



**Report of the Regional Multi-stakeholder Consultation Workshop on the
Regional Support to Indigenous Peoples for Livelihood and
Food Security in Asia and the Pacific Region**

Chiang Mai, Thailand, 28-29 August 2014



Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP)

**Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO),
Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific**

FOREWORD

Stigmatized in the South and Southeast Asia, the Indigenous Peoples' traditional farming system is endangered nowadays. Shifting cultivation, as a cultural and inherited Indigenous Peoples' form of land use, was declared as a major land use issue by the Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations (FAO) in 1957. Indeed, during years most of Governments tried to ban rotational farming while Indigenous Peoples struggled to keep continuing, sometimes by practicing it illegally. In 2014 it appeared necessary to take stock of the current state of shifting cultivation and to reflect on the question of its future in our evolving environment and societies.

The observation that indigenous peoples constitute approximately 5% of the global population and yet about 15% of the world's poor requires a concerted remedy to improve and protect Indigenous Peoples' livelihood and food security. For most of them, as proven by the cases studies, their livelihood relies on shifting cultivation, an ancestral farming practice which has been long contested, prohibited and sometime criminalized by South and Southeast Asian States.

The Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP), under a project financed by FAO, sharing same interest to improve Indigenous Peoples' wellness and integrity, initiated researches on the contribution of shifting cultivation to food security and livelihood. Case studies were conducted in the field by specialized researchers who with technical knowledge on Indigenous Peoples and agriculture-based livelihood, shed light on alarming situation of indigenous groups in some of the seven studied countries and highlighted , in others, measures taken by States to support shifting cultivation.

Shifting cultivation is not just a technique but a way of life for Indigenous Peoples who practiced it for centuries as part of their culture and livelihood. In this regard, this publication of *Shifting Cultivation, Livelihood and Food Security: New and Old Challenges for Indigenous Peoples in Asia* offers a pioneering understanding of such land use system, often misunderstood and challenged by state authorities, by asserting that its practice can be sustainable and protective of Indigenous Peoples' livelihood.

Such an assertion regarding shifting cultivation is an important step forward which breaks with the previous perceptions denying the potential sustainability and benefits of shifting cultivation for food security and livelihood. Indeed, case studies in this publication emphasize some good practices of shifting cultivation, equitably and sustainably managed. Sharing and discussing such experiences enhanced the possibility of cooperation among

stakeholders, supporting food security and Indigenous Peoples' livelihood, as well as their integrity. Moreover, this collaborative research on rotational farming opens opportunities for common understanding between indigenous groups and governments.

This well documented publication will offer various stakeholders an overview of challenges faced by Indigenous Peoples in Asia, and a strong governing principle formalized by common recommendations stemming from discussions on case studies at the Regional Multi-stakeholder Consultation on Regional Support to Indigenous Peoples for Livelihood and Food Security conducted in Chiang Mai Thailand from 28-29 August 2014. FAO is committed to support programs to conserve biodiversity as well as traditional knowledge of Indigenous Peoples, but also to jointly establish a lasting capacity building process and to launch researches on shifting cultivation and related fields.

The enhancement of Indigenous Peoples' food security and livelihood will rely on this strong and growing cooperation among stakeholders. I believe this publication promotes such cooperation not only in Asia, but also globally.

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Joan Carling

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Executive Summary

Indigenous peoples have become an undeniable stakeholder in the global development agenda. The 12th session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFii) in May 2013 recognized socio-economic determinants contributing to livelihoods of indigenous peoples such as food sovereignty, land rights, and culture and tradition. The Forum recommended that Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), in the International Year of Family Farming 2014, to organize expert seminars as a specialized agency of the UN with its core mandate on eradicating hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition.

Realizing that achieving its mandate requires the involvement of indigenous peoples, FAO had been paving its way for the creation of technical and policy platforms, guidelines, as well as for the implementation of specific activities to support exchange of knowledge and experiences. “FAO Policy on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples” has been formulated in 2010 to provide a framework to guide FAO’s work where indigenous peoples are concerned. “The Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security,” which was developed and adopted by the Committee on World Food Security in 2012, advocates the legal recognition of tenure rights of indigenous peoples with customary tenure systems.

