



Program Report

Indigenous Peoples, Human Rights and Advocacy

A Training Program in Human Rights and
Advocacy for Minority and Indigenous
Advocates in the Asia-Pacific Region

Diplomacy Training Program
In partnership with the Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact

22 - 28 March 2010, Chiang Mai, Thailand



Introduction

The Diplomacy Training Program's 2010 Asia-Pacific Regional Capacity Building Program on *Indigenous Peoples, Human Rights and Advocacy* took place in Chiang Mai, Thailand, from March 22-28, 2010. It was held in partnership with the *Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP)*. It brought together 35 advocates from Indigenous communities across Asia, the Pacific and Australia, from a total of 23 different Indigenous Communities from 13 countries across the region.

The program aimed to develop the knowledge and skills of advocates to assist them in their efforts to ensure accepted international standards on human rights and the rights of Indigenous peoples are applied in practice.



Sessions were dedicated to developing understanding of Indigenous peoples' rights in international law and international human rights standards, and the nature of government obligations to these standards. There was a focus on the mechanisms that have been established through the UN to bring scrutiny and accountability to the policies and practices of government – and how Indigenous advocates can most effectively use these mechanisms to stop

violations of human rights and bring about changes in policy and practice. The program also has a focus on emerging issues for Indigenous advocates around the impact of Climate Change and Human Rights and the impact and accountability of corporations on the rights of Indigenous peoples.

A major part of the program was providing opportunities for advocates to exchange and learn from each other's experiences, and to develop bonds of mutual support for their ongoing work. While the political and cultural context for Indigenous peoples from different countries in the Asia-Pacific is very different, commonalities of experience were evident.

Indigenous peoples are seeking to assert their rights often in places of current or past conflicts – including Myanmar/Burma, Cambodia, the Philippines, West Papua, Maluku and Aceh, Thailand, Bangladesh and India. Issues of land and resources also feature large in the challenges of Indigenous peoples across the region.

Participants learnt about the Indigenous Jumma people of the Chittagong Hill Tracts in Bangladesh, the forced displacement of Indigenous communities resulting from development in Cambodia, the situation of ethnic minorities in Thailand, and the impact of the war being waged by the military government in Myanmar (Burma) on ethnic minorities such as the Karen. Participants also learnt about the impact of climate change and the actions of corporations

through mining activities, logging and tourism. While there is particular concern over the impact of logging and mining on Indigenous communities there is also growing concern about issues of *bio-piracy*, intellectual property regimes and issues of traditional knowledge. While Indigenous peoples are among the most at risk of the negative impacts of climate change, with limited capacity to adapt, they are also at risk of strategies that respond to climate change and how these affect their livelihoods.

The program included a field trip to Pang Dang Village, near Chiang Mai where participants learnt first-hand the local struggles of displaced communities and their efforts to assert rights over land and resources and have their status within Thailand officially recognized - making them less vulnerable to exploitation and eligible to access health and education services and the limited social support available to others in Thailand.

The program was positively evaluated by participants through an extensive evaluation questionnaire that was completed anonymously at the end of the program. This report draws on those evaluations and on the feedback of those involved. The program was coordinated by Geoff Hazell of the Diplomacy Training Program with Binota Dhamai and colleagues from Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP), and with support from Joan Carling, Executive Director of AIPP.

"I was highly moved emotionally on so, so many occasions. You can read about and have empathy for other IP and their struggles in their communities/countries. To meet some amazing, young ambassadors, hear it directly from them, is the most amazing thing ever"

DTP and AIPP would like to acknowledge the wonderful trainers and facilitators who so generously contributed their time and expertise. These included DTP Board Member, Dr Sarah Pritchard, Dr Chandra Roy of UNDP, Joan Carling, Serena Lillywhite of Oxfam Australia/OECD Watch, Larry Jagan and Joshua Cooper of the Hawaii Institute for Human Rights.

The program was made possible with financial support from the New Zealand Agency for International Development, the Fred Hollows Foundation, Oxfam Australia and the *Friends of the Diplomacy Training Program*. The Diplomacy Training Program would like to acknowledge with appreciation the partnership with the Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP) – and to express its hopes that it will be possible to build on this partnership in the future to assist and build the capacity of the courageous and inspiring human rights defenders who work with vulnerable communities to uphold shared values of human dignity in very difficult and often dangerous environment.

Background and Context of the Training

Program Objectives

The program was developed to strengthen the capacity of Indigenous advocates from the Asia-Pacific and Australia to respond effectively to existing and emerging human rights challenges and to be able to use global standards at the local and national level. The program had a special focus on the challenges that are emerging around global climate change and responses to it, including increased reliance on bio-fuels and development of dams for hydro-electricity that can

lead to displacement of Indigenous communities. The program also aimed to equip participants with knowledge and skills to be able to hold corporations accountable. The program had the following objectives:

- to build awareness and knowledge of international human rights law, with an emphasis on human rights standards and mechanisms most relevant to Indigenous peoples and how these can be applied in practical ways;
- to develop the practical skills for effective human rights advocacy and lobbying including media skills;
- to enable participants to engage effectively with the UN system, other intergovernmental organisations, national and state governments and corporations;
- to facilitate greater networking and solidarity on Indigenous peoples' issues across the Asia and Pacific region; to provide an opportunity and a forum for participants to share perspectives and experiences of advocating for Indigenous Peoples right in different contexts;
- to enhance the understanding of the human rights approach to development and its relevance to policy and practice affecting Indigenous peoples;
- and finally, to develop a greater understanding of how international standards relate to issues such as climate change, intellectual property, the environment, community development and corporate accountability.

Program Outline

The training program was opened by Dr Sarah Pritchard, Board member of the Diplomacy Training Program and Joan Carling, Secretary General of the Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact, with opening remarks from Nussara Meesen, on behalf of Sriprapha Petcharamesree – Representative of Thailand to the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights.



