Our Mission
A global alliance of civil society and intergovernmental organisations working together to promote secure and equitable access to and control over land for poor women and men through advocacy, dialogue, knowledge sharing and capacity building.

Our Vision
Secure and equitable access to and control over land reduces poverty and contributes to identity, dignity and inclusion.
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Welcome to the International Land Coalition’s 2009 annual report. Inside you will find highlights from ILC members working to advance secure and equitable access to land around the world, and results from our key programmes and initiatives.

The past year has been a transformative year for ILC, marked by significant progress on various fronts. As a member-driven, global network, ILC achieved important milestones such as a successful Assembly of Members in Nepal, the expansion and diversification of ILC’s membership, and the approval of a new Charter and membership contribution policy. As a platform for facilitating multi-stakeholder dialogues, ILC positioned itself as a convener and leading source of information in the debates over large-scale investments in land and agriculture (also referred to as “land grabs”).

As an innovative, knowledge-sharing network, ILC established a partnership for launching a dynamic land portal which aims to be one of the leading global sources of information on land-related issues on the web. To strengthen the capacity of its members, ILC produced an interactive DVD with lessons learned from ten years and 52 projects of the Community Empowerment Facility. Finally, to strengthen the sustainability of the Coalition and expand its financial resource base, ILC entered into an increasing number of multi-year strategic financial partnerships with donors.

These successes owe a lot to multiple actors. First, since the establishment of the Coalition, the efforts made by members and partners under the leadership of my predecessor, Mr. Bruce Moore, and of the Coalition Council, have helped position the Coalition as a credible voice in land debates around the world. During this period, a number of very successful programmes and solid collaborative alliances were also established. Without this legacy, the progress made in 2009 would have been impossible. In particular, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), as a member, donor and host of the Secretariat of the Coalition, deserves special recognition in 2009, as in the past.

Similarly, the quality of support we received from our regional node host organisations in Africa (KLA), Asia (ANGOC) and Latin America (CEPES) has been critical in making ILC a truly decentralized network. ILC members remain the heart and soul of the Coalition, and the main advocates and supporters of its work. They have provided invaluable contributions to key ILC events such as the global Assembly of Members, and have mobilized substantial human and financial resources to ensure the successful implementation of ILC projects and programmes around the world. This high level of commitment from members allowed us to launch more than 60 small grant programmes in 2009! Overall, it is because members proudly value being part of the Coalition that it continues to attract new members. In fact, in 2009, ILC membership increased by 30% to now total 83 members in more than 40 countries.

One of the most valuable assets of the Coalition remains the young and talented staff of the ILC Secretariat, including our regional teams in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Their hard work, professionalism and exceptional creative spirit were critical to the performance of the Coalition in 2009. As the new Director of the Coalition, I could reliably lean on them during this particularly challenging period.

I would like to thank all of the members, partners and staff who have made possible the numerous achievements we describe in this report. Their commitment to the ILC cause makes me confident that in 2010, the Coalition will keep its momentum to deliver the goals and objectives of the 2007-2011 Strategic Framework, and strengthen its role as an effective platform for advancing the pro-poor land agenda at the global, regional and national levels.
transition started in 2007. Today, the Coalition also benefits from fully functional governing bodies and established regional platforms in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

In addition, the Coalition has continued to provide effective support to the land advocacy work of its members. Substantive results have been achieved in knowledge generation and sharing, and in capacity building for civil society and farmers’ organisations. The Coalition has played an active facilitation role in global, regional and national-level dialogues on land reform processes and emerging land-related themes, including today’s hotly debated large-scale foreign investments in land and agriculture in developing countries.

On the financial side, the Coalition has received substantial support from traditional, as well as new, partners. More donors are engaging in longer-term financial partnerships with the Coalition, translating into multi-year unrestricted budget support.

Although there are many reasons to be proud of our achievements in 2009, we should not lose sight of the work that remains to be done to expand and consolidate the Coalition, refocus its strategic orientations and strengthen its position within the land debates. Land is an increasingly disputed resource, which makes the mission of the ILC more relevant, but also more challenging, than ever.

We are confident that the Coalition will, in 2010 and beyond, continue to serve as an effective pro-poor land advocate and a viable multi-stakeholder platform for dialogue on ways of improving land governance.

Looking back over the last year, and looking at where we are now, we can only think of 2009 as a very special year in the life of ILC. In the beginning of 2009, the Coalition was faced with serious financial difficulties in a context of delicate internal discussions on the nature and viability of the institutional arrangement of the Coalition.

In the course of the year, the institutional and financial risks were averted and significant progress was made in various areas. These achievements would have been impossible without the quality of the leadership displayed by the Coalition Council, the enthusiasm and hard work of the dedicated Secretariat staff and regional teams in Africa, Asia and Latin America, the renewed commitment of ILC members to the mission of the Coalition, and the continued support of key donors and partners.

The Assembly of Members in Kathmandu, Nepal, in April 2009 was hailed as a great success, not only because of the high level of participation from around the world, but also because of the quality of the deliberations. Members also approved a new Charter and Governance Framework, replacing the Coalition’s old constitution, and marking the end of an important institutional and organisational
The International Land Coalition (ILC) is a global alliance of civil society and intergovernmental organisations working together to promote secure and equitable access to and control over land for poor women and men through advocacy, dialogue, knowledge sharing and capacity building.

The Coalition was established as an outcome of the Conference on Hunger and Poverty held in Brussels in 1995. Originally called the Popular Coalition to Eradicate Hunger and Poverty, in 2003, members formally changed the name to the International Land Coalition, in order to better reflect its mission, nature and objectives.

ILC is served by a Secretariat hosted by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) in Rome, Italy. It is supported by three regional platforms in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

Who we are

ILC members form a dynamic global network of civil society and farmers’ organisations, United Nations agencies, international institutions, and research institutes united by a shared commitment to advancing a pro-poor land agenda. Currently, the Coalition is composed of 83 member organisations in more than 40 countries.
Africa
Aide et Action pour la Paix (AAP)
Association for Rural Advancement (AFRA)
Centre Béninois pour l’Environnement et le Développement Economique et Social (CEBEDES)
Coalition Paysanne de Madagascar (CPM)
Conseil pour la Défense Environnementale par la Légalité et la Tracabilité (CODELT)
Kenya Land Alliance (KLA)
Kenya National Federation of Agricultural Producers (KENFAP)
Land Access Movement of South Africa (LAMOSA)
Land Net Malawi (LN Malawi)
Land Net West Africa (LNWA)
Mau Community Forestry Association (MACOFA)
Réseau Béninois pour la Sécurité Foncière et la gestion Durables des Terres (ReboSef/CGT)
Resource Conflict Institute (RECONCILE)
Rwanda Initiative for Sustainable Development (RISD)
Solidarité des Intervenants sur le Foncier (SIF)
Southern Alliance for Indigenous Resources (SAFIRE)
Transkei Land Service Association (TWSA)
Uganda Land Alliance (ULA)
Union pour l’Emancipation de la Femme Autochtone (UFAP)
Zambia Land Alliance (ZLA)
Zimbabwe Regional Environment Organisation (ZERO)

Asia
Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGORC)
Association for Land Reform and Development (ALRBD)
Association for Realisation of Basic Needs (ARBAN)
Bhartiya Jan Sewa Ashram (BJSA)
Centre for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (CARRD)
College of Development Studies (CDS)
Community Self-Reliance Centre (CSRC)
Indonesian Community Mapping Network (JKPP)
Indonesian Institute for Forest & Environment (RMI)
Jan Kalyan Sansthah (JKS)
Mahatma Gandhi Seva Ashram (MGSA)
MODE Nepal (MODE)
Philippine Association for Intercultural Development, Inc. (PADID)
Social Development Foundation (SDF)
Society for Conservation and Protection of Environment (SCPE)
Society for Development of Drought Prone Area (SDDPA)
South Asia Rural Reconstruction Association (SARRA)
STAR Kaupoucha (STAR)
Task Force Mapalad (TFM)
The People’s Campaign for Agrarian Reform Network, Inc. (APRA)

Latin America
Acción Campesina (AC)
Asociación Latino-Americana de Organizaciones de Promoción (ALOP)
Asociación de Servicios Educativos Rurales (SER)
Centro de Investigación y Educación Popular (CINEP)
Centro de Investigaciones Sociológicas, Económicas, Políticas y Antropológicas (CISEPA-PUCP)
Centro Peruano de Estudios Sociales (CEPES)
Comité de Desarrollo Campesino (CODECA)
Consejo Coordinador de Organizaciones Campesinas de Honduras (COCOCH)
Convención Nacional del Agro Peruano (CONVEAGRO)
Coordinación de ONG y Cooperativas (CONCOOP)
Corporación PROCASUR (PROCASUR)
El Grupo ALPAA (ALPAA)
Federación Nacional de Cooperativas Agropecuarias y Agroindustriales R.L. (FENACOOP)
Fondo Ecuatoriano Populorum Progressio (FEPP)
Fondation pour le Développement en Justicia y Paz (FUNDAPAZ)
Fundación TIERRA (TIERRA)
Instituto del Bien Común (IBC)
Nitlapan Instituto de Investigación Aplicada y Promoción del Desarrollo Rural (Nitlapan)
Union Verapacense de Organizaciones Campesinas (UVOC)