In conjunction with its global level efforts in promoting indigenous rights, FAO organized a regional meeting entitled “Regional Consultation on Ways Forward: FAO and Indigenous Peoples” in Bangkok, November 2013 in order to facilitate multi-stakeholders dialogue and networking at all levels (local, national, regional and international) in Asia and the Pacific. In response to some of the recommendations made at this meeting in Bangkok, FAO decided to strengthen technical and policy platforms as well as knowledge sharing under a Regional Technical Cooperation Programme Facility (TCPF) project in partnership with Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP).

The Regional TCPF project had two main objectives: documenting the case studies on the recent and ongoing changes in the livelihoods and food security of indigenous peoples, particularly of those depending on shifting cultivation, including good practices in adaptive responses to changes; and discussing and reviewing the results and findings of the case studies in a multi-stakeholders forum including government representatives, academicians, researchers and indigenous peoples.

Case Studies.

The AIPP, jointly with International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA), organized and facilitated the design and compilation of seven case studies in Cambodia, Laos, Nepal, Thailand, Indonesia, India and Bangladesh. The seven countries were selected on the basis of: high degree of dependency on shifting cultivation for livelihood; presence of diverse legal and policy context; existence of prior studies; and availability of experienced researchers. The case studies confirmed the recent trend of rapid decline in shifting cultivation due to socio-economic transformations. The key findings of the case studies can be summarized into the following points:

1. Tightening and easing pressure on land availability: Some case studies found that the biggest contributor of land loss is the land concession of agro-industry/resources extraction on indigenous land. Population resettlement and restriction on shifting cultivation for environmental conservation serve to reduce the indigenous peoples' access to land. Individualized land titling is often preferred over community-based access to land which has been traditionally practiced in indigenous communities. Opposite trends were also observed where outmigration for off-farm opportunities reduces pressure on land for shifting cultivation.
2. Market integration and dual economy: Increased access to market allows diversification in indigenous diet and more opportunities for cash income. As a result, a dual economy is observed in many case studies, where shifting cultivation continues to be practiced for own food consumption on one hand and also access to markets provides opportunities for cash income. Market access also enables the indigenous populations to access more nutritious food and improve their diets.
3. Challenges: As more indigenous peoples adopt cash crops such as fruits, cashew, tea and coffee, uncertainties grow due to volatility of commodity markets. Some case studies found that not all the indigenous communities have necessary knowledge and means to cope with volatile markets. Moreover, high input costs on agrochemicals, limited access to credit, and outmigration also adversely affect livelihoods of indigenous peoples.
4. Best adaptive practices: A number of innovative practices creating synergies in subsistence shifting cultivation and commercial agriculture in indigenous communities have been documented. The best practices identified some key enabling factors including adequate land tenure and security, existence of traditional knowledge on natural resources management, and collective process of decision making.

Multi-stakeholder Consultation.

“Regional Multi-stakeholder Consultation on Livelihood and Food Security of Indigenous Peoples in Asia” was organized on 28-30 August 2014 in Chiang Mai, Thailand including one day field visit to Mae Lam Kham village to observe indigenous peoples’ sustainable Shifting cultivation practices.

The multi-stakeholder forum invited nearly 50 participants from 12 countries in the region, including representatives from the seven case study communities. The meeting raised critical questions to address policy implications on indigenous livelihood and food security and sought potential partnerships among development partners in supporting indigenous people’s sustainable livelihood and food security. The participants were well represented in terms of sector (governments, development partners, academia, researchers and CSOs), as well as gender.

Summary Recommendations.

The multi-stakeholder consultation forum stimulated discussions on strengthening policy advocacy for land tenure, food security and livelihood as well as strategic partnerships to support indigenous people’s livelihood. Such discussions have been put together into a set of common recommendations, which are summarized below:

1. Strengthening policy advocacy at national, regional and global levels on land tenure, food security and livelihood based upon the principle of equal partnership between states and indigenous peoples and adherence to the right to free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) of indigenous peoples in relation to protection of shifting cultivation, sustainable resource management and cultural integrity;
2. Awareness raising on indigenous peoples’ rights addressing consequences of industrial mono-cropping, large-scale land investments and plantations; capacity building on innovations especially for women and youth; and skills development for agroforestry.
3. Biodiversity conservation and enhancement against bio-piracy, unfair and illegal patenting;
4. Research and documentation on shifting cultivation and related studies; and
5. Support services, social protection and safety net such as credit service, market support, and insurance.

