



NTFP-EP 2030 LINKING PEOPLES & FORESTS: RIGHTS, HEALTH & LIVELIHOOD

10-Year Gender Integrated Asia Regional Strategy Brief

By enabling Communities and elevating Community-based Forest Conservation, Culture & Indigenous Knowledge, Systems & Practices (IKSP) and Gender Equality and Women Rights (GE&WR) through enhancement of capacity and space for IPLC, women and youth leadership, building knowledge and evidence, catalyses of stakeholders engagements, modeling and facilitating change, and stabilizing our foundation as we mainstream gender and strengthen the organization in the next 10 years, NTFP--EP works towards its vision of **"Resilient Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, with women and youth (IPLC--WY) in Asia, are respected stewards of healthy forests and living securely in their land for generations to come."**



1**CONTEXT****Undermined Rights and Well-being of IPLC-WY**

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities with the women and youth (IPLC-WY) in Asia, particularly in South and Southeast Asia are still lagging in rights, livelihoods, wellbeing and health. In the region, where they are not widely acknowledged as a distinct group, Indigenous Peoples' Rights are still unrecognized and undermined. Indigenous Peoples in the Asia Pacific still suffer dispossession of their ancestral lands, often lacking government recognition of their customary ownership, denial of access to forests and other natural resources and the prohibition of certain livelihoods practices. Safeguarding their land tenure security is a key foundation for their future.

Persistent invisibility of Indigenous Peoples and their culture in National Statistics and Policies

The 2019 State of the World's Indigenous Peoples underlined the "persistent invisibility of Indigenous Peoples" in statistics and in government policies, undermining their rights, wellbeing and access to livelihood, but pockets of developments in the ASEAN show hope. This "invisibility" is reflected in policies especially in relation to land tenure and governance that do not take into consideration indigenous peoples' practices and culture. The Indigenous Peoples in Southeast Asia continue to call for their inclusion in discussion and decision-making on matters that involve them: "Nothing about us without us."

Continued threats to community forests, natural resources & ecosystems and elusive inclusive conservation

Primary forests in Asia and the Pacific continue to decline while planted forests are expanding relatively rapidly. Large-scale infrastructure development, extractive industries, large-scale land acquisition for agro-industries are key drivers of the destruction of IPLC's forests and resources they depend on and their forced eviction from their lands. Indigenous communities play a crucial role in conservation of the environment, but they are still largely left out of conservation policies and practice and often are on the receiving end of negative impacts of top-down conservation programmes. The lack of adequate data and information to inform policy and practice is one of the key challenges to the recognition of community's rights and capacity to manage their resources.

Efforts of inclusion and gender mainstreaming in forestry have yet to result in improved conditions for women

Loss in forest access and decline in availability of resources affect women greatly and yet their voices and perspectives remain in the sidelines of policy and practice in forestry. The patriarchal system that continues to pervade different realms of

society, leave women unrecognized for the important roles they play, especially as culture and knowledge bearers, and their voices unheard in predominantly male-based perspectives and conditions. The multiple-burden they carry, including family care, economic role, rights struggles and social functions, is exacerbated in many cases by development interventions that fail to incorporate gender perspectives.

Communities and Youth in Transition

Communities and cultures are in transition. Communities need to adapt as fast as their environment changes. Nomadic communities have been forced to settle as access to forests is hindered and wild food resources dwindled. Once remote, some villages are now traversed or accessed by roads and highways. Elders who guide and lead are slowly passing on. Youth are leaving the village to attend school or to search for economic opportunities, leaving a gap in transfer of traditional knowledge and cultural ties to forests. Transport and communication infrastructure development in some areas have led to increasing integration to the market economy. While these offer livelihood opportunities, effects such as increasing loans, selling or leasing of land, and increased commercialization of forest resources beyond what is acceptable to the culture are increasingly observed. (Staff and Partners Interview September 2020)

Common Issues across the region that require cooperation and shared response

The region continues to see aggressive approach to economic development despite states' commitments to sustainable economic development. High investment in large-scale infrastructure development in the region for dams, roads have led to increased demand for forest products and wildlife as well as encroachment on IPLC lands. The decreasing democratic space, while felt in country and at the community is exacerbated by the growing trend of populism, nationalist sentiments in the region and in the world. Cross-border illegal trade of forest products requires for trans-boundary cooperation in natural resource management and forest governance. Incidence of pandemic and other natural or man-made disasters can only be expected to increase in rate and will continue to affect community production, trade and mobility in the region.

