

# STRENGTHENING INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' MOVEMENTS



## AIPP 2015 ANNUAL REPORT



Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP)



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MOVEMENTS**

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

As we advance our work in asserting the recognition, respect, and protection of indigenous peoples' rights and welfare in the region, we would like to acknowledge the commitment and strong resolve of the many indigenous peoples' organizations (members and partners of AIPP) and indigenous communities in asserting their rights and issues at all levels. This serves as an inspiration for AIPP to move forward and strengthen its work to be able to bring about change to the lives of indigenous peoples at the country and local levels.

We would also like to acknowledge the support provided by the following donors and partners: Tamalpais Trust Fund, Oxfam Australia, Oxfam Novib, MISEREOR, International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA), The Christensen Fund (TCF), Swedish Society for Nature Conservation – Naturskyddsföreningen, European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR), Swedish International Development Cooperation (SIDA), SwedBio, International Land Coalition (ILC), Forest Peoples Programme (FPP), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), and UN Agencies: International Labour Organization (ILO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Without them, we would not have had the necessary support to address the needs and priorities of indigenous communities in the region.

Lastly, we would also like to express our heartfelt gratitude to the indigenous peoples' advocates, individuals, and civil society organizations that have been continuously providing support to our advocacies and campaigns in advancing the rights and welfare of indigenous peoples in Asia and beyond.

May we all continue to work together in supporting indigenous communities in struggle and in making indigenous peoples' rights and welfare visible in various discourse and advocacies at all levels.

# ACRONYMS

## A

- AIPP** - Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact  
**ASEAN** - Association of Southeast Asian Nations

## C

- CEDAW** - Convention to Eliminate All Forms of Discrimination against Women  
**COP** - Conference of Parties  
**CSDM** - Center for Sustainable Development in Mountainous Areas

## E

- EC** - Executive Council  
**EIDHR** - European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights  
**EMRIP** - Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

## F

- FPIC** - Free Prior and Informed Consent  
**FRA** - Forest Rights Act

## H

- HRCPA** - Human Rights Campaign and Policy Advocacy

## I

- IFI** - International Financial Institutions  
**IMN** - Indigenous Media Network in Thailand

- IPHRD** - Indigenous Peoples Human Rights Defenders  
**IVAN** - Indigenous Voices in Asia Network

## O

- OECD** - Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

## R

- RCB** - Regional Capacity Building  
**REDD+** - Reducing Emission from Deforestation and Forest Degradation

## S

- SBSTA** - Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technical Advice

## U

- UN** - United Nations  
**UNDRIP** - United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples  
**UNFCCC** - United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change  
**UNPFII** - United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

## W

- WCIP** - World Conference on Indigenous Peoples  
**WCIP OD** - World Conference on Indigenous Peoples Outcome Document







## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

For 2015, AIPP achieved significant achievements in the *expanded implementation of its programmes at all levels—local, national, regional and global. These achievements include the widening reach of AIPP’s information dissemination, increased skills and capacities of individuals including women and IP organizations, and significant contribution to positive policies and guidelines relating to indigenous peoples. It has further strengthened the solidarity and cooperation of indigenous peoples at the regional level, while increasing the support at the local level. AIPP has expanded its regional staff and strengthened its management and staff capacities. Likewise, the Executive Council continued to provide guidance through its regular meetings and as convenors of the programmed committees; and represented AIPP in its advocacy engagements.*

The work on the empowerment of indigenous youth as the second liners of the indigenous peoples’ movements in the region has also advanced. They have increasing participation in indigenous organizations, networks and movements and are playing key roles in awareness-raising and advocacy at all levels such as those from Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, Cambodia, and Nepal among others. However, a more targeted and sustained programme for indigenous youth and women capacity building is still needed to optimize their potentials to be key actors and leaders; and to contribute the most to indigenous movements while ensuring that their specific issues and concerns are properly addressed.

The capacity building initiatives of AIPP have likewise diversified based on the needs and priorities of members and partners such as skills development on media and communications, and documentation on natural resource managements. For 2015, 4,009 individuals (composed of indigenous leaders, men, women, and youth) have benefited directly from the capacity building activities of AIPP including increased knowledge on relevant national laws and policies, and key global developments relating to indigenous peoples.

In terms of advocacy, AIPP has taken key roles and significantly contributed in advocating for the recognition of IP rights at the global processes such as the review of the World Bank Policy on Indigenous Peoples, the UN 2030 Development Agenda known as Sustainable Development Goals, Climate Change and Biodiversity processes, and Business and Human Rights among others. At the regional level, AIPP continues to coordinate and sustain the Indigenous Peoples Human Rights Defenders Network (IPHRD), the Indigenous Voices in Asia Network (IVAN), and the Climate Change Monitoring and Information Network (CCMIN) as broader channels for information exchange. Further, AIPP has expanded significantly its collaboration and networking at the regional and global levels with IP and civil society organizations, institutions and networks, resulting with greater support and attention to indigenous peoples in Asia and making their issues more visible.

While the indigenous peoples' movements are advancing, the threat to the lives and security of indigenous peoples human rights defenders has also increased. Adding to this is the growing concern on the shrinking space for civil society in many countries with states passing laws that limit the freedom of speech, freedom of assembly and restrictions in generating support from other countries.

With these growing challenges, AIPP remains steadfast in its aim to continue supporting indigenous peoples in the region for them to be able to effectively assert and defend their rights.



# PROGRAMME REPORTS

## COMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

*Overall Objective: Indigenous peoples in Asia have greater knowledge of their rights and related issues and advocate for their rights, interests and welfare through various media.*

For 2015, the programme implemented activities related to communications and information sharing; on enhancing indigenous peoples' access to mainstream media; and on strengthening indigenous media institutions/networks. The following activities were implemented:

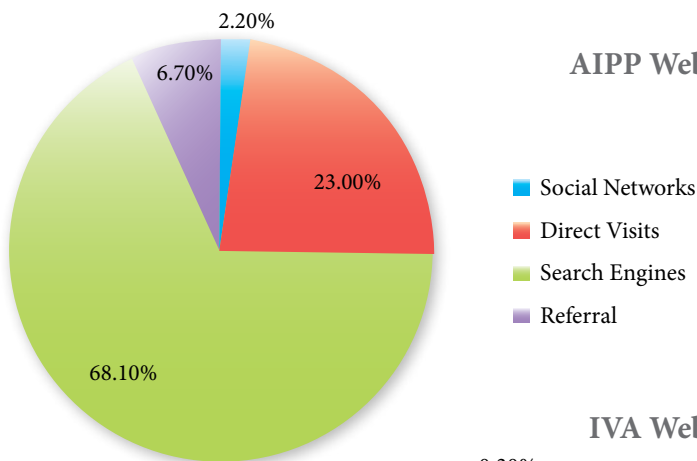
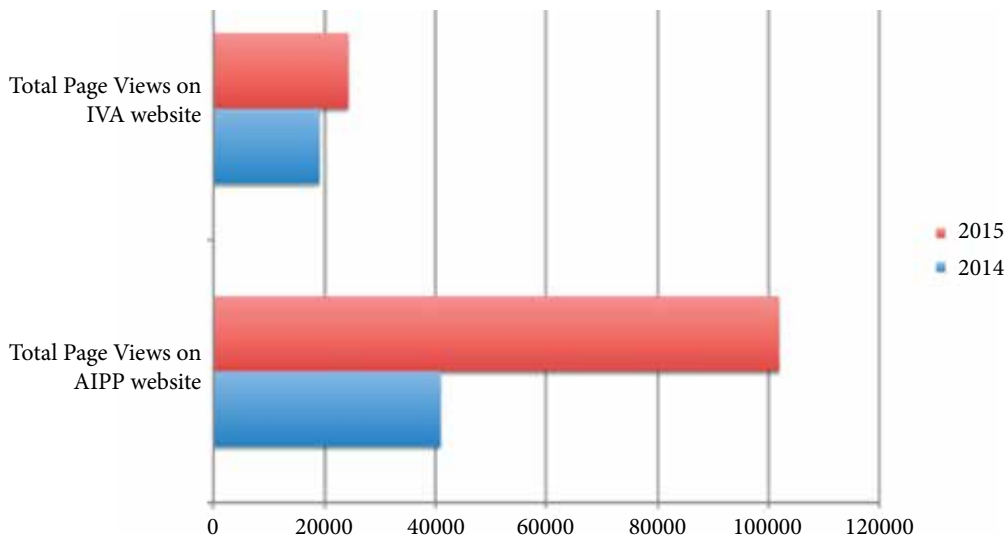
- Information sharing on arising issues and policy developments relating to indigenous peoples in the Asia region and at the international level through various media (websites and social media, among others)
- Capacity building on media-related skills for indigenous journalists and activists
- Strengthening networking among indigenous journalists, activists and the mainstream media
- Monitoring of indigenous peoples' access to information and media in the region
- Production and translation of relevant materials

### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

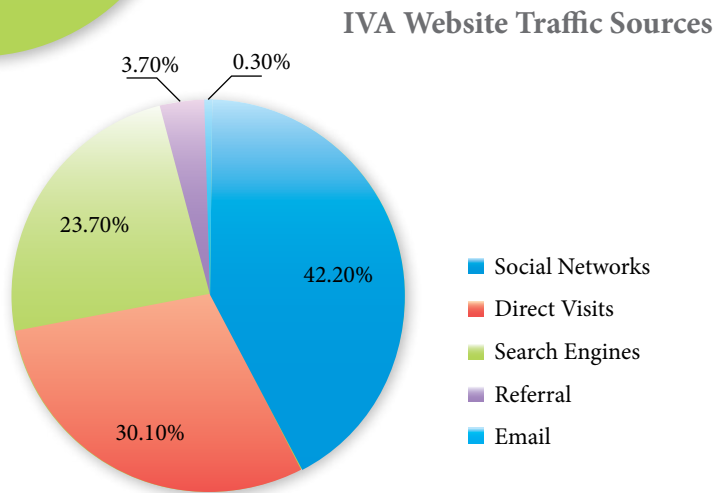
#### **Awareness Raising and Information Sharing**

Information on indigenous peoples' issues and struggles shared through AIPP communication channels reached and was read by wider audiences compared to previous years as the number of page views on AIPP and IVA websites increased by 158% and 25%, respectively, and the number of followers in AIPP Facebook and subscribers to e-news increased by 26% and 3%, respectively.

