



INTERNATIONAL  
LAND  
COALITION

## Sharing Knowledge and Building Networks for Collective Empowerment

---

This report presents results and lessons learned in Land Coalition projects supported with supplementary funds, provided through IFAD, from the Government of Italy.



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

The Role of Land in Poverty Reduction .....	1
Documenting and Sharing Knowledge .....	5
Research Output: "Social organizations and Extractive industries: existing conflicts on subsoil resources ....."	5
Book Output: "The Cost of Land – Can Land Funds Work for the Poor? A Learning Experience from Ecuador ....."	7
Book Output: "12 years Promoting Rural Development – Fundación TIERRA in Bolivia ....."	9
Case Study Output: "Land Rights Information Centre" ....."	11
Conference Report: "Toward a Common Agenda: Resource Based Conflicts in East and Southern Africa – Politics, Policy and Law ....."	13
Consultative Report: "Analyse du decret d'application de la loi portant charte pastorale dans le Republique du Mali ....."	15
Papers: "Action Research towards the Reform of Sugarlands" ....."	17
Policy Discussion Paper: "Asian NGO Perspective on agrarian reform and access to land" ....."	19
Working Paper: "Knowledge management for building Defensorias Campesinas" ....."	21
Collection of local knowledge: "Traditional natural resources management in West Kalimantan" ....."	23
Training Course: Territorial development and Social Pacts" ....."	25

Building up Networks .....	25
Common Platform for land access .....	25
Strengthening CCC Network: Support for Provincial NGO Linkages .....	26
Fortalecimiento de la capacidad de incidencia del sector rural – Reinforce the rural sector capacity to influence policies .....	27
“National network to Watch Land Rights of farmers communities – Red Nacional para la Vigilancia de las tierras de las comunidades campesinas” .....	28
“Incidence on agriculture policies and strengthening of the Coordinating Council of Farmers organizations – COCOCH .....	29
Building Nepalese LAND Alliance – NELA .....	30
International meeting on the most efficient way to build a Central America without rural poor .....	31
“Regional Network on Land Issues and Poverty Alleviation – Bringing the Challenge to Agenda for West African Civil Society .....	32
“Support to the regional dialogue in East Africa: the challenges of LandNet East Africa network .....	33
Integrated Assessment of gender, land and water rights in Southern Africa .....	34
Conclusions .....	35
Annex 1: Matrix	
Documenting and sharing knowledge .....	39
Building up networks for collective empowerment .....	40
Books published in a frame of the second phase of the Agrarian Reform Network .....	41

## The Role of Land in Poverty Reduction

Extreme poverty remains a daily reality for more than 1.2 billion people, one fifth of the world's population, who subsist on less than one dollar a day. Seventy-five percent of extremely poor households, a majority of which are woman-headed, live in rural areas where hunger and poverty is the product of discrimination, lack of access to key resources and services and, above all, lack of respect for basic human rights.

The numbers of rural households deprived of land, the main source of their livelihood, increases daily as a result of expropriation, ethnic conflicts, and expansion of commercial activities. If access to land and productive assets is not treated as a basic human right, the downward spiral of poverty and conflict that this creates will continue.

Strengthening rural peoples' organizations, particularly those of landless and small-scale farmers, is essential to long-term resolution of land conflicts and improved access to land and related assets. The rights of these organizations to organize freely and engage in public debate over land and natural resource policy without intimidation and violence by state or private institutions are fundamental.

Widespread exclusion of women owning or controlling land, as well as limits dictated by custom, has resulted in women owning less than two percent of all land, despite their pivotal role in providing household security. Women and woman-headed households now represent the majority of the poorest of the poor. Guaranteeing their equal access to land and natural resources, education and other basic rights, fundamental determinants of secure livelihoods, is a prerequisite for eliminating extreme poverty.

To indigenous peoples who make up one third of the poorest people on earth, land and natural resources not only represent their main source of food security; it is linked directly to their cultural and spiritual identity. Legal recognition of the special needs of these minority ethnic groups is a basic precondition for their self-determination and participation in sustainable development.

It is now internationally accepted that poverty, land rights, conflict and the sustainable use of natural resources are correlated, and that secure access to land for the rural poor is fundamental to improving their livelihoods. Furthermore, asset ownership by the poor is increasingly recognized as essential to sustained, broad-based economic growth. Although this has repeatedly been recognized by the UN and confirmed in international agreements, the failure of national and global institutions to identify problems and implement joint solutions, has often severely limited their ability to increase land access and reduce rural poverty. Genuine and meaningful involvement by civil society, including farmers' unions, rural peoples' organizations and NGOs, is a critical ingredient to the achievement of effective policy reform.

The International Land Coalition has called upon regional, national and global institutions to recommit themselves to empowering poor people by promoting secure access to land and other key natural resources to achieve the common goal of a world free from hunger and poverty.

### **The Land Coalition's activities are aimed to:**

- work in tandem with its members and partners to create enabling policies and programmes capable of overcoming the systemic constraints and

practical obstacles which prevent poor people from gaining secure access to land and productive assets;

- strive to forge active partnerships, alliances and build up solidarity among civil-society-organizations, intergovernmental-organizations and governments to benefit from potential synergistic roles emerging from their diverse characteristics, complementary resources and different spheres of social, political and economic influence; and,
- support activities to strengthen civil-society institutions to render them more capable and collectively influential, in policy formulation and decision-making processes affecting their resource rights and access.

## **Support of the Italian Government to the International Land Coalition**

The utilization of the Italian Funds has been framed into the Agrarian Reform Network, an international platform of civil-society organizations interested in removing the obstacle to land access in the rural areas and for promoting social and economic development and environmental sustainability. The Agrarian Reform Network comprises two main pillars: knowledge and network.

### ***a) Documenting and Sharing Knowledge:***

Knowledge keeps the poor informed and gives them choices. It also equips all stakeholders in the Land Coalition to learn from each other. The emphasis on sharing knowledge is to make known lessons learned and experiences of intergovernmental, civil society and governmental partners. The knowledge programme places priority on capturing the 'undocumented' knowledge of civil-society and community-based organizations, and sharing this through the Land Coalition network. The lessons learned from understanding the effects of government and intergovernmental policies and programmes is also a form of knowledge, benefiting all Land Coalition Members and Partners. With its global network of organizations and institutions across multiple sectors, the Land Coalition is well situated to play the pivotal role of generating, documenting and facilitating the exchange of lessons learned.

The Land Coalition, with the support of the Italian Government, encouraged and supported members in documenting and disseminating lessons learned from their initiatives. In particular, the Land Coalition focused its knowledge-building efforts on gaps in experience and analysis.

### ***b) Building up Networks for Collective Empowerment***

Collective action, in the form of strong networks, is a mechanism to help protect the interests of the poor from powerful outside forces. Networks help the poor to access common requirements and services in such areas as: technology, training, markets, finances and legal support. Collective empowerment means strengthening and linking already existing networks, and may involve enabling the establishment of networks where these may not exist.

The support to network development, linkages and innovation in capacity-building, aims at strengthening the ability of the rural poor to negotiate tenure security and access to land and related productive assets.

Civil-society members have recognized the need to develop more collaborative relations with governments for sharing programme information, articulating policy recommendations and monitoring the implementation of government initiatives.

## Index of contents

Research output: "Social Organizations and Extractive industries: Existing conflicts on subsoil resources"	Peru
Book output: "The Cost of Land – Can Land Funds work for the Poor? A learning Experience from Ecuador"	Ecuador
Book output: "12 Years promoting Rural Development – Fundación TIERRA, Bolivia"	Bolivia
Case Study Output: "Land Rights Information Centers"	Uganda
Conference Report: "Toward A Common Agenda: Resource Based Conflicts in East and Southern Africa – Politics, Policy and Law"	South and Eastern Africa
Consultative Report : "Analyse du Decret de Application de la Loi Portant Charte Pastorale en Republique Mali"	Mali
Papers: " Action Research Towards the Reform of Sugarlands"	The Philippines
Policy Discussion Paper: "Asian NGO Perspective on Agrarian Reform & Access to Land"	Asian Region
Working Paper: "Knowledge Management for Building Defensorias Campesinas"	Guatemala
Collection of local knowledge: "Traditional Natural Resources Management in West Kalimantan"	Indonesia
Training Course: "Territorial Development and Social Pacts"	Latin American
Common Platform for Land Access	Bolivia
Strengthening CCC Network: Support for Provincial NGO Linkages	Cambodia
Reinforce the Rural Sector Capacity to Influence Policies	Nicaragua
Nacional Networks (Land Watch) on Land Rights of Farmers' Communities	Peru
Incidence in Agricultural Policies and Strengthen of the Coordinator Council of Farmers Organizations – COCOCH	Honduras
Building Nepalese Land Alliance	Nepal
International Meeting on the Most Efficient Way to Build Central America without Rural Poor	Central America
Regional Network: Land Issues and Poverty Alleviation – Bringing the Challenge to Agenda for West African Civil Society"	West Africa
Support the Regional Dialogue in East Africa: The Challenges of Land Net East Africa Network	East Africa
Integrated Assessment of Gender, Land and Water Rights in Southern Africa	Southern Africa
Conclusions	
Matrix Documenting and Sharing Knowledge	
Matrix Building up Networks for Collective Empowerment	
Book published	



# Documenting and Sharing Knowledge

## **Research Output: "SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS AND EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES: EXISTING CONFLICTS ON SUBSOIL RESOURCES"**

**Local Organization:** Centro Peruano de Estudios Sociales – CEPES

**Country:** Peru

**Content:** Land issues touch upon very sensitive issues, often resulting in conflict requiring delicate negotiation. Of the many conflicts those involving agri-businesses and extractive industries are among the most prevalent. Rules, regulations and the rule of law become crucial factors in moderating and negotiating enforceable settlements.

**Results:** In Peru investment in the mining industry is considered to be the mainstay of the country's economic development; currently mining exports represent one-third of total national export. The State is taking action to maintain the flow of investment, and only in cases of conflict does it act as a moderator in mining-related issues. Conflicts regarding natural resources are increasing in areas where water, gas, forestry and mining exploitations are taking place, generating reaction and claims at local and regional levels.

Three case studies (Tintaya, Tambogrande and Pampamali) demonstrate that local people are not informed of their rights; unaware of related legislation and ignorant of the mining companies' duties and responsibilities regarding exploitation. The divergence of interests between government representatives and the local people is enormous. In fact, conflicts are generated where government strategies support private investments for natural resource exploitation, with resultant centralized tax revenue, rather than a policy for local and regional development.