As an immediate result of this effort, a briefing paper on shifting cultivation was produced and distributed at the occasion of the High Level Plenary Meeting of the 69th Session of UN General Assembly known as World Conference of Indigenous Peoples (WCIP) in New York, September 2014, and at the 12th Conference of Parties of Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP 12) in Pyeongchang, Republic of South Korea in October 2014.

I. Introduction

The regional support to Indigenous Peoples for Livelihood and Food Security is a joint initiative of the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO-RAP) and the Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP). It is, additionally, supported by International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA) and Rainforest Foundation Norway (RFN). This regional support has two major components i.e., conducting case studies on adaptive responses of indigenous shifting cultivation communities to changing social, economic, and legal and policy conditions to ensure livelihood and food security; and organization of the Regional Multi-stakeholders Consultation.

The duration of the project is 6 months starting from April to September 2014. The case studies were carried out in 7 countries in Asia – Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Laos, Nepal and Thailand. The main purpose of the case studies was to identify and document good practices in adaptive responses to address the key challenges faced by indigenous peoples, and the opportunities in achieving and maintaining the livelihood and food security and environment sustainability. These case studies have documented many good practices and results, which provided the basis for the consultation among the multi-stakeholders, comprising government representatives, researchers, indigenous peoples' organizations and communities, UN agencies. The consultation further developed the common recommendations and proposals for collaboration among specific development and resource partners in future.

II. Rationale of the Regional Support

This regional support was the continuation of the joint initiative between FAO-RAP and AIPP, which was started in the last session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) in May 2013 in New York. There was a meeting between the UN agencies and Indigenous Peoples' representatives for possible collaboration. As a result, the Regional Consultation on Ways Forward was organized by FAO-RAP and AIPP on 19-20 November 2013 in Bangkok, Thailand. The consultation was actively participated by 30 participants from 10 countries in Asia. The Consultation discussed key developments on the status of policy and initiatives on indigenous peoples in the region and identified key challenges, gaps and needs as a basis for future collaboration.

The consultation further drew key recommendation on the need for an in-depth reflection on the challenges faced and opportunities related to shifting cultivation. This relates to the respect, protection and promotion of sustainable livelihoods and food security, sustainable resource management and biodiversity conservation of and by indigenous communities. It was recommended to conduct case studies focusing on good practices as well as policy constraints, in particular in relation to land tenure and other collective rights of indigenous peoples.

It was also agreed to organize the multi-stakeholder consultation to further discuss the results and findings of the case studies and agree on more targeted intervention in strengthening livelihood and food security in indigenous communities in Asia for addressing key challenges and exploring opportunities both technically and with respect to national legal and policy frameworks.

III. Objectives

The main purpose of the **Regional Support to Indigenous Peoples for Livelihood and Food Security** is to identify and address key challenges faced by and opportunities open to indigenous peoples in Asia in achieving and maintaining livelihood and food security.

There are two components under the regional support with specific objectives. The specific objectives of component 1 are: documenting the recent and on-going changes in the livelihood and food security of indigenous peoples particularly depending on shifting cultivation; identification of external (macro-economic, political, legal and policy) and internal (social and cultural) factors that hinder and facilitate achieving and sustaining livelihood and food security; identification and documentation and promotion of specific good practices in adaptive changes among shifting cultivation in relation to livelihood, food security, biodiversity conservation, land tenure and natural resource management; including review of relevant laws and policies.

Component 2 is intended to present, discuss and review the results and findings of the case studies in a multi-stakeholders forum with the representatives of policy makers, government representatives, UN agencies, donors, researchers, CSOs and indigenous peoples' organizations and communities. It also expected the sharing of experiences including good practices and lessons, key challenges, gaps in relation to livelihood supports and food security of indigenous peoples in the region. Furthermore, it aimed to come up with the recommendations for policy advocacy for the livelihood and food security of indigenous shifting cultivators and agree on strengthening partnership, collaboration among development and resource partners in supporting indigenous peoples for achieving and sustaining their livelihood and food security.