Gains and Gaps: Highlights from 2015-2019 Internal Assessment

The organization's work in the past five years has enabled and improved livelihoods of partner communities through the establishment of community-based enterprises (CBE) and strengthening of market position of community forest and natural products. Networks and platforms provided by NTFP-EP amplified and strengthened the voice of communities and supporting organizations and bridged them to multi-levels of government and private sectors in meaningful engagements. NTFP-EP's work in culture has inspired pride and recognition of cultural identity and empowered community leaders with strengthened confidence and capacity

to face the community and other sectors. The organization also contributed to the mobility and participation of women outside the household.

NTFP-EP continues to face the challenge of achieving the recognition and upholding of Indigenous People's rights and securing land tenure and governance and of community-based conservation across the region. Livelihoods need to be enhanced, with partner CBE have yet to achieve scale, profitability and stability, and climate change adaptation still to be integrated. The organization also needs to intensify work on culture and identity, food security, health and nutrition, and social mobilization with community youth members for better results, and gender equality targets needs to be clarified and mainstreamed in all its projects and programs.

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VISION

The organization reaffirms its commitment to LINKING PEOPLES & FORESTS: RIGHTS, HEALTH & LIVELIHOOD. The organization envisions: *Resilient IPLCs with the women and youth in Asia are respected stewards of healthy forests and living securely in their land for generations to come.*

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THEORY OF CHANGE

There are four mutually reinforcing pathways to reach this vision:

(A) Communities including women and youth have enhanced voice and agency, secured land tenure and livelihoods. The first pathway focuses on improving or enhancing the condition of the communities, strengthening their agency, amplifying their visibility, voice and participation, and providing support in securing their land tenure, food security, and livelihoods from their territories. These strengthen community resilience to face the accelerating and multiple threats that come their way, and empower them to proactively secure and protect their rights, tenure and culture for generations to come. The involvement of women and youth are highlighted for the key roles they play in securing their communities' resilience.

(B) Community-based Forest Conservation has demonstrated and recognized impacts in keeping IPLC-managed forests intact. The second pathway focuses on safeguarding the condition of the forests and natural resources by facilitating the practice and recognition of community-based governance and conservation. This is derived from committed communities, enabling policies, cooperation among stakeholders, and informed policy, the practice of traditional ecological knowledge as well as new techniques for community-based sustainable resource management and monitoring of forest health.

(C) Culture and Indigenous Knowledge are sustained by communities and respected by all stakeholders in policies and practice. The second domain focuses on ensuring inter-generational transfer of culture and enhancing the understanding and respect of their rights, IKSP and TEK by other stakeholders, especially the government and the private sector in discussions and decision making on matters that have an impact on the communities. By having their contributions to sustainable forest management and sustainable development, including the SDGs, made more visible, communities can claim their role as partners in the management of forests as well as validate community-based conservation and their IKSP, TEK.

(D) Gender Equality (GE) and Women's Rights (WR) are respected and women are engaged as equal partners by communities and stakeholders.

This domain focuses on enhancing the capacity of women and creating the space for them to be recognized as equal actors in their communities and in society in general in both private and public spheres. Women's role as bearers of traditional knowledge and culture, key in transmission and preservation of culture, securing tenure rights and livelihoods and sustainable resource management and conservation is brought to light. The pathway provides a holistic perspective of gender in the context that transcends the different thematic areas, raising awareness on the specific needs, problems, perspectives of women in the different age groups, including the youth and elders.

These domains of change are composed of change pathways that are grouped into 4 Key Thematic Areas and 3 Cross-Cutting Themes. Thematic areas are mutually reinforcing and are mostly cross-cutting:

Tenure Rights & Governance: Communities face slow implementation of government commitments, and weak enforcement of laws amidst intensifying threats to their land tenure and forests, and in some areas even to their life and freedom. There is a need to provide equal focus and necessary support to move from policy and plans to policy enforcement and community management plan implementation. These require technical and financial support as well as policy monitoring at different levels. Target outcomes are stronger and implemented policies and mechanisms resulting in secured land tenure instruments for IPLC-WY as well protection from encroachment of extractive industries and industrial agriculture and plantations.

Sustainable, Climate Adaptive Community Livelihoods: Sustained incomes from territories through Community-based enterprises aim to meet community income and wellbeing needs as well as to reinforce community links with natural resources management and conservation. To achieve scale, stability and profitability, CBEs need increased capacity, effective private sector engagement and partnerships in place, enabling environment for CBE and long-term support programs. Livelihoods and CBEs also need to be pro-actively climate-proofed.