The institutional attitude, especially that of the Ministry of Energy and Mines, is to enforce the law taking into account bureaucratic and formal interests, rather than undertaking proper management of national and local interests. Lack of transparency, law infringement and suppression of information, have all been elements of conflict in the three Peruvian case studies. Law-based consultations are formal and there is an imbalance in power relationships. Lack of awareness concerning rights of access and use of natural resources has added to the expectations generated by mining activities. Most cases demonstrate that promises made by both government representatives and mining companies have not been honoured.

The task of building an appropriate framework to deal with extractive issues is crucial for the farmers' agricultural activities and the need to exploit national natural resources, including subsoil resources.

How to reconcile activities to the benefit of local/regional demands and those at the national level?

Firstly, it is important to highlight the need to inform people, in a transparent manner, of any project designed to exploit natural resources in a specific territory. This implies enforcement of the law-related consultations beyond those

of formal requisition. This aspect is even more important because people affected are often farmers, rural and indigenous communities.

Secondly, it is important to revise the national strategy related to transnational investment, evoking a higher fiscal contribution to avoid excessive exoneration from tributary charges. This will result in higher income which may be earmarked for local and regional development.

The relationship between natural resource exploitation and territorial development must be mandatory in order to reduce the gap between national interests and those of local societies.

**Lessons learned:**

1. The provision of information is crucial to forging good relationships. Ignorance and distrust have damaged relationships from the outset and are corrupting future negotiation.
2. Consultative processes must be effective and transparent.
3. Unbalanced power relationships cause lack of access to vital information and key government representatives. The establishment of a more equitable power relationship can be mediated by a third party (Municipality, Church, NGOs, etc.).
4. Cases which have proved successful in defending the rights of rural poor people and farmers have demonstrated the importance of linking the affected people to other sectors of society, or to other groups facing similar problems in other regions, at local national and international level. The role of the mass media is crucial in establishing this informal network.
5. A revision of the national strategy concerning natural resources exploitation could avoid violent conflict.
6. The claim on natural resources access and use generated a greater awareness of environmental issues. Local communities are now aware of the environmental impact of mining and are in the position to make companies respect the rules and regulations for natural resources protection.
7. Consultative processes are showing the emergence of new actors, such as environmental groups.
8. The requests made by local people have been minimal due to lack of vision regarding their future. It will be very difficult for them to return to their traditional agricultural activities because of the environmental impact of mining companies on the natural resources. This should have been considered at the outset and negotiations undertaken between the government and the mining companies to provide guarantees for the future of the affected people.

**Use of knowledge gained and strategy for the dissemination of lessons learned:** The study is used to build a platform with the Land Coalition, dedicated to collective action against the abuse of mining companies. The Peruvian case is one of many examples of what is taking place worldwide. The objective of the platform is to elaborate a standard code of conduct to be adopted in the regulation of extractive industries. Moreover, the interchanges among Land Coalition members will generate peer-to-peer knowledge transfer for the management and resolution of conflicts generated by mining exploitations.

## **Book Output: "THE COST OF LAND - CAN LAND FUNDS WORK FOR THE POOR? A LEARNING EXPERIENCE FROM ECUADOR"**

**Local Organization:** Fondo Ecuatoriano Populorum Progressio - FEPP

**Country:** Ecuador

**Content:** The concept of land funds is not new; it is the interest in them that has recently been rekindled. However, despite the stated goal that land funds increase the resource holdings of the poor, results have often been disappointing. Consequently the renewed interest in land funds calls for inquiry into ways and means of ensuring that the poor benefit from this approach.

Many publications and research reports have illustrated cases of government-initiated land funds set up to assist rural poor people in the acquisition of land. What the literature has failed to bring out, are the lessons learned by civil society and NGOs in designing and implementing land fund programmes.

**Results:** This publication shares the experiences of an Ecuadorian NGO, *the Fondo Ecuatoriano Populorum Progressio (FEPP)*, setting out principles, practical elements, methodologies and examples for organizing and implementing a land fund. The FEPP experience was selected for its success in reaching the rural poor. The initiative not only resulted in greater access to land, but also launched related processes which together have brought about a measurable change in the living conditions of disadvantaged rural people. At the same time, FEPP overcame a number of the hurdles encountered, or created, by other land funds.

### **Lessons learned:**

First, FEPP has been an effective intermediary in the land valuation processes through drawing upon its skills, knowledge and influence to empower the poor to negotiate fair land prices. Market imperfections have been reduced through the presence of an intermediary able to offset the lack of farmers' knowledge and experience in negotiating purchase terms and conditions. Moreover, such institutional assistance to this group of borrowers has resulted in lower land prices.

Second, land titles are a precondition to accessing land funds. But land titling is a complex matter involving legal processes which, without assistance, are all too often, beyond the reach of the rural poor. Titling involves numerous steps, direct and indirect costs, and requires much time, including travel to and from land registry offices. FEPP has directly assisted farmers in undertaking and completing these transactions and processes. As this experience shows, success hinges upon the capacity of the intermediary, in this case FEPP, to guarantee rights and tenure security.

Third, land funds are a necessary, but not a sufficient, mechanism for land-poor households to become profitable producers. Without access to other factors of production, skills training and specialized knowledge, and access to markets, the poor will not be able to service the cost of land fund repayments, thus increasing the risk of losing the land. To the extent that land funds normally focus on land purchases, FEPP's experience confirms that their success depends on the availability of complementary resources. The issue of land must be viewed within a broader development framework. While this approach is more costly, production

support (as shown by FEPP) is essential in achieving sustainability and improving household livelihood.

Fourth, designing, using and sustaining the benefits achieved through land funds is a challenging task. Lessons from past land redistribution programmes have shown that these lands have often been reacquired by powerful competing interests. FEPP has paid special attention to social mobilization, and to establishing or strengthening institutions to provide the poor with accurate knowledge, access to services, the capability to form collective action, and the power to represent and protect their interests.

Fifth, land funds often encounter problems with repayments, as poor families seldom receive the necessary support to make their land productive and obtain fair market prices. Under FEPP's land fund activities, focus is placed on ensuring that land beneficiaries have access to such support. This results both in higher family incomes and the ability to repay. However, this is a necessary, but not always sufficient, stimulus for repayment. Through its trusted relationship with the beneficiaries, FEPP has helped them to understand that repayment leads to subsequent loans, thereby improving the rural economy and direct and indirect benefits for farmers. The high repayment rate under FEPP initiative is a very important success indicator for land funds.

The FEPP experience shows that, while they cannot substitute for agrarian reform programmes, land funds can provide a mechanism to achieve land access and legalization for thousands of rural poor people.

**Use of generated knowledge and strategy for its dissemination:**

FEPP's experience with managing a land purchase fund offers important lessons that can be applied to similar situations elsewhere in the world. Although actions to apply these lessons may be rooted in international solidarity initiatives, they must be carried out through institutional arrangements built around organizations possessing professional capacity in areas such as credit, technical assistance and training.

The FEPP experience has been taken into account in the debt relief negotiation between Honduras and Italy, with the idea of building a similar experience in Central America. The Land Coalition involvement could bring the Ecuadorian experience also to Honduras and, through training activities, create the appropriate skills for managing a successful land fund.

Specific interest has been expressed by the Government of Bolivia for designing a land fund oriented to indigenous and landless groups. A representative of the Land Coalition Secretariat, and the author of "The Cost of Land", Manuel Chiriboga, promoted the publication at a restricted seminar in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, which was attended by the most relevant governmental representatives of land related institutions: National Institute of Agrarian Reform; Ministry of Sustainable Development; Secretariat of Land; Ministry of Indigenous Issues; Ministry of Forestry; international cooperation institutions and the principle representatives of social and economic sectors of Bolivia. The new government will evaluate the opportunity of including this activity in their programme of priorities.

"The Cost of Land" was promoted during the Rural Week, a yearly World Bank initiative, in Washington during March 2005. The request is in line with the Land Coalition's expectations; therefore, on the basis of demand, we have decided to reprint this book in English and Spanish.

## **Book Output: "12 YEARS PROMOTING RURAL DEVELOPMENT – FUNDACIÓN TIERRA IN BOLIVIA"**

**Local Organization:** Fundación TIERRA

**Country:** Bolivia

**Content:** Land Literacy: Awareness Raising and Community Empowerment.

The term "land literacy" has been adopted by the Land Coalition to describe activities directly related to increasing the knowledge of poor households and communities regarding their land rights, as well as providing practical tools and advice on how these rights can be claimed. Thus, land literacy refers to more than conventional "community education" programmes; it describes a learning processes which gives communities the "power" of knowledge, at the same time equipping them with the tools to pursue their rights to land.

**Results:** The purpose of the publication is to assemble the experiences of Fundación TIERRA and extract the lessons learned during 12 years of working with peasants and indigenous peoples in Bolivia. Fundación TIERRA, created in 1991, is a private, non-profit institution, promoting rural development and advocating democracy land tenure and access to natural resources. It has formulated two action strategies aimed at acquiring more equitable access to land: systematization of proposals for rural development, and strengthening the bargaining power of rural populations and facilitating their participation in decision-making processes.

Fundación TIERRA, through research, formulation of policy recommendations, communication, training and social participation, has brought about closer collaboration between governmental institutions and the rural poor. For this reason the Land Coalition chose TIERRA as one of the cases studies, the other being the Uganda Land Alliance, for the collection and promulgation of experiences in support of other civil society groups pursuing similar objectives.

### **Lessons learned, among others:**

1. One of TIERRA's main lines of action is research, not as an academic process, but as a tool for sharing valid, current and relevant information to create joint proposals to address problems. Fundación TIERRA has become an institution specialized in agrarian issues, and as such is frequently consulted by the state, churches, international cooperation agencies, researchers, academics and the media. They are the main focal point and information source for indigenous organizations at local and regional levels.
2. Apart from the strategic research on land access in the plains, valleys and *altiplano*, Fundación TIERRA provides support for conflict resolution. It undertakes specific case studies in areas with high levels of land issue conflicts.
3. Fundación TIERRA provides free advice to peasants on legal proceedings concerning agrarian issues. The organization obtains documentation and brings land titles up to date (cases of violation of citizens' rights). This has allowed Fundación TIERRA to acquire a large portfolio of important institutional experiences in the formulation of public policies.