Global/Other Regions
Association pour l’Amélioration de la Gestion de la Terre, de l’Eau et des Ressources Naturelles (AGTER)
Centre de Coopération Internationale en Recherche pour le Développement (CIRAD)
Deutsche Welthungerhilfe (DWHH)
Environmental Liaison Centre (ELCN)
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
Global Land Tool Network (GLTN)
International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP)
International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
International Institute of Environment and Development (IIED)
International Union of Food, Agricultural, Hotel, Restaurant, Catering, and Allied Workers’ Associations (IUF)
National Association of Communal Forests and Pastures (NACFPA)
Rural Development Institute (RDI)
Secours Populaire Français (SPF)
Terra Institute, Ltd. (Terra)
Transborder Wildlife Association (TWA)
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF)
World Bank (WB)
World Food Programme (WFP)

ILC Africa
The Africa regional platform, hosted in 2009 by the Kenya Land Alliance (KLA), has 22 CSO members and is overseen by a steering committee comprised of one civil society member from each region (West, Central, East and South) and one intergovernmental member. CSO members represent twelve countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Rwanda, South Africa, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
The priority of members in 2009 was to engage with the Africa Land Policy Framework and Guidelines, initiated in 2006 by a consortium composed of the African Union (AU), the UN Economic Commission for Africa and the African Development Bank, and endorsed in July 2009 by the 13th Ordinary Session of the AU Summit of Heads of State and Government. In November, ILC members and key partners from the region met in Kigali, Rwanda, for a workshop on “Concerted Efforts to Implement the Africa Land Policy Framework and Guidelines: A CSO Advocacy Roadmap”. This workshop was held back-to-back with the ILC Africa regional meeting.

Women’s access to land is another priority issue for members. The “Securing Women’s Access to Land: Linking Research and Action” project in Eastern and Southern Africa is a partnership with two research centres in the region, working in support of action-oriented research implemented by NGO/CBO partnerships in seven countries. Upon completion of the research in 2009, the advocacy phase of the project began. Three advocacy workshops were held in Malawi, Uganda and Mozambique, and an advocacy strategy manual and toolbox were disseminated to assist partners in their advocacy planning.

Influencing pro-poor land policy formulation and implementation has remained a large component of ILC’s work in Africa. Projects built on partnerships between CSOs and/or IGOs and governments were completed in Uganda and Madagascar and continue in Niger and DRC. Evaluations in Uganda and Madagascar pointed to significant achievements, including success in influencing significant portions of the final draft Uganda National Land Policy and in building a strong civil society platform in Madagascar. Looking ahead, three new partnerships will be initiated in 2010 in Tanzania, Kenya and Benin.

ILC Asia

The Asia regional platform, hosted by the Asian NGO Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC), was formally established in January 2009. Since then, the platform has grown into a dynamic, strategic and forward-looking vehicle for collaboration among the region’s 22 CSO members, who are based in Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, and the Philippines. Members have found common ground for action thanks to new opportunities to collaborate and the effective leadership of the regional steering committee. The participation of IGO members at the regional level is being strengthened as contacts with regional offices are established and opportunities are sought to involve them in ILC activities in the region. International members World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF) and International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) are both members of the regional steering committee.

The core Land Watch Asia initiative (LWA) unites many of the ILC-supported initiatives in the region. Building on the six country studies collected in the 2009 publication Securing the Right to Land: A CSO Overview on Access to Land in Asia, and on a series of scoping studies on regional entities and IGOs, LWA has initiated an advocacy initiative for direct engagement with regional institutions CIRDAP, ASEAN and SAARC.

In 2009, ILC Asia invested in strengthening the capacities of its members, starting a series of “training of trainers” workshops on topics identified by members. It also supported community empowerment and social mobilisation through land literacy workshops. Finally, communications within the region took a step forward with the launch of a blog and regular e-bulletins.

The land grabbing phenomenon is a prominent issue of concern for members in Asia. The October regional meeting in Jakarta focused on land tenure issues in the context of land grabbing and climate change. Many of the members also participated in a conference on “New Challenges and Increasing Pressures on Customary Land Rights in Southeast Asia,” held in Cambodia.

Members also feel increasing concern over escalating agrarian conflicts in many countries in the region. In response, ILC Asia has been documenting land conflicts in Indonesia, India and the Philippines.

Why is it important to build a CSO roadmap for action to influence the implementation of the Africa Land Policy Framework and Guidelines?

It is very critical that the African Land Policy Framework and Guidelines is not seen as only a government business, if it is to be successful. In recent years, the change from the tradition of treating land-related policies and laws as just a government and political business, to recognising the importance of the role and involvement of civil society in the process has contributed a lot to the success of pro-poor policies and inclusive processes.
f) Communication and advocacy. The regional node has developed a communications strategy and tools such as an interactive regional website and regular bulletins and updates. Focal point: CEPES (Peru) and the Regional Communications Officer.

Self-determination for Indigenous peoples through recognition of their territorial rights is an issue of increasing importance to members. In Bolivia, ILC member Fundación TIERRA organised the international seminar “Post-Constitutional Bolivia: Land, Territories and Indigenous Autonomies,” with more than nine hundred participants. At the regional level, the ILC Second Regional Conference, “Land and Territories: Rights, Dynamics, and Trends” was held in Peru.
The issue of large-scale farmland acquisitions in developing countries by public and private foreign investors dominated the land debate in 2009.

In a context of declining investment in the agriculture sectors of developing countries for three consecutive decades, some perceive the current rush for land as an opportunity to boost agricultural productivity in poor countries, generate employment (especially for rural youth), and respond to the growing food needs of host and investor countries. Others, however, see the spectacular increase of reported deals, as well as the huge sizes of the concerned tract of lands – estimated at tens of millions of hectares in total – as legitimate causes for concern.

Indeed, the potential negative impacts of such deals can be devastating on multiple levels: to the local communities who rely on land and other natural resources for their livelihoods, to the ability of targeted countries to develop their agriculture sectors to respond to their own food needs, and to the societies and environments affected. Both sides in this debate – those who see opportunities for win-win arrangements between investors and receiving countries, and those who see unacceptable risks to developing countries and poor communities – seem to agree that the world is currently unprepared to respond to this serious phenomenon in a coordinated manner.

Various stakeholder groups are taking positions or developing responses, ranging from outright rejections of any form of international land acquisition to the formulation of principles, codes of conduct, or decision-support frameworks aimed at minimizing the risks and optimising the benefits of foreign investments. However, these efforts are typically carried out in isolation, with minimal consultation with and among relevant parties. Because there has been no open forum for discussing the merits of the various options, we find ourselves in a situation of general confusion. Consequently, all parties stand to lose from the many bad deals that will result from the current unguided transactions.

Building upon a series of studies that began in 2009 as part of our Commercial Pressures on Land (CPL) initiative, the ILC Secretariat is currently working to bring the key parties together on this critical issue. While the task of convening an open platform on such a politically charged issue will be a major challenge, we strongly believe that open dialogue is imperative, as the foundation for a coordinated response to this phenomenon.

The global attention being paid to international land acquisitions has overshadowed other factors that contribute to the increased pressures on land, particularly those related to farmlands and forests. Such factors include mining activities, which expanded dramatically this decade, as well as accelerated urbanisation and increased investments in tourism. Poor communities that depend on common-pool resources, particularly indigenous peoples and pastoralists, are among the main victims of the continuous loss of forests, farming and grazing land. These factors underscore the need for a holistic approach to the current changes affecting land availability and access, and explain why ILC looks at the “land grab” issue in the broader context of commercial pressures on land.

Global attention has also been diverted from many other pressing land governance issues, particularly landlessness and inequitable access to land in developing countries. In many rural settings precarious tenure rights prevent farmers from investing in increasing the productivity of their land. Women’s access to secure land rights also remains limited, despite the increasing feminisation of farm labour. Indigenous peoples and other socially and politically marginalised groups continue to be denied access to land tenure security and are disproportionately targeted in evictions carried out in the name of development. In fact, countries lacking solid land management systems are typically the least prepared to gain from foreign and domestic investments in land and agriculture. Preliminary evidence from recent studies, including a World Bank study on about 20 countries at the global level, confirm what we already knew: that the countries which are the most attractive to foreign investments in land and agriculture are those with the poorest governance systems, including of land. This data clearly illustrates the potentially destructive nature of these investments, which, again, call for action at both international and national levels.