IV. Conclusions and Recommendations

Component 1: Case studies on adaptive responses of indigenous shifting cultivation communities

A total of seven countries were identified for the case studies in Asia, based on the key issues and challenges faced by the indigenous peoples in relation to livelihood and food security particularly shifting cultivation. The major criteria used for identifying the countries and areas were: indigenous communities still largely dependent on shifting cultivation for their livelihood; diversity of legal and policy contexts; existence of rich research data which the studies can draw on; likely availability of experienced and competent researchers. The identified countries, areas, indigenous communities and case studies are presented hereunder:

Country	Study area	IPs involved	Case studies
1. Bangladesh	Chittagong Hill Tracts (Rangamati, Khagrachar and Bandarban areas)	Chakma, Tripura, Tanchangya, Marma, Mro and Khuang	Exploring Adaptive Responses, Livelihood and Food security of Shifting Cultivators: report of the Case studies of Jumias (Shifting Cultivators) in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, Bangladesh
2. Cambodia	Pierr and Biene Villages of Ratanakiri Province	Tampuan	The changing face of Swidden Agriculture in Ratanakiri Province, Cambodia
3. India	Sungratsu and Chuchuyimpang villages of Mokokchung district of Nagaland State	Naga people	Shifting options – A case study of Shifting cultivation in Mokokchung district, Nagaland, India
4. Indonesia	Southern Ketapang District, West-Kalimantan	Dayak Jalai community	Food Security in the farming system of Dayak Jalai Community in Ketapang District, West Kalimantan, Indonesia
5. Laos	Pak Beng District, Oudomxay Province	Khmhu people	An Alternative approach of land and forest management in Northern Lao PDR
6. Nepal	Patihani VDC of Chitwan District, Nepal	Tharu community	A case study on Adaptive responses, livelihood and food security among the Tharus living in the Chitwan National Park in Nepal
7. Thailand	Mae Tho village of Mae Hong Son Province, Northern Thailand	Karen people	The Lizard on the tree and the Trailer bird village: 21 st Century livelihood challenges among Karen Swidden farmers in Thailand

The researchers were identified based on their field of expertise and knowledge, as well as research skills in the respective countries. The Term of Reference (TOR) was signed with all the researchers individually and the general guideline for the case study was provided, which was adapted by the researchers based on the country and local context and thematic focus of the case study. The guideline and scope of the case studies were focused on following in line with the objectives of the component 1.

- A brief socio-economic profile of the research area and communities
- Brief description of research process and methods applied
- General description on the current livelihood system, its main components
- Description of the shifting cultivation system
- Livelihood and food security situation including recent and ongoing changes;
- External (macro-economic, political, legal, policy) and internal (social and cultural) factors that hinder and facilitate achieving and sustaining livelihood and food security;
- Specific good practices in adaptive changes among shifting cultivation communities in relation to livelihood and food security, biodiversity conservation, land tenure and natural resource management

- Interventions/measures supporting and promoting good practices in adaptive changes among shifting cultivators communities, including reviews of relevant law and policies.
- Prospects and recommendations – the future scenario from the perspective of the farmers themselves

The case studies submitted by the researchers were later peer-reviewed by other relevant experts including academic professionals and were edited by the lead researcher, taking into account the result of the peer-review.

Component 2: Organization of a two-day Regional Multi-stakeholder Consultation on Support to Indigenous Peoples for Livelihood and Food Security

The 2-day Regional Multi-stakeholders Consultation on Food Security and Livelihood of Indigenous Peoples was organized in Amora Hotel, Chiang Mai between 28-29 August 2014. The meeting was inaugurated with welcome remarks by Mr. Hiroyuki Konuma, the Assistant Director General and Regional Representative, FAO-RAP, and Ms. Joan Carling, Secretary General, Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP). Both of them emphasized the importance of shifting cultivation for livelihood and food security of indigenous peoples. They also highlighted the protection and promotion of good practices in shifting cultivation as the traditional livelihood and occupation of indigenous peoples in Asia. Mr. Konuma underlined the importance of prioritizing indigenous peoples as the most vulnerable and disadvantaged groups in the society to eradicate poverty and hunger, and for the goal of equitable growth, social stability and sustainable development. The rest of the consultation was a presentation on the overview on the case studies and followed by the presentations and discussion of four case studies from Nepal, Cambodia, Lao PDR, and India. After very rich exchange and discussions, participants were divided and had working session to formulated recommendations and follow-up activities. These were presented in a plenary session. The participants agreed with a list of key recommendations which is provided below.