4. The regional offices were opened after agreement with the provincial peasant trade unions and the University Law School. Apart from offering legal advice for personal and property documents, they provide legal advisory support to the agricultural trade union organizations.
5. From the outset, Fundación TIERRA has defined a general communication strategy, such as: (a) identifying the institutional message, (b) defining the public sectors to which this message will be aimed, and (c) selecting the most appropriate sources of media for promulgating the message. It has also emphasized the need to identify leaders of public opinion who are sensitive to rural problems, carrying out lobbying through journalists, media directors and students of the Bolivian rural social sector, with the aim of creating debate with rural development experts.
6. Local leaders who have been trained by Fundación TIERRA in agrarian law, participation, technical, political and administrative rights, duties and procedures, are now ready to undertake internal re-titling within their communities and exercise control over the legal processes.
9. Empowerment means transferring the process of negotiation with state and local decision-making bodies, to peasants, settlers and indigenous peoples to permit their participation in formulating decisions which affect their development. Fundación TIERRA recognizes the facilitator role of NGOs who can promote adjustments and denounce irregularities, thus keeping vigilance over the human rights of Bolivian peasants and indigenous peoples. Based on these premises, Fundación TIERRA has implemented an intervention strategy using a number of action scenarios, from the perspective of strengthening alliances and maintaining the ability to relate to different national and international stakeholders. To assume a reliable role an NGO must show transparency and credibility.

**Use of knowledge and strategy for its dissemination:**

The publication depicting Fundación TIERRA's experience has been published in English and Spanish; copies of this book have been distributed to the Land Coalition members attending the Second Global Assembly held in March 2005.

On the basis of Fundación TIERRA's experience, the Land Coalition partner in Guatemala UVOC, an organization focused on the recognition and defence of land rights in areas of conflict in Guatemala, established a land rights office taking into account the linkages with the University and the mass media.

## Case Study Output: "LAND RIGHTS INFORMATION CENTRE"

**Local Organization:** Uganda Land Alliance

**Country:** Uganda

**Content:** Land Literacy: Awareness Raising and Community Empowerment.

The term "land literacy" has been adopted by the Land Coalition to describe activities directly related to increasing the knowledge of poor households and communities regarding their land rights, as well as providing practical tools and advice on how these rights can be claimed, or benefited from, more effectively. Thus, land literacy refers to more than conventional "community education" programmes; it describes a learning processes which gives communities the "power" of knowledge, at the same time equipping them with the tools to pursue their land rights.

**Results:** The objective of the case study is to document how an umbrella organization such as Uganda Land Alliance, which serves the most disadvantaged Ugandan people, among them landless and women, can build up awareness of land rights through strategic actions, such as Land Rights Information Centres.

Land Rights Information Centres have been extremely effective as follows:

- providing information on land laws and policies and creating awareness amongst farmers, peasants, village leaders and government workers. Providing poor indigenous people with legal and technical advice;
- strengthening relationships between government line ministries and departments, local government and the people they serve;
- gaining a solid understanding of specific land issues in a particular community or region; and,
- fostering harmonious relationships between government, civil society and local communities.

### **Lessons learned, among others:**

During the four years in which the Land Rights Information Centre has been in operation, a number of key lessons and challenges have emerged:

#### **Partnership within civil society**

- Partnership is the most important element in creating and maintaining a Land Rights Information Centre.
- Linking with NGOs provides a form of legal aid; close ties with individual communities is extremely valuable in terms of cost and quality of service.
- Working within a coalition of NGOs ensures that the appropriate knowledge is easily accessible and ensures the availability of resources.
- Needs assessments may already be in place, thus facilitating the setting up of a Centre and determining its *modus operandi*.
- Effective partnerships rely heavily on systematic and comprehensive systems of communication and information sharing.
- Group training and regular meetings significantly contribute to the success of the Centre.

**Partnership with government and local leaders:**

- Officers having the appropriate legal background and mediation skills should be “seconded” from a partner organization.
- To increase human resources, a programme of paralegals, closer to the people, is set up to provide information, identify problems, recommend training and assess needs. The team of paralegals should be managed by the officer concerned.
- Budgetary allocations should provide for the necessary equipment: computer, vehicle, training equipment (videos, overhead projectors, slides, etc.), and the cost of translating written material into local languages to accommodate ethnic diversity.

**Integrating the Centre into the partner organization.** Provision should be made to integrate the Centre into the partner organization, to provide support.

**Training:**

- Written material distributed to the participants and discussed during on-site training is later used as reference material.
- Training should include both farmers and village leaders to encourage openness and apprise the leaders of difficulties. In this way the officer can better understand village dynamics and meet farmers who may not have the time or the financial resources to undertake the journey to the Centre.
- The officer works together with the communities and local leaders to determine the content of the training, the most common types of which include: Land Rights for Tenants and Landlords; Land Tenure Systems; Land Management Institutions; Land Management Administration; The Land Law and its implications; How to obtain a Land Title; Offences that can be committed inadvertently; Women, Gender issues and Land Rights.

**Human Resources Support:**

- The officer runs the Centre almost single-handed, playing a pivotal role as the sole channel of information.
- Through daily contacts with visitors, or weekly field visits, the officer determines the key issues and appropriate responses: simple advice, a further meeting with all parties, meeting with a community elder or leader, group training or sensitization, etc.
- The officer is the pivotal contact with district officials: the Resident District Commissioner, Chief Administrative Officer, Police Chief and other security departments. Magistrate, the Chairperson Land Tribunal/District Land Board and other local leaders. Maintenance of these relationships as well as those with other government institutions is crucial.

**Use of generated knowledge and strategy for its dissemination:**

- ULA experience in gender activities, lobbying and land literacy is very significant in the framework of the Land Coalition’s national strategy for Uganda.
- Many of the Land Coalition’s members and partners have requested more profiles of “Land Rights Centres”, such as those created by Fundación TIERRA, CODECA and UVOC, in order to set up centres to pursue land rights for the landless and near landless in their own countries.

## **Conference Report: "TOWARD A COMMON AGENDA: RESOURCE BASED CONFLICTS IN EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICA – POLITICS, POLICY AND LAW"**

**Local Organization:** Society for International Development SID

**Region:** South and Eastern Region

**Content:** Learning, capacity-building and opening up spaces for dialogue, depend on reaping knowledge from experiences. It is the basis upon which a movement for property rights for the rural poor is built. The Land Coalition is a communication hub for the interchange of ideas, best practices, lessons learned and advocacy. Learning activities are aimed to:

- foster ongoing participation among the Land Coalition's members and partners;
- articulate multi-stakeholder policies;
- collectively advocate from local to international levels; and
- act in solidarity with country partners, especially when rights are at risk of abuse.

Learning has been the main focus of interest in the SID project "Resource-based conflicts" financed by the Land Coalition.

**Results:** The workshop on Resource-based Conflicts in Nairobi, organized by SID, aimed at understanding this type of conflict more fully. Conflicts concerning pastoral, land and water rights were analysed and the roles of state and appropriate institutions investigated. The conference undertook an initial mapping of resource-based conflicts in The Sudan, Ethiopia, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Burundi and Zimbabwe.

The conference specifically sought to:

- Bring together stakeholders in Eastern and Southern Africa to map the current resource conflicts and attempt to broaden the understanding of their driving forces, identify points of leverage or intervention which yield desired outcomes.
- Strengthen partnerships within and between civil-society groups and legislators. By working closely with national parliaments and regional legislatures in documenting and sharing experiences of various actors, significant opportunities can be created in the areas of collective planning, strategy development, policy elaboration and evaluation.
- Examine further the transnational nature of some conflicts and the involvement of the same actors, critical in exploring the linkages between RBCs, national politics, markets and the impact of globalization.
- Undertake a comparative review of constitutional responses, especially during the last decade, that have been employed by various countries to address the challenge of resources, access, use and management.

### **Lessons learned, among others:**

1. There is a need for cross-sector dialogue on resource conflict issues in East and Southern Africa. This dialogue needs to take into account systemic dynamics underpinning these conflicts, as well as the institutional weaknesses which have allowed them to spiral out of control.

2. Establishing multi-stakeholder coalitions can, and should, be facilitated. Such coalitions need to be organized around institutional processes aimed at making such interaction less contentious. A culture of such multi-stakeholder collaboration needs to be nurtured; a process needing time.
3. The political elite need educating in their role and responsibility for managing resource conflicts. The tendency to dismiss RBCs as 'local' events having little influence or impact on national issues/life, is an attitude that must be challenged. This is critical in shifting the emphasis from securitized approaches to the long-term resolution of conflicts through dialogue and collective negotiations.
4. Civil-society groups need to identify space for experience sharing. The fact that there are few opportunities for reflection, learning and synthesis of experiences might account for the irregular success rate in the initiatives that they spearhead. The success of the conference demonstrated that there is a need, and when properly organized, such initiatives are welcomed.
5. Early-warning systems are only as effective as the processes surrounding them; when there is a 360° analysis and engagement of the key actors. The non-systemic and non-integrated nature of many early warning systems significantly compromises their efficiency.
6. Capacity-building within civil-society organizations and community-based groups working on conflict issues needs to be put to the forefront. This means not only ensuring resource development and availability, but also enhancing those skills critical to their work, in particular those enabling them to manage the vertical aspect of their advocacy work, (i.e. dealing with the globalization aspect).

**Use of generated knowledge and strategy for its dissemination:**

The Resource-based conflicts conference produced results which have already been incorporated into the ECOSOC paper on Land and Conflict, presented by the International Land Coalition at New York in June 2005. SID, and the platform created through this experience, will partner the Land Coalition in conflict-related activities in Africa.

## Consultative Report: "ANALYSE DU DECRET D'APPLICATION DE LA LOI PORTANT CHARTE PASTORALE DANS LE REPUBLIQUE DU MALI"

**Local Organization:** Reseau Gestion Decentralisée des Ressources Naturelles – GDRN5 y Near East Fondation - NEF

**Country:** Mali

**Content:** Creating space for dialogue is a niche of the Coalition. There are few, if any, other institutions with a networking structure which links such a wide range of stakeholders. These spaces provide not only opportunities to test margins and provoke critical thinking on lessons learned, but also encourage the exploration of new approaches and the forging of organizational relationships in response to current changing contexts. These dialogues have heightened the importance of land access and related assets in broader development contexts, such as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs), territorial development, sector-wide approaches, decentralization and globalization.