Dr Pritchard spoke to participants about the background to the establishment of the Diplomacy Training Program, drawing on the experience and inspiration of its Founder, Dr Jose Ramos-Horta and the East-Timorese struggle for independence and the importance that knowledge and understanding of international law, the UN system, international relations and solidarity had played in that struggle. Dr Pritchard emphasised the value that the DTP placed on the knowledge and perspectives that participants brought to the program. Joan Carling welcomed participants to Chiang Mai on behalf of AIPP and provided them with an overview of the formation of the AIPP and its work for the rights of Indigenous peoples across Asia. Nussara Meesen then gave participants a brief introduction to ASEAN and the formation of the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) established in 2009. The AICHR is first intergovernmental mechanism for human rights in the Asia region and has a mandate to strengthen the “promotion and protection of human

rights” in the region. Meesen outlined the formation of the AICHR, its terms of reference (TOR), its mandate and functions, and the role of country representatives within the Commission.

For the majority of participants this was their first opportunity to learn about AICHR. A number of participants voiced their concern that the TOR provided no enforcement role for the AICHR. Ms Meesen confirmed that this was the case, however she noted that civil society groups will be key to ensuring the effectiveness and strengthening the work of the new commission through continued advocacy and lobbying. Meesen stressed that the very fact that the AICHR had been established was a great success for advocacy and for advancing human rights in the region.

Meesen encouraged participants to engage AICHR country representatives (particularly the more progressive country representatives from Indonesia and Thailand who have human rights NGO backgrounds) – and to submit information with any instances of human rights abuses experienced by their indigenous communities. She hoped that such engagement would assist with the further development of the AICHR as an effective mechanism for the promotion and protection of human rights in the region.

Days 1 & 2: Human Rights, the International Human Rights Framework and the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Dr Sarah Pritchard led the first two days of the program with a focus on providing participants with an understanding of international law and the UN system, and how these relate to the issues facing participants in their communities.

“Introduction to HR and international HR framework was the best part for me because of the way Dr Sarah shared and explained was magnificent”

Day one started with a general introduction to human rights and the international human rights framework. There was a particular emphasis on the recognition of

Indigenous peoples’ rights in international law – most notably the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. There was also a focus on the mechanisms and forums that are dedicated to Indigenous peoples and their rights, including the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in New York, and the UN Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples that has been established in Geneva.

Participants were divided into small groups for a practical exercise that gave them the opportunity to use the Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as a lens through which to analyse the issues facing their communities. Groups then participated in a role play with one of the participants taking on the role of Ms Navenethem Pillay, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. This exercise was the beginning of a process of familiarisation of participants with the UN system, its various mechanisms and the language of human rights that would continue throughout the week.

Cases were then examined where Indigenous peoples have looked to the UN to recognise and protect their human rights, and to provide space for discussion, and sharing of experiences. In the Philippines, for example, Indigenous advocates and communities have made urgent appeals to the UN Special Rapporteur on Extra-Judicial Executions, as well as the UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Both subsequently made representations to the

Philippines and conducted country visits that led to pressure for change. In the Philippines, advocates noticed a decrease in the number of extrajudicial executions following the visits.

Another example was the concern that the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination expressed, through an Urgent Action, to the Australian government about its Northern Territory Emergency Response (NTER) legislation which specifically targets Aboriginal communities in the Northern Territory based on their race. Advocates also communicated concerns to the UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, James Anaya – who subsequently made a visit to affected communities and submitted a critical report to government. The Australian government has since reinstated the protection provided by the Racial Discrimination Act.

Over the two days there was both acknowledgement and frustration at the weakness and lack of enforceability of international human rights standards. This weakness is particularly evident in relation to the failure of UN backed initiatives to stop human rights violations and bring about change in Myanmar/Burma. The human rights situation in Myanmar has been the focus of discussion and activity in the UN Human Rights Council, the International Labour Organisation and the UN Security Council, with little or no apparent impact.



The participants from Burma spoke of the great personal risk associated with engaging in lobbying activities at the UN, which they claimed could put themselves, their families and their communities at risk of reprisals from the Military Junta.

The need to have realistic expectations about the scope and power of the UN was emphasised, as was the need to understand that working through the UN system could be slow and resource-intensive. It was clear from the experience of those attending that those advocacy strategies that sought to utilise the standards and mechanisms developed by the international community, also needed to mobilise broader constituencies of support at the local level, so that the political will for action could be built and maintained.

Day 3: Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), Economic, Social & Cultural Rights and the Rights based Approach to Development, and Climate Change

Joan Carling spoke of FPIC as a process wherein Indigenous peoples undertake their own independent or collective decisions on matters that affect them, such as their right to their land, territories and resources, and their right to self-determination and cultural integrity, all of which are clearly defined in the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Carling pointed to the origins of FPIC in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in articles 10, 11, 19, 28, 29 and 32, explaining that FPIC helps define the relationship of Indigenous peoples to other groups or entities such as governments or corporations interested in the utilisation, management, extraction and development of their resources. The recognition of FPIC as right belonging to Indigenous peoples represented a considerable advance.

“Free, prior and informed consent and the HR approach to development and IPs... brought to light the introductory two days into a practical and clear form of implementation towards use of UN systems mechanisms and instruments. Joan and Chandra were amazing for driving us through the mechanisms and instruments”

Serena Lillywhite, Mining Advocacy Coordinator at Oxfam Australia then introduced a draft version of Oxfam’s new practical community guide to FPIC. The guide is a tool for communities to enable them to hold project developers (corporations and multilateral and bilateral development agencies) and governments accountable in the development process – by providing information on their rights, as well as practical information on how they can exercise these rights. The FPIC guide was later used by participants in a practical group exercise to further develop knowledge, understanding and skills. Participants were also given an opportunity to comment on the draft Guide and make suggestions to improve its relevance and accessibility to Indigenous peoples. This strengthened the final document, and provided an opportunity for Indigenous peoples to directly influence an Oxfam International publication. Participants from India and Myanmar, in particular, welcomed this.

Chandra Roy, Coordinator of the Regional Indigenous Peoples’ Programme (RIPP) at the UNDP Regional Centre in Bangkok, presented on the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) and the human rights



based approach to development, focusing on the particular relevance of these to Indigenous peoples. She noted that the first “State of the World’s Indigenous Peoples” report released by the secretariat of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Peoples on the 14th of January 2010, painted an alarming picture of the extent to which Indigenous peoples’ economic, social and cultural rights have not been realised in the Asia Pacific region and across the globe.