While working to build consultative multi-stakeholder platforms for dialogue on the issues mentioned above, ILC will also continue to develop its long-term efforts to promote equitable and secure access to land for poor men and women. This will translate into increased investments in national-level LAND Partnerships, and in building civil society capacity for more effective evidence-based land advocacy. The current action-research activities on gender and land in southern Africa will serve as a basis for developing and disseminating among ILC members and partners effective advocacy tools to promote women’s access to secure land rights. Building on work done in the past, and especially in 2009, on the thematic areas on Indigenous Peoples and the Commons, ILC will explore the possibility of developing new and ambitious programmes on these two key areas.
Land degradation, resulting from a combination of anthropogenic and natural factors, is another major trend with a profound impact on the lives and livelihoods of millions of poor rural people. The 2008 Global Assessment of Land Degradation and Improvement (GLADA) Report estimates that up to 20% of the world’s arable land degraded over a 25-year observation period. Furthermore, UNEP estimates that, each year, more than 20 million hectares of farmland are degraded to the point that crop production becomes uneconomic, and that 6 million hectares are irreversibly lost for food production every year (UNEP, 2006). These alarming trends remain largely unnoticed, often because of the intensity of the disputes over the same, decreasingly productive, land. Although conflicts arising from natural resource depletion have been well studied, little is known about the magnitude of landlessness resulting from land degradation, climate variability and climate change. For this reason, ILC initiated a series of consultations – both at our Assembly of Members in Kathmandu, Nepal, and at the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification Conference of Parties (UNCCD-COP9) in Buenos Aires, Argentina – on the linkages between climate change, desertification and land degradation and ILC’s work. This year, additional consultations are planned to further explore the feasibility of a partnership initiative using land governance as an entry point to respond to the challenges of climate change and land degradation.

Today, civil society is playing an increasingly active role in land policy decisions. Stronger alliances of farmer and civil society movements are making their voices heard in global land debates, and their positions and advocacy messages are informed by an increasing evidence base. As land remains a pillar and key manifestation of power asymmetries within society, land-related tensions continue to multiply. Land rights activists are exposed to threats and brutalities of all kinds. The demand for legal support in mediating land-related conflicts and cases of abuse of power is growing. ILC will have to pay greater attention to this emerging challenge.

These recent developments on land issues show that ILC’s work is more relevant today than ever before. The terms under which the land debates are now posed have become more complex. The commoditisation of land in an increasingly globalised economy challenges the paradigms under which land has traditionally been analysed, allocated and governed. The last refuge of state sovereignty – national territory – is now under assault by the international market economy. Positions held by stakeholder groups in the land debates are more radicalised, while national interests openly clash. This particular context justifies ILC’s aim to continue, in 2010 and beyond, to serve as an effective platform for dialogue – a delicate but critically important mission.

The current dominant framework has reduced land to a purely economic asset, valued for bringing profit rather than ensuring the country’s food security and promoting a people-centred sustainable development agenda.

Nathaniel Don Marquez, ANGOC
Closing remarks, expert seminar on “Commercial Pressures on Land: Rethinking policies and practices for development,” Utrecht
The International Land Coalition Annual Report 2009

2009 Activities

ILC SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

- COMMERCIAL PRESSURES ON LAND
- WOMEN’S ACCESS TO LAND
- LAND REPORTING INITIATIVE
- LEARNING, CAPACITY BUILDING AND EXCHANGE
- LAND ALLIANCES FOR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- ILC Global Assembly of Members – Kathmandu, Nepal
- ILC Africa regional meeting – Kigali, Rwanda
- ILC Asia regional meeting – Jakarta, Indonesia
- ILC Latin America regional meeting – Lima, Peru
- ILC UNCCD COP-9 Side Event – Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Countries in which ILC members are based
**Commercial Pressures on Land (CPL)**

Increasing large-scale investments in land, particularly in the agricultural sector, were a hotly-debated topic in 2009, raising fundamental questions about land rights, development and food security. While the issue is of interest and concern to a wide variety of organisations, including the full spectrum of ILC members, opinions are divided on the implications of the phenomenon and the appropriate responses to it. While some intergovernmental and governmental agencies have focused on principles for responsible investments in land, many producer organisations and social movements remain sceptical about the possibility of achieving “win-win” outcomes.

ILC is working to widen the dialogue on how the international community should respond to this phenomenon and, in particular, is facilitating the ability of civil society organisations to influence responses through evidence-based advocacy.

**Generating Knowledge and Awareness**

In 2009, ILC launched a major collaborative research project to analyze the complex CPL phenomenon from diverse perspectives. Over 30 organisations from within and beyond the Coalition are collaborating in the project, producing research that examines the issue through thematic and paradigmatic lenses as well as national and local case studies. By presenting a variety of voices, ILC aims to widen the debate and help move toward a coordinated response to the realities on the ground.

Launched in Spring 2009, the ILC CPL blog and weekly news digest have become prominent resources for sharing knowledge and news from around the world, reaching over 4000 viewers every month. In addition, the ILC Secretariat has used media appearances and interviews with the BBC, The New York Times, New Scientist, Der Spiegel and El Pais, among others, to raise awareness on this issue.

**Creating Forums for Debate**

In July, ILC co-organised an international expert meeting on “Commercial Pressures on Land: Rethinking Policy and Practice” in collaboration with the Development Policy Review Network, Oxfam-Novib, the Universities of Utrecht and Groningen, and the Sustainable Economic Development Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands. Almost one hundred development practitioners from around the world participated in the roundtable, held in Utrecht, Netherlands. In Asia, ILC members STAR Kampuchea and ANGOC co-organised with OXFAM-Novib a conference on “New Challenges and Increasing Pressures on Customary Land Rights in Southeast Asia.” A special focus on CPL and land grabbing was a part of various ILC member forums, including the Assembly of Members and regional meetings in Asia and Latin America.

**Moving Toward a Coordinated Response**

ILC members and the Secretariat are working together to address this issue. Key initiatives include work on principles for responsible agricultural investment by ILC members FAO, IFAD and the World Bank and FAO’s Voluntary Guidelines for Good Governance in Land and Natural Resource Tenure. ILC is also collaborating with partners such as the European Commission’s Land Working Group, the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, the Global Donor Platform for Rural Development, and the Sahel West Africa Club. Within these processes, the ILC Secretariat has taken an active role to facilitate information sharing and increase active participation from its civil society members.

**Future Directions**

In 2010, ILC will complete and disseminate its global study on CPL and will continue to expand the readership of the blog and news digest. ILC will also work together with other organisations to co-convene events that widen the dialogue on large-scale land transactions and their alternatives.

**ILC GLOBAL STUDY ON CPL: OVERVIEW OF RESEARCH THEMES**

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<td>• Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD)</td>
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**Latin America case studies**

• Deforestation along the Trans-Amazonian Highway – Brazil
• Commercial pressure on natural resources in Chorotega territories – Nicaragua
• Land concentration, transfer and use and the expansion of mining – Peru
• Mining companies, territories and social conflicts in the Cenepa river basin – Peru
• Small-scale milk producers competing for land – Uruguay

It is a crime against humanity to convert agriculturally productive land into land that is producing crops for transformation into bio-fuels.

Jean Ziegler, Former United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food
The guarantee of a full respect for human rights lies in their realisation in obligatory norms, non-compliance with which is sanctioned by institutions created for that purpose.

Fernando Eguren, CEPES From The Right to Land and International Agreements: The Case of Peru

Land Reporting Initiative (LRI)
Access to information is essential for effective land governance and is a basis for informed dialogue, democratic participation, sound policies and accountability. Yet, land-related information is often inaccessible, outdated or difficult to compare across contexts.

ILC’s Land Reporting Initiative grew from members’ needs for better data on land access, as a basis for more effective advocacy and better land policy. At the global level, the initiative has coordinated inputs from ILC members through activities such as the Land Watch campaigns and the development of a land monitoring toolkit. LRI is also a core initiative of ILC regional networks in Asia and Latin America.

Building a Dynamic Land Portal
In 2009, ILC established a partnership to launch a Land Portal, which aims to be a leading resource on land on the internet. The Land Portal is designed to be a user-friendly, interactive and decentralised space that increases the transparency of land information and improves networking and knowledge sharing among users. The ILC Secretariat is coordinating this initiative with 28 partner organisations, including the Landtenure.info consortium. A strategy for collaboration was agreed upon at the November workshop in Rome, resulting in expanded partnerships and a roadmap for action in 2010.

Land Monitoring Handbook
ILC has been taking stock of existing land monitoring initiatives developed by both civil society and intergovernmental organisations. The first resulting publication, Monitoring Secure Access to Land: Progress and Prospects, promotes the concept of multi-stakeholder land governance. In addition, a publication titled Quantitative Indicators for Common Property Tenure Security has been produced with the CGIAR Systemwide Program on Collective Action and Property Rights (CAPRi) to promote land monitoring systems for the commons.