The field trip to Mae Lan Kham village, a Karen village, was arranged on 30 August to understand the shifting cultivation and to interact with its practitioners where the practice has been carried out for generations.

Altogether, there were 49 participants (28 Male, 21 Female) from 12 countries – Bangladesh, Cambodia, Lao PDR, India, Indonesia, Myanmar, Malaysia, Nepal, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam – representing government, policy makers, donors, UN agencies, researchers, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and indigenous peoples organizations and communities. The research findings and results were shared by the researchers to the forum and further discussed and interacted, supplemented and elaborated by the participants. These case studies affirmed the significant role of shifting cultivation in indigenous peoples' livelihoods and ensuring their food security. It's not only an agricultural practice for them; it's part of their lives and cultures. In most of the research cases, it was reported that the fallow cycle of shifting cultivation is 7 to 10 years, which is sustainable and doesn't lead to deforestation and any carbon emission. In addition, some of the related documentaries particularly from Lao PDR and Thailand were screened at the consultation meeting for better understanding the situation of shifting cultivation in different countries. Furthermore, the

roles and contributions of women and youth in shifting cultivation practices were discussed and elaborated in almost all cases. Additionally, all participants also came up with the common recommendations and proposals for effective partnership and collaboration for policy advocacy and support of livelihoods and food security among indigenous and shifting cultivation communities in Asia.

The related publications from all the partners were displayed and distributed in the consultation. Furthermore, the wild food and vegetables of the indigenous communities in Northern Thailand were also displayed at the venue of the consultation, which was one of the attractions of the event.

IV. Results and Conclusions

As an outcome of the case studies, a *regional overview paper* has been produced on the state of affairs of the practice of shifting cultivation in Asia, related policies, practices and challenges, which was circulated to the participants and networks. Based on the overview paper, 1,000 copies of briefing paper titled 'Shifting Cultivation: Old and New challenges to Indigenous Peoples in Asia' has been produced and distributed widely particularly in World Conference of Indigenous Peoples (WCIP), New York between 23-25 September 2014, Conference of Parties of Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD-COP 12) in South Korea between 4-17 October 2014 and a media dialogue organized by AIPP in Bangkok which was participated by many professional media and indigenous rights activists in Asia, especially based in Bangkok.

The case studies were finalized and compiled for the publication as a book with incorporation of the comments and suggestions made by the participants in the consultation and comments and suggestions provided by the peer reviewers.

Based on the working group and plenary discussions, following common recommendations were made mainly for policy advocacy at national, regional and global level on awareness raising and capacity building of indigenous peoples in addressing large scale mining and mono-cropping, biodiversity conservation and enhancement, research documentation on the thematic issues and finally on supporting services:

1. Strengthening policy advocacy at national, regional and global levels on land tenure, food security and livelihoods based upon the principle of equal partnership between states and indigenous peoples and adherence to the right to free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) of indigenous peoples/tribal peoples/indigenous cultural communities in relation to sustainable management of Shifting Cultivation (SC), sustainable resource management and cultural integrity as the rights of the indigenous peoples/tribal peoples/indigenous cultural communities
 - a. Review and amend laws, policies and programmes to secure indigenous peoples' rights over their lands, domains and forests including shifting cultivation land based on customary laws and forest rights and the right to FPIC [Governments]
 - b. Publication of policy briefs on Shifting Cultivation as a sustainable form for land use ensuring food security and livelihoods; and to dispel the myths on shifting cultivation as a driver and cause of deforestation [CSOs, CIFOR, Indigenous