**Results:** The Mali experience has shown the capacity to move from inter-community to regional workshops to obtain political recommendations on the implementation of the **Pastoral Chart**, thus influencing the formulation of policy affecting pastoral communities.

A regional workshop was organized by GDRN5 and NEF to validate the results collected from the micro-regional workshops. They specifically invited legislators to clarify the difference between (a) pastoralists, breeders and drovers; and (b) territorial common properties and local common properties, in order to ascertain the legal land needs of the pastoralist.

### **Lessons learned, among others:**

'Pastoralism' does not exist in a village context in Mali. Therefore, there is a need for reflection on the question of collective territory. The main lesson learned refers to the capacity of CSOs to influence political processes. Indeed, the bottom-up approach used to validate the Pastoral Chart in Mali is a good example of how to move on from a collective claim, to a formalized proposal. The result of this project shows a specific need for participatory and sustainable management of pastoral resources. Recognition of the existing conflict between farmers and pastoralists, and the need to address their management through an effective mechanism, represents lesson learned. The following questions are important in the follow-up process to this project:

- How can pastoralists use lands when the main production activity is agriculture? How can differences and conflicts between farmers and pastoral people be managed?
- In case of claim, what are the legal options open to pastoral people?
- Inter-communities in the management of shared resources: the resources crucial to pastoralists (water, salty land, etc.) are distributed at different geographical and administrative levels. Therefore, interchange and consensual processes are necessary to harmonize resource management.
- Prevention and management of conflicts: the most frequent conflicts are those between pastoralists and farmers. But, what are the operational solutions to better manage the pastoralist territories which have already been negatively affected by urban communities and agriculture production?

**Use of generated knowledge and strategy for its dissemination:**

There are few countries able to show the complexity and challenge of pastoralist territories: Mali is one of the most significant. The Pastoral Chart, supported by civil-society consultation, could become a significant example of the value of pastoralist vision regarding natural resources management. The Mali experience, together with that of Uganda, will be used as a case study to nourish the political dimension of the land debate. The result of these experiences form part of the Land Coalition's paper "Mobile Livelihoods, Patchy Resources & Shifting Rights: Approaching Pastoral Territories". The position paper has been written in consultation on Common Propriety Rights, realized with FAO and Capri. It will be presented during the workshop on Dry Lands in Nairobi (October 2005).

## Papers: "ACTION RESEARCH TOWARDS THE REFORM OF SUGARLANDS"

**Local Organization:** Centre for Agrarian reform and Rural Development - CARRD

**Region:** The Philippines - Asia

**Content:** Rural poverty persists in large measure due to the weak asset position of vast numbers of households. Resource rights are the single most important form of incentive for the poor to improve the productivity of the land, based on the security that they will benefit in the future from investments made today. Improved incomes mean new livelihood options, whereby poor men and women can improve their 'on-farm' income and realize the productive potential of the land by using their second greatest asset, their labour.

The project support to CARRD was aimed at investigating the social and economic transformation from the landless into farmers; in particular the sustainability of different schemes of land management for challenging the sugar production and market.

**Results:** The knowledge project produced two main action researches. The first aimed at extracting lessons for pursuing agrarian reform in The Philippines, with special focus on the reform of sugar lands.

Two outputs were used:

The first was:

- A brief update on the status of agrarian reform in the provinces of Batangas and Capiz;
- Investigation and documentation on the status of selected land cases under CARP- Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Programme - in Batangas and Capiz;

The second was an action research on Comparative Land Management Schemes in three Former Haciendas in Capiz, The Philippines. In particular, the study attempted to describe and assess:

- Actual performance and potential of different land management schemes (leaseback arrangements, collective farming and individual farming) as employed by Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries - ARBs;
- Challenges faced by farmers in the three former haciendas against the background of a changing Capiz sugar industry; and
- Emerging options and future capacity of ARBs and their organizations to compete and gain influence within the local sugar industry in Capiz.

More than an academic exercise, the action researches have:

- a) Increased awareness among farmers, farm workers and non-government organizations (NGOs) on the status and issues of agrarian reform and the local sugar industry.
- b) Provided local NGOs and farmer-organizations with a learning tool for analyzing lessons from experiences and for planning strategic options in pursuing field-based agrarian reform work.
- c) Provided a discussion platform for the conduct of policy dialogue among government agencies, NGOs, farmer organizations and other stakeholders in Capiz Province.

**Lessons learned, among others:**

1. Although agrarian reform increases the potential share of small farmers, they must now assume the added risks of cultivation: credit, rising costs of inputs, fluctuating sugar prices, plus the added cost of land amortization.
2. Agrarian reform alone has the potential of doubling farmers' incomes and this potential share for farmers could increase further with improved productivity. However, this will require access to a variety of support services such as, credit, irrigation and agricultural extension, all of which are currently inadequate under CARP implementation.
3. Non-farming activities are the real source of profit within the sugar industry. Regardless of whether agrarian reform is implemented or not, much of the consumer spending for sugar actually goes to post-harvest activities – milling, refining, trading and marketing, all of which account for 62% to 64% of every peso spent for sugar.

While agrarian reform has provided a temporary safety net for many small sugar farmers, coping strategies, such as collective farming, must now shift focus from survival to development. The options are few. ARBs must develop within a declining domestic sugar industry, and yet it is difficult for them to shift to other crops, livelihoods or farming systems due to the following:

- environmental and physical factors (high soil acidity, lack of irrigation systems);
- extreme poverty (limited investments, credit access and risk capacity);
- constraints in human capital (low educational levels); and
- lack of access to other technologies, information and markets in a region dominated by a single industry.

**Use of generated knowledge and strategy for its dissemination:**

The International Land Coalition is promoting a significant effort in The Philippines to build a multi-stakeholder platform for dialogue (LAND Partnership for national Development). The knowledge products generated through collaboration with CARRD have been crucial in nourishing the dialogue at national level. The lessons learned and results collected in the action researches have been brought into the political debate between governmental institutions, private sector and CSOs.

## **Policy Discussion Paper: "ASIAN NGO PERSPECTIVE ON AGRARIAN REFORM & ACCESS TO LAND"**

**Local Organization:** Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development - ANGOC

**Country:** The Philippines

**Content:** The Land Coalition members and partners work at multiple levels, some at the community-level and others through to the international level. The most effective partnership model at the local level is where partners are the direct actors, drawing support from the Land Coalition to widen the enabling environment in response to their demands. At the national-level partners should remain the key actors. The Land Coalition can assist them in opening open up spaces for dialogue and advancing the advocacy agenda. The analysis developed by ANGOC has been very useful in terms of understanding the impact of agrarian reform in Asia and the role NGOs should play in land distribution processes.

**Results:** The publication sponsored by the Land Coalition highlights the main topics related to Agrarian Reform: The role of the State as "reformer", the cost and time requested for implementing agrarian reform processes, the dilemma of decentralization and devolution, indigenous peoples' rights, common property resources and the impact of trade liberalization, are some of the main points raised in the publication.

### **Lessons learned, among others:**

1. Access to land continues to be crucial to poverty reduction and food sovereignty. One study showed a positive correlation between food security and access to land. This means that food production is higher for those who actually own the land.
2. However, land reform programmes are not prioritized by many developing countries. Lands are being reconsolidated for poorer countries to address the market requirements of agricultural trade liberalization. The passage of pro-farmer legislation is proceeding at a slow pace.
3. The farming population is growing older while the younger generation in rural areas is moving to the urban areas for work opportunities. Older farmers do not want their children to inherit farming as their main livelihood. Hence, they invest what they can in their children's education.
4. Lack of credit, appropriate technology, support and extension services and facilities still represent major obstacles for many farmers, coupled with the looming threat of a liberalized agricultural market.
5. The continuous "disentitlement" of women cannot be explained purely by inequitable laws. Although most Asian countries provide constitutional guarantees for the equal rights of women to land, they are discriminated against by customary practices. Traditional inheritance, especially of agricultural land, has been predominantly patrilineal. As men are traditionally seen as the breadwinners in the family, inheritance of farmlands is often construed as a father-to-son affair.
6. Conflicts over land can result in high levels of gender-based violence. Forced dowries, divorces and evictions can lead to further destitution and

marginalization. Thus, agrarian reform should address the issue of violence against women in the context of land conflicts.

7. Ensuring land rights for indigenous peoples goes far beyond common definition of "agrarian reform". It covers rights over both the physical and cultural territory of a distinct community. It includes the right to self-governance, through indigenous institutions, systems of law and justice and use of resources.

**Use of generated knowledge and strategy for its dissemination:**

The "Asian perspectives on Agrarian Reform & Access to Land" has been used as regional input to a global analysis of agrarian reforms. ANGOC, with a broader view, collected articles and researches from all over the world, to identify the main lessons learned and to present these at the international debate on agrarian reform and rural development. This document will be presented at the International Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ICAARD), to be held in Brazil during March 2006 (FAO/Government of Brazil).

## **Working Paper on: "KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT FOR BUILDING DEFENSORIAS CAMPESINAS"**

**Local Organization:** CONGCOOP, UVOC and CODECA

**Region:** Guatemala – Central America

**Content:** Pilot projects can be an effective strategy to demonstrate new approaches, test innovations and scale up successful approaches. By working together, members can achieve the critical mass of activity to impact international support for land issues and to develop more intense in-country relationships. This working paper takes into consideration some action taken by Land Coalition members in supporting farmers in pre- and post-land acquisition processes. The Defensorias campesinas, promoted by UVOC and CODECA in Guatemala with CONGCOOP support, are the services provided by farmers' associations and NGOs to respond to the needs of the landless or farmers in conflict over of land. The lessons learned are important for framing any activity promoted by CSOs for defending land rights and providing assistance in sustainable rural development.

**Results:** The paper describes the process of knowledge collection and transfer to increase social capital for the management of land issues in the rural context. The concrete examples of UVOC and CODECA represent entry points for the elaboration of a frame for elements to be considered by CSOs in offering land-related services. The paper considers also other experiences of Land Coalition members, such as Fundación TIERRA (Bolivia), FEPP Protierras (Ecuador), Uganda Land Alliance (Uganda), Center for Agrarian reform and Rural Development (The Philippines),

### **Lessons learned, among others:**

Farmers' groups and community-based organizations are very important in managing negotiation and mediation processes with governmental institutions and the private sector.

