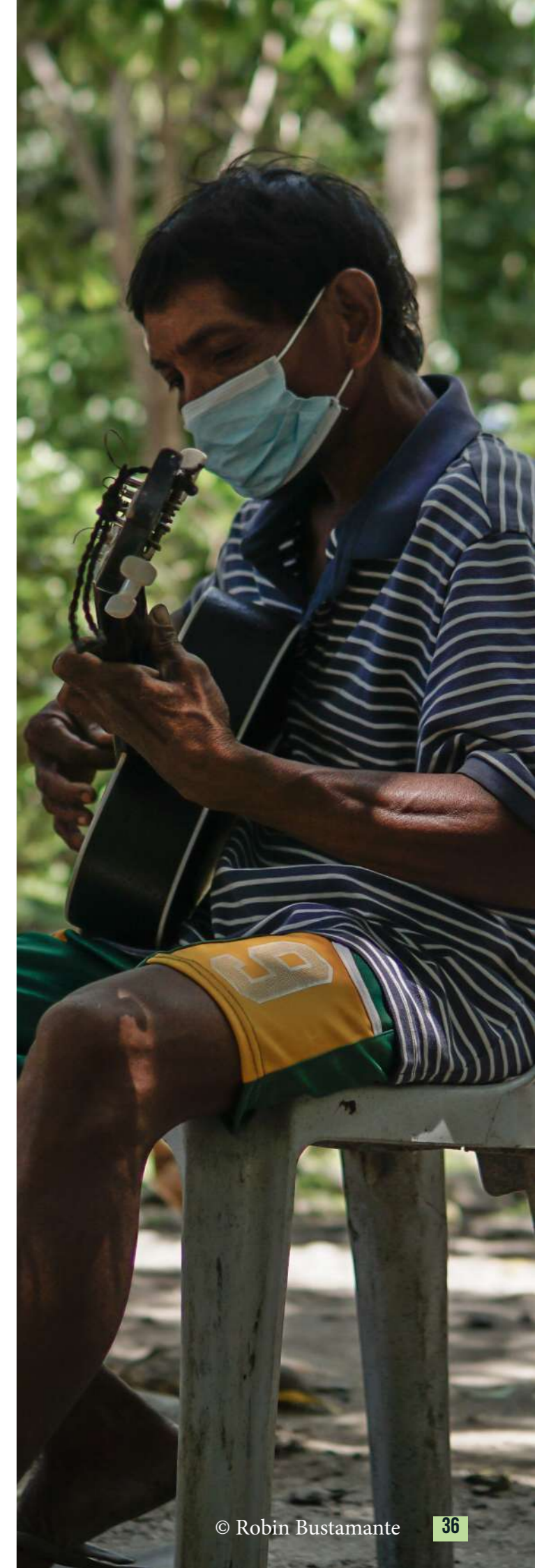
a glimpse of the breadth of experiences and examples that can be modeled and learned by others. The publication contributes to the evidence based on the effectiveness of community-based conservation and the key role that indigenous peoples and local communities play in local-to-global conservation initiatives that protect biodiversity and our planet.

REHABILITATION AND RESTORATION OF NTFPS IN NAMO VILLAGE

After the tsunami and earthquake in 2018, the Community in Namo, a village in Kulawi Sub District, Sigi District, Central Sulawesi had minimal access to their forest. The community experienced difficulties in harvesting rattan and other NTFPs because of landslides and damaged roads. As part of recovery efforts in the aftermath of the disaster, a study was conducted to identify and analyze the effect of the disaster on the use of NTFPs.

Stakeholders from the area identified rehabilitation and restoration of NTFPs as a primary strategy in revitalizing the resources in the village. Representatives of the Village government, Village Forest Management Unit, Customary leader, women, and youth agreed on making rehabilitation of NTFPs through the establishment of an arboretum and an NTFP nursery. The nursery is being managed by the community members who are also involved in the PGS ROLES initiative. These are all part of the on-going efforts of the community to ensure balance between utilization of natural resources and forest sustainability and area management.

A book featuring good practices on NTFPs in Namo village was also produced. It summarizes the experiences and learning processes of a study by Imunitas Association regarding the use of NTFPs and explains the value of NTFPs such as rattan, pandan, forest honey, and medicinal plants, and features photos and key information on various products. Based on the study conducted in 2019, there were 565 types of NTFPs that are still being used regularly by the community in Namo village. The publication is written in Bahasa Indonesia and a summary of the book is made available in English.





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OUTCOME STATEMENTS FOR 2022

CBC 1. Community forests and NTFP resources are restored and protected, also facilitating women's use and access.

- NTFP-EP Asia supported NTFP-EP Philippines in facilitating the establishment of native tree and almaciga nursery in Brooke's Point Palawan. The Pala'wan Indigenous Peoples and Youth Organization have maintained the almaciga nursery in Pawpanaw and regularly monitor the four Rainforestation sites [Mangkongon, Pawpanaw, Limpesewyen, Mantalong] in Amas. A total number of 3,559 out-planted almaciga seedlings monitored (other native trees not counted yet). Five family based rainforestation sites have been monitored.
- NTFP-EP Asia supported NTFP-Philippines in facilitating a hands-on training and exchange visit between the Pala'wan Indigenous peoples of Rizal (Iraan and Bunog) and Brooke's Point (Amas). 27 men and 11 women participated in this activity held on December 27-29 & 30-31, 2022, resulting in the formulation of community workplans for the establishment of two (2) plant nurseries for almaciga and other native trees species in Iraan and Bunog ICCA.
- NTFP-EP Indonesia facilitated a stakeholder's meeting and consultation on July 20, 2022 on the rehabilitation and

restoration of NTFPs in Namo Village, Kulawi Sub-district, Sigi District, Central Sulawesi involving several stakeholders from the community, village forest management unit (LPHD), youth, customary leaders, village government and ROLES group, resulting in: inputs to feasibility study on rehabilitation and restoration of NTFPs; ideas on synergies among stakeholders; information sharing, and creation of a follow-up plan for implementation.

- From July-December 2022, NTFP-EP Indonesia and IMUNITAS conducted a survey and mapping of Namo village to identify species and type of NTFPs and potential location for the rehabilitation and restoration of NTFPs.

CBC 2. IPLCs, -WY sustainably conserve their territory and resources especially NTFPs, implementing Community Management Plans (CMP) in harmony with other stakeholders through inclusive and strong/effective governance and leadership.

- NTFP-EP Asia supported NTFP-EP Philippines in facilitating the formation of a technical working group for Iraan ICCA and Community-based Resource Management and Monitoring was formed. The group is composed of Community Authorized Representatives, Enterprise Development Managers and

Peoples Organization Officers.

- Pala'wan IPO accreditation in the Municipal Government/Local Government Unit (LGU) of Rizal. The LGU granted this IPO P40,000.00 intended to support its almaciga gathering and trading enterprise through its social development program fund.
- The Pala'wan IPs of Rizal Palawan (particularly Iraan and Bunog) documented their ICCA – particularly NTFP resource on almaciga and honey and gained knowledge about the importance of their roles as guardians of the forest and increased awareness and action to protect their territory and forest landscapes of the mountains Iraan and Bunog.
- Documentation on sago processing, tools and tool-making was conducted resulting in the publication of a book by the same name.
- A Book on Good Practice of NTFPs in Namo village has been released online.

CBC 3. Relevant government agencies and bodies (national, regional, international), including forest departments have institutionalized support programs and implemented culturally appropriate, adaptive and inclusive conservation and strong/effective governance and leadership to conserve

IPLC forests, especially NTFP resources

- NTFP-EP Asia has supported a number of IPLCs in global/regional platforms (e.g. XV WFC, COP27, COP15, 2nd Asia Parks Congress, etc.) to push for more enabling policies in support of IPLCs and community-based conservation.

CBC 4. Multi-stakeholder network championing and modeling community-based NTFP management

- NTFP-EP network members gathered during a regional learning exchange focused on community-based conservation and made action plans at the country and regional level during Bersama 2022 in October.
- NTFP-EP Asia, as the Regional Secretariat for the ICCA SEA Consortium, has co-organized the ICCA SEA General Assembly with KESAN in Chiang Mai, Thailand, in gathering members to validate the Regional Strategy and come up with action plans for its implementation.
- Publication on Territories of Life in Southeast Asia and an accompanying video documentary was released and launched during the 2nd Asia Parks Congress through ICCA Consortium website.



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INDIGENOUS FOOD AND HEALTH

In September 2022, the thematic group on food security and community-based livelihoods formed under the Green Livelihoods Alliance met for the first time in Bogor, Indonesia along with other GLA partners to discuss possible learning topics and collaborations. The network seeks to become a regional platform for sharing and learning, and recognition and promotion of social-ecological responsible livelihoods and enterprises, as well as protection of traditional food security practices.

Discussions with the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity to collaborate on a regional workshop on mainstreaming agrobiodiversity was also explored. This takes off from a previous partnership in 2021 on exploring the theme of wild foods, biodiversity and livelihoods. It is hoped that a regional activity on mainstreaming biodiversity in the food, agriculture, and forestry sector in the region would pave the way for greater collaboration towards the achievement of food and nutrition security in the ASEAN community. The workshop is projected to take place in 2023.

Other notable activities for the year include the conduct of action research on forest foods

in Vietnam and India. A database has been established by NTFP-EP Vietnam focusing on edible plants. In India, data has been collected on NTFPs sold in weekly markets, along with their economic values. Thematic workshops focusing on forest foods were also held, enabling adivasi women to share their knowledge with the youth.

For the coming year, NTFP-EP Asia seeks to mobilize resources for this thematic programme to be able to ensure that forest-dependent communities have increased access to indigenous and forest food, that indigenous and forest foods are considered in policies at the regional and national levels, and that practices around forest foods continue to support the well-being of communities. Much work needs to be done on research and documentation to ensure that indigenous food and health systems and practices are recognized, made visible and advocated for.