- organizations including FAO]
- c. Institutionalization of national multi-stakeholders' dialogues and consultations based on the experiences of the UNFF and UNCED processes in the context of lands and forests [Governments with support from FAO and other UN agencies].
 - d. Collaboration/partnership between indigenous peoples/indigenous cultural communities/organizations, UN agencies, CSOs, research and academic institutions and relevant governments agencies/bodies on sustainable land use planning and policy development and implementation at national and local levels [All stakeholders]
 - e. Joint monitoring and collaborative research between IP farmers and researchers and government agencies on shifting cultivation related issues such as changes in forest cover, crop diversity and food security including soil fertility regeneration, fallow management etc. [Governments and IPs]
 - f. Promotion of Globally Important Agricultural Heritage System (GIAHS) for the inclusion of shifting cultivation and/or related indigenous agricultural practices through supporting proposal(s) formulation [Governments, FAO, CSOs]
2. Awareness raising on Indigenous Peoples' rights addressing consequences of large-scale mono-cropping, large scale land investments and plantations; capacity building on innovations especially for women and youth, skills on agroforestry, NTFPs etc.
- a. Establishment of learning exchange platforms on good practices, knowledge and innovations including on animal husbandry at national and regional levels [FAO, AIPP, NTFP at regional level]
 - b. Production, translation and sharing of information, education and communications (IEC) materials [All stakeholders]
 - c. Development of curricula to address misconceptions on shifting cultivations, promote sustainable shifting cultivation practices and the rights of Indigenous peoples [Governments for school curriculum, FAO, UN agencies, Universities and NGOs]
 - d. Training programmes for youth, women, government officials, staff and communities [All stakeholders]
 - e. Resource mobilization to support youth and women to practice and implement what they have learned from training and similar activities [All stakeholders]
 - f. Recognition and promotion of traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples including the roles and contribution of women in sustainable shifting cultivation and biodiversity enhancement [Governments and other stakeholders]
 - g. Transfer of traditional knowledge to the younger generation [IPs]
 - h. Use of media including community radio for awareness raising and capacity building [All Stakeholders]
 - i. Sharing of IEC and advocacy materials – videos, reports etc. [All Stakeholders]
 - j. Supporting/strengthening indigenous institutions and leadership [Governments, UN and other development agencies, IPs, NGOs]
 - k. Enhancing finance literacy and management and business skills of the stakeholders including indigenous peoples
 - l. Consumer advocacy particularly focusing on respect of natural capacity and cultural sensitivity of shifting cultivation and its normally chemical free production system

- m. Promotion of creative economy
3. Biodiversity conservation and enhancement and protection against bio-piracy and unfair and illegal patenting [All Stakeholders]
 - a. Seed conservation and establishment of seed banks and seed exchanges for improving crop diversity and enhancing traditional food diversity and knowledge systems [IPs, communities, FAO and other UN agencies, governments]
 - b. Seed protection
 - c. Protection of medicinal plants
 - d. Protection of mother trees/seed trees
 4. Research and documentation on shifting cultivation and related studies
 - a. Nutritional value of wild and cultivated food on shifting cultivation [CIFOR, NTFP, AIPP, FAO]
 - b. Research on shifting cultivation and other land use form (landscape and ecosystem approach) [AIPP, FAO and CIFOR]
 - c. Study on credit facilities
 - d. Research on carbon footprint of shifting cultivation [Philippines, Indonesia, Laos (JICA conducted research on it)]
 5. Support services
 - a. Access to appropriate credits facilities for specific purposes for livelihood support
 - b. Market support mechanisms
 - c. Community mapping and demarcation
 - d. Crop Insurance
 - e. Basic social protection
 - f. Value chain development
 - g. Creative economy

There are some concrete recommendations, which came out from the consultation, further need to be advanced with concrete action plans with short term, medium term and long term targets. The government of Indonesia agreed to conduct participatory assessments with indigenous peoples at different levels and programmes on food security and poverty reduction in terms of impacts, which is a respectable commitment. In addition, the government of Indonesia also agreed to host a regional consultation/dialogue on food security and poverty reduction in 2015 in Lombok, Indonesia that further requires concrete action plan and concept note to move forward. Furthermore, Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP) and Center for the Forest and People (RECOFTC) agreed to jointly develop a concept note based on the common recommendations made in the consultation and submit to the potential donors including European Delegations to Thailand.

V. Key Lessons Learned

Based on the case studies carried out and presented in the consultation, following key lessons are perceived on the livelihood and food security of indigenous peoples.