The office for the provision of land-related services should consider the Juridical, technical and social areas of intervention. It should accumulate experiences and record these in a data base. The comparative analysis of cases could facilitate the elaboration of appropriate strategies for the recognition of land rights.

The technical office should follow up closely with the land beneficiaries to support them with sustainable plans for agriculture and non-agricultural production. The technical office should also close the gap between the farmers and market opportunities. All too often the problem of land access is resolved but the market access remains the main constraint for rural development.

The social area should focus on strengthening and supporting the social and economic organizations. To achieve the objective of an inclusive development process, land is not sufficient. The people and the communities need to develop strong territorial relationships. The social dynamics should also take into account the role of women and young people, external actors and evolution processes (social changes).

The objective to satisfy and attend to the real demand of rural people should be the result of the *defensorias campesinas*. The paper provides inputs on conflict management, negotiation processes, formal and informal networks, linkages with university and research community, linkages with media and communication for

building up public awareness in favour of the rural poor. Another important element to be considered is the capacity to influence the traditional judicial system which often favours powerful interests. The paper highlights the capacity to achieve this objective through the university or a specific sensitization campaign targeted at judicial authorities.

**Use of generated knowledge and strategy for dissemination:**

The paper has been distributed to CSOs and farmers' groups. The Land Coalition has been requested to support many activities in different countries for building capacities in supporting of pre- and post-land acquisition processes. CSOs are reconfirmed as the crucial actors for mobilizing people regarding the recognition of rights. In order to move from land claims to concrete proposals for change, CSOs are in the process of acquiring the necessary skills.

## **Collection of local knowledge: "TRADITIONAL NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT IN WEST KALIMANTAN"**

**Local Organization:** Community Based Forest System Management Empowerment Program - *Program Pemberdayaan Sistem Hutan Kerakyatan* – PPSHK

**Region:** Indonesia- Asia

**Content:** The Land Coalition can help connect partners within countries, thereby increasing their effectiveness. It opens channels through which successful local initiatives can be brought to the attention of national, regional and international agencies. This creates opportunities for the ideas and approaches of national partners to influence the formulation of programmes and policies. Access and management of natural resources, land, water and forestry are crucial to the development of Indonesia. This project aimed at benefiting poor men and women in forest land areas throughout West Kalimantan. Residents of these communities rely on access to land and other natural resources, customarily held and managed by their communities for generations, for their daily livelihoods. The documentation process of this knowledge project involves residents of indigenous peoples' communities. The results will be scaled up for political debate.

### **Results:**

The programme provides a platform for promoting natural resource management by indigenous peoples to representatives of the government, legislatures, private sector and other stakeholders, including other organizations working with indigenous peoples' communities.

The different stages of the project are:

- Documentation of the natural resource management process, particularly that of community expertise, in rehabilitating critical land and making it productive for the improvement of the livelihoods of people in West Kalimantan.
- Promotion of natural resource management based on innovative local knowledge, to influence the formulation of equitable and sustainable policies.
- To generate support for sound natural resource management at local, national and international levels.

### **Use of generated knowledge and strategy for dissemination:**

PPSHK's network throughout West Kalimantan (more than 270 villages) will allow for other communities in the province to learn from the work of this project and take action.

## **Training Course: "TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL PACTS"**

**Participating Organizations:** Fundación TIERRA, Grupo ALLPA, CONGCOOP, COCOCH, FENACOOOP, ASOCODE, FAO

**Region:** Latin America

**Content:** The training course was organized by FAO, IRD, ILC and CIAT, in Cali – Colombia from 17-21 June 2003. The aim was to analyse the components related to territorial development.

In accordance with the Land Coalition's mandate, land access is considered to represent leverage for rural development and related processes. The land complexity was to be analysed and CSOs equipped with the capacity to understand the appropriate tools for its management. This was the framework in which the training course was organized.

Historical processes, use of land and land vocation, social demand and productive objectives, vulnerability of natural resources and exclusion/inclusion of marginalized groups have been the study topics of many researchers.

The training course's approach was to share these theoretical concepts applied to development. The concrete experience of civil-society groups, Land Coalition members and participants, was crucial in validating the instruments considered to be valuable by the research community.

**Results:** The experiences of CSOs have been compared with theoretical tools produced by research and investigation. The main results have been the need to train development agents in social commitment and technical capacity in order to promote inclusive social and economic dynamics.

The successful experiences of Colombia, Brazil, Bolivia, among others, have been very useful in providing evidence of concrete changes produced by merging social and technical skills.

### **Lessons learned, among others:**

The capacity of negotiating for common objectives, taking into account concomitantly the tacit or explicit interests, can be very productive and challenging. CSOs are often ill-equipped to play this role.

The strategy for responding to lack of government institutions within the same territory can vary; the roles of different actors should be clear and recognized. Conflict management can become a fundamental tool for territorial development.

The social pact for territorial development is a very long-term objective; social time needs to be carefully considered.

# Building up Networks for Collective Empowerment

## "COMMON PLATFORM FOR LAND ACCESS"

**Local Organization:** Fundación TIERRA

**Region:** Bolivia – Andean Region

**Content:** The project aimed to build scenarios of dialogue between actors involved in the rural dimension. Alliances have been supported in order to work on common objectives. Many actors have been involved in practical and political discussions in an endeavour to understand the real needs of landless, indigenous peoples and farmers, and to propose solutions. The capacity of the indigenous and farmers has been strengthened to permit their participation and negotiation in political arenas.

**Results:** The main result has been to build up collective power and forge social cohesion among farmers' organizations, community-based organizations, social movements and NGOs. This collective power has been used to influence political dynamics and form concrete proposals. Specifically:

- A local radio campaign has been organized and developed in many communities (mesas radiales).
- Spaces for debate and consensus have been created in six municipalities, so as to identify convergent points between local people and government.
- Inputs have been provided to improve the dialogue and interaction among actors on proposals for readjusting the official agriculture policies.
- Alliances have been forged among communities to share experiences, lessons learned and to identify difficulties.
- The collective demand for equitable land access has been included in the national agenda.

### **Lessons learned:**

Flawed legislation can lead to misuse by interested sectors, as well as misunderstanding of the lawful right of the beneficiaries, (the recognition of original territories in Bolivia can lead to misunderstanding of full natural resource property rights which remain in the hands of the State)

- The roundtables relating to radio programmes represent spaces for debate rather than dissemination of information. The Fundación TIERRA experience confirmed that the quality of the debate can improve with democratic and horizontal interchanges of experiences and knowledge.
- The use of video-audio material supports the understanding of the topics promoted during the radio roundtables.
- Information is insufficient to provoke change: the NGOs have to follow up closely with community-based groups in formulating their position in order to influence the service providers and negotiate with governmental institutions.

## **"STRENGTHENING CCC NETWORK SUPPORT FOR PROVINCIAL NGO LINKAGES"**

**Local Organization:** Cooperation Comité for Cambodia - CCC

**Region:** Cambodia - Asia

**Content:** The overall objective of this project has been to promote the NGO contribution to the development of Cambodia by forging relationships with the Royal Government of Cambodia, donors and other agencies. These relationships are aimed at promoting active participation in defining the Poverty Reduction Strategy -- PRSP. CCC aims to influence political dynamics with concrete proposals and to build up strategic alliances with other organizations/institutions/actors (multi-stakeholders dialogue).

**Results and lessons learned:** With the formation of the national government in July 2004, after almost a year-long political deadlock, many previously scheduled activities involving government officials, finally took place.

For example the Consultative Group – CG Meeting on Cambodia delayed from early 2004, was finally held in December 2004. A pre-CG meeting was held on 10 September 2004 at which the government presented its new Economic Platform for Poverty reduction called the Rectangular Strategy. This paved the way for CCC to coordinate NGOs in the preparation and completion of their statement to the CG meeting.

CCC was able to use the provincial NGO workshops and the Civil Society Forum, supported by this project, to increase and deepen awareness amongst the NGO community of the CG meeting of the important role that NGOs play in policy dialogue.

Main topics considered and elaborated during the Civil Society Forum on the NGO statement to the 2004 Consultative Groups Meeting have been: good governance and improved service delivery; the rule of law, rural livelihoods (fisheries, land and forestry, indigenous minority affairs).

The NGO statement outlined four recommendations: increase people's direct participation, end corruption, support the rule of law and decrease rural poverty (deconcentration and decentralization should continue with focus on communities having greater control over resources on which their livelihoods depend. The Government should uphold the current moratorium on logging and cancel remaining forestry concessions until more transparent and accountable systems that take into account the opinions of affected communities are in place. The 2001 Land law should lead to communal access rights and land titling procedures to alleviate poverty instead of increasing the wealth of the affluent and powerful. The Social Land Concession and Cadastral Commissions must be strengthened with adequate resources. Taxation on unused land must be enforced).

**"FORTALECIMIENTO DE LA CAPACIDAD DE INCIDENCIA DEL SECTOR RURAL –  
REINFORCE THE RURAL SECTOR CAPACITY TO INFLUENCE POLICIES"**

**Local Organization:** Federación nacional de Cooperativas Agropecuarias y Agroindustriales - FENACCOOP

**Region:** Nicaragua – Central America

**Content:** The project aimed at strengthening local networks, specifically FENACCOOP, to increase their capacity to influence political processes. FENACCOOP influenced political dynamics by making concrete proposals. Moreover the participation of FENACCOOP in the National Property Forum allowed civil society and the private sector to participate in monitoring the land titling programme (PRODEP), implemented by the government with support of the World Bank.

**Results:** FENACCOOP is an umbrella organization of cooperatives. The cooperative movement in Nicaragua suffered a crisis brought about by internal factors, lack of government support, access to credit, land insecurity, and access to market opportunities. The recent political debate in the country has been driven mostly by the negotiation on the free trade agreement with United States. The farmers' organizations, among them FENACCOOP, mobilized their human and financial resources to influence this process in favour of small-scale farmers. CID, in which FENACCOOP participate, is an initiative determined by three areas of concern: (a) the establishment of an alliance with non-agriculture sectors and parliamentary representatives, (b) approval of laws related to the impact of the Free Trade Agreement (law of cooperative, of competencies, bio-security and biodiversity, and food security) and, (c) influencing Parliament to set out a transitional plan before endorsing the Free Trade Agreement.