“There are over 370 million indigenous people in some 90 countries, living in all regions of the world. The situation of Indigenous peoples in many parts of the world is critical today. Poverty rates are significantly higher among Indigenous peoples compared to other groups. While they constitute 5 per cent of the world's population, they are 15 per cent of the world's poor. Most indicators of well-being show that Indigenous peoples suffer disproportionately compared to non-Indigenous peoples. Indigenous peoples face systemic discrimination and exclusion from political and economic power; they continue to be over-represented among the poorest, the illiterate, the destitute; they are displaced by wars and environmental disasters; Indigenous peoples are dispossessed of their ancestral lands and deprived of their resources for survival, both physical and cultural; they are even robbed of their very right to life.”

Roy drew participants' attention to specific articles within the ICESCR that held relevance to Indigenous peoples, including the right to self determination, the right to education, the right to an adequate standard of living, the right to culture and participation in cultural life and the rights of women in decision making. As an Indigenous female leader from the Chittagong Hill Tracts in Bangladesh, Chandra was able to speak with the authority of personal experience.

The challenge facing Indigenous peoples across the region as articulated by participants and in the 'State of the World's Indigenous Peoples' report was to link human rights to the development process. Roy highlighted how a lack of consultation with Indigenous peoples meant that development often occurred *without* their free prior and informed consent. This so-called 'development' thus often resulted in the displacement of Indigenous peoples, and their loss of land, culture and identity leading to further marginalisation and poverty.

Roy then introduced the rights based approach to development, explaining that it is not simply a charitable process of meeting the needs of a community – but that development is a human right that imposes an obligation on states and other duty bearers to respect, protect and fulfil the rights of relevant rights holders during development processes, in this case, Indigenous peoples. The rights based approach aims to address the impact of growing inequality in the development process by applying the PANEL principals:

- Participation**
- Accountability**
- Non-discrimination and attention to vulnerable groups**
- Empowerment**
- Linked to International standards**



Participants then engaged in a group exercise that asked them to analyse a project in their community using the human rights based approach to determine if the PANEL principles had been applied. If they hadn't, participants were then asked to identify the gaps and recommend ways that would ensure the principles were applied in the future.

The session on the rights based approach was a high point for many participants in the program as it was a way of re-conceptualising the traditional relationship that existed between Indigenous peoples and government and development agencies. It provided participants with an alternate framework with which to engage governments, an approach that recognised, rather than evaded, the rights of Indigenous peoples and that acknowledged that governments have responsibilities to respect, protect and fulfil human rights.

Wednesday ended with Joan Carling providing participants with a comprehensive overview of climate change, its link to carbon emissions, the major source of these emissions and the

countries who are the greatest producers of CO2. Carling looked at the impact of climate change on Indigenous peoples including:

- Threats to the continuing practice of traditional livelihood activities
- Threats to collective resource management
- Threats to food security
- Threats to bio-diversity in IP territories
- Increases in conflict over the use of resources.

Carling highlighted that the adaptation and mitigation measures relating to climate change would have serious implications to the recognition of, and exercise of, the collective rights of Indigenous peoples. Participants were later introduced to the UN REDD program - Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation in developing countries, with the help of a short introductory video explaining REDD. REDD provides a huge stream of new funding, however unfortunately is tainted by attendant risks of corruption and making forests dangerously valuable to commercial interests without appropriate understanding or sensitivity to the rights of Indigenous peoples – often the traditional custodians of the forests.

“Joan, I love your style, inclusive and participatory, you make people want to contribute, you have engaged with everyone”

Day 4: Field Trip to Pang Dang



Thursday’s field trip provided a much welcomed opportunity for participants and trainers to get out of the formal learning environment after three intensive days of the program. AIPP had arranged for a field trip to Pang Dang village, located about ninety kilometres from Chiang Mai and home to the Akha ethnic minority. Participants had the opportunity to hear the story of how the villagers came to be located in Pang Dang, after being displaced from their traditional homes in Burma

some twenty years earlier.

Many participants were able to relate to the story of dispossession, resettlement and the uncertainty that had resulted from their precarious legal status in Thailand, as well as the lack of legal title to the land on which their village was located. Participants shared lunch with the locals before returning to Chiang Mai.

“The field trip was great – a much needed break from the classroom and good to get out into community, it helped me to refocus on why I was here”

Day 5: Climate Change, Bio-Diversity, Traditional Knowledge, Advocacy and The UN's Universal Periodic Review

Joshua Cooper and Joan Carling led the sessions on Day Five, looking at the implications for Indigenous peoples of other current international developments. Indigenous peoples' advocates have been very active in participating in the development of the UN Convention on Biodiversity – ensuring that issues of traditional knowledge and of Indigenous peoples' relationships to the land and resources are incorporated in the Convention and its processes.

Joan Carling led participants through relevant developments for Indigenous peoples in relation to climate change. While Indigenous peoples globally have contributed less than most to the carbon emissions contributing to climate change, they are among those most at risk. Indigenous peoples have been lobbying hard to try to ensure their voices and concerns are taken into consideration in international negotiations – and in climate change mitigation schemes.

There is concern that some of the strategies to move away from carbon fuels will result in further violations of the rights of Indigenous peoples. The huge growth in palm oil plantations is, for example, seeing the destruction of rainforests and the displacement of Indigenous communities. There is concern that a major shift to hydro power will also lead to the forced displacement of Indigenous communities. Large funding streams are now coming on line through the REDD scheme, generating both risks and opportunities for Indigenous peoples.

“The most useful session was the stuff on the UPR and the sessions of how to use the UN mechanisms. They were the most useful because they are practical things we can try and use to further our cause”

In the afternoon Joshua Cooper introduced participants to the UN's Universal Periodic Review – a relatively new process in which all governments submit to a review of their human rights record every four years. This process provides some important advocacy opportunities for human rights advocates – and can be integrated into wider advocacy strategies for human rights.

Day 6: Human Rights and the Corporation – Responsibilities and Accountability

The sixth day of sessions on human rights and the corporation was led by Joshua Cooper and Serena Lillywhite. Many Indigenous communities are directly, and often negatively, impacted by the actions of corporations, particularly those in the extractive sector and developers. At the minimum, Indigenous communities rarely receive a share in the benefits from the resources extracted from their land, and forced displacement, pollution, loss of livelihood, negative social impacts of alcohol and prostitution, violence and community division have been well documented.