Community-based Conservation: Focuses on inclusive conservation and the

health of forests, ecosystems and NTFP resources resulting from community management and tenure, and protection from land appropriation and large-scale conversion. This is achieved through validation and recognition of IKSP/TEK, close cooperation between relevant authorities and communities, informed policies and regulations through joint monitoring / data collection of forest health indicators, support for inclusive/culturally appropriate governance systems, community commitment, sustained multi-stakeholders and technical support, and implementation of community-based resource management techniques.

Indigenous Food and Health: Forest ecosystems provide communities with food, medicine and support their mental and spiritual wellbeing. Gap in knowledge and understanding and restrictive forest policies, land conversion and over-exploitation of resources have caused the decline of availability and access of forest foods to communities and the public. With unsustainable food production processes and threats to global food security, forest foods offer an alternative or a complementary supply not just to communities but also to the general public. Target outcomes are increased forest food knowledge & awareness by the IPLC-WY, policy maker, public, increased use and availability of forest food and inclusion of forest foods in regional, national food and nutrition policies.

Three cross-cutting thematic areas whose outcomes are achieved within the space of the four key thematic areas are the following:

Gender Equal Community Agency and Voice: This cross-cutting theme covers both voice and visibility of IPLC, especially women and youth across the key thematic areas. Communities see that it is with stronger agency, requiring improved capacity and skill and continued access to information, that they will be able to make effective use of advocacy space and information provided to them and follow up on government commitments and push for enforcement of laws on their rights and tenure. With increased visibility and recognition of communities and women's contributions to the SDGs, the economy and forest conservation, participation space can open up to them and their rights and their culture and IKSP/TEK will be recognized and respected by other stakeholders, especially the government and the private sector in their policies and practice. Conscious inclusion and empowerment of women also have impacts on securing rights and conservation goals.

Culture & IKSP: The thematic area focuses on transfer and strengthening cultural identity within the community and mainstreaming IKSP, TEK and cultural practices into policies and practices by providing venues of exchange, building evidence, enhancing the visibility and voice of IPLC-WY and increasing knowledge and appreciation for IKSP/TEK specifically among the government and the private sector. Target outcomes are increased practice of IKSP, TEK among the community members and youth, validation and mainstreaming of IPLCs IKSPs/TEK on Forest /biodiversity conservation and NR/NTFP Management in Asian governments, international bodies, private sector policies and practice

Youth Engagement & Empowerment: Engaging the youth now is the key to the future of the security of the conditions of forests and IPLC. In this time of generational transition, giving attention to the youth during this programmatic cycle will address cultural transfer gaps and anticipate future leadership needs in communities as well as transformation of future leaders of government agencies 5-10 years from now. The cross-cutting thematic area targets to foster strong engagement of the youth in their communities' sustainable development through the different thematic areas. This includes cultivation of their consciousness and knowledge of their IKSP/TEK, sustainable livelihoods and gender equality.



Figure 1 NTFP-EP Theory of Change 2030

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INDICATORS

Members have agreed to have common indicators across the region. This will be further discussed and refined together with the planning for a common Monitoring and Evaluation System. The need for aggregatable data across the region and over time is especially important if there is the ultimate goal of using them beyond internal reporting but for a higher-level purpose of evidence for the different advocacies of the organization, especially in policy. Besides partners, donors should also be engaged to agree to a common set of measures. These indicators will also be useful for the NTFP-EP as a learning organization, as it builds knowledge products in the field of CBC, CBEs and IKSP and TEK. Initial identified indicators are grouped according to thematic area:

Thematic Area	Outcome Indicators
<h2 style="text-align: center;">Tenure Rights & Governance</h2>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing # / % of IPLC-WY and level of securing tenure instruments per country office (i. collective action ii. completion of requirements iii. awarding of instrument iv. enforced governance and collective use management of resources) in 2024, 2027, 2030. • At least 60-80% of NTFP-EP IPLC and women partners have secured country-specific use-rights and tenure instruments by 2030 • Proportion of IPLCs and women that perceive their rights to land as secure by 2027, 2030 • Advancing level of policies development to secure land tenure rights of IPLC and Women in each partner country and at regional level. (I. policy discussions and drafting ii. policy adoption / passing iii. policy implementation iv. sustained implementation) in 2024, 2027, 2030. • # and extent of policies on IPLC and women tenure rights influenced in 2024, 2027, 2030 • Proportion of IPLC and women whose perception demonstrate increased confidence and ease in securing and exercising their tenure rights by 2027, 2030 • Support programs for participatory governance are institutionalized and operationally sustained in at least 1/3 of NTFP-EP member countries by 2030 • Increasing # of communities implementing their governance and management plans in 2024, 2027, 2030. • Perception of IPLCs, women and youth on effectiveness of support provided to implement their governance and management plan by 2027, 2030 • IPLC Women have increasing participation and leadership in land tenure structures and decision-making in 2024, 2027, 2030. • Extent of gender mainstreaming in Tenure Policies in 2024, 2027, 2030 • # and extent of policies and ordinances in protecting IPLC lands against extractives and forest conversion passed in 2024, 2027, 2030 • # of instances community partners protected their land from threats.