### Comparison of website page views for 2014 and 2015



**AIPP Website Traffic Sources**



**IVA Website Traffic Sources**



- Information on indigenous peoples' sustainable lands and resources management systems, including their rights to lands, territories and resources, was popularized through the production of a comic book in English, Thai, Khmer, Nepali, Bengali, Bahasa Malay, Lao, Karen, Kachin and Burmese and disseminated among indigenous communities in Thailand, Cambodia, Nepal, Bangladesh, Laos, Malaysia and Myanmar as well as individuals interested in/working on the issues.
- The following ongoing struggles of indigenous peoples in Asia and emerging critical issues and developments were heightened for greater public attention through advocacy video production, community film screenings, continuous collaboration with community radios and local newspapers: discrimination against indigenous peoples in relief efforts in the aftermath of the devastating earthquake in Nepal; absence of Free Prior and Informed Consent in the mining exploration and excavation project in Cambodia; the impacts of militarization on Lumad children in the Philippines<sup>1</sup> and the struggle of indigenous women human rights defenders for their ancestral land in the Philippines.<sup>2</sup>
- Wider outreach of AIPP publications and materials through the distribution of around 1,700 thumb drives was well appreciated by receivers with feedback that the contents are informative and useful, and practical to bring everywhere without the need to carry hard copies of the publications.

## Capacity Building

- There were increased capacities in media production skills of 178 (97 Female, 81 Male) indigenous journalists and activists from Thailand, Cambodia, Nepal, Philippines, East Timor and Bangladesh through short media skills training courses and three-month internship courses. Among them, seven indigenous media practitioners had hands-on experiences on media work though the internship courses with different media outfits.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.aippnet.org/index.php/videos/1585-the-story-of-pipoy-and-bandam-the-aspirations-of-lumad-children-for-a-free-and-lumad-relevant-education>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.aippnet.org/index.php/videos/1583-voices-of-indigenous-women-human-rights-defenders-from-the-philippines>



◆◆ *Indigenous youth from Timor Leste participate in the video documentation training.*  
*Photo by: Covalima Youth Center*

## **Advocacy and Networking**

- The Indigenous Media Network (IMN) in Thailand which was established through the IVA project is recognized by key national mainstream media. Further, indigenous issues became more visible to the Ministry of Information and Communication as well as the Ministry of Culture through the continuous engagement of IMN.
- The sustained engagement of indigenous communities with local, provincial and national authorities in Cambodia resulted in provincial authorities allowing community resource centres to broadcast indigenous peoples' stories via audio transmitter in Ratanakiri province, and contributed to the drafting of a Sub-degree for Lower FM Radio by the Ministry of Information.
- There was increased membership to the Indigenous Voices in Asia Network (IVAN), the regional platform for information sharing among indigenous journalists, activists and mainstream media from 113 members in 2014 to 175 members in 2015.
- Media professionals were sensitized about the issues and concerns of indigenous peoples through regional and national exchanges, and there has been strengthened collaboration between indigenous peoples' organizations and media professionals.



◆◆ Indigenous peoples in Thailand share their concerns with the Thai media on the government's national park policy.

- The continuing Indigenous Voices in Media Awards both at the regional and national levels increases the visibility of indigenous issues and indigenous media networks, as well as strengthens the partnership between media professionals and indigenous peoples' organizations.



◆◆ Priyanka Borpujari (left) receives the IVA award for her outstanding report on the issues of indigenous women in the Asia region.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> <http://iva.aippnet.org/press-release-winners-of-indigenous-voices-in-asia-iva-awards-announced-on-international-women-day/>



# REGIONAL CAPACITY

## BUILDING PROGRAMME

*Overall Goal: Indigenous leaders and organizations in Asia are empowered to promote and defend their rights, welfare, and interests.*

The Regional Capacity Building programme is the lead programme in consolidating the capacity building work of AIPP as well as in implementing the Indigenous Youth Platform of the AIPP Strategic Plan 2013-2016.

Among the key activities of the programme are:

- Conduct of community seminars and capacity building on the UNDRIP, WCIP Outcome Document, leadership, national laws, policies and developments, and arising issues that affect indigenous peoples
- Advocacy with local and national government agencies
- Leadership trainings for indigenous women and youth
- Internship and capacity building for indigenous youth including ensuring their participation to key national, regional, and international advocacy events



◆◆ A Community Seminar was conducted by the Youth Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (YFIN) in Nepal. Source: YFIN

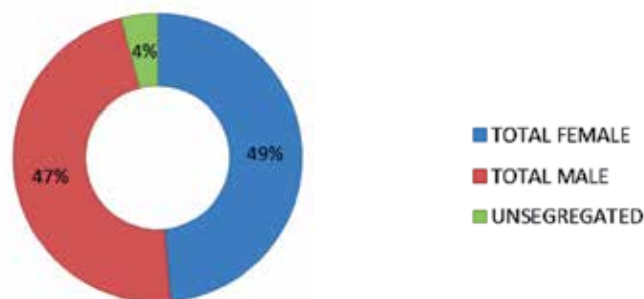
- Compilation and regular updating of the regional list of trainees, resource persons and education materials. This includes support for translation of relevant educational materials.

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

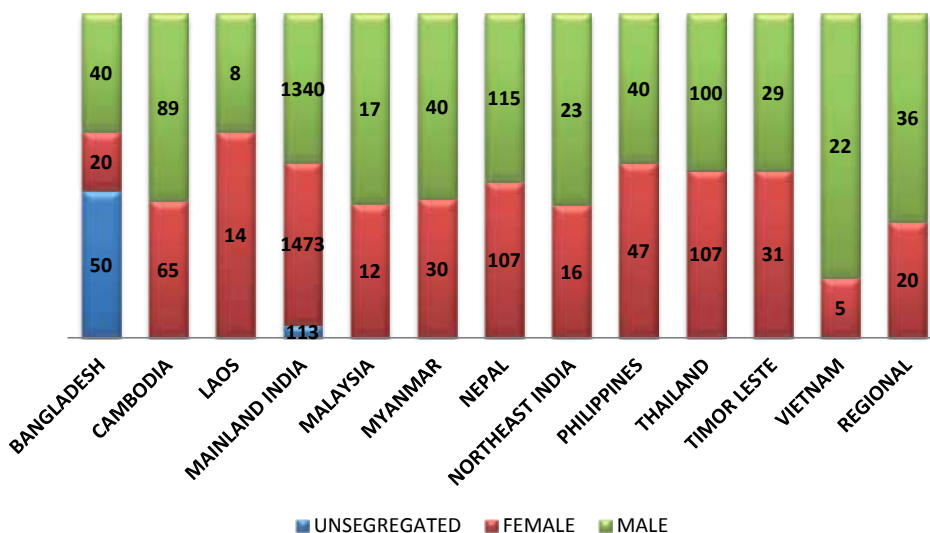
### Capacity Building

- There are increased knowledge and skills of 4,009 individuals from 12 countries in Asia on human rights documentation and advocacy, WCIP Outcome Document, UNDRIP, International Financial Institution's Safeguard Policies, natural resource management and livelihood enhancement, leadership, computer literacy, media skills, and institutional strengthening.

**Consolidated Data for 2015 On Capacity Building**  
Total # of pax: 4,009 individuals



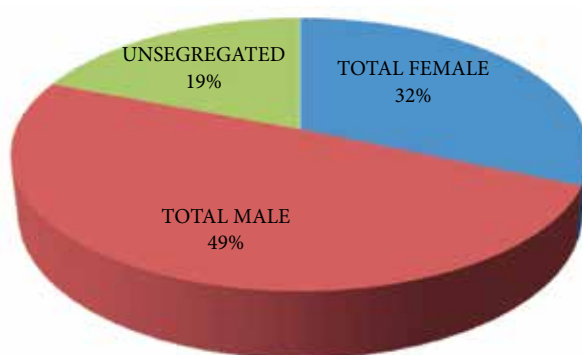
**Disaggregated Data per Country**



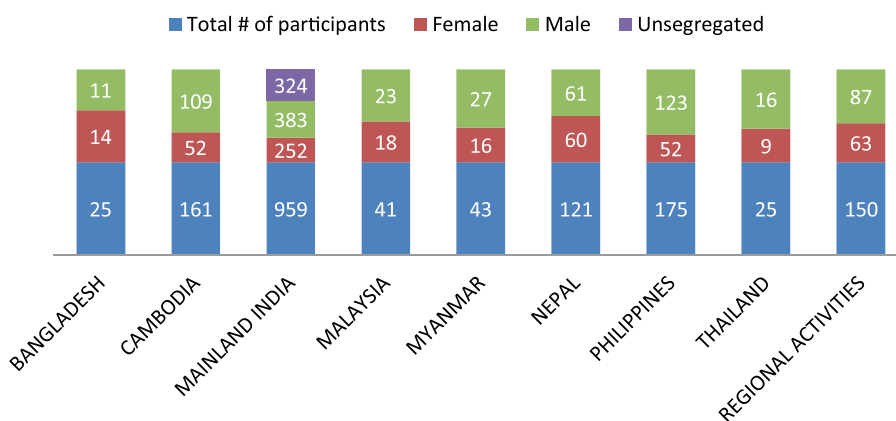


**Awareness Raising:** There is increased awareness of 1,700 individuals from eight (8) countries in the region on the following: UNDRIP, indigenous women’s rights and issues, COP 21, WCIP OD, natural resource management, and issues confronting communities (i.e. mining).

