







PROJECT PROFILE 2022

The Samdhana Institute

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Project Description

The Fair, Green and Global Alliance (FGG) Alliance¹ seeks to expand civic space, stimulate movements, and invest in mutual capacity development. As part of the partnership with the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the Power of Voices Strategic Partnerships (2021-2025), the FGG Alliance's strategic objective is to increase the power and decision-making influence of organised, mobilised and informed civil society, especially women, to advance fair and green trade and value chains. The results areas² are as follows: strengthening capacities, creating spaces for rights holders/civic space, agenda-setting, and changes to the policies and practices of key actors.

Within the FGG3 Programme, Samdhana continues to focus on supporting Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) assert their rights over their lands and natural resources, increase institutional and local capacity development, support community and frontline actors resilience-building socio-environmental movements in Southeast Asia, in response to new challenges arising from changing contexts. Samdhana works on the premise that shifting power for just structural changes in the global political and economic arena, such as in trade and value chains, remains rooted in the direct action of grassroots communities who struggle everyday with issues such as corporate landgrabs and violations, inequitable resource and benefits distribution, and human rights violations. Shifting power also means supporting grassroots actions, especially by Indigenous Peoples, whose indigenous knowledge systems and practices (IKSP), are essential to bringing forward practices and viable solution models for increasing food sovereignty, community resilience and local independence.

¹ Alliance members are: Action Aid, Both ENDS, Clean Clothes Campaign, Milieudefensie, SOMO and Transnational Institute. In 2020, the Alliance expanded its membership to include IT for Change and the

² Referring to TOC to in the FGG programme introduction

Project Objectives

For this five-year project, Samdhana aims to achieve the following outcomes:

- To increase IPLC tenure rights security in Southeast Asia (SEA) by supporting tenure security processes, improving management and governance; conducting research and documentation on Southeast Asia IPLC tenure and the impacts of trade and investment policies for policy recommendations; supporting IPLC access to remediation in land conflicts with the State and private sector; and improved community-led natural resources management;
- To support work for the protection and promotion of IPLC and environmental rights protected in legislative frameworks;
- To support the creation of a network of community-based markets and local economies across SEA – by supporting community-led resource development of sustainable and ecologically-friendly livelihoods and enterprises, linking community markets and local consumers, supporting access to fair trade and value chains, support in creation of just private sector investments for local/community economy networks/ markets; and
- To support IPLC producers and communities in SEA transform the food and agricultural systems for quality and resilient food production and local consumption.

Partners we work with

For the project implementation, partners are local community/ indigenous peoples organizations, local or sub-regional organizations, research and policy development organizations, and IPLC networks.

Project Components and target outputs

- Capacity Development for IPLC women and youth, for Indigenous Political Structures, community leaders and local organizations; support for engaging government bodies and private sectors
- Small and urgent grants making for Partners' initiatives on rights assertion and recognition, tenure security, conflict resolution, management and governance of territories, agro-ecology, community-based livelihoods and enterprises;
- Research and assessments on tenure policies in SEA, community enterprises, traditional agrobiodiversity systems and practices, and community markets
- Documentation and communication

Project period

1 Jan 2021 - 31 Dec 2025

Donor Partner

Kingdom of Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs through BothENDS

Project Site/ Area of Implementation

Philippines, Indonesia, Myanmar, Laos and other countries in Southeast Asia