Land Watch Asia
Effective national advocacy campaigns and knowledge production were hallmarks of ILC Asia’s Land Watch programme in 2009. Coordinated by ILC’s regional node host, ANGOC, Land Watch Asia published a book of six country reports titled Securing the Right to Land, which was disseminated to ILC members, partners and other stakeholders in the region. ANGOC, in partnership with Land Watch Asia and ILC also produced a series of issue briefs on regional entities (SAARC, ASEAN, CIRDAP, etc.) and designed a project to increase the capacities of CSOs to monitor landlessness, land conflicts, and the implementation of land-related policies and programmes in selected countries. The knowledge generated has been used in several countries to promote national dialogue processes (see LAND programme section).

Latin American Observatories
In Central America, ILC members Consejo Coordinador de Organizaciones Campesinas de Honduras (COCOCH), CONGOOP, and Nitlapan developed and implemented systems to monitor the impact of free trade agreements on smallholder farming and land tenure, and to monitor the design and implementation of agrarian policies that promote smallholder agricultural production and support peasants and social movements.

In Peru, ILC member CEPES established an observatory focusing on juridical recognition of land rights in international agreements, constitutional frameworks, and national laws. A web site has been launched with related information on articles and publications, legislation, news, opinions, statistics, and a new legal emergency service. CEPES also developed a publication, The Right to Land and International Agreements: The Case of Peru, as a direct result of its monitoring work.

Future Directions
In 2010, a main focus of LRI at the global level will be the development of the Land Portal and expansion of the Land Portal partnership. ILC will also develop a second Land Monitoring Handbook to explore existing land indicators and identify those which are most broadly useful for linking secure land rights with pro-poor land governance. At the regional and national levels, ILC will continue to support CSO-led monitoring processes in Asia and Latin America. It will also support civil society organisations in Africa to develop land monitoring initiatives to influence national, sub-regional and regional processes.

Land Alliances for National Development (LAND)
Land Alliances for National Development is a long-standing ILC global initiative aimed at strengthening country-level collaboration between government, civil society, bilateral and international stakeholders on land issues. Over the years, the programme has evolved linkages with other ILC programmes, such as the Land Reporting Initiative in Latin America and Asia, and the CALI programme in Africa, described later in this section.

Recognising the importance of evidence-based advocacy, ILC has now clearly oriented its support to CSO members toward research and generating knowledge that strengthens their advocacy and policy work, along with traditional approaches of campaigning and lobbying.

LAND Partnerships in Asia
In India, ILC member South Asia Rural Reconstruction Association (SARRA), with partners Ekta Parishad and the Association of Voluntary Agencies for Rural Development, initiated a project for the effective implementation of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers Act (2006) in three states (Bihar, Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh).

At IDEAR–CONGOOP, we have been monitoring land policy since 2001 and policies on trade and rural economies since 2005. Though we had known about other monitoring initiatives in Latin America, the ILC Assembly gave us the opportunity to combine our monitoring efforts and the resources to strengthen this work. We are now working to articulate and support areas of common interest with ILC members and partners in Central and South America.

Alberto Alonso, CONGOOP, Guatemala
CARPER implementation issues.

In Nepal, ILC member Community Self-Reliance Centre (CSRC) built on the positive results of a Land Watch project and started a project to strengthen dialogue among and between IGOs and CSOs, strengthening the national platform for policy discussion and advocacy on land and agrarian reform.

In the Philippines, the Land Watch Philippines campaign, convened jointly by ILC member ANGOC and PhilDHRRA with coalition members AR Now!, PAFID, CARRD and partner SALIGAN, shared their findings with IGO members of ILC including the World Bank and contributed to the enactment of a bill extending the land reform programme for another five years. A two-day summit was held to assess the success and impact of the Land Watch Philippines campaign, followed by a dialogue between Land Watch Philippines stakeholders and Department of Agrarian Reform officials to discuss steps to resolve land conflicts.

**LAND Partnerships in Latin America**

In Bolivia, ILC member Fundación Tierra conducted a national policy dialogue based on research on the implementation of commitments stemming from the agrarian revolution and the process of securing land rights. More than 900 participants attended the international conference co-organised by Fundación Tierra and ILC, titled “Post-Constitutional Bolivia: Land, Territory, and Indigenous Autonomies,” including government representatives and regional ILC members. Local authorities reported feeling empowered to better understand the current process of defining and establishing indigenous peoples’ and farmers’ autonomies within the evolution of the democratic State.

In Honduras, political instability occurring during 2009 affected the ongoing advocacy process to influence the national government to adopt positions favouring vulnerable small farmers’ groups. The national dialogue process in support of pro-poor land policies will resume in 2010 with new interlocutors.

**LAND Partnerships and the CALI Initiative in Africa**

In the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), ILC member Aide et Action pour la Paix (AAP) has been coordinating the engagement of CSOs working on land issues, agriculture, forestry, the environment, and mining in the national process of elaborating and implementing the recently endorsed Code Agricole. Consultations have been conducted from the local to the national level.

In Madagascar, the first phase of ILC support to member Solidarité des Intervenants sur le Foncier (SIF) for the strengthening of the civil society platform on land issues came to an end. ILC and Intercooperation Suisse jointly undertook an evaluation of the role of CSOs in the national land policy reformulation process in Madagascar, which will inform the next phase of support to civil society in Madagascar.

Within the LAND Programme, Collaborative Action on Land Issues (CALI) is a special joint initiative of ILC, IFAD, and the Belgian Fund for Food Security (BFFS; formerly the Belgian Survival Fund). This multi-year project focuses on supporting collaboration among government, civil society organisations, and rural stakeholders to address critical land tenure issues affecting the sustainable livelihoods of the rural poor. Currently, CALI projects are being implemented in Uganda and Niger. A new CALI initiative on sustainable rangeland management in Tanzania, jointly designed by the ILC Secretariat and IFAD, has been approved by BFFS.

**Influencing the CARP Extension with Reforms (CARPER) Law**

An interview with Ernie Lim, Director, AR Now!, the Philippines

In Bangladesh, ILC member Association for Land Reform and Development (ALRD) translated an abridged Land Watch country paper into the local language, Bangla, produced a video documentary for land literacy, and engaged in policy discussions with the government.

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Why is the passage of CARPER law/RA 9700 important in the Philippines?

The passage of the CARPER law or Republic Act 9700 is an important legislative milestone in the Philippines because it allows for the continued coverage of the remaining 1.1 million hectares of agricultural lands still eligible under the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP). With the continuation of Land Acquisition and Distribution under CARP for five more years, some 600,000 more landless peasants are expected to be awarded their own lands.

CARPER will also provide some PHP 12 billion for socialised credit for agrarian reform beneficiaries and another PHP 6 billion for initial capitalisation for new beneficiaries.

CARPER also contained provisions to address major CARP implementation issues. All in all, 26 reforms on CARP implementation have been introduced, including gender

provisions that strengthened and recognised the rights of women farmers to the land they till. What do you think are the key elements that led the CSO coalition and Land Watch Philippines campaign to influence the governmental decision regarding the extension of the CARPER?

I think the success of the CARPER campaign can be attributed to the following factors:

a) Exemplary commitment, dedication and willingness to sacrifice of the farmers who joined the campaign. The Sumilao, Banasi and Calagian farmers gave the campaign a “face.” The extreme suffering the farmers endured (i.e. the Sumilao march from Bukidnon to Manila, farmers going around in Manila for almost six months campaigning for CARPER and living off the charity and kindness of schools and of the church, etc.) during the campaign captured the public’s and media’s attention and sympathy.

b) Full and strong support of the Roman Catholic Church to the campaign. (Who can forget the sight of Bishop Pabillo being water-cannoned during a CARPER rally, and his declaration of a hunger strike for CARPER?)

c) Variety and expansion of a support base for the CARPER campaign from legislative champions to youth groups, artists and musicians, urban and labour groups;

d) Maintenance of relative unity of the major AR and peasant groups;

e) Outstanding technical support by legal AR groups to the legislative process; CSO lawyers and technical staff were part of legislative and executive technical working groups on the CARPER law and were in fact the ones formulating the provisions of the law; CSO groups also out-prepared anti-CARP legislators and lobby groups in developing and countering arguments for and against CARP; and

f) Personally, I believe that God was with us in this campaign.

We know that some of the results of our research have generated “mini-revolutions” inside the State, according to public functionaries themselves. Although the findings we have set forward are not always favourable to the government, in the end they have been taken into account.