- Many indigenous peoples are self-sufficient on rice, especially in the cases of Laos, Thailand and India (Naga) where sufficient land can still be used for shifting cultivation. Additionally, they have sufficient land for diversification in the form of

dual economies and market integration that has considerably strengthened their livelihood and food security. However, land scarcity and land dispossession is one of the main external driving forces behind current livelihood changes of Indigenous Peoples. Additionally, market integration is another driving force as indigenous peoples are seizing new opportunities to increase their income and improve living conditions.

- Many indigenous lands and territories are being taken over by companies without their consent that has further deteriorated the situation of food security and livelihood of indigenous peoples severely.
- Most of indigenous lands and territories are not recognized because of either by outright dispossession or widespread tenure insecurity. Furthermore the shifting cultivation itself is not also recognized as land use practices of indigenous peoples in many Asian countries, which hinders Indigenous Peoples from maintaining and sustaining their livelihood and food security.
- Both men and women have specific roles and contributions in shifting cultivation across the countries. It is clearly demonstrated that indigenous women perform almost 70% of the work relating to shifting cultivation. Normally, women select the crops and seeds to sow and carry out weeding, gathering, processing and selling the excessive products. Men mainly select the land for cultivation and do physical work in land preparations. Likewise, clearing of the land, the preparation of the firebreaks, harvesting and conducting the rituals are collectively done jointly. Furthermore, indigenous women play significant role in seed preservation and knowledge transfer knowledge to the younger generations.
- Outmigration of number of youth has reversed the prevailing trend of land scarcity for shifting cultivation and farming in some countries.
- Dual economy with self-sufficiency and market-oriented production has high degree of livelihood and food security, but not all indigenous peoples have possibility to establish such dual economies. However, there is a high risk of ending up being indebted because of volatility of commodity markets, risks of high input/market oriented farming which may be unsustainable, and limited access to credits in market oriented, commercial farming.
- Many Indigenous peoples and their communities in the research areas, especially landless, are engaged with seasonal and temporary on farm/off-farm employment for their cash income.
- Indigenous shifting cultivators are diversifying their land use practices to fulfill subsistence and cash needs such as combining shifting cultivation with new agro-forestry practices, such as fruit and cashew orchards in Cambodia, rubber plantations in Indonesia, and high value crops in India and Bangladesh.
- Conducive legal framework on shifting cultivation also enhances the successful adaptation and diversification of land use towards market oriented production to meet the need for cash.

VI. Conclusion and Way Forward

The livelihood and food security of Indigenous Peoples are strongly interlinked with the nature and associated resources. Shifting cultivation is an example that shows the deep

connection of indigenous peoples to the nature, which is being practiced by indigenous peoples for generations. However, this is most controversial form of land use practice that needs to be properly understood. The case studies conducted in 7 countries in Asia have documented some of good practices of shifting cultivation that provide the evidences that indigenous peoples are sustainably managing the nature and natural resources.

Shifting cultivation is more secure in a dual economy with self-sufficiency of food production and regulated and cash-oriented sustainable production. However, this needs to be recognized and supported by the government institutions/development actors that regulate land use and ensure basic equity in access to land and resources. Furthermore, some of those shifting cultivation areas can be even identified as globally important agricultural heritage sites (GIAHS), since shifting cultivation is not just farming: in fact it is contributing to landscape management which is closely linked with indigenous peoples' lives and cultures. The misconceptions of some of the governments and multilateral agencies will be changed accordingly.

The eviction of Indigenous Peoples from their ancestral lands and forests and relocation to other areas in some of the research areas has further increased the poverty and food insecurity among indigenous peoples including environmental degradation. It is clearly shown from the research that shifting cultivation is decreasing throughout the region. However it is still important for indigenous peoples' livelihood systems and food security of many indigenous peoples/communities. In fact, many indigenous communities are diversifying their livelihood and food security through combining dual economy of self-sufficiency food production and market-oriented agriculture in shifting cultivation areas.