Sustainable, Climate Adaptive Community Livelihoods

- Increasing # of communities engaged in sustainable and climate adaptive livelihoods and increasing level of capacity and knowledge (i.e. NTFP CBE, vegetable garden, eco-tourism, agro-forestry, etc.)
- Increasing # CBNE and level of development stage (i. early stage (business planning, capacity building ii. start up iii. build up iv. take off iv. sustained v. profitable, contributes to SRM and practice benefit sharing) in 2024, 2027, 2030 per country.
- Increasing # and level of development stage of women-led CBNE in 2024, 2027, 2030
- Presence of offshoot sustainable livelihoods (CBNEs, eco-tourism, vegetable garden) inspired by target communities in 2030.
- # and extent of engagement, collaborative program between CBNE and other stakeholders (private sector, public sector, research institution, etc.)
- # and extent of institutionalized support for CBNEs (capacity building, financing, market linking, etc.)
- For 2030, presence of policies for support for CBE D. Perception of CBNEs on benefits from support programs and engagements D.1. Perception of women on benefits from support programs and engagements
- # of CBNES with increased commitment and appreciation for gender sensitive, sustainable harvesting and management protocols GSSNTHMP as part of their enterprise.
- # and advancing level of CBEs implementing GSSNTHMP*(i. integrated in policy ii. partially implemented iii. fully implemented iv. sustained implementation v. mentoring other groups) in 2027, 2030
- # CBEs influencing other CBEs on GSSNTHMP in 2030
- # of women with decision-making powers in IPLC enterprise groups
- For 2030 # of women CBEs that are viable and influencing and inspiring other women CBEs
- Perception and pride of women on their CBEs

Indigenous Food and Health

- Sustained or increasing proportion of wild, indigenous food in diet of IPLC households in 2024, 2027, 2030.
- Improved and shared women and men perceptions and experience about access and availability, food diversity, roles/workload, of wild foods (eg individuals, household level) and wild foods practice;
- increased # of communities /# of countries with Increased/enhanced indigenous food resources in 2024, 2027, 2030
- Sustained or increasing # and types of wild foods accessed by men and women, in 2024, 2027, 2030.
- Improved and shared women and men perceptions about wild foods availability, diversity and community management and conservation of wild foods in 2024, 2027, 2030
- # of influenced food and nutrition and health policies to incorporate wild foods and indigenous food systems at sub-national, national/regional level in 2027, 2030
- Perception of communities and women on sustained utilization and valuation of wild foods, medicinal plants and increasing practice and use of traditional healthcare and medicine in 2027, 2030
- Positive perception and increased visibility of women's role in wild foods, health practices and biodiversity initiatives among women, in communities and in the policy arena in 2024, 2027 and 2030.
- Perception of women on their recognitions as experts on health, food security, nutrition and well-being and revitalization of role at community level in 2027, 2030

<h2 style="text-align: center;">Community-based Conservation</h2>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing area (ha) and # of communities in advancing stage of forests and/or NTFP resources restoration and protection in each country in 2025, 2030 (i. nurseries established, ii. outplanting, iii. restored and maintained area) • Perception of community (disaggregated by gender and age) on condition of the forests under their management and how it meets their specific needs in 2025, 2030 *(agree on healthy forest indicators) • Perception of women on forest condition that supports their practices and needs and eased their burden in 2025, 2030 • # and extent of communities implementing their CMPs/NTFP Resource Management Plans and conserving their territories in 2024, 2027, 2030. • # of hectares conserved by community groups institutionalized under different mechanisms (i.e. registered ICCA, Community Protected Area, CBFM, etc.) in 2024, 2027, 2030. • Perception of IPLC, women and youth's involvement in the conservation, governance and leadership in 2024, 2027, 2030. • # and types of institutionalized enabling programs and policies of government that support community-based conservation in 2030 • # and types of collaborations, engagement between community and governments on community-based conservation in 2027, 2030. • # and type of government programs that support women's roles in CBC in 2027, 2030.
<h2 style="text-align: center;">Culture & IKSP</h2>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing # of IPLC men, women and youth who practicing and continue the transfer of their IKSPs and TEK on TRG in 2024, 2027, 2030 • # venues and systems of knowledge transfer and exchange established and sustained in 2024, 2027, 2030 • Perception of IPLCs WY on continued transfer of knowledge and practice of IKSP/TEK in 2024, 2027, 2030 • A. # and extent of policies and practice that reflect, recognize, integrate IPLC's IKSP in 2030