The recent work of the UN Special Representative of the Secretary General, John Ruggie, has gone a long way to defining the responsibilities of corporations to respect human rights and provide remedies – and the responsibilities of government to protect human rights from the negative impact of corporations. Joshua outlined this framework, acknowledging also its

weakness in being able to offer any concrete avenue of international accountability where individual corporations abuse human rights.

The UN Framework is one of a number of recent developments that is seeking to define the wider responsibilities of corporations and make them more accountable. Serena Lillywhite introduced the OECD Guidelines on Multinational Enterprises which is currently the only set of guidelines on corporations that enables the lodging of independent accountability through a complaints and mediation process. The OECD Guidelines have also been criticised for their weakness and lack of any real sanction, although some have found it does provide another, and sometimes effective, channel for advocacy. These were very practical sessions which included developing an advocacy strategy and role plays.

“The training equipped me with the advance knowledge and various diplomatic tools for effect policy influence and advocacy campaign for IR rights and corporate and human rights abuses I will be applying in and designing advocacy campaign in Pakistan”

Day 7: The Media and Advocacy

The media often plays a central role in human rights advocacy strategies – as a way of bringing human rights abuses out of the shadows and into the light, of generating wider awareness and concern and of shaming those in authority to act. Larry Jagan, former Asia Regional Correspondent with the BBC, led participants through a practical session to develop their skills in working with the media, and integrating an understanding of the media into their advocacy strategies. The importance of being credible, reliable, timely, focused and concise was emphasised.

Training Methodology



The DTP was founded in the belief that individuals working together have the capacity to make change. It is committed to working in partnership with organisations at the local and regional level. This program was developed in partnership with AIPP, and in particular with the Joan Carling and Binota Dhamai.

DTP’s approach to training reflects a deep respect for the knowledge, experiences and perspectives of the participants. It

aims to build both knowledge and skills in an integrated way, through the development of teaching methodologies that are interactive and participatory – with an emphasis on case studies, small group exercises and role plays. Wherever possible it seeks to include real life advocacy exercises.

“The best part is the environment enacted by DTP-AIPP in a family like program which make all of us many comfortable to relate with”

The participatory approach is reflected in the organization of the training programs. At the beginning of each program, participants are divided into groups and each group is tasked to take responsibility for facilitating at least one day of the program - including timekeeping, feedback on the previous day, introducing and thanking guest speakers, scheduling participant presentations and coordinating the solidarity cultural night held at each program.

“The best part of the program was meeting participants and hearing their stories about human rights violations in their countries. I was fairly clueless before now. But now have a greater appreciation and understanding of how important human rights really are”

Individual participant presentations are an important part of each program. These presentations constitute part of the process of sharing experiences and lessons learned and they ground the program in the realities faced by advocates across the region. They also provide an opportunity to develop skills and confidence in presenting in English. Excerpts from some of the presentations can be found in the Appendix to this report.

The Trainers

DTP is fortunate to be able to draw upon leading academic experts as well as experienced practitioners from relevant fields, all of which provide their services on a pro-bono basis. DTP would like to acknowledge in particular the involvement in this course of Board Member, Dr Sarah Pritchard, who delivered the first two days of training and laid the foundation for the successful program that followed. DTP would also like to acknowledge the important contribution of Joan Carling, Executive Director of the Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact. Joan not only delivered sessions on the program and shared her personal experiences as an Indigenous human rights activist from the Philippines, but also provided invaluable input and guidance on program content and the selection of trainers.

The DTP and AIPP would also like to acknowledge with appreciation the contribution to this program of Dr Chandra Roy, Serena Lillywhite, Larry Jagan and Joshua Copper.

Training Materials

To accompany the sessions, DTP provided participants with a comprehensive training manual consisting of short chapters covering the subjects of the individual sessions. The chapters have been written in plain English by leading subject experts. Participants are encouraged to read relevant chapters prior to particular sessions – and some of the trainers refer to the contents of the Manual during the sessions. The Manual also provides key reference documents such as the International Bill of Human Rights, and organs of the UN system.

Individual trainers also prepare power point presentations for individual sessions and the practical exercises are developed individually for each program

A soft copy of the DTP Manual, trainer and participant presentations is given to each participant at the end of each program.

The Participants

The program brought together a very diverse group of participants from across Asia, the Pacific and Indigenous Australia. Of the 35 participants, there were 16 women and 19 men from 23 different Indigenous communities in 13 countries across the region.

Merah Johansyah – Indonesia (East Borneo)

Merah is a member of the Dayak Kalimantan Kapuas people from Central Kalimantan or East Borneo. He is Head of the Law and Local Community Advocacy Division of Jaringan Advokasi Tambang (JATAM) (Mining Advocacy Network), in East Borneo. This division gives legal advocacy and assistance to individuals or groups whose human rights are affected by coal mining activities, many of them Indigenous. Merah is responsible for increasing public awareness of those who have suffered human rights abuses due to large scale mining.

The application process for the program was very competitive with a total of 189 applications being received. Participants were selected in consultation with AIPP based on a number of criteria. The quality of applications was extremely high and this translated into a very strong, active group of participants.

Participants shared experiences on a range of different human rights issues including land confiscation and forced evictions, militarisation, food and water security, loss of livelihood and culture, systemic racial discrimination, environmental degradation, bonded labour, human trafficking and unsafe and unhealthy working conditions.

Kimheak Chhay – Cambodia

Kimheak works with the NGO Forum in Cambodia on a project that assists Indigenous peoples to organise communal land tenure and measures to mitigate the effects of climate change on their communities. Kimheak's role is to facilitate international and Cambodian NGOs in their support of indigenous people to ensure their work is coordinated and effective, to promote active policy dialogue on Indigenous issues among the government, Indigenous peoples and NGOs, and to perform research to support indigenous advocacy work.

Participant Evaluations

The Diplomacy Training Program regards participants' feedback as a critical component of ongoing program development. Each individual session is evaluated and then the overall program is assessed. This is done through both anonymous questionnaires and open group feedback on the final day. The feedback session is an opportunity to highlight both those aspects of the course that have been most enjoyable and beneficial, and what could be considered for changes in the future.