BUILDING A FOREST FOOD DATABASE IN VIETNAM

NTFP-EP Vietnam worked in Binh Dinh to document edible plants as part of their activities

related to indigenous food and health. Local knowledge of the communities contributed to the identification of the plants. A database featuring a listing of plants used by communities was published using the Google Sites platform, helping spread and promote indigenous knowledge. Content is available in both Vietnamese and English languages.

Plant samples were also collected as part of their documentation efforts. To date, a list of 50 species of edible and medicinal plants have been recorded in the An Toan Nature Reserve, An Toan commune, An Lao district, Binh Dinh province. Botanical information such as life form, description and usage were gathered through consultations with NTFP-EP Vietnam's colleagues in the Center for Plants in the Southern Institute of Ecology.

From December 16 to 18, 2022, a workshop on community-based climate change adaptation and conservation was conducted. This was participated in by both experts and members of local communities from the provinces under the project that NTFP-EP Vietnam supports. The invited participants received the news about the database with great interest and enthusiasm.

For the coming year, NTFP-EP Vietnam is interested in documenting recipes of traditional

dishes of IPLCs such as canh boi, a kind of soup of the Raglay Binh Thuan community, ruou can, and a straw herbal wine of the K'Ho community.

DOCUMENTATION OF WILD FOREST FOODS WITH ADIVASI WOMEN

NTFP-EP India has started the exciting work on documenting wild forest foods with Adivasi women and youth at the Adukkam Centre. Informative posters featuring wild foods that can be used for subsistence and to supplement diets were produced. Work on the documentation and promotion of indigenous food is being supported by the SSNC project, as well from donations received through the GlobalGiving platform.

Adivasi women are leading the way in training the next generation to identify and forage food from the forest. Such interactions enable the youth to learn from their elders about the uses of various plants and plant parts.

Knowledge and information on neutralizing bitter or toxic properties present in wild foods are part of the workshops conducted with indigenous communities to make younger generations aware of processing techniques for wild foods so that they are safe enough for consumption. In previous



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workshops held in 2022, learning exchanges on neutralizing forest foods with toxins was tackled, particularly on processing the yam *Dioscorea daemona* and the climber *Cissus quadrangularis*

Dioscorea daemona is a tuber that contains the toxin doiscorine. In India, these yams go by the local names: Hindi and Marathi, baichani; Tamil, peiperendei; Durwa, kulia kurda. The tubers are acrid and poisonous and there have been reports of fatality from places where they have been consumed without adequate treatment. The most common treatment for neutralizing the toxins followed by many indigenous communities is to slice the tubers and to stand them in running water overnight. After this is done, the tubers are then cooked, with the water drained off repeatedly, reducing the acidity and making the tuber suitable for garnishing with spices. The processed tubers are then made into chips or added into curries.

Meanwhile, the climber *Cissus quadrangularis*, commonly found in the drier parts of India and locally called hadjora (Hindi); pirandai (Tamil); and, nalleru (Telugu) is an edible stemmed vine that contains calcium oxalate crystals that can cause an irritation of the skin and the throat. The most common treatment before consuming is scraping the outer layer of the skin thoroughly, and then slicing and lightly cooking the stem. Care must be taken to use only the young shoots and to avoid the mature parts of the plant. These are then added to curries or prepared as a spicy chutney. The plant is rich in Vitamin C and is used extensively in the treatment of bone fractures.

Indeed, conservation work focused on food aids in inter-generational interactions that facilitate the transfer of traditional ecological knowledge between Adivasi women and the youth. This is very important in terms of nurturing interest in culture and traditions around food security and health. More thematic workshops around forest foods and health are planned for the next year



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in efforts to rejuvenate and sustain wild foods in India.

OUTCOME STATEMENTS FOR 2022

IFH 3. Forest food and IPLC's indigenous food and health IKSPs, especially that of women, continue to support communities' well-being, and are recognized, inventoried, researched, made visible and advocated for

- Wild foods, biodiversity and livelihoods network outputs made available online through wildfoodsasia.com and NTFP-EP's social media channels
- NTFP-EP Vietnam established a wild food plants database (50 species of edible and medicinal plants in An Toan reserve) launched during the community-based workshop on Conservation and Development of Non-Timber Forest Products Adapted to Climate Change, with the participation of colleagues, local people representing communities in Binh Dinh, Binh Thuan, Ninh Thuan, Lam Dong.
- NTFP-EP India had an annual partners' meeting in December 2022 where thematic work on indigenous food and health was discussed. Data-gathering on NTFPs, including food, and sold in weekly markets in India has been started.



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SUSTAINABLE CLIMATE-ADAPTIVE COMMUNITY LIVELIHOODS

The end of 2022 saw consumers coming out of their homes post Covid 19- Omicron variant, and physical markets were starting.

From September to November 2022, 15 artisan group partners of the Meet the Makers collective were supported in 4 fairs in Jakarta, Indonesia resulting in close to US\$15,000 in sales. The inclusive social enterprise, the PARARA Indonesian Ethical Store also resulted in over US\$20,000 worth of sales of local, safe, fair and sustainable small producer products.

The events conducted included skills share workshops between artisans and the public, heritage talks and demonstrations. These empowering activities helped boost confidence and interest to continue in age-old craft traditions. PARARA, in particular, drew attention as a speaker in the G20 side events of the Ministry of Small and Medium Enterprises in Indonesia.

Such sharing and exchange opportunities were also done in Vietnam where NTFP-EP partnered with FAO Forest Farm Facility (FFF) in the international conference entitled “Saving our Future: Investing in locally-led diversification for climate resilience and food security” held in Hanoi in September. In this

event, with more than 40 producer organizations from over 20 countries, achievements in community forestry enterprises and shared labels were communicated to close to 200 participants. Such innovative activities such as lightning talks, poster presentations, videos and exhibitions helped increase exchange impact.

In this context, headway has also been made with the Forest Harvest Collective Mark (FHCM). This inclusive community forestry label developed by NTFP-EP and partners is progressing with institutional development in standards committees, a country Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) unit in Vietnam and a regional steering committee, including civil society partners from different countries and producer representatives. Formalization and registration of the Forest Harvest Association is planned for 2023. National level PGS in Indonesia, which is at the heart of the FHCM labelling system, also made much progress this year through the PGS ROLES (sustainable rattan) system with the completion of audits on rattan supply chains with a European buyer and initial discussions with a larger retail outfit.

Support was also provided to the Slow Food movement as NTFP-EP facilitated participation

of Indonesian delegates in September 2022 in the Terra Madre – Slow Food event in Turin, Italy. Partnerships also expanded this year with international organizations such as the FAO and United Nations Environmental Program project on “Climate Change Mitigation through Social Forestry Actions”, specifically focusing on the aim of promoting and accelerating responsible investment in Social Forestry in 3 countries in ASEAN namely Indonesia, Cambodia and Laos. Alongside this project the Asian Forestry Cooperation Organization (AFoCO) has also been launched on Capacity building on Forest Fire Management and Livelihood. This is run in parallel with another AFoCO project on Scaling up Community-based Livelihoods and NTFP enterprises in 11 countries in Asia.

Lastly, at the end of the year, a new collaboration with ASEAN was born in the development of the ASEAN Regional Marketing Tools for Social Forestry products. This Tools publication is intended to support Social Forestry practitioners in preparing useful strategies and in navigating in the post-pandemic era, including optimizing digital technology.

BUILDING THE AFOCO-CLMV PROJECT

After months of negotiations, the 3-year Project “Capacity Building on Enhancing Resilience to Forest Fire, and Local Livelihood and Market Linkages in

CLMV Countries” (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Vietnam) in partnership with the Asia Forestry Cooperation Organization (AFoCO) was been signed. This officially started last November 1, 2022 and will end on October 31, 2025. The project’s main objective is to strengthen community forestry livelihoods and strengthen capacities and market linkages of community forestry micro, small and medium enterprises.

Project activities will focus on CLMV countries and aim to strengthen institutional capacity and human resources for sustainable forest management, and in empowering local forest-based livelihoods and strengthening capacities of forest-based micro-small-medium enterprises.

The project shall focus on community forest livelihoods based on NTFPs that have the potential to result in or support community forest enterprises but at present contribute more to subsistence needs. In the context of this project, target beneficiaries - community forestry livelihoods are those that contribute to increased wellbeing, improved health, decreased vulnerability to negative effects of climate change (eg. improved adaptation strategies, increased resilience, etc), increased food security, and more secure use and access of natural resource base.

Project target beneficiary: Community forest



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livelihood are considered those activities that involve securing water, food, medicine, shelter, clothing and the capacity of community forestry groups to acquire these on a sustainable basis.

The project target beneficiary - Community forest enterprises are those that are already existing or where there is documented and clear potential of NTFPs in the area. Existing forestry-based MSMEs in selected areas in CLMV countries will be assisted in enhancing production technologies, financial management, and marketing activities.

CLMV countries generally have limited capacity in mainstreaming gender issues in development programs. The project shall work for the inclusion and involvement of a significant number of women in project activities to enhance women capacities and participation in forest fire prevention and management.

The project will proactively develop and promote women-led CFLs and CFEs and will provide specific capacity building opportunities for women.

The project will encourage people's participation in forest fire management and economic activities of MSMEs in the forestry sector that will include establishment of mechanisms for sustainable forest resource management and conservation.

The project shall lay down basic incentives for sustainable forest management and sustainable livelihoods by supporting tenurial security for selected CFLs and CFEs to assist them in understanding the importance and connection of tenure security and sustainable livelihood.

The CFLs and CFEs will be equipped with the knowledge on low emissions livelihood/business approaches that could contribute to climate change adaptation. Climate proofing of the enterprises and business plans will also be implemented. The project shall explore the use of new technologies and social media in promotion and marketing activities to complement trade fairs.