<h2>Gender Equal Community Agency and Voice</h2>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing # of independent IPLC-WY organizations and network and level of agency: (I. established plans and agenda, II. implementation of agenda and plans, III. engaged and recognized by stakeholders) in 2024, 2027, 2030 • Increased visibility and leadership of IPLC and women in advocacy platforms in 2024, 2027, 2030 • # and extent of IPLC-WY influenced policies / agenda in 2030. • Increasing # of IPLC WY networks and organizations and level of inclusion in relevant policy decision-making bodies at different levels in 2024, 2027, 2030 (i. included as consulted stakeholder ii. holds and exercise role in decision making bodies, iii. sustains role and demonstrates influence in policy) • Perception of communities on growing recognition of their contribution to conservation, NRM, culture, economy, etc. in 2027, 2030. • # of policies and practices that reflect IPLC-WY perspectives and culture in 2025 and 2030. • # increased proportion of women in decision making roles (in the different thematic areas) • Perception of women in increasing participation, space, being heard and recognition of their roles and responsibilities by communities and other stakeholders.
<h2>Youth Engagement & Empowerment</h2>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased engagement and leadership of youth in communities • Perception of IPLC youth on their engagement in community development (cross-cutting to other themes) • Increasing # and level of engagement of youth in CBE (i. participation in activities ii. built capacity for management iii. management position iv. youth-led CBE development) in 2024, 2027, 2030 • # and extent of youth benefiting from CBNE in 2025, 2030 • # and extent of policies and program that promote and support youth-led CBE models • Positive perception of youth on CBNE as career choice.

5

NTFP-EP's ROLE: INTERVENTIONS

NTFP-EP has been working in the field of indigenous peoples and forests in over 20 years and has always taken a holistic approach in addressing issues relating to IPLC including women and youth and forests. The organization takes on the role of enabler, facilitator and guide to its partner communities.

Partners see that a regional approach to action provides neutral space for engagement among stakeholders, influence and pressure to national and local issues, opportunities to aggregate voice for advocacy, and to create a sustainable regional market for community products. The regional level brings diverse perspective and offers EXPERIENCE, EXPLORATION AND EXCHANGE. Opportunities include frameworks of Forests beyond Forestry, Public with the Power for Change, as well as NTFP-EP's established relationships and reputation allowing engagement and influence.

5.1. Strategic Approach

As the organization develops and design interventions for the next 10 years, it is guided by the following approaches:

- Deeper roots, strong and long branches: strengthened, deeper work with communities as well as on advocacy in regional and international levels
- Building Bridges: transformative changes in people, policies and approaches by bridging diverse lens and languages, and creating safe spaces for engagement, dialogues and cooperation among stakeholders.
- Policy to Practice: equal focus on follow up on commitments and looks at long-term interventions and support that accompany partners and stakeholders to bring plans and policy from paper to practice.
- Strategic Knowledge Management & Creative Advocacy: use of creative engagement and communications, platforms and Information & Knowledge Management for 3 objectives: celebrate IKSP /Culture, to mainstream them into policies and practices and build adequate evidence to support advocacies; Including learning from past failed models
- Synergized and Coordinated: It is with mutually reinforcing and strongly aligned, coordinated work between and among the countries and region that stronger impact can be achieved in the communities and in the region.
- Future Proofing NTFP-EP looks to the future security of the condition of forests and IPLC through the engagement of the youth now, to cultivate their consciousness and understanding of inclusive forest governance and conservation, IKSP and TEK.

- Culture, Conservation and Commercialization NTFP-EP has always been conscious of the need to maintain balance among the three Cs and strives to apply them in its intervention, innovating where it is necessary in order to achieve or maintain the balance.
- NTFP in NTFP-EP, NTFP is the common interest that brings together and provide an entry point for dialogue and cooperation for a diverse set of stakeholders including the community, the government, the private sector, the academe and others, building on interest to fill in knowledge gaps and market potential.