The national Property Forum, which includes FENACCOOP, monitored the implementation of the PRODEP, the national programme to provide security of land titles. Meetings with the *Deputes* of the National Assembly have been held to highlight the delay in implementing the programme. Changes to Law n.278 have been submitted to the legislative body to simplify the procedures and facilitate legal management of cooperative properties.

**Lessons learned:** Together with other Nicaraguan sectors, Fenacoop elaborated alternative options for the transitional phase to the Free trade Agreement. This project supports FENACCOOP, strengthens its internal cooperative network and identifies weaknesses and priorities for the future.

In some cases national alliances established favouring small-scale agriculture and farmers, have not been politically strong enough. The lack of government interest on these issues has been reflected in the lack of willingness to advance the national Plan for Productive Rural Development, and its linkages with the proposed Free Trade Agreement.

**“NATIONAL NETWORK TO WATCH LAND RIGHTS OF FARMERS’ COMMUNITIES – RED NACIONAL PARA LA VIGILANCIA DE LAS TIERRAS DE LAS COMUNIDADES CAMPESINAS”**

**Local Organization:** Grupo ALLPA

**Region:** Perú – Andean Region

**Content:** Consolidate the Watch network to monitor and pursue the current processes of land titling for farmers’ communities in four regions (Puno, Cusco, Ayacucho, Huancavelica). The project aimed at joining regional organizations and institutions concerned with land and rural development. This activity was generated by the launch of the second campaign of the Special Programme of land titling and rural cadastre (PETT) by the Ministry of Agriculture and with the support of the Inter-American Development Bank.

**Results:** The strategy used by Grupo ALLPA comprised three steps:

- the introduction of Watch boards (mesas de vigilancia) and tools design;
- information and discussion (production of information case study on land conflicts, statistical data provided to the participants of the watch boards);
- monitoring and lobbying (reports on PETT and SUNARP performance and recommendations for improvement)

**Lessons learned:** Completion of the land titling process for farmers’ communities is urgent and to achieve this objective, the creation of spaces for dialogue between the government and farmers’ associations is crucial.

The main topics for debate are: community land titling; communal versus individual land titling; young landless and mechanisms to negotiate and take fair advantage of the mining activity. In Ayacucho the focus has been on building up public awareness.

Areas for agreement and consensus need to be inter-institutional. The idea is to formulate an agreed strategy (neither in contradiction nor proposing an alternative position, with the State. Communication between civil-society groups and local public institutions is vital in order to gain influence. When public representatives have been included, discussion becomes a platform for joint action. The reports of the Watch Boards have been presented to PETT and SUNARP.

The sustainability of the four experiences in this project is determined by the commitment of the participants to the boards (the board in Cusco is the most fragile on this respect).

## **"INCIDENCE ON AGRICULTURE POLICIES AND STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATING COUNCIL OF FARMERS ORGANIZATIONS - COCOCH"**

**Local Organization:** Coordinating Council of Farmers Organizations - COCOCH

**Region:** Honduras – Central America

**Content:** The project allowed COCOCH to build a front, together with other national organizations, to influence both positively and constructively policies concerning land and agriculture. COCOCH defined proposals to support the food crops production and small-farmer agriculture. The project strengthened the internal structure of COCOCH in terms of their organizational, operational and administrative effectiveness.

**Results:** The activity of influencing policies was focused on relevant laws related to small farmers. Specifically the laws considered were:

- The new law on agrarian reform submitted to the National Congress in April 2002, and followed by the composition of a multi-sectorial Commission. The approval process of the law has been delayed by Congress. In view of the sensitivity of this law, an appropriate strategy for political incidence has been developed.
- The Property Law was approved in May 2004: Important recommendations provided by COCOCH have been incorporated. Among them an important factor is the establishment of a maximum ceiling at 25 hectares. The 'over ceiling' will be recuperated by the National Institute of Agrarian Reform INA. The inclusion of the item related to the regularization of land owned by farmers for more than three years is an important achievement. COCOCH has been involved in the National Commission of property policies – CONAPON. With these specific points around 500 groups (7500 families) have benefited from the law. COCOCH is now monitoring the implementation of the legislation.
- Other laws have been considered in the political work of COCOCH. In addition, the organization dedicated enormous efforts in providing evidence of the damages provoked by the Free Trade Agreement, as well as its impact on small-scale agriculture and food security.

**Lessons learned:** The relevance of the COCOCH experience is that of political impact. The representation of COCOCH (9 national farmers organizations, 3 000 community-based groups, 200 000 families) permitted the achievement of important results and also resulted in mobilizing people into manifesting for recognition of their rights.

The links with media have been germane to the results achieved.

The coordination with other organizations and the establishment of broader alliances has been crucial. The COCOCH experience and the measured results, now needs to be formulated into political processes.

COCOCH is promoting the small farmers' prospective in opposition to government which does not recognize the social and economic value of this sector in terms of policies and resource allocation. Monitoring the implementation of the law is crucial.

## "BUILDING NEPALESE LAND ALLIANCE – NELA"

**Local Organization:** Mobilization and Development –MODE

**Region:** Nepal – Asia

**Content:** MODE took action to establish a forum for sustainable national development and improved secure access of rural poor to land and other productive assets. The alliance is to advocate for land partnership in collaboration with CSOs, CBOs, bilateral and international actors and the country itself.

**Results:** Some of the main topics identified during the process of LAND Alliance establishment are:

***Haliya System in Nepal:*** A traditional system established between the landlords and the landless, or near landless, farmers. Options approved were: recognize the labour of the haliya; recognize their rights as having worked the land for their survival

***Freed Bonded Labours (Kamaiya):*** \_There are issues concerning the bonded labourers who were freed under declaration of the government in 2000. Some solutions were sought for the development in kamaiya area, such as rehabilitation of women kamaiyas as per the Bonded Labour Act; grant each kamaiya at least 0.17 ha for cultivation; make provision of temporary settlements until land is forthcoming; provide the membership of the forest community to kamaiya families; ensure skill-based training for income-generating activities.

***Tenant Problems and dual Land Ownership:*** Discussions took place on the possible provision of citizenship certificates based on validation by tenants; the formation of village grassroots institutions; retention of the tenants' provision; provision of tenancy also for daughters; adoption of gender equality in all activities; establishment of a period of tenancy as provided for under the Act.

***Dalit Liberation:*** Although the dalit population exceeds over 5 million, they are deprived of education, access to development and, more importantly, they are disgraced because they are of an untouchable caste. Basic solutions approved were to: prioritize land to dalits to ensure their survival; provide certificate of citizenship; provide citizenship certificate in the name of the mother in Badi society; ensure loans without collateral; intensify education and knowledge transfer; provide skill-based training to dalit youths.

***Land Rights of Aborigines and Tribal communities:*** The forum extended the following options: Conservation of women's activities in the aborigine and tribal communities; advocating for education and transfer of knowledge; encouraging belief in their development and their unity.

***Lessons learned:*** The good level of understanding among NGOs/CBOs and CSOs working on land issues has resulted in joining on common issues. This represents a new step for Nepal. Relevant and useful information has been brought to light regarding land issues from discussions at forums, publications and other media. MODE Nepal believes that the need to sustain policies and programmes for improving access to land by the poor through institutional, public and government-led programmes supported by peoples' organizations is becoming recognized with initiation of land alliance in Nepal. Efforts had already been made to form alliances but what was required was awareness and common consensus.

## **"INTERNATIONAL MEETING ON THE MOST EFFICIENT WAY TO BUILD A CENTRAL AMERICA WITHOUT RURAL POOR"**

**Local Organization:** Grupo Tierra – CODER

**Region:** Nicaragua – Central America

**Content:** The objective of the project was to open a Central America debate regarding the future of the rural areas in the region. Discussion commenced at a workshop and was followed by distribution of the outcomes and the establishment of a network. The perspective on rural development emerging from the inputs of farmers' organizations has been brought to the attention of other national, regional and international organizations.

**Results:** The participation of national and international NGOs, as well the provision of pertinent material, afforded the farmers' groups a better understanding of rural dynamics. The innovative vision built into the process of discussion looked at land in the context of strategies for reducing poverty and improving economic development. Media communication has been used to promote small-scale agriculture and to disprove the perception that this is neither productive nor economic by nature. A network was established after the workshop – *Grupo Tierra*. The results have been presented to the main IGOs which are active at national and regional level.

The following was debated:

*How to correct the land concentration?*

- national debate (mediator, building a decentralized juridical framework, promotion of farmers' success stories, education and socialization, gender focus and family);
- adequate juridical framework (incentive on the correct use of resources, control of idle lands, taxation on big extensions, land access through purchase by small farmers to big agriculture farms);
- specific modalities for land administration (flexible juridical status for economic farmer organizations, integral approach to favour technical and financial assistance, transparency for registration and cadastre, education on agricultural law).

*How to avoid land re-concentration?*

- social control (study of the potential use of land, current use, distribution and legal situation, decentralization of local power – municipal councils and municipal laws, strengthen the community-based farmers' organizations at national level, fiscal policy adequate to rural development, regularize land market taking into account the organizations, collective control on land use and recourses under different tenure systems).

*What should be done to secure the viability of family production?*

- understand the market, make offer respond to demand;
- define mechanism of interchanges based on fair economy;
- develop local market - not only external market.

**Lessons learned:** The results have been significant in terms of breaking down entrenched positions on land and rural development issues. Some results of the workshop such as: identification of long-term solutions and provision of new tools and instruments, have already been incorporated into the strategies of some partners (see CODECA). The participants' capacity to understand the complexity of the topics and move from land claims to rural development proposals was evident.

## **"REGIONAL NETWORK ON LAND ISSUES AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION – BRINGING THE CHALLENGE TO AGENDA FOR WEST AFRICAN CIVIL SOCIETY"**

**Local Organization:** LandNet West Africa

**Region:** Togo - West Africa

**Content:** The regional workshop sponsored by the Land Coalition brought together representatives from several countries, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Nigeria, Mali, Guinea and Togo. The results have been used to contribute to the CILSS Praia+9 meeting on Rural Land tenure and Sustainable Development in West Africa (November 2003). The workshop was crucial in supporting LandNet West Africa, in the establishment of a sound base for its future initiatives.

The workshop achieved:

- sharing experiences and best practices to improve land management (Problématique foncière et lutte contre la pauvreté: concepts, enjeux et perspective pour l'action; Analyse des acteurs au Burkina Faso; Prise en compte du foncière dans l'élaboration du DSRP en Guinée; Présentation du DSRP - Togo) ;
- building individual and institutional capacity;
- giving support to the network affiliate to influence land-related policies at the national level;
- creation of a land rights database, accessible by the affiliates, to foster collaboration and synergism.