OUTCOME STATEMENTS FOR 2022

SCAL 1.1. IPLCs-WY managing gender equal, climate adaptive, equitable, sustainable livelihoods for subsistence use & enterprise for income

- From September to November 2022, 15 artisan group partners of the Meet the Makers collective were supported in four fairs in Jakarta, Indonesia resulting in close to US\$15,000 in sales.
- The inclusive social enterprise, the PARARA Indonesian Ethical Store also resulted in over US\$20,000 worth of sales of local, safe, fair and sustainable small producer products.
- PARARA, in particular, drew attention as a speaker in the G20 side events of the Ministry of Small and Medium Enterprises in Indonesia.

SCAL 1.2. There is effective multi-stakeholder, public and private engagement, partnerships and long-term support providing an inclusive, enabling environment and programs for viable women-led and mixed-CBE that are free from discriminatory gender norms and practices.

- Partnered with FAO Forest Farm Facility (FFF) in the international conference entitled "Saving our Future: Investing in locally-led diversification for climate resilience and food security" held in Hanoi in September.
- Exchange learning with more than 40 producer organizations from over 20 countries, achievements in community forestry enterprises and shared labels were communicated to close to 200 participants.

SCAL 1.3 CBNEs practice gender sensitive Sustainable NTFP Harvesting and Management Protocols as part of their enterprise (cross-cutting with CBC).

- National level PGS in Indonesia made much progress this year through the PGS ROLES (sustainable rattan) system with the completion of audits on rattan supply chains with a

European buyer and initial discussions with a larger retail outfit.

- The Forest Harvest Collective Mark (FHCM), the evolving community forestry label developed by NTFP-EP and partners is progressing with institutional development through convening a steering group, product standards, 3 standards committees, and processes.
- Established a country Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) unit in Vietnam, engaging the national PGS Organic leaders.



TENURE RIGHTS AND GOVERNANCE

For IPLCs to be resilient, one necessary condition is to have a secure land tenure or territory. This has been emphasized in NTFP-EP's Regional Strategy from 2021-2030 and remains an essential pathway of change to achieve its vision.

This year, the Tenure Rights and Governance thematic area has implemented and achieved important milestones contributing to its long-term goal of securing, protecting, and recognizing tenure rights and territories for IPLCs, women, and youth in the region. These were executed through regional policy and advocacy work, network and alliance building, learning exchange and capacity building, and supporting the active participation of CSOs and IPLCs in strategic regional and global events that elevate their voices, struggles, and experience from the ground.

NTFP-EP successfully mobilized its partners who actively participated and raised the voices of CSOs and IPLCs in key regional and international events. During the XV World Forestry Congress 2022 in Seoul, South Korea from May 2-7, 2022, NTFP-EP, alongside its consortium partners Asian Farmers Association for Sustainable Rural Development (AFA) and the Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP)

with support from the Green Livelihoods Alliance (GLA) and WWF Sweden, organized a side event entitled "Communities speak: Indigenous Peoples' local actions and initiatives are vital to implementing Paris Agreement and the post-2020 global biodiversity framework." This side event facilitated the participation of representatives of Indigenous Peoples, including women and youth, as key speakers. The event highlighted local stories contributing to the fight against the climate crisis and to protect biodiversity. It also discussed the challenges and gaps in the national climate and biodiversity action plan and presented key recommendations for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and the implementation of the Paris Agreement. Another side event was organized focusing on Community Forestry Enterprises (CFEs) and enabling mechanisms for a successful CFE initiative in forested landscapes. This event has generated practical and policy recommendations to support the advancement of CFEs in the region.

NTFP-EP maximized its role as an official observer status organization and supported its partners who also actively participated in COP27 from November 6-17, 2022, in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt.

Aside from successfully organizing a side event under the Indigenous Peoples Forum pavilion, NTFP-EP also elevated relevant policy recommendations from regional-level discussions (e.g., GLA and CSO Forum), especially the importance of customary tenure recognition and respecting the rights of IPLCs in achieving climate targets (See story 2).

At the regional level, the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF) officially adopted the ASEAN Guidelines on Recognition of Customary Tenure in Forested Landscapes during their 44th Meeting last October 2022. The Guidelines aim to establish a comprehensive regional approach to recognizing customary tenure by establishing an ASEAN-wide standard for the member states to pattern their national policies. This milestone is an achievement that was built and sustained from the many years of lobbying and advocacy work for customary tenure recognition in the region and good partnership and collaborative work with the ASEAN Working Group on Social Forestry and the ASEAN Secretariat.

NTFP-EP and its partners co-organized the 9th Civil Society Organizations Forum on Social Forestry in ASEAN last September 18-20, 2022, in Chiang Mai, Thailand. The meeting provided a safe space for the 36 representatives from 23 CSOs, IPLCs, and community-based organization partners of 8 ASEAN countries to exchange and learn from

“Many research and experiences state that the recognition of tenure rights does not automatically result in the intended impacts. To enable conditions under which IPLCs can use their rights to achieve more positive outcomes across multiple dimensions and scales: First, is to set up a national and regional funding mechanism and active trust fund and also explore diverse internal domestic funding mechanisms that IPLCs and CSOs can directly access, improve collaboration and dialogues in science – policy and society interface, and support the creation of community economy and livelihoods through sustainable non-timber forest products collection and create legal incentives for establishing community forestry enterprises, led by and benefit from IPLCs. -- Nguyen Hai Van, Pan Nature

each other on key thematic areas: Community Economy and Livelihood, International Standards and Safeguards, Governance Mechanisms, and Tenure Rights and Access Rights. This meeting gave special attention to key topics such as IPLCs and NDCs, customary tenure recognition, and Free, Prior, and Informed Consent. The network





developed key recommendations, which were elevated in relevant international platforms such as COP27. The network has also updated its theory of change to strengthen its solidarity and continuing collaboration in the region.

During the celebration of the 2022 International Day of Forests, NTFP-EP developed and organized a week-long social media awareness-raising campaign on the crucial role of forests on health.

Supporting the work at the country level, NTFP-EP maintained its active role as a member of the National Working Group on Community-Based Forest Management (CBFM) in the Philippines. Drawing from the lessons learned and policy recommendations gathered under the ASSERT CBFM Project, NTFP-EP provided critical inputs in developing a new strategic plan for 2023-2032 for CBFM in the Philippines. With support from Forest Foundation Philippines through the ASSERT CBFM project, NTFP-EP organized a 2-day virtual landscape-level policy forum on CBFM for the Sierra Madre and Palawan landscapes last March 2022, followed by an in-person national level policy forum in Palawan in June. These policy discussions and fora provided a space for CBFM practitioners and policymakers to discuss and affirm CBFM's invaluable contribution to climate change adaptation and mitigation in the country, particularly in achieving the NDC. A synthesis report and policy note with

“Customary lands of the Indigenous Peoples should be respected and reflected in the legal frameworks. Myanmar’s indigenous peoples and local communities should not be left behind.”
-- Hla Doi, POINT

key recommendations from the fora were also developed and presented to the National Work Group on CBFM.

Regarding capacity building and learning exchange under this theme, NTFP-EP organized a 2-part Forest Governance and Tenure Rights virtual learning session last February 25 and May 13, 2022. Part 1 provided an overview of the historical basis and policy origins of free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC), defining its essential elements, highlighting its benefits, determining its applications in the context of forestry and customary tenure, and identifying the existing issues and barriers that hinder its implementation. On the other hand, Part 2 focused on sharing current cases on FPIC and Safeguards. A total of 25 representatives from various partner CSOs and IP organizations of NTFP-EP in 8 countries in ASEAN have participated and increased their appreciation of FPIC. The event also became a platform for the participants and experts to discuss, analyze, and exchange strategies, meta-legal

processes, customary ways, and policy advocacy. NTFP-EP built on the dialogue and the discussion that Tropenbos International (TBI) initiated on Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) during the GLA learning session. NTFP-EP, TBI, and Forest Governance and Tenure Rights topic group members organized a hybrid regional learning session within the GLA Regional Collaboration encounter entitled, “Beyond recognition: How can we amplify meaningful participation and contribution of IPLCs in realizing Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)” last September 8, 2022. At least 26 GLA country partners and alliance members participated online and in person (Bogor, Indonesia). The learning session provided a space for the GLA members to increase their knowledge and understanding of NDCs and their potential contribution to strengthening meaningful participation of IPLCs. It was useful to determine the learning needs for the GLA regional collaboration, including possible joint/regional lobby and advocacy activities.

In the Philippines, NTFP-EP and the DENR-Forest Management Bureau developed ASSERT CBFM collective learning courses on climate change adaptation and mitigation and sustainable forest management. These learning courses were run and participated in by 10 CBFM POs from Palawan and Sierra Madre landscapes.

ASEAN MINISTERS ON AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY ADOPT THE ASEAN GUIDELINES ON CUSTOMARY FOREST TENURE RECOGNITION

After more than a year of research, case studies, hybrid workshops, consultations, and writing, the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF) formally adopted the ASEAN Guidelines on Recognition of Customary Tenure in Forested Landscapes during their 44th meeting last 25 October 2022. The Guidelines aim to establish a comprehensive regional approach to recognizing customary tenure by setting an ASEAN-wide standard for the member states to pattern their national policies. The Guidelines also specifically facilitate a framework for Indigenous Peoples and local communities (IPLCs) to participate in the decision-making at the national level of each member state.

Before adopting the Guidelines, there was no specific policy framework at the ASEAN regional level dealing with recognizing customary tenure. This caused problems for Indigenous Peoples and local communities, who often have to contend with domestic state-level laws that need to be fully aligned with their diverse and complex land use practices. With support from the Mekong Region Land Governance (MRLG) Project, the Green Livelihoods



Alliance, and relevant networks such as the CSO Forum on Social Forestry and the Regional CT Alliance, NTFP-EP led the coordination and policy work, and worked closely with the ASEAN Working Group on Social Forestry (AWG-SF), and the ASEAN Secretariat to support them in the drafting, formulation, and official adoption of this policy framework.