5.2. Strategic Actions

Interventions of NTFP-EP is summarized in six key strategic actions:

5.2.1 Enhancing Capacity and Space for IPLC, Women and Youth Leadership

The organization enables communities by creating space and enhancing their capacity for leadership. This includes capacity building through various means including training, learning exchanges. It also includes technical and financial support for initiatives of the communities as well as their participation on various advocacy platforms. Actions are extended to ensure that women and youth are given enough opportunities. Existing flagship interventions that need to be further refined are Learning Exchanges/Cross Visits, CBE development, EXCEED, the HIVE, and NTFP Academy.

5.2.2. Build up of Knowledge and Evidence

The actions that NTFP-EP employs such as advocacy, policy formulation, research, dialogue facilitation and capacity building are knowledge-based roles. Partners of NTFP-EP depend on the organization for information and to enhance their knowledge with tools and techniques and governments demand evidence and scientific explanations to back up policy recommendations. NTFP-EP is hub of information, from the grassroots level to local, national, regional and international and is in the position to support both flow of information as well as the creation of new knowledge. Current knowledge products include NTFP Database and Publications. Actions include Development of tools, knowledge documentation, dissemination and management and monitoring.

5.2.3. Catalyses of Multi-Stakeholder Engagements

The organization advocates for IPLC-WY's rights and well-being by providing platforms and networks to IPLC-WY and partnership engagement to amplify their voice and create opportunities for meaningful engagement with relevant stakeholders, including the government and the private sector and venues for them to advocate for their rights as well as find suitable markets for their products. Creating venues and platforms for engagement and partnerships between and among stakeholders.

5.2.4. Modeling and facilitating Change

Strategic action includes Lobby & advocacy, Pathfinder & Demo Projects that demonstrate the change that we want to happen. NTFP-EP is known to initiate and innovate new processes, where they are necessary to advocate and secure for their tenure rights, livelihoods and well-being Technical and financial support is seen as an important follow up support by partners and communities who do not always have the financial capacity to follow up on plans and commitments. Financial support for communities to be considered are capital for CBEs, organizational / administrative support for people's organization that are at the implementing stage of their community management plans, and follow up activities from plans made at regional meetings or forums or learning exchange. One of the flagship interventions of the NTFP-EP that can be further developed is the Small Grants Facility (SGF).

5.2.5. Gender Mainstreaming

Gender mainstreaming is targeted to the content and processes of programs as well as in the operations of the organization. This will entail actions of capacity building, processes and tools development, sensitization, dialogues, and other systematic actions to include gender across all thematic work and discourse of the organization and spanning the different stakeholders that the organization works with.

5.2.6. Organizational Strengthening

Capacity Strengthening: As facilitator, guide and enabler to communities, NTFP-EP needs competence and skills to provide the support needed by its partners in areas of tenure security, policy advocacy and resource management, forest conservation and stand as right defender for IPLCs. The organization will need to be dynamic, responsive, pro-active, resilient and facilitative, technology and data savvy. A Capacity Assessment is needed to identify gaps and areas of improvement. Capacity development can be achieved through internal strengthening as well as through partnerships

Network Strengthening: Members call for an active, visible and present network and increased regional perspectives among members. Increased coordination and communication will be key.

Governance and Membership Strengthening: There is further need to clarify governance and role of members and strengthen members' involvement, ownership and accountability to the organization. This also includes clarifying the role of NTFP-EP Asia. There is a need for increased alignment among the country and the regional offices.

Financial and Human Resource Strengthening: The organization needs to secure adequate financial and human resources that match its goals and plans. This requires strategy and planning.

Systems & Process Development and Strengthening: The organization need to allocate resources to improve and develop management and systems for Finance, Human Resource, Operations, Monitoring and Evaluation, Information & Knowledge Management and Internal and External Communication.

Strategic Actions of the NTFP-EP can be divided according to where the interventions happen and who manages and oversees them. They can be categorized according to: (1) Mutually Reinforcing Actions, found in the plans of the members that contribute to the achievement of the outcomes (2) Collective/Joint Actions, identified and implemented collectively by the different members and the regional office, (3) Regional Actions are those activities that take place regionally or are organized and implemented by the regional office and Country members are usually participants or beneficiaries of these activities.

5.3. Strategic Partnerships

One of the core values of NTFP-EP is “Partnerships provide opportunities for expanded influence and impacts. We work through strategic partnerships with institutions, organizations and individuals on initiatives and advocacies that share the same goals and principles with NTFP-EP. The organization will need to develop a criteria for engaging in partnerships as well a system of due diligence that will ensure that partnerships will be mutually beneficial and will provide added value to the organization’s work. The organization shall engage with the following type of partners to pursue its target outcomes.