Following are some of the positive comments made in the open feedback session at the end of the program:

- *The program provided me with a sense of confidence and strength which will help me advocate on behalf of my community*
- *I have gained much knowledge on issues which affect my community*
- *I met a diverse variety of people, have made new friends and learnt about ways to effect practical change for IP's*
- *I feel empowered to tackle the next steps and focus on our advocacy strategy*
- *This program has been an amazing, challenging and stimulating experience. It has helped me identify the major gaps in my knowledge and understand how to support my community*
- *It was good to know about the rights of indigenous people and how they can exercise their rights to influence the local policies and laws of our country*

At the conclusion of the program participants were asked to anonymously complete an evaluation questionnaire to elicit extensive and honest feedback that helps DTP to understand the effectiveness of particular sessions, to review content and to make changes in future.

Following is a selection of questions and responses. The complete set of evaluations is available on the DTP website, www.dtp.unsw.edu.au.

What was the best part of the program for you and why?

- *The field trip, visiting the community who had suffered forced eviction provided practical understanding of the issues we discussed in session*
- *Learning about UNDRIP, because it helped me understand more about Indigenous peoples' rights which I had never previously learnt*
- *Learning about the UN system including human rights, the international human rights framework, rights of Indigenous peoples, UNDRIP, FPIC and UNFCCC because it provided an understanding of how IP rights and human rights are violated; and the tools to hold government to account.*
- *Brainstorm sessions, group discussions and other practical exercises allowed us to use the information learnt and allowed me to express my ideas.*
- *The best part of the program was engaging with the UN system and advocacy. It opens many doors to [the] international level.*

What was the lowlight of the program for you and why?

- *The sections on the OECD, as although it's an important mechanism, its hard to apply*
- *Time spent on holding corporations accountable using the OECD felt least useful for me as there is no easy method of implementation*
- *I was disappointed there were only 2 indigenous facilitators when there are so many talented IP's who could have been used.*
- *Could stress more on climate change with special reference to particular areas for easy understanding*

How will the knowledge of human rights, the UN system and the OECD Guidelines influence your work?

- *It has enhanced my knowledge on rights in general and I will be able to merge that knowledge with advocacy work such as land rights*
- *I will use UNDRIP as a program legal training for IPs communities.*

- *Knowledge of human rights will influence my work, because I will have the knowledge to advocate for my people.*
- *I will design training for IP communities and NGO's who are engaged in advocacy. The knowledge provided and the opportunity to engage with the UN system was very useful to influence Government. We will apply this to environmental justice projects for IP in the area.*
- *There is a lot of human rights abuse in my country. I will put in practice the knowledge I have learnt here about Human Rights and the UN system to advocate for the human rights of communities who seek my advocacy.*
- *I will now be more aware of how and where I could assist, advise and support my people better, in the workplace, community, communication strategies and planning.*
- *My knowledge of human rights and the UN system will help for my advocacy very [much]. This things is my weapon against those company/entities that will destruct our ancestral domain.*

Do you plan to share what you have learned in this training with others in your community or organisation?

- *I am very committed to share what I had learn this course to my co-indigenous peoples in my communities*
- *Yes I would ultimately love to run some training for people back home on UN mechanisms and other things we can use in our advocacy for IP's.*
- *Yes, I will share the UN declaration in substantive ways with the communities.*
- *I will arrange training with my staff members, share one day sessions and apply my knowledge in workshops on human rights, advocacy and IP rights.*

What has changed for you his week?

- *The program has helped to put a lot of things into perspective back home. I was highly moved emotionally on so, so many occasions. You can read about and have empathy for other IP and their struggles in their communities/countries. To meet some amazing, young ambassadors, hear it directly from them, is the most amazing thing ever.*
- *This week has opened my mind to things which I was not aware of. I have learnt many things regarding the rights of Indigenous peoples.*
- *I have developed an advanced understanding of the mechanisms of UN system and human rights, how to participate the UPR, other Forums of human rights and UN. My personal understanding has improved on IP, climate change, expert accountability.*
- *The program has taught me about how indigenous communities from different places can come together as one, and also that there are lots of IP's around the world who are still struggling for their rights.*
- *I've gained a greater network. I was starting to feel powerless and frustrated but now feel re-committed to enabling change.*
- *The training equipped me with advanced knowledge and various diplomatic tools for effective policy influence and advocacy campaigning for IP rights and against corporate and human rights abuses. I got a greater understanding of the difference between treaties, UDHR, Declaration and also Declaration of Rights of IP on which I was earlier not aware. Now I will be able to work efficiently on these issues in my region.*

- *I have definitely gained an understanding of how rough some people have it. I now know how important human rights are. I now appreciate that international law ... is a tool that can be used to help and create long-term change.*

Conclusions

Indigenous peoples across the region are facing increasing challenges, partly arising from pressures associated with wider processes of economic development that undermine traditional lands and resources. There is a wide gap between recognition of rights at the international level and the enforcement of those rights by governments and corporations across the region. Sustainable progress in realising the human rights of Indigenous peoples, including the right to development, must be based on their informed and active participation.

The high number of applications for this course is an indication of the demand that exists across the region for developing knowledge on human rights. Training and capacity building of Indigenous community advocates has to be a vital element of wider strategies to reduce the gap between agreed standards and the reality of Indigenous peoples' experiences.

Given the range of challenges facing Indigenous communities, the continual progress in developing legal standards and new opportunities to engage with governments and the UN system, it can be difficult to cover all relevant issues within the given time period. This is a continuing tension in many of DTP's courses.

Based on the evaluations of the participants, this program was largely successful in meeting their expectations and the objectives set by AIPP and DTP.

It is difficult to assess the longer term impact of the program. DTP and AIPP will seek to conduct a follow-up survey with program participants to gain their reflections on the value of the program, and the extent to which it has helped them in their work on the ground to protect and promote human rights.

DTP and AIPP propose to hold a further regional capacity building program in 2011.