The guidelines include the following ten interlinked guiding principles:

1. The right to customary tenure
2. The right to local and cultural diversity in customary tenure systems
3. The right to traditional livelihoods and livelihood development
4. The right to equitable and sustainable involvement of women
5. Secure legal recognition of customary tenure systems
6. The right to free, prior, and informed consent
7. Equitable involvement and meaningful participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in land and resource use planning and decision-making
8. The right to equitably benefit from customary tenure systems
9. The right to resolve conflict
10. Provide institutional and operational support for the protection, formalization, recognition, enforcement, and monitoring of customary tenure with adaptive and multi-stakeholder approaches

NTFP-EP believes that the policy work has just started. To achieve enhanced recognition of customary tenure rights in forested landscapes in ASEAN, regional and national reform actors must understand and use the ASEAN CT Guidelines to improve national policies, legislation, and land and forest governance initiatives. With continued support from relevant partners and networks, several initiatives and activities will be spearheaded and implemented alongside AWG-SF and the ASEAN Secretariat. These include a regional launch of the Guidelines, country-level discussions and consultations to unpack the ASEAN CT Guidelines, and finding mechanisms or entry points to mainstream and use the ASEAN CT Guidelines at the country or even sub-national level. Further, developing knowledge products that can help promote and understand the Guidelines better is also in the pipeline.

ELEVATING INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES' VOICES AT THE UNFCCC COP27

Within the sidelines of the UNFCCC 27th Conference of Parties (COP27), NTFP-EP, with support from MRLG, GLA, WWF Sweden, and its networks and partners from the ICCA SEA Consortium, CSO Forum on Social Forestry in ASEAN, and the Global Alliance for Green and Gender Action (GAGGA), organized an event entitled, "Amplifying IPLC Voices and the Security of Territories of Life and Customary Tenure Towards Meaningful Climate Action." The event was among one of those hosted in the International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change (IIPFCC) Pavilion last November 14, 2022, in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt.

Resource speakers from NTFP-EP network members such as SAVE Rivers (Malaysia), Pan Nature (Vietnam), POINT (Myanmar), and NTFP-EP itself were provided a safe space to discuss and present key recommendations, share experiences, and struggles from the perspective of IPLCs,

Women, and Youth. They also called upon relevant policymakers and government representatives to recognize and respect the important role of IPLCs, customary tenure, and safeguards in achieving ASEAN countries' climate targets.

OUTCOME STATEMENTS FOR 2022

TRG11. IPLCs have secured instruments to access forest resources and enforce tenure rights, including women's tenure rights.

- At least 20 participants, representing civil society organizations as well as indigenous people and local communities organizations in ASEAN, gained knowledge and understanding of strategies, meta-legal processes, and customary ways and policy advocacy for FPIC and safeguards last 13 May 2022.
- Relevant GLA partners (at least 15 organizations from GLA Regional Collaboration) with increased learning and understanding of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) last



September 2022.

- At least 35 participants representing civil society organizations, IPLCs in ASEAN gained knowledge and understanding of strategies, processes, and customary ways and policy updates on Customary Tenure and FPIC during the CSO Forum 2022 regional meeting last September 2022.
- CSO Forum members updated and reviewed its Theory of Change.

TRG1.2. Government agencies pass and enforce effective and gender-equal policies and programs on IPLC tenure rights and access to resources, especially NTFPs.

- ASEAN Guideline on Customary Forest Tenure Recognition was approved by the ASEAN Working Group on Social Forestry (AWG-SF) last 20 May 2022 and endorsed by ASEAN Senior Officials on Forestry (ASOF) last 02 June 2022.
- CBFM program in the Philippines is assessed and engaged with collective, collaborative learning and knowledge exchange activities, and dialogues through the ASSERT CBFM project last July 2022.
- A conceptual framework for a draft regional handbook/toolkit on FPIC and Safeguards reviewed by the CSO Forum on Social Forestry in ASEAN during the CSO Forum meeting last September 2022.
- Country representatives (e.g. Ministry of Environment representative, Indonesia) share their affirmation of the ASEAN CT Guidelines during the LCIPP meeting in Egypt.
- ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF) adopted the ASEAN Guidelines on CT Recognition in Forested Landscapes during their 44th Meeting in



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Lao PDR last October 2022.

- AMAF adopted the ASEAN CT Guidelines integrating the principles on Gender and Youth (PRINCIPLE 4. The Right to equitable and sustainable Involvement of Women).

TRG2.1 Asian governments enact and implement policies that protect IPLC Land from Mining, Oil Palm Plantation, industrial agriculture and other land/forest conversion threats.

- ASSERT CBFM Project policy inputs and recommendations for CBFM in the Philippines were formulated and elevated to the National Working Group on CBFM last August 2022.
- Lessons and recommendations from ASSERT CBFM used as a reference in developing the new CBFM Strategic Plan by the DENR Forest Management Bureau.
- CSOs, IPLCs, women, and youth partners of NTFP-EP participate meaningfully in regional/international discussion and advocacy (COP27) on customary tenure recognition, promoting FPIC and safeguards, among others.
- Key messages from relevant networks of CSOs, IPLCs, women, and youth partners of NTFP-EP elevated in COP27 Egypt last November 2022.
- IPLCs, women, and youth participate meaningfully in regional/international discussion and advocacy on customary tenure recognition, promoting FPIC and safeguards during the XV World Forestry Congress last May 2022 in Seoul, South Korea.

GENDER-EQUAL COMMUNITY AGENCY AND VOICE + CULTURE, INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS AND PRACTICES



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In NTFP-EP Asia's TOC, the themes GCAV and C/IKSP crosscut and mutually reinforce other thematic programmes as we envision healthy forests and peoples. Through these 2 themes, we make sure that across all our programmes supporting IPLCs, both men and women of all ages, position, and gender are co-actors and actively engage in all processes of decision-making. In the spirit of inclusivity, we facilitate the active participation of women in all activities and decision-making processes allowing for their meaningful participation from increased attendance, active participation in all processes, and building up women's leadership transcending generations.

In 2022, highlights on GCAV and C/IKSP include women's strong leadership in campaigns, and the increasing contribution of women in research and monitoring, awareness, advocacy. We have also witnessed the reaping of fruits from years of hard work and investment in women's aspirations and initiatives such as established NTFP-based livelihoods, and a legal victory on supported WEHRD's case against mining, many of these we consider as NTFP-EP's contribution to Gender-Just Climate Solutions.

Gender-just climate solutions represent effective

community-based responses to climate change impacts and alternatives to the dominant model of economic growth. These can include new forms of climate adaptation, revaluation of small-scale agriculture and food production, restoration of degraded or destroyed forest and agricultural landscapes through Analog Forestry, land and soil restoration through Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMRN) and agroecology, "Food Forests" and the development of NTFPs, water conservation and management. These practices provide gender-just climate solutions by strengthening women's rights, livelihoods, and resilience, while storing carbon.

Our PRSGF grantee partners have strengthened NTFP-based livelihoods in Indonesia and Philippines by practicing sustainable harvesting, improving marketing, and value adding locally. This has generated local employment for women and added to their skills and income. This has had a positive impact on their wellbeing, sovereignty, natural resource access, and health. The engagement with indigenous women has resulted in a ripple impact in the community as a whole. The group has also set up nurseries and undertaken planting of NTFPs – both in private and common lands.

Higaunon women leaders in Mindanao named Panika ha Pusaka have been involved in advocacy with the government on tenurial rights and mapping their ancestral lands, part of their project supported in May-December 2022. Their expression of land rights and using traditional knowledge is especially important here.

Both in Indonesia and the Philippines, indigenous and local men and women live in harmony with nature as they manage and conserve their traditional territories, areas or natural resources. These 'territories and areas conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities' or simply 'territories of life' (also known as Indigenous Peoples and Local Community Conserved Areas, or ICCAs) are a viable approach to biodiversity conservation, community strengthening and for forging partnerships among various stakeholders as a holistic strategy to respond to the climate and biodiversity crises. In ICCAs, indigenous women play a crucial role in nurturing and continuing this system of conservation: they are important purveyors of culture and tradition, caring for life in these sacred territories.

NTFP-EP Asia facilitates the network of community-based indigenous and local women to share strategies and approaches to confront gender inequality in our work on biodiversity and natural resources management. The goal is to contribute to a broad network of community-based groups, collectives, and organizations led by women, girls, and other gender identities by providing flexible and accessible funding to support their strategies and actions to confront climate and gender injustices by defending, protecting and managing their land, territory and environment.

One of these networks is the Women in Action on Mining in Asia (WAMA), a collaborative network of CSOs and grassroots organisations which we co-organized since 2017 with members from Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Mongolia, and the Philippines. WAMA aims to build and strengthen knowledge and capacities of women environmental human rights defenders in communities affected by mining and other extractives. With this year's support from the Linking and Learning programme, NTFP-EP Asia and Dhaatri lead WAMA as it continues its regional

exchange and cross learnings to build women's leadership to assert their natural resource rights and contribute to just climate actions. We are committed to protecting free-flowing rivers and the lands, forests and territories they sustain, to ensuring women's leadership in decision-making at all levels over freshwater resources, and to strengthening alliances and growing our movement – for the future of ourselves as women, our families and communities, our rivers and our planet.