### Consolidated Data on Awareness Raising Total Participants: 1,700



### Awareness Raising Data on Participants per Country



Below are the ethnicities of the participants to some of the awareness raising and capacity building activities of AIPP:

COUNTRY	INDIGENOUS GROUPS
CAMBODIA	Bunong, Prov, Kui, Por, Tampuon, Chornng, Saorch, Souy, Kreung
INDIA	Khadia, Kisan, Oraon
MALAYSIA	Lun Bawang, Bidayuh, Iban, Melanu, Dusun, Tombonue, Rungus
MYANMAR	Rakhine, Kachin, Chin, Karen, Pa oh, Lahu, Akha-Lahu
NEPAL	Rai, Kulung, Thami, Newar, Chaudhary, Sherpa, Tamang, Gurung, Kumal, Tharu, Magar
PHILIPPINES	Dumagat, Alta Dumagat, Applai, Ati, Ayta, Mangyan, Tumandok, Palaw-an, Ifugao, Ifugao-Tuwali, Kankana-ey, Itneg, Kalinga, Dibabawon, Higaonon, Hanunuo, Kalibogan, Manobo, Erumanen Manobo, Ibayyo/Bontok, Ibaloi, Ibaloi-Ifugao
THAILAND	Karen and a few Hmong indigenous youth
TIMOR LESTE	Bunac, Cemas and Tetum

The various capacity building and awareness raising activities of AIPP contributed to the following:

- Organizational strengthening of the Cambodia Indigenous Youth Association (CIYA) through the conduct of their 4th General Assembly where new officers were elected and amendments made to the statutes of the organization
- Increased knowledge and skills of 4,009 individuals on indigenous peoples' rights, emerging issues affecting indigenous peoples, relevant media skills, natural resource management, relevant national laws and policies, and key global developments relating to indigenous peoples
- Increased capacity of four (4) indigenous youth on advocacy and networking through their participation to key regional and international events



*“Earlier, i did not have interest in politics and issues but now i learned about politics and human rights especially women’s rights which i can share with my community when i go back. Learning computer is also very useful for me and my organization.”*  
- Lahu woman intern with the Nationalities Youth Forum in Burma.



◆◆ In Malaysia during the Indigenous Youth Jamboree last August 5-7, 2015, a work group discusses the issues that indigenous youth in the country are facing.  
(JOAS-BELLA, Malaysia)

“ I am more inspired to help my fellow indigenous peoples to stand up and assert their rights to ancestral land and self-determination. I want to inform them of their rights, because in my experience, many of my co-tribes are unaware of their rights. I will invite them in activities like this and invite them to join organizations that promote their interests as indigenous peoples. ”

– Miriam, Nueva Vizcaya, One of the participants to the SIKLAB National Indigenous Youth Training Workshop in the Philippines



◆◆ Six indigenous participants in the internship program didn't only get to learn about their rights and issues. They were also provided with computer literacy tutorials in English implemented in partnership with the Nationalities Youth Forum (NYF) in Burma. (2015, NYF, Burma)



◆◆ Participants show their unity at the Cambodia Indigenous Youth Association (CIYA) General Assembly.



# HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN

## AND POLICY ADVOCACY PROGRAMME

*Overall Objective: Indigenous organizations and indigenous human rights defenders increased their capacity in documentation and advocacy at the national, regional and international levels to promote, protect, and defend their individual and collective rights.*

For 2015, the programme implemented the following activities:

- Monitoring and documentation of cases of human rights violations against indigenous peoples in the region and of the implementation or non-implementation of indigenous peoples' rights by states; direct submission of cases to relevant human rights bodies and mechanisms by the members of the Indigenous Peoples Human Rights Defenders (IPHRD) Network; and gathering of second hand information from online sources and through the Indigenous Navigator;<sup>4</sup>
- Dissemination of urgent appeals and sign on petitions on human rights violations against indigenous peoples;
- Support for indigenous peoples human rights defenders at risk through the facilitation of small grants managed by the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR);
- Information sharing on key human rights issues of indigenous peoples using various channels (website, social networking sites, and listservs);
- Regular coordination and updating of the IPHRD Network and the Asia Indigenous Peoples Network on Extractive Industries and Energy (AIPNEE);
- Capacity building on human rights documentation, monitoring, advocacy and on the safeguard policies and grievance mechanisms of International Financial Institutions (IFI);
- Facilitation and support for the participation of indigenous peoples' representatives to key regional and international advocacy events

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<sup>4</sup> The Indigenous Navigator provides a framework and a set of tools for indigenous peoples to systematically monitor the level of recognition and implementation of their rights. <http://www.indigenousnavigator.org/>



◆◆ Ms. Vicky Tauli-Corpuz, Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples speaks at the 2015 Asia Preparatory meeting.

The work of the programme at the country level had been affected by unfavorable political developments in some countries such as the shrinking space for civil society in Cambodia and Malaysia, the continuing conflicts in the southern part of the Philippines, and the non-inclusiveness of Nepal’s Constitution that has triggered incidents of violence. Alarming, there are efforts of some governments to amend laws favorable to indigenous peoples or pass laws and policies that are not in line with international human rights standards.

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

### ◆◆ Campaigns, Advocacy, and Networking

In 2015, The HRCPA programme was able to advocate support against various cases of violations of indigenous peoples’ rights through sign-on petitions and urgent appeal letters submitted to relevant UN and Human Rights bodies and mechanisms, and mobilization of small funds from different sources. Some of the cases are gold exploration by Angkor Gold and persecution of human rights defenders involved in the opposition against Areng dam in Cambodia, expansion of the Panna Tiger Reserve in India, and the unabated killings of Lumad in the Philippines.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>5</sup> See <http://iphrdefenders.net/campaigns/> for current campaigns supported by the programme.





Some successful advocacies are the following:

- As a result of community seminars, Sundargarh and Gomerdihi villagers in Odisha, India submitted to the President a memorandum on their opposition to the proposed land ordinance that will allow the government to take over community or private lands for public use without the need for FPIC.
- As a result of awareness raising on large and small-scale mining, small-scale miners in the province of Benguet, Cordillera, Philippines agreed to improve their small-scale mining practices and operations to avoid negative impacts on their health and the environment.

Indigenous peoples' engagement is sustained and strengthened through their active participation in key advocacy events such as the ASEAN Peoples Forum, UNPFII and EMRIP sessions. Indigenous peoples' participation was also extended to new events such as the Indigenous Persons with Disabilities Global Network meetings, etc.

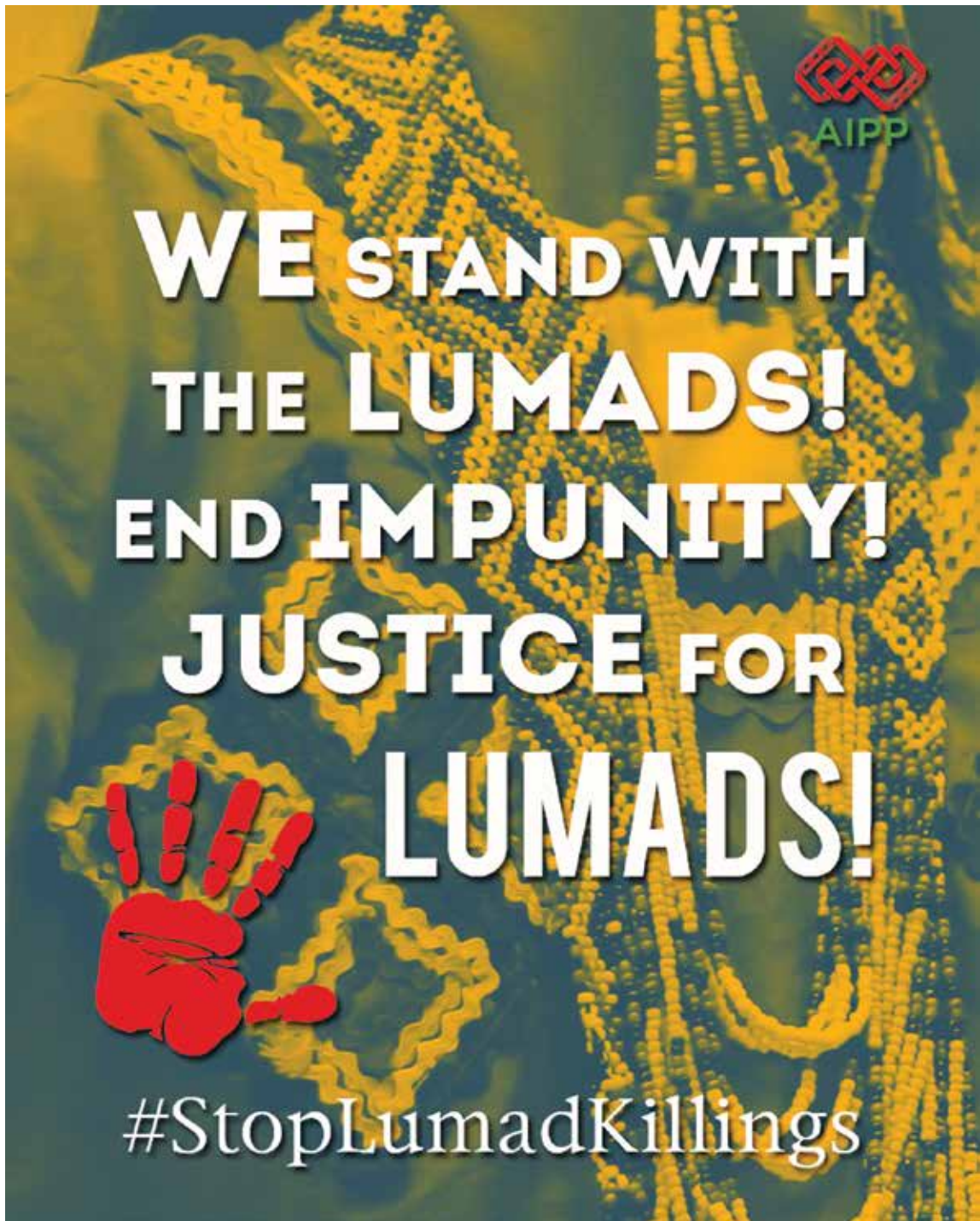
- There is increased visibility of indigenous peoples in the UN Forum on Business and Human Rights.
- There is increased public awareness on the issues of indigenous peoples in relation to corporate activities being implemented in their territories through the production and distribution of case studies on the experience of indigenous peoples on access to remedy<sup>6</sup> and on bauxite mining and other aluminium production related processes.<sup>7</sup>

In addition, the programme initiated the submission and circulation of 25 statements, letters to national authorities, and submissions to the World Bank, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, and relevant UN human rights mechanisms and processes. The programme also actively supported local and national campaigns against indigenous peoples' rights violations.