Appendix 1: Program Schedule

WEEK 1	Sun 21 Mar	Mon 22 Mar	Tue 23 Mar	Wed 24 Mar	Thu 25 Mar	Fri 26 Mar	Sat 27 Mar	Sun 28 Mar
Breakfast 7:00 - 7:30								
Presentations 8:00 – 8:30			<i>Participant Presentations</i>	<i>Participant Presentations</i>	<i>Participant Presentations</i>	<i>Participant Presentations</i>	<i>Participant Presentations</i>	<i>Participant Presentations</i>
Morning 1 8:30 to 10.00	Arrivals	9.00 to 10.30 Opening Ceremony: The 2009 UN Report on IP and the state of IP rights & advocacy in the Asia Pacific	The UN System and Indigenous Peoples' Rights -Treaty Bodies and The UN Special Procedures	The Declaration on The Rights of Indigenous Peoples – Free Prior and Informed Consent - & Intro to Oxfam FPIC Guide	Field Trip - IP Rights, FPIC and the Human Rights Based Approach to Development	Claiming Rights Climate change, Traditional Knowledge & the Convention on Bio-Diversity	Human Rights, Indigenous Peoples Rights Advocacy and the Corporation	Media Skills
Facilitator(s)			Dr Sarah Pritchard	Joan Carling and Serena Lillywhite	AIPP	Josh Cooper	Josh Cooper	Larry Jagan
Morning Tea 10:00-10:15		Morning Tea						
Morning 2 10:15-12:00	Arrivals	10:45-12:45 Introduction to Human Rights & the International HR Framework	The UN System IPs - Practical Exercise (cont'd)	Economic, Social & Cultural Rights and Indigenous Peoples	Field Trip	International Mechanisms on Climate Change : REDD, UNFCCC, IPCC, the Copenhagen Accord – Identifying opportunities for IP advocacy	Free Prior Informed Consent, Indigenous Peoples and Development – Practical Exercise	Media Skills
Facilitator(s)		Dr Sarah Pritchard	Dr Sarah Pritchard	Chandra Roy	AIPP	Joan Carling	Serena Lillywhite	Larry Jagan
Lunch 12:00 -1:00								
Presentations 1:00 – 1:30		<i>Participant Presentations</i>	<i>Participant Presentations</i>	<i>Participant Presentations</i>		<i>Participant Presentations</i>	<i>Participant Presentations</i>	<i>Participant Presentations</i>
Afternoon 1 1:30-3:00		Human Rights and the Rights of Indigenous Peoples	Indigenous Peoples and the UN System – UNPFII & EMRIP	The Human Rights Based Approach to Development and IPs –Engaging the UN System, IFIs & Donors	Field Trip	Developing Strategies for Change – IP Rights and The UN Universal Periodic Review	Holding Corporations Accountable – Using the OECD Guidelines on MNEs -	Feedback, Evaluations, Future Directions
Facilitator(s)		Dr Sarah Pritchard	Dr Sarah Pritchard	Chandra Roy	AIPP	Josh Cooper	Serena Lillywhite	
Afternoon Tea 3:00-3:15								
Afternoon 2 3:15-5:00	Introductory Session – overview & housekeeping rules/ Challenges, expectations & contributions	Introduction to The Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples	Indigenous Peoples and the UN System – UNPFII & EMRIP Practical Exercise	Climate change and IP rights - New Challenges – REDD plus	Field Trip - Group Reflection	Strategic Advocacy – Practical Exercise Lobbying and Advocacy - Practical Exercise	Researching the corporation–Practical Exercise	Closing Ceremony
Facilitator(s)	AIPP & DTP	Dr Sarah Pritchard	Dr Sarah Pritchard	Joan Carling	AIPP	Josh Cooper	Serena Lillywhite	
10 Minutes		Diary Session	Diary Session	Diary Session	Diary Session	Diary Session	Diary Session	
Evening Activity	Welcome Dinner	Market Visit	Free Time	Solidarity & Cultural Night	Free Time	Movie Night	Closing Dinner	Free Time

Appendix 2: Participant List

Name	Country	Position	Organisation
Sheena Watt	Australia	Project Officer, Indigenous director	Department of Sustainability and Environment, Australian Youth Climate Coalition
Stephanie Harvey	Australia	National Program Manager	Indigenous Community Volunteer
Michelle Cherie Simmons	Australia	Leadership and Communication Coordinator	Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance NT (AMSANT)
Chand Roy	Bangladesh	Project Coordinator	Community Development Centre CODEC
Camillus Gandhai	Bangladesh	Project Coordinator ICDPs	Caritas Bangladesh
	Burma	Staff of Research and Documentation Program	
	Burma	Program Officer	
	Burma	Program Officer	
Sasda Pen	Cambodia	Representative for Youth Committee	Khmers Kampuchea-Krom Federation (KKF)
Kimheak Chhay	Cambodia	Indigenous Minority Rights Project Officer	NGO Forum on Cambodia
Socheat Chann	Cambodia	Lawyer	Community Legal Education Center (CLEC)
Samut Chhoem	Cambodia	Program Staff	Cambodia Indigenous Youth association CIYA
Siyu Li	China	Research Assistant	Lijiang Academy of Dongba Culture, China
Sereima Mada Lutubula	Fiji Islands	Community and Field Officer	Citizens' Constitutional Forum (CCF)
Jese Marawa Tokalauvere Sikivou	Fiji Islands	Private Secretary	Province of Rewa
Lice Kiti Cokanasiga	Fiji Islands	Trade Justice Campaigner Intern	Pacific Network on Globalisation (PANG)
Sanjib Debbarma	India	City convenor	Borok People Human Rights Organisation
Alung Rungsung	India	Coordinator, Ukhrul Office	Naga Peoples Movement for Human Rights (NPMFHR)
Pankaj Teron	India	Chief Convener	Karbi Human Rights Watch KHRW
Maria Lalremruati	India	Coordinator	Zo Indigenous Forum
Rana Sengupta	India	Managing Trustee	Mine Labour Protection Campaign (MLPC)
Sikuri Mambor	Indonesia	Program Coordinator for	Papua NGO's Collaboration Forum (Foker LSM Papua)