The workshop, which was organized to improve capacity-building and advocacy, was enriched by the participation of the representative of the Uganda Land Alliance, the focal point of Land Net East Africa.

**Results:** The weakness of the African network is due to many reasons. Nevertheless, this experience has shown the importance of supporting collective power. CSOs are seeking to identify key contacts in order to share information and create spaces for presenting the African vision on rural development issues. LandNet West Africa comprises organizations interested in influencing the ongoing processes in their region (PRSPs, etc.). An analysis of the most efficient network structure was made, focal points in each country identified. Activities planned: develop land policy profiles to provide guidelines; develop projects on pastoralism, poverty alleviation and land rights; organize Land Day in each country; and cooperate with other networks).

The Network produced a very interesting document on the comparative analyses of implementation of rural tenancy plans in West Africa (Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire).

### **Lessons learned:**

- A strong need exists to open up channels of information to all network affiliates, in order to stimulate participatory development of policies on land issues.
- There is little consideration for land issues in the preparation of PRSP in most countries of the region.
- The civil-society participation to the PRSP processes is limited in terms of quantitative and qualitative contribution.
- The sub-region has a number of common land-related problems. Pastoral groups are among them. During the trans-border movement of people and livestock, there is intense competition for the use of land and other natural resources.
- Common property tenure systems are very relevant in the sub-region.

## **"SUPPORT TO THE REGIONAL DIALOGUE IN EAST AFRICA: THE CHALLENGES OF LAND NET EAST AFRICA NETWORK"**

**Local Organization:** Uganda Land Alliance -ULA

**Region:** Uganda - East Africa

**Content:** ULA is the focal organization for Land Net East Africa, an organization established with representatives of Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Rwanda interested in land sector reform. It came into being to facilitate policy makers, researchers and civil-society representatives' discussion on rights, land tenure and land policy reforms in the sub-region. The network is directed by the following objectives among others:

- Facilitate sharing information, ideas and expertise between and among land policy practitioners in government, NGOs, Research Institutions in the East African Sub-region.
- Promote the development of guidelines for best practices for land policy development and administration in the sub-region.
- Promote development of human and institutional capacity for land policy development and administration within the sub-region.
- Promote, encourage and facilitate research into issues affecting administration, management and use of land and land-based natural resources and sharing of research findings across the sub-region.
- Facilitate collaboration and interaction between civil society and the government practitioners of land policy development to promote democratic and equitable land policies.
- Strengthen the Land Net East Africa. A workshop was organized in Kampala, Uganda.

**Results:** The workshop carried out a needs analysis of the Network requirements to move the process forward. The following were identified:

- improve the capacity of members of the alliances/nodes to fulfil the mandate of the network;
- increase focus on collective visioning. Identify clear, defined activities and outputs;
- monitor and evaluate the land reform processes focussing on policy, legislative and institutional frameworks.

The challenges of a network such as Land Net East Africa are, among others: (a) need of a common perspective; (b) dealing with policies under different ministries; unsupportive governments (as in the case of Kenya); globalization.

The Land Net East Africa workplan was designed on two priority areas: Developing the sub-regional networks, and developing partnerships.

**Lessons learned:** The establishment of a network in the sub-region is negatively affected by communication difficulties and insufficient financing to cover operational costs. These practical problems could be overcome through external support. The network needs to prioritize and strategize processes.

The objectives sustaining this network are very relevant to the region. The capacity to present the African vision is considered by decision-makers to be fundamental in reducing the gap between top-down and bottom-up rural development strategies, one of the most common causes of failure in the development processes.

## "INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT OF GENDER, LAND AND WATER RIGHTS IN SOUTH AFRICA"

**Local Organization:** Women's Land and Water Rights in Southern Africa Platform - WLWRSA

**Region:** Zimbabwe - Southern Africa

**Content:** The project which aimed to support the Platform, was implemented in four countries of Southern Africa Lesotho, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe. In each of these countries an assessment was undertaken of the laws and administrative frameworks governing land and water rights. The objective was to ascertain if the policy framework took into account the gender issue, bearing in mind that women form the majority of people using land and water for their livelihoods.

### **Results and Lessons learned, among others:**

In all four countries represented in the Platform, women are treated as minors and have no right to own property due to the Constitution's customary law which is supreme in matters of personal rights.

Although the four countries in question had ratified the Convention on Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), this instrument is of no consequence to the practical reality of women in terms of property ownership.

Countries like Mozambique and Zambia have both the patrilineal and matrilineal systems while Zimbabwe and Lesotho are patrilineal. Cross border migration is prevalent in Lesotho, and to some extent in the southern part of Zimbabwe, thus creating a situation where women are *de facto* heads of households but have no direct control or ownership of the land and water resources they use on a daily basis. Land and water are the key factors of production in the region. Little or nothing has been done to integrate the two resources from a gender perspective.

From the analysis a clear need emerged to engage with different states and the SADC Council of Ministers for Water and for Agriculture, on the importance of integrating the management of these two productive resources underpinning the economic development of the region.

The Platform suffers from lack of financial resources to cover the cost of operation. However, the quality of the research-based results has been satisfactory.

- With support from the Land Coalition, the Platform participated at international advocacy events in order to present the results achieved.
- IFAD Seminar Event on Farmer's Views First: Linking Land and Water Governance at the 2004 World Water Week organised by IFAD in collaboration of the Land Coalition <http://www.landcoalition.org/events/ev04wwwifad.htm>
- Review and Appraisal of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the Outcome Document of the 23rd Special Session of the General Assembly New York March 2005 <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/Review>

## Conclusions

The second phase of the Agrarian Reform Programme managed by the International Land Coalition has, in the main, been supported by the Government of Italy. An analysis of the results offers significant insight into reframing the support needed by civil-society organizations in order to secure land rights for the rural poor and landless.

The analysis of results underlines and confirms the necessity to actively support civil-society organizations through knowledge and collective empowerment initiatives. Support has been provided exclusively to civil-society organizations (11 projects under the knowledge programme and 10 projects under the Network Support Programme with the involvement of around one hundred civil-society groups).

Support has also been provided to national organizations or networks, an NGO foundation, advocacy centres, regional networks or platforms, federation of cooperatives, farmers' organizations and only one international NGO.

From an analysis of the results of the Network Support Programme, it is evident that African Networks and Platforms need support in terms of resources and methodology in order to function. Existing linkages in Asia with IGOs and governmental institutions are crucial. In Latin America, networks are more focused on political incidence. However, knowledge is always considered a fundamental step in building collective empowerment.

The method of building relevant knowledge can be based of different modalities; the production of thematic material represents one method. The Land Coalition has learned through many years of operating knowledge programmes, that investment is achieved through more peer-to-peer interchange, training courses to share CSO experiences, and learning paths to discover diverse situations and formulate different methods for strategizing.

### ***Understanding and learning are basic pillars of any network.***

Small-scale agriculture (Latin America), land tenure systems (Bolivia, Nepal, West and East Africa) and linkages between land and water rights from a gender perspective (southern Africa region), have been the main topics in nourishing the network discussion.

## **Documenting and sharing Knowledge**

The main relevant topics for civil- society organizations have been:

### **Knowledge for Land literacy and legal assistance**

Many civil-society organizations are providing services to the landless and/or near-landless in order to assist them in exercising their rights. Land rights are always related to labour and civil rights. The cases analysed from Bolivia, Uganda and Guatemala show the necessity to provide legal support to individuals and groups. The first steps are:

- a. provide appropriate and accurate information on legislation and regulations;
- b. carry out research and build conflict resolution scenarios when requested;
- c. be in close vicinity to the conflict and decentralized services;
- d. link up with research communities and media;

- e. establish an informal network of key persons to exert influence for pro-poor actions;
- f. train local leaders, and
- g. adopt facilitating role and maintain a consistent, transparent and credible attitude.

The legal assistance will immediately impact the asymmetric power relationships existing at local level; often small farmers are intimidated from taking action for the recognition of their rights because of ignorance and fear of powerful elites. This is often the most difficult challenge facing civil-society organizations trying to influence the traditional juridical system. In some cases the legal assistance could be complemented with social and technical support to strengthen the social groups in their organizations and to support the landless to become more efficient and productive farmers.

### **Knowledge for advocacy and political incidence**

The consultations from inter-communities to regional workshops highlighted the capacity of CSOs to stimulate and facilitate debate around issues, such as the political proposal on pastoralist by the Mali government. The villagers have been able to formulate political recommendations to influence the final version of the related law. The existing conflict between farmers and pastoral groups has been a topic for building agreed solutions to people being affected by similar situations of conflict.

What are the lessons learned following the implementation of the land redistribution process in The Philippines? What are the main constraints to achieving poverty reduction through land redistribution? Which are the most social, economic and environmental sustainable schemes for land management?

These are the crucial questions which were responded to through CARRD's action researches, the results of which were extracted from people's real life experiences. These have been brought to the national level for political discussion in order to influence the future of The Philippine agrarian reform.

What is the Asian NGO viewpoint on agrarian reform? The comparative study on Asian agrarian reform is very useful in understanding the feasibility and sustainability of these processes. The role of the state and that of civil society is depicted based on collected experiences, in order to better understand the dynamics of power relationships, responsibilities and commitments.

### **Knowledge for capacity-building on financial systems for land access**

Can Land Funds work for the Poor?

On the question of a financial mechanism to support land access processes, it is important to establish a viable financial approach.

The FEPP experience was selected because it successfully reached, and was accessible to, rural poor people. It not only resulted in greater access to land but also launched related processes which together brought about a measurable change in the living conditions of disadvantaged rural residents. At the same time, FEPP has been able to overcome a number of hurdles encountered by other land funds. Honduras and Bolivia are taking into account the Ecuadorian experience in the building of their own land fund mechanism.

### **Knowledge for understanding and solve conflicts on natural resources**

Conflicts on subsoil resources and conflicts between social groups and extractive industries are becoming more and more frequent. It is evident that there is a necessity to equip CSOs with appropriate tools to defend natural resources rights,

especially land, water and forestry rights, from complacent governments and powerful companies. The Peruvian case is just one of many occurring all over the world. The similarity in conflicts generated by extractive industries in different countries is resulting in the formation of a platform to design strategies for counteracting abuses by extra active companies.