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<sup>6</sup> Business and Human Rights: Indigenous Peoples Experiences with Access to Remedy <http://iphndefenders.net/business-human-rights-indigenous-peoples-experiences-access-remedy/>

<sup>7</sup> Mining, the Aluminium Industry and Indigenous Peoples <http://iphndefenders.net/mining-the-aluminium-industry-and-indigenous-peoples-enhancing-corporate-respect-for-indigenous-peoples-rights/>





- There is strengthened advocacy for the respect of indigenous peoples' rights among the corporate sector through enhanced engagement with corporate processes such as the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the Aluminium Stewardship Initiative (ASI)<sup>8</sup> to ensure that their safeguards/performance standards are in line with the UNDRIP. In particular, AIPP contributed in the inclusion of Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) in the OECD Voluntary Guidelines on Extractive Industries, and the ASI Performance Standards
- The HRCPA programme contributed in the inclusion of FPIC and other relevant recommendations in the Second Draft of the WB Safeguard Policies particularly on Indigenous Peoples (ESS7).



◆◆ Joan Carling, Secretary General of AIPP, is one of the panelists in the session on extractive industries during the Global Forum on Responsible Business Conduct organized by the OECD. Photo by: Wong Aung

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<sup>8</sup> <http://aluminium-stewardship.org/indigenous-peoples/>

- In 2015, the HRCPA programme enhanced in multifold, its networks with human rights and civil society organizations as well as NHRIs, government authorities and other stakeholders such as diplomatic missions. The participation of AIPP representatives and/or IPHRDs or their organizations in events such as land rights inquiries in Malaysia and Indonesia, ASEAN Peoples Forum, and the UN Forum on Business and Human Rights made such networking possible. Networks have been initiated and/or strengthened particularly with organizations working for accountability of international financial institutions (IFIs).

### **Capacity Building**

- Sixty six (66) Indigenous Peoples Human Rights Defenders (IPHRDs) have increased knowledge and skills on human rights documentation and advocacy and monitoring of the implementation of IFI safeguards in Cambodia, Myanmar and Malaysia through various trainings and workshops
- IPHRDs are provided with additional tools for capacity building with the publication of the Handbook on Human Rights Documentation and Advocacy.<sup>9</sup> A number of indigenous organizations have expressed interest to translate the handbook to their national/local languages.
- National networks of IPs and mobilization of communities to assert their rights have been strengthened as a result of human rights trainings for IPHRDs. For example, those who participated in the UNDRIP and IFI trainings in Burma came together to strengthen the Myanmar IPs/Ethnic Nationalities Network (MIPEN).

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<sup>9</sup> <http://iphndefenders.net/indigenous-peoples-human-rights-defenders-field-handbook-on-human-rights-documentation-and-advocacy/>



◆◆ *Kui people against Economic Land Concession of their lands in Prame commune in Preah Vihear province in Cambodia blockade a bulldozer.*

There is still a great and urgent need to enhance the capacities of indigenous human rights defenders on human rights documentation and advocacy and there are also numerous requests for support to indigenous human rights defenders at risk and communities in struggle. Strategic funding which addresses the needs of IPHRDs and their communities is very much needed.

## Awareness raising and information sharing

- There is increased awareness of the wider public on indigenous peoples' issues through the publication and distribution of research and case studies on national security laws,<sup>10</sup> mining projects particularly bauxite mining that are adversely impacting indigenous peoples,<sup>11</sup> situation of indigenous peoples in the ASEAN,<sup>12</sup> and the experiences of indigenous peoples on access to remedy.<sup>13</sup>
- There is sustained engagement with the members of the IPHRD network through regular information sharing in the IPHRD listserv and dissemination of relevant articles and campaigns in the IPHRD website.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> <http://iphrdefenders.net/national-security-laws-and-measures-the-impacts-on-indigenous-peoples/>

<sup>11</sup> <http://www.forestpeoples.org/sites/fpp/files/news/2015/11/Mining,%20the%20Aluminium%20Industry%20and%20Indigenous%20Peoples.pdf>

<sup>12</sup> <http://iphrdefenders.net/category/resources/c103-publications/human-rights/>

<sup>13</sup> <http://iphrdefenders.net/business-human-rights-indigenous-peoples-experiences-access-remedy/>

<sup>14</sup> <http://iphrdefenders.net/>



## ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

*Overall Objective: The collective rights to land, territories and resources of the indigenous peoples in Asia as well as the indigenous knowledge on sustainable natural resource management systems, food sovereignty and livelihoods are protected, respected and recognized at local, national, regional and international levels.*

For 2015, the Environment Programme implemented the following activities:

- Conduct of various capacity building activities for indigenous organizations and communities in India, Philippines, Cambodia, Myanmar, Nepal, Bangladesh, Indonesia, and Thailand. The activities implemented were inception workshop; staff development activities for project partners and coordinators in India; baseline survey and participatory exercise; training on human rights, financial management, organizational strengthening; GPS mapping training and mapping activities; networking and advocacy and formation of forest rights committee, state advisory committee and youth forum; strengthening local governance structure; ensuring the participation of women and youth in the decision making body at the local level; skills training on mushroom cultivation; workshops on strengthening the natural resource management of the communities and enhancement of livelihood sources; relevant topics on indigenous peoples, climate change and REDD+; and UNFCCC related topics;
- Facilitation and support for the participation of indigenous peoples' representatives to the ASEAN Social Forestry Network meetings, UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and related processes, and with the Convention on Biological Diversity;
- Information sharing on key global developments related to environment and climate change and issues faced by indigenous peoples in relation to their rights to their lands and resources; and
- Production and translation of advocacy and educational materials related to the environment and indigenous peoples with emphasis on the roles and contribution of indigenous women to natural resource management.

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

### Capacity Building

- The conduct of capacity building activities increased the knowledge, skills and confidence of 2,823 individuals (52% women) to assert their rights.

As a result of the capacity building activities in India:

- Adivasi women in Sundargarh villages in Orissa have enhanced their income through the livelihood support and training project such as poultry raising, mushroom cultivation and sustainable agriculture, irrigation pump and entrepreneurship;
- The contribution of ANGNA<sup>15</sup> to poverty reduction and support for the sustainable development of indigenous communities/adivasis was recognized. (See: <http://iva.aippnet.org/india-adivasi-leader-wins-star-asia-awards/>)

### *Empowering indigenous women and girls*

“The women folk of this village are active and most of them are the members of the women’s committee. They shared their good wishes for the project that is connecting them with the other groups.”- Korenrenga village, Chhattisgarh



Indigenous women in Chikor, Jharkhand do survey mapping.

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<sup>15</sup> The Adivasi Navjeevan Gathan Navjyoti Agua (ANGNA) is a member of AIPP based in Orissa, India.





Indigenous women in Orissa do the PRA exercise.



Indigenous women in Jharkhand join the vermicompost training.

- The programme facilitated meaningful dialogues and engagements of indigenous peoples with state parties, NGOs and other actors in the climate change process through the conduct of COP 21 preparatory activities at the national and regional levels. Through these, indigenous peoples were able to formulate clear position, calls and demands in relation to the need for the recognition and protection of indigenous peoples' rights in the climate change discourse. It has also strengthened the collaboration, cooperation, solidarity, unity and concerted actions of indigenous peoples in Asia and at the global level in relation to climate change and the rights of indigenous peoples.

## ❖ Advocacy and Campaigns

- The initiatives of indigenous peoples<sup>16</sup> on climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction practices and the roles and contributions of indigenous women in sustainable resource management are promoted through the publication and distribution of case studies in key regional and international events.
- AIPP submitted its position paper to UNFCCC's SBSTA highlighting the need to respect, protect and promote the indigenous peoples' traditional knowledge in the assessment of risks and vulnerability to climate change impacts on agriculture and early warning systems.<sup>17</sup> The submission was later converted to a briefing paper<sup>18</sup> which AIPP used in its intervention in the SBSTA technical workshop on agriculture and early warning systems in the UNFCCC inter-session in June 2015.

<sup>16</sup> See <http://ccmin.aippnet.org/attachments/article/1330/local-actions-solution-to-global-challenges.pdf> and [http://ccmin.aippnet.org/attachments/article/1316/For%20Web\\_Research%20on%20the%20Roles.pdf](http://ccmin.aippnet.org/attachments/article/1316/For%20Web_Research%20on%20the%20Roles.pdf)

<sup>17</sup> [https://unfccc.int/files/documentation/submissions\\_from\\_observers/application/pdf/512.pdf](https://unfccc.int/files/documentation/submissions_from_observers/application/pdf/512.pdf)

<sup>18</sup> [http://www.ccmin.aippnet.org/attachments/article/1315/For%20Web\\_FINAL\\_TRADITIONAL%20KNOWLEDGE%20OF%20INDIGENOUS%20PEOPLES.pdf](http://www.ccmin.aippnet.org/attachments/article/1315/For%20Web_FINAL_TRADITIONAL%20KNOWLEDGE%20OF%20INDIGENOUS%20PEOPLES.pdf)

- AIPP and its members and partners issued a press release in English,<sup>19</sup> Bahasa Malaysia, Vietnamese and Burmese languages on the occasion of International Day of Forests on 21 March 2015, highlighting the need to recognize indigenous peoples' land rights as key to forest-based solutions to climate change.
- Recommendations to States for the recognition of indigenous peoples' knowledge, values, practices, and innovations in addressing climate change were published and widely distributed during the UNFCCC COP 21 and other relevant international and regional events.<sup>20</sup>
- The strong lobby of indigenous peoples during the COP 21 contributed to the inclusion of reference to indigenous peoples' rights in the preambular text and the recognition of indigenous ecological knowledge in the main text of the Paris Agreement. AIPP was able to bring indigenous peoples' representatives from 11 countries and for the first time, including the representatives of indigenous persons with disabilities. COP21 became the most organized COP ever for indigenous peoples with early and timely preparations at the national, regional and international levels guided by a clear work plan. There was heightened visibility of indigenous rights and issues during this key global event with the active coverage by the mainstream media.<sup>21</sup>



◆◆ *Indigenous peoples from Asia huddle for Sunday's caucus ahead of COP21.*  
Photo by Voltaire Tupaz/Rappler

<sup>19</sup> <http://www.aippnet.org/index.php/statements/1508-aipp-press-statement-on-the-occasion-of-the-international-day-of-forests-21-march-2015>

<sup>20</sup> Some of the media coverage from Rappler during the COP 21: <http://www.rappler.com/move-ph/106757-cop21-lumad-begins-journey-paris>; <http://www.rappler.com/science-nature/environment/climate-change/stories/115365-asia-indigenous-peoples-daycop21-cop21>

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- In the negotiations, the Philippine government was the only government from Asia championing the support for the indigenous peoples' position and putting the indigenous peoples' proposal on the negotiating table. However, due to lack of support from Norway, EU, US and other countries, the reference on indigenous peoples' rights and human rights was removed in the final text of Article 2.