KPPL MAJU BERSAMA INSPIRES WOMEN AROUND TNKS (KERINCI-SEBLAT NATIONAL PARK)

On NTFP-EP's first visit to PAL VIII Village in Rejang Lebong, Bengkulu in 2017, we met the newly formed environmental care women's group led by Ibu Rita Wati. She shared about their group's dream, saying, "We wish that KPPL Maju Bersama will be involved in the management of the TNKS forest and explore the potentials of the NTFPs inside." Following years of pushing for this aspiration, KPPL Maju Bersama received their approval for conservation partnership with the national park in 2019. This made them the first women's group in Indonesia to gain access to manage and use NTFPs in protected forests that aim to build climate resilience and food security and inspire other rural women around protected forests to fight for women's rights to their forests. At one point, they also formed the Network of Women Fighter for Gender and Ecological Justice (JPPKGE) to share and provide influence on the importance of women's voices to be recognized as an entity in making policies that affect women and the community as a whole.

"My friends and I at KPPL Maju Bersama do not just do activities related to the cultivation and utilization of kecombrang and ferns in the TNKS forest. We also invite other women, both TNKS forest tenants and non-cultivators, to develop mixed garden patterns in coffee plantations to maintain food security, water security and climate resilience. To encourage other women to develop mixed gardens, we conducted nurseries for avocado, jackfruit, durian, jengkol, kabau and other seedlings independently to be given to women free of charge to be planted in gardens."

ATE MALU VS FILMINERA

Since 2019, Marilou has led her community in Aroroy, Masbate in their fight against large-scale mining company Filminera Resources Corp. As a result, she has faced death threats and criminalization in the form of two libel cases filed by Filminera against her.

In early 2022, she was scheduled to appear in four hearings before the decision, but the court postponed the hearing 6 times because of COVID guidelines. The process is tedious, stressful, and costly. With the help from NGOs and NTFP-EP Asia's PRSGF-QRG, this has lightened the burden of the case with their limited resources, but it was inevitable to feel burned-out and hopeless along the way. We finally prevailed against this long-standing battle with an acquittal of one of the libel cases in 2022.

CONTINUED WAMA ACTIONS

As we are in this climate and biodiversity crisis, we see the relevance of our continued WAMA actions to urgently call a halt to further destruction. We see the need to jointly understand and analyze critically the climate change actions of our governments, investors, and companies linked to extractives, renewables, and false solutions to environmental problems created by extractives in indigenous peoples' lands. At the same time, WAMA lays emphasis on the importance of care as the language of advocacy and protection – care for our forests, care for our body, well-being of WEHRDs, inter-generational learning of care and support.

The inclusion of women's voices requires addressing a multitude of barriers, some of which are deeply ingrained in the way that cultures and societies operate, and even how women are conditioned

to value themselves - and therefore not easily addressed, even with valuable and well-meaning global and regional directives. Visible and well-recognized barriers to inclusion include lack of access, including the physical ability to participate due to logistical constraints, fluency in the technical knowledge needed to coproduce knowledge for decision-making, and fundamental language and literacy barriers.

Aware of these challenges, NTFP-EP Asia commits to continue our responses through capacity-building, knowledge-sharing, grant-making, and networking for a gender-equal and just future.

OUTCOME STATEMENTS FOR 2022

GCAV1.1. IPLC-WY Organizations are leading advocacies and stakeholders engagement related to TRG, SCAL, CBC and IFH.

- For PRSGF in 2022, 43 grantees have developed, implemented and managed their own plans. Majority of the grants supported initiatives of IPLC-WY with 22 grants in total.
- In the UNFCCC COP27 last November 2022 in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, 4 WAMA partners from the Philippines and Indonesia attended and shared to the global community their experiences as Women Environment Human Rights Defenders.

GCAV2.1. IPLC-WY consulted by or represented in policy and decision making bodies in the development of relevant policies, programs and plans related to TRG, CBC, SCAL and IFH.

- MKE BICAMM, SAMAKA and SNAKK became members of the Municipal Development Board of Brooke's Point, representing indigenous women and youth of their communities.





YOUTH ENGAGEMENT AND EMPOWERMENT

© NTFP-EP Philippines

On its second year of implementation as a new theme for NTFP-EP's Asia new strategy, YEE engaged in different activities that provide support and opportunities for IPLC youth in at least six countries. These included building their own youth agency, actively engaging in decision-making spaces, involvement in climate resilience and disaster preparedness, participating in sustainable community-based enterprises, and amplifying youth voices in all policies and programs on customary tenure and forest governance, at the national, regional, and international levels, thereby building stronger IPLC youth agency in the region.

After the completion of the first regional forest camp in early January 2022, IPLC youth representatives joined the 2nd Asia Parks Congress held in Sabah, Malaysia last May 2022. The youth from different countries participated in the sharing and discussion of IPLC challenges, good practices and proposed solutions to the most pressing issues facing the conservation of nature in Asia. The IPLC youth delegates were able to participate and witness the development of two powerful declarations: Kota Kinabalu Declaration – a powerful statement that seeks to bring key issues from Sabah to the world, and the Api-api declaration – endorsed by 247 IPLCs and calls for a moratorium against declaring

any protected areas without the involvement of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, without recognizing indigenous governance and customary management systems, and without their Free, Prior and Informed Consent.

Another first for the YEE was the conduct of the first national indigenous youth camp in Bali last August 29-31, 2022 organized by NTFP-EP Asia, NTFP-EP Indonesia, Working Group ICCAs Indonesia, and the Wisnu Foundation. Thirty participants coming from four provinces of Indonesia joined the event.

Another key milestone for the year was the formation of the national indigenous youth network or UGNAYIN in the Philippines. During the conduct of a national youth camp in October led by NTFP-EP Philippines, the indigenous youth leaders decided to form the national youth alliance.

The YEE theme is looking forward to contributing to building stronger IPLC youth agency by implementing strategies that will empower young people to develop their skills, knowledge, innovation, and leadership abilities. This in turn allows them to actively participate in decision-making and create positive change within their communities.

INDIGENOUS YOUTH JOIN THE 2ND ASIA PARKS CONGRESS

The 2nd Asia Parks Congress was held in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia, from May 24 to 29, 2022. The Congress was jointly convened by the Sabah Parks and IUCN with the theme of "Parks for Nature and People," emphasizing the relationship between nature and society. The Congress gathered over 1,200 participants, including leaders and decision-makers from government, civil society, business, academia, and delegates from various Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities across Asia.

Among the active participants in the IPLC sessions are the youth delegates from the NTFP-EP Asia network. The youth participants are able to actively share their unique perspectives, experiences, and aspirations as youth from Indigenous and Local Communities. Maica Saar, one of the delegates from the Philippines, shared in one of the side events about the unique roles that the youth in her community have taken on in terms of indigenous knowledge transfer and preservation.

The fruitful and meaningful discussions and exchanges in the form of panel discussions, presentations, and open forums created an atmosphere of solidarity and openness between the indigenous brothers and sisters present during the event. As a highlight, the 247 indigenous peoples and local community representatives presented the Api-Api Declaration during the event's culmination, which demands a halt to the designation of protected areas without consulting local communities and indigenous peoples, acknowledging their traditional governance structures, and obtaining their free, prior, and informed consent.

INDIGENOUS YOUTH CAMP HELD IN BALI, INDONESIA

Thirty IPLC youth coming from four provinces in Indonesia gathered in the function hall of Wisma Nangun Kerthi Bedugul in the province of Bali as the first indigenous youth camp started with fun introductions on August 29, 2022. The first two days of the camp were filled with engaging structured learning exercises that encouraged sharing and discussion of key environmental and



socio-cultural issues faced by IPLCs and existing solutions promoting community empowerment. On the last day, the youth participants visited Alas Mertajati – Tamblingan forest and lake, to learn about the current community and youth-led forest management practices, and the challenges it faces. The youth participants were given assignments to learn the current situation and challenges of the community and were provided space to discuss their key takeaways.

INDIGENOUS YOUTH FORM ALLIANCE IN THE PHILIPPINES

NTFP-EP Philippines organized its first IPLC youth camp in 2014, and seven years later the National Indigenous Youth Network or UGNAYIN was formed. UGNAYIN is a network of indigenous youth organizations and individuals in the Philippines formed to champion indigenous youth agenda at the national level and will work to consolidate indigenous youth action towards forest conservation, youth rights recognition, and safeguarding culture. The network was officially formed on October 19, 2022 with the gathering of 20 indigenous youth leaders from Sierra Madre, Palawan, Visayas, and Mindanao landscapes.

With the support of NTFP-EP Philippines, UGNAYIN formulated its theory of change and long-term vision, to wit: Indigenous youth who engage in stable, healthy, comfortable and secure living in prosperous and protected natural resources and ancestral lands UGNAYIN aims to contribute in addressing the following key issues:

1. lack of or no knowledge and no interest, appreciation, and opportunity in their culture

2. and language;
2. lack of recognition, support, and limited participation of indigenous youth within and outside the community;
3. uncertainty that there will be healthy, convenient, stable, and secured ancestral land and forest to be inherited by future generations;
4. limited access to quality education; and
5. early marriage and teenage pregnancy among indigenous youth (young girls).

OUTCOME STATEMENTS FOR 2022

YEE 1. Strong engagement of youth in the protection and development of territories and community forest resources especially NTFPs related to CBC, TRG, SCAL and IFH.

- First national indigenous youth camp held in Bali, Indonesia last August 2022, participated by 9 female and 7 male youth leaders coming from 4 provinces/landscapes.
- Philippines national youth alliance formed with core group members identified (4 male and 4 female). TOC and key strategies developed last October 2022.
- Two IPLC youth organizations from Bali, Indonesia initiated participatory youth action research last December 2022 to document two resource management topics: water conservation and Jaka management.
- Participation of 8 IPLC youth in the 2nd Asia Parks congress (3 males, 5 females). Presented case studies and participated in the IPLC pavilion activities which led to the formulation of the Api-api Declaration.

ORGANIZATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS



ORGANIZATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

GOVERNANCE/BOARD MATTERS

Meetings were organized among NTFP-EP Asia partners, members, trustees and staff. Using appropriate tools, the hybrid meetings enabled online and onsite participants to interact with each other in real time.