Gonzalo Colque, Fundación Tierra, Bolivia
CALI Uganda
The CALI Uganda project was completed in 2009 with commendable results. ILC member Uganda Land Alliance (ULA) developed a “shadow” National Land Policy integrating the priorities and concerns of over 350 grassroots organisations into a series of proposed measures for protecting the tenure rights of the rural poor. Remarkably, over 85% of these proposed measures have reportedly been adopted in the official Draft Four of the National Land Policy.

CALI Niger
This multi-year project also achieved remarkable results in 2009, and will continue through 2010. In collaboration with governmental partner Secretariat Permanent du Code Rural (SPCR) and implemented by the IFAD-supported project “Projet de Promotion de l’Initiative Locale pour le Developpement à Aguié” (PPILDA), a pilot project to secure land rights at the village level was successfully completed, delivering 1271 land titles (2624 ha) to 879 small agricultural producers. Five local land commissions were established and equipped, and corridors for transhumance were delimited. At the national level, and in collaboration with the Dutch NGO SNV Niger, the SPCR successfully conducted public conferences and National Consultation Platform meetings, elaborated didactic materials and established a multi-actor task force aimed at creating operational tools for the decentralised implementation of the Code Rural.

In 2010, the CALI Niger project will focus on capitalising on the pilot experience to inform national debate, and implementing national-level activities to support SPCR and the decentralised institutions of the Code Rural.

CALI Tanzania, CALI Benin
The CALI Tanzania project will be implemented in collaboration with IFAD and civil society partners in the country to define, pilot and scale-up methodologies for village land use planning with mobile pastoralists. ILC will work with LandNet East Africa to provide capacity building support on tenure rights of pastoralists in the region. A CALI Benin Project has been designed and submitted for funding consideration.

Future Directions
In 2010, ILC Africa members will focus on national policy dialogues in Tanzania, Benin, Madagascar and Kenya. In Asia, ILC members participating in the Land Watch campaign will lead national policy dialogues in seven countries: India, Cambodia, Indonesia, Pakistan, Philippines, Bangladesh and Nepal. In Latin America, ILC will continue its work in Bolivia, Honduras and Nicaragua, and will start new activities in the Dominican Republic in collaboration with IFAD.

Discussion around cadastral maps – CALI Niger project

Since we received these titles, land conflicts have become rare.
Issa Imbrahima, Villager, Dan Saga

With this title, nobody else can say that this piece of land belongs to his or her father.
Amina, Villager, Dan Saga

The hope of neighbouring villages is that this experience will have a ripple effect.
Guero Chaibou, Director, PPILDA
InFLuenCInG LAnD POLICy

An interview with Esther Obaikol, Executive Director, Uganda Land Alliance

What does it mean to influence policy?
A chain of processes in which an organisation becomes effective in shaping public policy in a direction that serves the best interest of your constituents. These processes entail devising strategies for the specific policy being formulated.
ULA adopted strategies that ensured the integration of over 85% of the proposals ULA raised in the national policy.

1) Knowing what we wanted, which meant clearly identifying the problems our constituents faced and having a good understanding of the issues, making clear and realistic demands, and talking over these ideas with our constituents and other partners to gain their support. We then developed all the alternative approaches and even predicted where we would compromise in the process.

2) Making our case using very accurate and clear facts and figures. Through extensive research over the past four years, ULA had a wealth of information to justify the importance of the issues we were raising. Real life situations brought forward through the National Conference enhanced the justification for the policy issues we were influencing.

3) Knowing how government works and where in government to put our effort was crucial. ULA was on the National Land Policy Working Group, which meant that we could influence from within.

4) Building coalitions became strength in policy influence. Through CALI, ULA was able to build a coalition comprising civil society, government, the private sector and academia.

5) Making use of the media – ensuring that the issues that we raised were widely discussed in the media and thereby creating pressure on government.

What has the CALI initiative contributed to ULA and its members’ work?
The ILC/CALI initiative enabled ULA to explore new ground in policy advocacy that it had never engaged in before. Partners are now replicating this technique as a powerful advocacy tool.

The capacity of the ULA members to articulate contemporary land issues in Uganda was built.
Stakeholder participation in design and implementation enhances ownership of the process. Participation of government particularly enables acceptance of issues that would otherwise have been controversial.

The CALI project is an innovation that has greatly boosted land sector programmes, not only in terms of financing the generation of information for the National Land Policy, but in building the capacity of government and civil society to effectively respond to issues that affect their communities.

The ILC/CALI initiative provided a new approach and platform for engaging stakeholders in formulating and implementing land policy, and the process of mobilising resources for that purpose.

The promotion of collaboration between government and civil society is an innovation that has enhanced the engagement of civil society and government.
ULA is now invited to government spaces such as the review of land sector laws, the sustainable land management steering committee and the food security and nutrition working group.

Women’s Access to Land
Women’s lack of access to and control over land is a key factor contributing to rural poverty and hindering the sustainable management of resources. The percentage of land owned by women remains small, with women accessing land mainly through male relatives and not in their own right. Laws often do not provide equal status to women, and, even when they do, women’s rights are often not respected in practice. This stands in stark contrast to women’s crucial contribution to agriculture and the food security of households and communities.

ILC recognises that gender relations are power relations and therefore promotes pro-poor land governance in which poor women participate equitably as decision-makers. This means not only integrating gender considerations into all ILC activities, but also carrying out activities focused specifically on women’s access to land.

In addition to global-level advocacy work, some of the key activities in this area in 2009 have been the “Securing Women’s Access to Land: Linking Research and Action” project in eastern and southern Africa and the research contest on Women and Land held by ILC Latin America. In 2009, ILC launched a special initiative on women’s legal empowerment.

Using CEDAW as an Advocacy Tool
In 2009, the ILC Secretariat produced a publication in English and Spanish on how CSOs can use the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) as an advocacy tool. The CEDAW Infonote and the accompanying Question & Answer guide were broadly disseminated to ILC’s network of CSO members and partners around the world. The response has been positive: The CEDAW Secretariat featured the document on its website, and a partner in Nepal translated the tool into the local language. ILC plans to make these tools available in French.

In Dan Saga, poor women farmers have complete security in their land rights, which protects them from land conflicts. Now they are able to:
• Convince partners to support them in improving their piece of land;
• Invest in medium- and long-term efforts to increase productivity and diversify their production; and
• Obtain credit from micro-finance institutions for income-generating activities.

Nonetheless, to achieve these impacts, it is often necessary to accompany poor women and assist them in organizing and developing partnerships.

Guero Chaibou, Hassane Issa (PPLDA) and Maroussa Mahaman Laouali (Departmental Land Commission of Aguié) – ILC/CALI Niger
Launching Women’s Legal Empowerment Projects
At the global level, the ILC Secretariat launched a call for proposals for projects aimed at women’s legal empowerment. A total of 56 proposals were received, from which five projects were selected. The projects are currently being implemented in the Democratic Republic of Congo, India, Pakistan, and Colombia, and include such activities as raising women’s legal awareness through grassroots mobilisation, community trainings and consultations, and the provision of paralegal services.

Linking Research and Advocacy in Eastern and Southern Africa
ILC has been working with two partner organisations, the Institute for Poverty, Land and Agrarian Studies (PLAAS) and the Makerere Institute of Social Research (MISR), to support ten small action-oriented research projects in Eastern and Southern Africa. In 2009, PLAAS and MISR finalised research results and built linkages with other stakeholders; for instance, in a workshop on gender and decentralisation held in Mozambique in May, project partners shared their preliminary findings with stakeholders across Southern Africa and learned from other contexts. The advocacy phase of the programme will include advocacy workshops in Mozambique, Malawi and Uganda; development of an advocacy strategy manual; and production and dissemination of an advocacy toolbox.

Research on Women’s Access to Land in Latin America
In 2009, ILC sponsored six research studies by ILC members and partners in Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Guatemala and Chile and at the regional level. Topics included the contribution of women to agriculture and food security, women’s experiences of gaining access to land and their consequent livelihood strategies, and the existence of legal frameworks in support of equal opportunities for women to control land.

Scoping Study on Women’s Access to Land in South Asia
A scoping study on Women’s Access to Land in South Asia has been undertaken by Dhaatri Resource Center for Adivasi Women and Children. Preliminary results will be submitted in March 2010.

Women’s Land Rights: 2009 Highlights

As a cross-cutting and priority area of work for many ILC members, women’s land rights are an important focus for advocacy and action. Here, ILC members share some of the most notable results achieved in 2009 in their respective countries:

In Nepal, the government increased the waiver of land registration fees for women from 20 percent to 25 percent. This incentive has resulted in 29% of land transactions being registered under women’s names. –CSRC Report

In the Philippines, CARP implementation included gender provisions that recognise and strengthen the rights of women farmers to the land they till. –AR Now!