#### **At the country level:**

- As a result of various capacity building and awareness creation activities, communities in Sundargarh, India and North Maluku, Indonesia have mobilized and stirred mass movements in their respective areas to assert self-determination. They demanded for local self-governance in India, and the Kao Bay Movement in Indonesia demanded for protection of coastal biodiversity in North Maluku.
- In Bangladesh, Nepal, Thailand, the Philippines and Vietnam, 199 (155 male and 44 female) indigenous peoples participated in organized dialogues with government representatives resulting in the government officials' increased understanding of indigenous peoples' issues, concerns and recommendations on climate change.
- Indigenous communities in Central India are actively advocating for the recognition of their collective land rights by developing their community maps and filing of claim forms to the government. At present, a total of 39 survey maps were completed for 39 villages in Central India. Of these, three maps have been digitized while the rest are in the process of sketching and digitization. In addition, ten (10) land claim forms have been submitted to the Gram Sabha for processing.
- ANGNA, in collaboration with other indigenous peoples and civil society organizations and individuals, organized a Cycle Rally in May 2015 opposing the proposed Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (LARR) (Amendment) Bill.<sup>22</sup> Around 3,000 people attended the rally from various districts in Orissa. A memorandum was submitted to the Governor through the Sundargarh magistrate with the following recommendations:

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<sup>22</sup> In 2015, the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (LARR) (Amendment) Bill was introduced to amend the Act of 2013 (LARR Act, 2013). The Bill creates five special categories of land use: 1. Defence; 2. Rural infrastructure; 3. Affordable housing; 4. Industrial corridors; and infrastructure projects including Public Private Partnership (PPP) projects where the central government owns the land. The Bill exempts the five categories from provisions of the LARR Act, 2013 which requires the consent of 80% of land owners be obtained for private projects and that of 70% of land owners for PPP projects. The Bill allows exemption for projects in these five categories to do Social Impact Assessment to identify those affected; and from the restrictions of acquisition of irrigated multi-cropped land imposed by LARR Act 2013. This proposed Bill stirred opposition from social movements, workers unions, fishworkers, forest workers, and farmer organizations among others. As of writing, there is news that the government is set to withdraw the proposed Bill in the coming budget meeting because of the flak and backlash it received from the people since the Bill was introduced last year.

- a. To stop the Land Ordinance 2015
- b. To stop maha nagar (municipality) in scheduled areas
- c. To ensure the implementation of Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act 1996
- d. To ensure the implementation of collective land entitlement



◆◆ The Cycle Rally in Orissa was organized to oppose a government bill on land acquisition.





A total of 20,062 individuals in Orissa, among them indigenous representatives, including women and youth, and representatives of civil society organizations participated in various gatherings and mobilizations that dealt with the following: promotion of indigenous culture, strengthening of the members of the Forest Rights Committee, protest against the proposed Land Ordinance of 2015, negligence of certain government departments in the implementation of development projects for tribals and the non-implementation of the FRA, and protest against the planned Rourkela Mahanagar, among others.

### Awareness raising and Information Sharing



Facebook page of the Climate Change Monitoring and Information Network (CCMIN)

No of Likes on 1 Jan 2015: 604

No of Likes on 14 Dec 2015: 2364



### CCMIN Twitter Page

No of Follower on 1 Jan 2015: 0

No of Follower 14 Dec 2015: 198

AIPP has a constantly updated listserv that consists of individuals from IP organizations, CSOs, research institutions, UN agencies, research and academic institutions, donors, government agencies, and advocates in Asia and around the globe. All the information, education and communication materials on indigenous peoples and climate change are being shared through this list-serv and other listservs of AIPP and its members with global, regional and national scopes.



# INDIGENOUS WOMEN PROGRAMME

*Overall Objective: Indigenous women in Asia assert, promote and protect their rights as women and as indigenous peoples.*

For 2015, the Indigenous Women Programme implemented the following activities:

- Conduct of leadership trainings for indigenous women and men in Myanmar, Thailand, and Lao PDR
- Inter-community seminars for indigenous communities in Vietnam, Thailand, Myanmar, and Cambodia
- Support for institutional strengthening and fundraising of indigenous women's organizations in Thailand, Bangladesh, and Cambodia and development of indigenous women's strategy paper for the indigenous peoples' organizations in Cambodia and Thailand
- Production and distribution of briefing papers on 'Indigenous Women and Human Trafficking in the Mekong Region: Policy Overview and Community Response' and 'The Impacts of Dispossession on Indigenous Women'
- Production and distribution of the Gender Manual: Good Practices and Lessons Learnt by an Indigenous Peoples Organization
- Translation of relevant materials and publications on indigenous women
- Facilitation of the participation of 12 indigenous women in various national and regional advocacy forums

The programme has likewise been taking the lead in ensuring the implementation of the AIPP Gender Policy and in ensuring the gender mainstreaming component of all AIPP activities.

## **Capacity Building**

- There is increased capacity of indigenous organizations on fundraising through the conduct of proposal development workshops and mentoring on proposal making in Bangladesh, Cambodia, and Thailand.



- Indigenous women increased their awareness and knowledge on indigenous women's rights and international human rights instruments, in particular the UNDRIP and CEDAW; and enhanced their leadership, advocacy and lobby skills.
- Strategic support to the Indigenous Women's Network in Thailand (IWNT) strengthened their institutional capacity in the development of their organization's strategic plan (2016-2020), and in the development of the strategy paper for indigenous women in Cambodia.
- The conduct of leadership trainings in Myanmar and Thailand increased the knowledge and skills on leadership of 81 participants (66 men and 15 women).

### ◆◆ **Advocacy and Networking**

- The regular conduct of the Mekong Indigenous Women's exchange visit resulted in strengthened collaboration among indigenous women in the Mekong Region with an action plan to establish a Mekong Indigenous Women's Network by 2018.





- There is increased public awareness on human trafficking and indigenous women in the Mekong; on the key roles that indigenous women play in the indigenous movement; and on particular concerns of indigenous women through the production, distribution, and translation of publications on the said topics of the various programmes of AIPP.
- The issuance of a statement during the 16 Days Campaign to End Violence against Women increased awareness on indigenous women's concerns in the wider women's movement.



◆◆ *Indigenous women representatives from Southern Thailand present their output as a group.*

- Support to indigenous women's activities has increased through enhanced collaboration with Oxfam (Novib and Australia).
- Participation to key events at the national and regional levels has increased the visibility of AIPP's work on indigenous women and in general.
- Increased collaboration between indigenous women's organizations and civil society organizations was achieved in Nepal, where four (4) indigenous women's organizations collaborated for the preparation of the CEDAW shadow report. This helped in strengthening indigenous women's groups and created opportunities to build good relationship, and to use the strength of each organization to work together. Additionally, this initiative of working together also helped them in securing more funding for regional consultation meetings.
- The work of CSDM for indigenous women was encouraged and welcomed by local government leaders in Vietnam.

## **Gender Mainstreaming and Implementation of the AIPP Gender Policy**

- The RCB programme committee members and Oxfam staff and partners increased their knowledge and understanding of gender mainstreaming and AIPP's work on this.
- The AIPP Gender Manual<sup>23</sup> increased its reach with the translation to Nepali, Hindi, Khmer, and Thai.
- On the last quarter of 2015, the programme initiated an online survey among AIPP members to determine the progress made on the implementation of the gender policy, over the past two years. The results of the 2015 partner's survey are based on data collected from 23 respondents. The number of responses has increased by more than 150% compared to a similar survey conducted in 2013.

### **Compiled responses from the survey**

*Does your organization have any document that provides statements or guidelines dealing with gender, or the issues related to indigenous women and men?*

- 50% of respondents stated that their organization now had documents providing statements or guidelines in dealing with gender, or issues related to indigenous women.
- 25% of respondents claimed that they were in the process of working on such a document, while the remainder had no such document.

*Ensuring participation of women:*

- One third of respondents stated that 51-75% of their activities' participants were women; while roughly 56% stated that women constituted 26-50% of their participants.

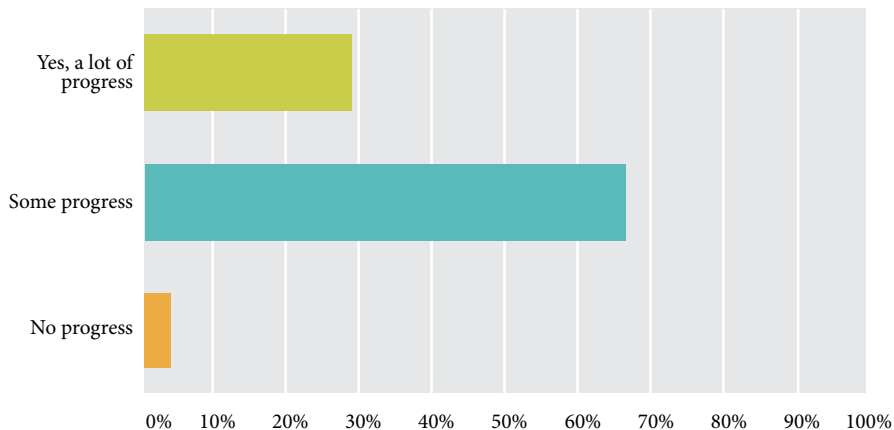
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<sup>23</sup> <http://www.aippnet.org/index.php/publication-sp-2697/indigenous-women/1505-gender-manual-good-practices-and-lessons-learnt-by-an-indigenous-peoples-organization>



## Has your organisation made progress in addressing the challenges for indigenous women and/or gender equality in 2015?

Answered: 24 Skipped: 0



- Almost all respondents felt supported by AIPP in implementing the Gender Policy; 90% selected 'very supportive' or 'mostly supportive.'