The continuing active engagement of the Board of Trustees (BOT) in meetings for the year provided guidance and support to NTFP-EP Asia management. There were two board meetings and two Executive Committee (ExeCom) meetings organized and fully attended by the Trustees. The ExeCom meetings held on June 7 and October 10, dates before the BOT meetings, identified urgent and important agenda for board meetings and endorsed resolutions for approval and signature by all Trustees. At the June 27 board meeting, the Trustees approved several requests related to organizational requirements. They approved the increase in the corporate credit card limit to address the fund requirements to pay for airline tickets and accommodations with more face-to-face regional meetings organized. Another approval was the increase in the budget for legal retainer fees for corporate compliance and legal advice on demand, among others. At this meeting, the Board Treasurer noted the improvements in NTFP-EP Asia's financial management but reminded that there is still a need to build-up its reserve fund composed of unrestricted funds. NTFP-EP Asia has been a convenor for seven networks, such as the ICCA Consortium and the WAMA Alliance. Eventually, it will support the transition of these networks to becoming independent.

At the October 25 and 26 board meeting, the Trustees approved at least eight resolutions related to organizational compliance, as well as urgent government and banking requirements. The Trustees noted the need to fast track the expansion of membership with invitations and nomination of new members in preparation for their approval at the 2023 General Membership Meeting. They noted the need for a board succession plan after determining the ending terms of office of three Trustees – the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and a Trustee. The Trustees appreciated the clear presentation of the budget utilization for the year using a pie chart. It helped them better understand NTFP-EP's work at a glance. It showed how much money was utilized per thematic program and its reach to the communities and partners. The Trustees learned about programs and projects that addressed security risks faced by partners and communities with cases in countries like Vietnam and Malaysia on mining and other environmental threats, among others.

MEMBERSHIP AND COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

Membership remained at the same number, currently at 16 individuals and 9 organizations. The gender-disaggregated data on membership, considering the organizational representatives, indicated that there were 40% women and 60% men. Further gender-disaggregation on the leadership positions in the board showed only 3 women among 9 Trustees. However, 2 of these women are holding decision-making roles in the executive board as Chairperson and as Corporate Secretary.

Prior to the October board meeting, the Treasurer, Mr. Vitaliano Nañagas, submitted his resignation for health reasons but noted that he will continue to provide guidance to the organization, especially on audit concerns. The Trustees, at the same October meeting where a quorum was present, appointed an Interim Treasurer, Dr. Ramon Razal. He will hold this post until a new Treasurer is on board after the election at the 2023 general membership meeting.

The formalization of memberships for long-time partner organizations such as Keystone Foundation India, PACOS Trust Malaysia, and Johannes Henricus De Beer, the first Executive Director of NTFP-EP, was in process.

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT (PLANNING, M&E AND LEARNING)

The first quarterly staff meeting (QSM) in February continued to be held virtually, with staff reporting accomplishments for the previous year and plans for the new year. During this time, the Asia office agreed to continue a hybrid way of working where staff could continue a work from home arrangement and report to the office as needed, typically one to two days a week.

The second QSM in April was the first time that staff all came together to meet face-to-face since the pandemic hit and the national government enforced strict quarantine protocols (March 2020). Venue for the 3-day activity was in Zambales, with day 1 allocated for a learning exchange visit with the Maporac Aeta Association. The partner field visit was made possible in partnership with the Philippine ICCA Consortium. The third QSM was held in July at a venue near the office and was a 2-day activity of workplan reviews and discussion

of plans for the remainder of the year. Several hybrid activities organized during the last quarter of the year strengthened cooperation and collaboration among staff and members who participated onsite and online. There were 18 staff (with 77% women) who participated onsite and online at the fourth QSM held for 2 days at the office during the first week of October.

Following the QSM was the Bersama or Regional Network Meeting held in Nueva Vizcaya, Philippines that included a field visit to the Kalahan Educational Foundation on Day 1 of the meeting. Its participants were regional staff, members and partners from Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam, and the Philippines. Bersama in Bahasa Indonesia or Malay means together or in unison. Previously known as the RSM or Regional Staff Meeting, this involved NTFP-EP staff coming from different country offices. It was redefined as the NTFP-EP Bersama or Regional Network Meeting to include NTFP-EP members and partners, with representatives who attended either in person or virtually. The main objectives of Bersama included thematic learning and exchange, networking and sharing, as well as institutional strengthening.

The Asia office held its first Muni-muni: Year End Annual Reflection (YEAR) 2022 during the first week of December in Bali, Indonesia. As part of the planning, monitoring, evaluation, and learning (PMEL) cycle of NTFP-EP Asia, the year-end assessment was a venue for staff to share, review and reflect on key achievements, challenges, and lessons, as well as a means to firm up commitments and agree on better ways of working and building stronger teams.

ORGANIZATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

OPERATIONAL SYSTEMS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The start of 2022 saw a number of staff brought down by Covid-19. This affected both the programs side in terms of meeting reporting deadlines and operations, especially in the matter of processing regular financial transactions. On the positive side, none of the affected staff were seriously sick and made a full recovery after some days of rest.

While working on project deliverables across different thematic areas, there are bound to be instances wherein funding from one donor gets delayed due to any number of factors. Normally, this means postponing some project activities until such time that the funds are available. But delays in funding can also have an impact on regular overhead costs like salaries and benefits, office rent, and utilities.

To help ensure continuity in operations, NTFP-EP Asia wrote to its donors explaining above scenario to request approval for limited time inter-project borrowings for the duration of the project agreement, only if and when general funds are insufficient to fill in the gap. Some of the donors who responded positively to this request include Both ENDS, Koningschool, and WWF-Sweden.

Another attempt was made to file for tax exemption with the Bureau of Internal Revenue following the new and simpler application guidelines. The Certificate of Tax Exemption was granted in August and remains valid for the next three (3) years, in recognition of NTFP-EP Asia's status as a non-government organization operating in the Philippines.

Following through on the discussions from a previous meeting on more efficient ways of hybrid working, the team discussed various options and voted

overwhelmingly to shift to a 4-day compressed work week. By Philippine labor law, organizations have the option to compress a 5-day work week of 8 hours per day into 4 workdays per week of 10 hours per day, excluding lunch breaks. The workdays for NTFP-EP Asia staff were set at Mondays to Thursdays, with Fridays as rest days.

In August, NTFP-EP Asia moved to a bigger office that is more conducive for meetings and gatherings. The office features a green open space with trees at the back which can be developed and improved to accommodate activities with partners.

A hybrid way of working remained in place with staff scheduling their office reporting and work from home days. Although the office upgraded its internet plan from DSL to fiber technology, internet access was not always consistent. To ensure continuous internet connectivity, especially during meetings and webinars, the organization also invested in a second internet line.

HUMAN RESOURCES AND STAFF DEVELOPMENT

NTFP-EP Asia's human resource expanded in 2022 with new staff and seven (7) interns, composed of 2 men and 5 women, providing able support to different thematic programs. The interns expressed their appreciation for the valuable learning experience they had with their engagement and interaction with partners on the ground for at least six (6) months, with some extending to a year (until their graduation from university).

During the first quarter of 2022, four (4) graduating students from the University of the Philippines in Los Banos (UPLB) submitted their applications for internship. The thematic program officers

reviewed the applications and accepted the interns based on their fields of study and expertise. They were Christian Calalang for the CBC/IFH, Martin Advincula for CKM, Sophia Dulay for TRG and Alliah Bamba for the ASSERT CBFM project under TRG. SCAL's interns, Rahma Maulidhina in Indonesia and Paula Dagsi from UPLB, had a continuing appointment from 2021 and a new intern, Beata Corcoran, joined the team in May. It was highly noted that four (4) of the interns – Paula, Christian, Martin and Sophia - graduated with honors after completing their internships. Many of the interns were former students of NTFP-EP Asia Trustee, Dean Ramon Razal, former Dean of the UPLB College Forestry.

A new donor, AFoCO, provided support for the project, "Capacity Building on Enhancing Resilience to Forest Fire and Local Livelihood & Market" implemented under the SCAL thematic program until 2025. In June, Mr. Felix Tañedo was hired as its Project Coordinator (PC) and recruitment for the PC's team - a Technical Officer and a Projects Assistant for Finance and Administration – started during the last quarter of the year but was extended until the 1st quarter of 2023.

The last quarter of the year was a challenging situation for the organization with the resignation of its Finance Coordinator. Recruitment started immediately but there were limited applications received before the year 2022 ended so it was extended until the first quarter of 2023 to boost more applications.

Sabbatical leaves are entitlements of 30 calendar days off given to full-time staff who have worked continuously on regular contract with NTFP-EP Asia for seven (7) years. Two of the three staff

entitled for such leave, namely, Femy Pinto and Llana Domingo, availed of it in different schedules in 2022. Tes Matibag scheduled her leave in 2023 due to demands for urgent processes for staff appraisals and recruitments for several posts during the last quarter of 2022.

The monthly Online Friday Fun (OFF) activities and staff learning, Third Thursday at Three PM (T3) continued in 2022 but with less frequency. OFF and T3 were platforms for regular online interaction among staff in previous years. The issuance of the Memo on Compressed Work Week (CWW) in July declaring Fridays as no-work days affected the OFF schedules. However, there were at least three (3) OFF sessions organized during the first half of 2022 facilitated by 3 staff. The first face-to-face meeting of the staff and the interns held with a lunch-out in March integrated OFF-related fun activities and group games.

With more onsite meetings organized in 2022, some learning sessions were integrated into the regular quarterly staff meetings (QSMs) or with other program activities. Some of the topics organized during a T3 schedule were on RACI, a system of responsibility assignment matrix (Responsible, Accountable, Consulted) in project management integrated with discussions on the 2022 workplan. Other topics were on Digital Data Collection, the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework, Forest Governance and Tenure Right: FPIC and Safeguards, among others. The GLA project also provided sessions for learning to the staff through their regular monthly Exchange Learning Sessions (ELS). Given the time difference with the Dutch organizers, these sessions were held in the evenings.