Future Directions
In 2010, ILC will build on the ongoing work of promoting women’s legal empowerment, including how to support bottom-up mechanisms that strengthen women’s access to land and land tenure security. Knowledge sharing will be improved through the development and dissemination of evidence-based advocacy tools, based on the project in eastern and southern Africa and others, and a new blog on women’s land rights. The project in eastern and southern Africa will also be the focus of a peer-to-peer learning exercise (Learning Route) in 2010, the follow-up to which will include supporting advocacy activities at the national level to complement the research project. In Asia, ILC members will convene a regional conference on women’s access to land and develop thematic bulletins and publications. Finally, a publication on women, land and rural development will be produced and two regional round-table discussions on gender and agriculture will be held in Colombia and Nicaragua, bringing together CSOs and policy makers.

Indigenous Peoples’ and Pastoralists’ Rights to Land and Territories
An estimated 350 million indigenous peoples (IP) represent approximately 5% of the global population and 15% of the world’s poor. Tenure insecurity is a major root cause of poverty and food insecurity in indigenous communities. Many indigenous peoples lack legal recognition of their right to live on the lands they inhabit and to use the resources on which they depend for subsistence.

Pastoralists inhabit some of the harshest and most variable environments in the world. Nearly 25% of the world’s land area is used by nearly 200 million pastoral households, who produce ten percent of the world’s meat. There is a great diversity of land tenure arrangements amongst pastoral groups around the world, ranging from formalised private ownership to customary communal arrangements. When legal recognition is absent, pastoralists’ mobile livelihoods make them particularly vulnerable to losing rights to other competing interests. Tenure security is the necessary basis for sustainable management of often fragile rangeland resources.

Participation in Fora on Indigenous Peoples’ Issues
The ILC Secretariat participated in the Inter-Agency Support Group (IASG) on Indigenous Issues during the IASG meeting convened by UN-HABITAT and ILC member UNEP. ILC also took part in a workshop to develop indicators related to the traditional use of land, hosted by the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII).

The ILC Secretariat was represented by ANGOC at a regional workshop organised by the Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights involving national human rights institutions (NHRIs) in the promotion and implementation of the rights contained in the
for Conservation and Protection of Environment (SCOPE), brought together policy makers, scientists, IGOs and CSOs representing farmers, land tenants and agricultural labourers to discuss the linkages between land governance, land degradation and rural poverty. Case studies were presented by ILC members CSRC (Nepal), SCOPE (Pakistan), and CEPES (Peru) and ILC partner EMG (South Africa).

At the UNCCD-COP9 side event, ILC issued two calls for action:

1. That the COP recognise the importance of land governance in addressing challenges posed by desertification, land degradation and drought (DLDD) by placing the issue high on the UNCCD agenda, both from a science and a policy perspective; and

2. That the UNCCD support partnerships aimed at designing and implementing practical land governance responses to DLDD challenges, in areas such as action research and the scaling up of best practices.

Future Directions
ILC has developed a concept paper for a pilot programme on land governance responses to desertification and land degradation challenges and is seeking partnerships. The proposed pilot programme aims at contributing to a better understanding of the linkages between secure access to land, land degradation and poverty, and how improved land governance could contribute to addressing land degradation and rural poverty challenges.

Addressing Land Conflicts
In 2009, land conflicts and conflict resolution were a priority theme for ILC’s Asia Regional Platform, and were a focus for members in Latin America as well.

Documenting Land Conflicts
A series of member-led initiatives sought to identify and document land conflicts in Asia. In the Philippines, ILC members PAFID, ANGOC and AR Now are identifying, analysing and documenting key intersectoral land-related conflict cases. In India, ILC member Society for Development of Drought Prone Areas (SDDPA) is documenting intersectoral land-related conflict cases. In Indonesia, ILC member Consortium for Agrarian Reform (KPA) is gathering data on the distribution, characteristics, groups affected and types of agrarian conflicts that occurred in the provinces of North Sumatera, Bengkulu, West Java and Central Sulawesi.

Knowledge Sharing to Improve Land Conflict Resolution
In the Philippines, ILC member PAFID is contributing to the management and resolution of conflicting land policies by documenting its experiences in piloting land conflict resolution methods in two communities. In Latin America, 18 ILC members explored innovative techniques for land conflict resolution in March,

UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).

32 representatives of NHRIs, IP groups and UN Agencies joined in the workshop. Follow-up actions identified were: a) networking of NHRIs through regional mechanisms and an international coordinating committee of NHRIs and IPs; b) capacity building focusing on the critical role of NHRIs and regional organisations in protecting and promoting the rights of IPs; and c) policy work to urge government to review legislation hindering the implementation of UNDRIP.

Documenting Pastoralists’ Land Rights
Pastoralists’ land rights are a special focus of the CALI projects being implemented in the rangeland zones of East Africa and the Sahel. In both Benin and Tanzania, the objective of the projects is to pilot methods of land certification that are inclusive of pastoralists and other marginalised populations.

Conference on Territorial Rights in Latin America
Indigenous peoples’ territorial rights are a focus of ILC’s Latin America platform. In keeping with this theme, ILC’s second regional conference in Latin America focused on “Land and Territories: Rights, Dynamics and Trends”. ILC members along with representatives of the ILO, REAF, RIMISP and IUCN participated in the conference.

Future Directions
ILC will build strategic alliances to support the implementation of UNDRIP at national level, participating in the Inter-Agency Support Group in support of the UN Permanent Forum for Indigenous Issues. ILC plans to develop a report on the multiple ways indigenous peoples access, use and protect land, territories and resources. It will also explore the challenges that commercial pressures on land and climate change pose to indigenous peoples’ continued use of these resources. A special emphasis will be given to conflict over natural resources in Asia; new challenges of indigenous autonomy and self-determined development in Latin America; and pastoralist land rights in Africa. In 2010, ILC will support a global gathering of pastoralist women in India.

Climate Change and Desertification
Climate change and desertification is a new and growing area of focus for ILC. Work in this area promotes more widespread recognition of the linkages between secure access to land, land degradation and climate change.

ILC Calls for Improved Land Governance at the UNCCD-COP9
In September, ILC inaugurated its work on climate change and desertification, hosting a side event on “Desertification, Land Governance and Poverty” at the 9th Conference of Parties (COP-9) of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The event, organised by the ILC Secretariat in collaboration with the UNCCD Secretariat, the Global Mechanism, the UNDP Drylands Development Centre, and ILC member Society...
visiting and learning from four experiences with participatory cartography and legal assistance for land conflict resolution in Ecuador and Bolivia.

**Future Directions**

In Africa, ILC will develop and implement a new pilot programme to address land-related conflicts. In Asia, a summary report will present the findings of the country case studies on land conflict. Trainings on land conflict management are planned to strengthen the capacities of ILC members and partners in the region.

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**Addressing Land Conflicts in Indonesia**

An interview with Iwan Nurdin, Deputy Secretary for Research and Campaigns, KPA, Indonesia

Why is it important to document land conflicts as a step to help poor rural people in gaining or protecting their land rights?

Many land conflicts in Indonesia are caused by the existing law. The current law of the land (including laws on forests, agriculture, mining, and housing) has resulted in too much land provided for enterprise and too little land for the people. This situation creates many land conflicts. Documenting these conflicts allows us:

1. To show the public how land conflicts have harmed many groups including farmers, indigenous peoples, women and fisher folk. These images encourage the public to be more aware and care about the need for agrarian reform as the answer to land conflict.

2. To describe the roles and procedures of courts, government and other state bodies in resolving current conflicts. This information supports KPA’s campaign on the importance of building an agrarian conflict resolution body that is fair to the people, so recourse is not only possible through the courts.

How would you summarise the preliminary findings of your study?

The Agrarian Resource Center (ARC) team is collecting data on agrarian conflicts at national and provincial levels. Data are drawn from those agrarian conflicts known to KPA members or recorded in mass media news articles. KPA groups these data based on the type of land being contested (i.e., agricultural, forestry, plantation, mining, or coastal land) and based on the victim (i.e., peasants, women, indigenous peoples, fisher folk).

In land conflict cases where peasants are arrested or their rights are violated, KPA sends lawyers to these areas. Furthermore, the ARC at national level will campaign to publicise this case in the mass media to get support from society.

**SUMMARY DATA 2009**

This year, KPA recorded 89 cases of agrarian conflict, with areas under conflict measuring at least 133,278,79 hectares and no fewer than 7,585 households affected directly by the conflicts. These numbers account for only a small fraction of all land conflicts, many of which go unreported. This year, there were reports of the killing of three peasants of Bangun Purba, Rokan Hulu, who were beaten to death by a company guard. Between May and December, 24 peasants were reported shot by police.

Violent approaches are increasingly used to deal with land conflicts, in the place of mediation. This is a main priority in dealing with agrarian conflict cases. The Memorandum of Understanding between the National Land Agency and Police Headquarters is one reason why police are increasingly intervening in agrarian conflicts. Peasant criminalisation has been an unintended consequence of this agreement.