The respondents identified the following as continuing challenges in relation to the full realization of indigenous women's empowerment:

- Patriarchal societies remain a challenge to the promotion of indigenous women's rights.
- There is difference between men and women in understanding the struggle for development.
- Indigenous women lack confidence.
- Low familial income requires women to engage in paid work rather than participate in unpaid project activities.
- Many indigenous women still see men as better decision-makers.
- The limited technical capacity of indigenous women is a barrier for them to hold leadership positions.

In terms of lessons learned, the respondents stated that:

- Indigenous women are less aggressive than men when asserting their rights. They are also (often) more articulate, sincere, committed and patient.
- Men often do not want to participate in activities about indigenous women's rights, but when they do, it can provide a good opportunity for them to discuss family and social issues together.
- Through sharing of media, papers and films, partners have learned a lot of useful information regarding gender and women's rights.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. More gender awareness programs should be initiated, along with exposure activities for the partners.
2. Gender issues need to be addressed head-on, particularly with male-dominated governance bodies.
3. Source specific funds for indigenous women's capacity building at all levels, including trainings specifically aimed at executive committee members and senior management staff.
4. There should be analysis of national legal and policy frameworks to protect the rights of indigenous women, and how they differ from general policies.
5. Provide logistic support to enhance the number of indigenous women staff in partner organizations.
6. Mobilize additional resources to support the partner organizations to do follow up actions in line with the gender policy.
7. Conduct follow-up through progressive trainings on gender-related issues facing indigenous communities.



# INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

*Overall Objective: The capacity of governance structures of AIPP and its member-organisations are strengthened to advance the regional movement of indigenous peoples in Asia and they are effectively responding to urgent and emerging issues, needs and challenges regarding indigenous peoples with greater cooperation and solidarity.*

## **Introduction**

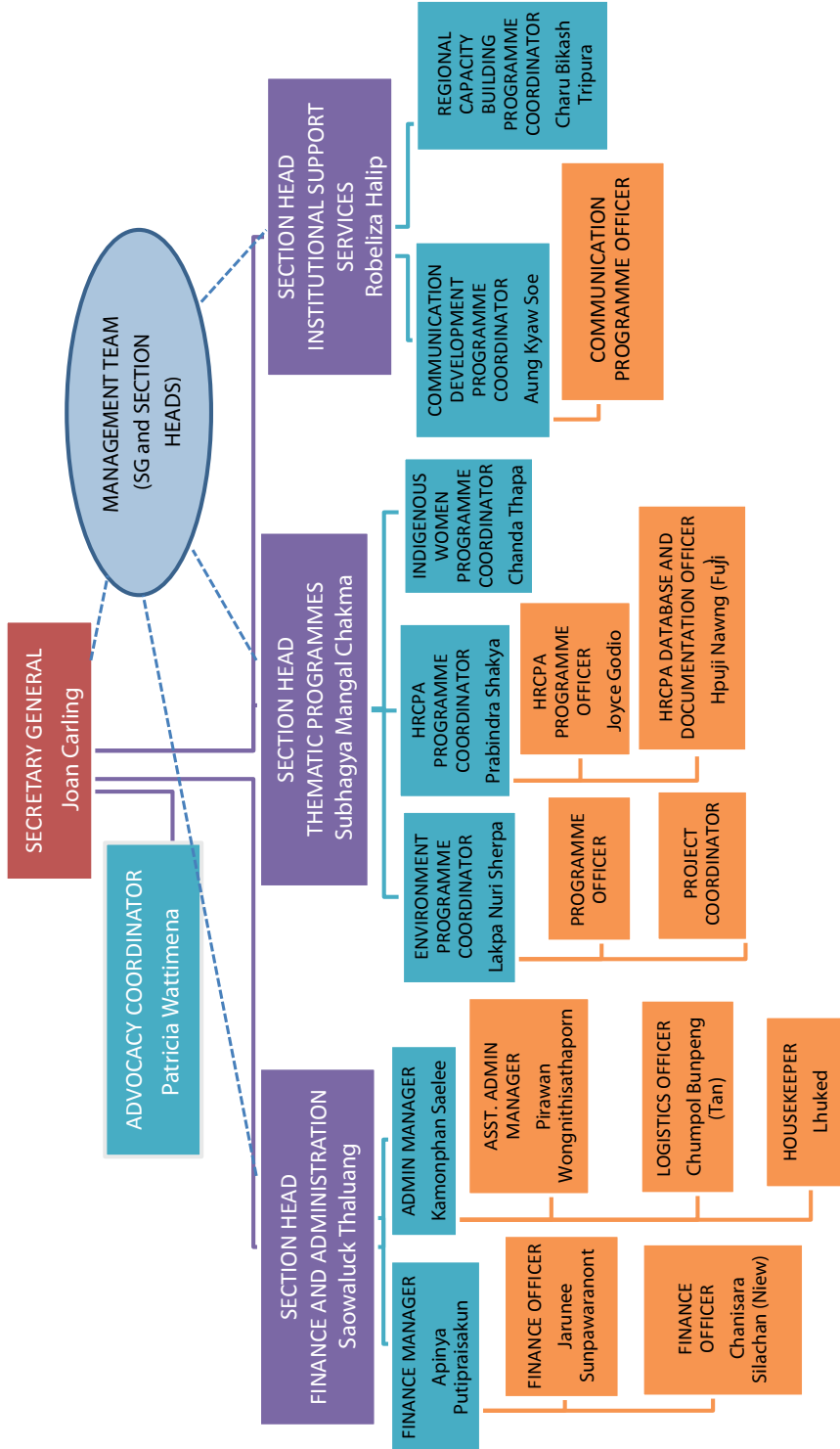
For 2015, AIPP focused on strengthening the governance structures of the organization, the Secretariat, the members and partners to effectively implement policies and programmes based on the members' needs and priorities. This will continue in 2016 as AIPP is currently preparing for the conduct of its 7<sup>th</sup> General Assembly in September 2016.

The institutional strengthening activities are as follows:

- Conduct of the bi-annual Executive Council meetings and AIPP Foundation Board meetings
- Staff development activities for the Secretariat
- Support for institutional strengthening of members
- Conduct of subregional meetings with AIPP members

The work of AIPP has greatly expanded through the years thus the increase in the size of the Regional Secretariat. To further systematize the internal management, the Secretariat reviewed its management structure in 2014 and adopted the structure below which is currently operational.

**SECRETARIAT MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE**





## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

### Programme Committee Meeting

- Seven (3 women, 4 men) members of the RCB Programme Committee increased their knowledge and awareness on the progress of implementation of the programme and were able to provide recommendations and guidance for the continuing implementation of programme activities based on the needs and priorities on the ground.

### ❖ Support for organizational needs of members and support for communities affected by natural calamities

- increased support to members and indigenous communities affected by natural disasters in Malaysia, Myanmar, and Nepal and two (2) indigenous leaders at risk in need of assistance
- improved finance management systems of nine (9) members and partners through continuous mentoring and coaching, and conduct of finance orientation for three (3) programme project partners
- enhanced strategy for institutional support for two (2) AIPP members in Myanmar and Timor Leste through the review and feedback for further improvement of their organizational and financial management and feedback systems

### ❖ Executive Council

The Executive Council is the interim decision making body of AIPP in between the General Assembly. At present, the Council is composed of eight (8) representatives from the four (4) sub-regions (South Asia, Southeast Asia, Mekong, and East Asia), one representative each from the indigenous women and indigenous youth, and the Secretary General and Chairperson.

- For 2015, there has been active engagement of five (2F, 3 M) EC members in addition to the Secretary General and the Chairperson to key advocacy events contributing to the increased visibility of indigenous peoples' rights and issues in various events.
- Ten (6F, 4M) EC members are actively providing guidance to the Secretariat and promptly acting on matters needing their action.

### Southeast and East Asia Sub-regional Meetings

- Increased awareness of AIPP members in Southeast and East Asia on the implementation of AIPP's 2013-2016 Strategic Plan by the Secretariat and increased participation in programme planning with the members by providing recommendations to their programmes based on their needs and priorities on the ground

## **Staff Development**

- Increased knowledge of 15 (11F, 4M) Secretariat members on UNDRIP monitoring, monitoring and evaluation, logical framework, and English writing and communication skills through the conduct of various staff development activities and one-on-one mentoring on English writing skills among the programme staff
- Updated finance policies and guidelines and improved implementation of the said policies and guidelines within the Secretariat and among project partners
- Enhanced communications system and systematization of file sharing within the Secretariat through the engagement with a Communications Consultant and Database Consultant

## **Interprogramme work of AIPP programmes**

- Interprogramme work on capacity building is strengthened within the Secretariat through the reactivation of the capacity building team composed of programme staff involved in capacity building work in their respective programmes.

## **Fundraising**

- The increase of support from various Oxfam and UN agencies and requests for partnership and collaboration in conducting joint and key activities at the global, regional and national levels, exemplify increased interest of donors and partners in the work of AIPP.
- For 2015, AIPP was able to secure support for the activities of the Environment Programme, bridge funding for the Indigenous Voices in Asia (IVA) project, and capacity building activities of the Regional Capacity Building Programme.