		Information and Communication Network; Chief Editor for Tabloid Jubi	
Riniaty Liku Bulawan	Indonesia	Indigenous Women Empowerment	Aman Toraya
Patricia Miranda Wattimena	Indonesia	Staff on Indigenous Women	Aliansi Masyarakat Adat Nusantara (AMAN) Tanah Luwu (South Sulawesi) (Indigenous Peoples Alliance of Archipelago-Tanah Luwu)
Merah Johansyah	Indonesia	Head of Law and Local Community Advocacy Division	Jaringan Advokasi Tambang JATAM
Khampanh Keovilaysak	Laos	Program Coordinator	Global Association for People and the Environment (GAPE)
Khamhou Thongsamout	Laos	Program Coordinator	Global Association for People and the Environment (GAPE)
Georgina Kerr	New Zealand	Vice President and Executive Board Member	New Zealand Public Service Association
Natalie Coates	New Zealand	Intern	Te Runanga O Ngati Awa
Javed Hussain	Pakistan	Programs Manager	Sindh Community Foundation
Musrat Mastoi	Pakistan	Social Mobilizer	Pirbhat Women's Development Society
Khun Po Po	Thailand	Coordinator	Kayan National Development Foundation (KNDF)
Pichai Biang Lae	Thailand	Human Right Program Manager	Mekong Minority Foundation
Abdulloh Hayee-Abu	Thailand	Paralegal Officer	Muslim Attorney centre MAC
Ronie Balong	The Philippines	Public Information Officer	Kaimonan Tu Mgo Mangguangan asta Dibabawan (KAMAD)

Appendix 3: Trainer Biographies

Sarah Pritchard

Dr. Pritchard is an experienced international human rights lawyer. She is currently practicing in Sydney, Australia as a Barrister, following a distinguished academic career at the University of New South Wales (UNSW) and twenty years of training at human rights courses run by the Diplomacy Training Program. She is a Board Member of the DTP, and has worked extensively with issues regarding Indigenous rights and human rights in Australia and internationally. She addressed the UN Commission on Human Rights in Geneva when it held a special session on East Timor and has played an important supportive role in the development of Indigenous issues at the UN.

Serena Lillywhite

Serena Lillywhite is the Mining Advocacy Coordinator at Oxfam Australia. She is an active corporate responsibility practitioner, researcher and advocate. She is currently working to improve the human rights practices of Australian mining companies. She has extensive expertise and experience in labour rights, supply chain management and business and human rights. Serena is Australia's leading expert in the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises. She is a regular speaker at the OECD, UN and ILO, and other international CSR platforms. Serena works regularly with the business community to foster dialogue and multi-stakeholder approaches to responsible business conduct and grievance mechanisms. Serena holds a Masters in International Business from the University of Melbourne. She has lived and worked in China, and as a member of the OECD Watch network and Coordinating Committee, has delivered training and capacity building in Ghana (extractive sector), India (garment sector) and Thailand (business and human rights).

Joshua Cooper

Joshua Cooper is a lecturer at the University of Hawaii teaching classes in Political Science & Journalism focusing on International Human Rights Law, Non-violent Social Movements, Ecological Justice in Oceania and Indigenous Peoples' Rights. Cooper is also a lecturer at the International Training Center for Teaching Peace and Human Rights in Geneva, Switzerland. He also lectures on human rights at Galway University, Ireland and University of the District of Columbia School of Law in Washington D.C. in human rights summer programs. Cooper is an Asia Pacific Leadership Program Fellow at the East-West Center focusing on human rights in Asia-Pacific. He has also been elected to the National Council of Chapters and Division for the United Nations Association in the USA, as well as being on the Human Rights Task Force for the UNA-USA Board of Directors. He also is the Area Coordinator for Amnesty International USA and former chair of the AIUSA Indigenous Peoples Task Force. He is on the Board of Directors for Peace Action. Cooper is also a senior advisor to the Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization based in the Hague, the Netherlands. Cooper has been selected to work with Nobel Peace Prize Laureate and U.S. Vice-President Al Gore on The Climate Project.

Larry Jagan

Larry Jagan has been a correspondent and analyst of Asian affairs for more than 35 years. He is also a prolific writer on Burma's current affairs. For the last nine years he has been working as a freelance journalist and media consultant based in Bangkok covering Asia - particularly Burma. Recently he was appointed the South East Asia correspondent for The National (Abu Dhabi). He

also contributes regularly to the Asia Times, Al Jazeera TV, Bangkok Post, BBC World Service, the Daily Star (Dhaka), Mizzima, Radio Free Asia and Radio and TV Hong Kong. Before that, Larry was the Regional News and Current Affairs Editor for Asia and the Pacific at the BBC World Service for more than ten years. In the last seven years Larry has conducted many training courses for journalists including for the BBC, Internews, Indochina Media Memorial Fund, and the Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He has also provided media and communications training for international organisations, including the ILO, UN and the World Bank.

Joan Carling

Joan Carling (Kankanaey), is the secretary General of the Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP). Prior to working at AIPP Joan was the chairperson of the Cordillera Peoples Alliance. She completed high school in Baguio where she later enrolled in the University of the Philippines College for Sociology and Economics. She has been a human rights activist in Kalinga, championing the Chico Dam issue, a project that would inundate the lands in Bontoc, Kalinga and Apayao provinces in the Cordillera ranges.

Chandra Roy

Chandra Roy coordinates the Regional Indigenous Peoples' Programme (RIPP) at the UNDP Regional Centre in Bangkok. She assists Country Offices by supporting dialogue and cooperation on Indigenous peoples' issues at the national, regional and global level. Roy provides Country Offices with advice and assistance on programming, capacity development, advocacy and other initiatives to implement a human rights-based approach to Indigenous peoples' development. She previously worked with the ILO where she was instrumental in establishing a project promoting ILO policy on Indigenous peoples. She served as team leader for a human rights training programme for Indigenous peoples in Asia and Africa.

Secretariat

Binota Moy Dhamai

Binota Moy Dhamai is a Jumma (Tripura) from the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) in Bangladesh. He is currently the Programme Coordinator of the Human Rights Campaign and Policy Advocacy programme of AIPP. Before joining AIPP, he had worked for more than 10 years as an activist with local and national indigenous organisations to promote the rights of Indigenous peoples in Bangladesh. He is a former UN Indigenous Fellow, a program under the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Geneva. He is involved in working on advocacy, lobbying and networking to promote and protect the rights of Indigenous peoples.

Geoff Hazell

Geoff Hazell joined the DTP as Programs Coordinator in 2007. Prior to this, Geoff worked at Oxfam Australia for three years, specifically working in the Oxfam International Youth Partnerships Program as Participant Coordinator. He has also worked as Marketing Coordinator for the Oxfam Trailwalker Sydney Fundraising event, also with Oxfam Australia. Since joining DTP Geoff has coordinated over ten programs in countries such as Malaysia, Thailand and the Philippines and Australian communities such as Katherine and Batchelor. Geoff is currently responsible for the coordination of DTP's Indigenous programs. Geoff has a Bachelor of Arts and Economic Development from the University of Newcastle and is passionate about social justice.