In East and Southern Africa, existing conflicts have been analysed in terms of politics, policy and law, conflict between pastoral groups, and land and water. Recommendations aimed at focussing civil-society organizations on capacity building, public awareness, forging alliances and educating the political elite on their role and responsibility in managing resource conflicts. Appropriate strategies need to be considered for influencing parliaments. Trans-national conflicts are relevant in the region. Early warning systems are only as effective as the processes that surround them, and when they include all actors.

### **Knowledge for promoting territorial systems**

The traditional systems of natural resources management in West Kalimantan, Indonesia and the regional training course in Latin America have been focused on the promotion of territorial dimension in rural development strategies. The culture of people is linked both with the past and the future. Land is one of many interconnected factors affecting the dynamics of rural space or territory. The opportunities for poor men and women depend upon how the development of the territory incorporates such interactions, such as those between the urban and rural; farm and non-farm; governmental authorities; community organizations and the private sector; social and environmental factors and the inclusiveness of agreements, and decision-making processes affecting these relationships.

### **Building up networks for collective empowerment**

The lessons learned from the Network Support Programme are related to the impact of collective empowerment in democratic processes.

### **Collective empowerment for social monitoring**

The status of networks in Africa is very different from Latin America and Asia. In Latin America the national networks are moving to the idea of **social monitoring**. Therefore, the participation of CSOs in decision making processes is becoming more significant because of legitimacy and participation. Social monitoring is effective in terms of laws and implementation of land-related programmes. The main result is the control of the role exercised by the State (Peru, Honduras, and Nicaragua).

In Latin America, CSOs have been able to mobilize people around the impact of Free Trade Agreement on food security and small-scale agriculture. Solutions have been demanded to minimize the impact of these agreements.

The work undertaken by Fundación TIERRA in Bolivia in closing the gap between the government and the rural poor in order to influence their institutions: providing information, supporting the dialogue process and increasing capacity to bring recommendations to the policy makers, is provoking a virtuous bottom-up process in favour of people who have never before been considered in policy formulation.

### **Collective empowerment for Incidence in laws**

The result of changing an important article in the property law in Honduras represents a great achievement in favour of rural poor. The effective law needs to be monitored in its implementation. The sustainability of political processes is determined by the fact that a local organization has provoked change; it has not been brought about by external organizations. The action is proportional to the

political maturity of the organizations and of the national context. The role of the Land Coalition has been to support and facilitate these processes.

### **Collective empowerment for building consensus on land for rural development**

In Asia, CSOs have been affected by government attitude to underestimate their role. In building a national platform to influence national policies (Nepal) and country Reduction Poverty Strategy Papers (Cambodia), CSOs challenged this attitude. They have been able to establish consensus and present a convergent civil-society view. The continuous involvement of government representatives has been crucial in transforming possible confrontation into opportunities for formulating effective proposals.

### **Collective empowerment for building coherent and significant proposals on rural development**

Before designing any future vision for rural areas and inhabitants, it is fundamental to fully understand the reality of the context and its linkages at the micro and macro levels. As a result of this, some CSOs preferred to invest in an analysis of diverse land tenure systems before formulating their recommendations. The African networks and the Southern Africa Platform based empowerment in the context of 'knowledge'.

The Central American network, as its first initiative, took up discussion on the national prevailing situation and the economic and social conditions of rural men and women before advancing to the formulation of recommendations for submission to the IGOs and governmental institutions.

# Annex 1

DOCUMENTING AND SHARING KNOWLEDGE						
ORGANIZATION	ORGANIZATION NATURE	RESULTS	OUTPUTS	TOPIC	COUNTRY	REGION
CEPES	NATIONAL NGO	PUBLICATION FOR POLICY AND ADVOCACY	ACTION RESEARCH AND CASES STUDY	SOCIAL ORGANIZATION AND EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES: EXISTING CONFLICTS ON SUBSOIL RESOURCES	PERU	ANDEAN
FEPP	NATIONAL NGO	PUBLICATION FOR POLICY AND ADVOCACY	BOOK	CAN LAND FUNDS WORK FOR THE POOR? A LEARNING EXPERIENCE FROM ECUADOR	ECUADOR	ANDEAN
FUNDACIÓN TIERRA	NATIONAL NGO	PUBLICATION FOR CAPACITY BUILDING ON LAND LITERACY	BOOK	LAND LITERACY - 12 YEARS PROMOTING RURAL DEVELOPMENT - FUNDACIÓN TIERRA IN BOLIVIA	BOLIVIA	ANDEAN
ULA	NATIONAL NETWORK	PUBLICATION FOR CAPACITY BUILDING	CASE STUDY	LAND LITERACY AND LEGAL ASSISTANCE -LAND RIGHTS INFORMATION CENTER	UGANDA	EASTERN AFRICA
SID	INTERNATIONAL NGO	CONFERENCE REPORT FOR POLICY AND ADVOCACY	ACTION RESEARCH AND CASE STUDY	TOWARD A COMMON AGENDA ON RESOURCES BASED CONFLICTS IN EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICA	REGIONAL	EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICA
NEF	FOUNDATION	POLITICAL RECOMMENDATIONS	CONSULTATIVE REPORT FOR POLICY	ANALYSE DU DECRET D'APPLICATION DE LA LOI PORTANT CHARTE PASTORAL EN REPUBLIQUE MALI - PASTORAL TERRITORIES	MALI	EASTERN AFRICA
CARRD	ADVOCACY CENTER	PUBLICATION FOR POLICY AND ADVOCACY	ACTION RESEARCH	1) ACTION RESEARCH TOWARDS THE REFORM OF SUGARLANDS - 2) COMPARATIVE LAND MANAGEMENT SCHEMES IN THREE HACIENDS	THE PHILIPPINES	ASIA
ANGOC	REGIONAL NETWORK OF NGOs	PUBLICATION FOR POLICY AND ADVOCACY	BOOK	ASIAN NGO PERSPECTIVE ON AGRARIAN REFORM AND ACCESS TO LAND	REGIONAL	ASIA
CONGCOOP	NATIONAL NETWORK	WORKING PAPER FOR CAPACITY BUILDING	COMPARATIVE STUDY	MANUAL FOR CAPACITY BUILDING ON DEFENSORIAS CAMPESINAS (CENTERS OF INFORMATION AND LEGAL ASSISTANCE ON LAND RIGHTS TO FARMERS)	GUATEMALA	CENTRAL AMERICA
PPSHK	NATIONAL NETWORK	PUBLICATION FOR POLICY AND ADVOCACY	ACTION RESEARCH	COLLECTION OF LOCAL KNOWLEDGE ON TRADITIONAL NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT IN WEST KALIMANTAN	INDONESIA	ASIA
LATIN AMERICAN MEMBERS OF THE COALITION	MIX	WORKSHOP FOR CAPACITY BUILDING	TRAINING COURSE	TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL PACTS	REGIONAL	LATIN AMERICA

BUILDING UP NETWORKS FOR COLLECTIVE EMPOWERMENT						
ORGANIZATION	ORGANIZATION NATURE	RESULTS	OUTPUTS	TOPIC	COUNTRY	REGION
FUNDACIÓN TIERRA	NATIONAL NGO	PLATFORM	RADIO CAMPAIGN AND ROUNDTABLES	SPACES FOR DIALOGUE TO INFLUENCE NATIONAL POLICY AND INSTITUTIONS	BOLIVIA	ANDEAN
CCC	NATIONAL NETWORK	POLITICAL RECOMMENDATIONS	PROVINCIAL WORKSHOPS AND NATIONAL FORUM	CIVIL SOCIETY CONSULTATION TO INFLUENCE THE REDUCTION STRATEGY PAPER	CAMBODIA	ASIA
FENACOOOP	FEDERATION OF COOPERATIVE	POLITICAL RECOMMENDATIONS AND SOCIAL MONITORING	ROUNDTABLES, NATIONAL ALLIANCES AND MEDIA COVERAGE	1) MINIMIZING IMPACT OF FREE TRADE AGREEMENT ON SMALL SCALE AGRICULTURE 2) MONITOR LAND RELATED PROGRAMME	NICARAGUA	CENTRAL AMERICA
GRUPO ALLPA	NATIONAL NETWORK	POLITICAL RECOMMENDATIONS AND SOCIAL MONITORING	WATCH BOARDS, CASES STUDY	1) FOUR LAND WATCH BOARDS AT REGIONAL LEVEL 2) MONITOR LAND RELATED PROGRAMME	PERU	ANDEAN
COCOCH	COORDINATION OF FARMERS GROUPS	POLITICA INCIDENCE IN LAWS	ROUNDTABLES, NATIONAL ALLIANCES AND MEDIA COVERAGE	1) MINIMIZING IMPACT OF FREE TRADE AGREEMENT ON SMALL SCALE AGRICULTURE 2) MONITOR LAND RELATED PROGRAMME	HONDURAS	CENTRAL AMERICA
MODE	NATIONAL NGO	PLATFORM AND POLITICAL RECOMMENDATIONS	WORKSHOPS AND NATIONAL PLATFORM	ANALYSIS OF DIFFERENT LAND TENURE SYSTEMS AND FORMULATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS	NEPAL	ASIA
CODER	FARMER ORGANIZATION	PLATFORM AND POLITICAL RECOMMENDATIONS	WORKSHOP	CAPACITY BUILDING FOR FARMERS PROPOSALS ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT	REGIONAL	CENTRAL AMERICA
LANDNET WEST AFRICA	REGIONAL NETWORK	NETWORK	REGIONAL WORKSHOP, CASES STUDY AND COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS	ANALYSIS OF DIFFERENT LAND TENURE SYSTEMS IN THE REGION. IMPROVEMENT OF THE REGIONAL NETWORK	REGIONAL	WEST AFRICA
ULA	NATIONAL NETWORK	NETWORK	REGIONAL WORKSHOP, CASES STUDY AND COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS	NATIONAL CASES STUDY FROM THE REGION. IMPROVEMENT OF THE REGIONAL NETWORK	REGIONAL	EAST AFRICA
WLWRSA	PLATFORM	DOCUMENT FOR ADVOCACY	ASSESSMENT OF COUNTRY LAWS, COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS AND ACCOMPLISHMENT WITH CEDAW	LAND, WATER FROM GENDER PERSPECTIVE	REGIONAL	SOUTHERN AFRICA

## Books published in the frame of the second phase of the Agrarian Reform Network