## SUPPORT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES

PROGRAMME	DONORS/PARTNERS
<b>Institutional Strengthening</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tamalpais</li> </ul>
<b>Human Rights</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oxfam Australia</li> <li>• International Land Coalition (ILC)</li> <li>• International Labour Organization (ILO)</li> <li>• International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)</li> <li>• International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)</li> <li>• International Workgroup for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA)</li> </ul>
<b>Indigenous Women</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oxfam Novib</li> <li>• Oxfam Australia</li> <li>• Tamalpais</li> <li>• Forest Peoples Programme (FPP)</li> </ul>
<b>Regional Capacity Building</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Christensen Fund, (TCF)</li> <li>• The German Catholic Bishops' Organisation for Development Cooperation (MISEREOR)</li> </ul>
<b>Environment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International Workgroup for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA)</li> <li>• Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC)</li> <li>• Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation, (Norad)</li> <li>• Swedish International Biodiversity Programme (SwedBio)</li> <li>• The German Catholic Bishops' Organisation for Development Cooperation (MISEREOR)</li> <li>• Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations (FAO)</li> <li>• United Nations Development Programme/ United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)</li> </ul>
<b>Communication Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tamalpais</li> <li>• Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)</li> <li>• United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)</li> </ul>

## **Institutional Strengthening**

The core funding of AIPP from Tamalpais Trust is mainly for institutional strengthening of AIPP and its members and for the implementation of key programme activities. AIPP needs to secure more support for its core funds to be able to have more flexibility to support institutional strengthening of AIPP as the regional organization and to be able to meet the needs and priorities of its members.

## **Regional Capacity Building Programme**

For 2015, the programme continues to implement the project activities in Nepal, Malaysia, Northeast India, and Cambodia supported by a two-year (May 2015-April 2017) support from The Christensen Fund. On the other hand, capacity building focused on the indigenous youth is enabled by a three-year (2015-2018) support from Misereor.

## **Communication Development Programme**

The programme was able to implement its targets for the year through the support from Tamalpais Trust particularly on information sharing, production and translation of relevant materials. The programme continues to implement the Indigenous Voices in Asia project, a more than 3-year project funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) which started in November 2012. The project is being implemented in Nepal, Cambodia, Indonesia, and the Philippines. In Nepal, the implementation of the project activities was disrupted by the earthquake last May 2015 but the project was able to progress months after the calamity.

## **Environment Programme**

The Environment Programme has the biggest funding among AIPP programmes. The programme completed the three-year project on “Building resiliency of indigenous communities on climate change adaptation” supported by Misereor and is now on its second phase (2015-2018) of implementation with partners in Nepal, Thailand, and the Philippines. The two-year consolidation phase of the Climate Change Partnership with Indigenous Peoples project in Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar, Nepal, Thailand and Vietnam ends in March 2016. However, with the funding support from Norad, AIPP will implement the project “Advancing indigenous peoples’ rights in REDD+ and strengthening indigenous peoples’ forest management and livelihoods in Vietnam and Myanmar” from 2016-2020 in partnership with Chin Human Rights Organizations (CHRO), Myanmar and Centre for Sustainable Development in the Mountainous Areas (CSDM), Vietnam and continue its work on climate change, REDD+ and land rights.



### **Other projects of the programme:**

- Securing Forest Rights and Enhancing Resource Management of Indigenous Peoples in Asia supported by the Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC). The project is being implemented in Central India.
- In 2015, the programme also completed the implementation of the short term grant from the UNDP on “Organizing and Managing Contributions to the COP 21 IP Initiative from the Asia Region.”

### **Indigenous Women Programme**

For 2015, the programme continued the project implementation of “Strengthening the capacities of indigenous women and advancing the advocacy for indigenous women’s rights and welfare” in the Mekong region supported by Oxfam Novib. The programme was likewise able to generate additional support from Oxfam Australia for the project “Strengthening and empowering indigenous women and men to assert their rights in water governance in Cambodia and Vietnam.”

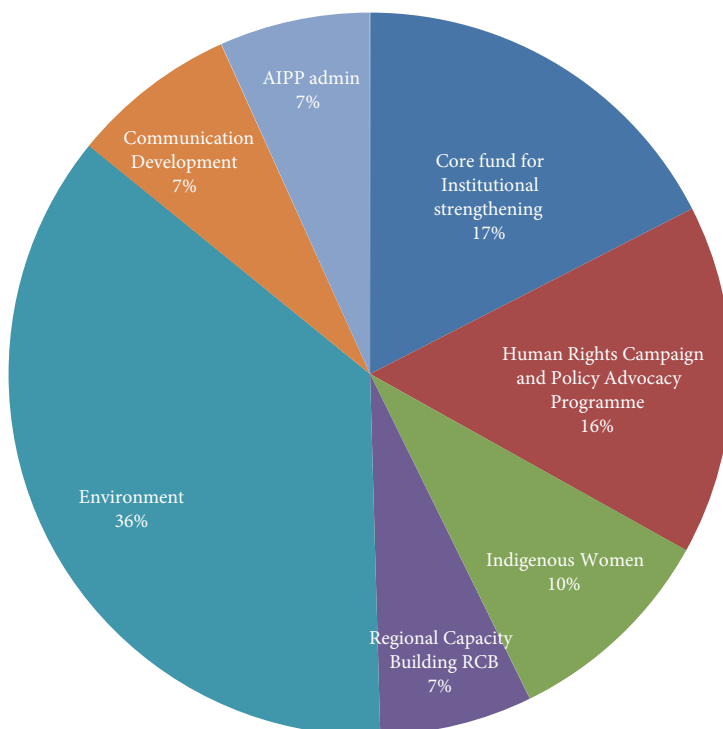
Majority of the funding opportunities are focused on the Mekong region, thus posing a big challenge of limited coverage of work for the programme.

### **Human Rights Campaign and Policy Advocacy Programme**

The programme concluded the implementation of the EIDHR project on strengthening the Indigenous Peoples Human Rights Defenders (IPHRD) Network during the first quarter of 2015. With the completion of the EIDHR project, continuing support for IPHRD at risk was sourced out from the European Union support for human rights defenders. The programme is also implementing the Indigenous Navigator (<http://www.indigenousnavigator.org/>) in collaboration with the International Labour Organization (ILO), Forest Peoples Programme (FPP), International Workgroup for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA), Tebtebba, and support from international financial institutions from Oxfam Australia. IWGIA has also been providing support for the conduct of the Annual Asia Indigenous Peoples Regional Preparatory Meeting on relevant UN mechanisms and procedures.

# FINANCIAL STATUS FOR 2015

Total Fund Received in 2015



## Income

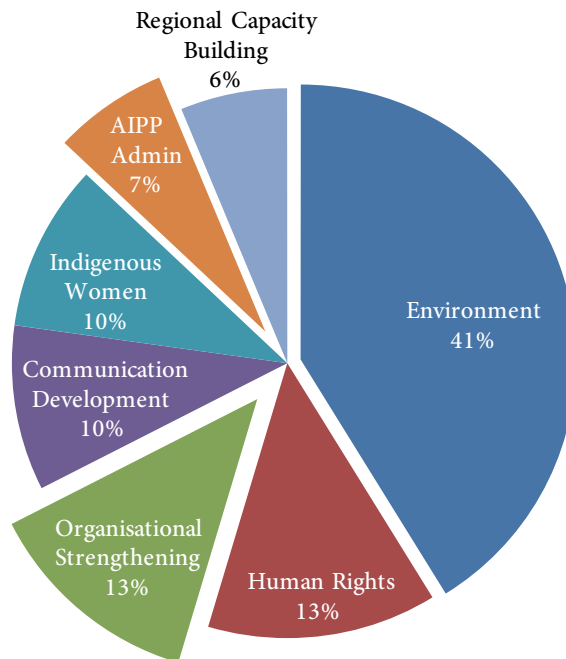
In total, AIPP received a total amount of \$1,996,783.00 (THB 68,385,233.87). This amount excludes the balance forwarded from 2014.

AIPP received many small grant projects under the Environment and Human Rights Programmes which covered 14% of the total income in 2015. Next to the small grants was the support from the German Catholic Bishops' Organisation for Development Cooperation (MISEREOR) which accounts for the 12% of the total income mainly to support the Environment and Regional Capacity Building Programmes.

In terms of Programme Funds, the Environment Programme was still the main program receiving funding from various donors for both short and long term activities/projects. Most of the reflected funds received were a continuing support from 2014 and ended in 2015.



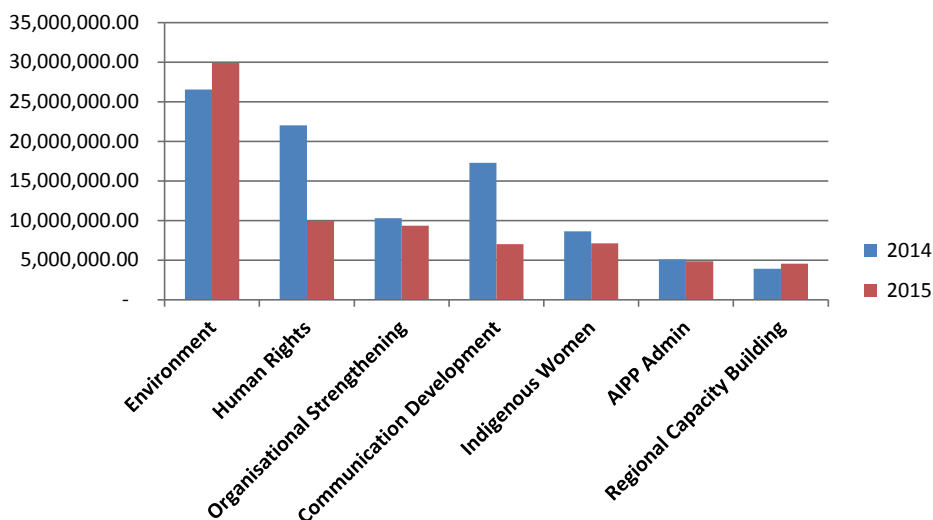
## Expenditure



The Environment Programme has the highest payment with a percentage of 41% of the overall expenditure. Next are the Human Rights Campaign and Policy Advocacy Programme and Organizational Strengthening at the same level with 13% of the overall expenditure. The other payment percentages for 2015 are as follows: Communication Development Programme and Indigenous Women Programme - 10% each; AIPP Admin - 7%; and Regional Capacity Building programme - 6%.