The thousands of casualties every year among people affected by agrarian conflict send two clear messages: the people’s widespread distrust of existing legal institutions, and the massive popular demand for agrarian reform.

KPA’s response has been to form a National Commission for Solving Agrarian Conflict, as has been recommended by the National Commission of Human Rights and civil society.
LEARNING, CAPACITY BUILDING, & EXCHANGE

Learning, capacity building, and exchange are a key part of ILC’s work at the global, regional and national levels. As a land rights network with a diverse and growing membership, ILC is uniquely positioned to promote effective knowledge sharing among its members and to communicate this rich collective knowledge base to stakeholders beyond the ILC network.

2009 was a watershed year for ILC knowledge sharing and communications. ILC’s regional platforms gained strength and initiated new regional activities that brought members together to facilitate joint learning. Work at the global level saw the realisation of new tools long under development, building a foundation for continued gains in the years to come.

Learning Together
Asia Regional Workshop on Land Rights Advocacy
ILC’s new regional platforms have begun to explore opportunities to come together as a community of practice to exchange experiences and learn on topics of mutual interest. In Asia, ILC member ANGOC, with the support of PAFID, CARRD, AR Now!, TFM, and IFAD’s Philippine Liaison Office, organised a regional training of trainers on Land Rights Advocacy for twenty land rights activists from Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, the Philippines, and Sri Lanka.

Learning Path and Internship Programme in Latin America
The Latin America regional platform launched two new programmes for knowledge exchange and learning in 2009. In collaboration with ILC member PROCASUR, the first “learning path” was held in March. The “learning path” is an innovative methodology through which participants learn by visiting and analysing a series of related experiences on a given theme. Additional support was provided through an e-learning community set up by PROCASUR to provide access to information on the learning path. ILC is continuing to build on this approach in future activities. A regional internship/exchange programme was also launched, and nine interns (staff members of ILC member organisations selected in a competitive process) visited other ILC member organisations in the region to learn from their work on land and territorial rights.

Partnership with GLTN on a Grassroots Mechanism for Scaling Up Community-led Initiatives
In November, ILC partnered with member Global Land Tool Network (GLTN) to organise a workshop on the development of a “Grassroots Mechanism” to counter the often top-down nature of land policy formulation with a mechanism to identify and scale up successful approaches developed by local communities. ILC members Social Development Foundation (SDF), and Task Force Mapalad (TFM), along with partners HARDI and ORAM, participated in the workshop in Kenya, using their experiences to inform the GLTN plan for the initiative.

Support to Learning and Empowerment Projects
In 2009, ILC supported a number of capacity building and empowerment projects at the local and grassroots level, building on its work with grassroots groups through the Community Empowerment Facility (1998-2008).

In India, ILC member SDF expanded the outreach of Uttar Pradesh Land Alliance by creating a National Land Alliance. SDF has undertaken land literacy workshops in five Indian states, achieving remarkable results in mobilising marginalised communities and attracting emerging leaders in the communities, particularly among women and youth.

In Peru, ILC members CEPES and Grupo ALLPA trained legal outreach staff to empower remote communities in Peru’s Huancavelica region to defend their communal property rights, both by resolving internal conflicts within communal property systems, and by building communities’ capacities to defend their rights against outside groups including mining interests.

Future Directions
Learning, capacity building and exchange will be a strong focus for ILC in 2010 and beyond. Two learning paths are planned in Latin America, and the first cross-regional learning path, on women’s access to land, will be held in Uganda and Kenya. In Asia, members will conduct trainings on key themes of regional importance such as

LAND RIGHTS ADVOCACY TRAINING
Interview with Abdul Waheed, Coordinator of Monitoring and Evaluation, SCOPE, Pakistan
Participant, ILC-Asia regional training

How would you describe land rights advocacy? What are its most important elements?
In countries such as Pakistan, land rights advocacy is a useful tool to bring all the stakeholders together in one platform, where their voices can be raised for agrarian reform. Land is increasingly being treated as a commodity. Competition for land, especially in developing countries, has become even more intense in the last few years. This is clearly manifested by the slew of land deals, either between governments or between governments and private interests, whereby farmland in developing countries is bought or leased to produce food for the buyer or lessor country.

Now, a few months after the training, what is the most important thing you have retained from the event?
A land rights advocacy campaign strategy involves linking up with other local organisations, intellectuals, media, farmers, institutions and international organisations that carry out similar advocacy work. Networks can be formed to address social change; promote institutional sustainability; share resources; gain a higher profile for programmes of research, advocacy and action; achieve greater administrative efficiency; and mobilise public interest on issues.
participatory approaches to improving land access and food security. Regional exchange and internship programs will take place in Asia and Latin America. ILC will also continue to work in partnership with the GLTN, Huairou Commission, Hakijamii and Slum Dwellers International to support grassroots innovation and scaling up of land-related initiatives. Finally, ILC is actively promoting a Phase II for its flagship Community Empowerment Facility (CEF) initiative to support innovative grassroots and community-level empowerment projects.

ILC Communications
Effective communications capacity and strategies make it possible for members to share knowledge within and beyond the ILC network. ILC communications activities encompass a variety of tools, products, media, and technologies used to strengthen the Coalition’s work in areas such as advocacy and dialogue, capacity building, knowledge sharing and innovation.

CEF DVD and Brochure
ILC produced 500 copies of an interactive DVD and brochure titled Secure Land Rights, Local Innovations and Empowerment: CEF Programme Experiences 1999-2008. The DVD aims to share the knowledge arising from the ten years and 52 projects of the Community Empowerment Facility and to illustrate the linkages between secure access to land and empowerment.

ILC Launches New Websites and Blogs
ILC launched a new, more user-friendly global website on a platform that allows for greater interactivity. The website is updated on nearly a daily basis with opportunities, news, events and publications. The ILC-America Latina regional website was launched in October 2009 and has greatly increased the sharing of Spanish-language content. In Asia, an ILC Asia blog was launched in October and is managed by the regional node. As mentioned earlier, ILC’s Commercial Pressures on Land (CPL) blog and weekly news digest have attracted new viewers from around the world, signalling the strong interest that exists around CPL issues. The blog receives over 4000 hits a month.

Knowledge for Change and Institutional Publications
ILC expanded production of its Knowledge for Change series of publications on topics such as Commercial Pressures on Land, Legal Empowerment, and Land Rights Monitoring. As mentioned previously, ILC also published an Infonote on how to use CEDAW as an advocacy tool. Finally, ILC published its 2009 Assembly of Members report and a Biennial Report.

Electronic bulletins
The ILC Secretariat produces a monthly bulletin to members, partners, and donors to share news on activities, upcoming events, and grants disbursed. Similarly, ILC Asia and ILC Latin America also disseminate monthly or bi-monthly bulletins to share information regionally. Globally, ILC produced a special edition newsletter on its 2009 Assembly of Members (AoM) in Nepal.

Media relations

Future directions
ILC is working to improve interactivity between members and partners through online collaborative tools, and by expanding the reach of its global, regional, and thematic newsletters and blogs. New Knowledge for Change publications are also in development, to be co-published by the ILC Secretariat and members.

ILC is pleased to congratulate Mr. Erpan Faryadi of Indonesia as the winner of the 2009 “ILC Photo of the Year” contest.

According to Mr. Faryadi, the winning photo was “taken during the recent 2009 International Human Rights Day in December, 2009, in Jakarta, Indonesia, where farmers protested against land grabs and demanded land rights and land reform to be implemented.”

He hopes the photo “will share the vision of ILC as an international forum for pro-people land rights policies.”
ILC strives to be an ever stronger, more member-driven, and more sustainable Coalition. This year was marked by the achievement of important milestones toward this goal, including a successful Global Assembly of Members, expansion and diversification of the membership, and adoption of a new ILC Charter.

**2009 Conference and Assembly of Members**

Every two years, ILC members from around the world gather together for the global Assembly of Members. The event serves as a biennial forum for knowledge sharing, exchange, and debate on land-related issues. It also enables members to discuss and make decisions related to the Coalition’s governance and membership.

In 2009, the fourth biennial Assembly of Members was held in Kathmandu, Nepal, under the theme of Securing Rights to Land for Peace and Food Security. The event brought together 177 participants from 37 countries, representing civil society, farmers’ organisations, social movements, trade unions, research institutes, government agencies, and intergovernmental organisations. During the Assembly, members discussed issues such as 21st-century agrarian reform, land policies of multilateral and bilateral donors, women’s land rights and increasing commercial pressures on land. A new ILC charter and membership contribution policy were presented at the event, and 19 new members were formally accepted into the Coalition. A full report on the Assembly is available in English, Spanish, and French on the ILC website.