Robeliza Halip

Robeliza Halip is currently working as the Human Rights Advocacy Officer at AIPP. She belongs to the Kalanguya tribe of Ifugao and the Kankanaey tribe of Mountain Province in the Philippines. Before joining AIPP, she was the Information Officer of the Office of the Governor in Ifugao province and was actively involved in human rights work in the Cordillera Region, Philippines.

Chitra

Chitra is from India. She recently moved to Thailand to work with indigenous people in northern Thailand in advocacy and human rights. She is currently learning Thai to assist her work and engagement with indigenous people's issues in Thailand. Chitra hopes to promote and support the rights of indigenous people in northern Thailand. She is providing support to DTP and AIPP for the Indigenous Peoples, Human Rights and Advocacy program in Chiang Mai.

Appendix 4: Participant Presentations - Excerpts

Following is a selection of participant presentation titles (and some detail) to illustrate the diversity of work being undertaken and the challenges faced:

Aboriginal Australian Lifeline “PUT IN THE CONTEXT OF LIFE – A TIME LINE NOW BECOMES A LIFE LINE”

- A new born Aboriginal child joins 2.3% of the Australian population
- At 5 Years: Hearing problems will have started to appear (80% of Aboriginal children have some form of hearing problem)
- If the Aboriginal youth is male, **33%** of his age peers will be dead before they reach the age of **60**
- At 60 Years An Average Australian Indigenous person **dies** (if they lived in the city) while their non-Indigenous peer lives for another 24 years

Human Rights in West Papua (Indonesia)

- Population in West Papua numbers more than 4 million; more than 2 million are Indigenous peoples of Papua.
- Thousands of Indigenous peoples have been arrested without trial
- More than ten thousand Indigenous peoples of Papua have been killed and kidnapped by military and police s
- Resource Rich - What they want to take from our land
- 95 Logging Companies, 15 Mining Companies and 29 Oil Companies

Mine Labor Protection Campaign – Mining in Rajasthan India

- 2.5 million Mine workers in the state, (95% are low caste or Indigenous peoples)
- Gross Human Rights violations (Health and safety, below Minimum wage, child labour, no unions, no basic services for workers)
- Mine Labour Protection Campaign established in 1993 to address worker conditions
- Successes: Compensation to workers, improved work conditions, reduced indebtedness, Influenced policy, influence supply chain, fair trade Stones movement

Liquid Gold - The Controversial Issue of Water in New Zealand

- Reliability of water becoming tenuous because of climate change
- Water is linked to the Maori identity
- The law is in conflict with Indigenous Beliefs, Maori have no input
- Create a Mataatua Declaration on Water that sets out the rights that the Mataatua have in respect to water.
- Biggest difficulty: Internal Conflict as Maori come from diverse backgrounds

Human Rights: Issues, Challenges & Opportunities for the Toraja (Indonesia)

Issues and Challenges

- Land Grabbing for mining, logging, palm oil and Transmigration
- Destruction of Indigenous governance system
- Erosion of culture and traditional beliefs system
- Militarization of economy and political sphere by TNI.

Role of Aman Toraya

- Awareness raising and empowerment of Indigenous peoples
- Lobbying and Advocacy on IP Rights, and engagement of community in the workings of local government
- Capacity building of community organizers.

Outcomes:

- Awareness raising and discussion/assembly at community level
- 17 indigenous youth trained to be Community Organizers
- Conducted discussions with District's Government Officials and Members of Parliament as well as at community level
- Government and Parliament committed to the cause and empowerment of indigenous youth

Nagalim (Nagaland, India)

- Nagalim is a nation under occupation from India & Burma for the last 6 decades.
- The population is predominantly Christian; literacy is 70%, Nagalim covers an area of 120,000 Sq km and has a population of 4 million people.
- Key Struggle: Unification of all Naga areas and the Right to Self –Determination
- Issue: Sovereignty Over Our Land and Natural Resources

CLEC Public Interest Legal Advocacy Project (Cambodia)

(Defending land rights through high impact legal advocacy, and empowering indigenous communities for the protection of land and natural resources.)

KONG YU AND KONG THOM CASE in 2004 The facts of the story:

- Indigenous Community (JARAI) were tricked into selling 50 hectares of their land
- Land size was increased from 50 – 500 hectares by purchaser
- Sale was documented only by a thumb print on a blank page
- The Indigenous community dispute the terms of the sale

JARAI and CLEC Action

- The problem happened in 2004
- The JARAI Bring their issue to Ratanakiri provincial court in 2007 with CLEC's legal aid.
- From 2007- Present

The company has been clearing 250 hectares of the 500 hectares project.

The JARAI IP said that the violation will be occurred if the company keep clearing their land

Unfortunately, the provincial court does nothing to respond the IP issue.

- 2 judges was already requested to change by the IP's lawyer

Next Activities

- Keep encouraging and provide the capacity building to the affected IP
- The lawyer keep follow up the case and collect national law and use international law to advocate with the court (UNDRIP...)

Development Aggression in the Ancestral Domain of Indigenous Peoples in Southern Mindanao Region (The Philippines)

IP issues in Southern Mindanao

- Mining - is the major issue
- Proposed Saug River Multipurpose Dam that would displace thousands of residents, submerge productive farmlands and IP communities.

- Plantation – hectares of land are occupied by the unending expansion of the banana plantations and palm oil
- Human rights violations – commonly happened at the IP communities- killing and harassments of IP leaders,
- Divided stand within and among community members
- On-going armed conflict resulting in the destruction of property, loss of livelihood, abuses and war impacting on women and children
- Gradual loss of the IP cultural practices, value and concept of land

Community Initiatives

- Education campaign on IP rights,
- Utilizing traditional practices to resolve community, leadership and “development aggressions” related conflict
- Initiated activities to regain culture and traditions in managing own affairs and resolving community conflict
- Engaged in policy advocacy from the barangay (local/community), municipal, provincial, regional to the national levels
- Tapping resources for alternative livelihood Strengthening network and alliances to support community initiatives