- Thought Leaders and Knowledge Creators / Disseminators, with whom NTFP-EP can aggregate its voice to amplify and disseminate its message to advance development paradigms and analytical lenses wherein Indigenous Peoples perspectives are embraced, to share narrative frameworks, provide them with another analytical lens, methodologies that are inclusive and informed by community perspectives and grassroots experience.
- Policy Makers and Relevant Government Agencies, to engage them in transformative, self-realization method of learning, and others. This includes joint research, data collection, and analyses with the government through mini-projects, capacity building, learning exchange and cross visits.
- Amplifiers/High-level Influencers, Networks these are high-level influencers, INGO, Inter-governmental bodies, whose reputations are already established and who can lend this “stamp of approval” to the work of NTFP-EP, and who NTFP-EP can also influence through its work.
- Donors/Funders, to engage them in long-term and programmatic partnerships versus short-term, project-based funding to ensure that it will have the resources necessary to maintain the momentum of its work at the regional, national and local levels.
- Private Sector / Economic Sector, to influence economic development paradigms and models and secure markets for community products

Resilient Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, with the women and the youth, (IPLC-WY) in Asia are respected stewards of healthy forests and living securely in their land for generations to come.

Communities including women and youth, have enhanced voice and agency, secured land tenure and livelihoods.	Community-based Forest Conservation has demonstrated and recognized impacts, keeping IPLC-managed forests intact.	Culture and Indigenous Knowledge are sustained by communities and respected by all stakeholders in policies and practice.	Gender Equality and Women's Rights are respected and women are engaged as equal partners by communities and stakeholders		
SPHERE OF INTEREST					
Tenure Rights & Governance (TRG)		Sustainable, Climate Adaptive Community Livelihoods (SCAL)			
TRG1. IPLC-WY exercise rights over territories, free of gender or other forms of discrimination.	TRG2. Women's tenure rights are recognized by community governance systems as well as policies.	SCAL1. Sustainable territory-based livelihoods/income streams improve IPLC's wellbeing and protect forests, equally benefitting women and men.	SCAL2. Women's sustainable livelihood initiatives are viable and contribute to their empowerment.		
TRG3. IPLC territories are protected from high-impact industries and conversion.					
Community-based Conservation (CBC)		Indigenous Food & Health (IFH)			
CBC1. IPLC-WY forests are intact, with abundant natural resources, functioning ecosystems.	CBC2. IPLCs women are actively involved in forest & ecosystems conservation monitoring and protection	IFH1. IPLC-WY are food secure and have good health.	IFH2. Forest food and IPLCs nutrition culture and practices that rely on women's Knowledge , including health practices (maternity) will continue to support communities' wellbeing.		
Gender Equal Community Agency & Voice (GCAV)		Culture & IKSP (C&IKSP)			
GCAV1. IPLC-W safeguard their rights, culture from threats, shocks.	GCAV2. IPLC-W influence policies and practice of Government and Private Sector.	CIKSP1. IPLC-WY sustain the practice of their culture (food and health, livelihoods, TEK), IKSP over generations.	CIKSP2. Government & Private Sector's Policies & Practice respect and reflect IPLC's culture and IKSP.		
GCAV3. IPLC women individually / groups, advance their interests and rights, and influence policies and practices.		CIKSP3. IPLC Women are recognized as bearers of specific knowledge relevant for IPLCs cultural identity preservation and transmission.			
Youth Engagement & Empowerment (YEE)					
YEE1. IPLC Youth, both women and men, are active and equal agents of forest and cultural conservation and sustainable development and women's rights and gender equality.	YEE2. IPLC women and men youth are rightful and live sustainably in communities.				
SPHERE OF INFLUENCE					
Tenure Rights & Governance (TRG)		Sustainable, Climate Adaptive Livelihoods (SCAL)			
TRG1.1.IPLCs have secured instruments to access forest resources and enforce tenure rights, including women's tenure rights.	TRG 1.2. Government agencies pass and enforce effective and gender equal policies and programs on IPLC tenure rights and access to resources.	SCAL1.1. IPLCs-WY have increased capacity to manage climate adaptive, sustainable livelihoods for subsistence use & enterprise for income.	SCAL1.2. There are effective multi-stakeholder, public and private engagement, partnerships and long-term support providing an inclusive, enabling environment and programs for viable women-led and mixed-CBE that are free from discriminatory gender norms and practices.		
TRG 1.3. Support is in place for IPLC-WY to implement governance and territory management plans and women's equal participation: women leaders and networks with legal literacy and capacity building.	TRG2.1 Women equally participate in land tenure structures and decision-making.	SCAL1.3. CBNE practice gender sensitive Sustainable NTFP Protocols and Management as part of their enterprise.	SCAL2.1 Women's CBEs associations, cooperatives, federations, and networks are viable and recognized and support women's needs.		
TRG3.1 Asian governments enact and implement policies that protect IPLC Land from Mining, Oil Palm Plantation, industrial agriculture and other land/forest conversion threats.					
Community-based Conservation (CBC)					
CBC1.1.Community forests and NTFP resources are restored and protected, also facilitating women's use and access.	CBC1.1.1. IPLCs,-WY sustainably conserve their territory, implementing Community Management Plans (CMP) in harmony with other stakeholders through inclusive and strong/effective governance and leadership.	CBC1.1.2.Relevant government agencies, including forest departments institutionalize support programs and practice culturally appropriate, adaptive and inclusive conservation and strong/effective governance and leadership.	CBC1.1.2.1.Relevant government agencies, including forest departments, develop and pilot effective, inclusive collaborative programs, that also recognize women equal participation and leadership, prioritizing and collaborating with communities on CBC.		
Indigenous Food & Health (IFH)					
IFH1.1. IPLC, women and men have increased access and continued use of abundant indigenous food, easing women's labour burden.	IFH.1.2. Indigenous & Forest foods are included in regional, national food and nutrition policies.	IFH2.1. IPLC women's role as primary forest food and health care providers is recognized and reflected by policies, and ecosystems governance practices.	IFH.2.1.1. Women's role, knowledge and practices in agroforestry, biodiversity, forest food and medical plants procurement, use, processing, are recognized, inventoried researched, made visible and advocated for.		
IFH.1.1.1. Increased availability of indigenous & forest food, as a results of secure tenure, women inclusive CBC, and monitoring.	IFH1.2.1. Increased knowledge & appreciation on Indigenous & forest food among IPLC-WY, policy maker, and the public.				