Of the total expenditure, thirteen percent (13%) was for organizational strengthening activities, seven (7%) for administrative costs of AIPP, and eighty percent (80%) for programme and project implementation.

### Level of Programme Funding 2014 - 2015



Overall, the level of programme funding was 22 % lower than in 2014.

The level of funding of the Environment Programme slightly increased compared to 2014. Besides the fact that most of the projects ended in 2015, it was the start of the three-year project implementation of the “Building the Resiliency of Indigenous Communities on Climate Change Adaptation“ funded by the German Catholic Bishops’ Organisation for Development Cooperation (MISEREOR) .

The level of funding of the Human Rights Campaign and Policy Advocacy (HRCPA) Programme and Communication Development Programme (CD) decreased by half compared to 2014. For the Human Rights Campaign and Policy Advocacy, it was mainly because the long term project of EIDHR was completed in 2014 and mostly short projects of various funders were implemented in 2015. With the Communication Development Programme, it was due to the completion of the Indigenous Voices in Asia project supported by SIDA.

In terms of direct project implementation for 2015, AIPP implemented nine (9) multi-year projects in 10 countries with fifteen (15) AIPP members and eight (8) partner-organizations at the country level.



<b>COUNTRY</b>	<b>NO. OF MULTI-YEAR PROJECTS</b>	<b>IMPLEMENTING PROGRAMME/S</b>
<b>Cambodia</b>	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communication Development programme</li> <li>• Regional Capacity Building programme</li> <li>• Indigenous Women programme</li> </ul>
<b>India</b>	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment Programme</li> <li>• Regional Capacity Building programme</li> </ul>
<b>Indonesia</b>	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communication Development programme</li> </ul>
<b>Laos</b>	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indigenous Women programme</li> </ul>
<b>Malaysia</b>	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional Capacity Building programme</li> </ul>
<b>Myanmar</b>	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment Programme</li> <li>• Indigenous Women programme</li> </ul>
<b>Nepal</b>	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment Programme</li> <li>• Communication Development programme</li> <li>• Human Rights Campaign and Policy Advocacy Programme</li> </ul>
<b>Philippines</b>	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment Programme</li> <li>• Communication Development programme</li> </ul>
<b>Thailand</b>	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment Programme</li> <li>• Communication Development programme</li> <li>• Indigenous Women programme</li> <li>• Human Rights Campaign and Policy Advocacy Programme</li> </ul>
<b>Vietnam</b>	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment Programme</li> <li>• Indigenous Women programme</li> </ul>

AIPP likewise implemented a number of one-time or short term activities with members and partners in India, Timor Leste, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Philippines, Malaysia, Thailand, and Myanmar.

# CHALLENGES



1. Project implementation and management
  - Change of personnel with no proper turnover by some project partners
  - Late submission of reports and supporting documents from partners resulting to reduced quality and delayed submission of reports to donors
2. Lack of dedicated funding for capacity building and documentation work of IPHRDs and expanding the network to other countries
3. Need to strengthen collaboration at the country level for advocacy initiative and follow-up on submissions to relevant bodies
4. While the communications work of AIPP has expanded using various forms of media and communication tools, there is still a huge gap at the country level in terms of communicating to the wider global audience due to limitation in English and communication skills, such as preparing news articles, setting up their own website as well as the lack of internet connectivity in many indigenous communities. Thus the need for continuous support for translation to the national and local languages.
5. Uneven opportunities for funding to meet the needs and priorities of indigenous peoples in Asia such as key activities of the human rights and women's programmes





## LESSONS LEARNED

- Exchange of skills and experiences among indigenous organizations, activists, indigenous journalists, and mainstream media can further strengthen networks, solidarity and collaboration to make indigenous peoples' issues more visible in different media outfits including in social media.
- Collaboration between indigenous organizations at the country level strengthened Indigenous women's organizations/networks groups and created opportunities to build good relationship.
- Collaboration and partnerships with relevant NGOs and like-minded organizations in advocacy work are critical in generating greater attention and action to the demands and recommendations of indigenous peoples organizations.
- Indigenous women's effective participation in decision-making and in relevant activities requires more long term intervention and targeted capacity building due to their low level of confidence, education and limitations in language. This also means more resources such as translation services should be allocated to support their participation. Ensuring that indigenous women have proper travel documents also helps expand opportunities for their leaders and potential leaders to bring their concerns to the regional and international levels.
- Sustained support and intervention for targeted capacity building of indigenous women are highly needed, especially in building and strengthening their organizations, and for their effective participation and engagement at the national, regional and global levels.
- Organizing write shops with partners helps ensure better quality of proposals for submission.
- The full support of indigenous organizations to the development of media outlet initiated and managed by indigenous peoples as well as having dedicated youth are critical to its success such as the experience of the Indigenous Media Network (IMN) in Thailand.

- Long term core funding support is very important as it provides the flexibility for AIPP to be able to implement its Strategic Plan while responding to arising needs and priorities of indigenous organizations and communities at the country and local levels. Through the support from Tamalpais, AIPP was able to respond to the needs of its members and indigenous communities in countries where access to project funding is difficult or where there is capacity gap in the indigenous organization to manage long term or big funds.
- Institutional capacity building of indigenous peoples' organizations is a long process needing long-term support. Further, more targeted intervention and practical skills, training and mentoring (i.e. Finance and fund management, collective leadership development, advocacy and networking) are crucial in their continued development and sustainability.
- Strengthened inter-programme coordination within the Secretariat results in better optimization of resources and support for programmes with budget gaps, and improved coordinated, strategic support for members at the country level.



## RECOMMENDATIONS

- As AIPP programmes and secretariat have grown significantly, the organization needs to put more attention to staff management and systems, as well as on enhancing the collective leadership of the Executive Council in leading the organization and in terms of advocacy and programme development and monitoring.
- Generate resources and develop targeted and long term-capacity building programmes for indigenous youth and women at the country and regional levels.
- Increase engagement with and strengthen traditional or community level institutions for more effective advocacy and mobilizations.
- Generate support to strengthen national IPHRD networks, the capacities of individual IPHRDs, and follow-up of gains from advocacy engagements at all levels.
- Conduct targeted mentoring and initiate resource mobilization at the country level for IPHRDs who can lead/facilitate human rights documentation and advocacy throughout the country.
- Pursue a targeted and strategic institutional funding for AIPP to be able to have more flexibility to support the work of its programmes and to address the needs and priorities of AIPP members and partners and the communities they are working with in line with the Strategic Plan of the organization.

<b>ASIA INDIGENOUS PEOPLES PACT FOUNDATION</b>		
<b>STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION</b>		
<b>AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2015</b>		
	<b>AMOUNT IN THB</b>	
	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalent	13,297,927.53	31,796,364.77
Subsidize-partner	5,541,384.24	4,716,669.42
Accrued income from donor	96,320.13	3,063,806.52
Receivable from related party	4,005.56	-
Advance payment	390,105.83	200,015.80
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>19,329,743.29</b>	<b>39,776,856.51</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>		
Property plant and equipment	4,728,831.12	3,959,628.46
<b>Total non-current assets</b>	<b>4,728,831.12</b>	<b>3,959,628.46</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>24,058,574.41</b>	<b>43,736,484.97</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE</b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Grant received in advance from donor	18,013,552.07	35,331,912.75
Subsidize-partner liabilities	-	1,078,177.30
Payable to related party	-	1,153,822.50
Other current liabilities	582,151.60	66,592.96
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>18,595,703.67</b>	<b>37,630,505.51</b>
<b>FUND BALANCE</b>		
Initial Fund	200,000.00	200,000.00
Accumulated incomes over expenditures	5,262,870.74	5,905,979.46
<b>Total Fund balance</b>	<b>5,462,870.74</b>	<b>6,105,979.46</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND ACCUMULATED FUNDS</b>	<b>24,058,574.41</b>	<b>43,736,484.97</b>



**ASIA INDIGENOUS PEOPLES PACT FOUNDATION**  
**STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015**

	AMOUNT IN THB	
	2015	2014
<b>INCOMES</b>		
Grant from donors	63,723,330.15	88,564,792.80
Grant contribution for administration	4,463,950.38	6,066,025.28
Other income	197,953.34	166,171.26
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>68,385,233.87</b>	<b>94,796,989.34</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Project activities expense	63,962,898.56	88,676,760.55
Administration expense	4,863,745.91	5,096,941.52
Depreciation of assets	201,698.12	231,658.53
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>69,028,342.59</b>	<b>94,005,360.60</b>
<b>INCOME OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>(643,108.72)</b>	<b>791,628.74</b>



◆◆ *Members of the AIPP Regional Secretariat*



**Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP)**



## About Us

The Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP) is a regional organization founded in 1988 by indigenous peoples' movements as a platform for solidarity and cooperation. AIPP is actively promoting and defending indigenous peoples' rights and human rights; sustainable development and management of resources and environment protection. Through the years, AIPP has developed its expertise on grassroots capacity building, advocacy and networking from local to global levels and strengthening partnerships with indigenous organizations, support NGOs, UN agencies and other institutions. At present, AIPP has 47 members from 14 countries in Asia with 7 indigenous peoples' national alliances/networks and 35 local and sub-national organizations including 16 are ethnic-based organizations, five (5) indigenous women and four (4) are indigenous youth organizations.

## Our Vision

Indigenous peoples in Asia are living with dignity and fully exercising their rights, distinct cultures and identity, and enhancing their sustainable management systems on lands, territories and resources for their own future and development in an environment of peace, justice and equality.

## Our Mission

AIPP strengthen the solidarity, cooperation and capacities of indigenous peoples in Asia to promote and protect their rights, cultures and identities, and their sustainable resource management system for their development and self-determination.



### Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP)

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[iphndefenders.net](http://iphndefenders.net), [www.iva.aippnet.org](http://www.iva.aippnet.org)



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