With 2022 marking an important transition year from pandemic protocols, the communications of NTFP-EP had to adapt with the changing global landscape as doors started to open gradually throughout the year.

In March 2022, NTFP-EP held its first field activities since the start of the pandemic two years ago. Field activities made their come back in the first quarter of 2022, with some precautions, signaling the end of the fully online setup.

In May 2022, the 15th World Forestry Congress was held in Seoul, South Korea where NTFP-EP played a key role in setting up an exhibition booth for the #CommunitiesSpeak consortium along with the Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact and the Asian Farmers' Association and hosting the two hybrid side-events. The exhibition booth was a success, as it allowed the network to share its advocacies, messages, and publications, as well as open up new possibilities with new partners outside of our usual circle in Asia. The hybrid side events were also well-attended both online and on-site, and provided an important litmus test for a new kind of event that combines the advantages of both an in-person event and an online event.

Hybrid event setups continued to be utilized during other important events such as the 2nd Asia Parks Congress in Sabah, Malaysia; the 2nd Assert CBFM Policy Forum and Closing Ceremony in Palawan, Philippines; the GLA Regional Collaboration Meeting in Bogor, Indonesia; the 9th Meeting of the CSO Forum in ASEAN in Chiang Mai, Thailand; and the 4th ICCA Consortium Southeast Asia Regional Assembly also in Chiang Mai. In these events, NTFP-EP played a primary role in providing technical and communications support. However, as the availability of technical equipment varied depending on the venue, points for improvement were noted especially on acquiring own equipment for use with future events in 2023.

Throughout the year, the CKM officer was also assisted by communications intern Martin Advincula, who extended his internship to a full year which concluded in September 2022. Martin's contributions especially in social media management highlighted the importance of having a second set of hands to assist with the increasing communications requirements of NTFP-EP as the network continues to expand in scope and in depth.

Digitally, NTFP-EP Asia also expanded its presence online with the creation of an Instagram account to reach new and untapped audiences in the platform. The NTFP-EP HIVE expanded its online library of lectures and seminars that have since been uploaded on YouTube. The process of upgrading the main ntfp.org website also started in 2022 and reached final beta testing before the end of the year.

In 2022, NTFP-EP Asia's Pastor Rice Small Grants Fund (PRSGF) support to grassroots community-led initiatives from South and Southeast Asia increased exponentially in terms of number of awarded grants and sectors from various communities. We continued to prioritize grassroots women-led initiatives, as well as award grants to a broader range of indigenous peoples and local communities in countries such as Cambodia, India, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Thailand. The continuous support of our long-time partners and a growing number of new donors have helped in expanding our small grant's reach.

From January 2021 until 31 December 2022, a total of 49 grants were awarded to grassroots initiatives that contribute to gender and ecological justice. From only 6 groups in 2021, we were able to support 43 groups through PRSGF in 2022.

In 2022, most of the initiatives were centered on Women and Just-Climates Action, in which seventeen (17) grassroots women's groups received small grants and two travel grants were provided to two women-led groups to support their participation at the UNFCCC COP27 in Egypt last November 2022. Even with the opening of the grants to other sectors of grassroots communities, we continued to prioritize providing opportunities to grassroots women, and helping to achieve gender justice, as well as ecological justice by supporting their initiatives. Most of the awarded grants were supported by the Global Alliance for Green and Gender Action (GAGGA). We also awarded grants to 14 community-led initiatives focused on Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) and Effective NTFP Management. 2022 also saw a rise in the number of Quick Response Grants, in which we have supported 10 grantees. They have suffered from natural calamities, community-wide disease epidemic, and threats as environment and human rights defenders. Through our small grants, they have provided relief and recovery support to their communities, as well as protection for those facing threats as defenders. We have supported initiatives with the themes of livelihoods, tenure, natural resource management, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and response to threats and environmental defense. Most of the initiatives focused on livelihoods, which also addressed the recovery and resilience of grassroots communities due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Through the small grants, Mga Kalebonan Et BICAMM (MKE BICAMM) a women's organization composed of indigenous Palaw'an and local women in Brooke's Point, Palawan showed how funding women's initiatives can strengthen their initiatives on climate action as well as ensuring their participation in decision-making processes involving extractive and destructive activities in their communities. They have established a communal tree nursery where they have germinated seedlings of indigenous and fruiting trees, as well as Acapulco and Pandan for their livelihood programs. They used their seedlings to reforest their ancestral lands and have successfully planted 3,235 native and fruiting trees. They crafted their own resource management plan for their natural soap,

KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS

bamboo straw and honey livelihood programs. They have also utilized their funds to participate in Consultative Community Assembly (CCA) meetings organized by the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) about the mining project of Macro Asia and Ipilan Nickel Corporation. They have also actively attended multi-sectoral mobilizations against the mining projects of the said corporations. Their projects have directly benefitted around 252 families of indigenous and local women of Brooke's Point. Their project is supported by GAGGA, with the amount of Php 224,000.00, implemented from January to October 2022.

A common problem that several IPLC communities all over the world are facing is the regeneration, knowledge transfer, and continuity of culture and environmental protection practices to the next generation. Jaringan Ekowisata Desa (JED) or the Village Ecotourism Network, is a Bali-based network of IPLC communities promoting village-led ecotourism that focuses on the concept of ownership, management and sustainability. Through our support, they have facilitated a series of activities such as workshops, video documentation and capacity-strengthening of village guides/facilitators. The youth of their villages attended the activities, wherein several young women were also able to actively participate. The participants planned how their ecotourism villages can be promoted through their natural and human resources. They also developed promotional videos about their villages and the representative products they can use to introduce their village. Their project was funded by the BE WED with the amount of € 5,000 Implementation started in November and will end April 2023.

MKE BICAMM and JED's experiences are just two of the several stories of empowerment supported by our small grants. Their stories show the importance of how small grants for IPLCs, especially for women and youth can be a powerful tool to achieve gender and climate justice. Grassroots IPLC women and youth are the ones experiencing the worst impacts of climate change all over the world. They continue to face barriers in accessing financial resources and are underrepresented in decision-making processes of their communities and in climate change discussions. These women bear the multiple burden of gender inequality, exacerbated by the disproportionate effect of climate change and threats due to their work as environment human rights defenders. By providing financial resources and supporting participation in decision-making processes, climate action initiatives, and protection from threats, we can continue to support IPLC women and youth in becoming agents of change in their communities and contribute to a more sustainable and just future.

Title	Type	Location
Guidelines for PGS Pangan Bijak (Sago, Illipine nut, Forest Honey)	Document	Indonesia
PGS Standards for Sago, Illipine nut, Forest Honey	Document	Indonesia
Guidelines for Lifecycle Cycle Assessment (LCA) for Pangan Bijak	Document	Indonesia
Best Practices of NTFPs in Namo Village	Book	Indonesia
Not By Timber Alone	Newsletter	Philippines
Leaf Litter	Newsletter	India
Ugnayan	Online Show	Philippines
E-poster series on FHCM	Posters	Asia
Celebrating Territories of Life in Southeast Asia	Book	Asia
Key Messages and Recommendations Developed by the CSO Forum on Social Forestry in ASEAN for Regional and International Climate Change and Land Processes	Report	Asia
Bird Book for Koh Samseb	Book	Cambodia
Binh Dinh edible plants online database	Database	Asia

PROJECTS LIST

ASIA PROJECTS COMPLETED 2022

Donor	Project Name	Coverage	Amount
Asian Forest Cooperation Organization (AFoCO)	Improved local livelihoods through increased income from non-timber forest products: modeling scalable community-based enterprises in Asia	Regional	USD 39,050
Forest Foundation Philippines	Assessing, Engaging and Recognizing Community Based Forest Management (CBFM) towards Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) in the Philippines	Philippines	PHP 11,366,001
ICCA Consortium	Regional Hub for the Southeast Asia region for the ICCA Consortium	Regional	USD 18,000
Land Equity International Pty Limited	Mekong Region Land Governance Phase 2	Regional	USD 250,000
Both ENDS	PRSGF Leading Women for Transformative Climate Actions	Regional	EUR 175,000
Both ENDS	Enhancing grassroots organizations that work at the intersection of natural resources, defense of territories and gender-based violence	Regional	EUR 15,425
IUCN NL	GLA Quick Response Funds: Forests for a Just Future	Regional	EUR 30,000

ASIA PROJECTS NEW & ONGOING FOR 2022

Donor	Project Name	Coverage	Amount
Asian Forest Cooperation Organization (AFoCO)	Capacity building on enhancing resilience to forest fire, and local livelihood and market linkage in CLMV countries	Regional	USD 2,134,286
Both ENDS	PRSGF Leading Women for Transformative Climate Actions	Regional	EUR 187,500
Both ENDS	Supporting community-driven systems of resilience and autonomy led by Women Environmental Defenders	Regional	EUR 37,500
Fondo Centroamericano de Mujeres	Weaving Webs of Care for Women, Climate, Food and Water	Regional	EUR 30,000
Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC)	Strong Stewards and Secure Forests for a Sustainable Future: Supporting the Rights, Livelihoods, and Cultures of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities with the women and youth (IPLC-WY) in Asia	Regional	SEK 5,600,000
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	Small Scale Funding Agreement: Outcome 4 of the UN-REDD Technical Assistance Initiative "Climate change mitigation through social forestry actions" in ASEAN countries	Regional	USD 111,950