VI. Annexes

Annex 1: Agenda of the Consultation Workshop

Regional Support to Indigenous Peoples for Livelihood and Food Security Regional Multi-stakeholder Consultation 28-29 August 2014, Hotel Amora, Chiang Mai	
Day 1: 28 August 2014, Facilitated by Ms Ginna Geal, FAO-RAP	
9.00–9.45	Welcome address <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Hiroyoki Konuma, Assistant Director General and Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific (FAO- RAP) - Ms. Joan Carling, Secretary General, Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP) Introduction of participants
9.45–10.00	Overview of the project: the overall purpose, the case studies conducted, the purpose and expected outcome of the Regional Multi-stakeholders Consultation, and the workshop flow <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Shree Kumar Maharjan, AIPP
10.00–10.30	Coffee break
10.30–12.00	Presentation on “21st Century livelihood challenges for indigenous communities in Asia: Summary of the main findings of the case studies” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. Joan Carling, AIPP Comments by representatives from governments, indigenous peoples and FAO (5 minutes each) Participants’ feedback; comments, questions and discussion by plenary
12.00–13.00	Lunch break
13.00–14.15	Presentation on “Biodiversity conservation and food security” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Krishna Bhattachan, Nepal Participants’ feedback; comments, questions and discussion by plenary
14.15–15.30	Presentation on “Land tenure and sustainable livelihood” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Jeremy Ironside, Cambodia/New Zealand Participants’ feedback; comments, questions and discussion by plenary
15.30–16.00	Coffee break
16:00–17:00	Identification of key issues, challenges, lessons learned and recommendations
Day 2: 29 August, Facilitated by Ms Joan Carling and Mr Shree Kumar Maharjan	
8.30–9.00	Review of previous day’s outcomes
9.00–10.15	Presentation on “Forest conservation and land use planning” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Satomi Higashi, Mekong Watch, Laos/Japan Participants’ feedback; comments, questions and discussion by plenary
10.15–10.45	Coffee break
10.45–12.15	Presentation on “Market integration and land use change” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Amba Jamir, Sustainable Development Forum Nagaland,

	India Participants' feedback; comments, questions and discussion by plenary
12.15–13.15	Lunch break
13.15–13.45	Review of the morning sessions' outcomes: Identification of key issues, challenges, lessons learned and recommendations
13.45–15.15	Break-out working group discussions; identifications of key recommendations and work plans (4 groups) (including coffee break)
15.15–16.15	Presentation of recommendations by working groups (10 minutes each)
16.15–17.45	Discussions of and consensus on joint recommendations and work plan
17.45–18.15	Closing remarks: FAO and AIPP
Day 3: Field visit to Mae Lan Kham, Facilitated by Ms. Kamonpan Salee (Ale) - Field visit to a shifting cultivation community near Chiang Mai – <i>Optional</i>	

Field Trip to Maelan Kham village

Travel time to the community: 2 hours

Background:

The Maelan Kham or 'Mae La Kee' in 'Pgakeuyaw' (in Karen language) is a Karen community. It is situated in Moo 6, Samoeng Tai Sub-district, Samoeng District, Chiang Mai province. It consists of 5 hamlets that include Mae Lan Kham, Huay Hia, Sob Lan, Baan Mai and Huay Ya Sai. The total population is around 500 individuals. Pagakeuyaw Karen people have lived there for hundreds of years.

Most of them still practice traditional farming system, such as terraced paddy fields and rotational farming. In addition, villagers have collected wild tealeaves, 'Ma Khaen' (*Zanthoxylum Limonella Alston*) and other non-timber forest products to sale in the market for their household income to sustain their families. These practices are at a very small scale.

These areas are being adjacent to Ob Khan national park, which was established in 1992 by the National Park Committee resolution 2/2535.

Issues:

1. Rotational farming system: The Pgakeuyaw community in Mae Lan Kham still practices rotational farming or shifting cultivation. Such practice has been considered one of the key drivers of deforestation in many countries including Thailand in particular under the REDD+ pilot project. In the field trip, the participants had interacted with the community and learned the opportunities and challenges of shifting cultivation faced by the community in Mae Lan Kham.
2. Collection of Non-forest timber products: Collecting wild teas and Ma Khaen are the main source income for communities living in these areas. They have specific knowledge in taking care and harvesting these plants in a sustainable manner.
3. Natural resource management by communities: Mae Lan Kham has managed a large tract of forest using indigenous knowledge. Such management has been documented in both writing and using GIS.

Annex 2: List of the participants in the consultation



Regional Support to Indigenous Peoples

for Livelihood and Food Security of Indigenous Peoples

Regional Multi-stakeholder Workshop - Participants
28 – 29 August 2014

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