CROSS-CUTTING THEMES			
Gender Equal Community Agency & Voice (GCAV)			
GCAV1.1. IPLC-WY Organizations are resilient, strong, independent, leading in advocacies and stakeholders engagement, implementing plans with results recognized by stakeholders and that benefit and empower communities.	GCAV3.1. Women are active agents in communities, gaining spaces, recognition, reducing excessive labour burden, and actively counteracting discriminatory gender norms.	GCAV2.1. IPLC-WY are recognized and respected partners by government in relevant policy development (i.e. culture (C&IKSP), land tenure (TRG), NRM (CBC), food and health (IFH).	
GCAV1.2. IPLC-WY access and strategically apply legal literacy, capacity and information and platforms for their advocacies.		GCAV2.1.1. IPLC-W's contribution to NRM, economy, SDG are measured through gender sensitive data and disseminated to governments and stakeholders, including community and women's groups and networks.	
Culture & IKSP (C&IKSP)		Youth Engagement & Empowerment (YEE)	
CIKSP1.1 IPLC-WY increasingly practice and knowledge of IKSP, TEK. (Related to TRG, CBC, SCAL, IFH)		YEE1.1. Strong engagement of youth in inclusive community-based sustainable development, conservation and in C&IKSP.	
CIKSP1.1.1. Inter-generational transfer of IKSP, TEK, including customary laws and practices on women in governance, decision-making, inheritance, marriage, divorce, violence against women, and a critical review of negative gender norms is sustained.		YEE1.2. Youth are knowledgeable and practice their IKSPs and are active agents for GE and women's rights, including among their own group.	
CIKSP2.1. IPLCs IKSPs/TEK on Forest /biodiversity conservation and NTFP Management (NRM) are respected and reflected in public and sector policies and practice.		YEE1.3. Youth gain consciousness about patriarchal norms and culture impact communities.	
CIKSP2.1.1 Communities' NRM IKSPs/TEK are demonstrated and validated.		YEE2.1. Youth are active in and benefitting from CBEs.	
SPHERE OF CONTROL			
Enhance capacities and space for IPLC, women and youth leadership	Build knowledge and evidence	Catalyze stakeholders engagement	Model and facilitate change
Capacity Building, Exchanges, Platforms, Technical & Financial Support for community initiatives Access to information	Tools Development Knowledge & Evidence Building, Dissemination and Management and Monitoring, MEL	Networking, Partnerships, Exchanges,	Pathfinder & Demo Projects & Technical & Financial Support Lobby & Advocacy
Gender mainstreaming		Organizational strengthening	
Programs	Organization	- Regional Network - Thematic Programs	- Operations & Management - Governance & Membership



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