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS	2022	2021
Current assets		
Cash	₱ 44,077,281	₱ 22,518,012
Accounts and other receivables	691,112	88,675
Other current assets	7,924,258	4,700,663
Total current assets	₱ 52,692,651	₱ 27,307,350
LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE		
Current liabilities		
Current portion of accounts and other payables	₱ 5,441,846	₱ 3,034,151
Noncurrent liabilities		
Accounts & other payables - net current of portion	₱ 1,866,383	₱ 1,866,383
Total current liabilities	₱ 7,707,358	₱ 5,299,663
Fund Balance		
Restricted	₱ 43,137,405	₱ 20,289,604
Unrestricted	1,847,888	1,718,083
Total Fund Balance	44,985,293	22,007,687
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	₱ 52,692,651	₱ 27,307,350

REVENUE & EXPENSE STATEMENT

	2022	2021
REVENUES		
Grants	₱ 106,845,820	₱ 71,637,065
Interest income	13,153	8,453
Others	135,057	2,157,529
Total revenues	₱ 106,994,030	₱ 73,803,047
EXPENSES		
Project costs	33,660,471	17,383,832
Other program costs	40,495,097	36,254,905
Administrative costs	6,830,324	7,141,185
Program activities	2,270,925	1,123,184
Communications and knowledge management	1,410,028	711,500
Sub-total expenses	84,666,845	62,614,606
Foreign exchange (gain) or loss	650,421	(183,792)
Total Expenses	84,016,424	62,798,398
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	₱ 22,977,606	₱ 62,798,398
2022 Spending in Euros**	€ 1,431,519	€ 1,054,469

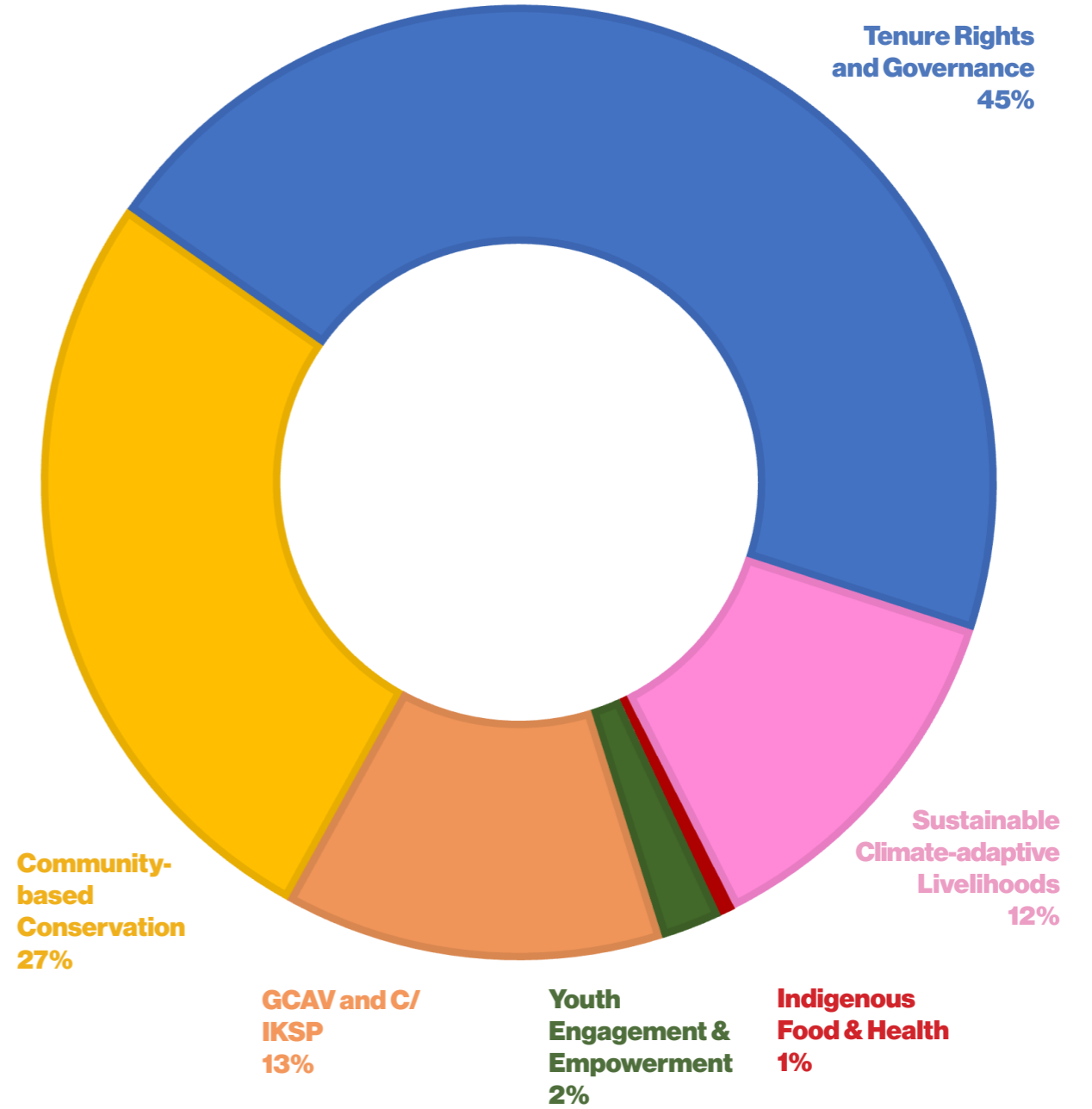
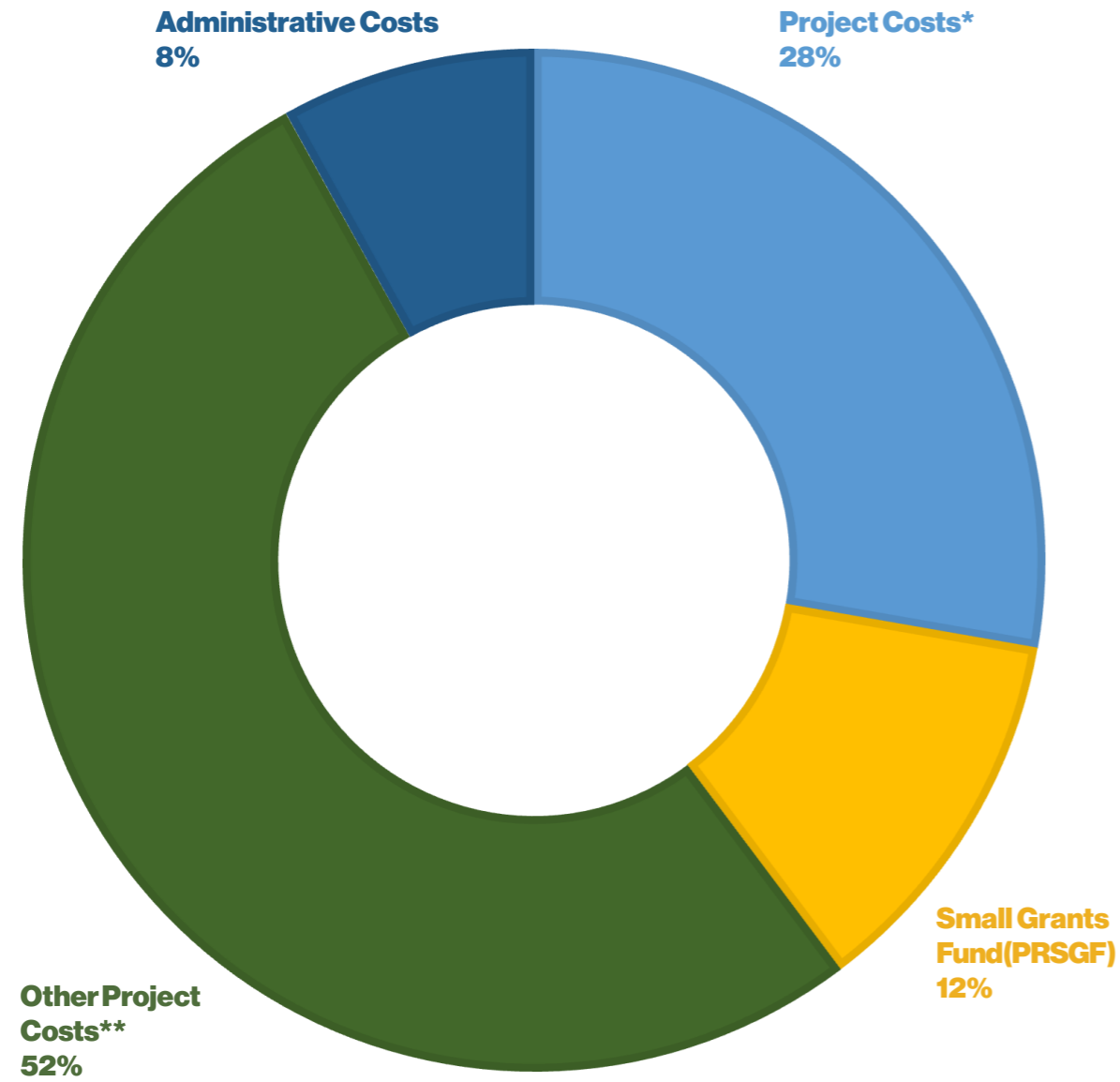
Notes:

- 1 Project costs refer to the different thematic areas: CBC, IFH, SCAL, TRG, GCAV, C/IKSP and YEE
- 2 Other project costs primarily include country office partners project costs (48% overall), management & technical support, communications & knowledge management, as well as planning, monitoring and evaluation activities.
- 3 Program activities refer to regional meetings and travel, monitoring and evaluation activities.

* 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 Philippine Peso to Euro exchange rate of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas as of December 29, 2022

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS




* Project costs are broken down in the next chart.


** Other project costs primarily include country office partners project costs (48% overall), management & technical support, communications & knowledge management, as well as planning, monitoring and evaluation activities.

* GCAV and C/IKSP includes small grant fund focused on grassroots women.



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