**Expanding the Membership**

The following 19 new members were welcomed into the Coalition this year:

**AFRICA**
- ReBeSeF/GDT, Benin
- MOBOSCUDA, Cameroon
- CODELT, Congo
- RISD, Rwanda
- SIF, Madagascar
- TRALSO, South Africa

**ASIA**
- ARBAN, Bangladesh
- MGSA/Ekta Parishad, India
- JKS, India
- CDS, Nepal
- AR Now!, Philippines
- CARRD, Philippines
- PAFID, Philippines

**LATIN AMERICA**
- FUNDAPAZ, Argentina
- CINEP, Colombia
- PROCASUR, Chile/regional
- IBC, Peru

**GLOBAL/OTHER**
- NACFPA, Albania
- Terra Institute, US-based

**New Charter and Governance Framework**

In November, ILC members approved a new Charter and Governance Framework. The Charter represents the culmination of a revision and approval process involving the entire ILC membership. Ultimately, 73% of members voted to approve the Charter in an electronic consultation, and no rejection or abstention votes were received. This decision was endorsed by the Coalition Council at its December meeting. The Charter reaffirms the guiding purpose of the Coalition and its mission and vision. It also defines the Coalition’s governance structure and the roles and responsibilities of ILC’s Members, Coalition Council, Regional Platforms, and Secretariat. Notably, a new category of Strategic Partners is now established to recognize key organisations that share the Coalition’s core values and support or collaborate in its work.
In 2010, ILC faces challenges on two fronts: the delivery of the annual work plan, which nearly completes the implementation of the current 2007-2011 Strategic Framework; and the formulation of a new four-year Strategic Framework. This new framework will chart ILC’s course for engagement into new areas and reposition the Coalition in some traditional focus areas in light of lessons learned over recent years and the changing contexts under which ILC operates.

To strengthen ILC's work to empower the poor, the following three key areas will be considered for possible ILC initiatives:

- **Phase 2 of the Community Empowerment Facility (CEF):** ILC will continue to promote the CEF initiative implemented from 1999 to 2008, which benefited more than 50 grassroots-level community organisations, including many civil society groups that have since become ILC members. ILC will also further promote the DVD and brochure that was produced in 2009 to document and share experiences from CEF-Phase 1. The second phase would respond to the growing demand for the types of support ILC provided under this initiative.

- **Legal empowerment:** Enabling the poor to more capably utilize laws, legal systems, and legal services to advance their rights is likely to become one of ILC’s key areas of work in the coming years. The recent Report of the UN Commission on Legal Empowerment of the Poor entitled Making the Law Work for Everyone and the 2009 UN General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution on Legal Empowerment of the Poor create more favourable conditions for a coherent ILC engagement in this area. In 2010, the ILC Secretariat will prepare a note for discussion as an input into the preparation of the 2011-2015 Strategic Framework. Outreach to potential partners such as UNDP’s Bureau for Development Policy and the International Development Law Organization will be made to consider instituting the land-related provisions of the above-mentioned UNGA Resolution.

- **Legal assistance fund:** In recent months, many land advocacy leaders have faced brutality, including murders. As a result, the ILC Secretariat has sometimes been asked to issue a statement or message of solidarity, to provide legal support, or to provide humanitarian assistance. In 2010 the ILC Secretariat will assess the feasibility of establishing a Legal Assistance Fund to prepare the Coalition to better respond to the requests mentioned above.

Additionally, ILC will examine its effectiveness with regards to land governance and our role as a knowledge network. Specific activities include:

- **Land governance responses to desertification and land degradation.** In 2010, ILC will assess the possibility of using land governance as a “problem-solver.” The theme of land degradation and desertification, major threats to secured land access for the poor, will be the focus of a pilot programme that explores the possibility of using land governance to contribute to solving key development challenges posed by these factors. The reversal of land degradation trends both increases the resilience of communities using the land in line with changing climate conditions while also contributing to the mitigation of climate change. A series of contacts are being established with UNDP’s Bureau for Development Policy, UN Division for Sustainable Development, and UNCCD as well as with relevant research centres for a possible joint programme.

- **Strengthening ILC as a knowledge network.** While ILC aims to be a knowledge network, coordinated and sustained efforts are needed for ILC to truly serve as a hub of knowledge generation and sharing. A discussion note for strengthening ILC’s role as a knowledge network will be prepared as part of the formulation of the new strategic framework. In the meantime, a series of studies on pressures on land and on emerging issues in the land debates will be completed in 2010. Efforts to launch the Land Portal and to support the Land Watch initiative will also contribute to this objective.

In 2010, ILC will also pursue its long-term engagement in areas such as the facilitation of national level dialogues on land issues, global advocacy to ensure that land issues remain high at the global agenda, and empowering members (especially civil society and farmer organisations) to play a more visible and effective role in processes affecting their land. Gender aspects and Indigenous Peoples’ issues will remain ILC focus areas, and efforts towards developing effective evidence-based advocacy tools will continue. The new areas of work or of emphasis — in legal empowerment of the poor, on the possible use of land governance as means of responding to development challenges faced by the poor, and on strengthening ILC as a knowledge network — are all aimed at ensuring ILC’s continued relevance in a rapidly changing context.
Donors

ILC would like to thank the following donors for their generous support in 2009:

Belgian Fund for Food Security (BFFS)
Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)
European Commission (EC)
Kingdom of the Netherlands
International Development Research Centre (IDRC)

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD)
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)

Civil Society Organisations

Community Self-Reliance Centre (CSRC)
Nepal
Mr Jagat Basnet

Consejo Coordinador de Organizaciones Campesinas de Honduras (COCOCH)
Honduras
Mr Marvin Ponce

Grupo ALLPA
Peru
Mr Laureano Del Castillo

The International Union of Food, Agricultural, Hotel, Restaurant, Catering, Tobacco and Allied Workers' Associations (IUF)
Switzerland
Ms Sue Longley

Jaringan Kerja Pemetaan Partisipatif (JKPP)
Indonesia
Mr Albertus Hadi Pramono

Kenya Land Alliance (KLA)
Kenya
Mr Odenda Lumumba

Secours Populaire Français (SPF)
France
Mr Menotti Bottazzi

Zambia Land Alliance (ZLA)
Zambia
Mr Henry Machina

Intergovernmental Organisations

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
Mr Paul Mathieu

International Food Policy Institute (IFPRI)
Ms Ruth Meinzen-Dick

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
Mr Jean-Philippe Audinet

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Ms Wahida Shah

World Agroforestry Center (ICRAF)
Mr Frank Place

World Bank
Mr Malcolm Childress
The International Land Coalition Annual Report 2009

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The ILC Secretariat also wishes to thank the following people for their contributions in 2009:

Cecilia Alarcon, Tim Bending, Giulia de Robert, Stefano Di Gessa, Elisa Di Stefano, Stephan Dohrn, Alexis Jones, Dunia Mennella, Laura Meggiolano, Adelirene Monge, Anne Rabier, Tony Quizon, Eirini Saridaki, Michelle Tang, and Barbara Zatllokal.
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS’ STATEMENT

We conducted our audit [of the Financial Statements of the International Land Coalition] in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the International Land Coalition as of 31 December 2009, and of the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.

Rome, 15 April 2010
PricewaterhouseCoopers SpA

Balance Sheet
As at 31 December 2009 and 2008 (expressed in United States Dollars)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assets</td>
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<td>Cash</td>
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<td>Contributions receivable</td>
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<td>Interfund receivables</td>
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<td>Other receivables</td>
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<td>Total Assets</td>
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<td>5,899,725</td>
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<tr>
<td>Liabilities and Equity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Payables and liabilities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Undisbursed grants</td>
<td>486,170</td>
<td>498,158</td>
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<td>Interfund payables</td>
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<td>Deferred contribution revenues</td>
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<td>Retained earnings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Liabilities and Equity</td>
<td>8,564,255</td>
<td>5,899,725</td>
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</table>

Statement of Comprehensive Income
For the years ended 31 December 2009 and 2008 (expressed in United States Dollars)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenues</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions revenues</td>
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<td>Interest income</td>
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<td>83,592</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Revenues</td>
<td>3,037,873</td>
<td>3,329,072</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff salaries and benefits</td>
<td>(1,104,738)</td>
<td>(1,008,297)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Consultants and other non-staff costs</td>
<td>(285,836)</td>
<td>(330,365)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office and general expenses</td>
<td>(650,162)</td>
<td>(440,206)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bank Charges</td>
<td>(3,720)</td>
<td>(2,127)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grant expenses</td>
<td>(1,242,573)</td>
<td>(1,548,077)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Expenses</td>
<td>(3,287,029)</td>
<td>(3,329,072)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Provision for after-service medical scheme benefits</td>
<td>249,156</td>
<td>–</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Comprehensive (Loss)/Income</td>
<td>(3,037,873)</td>
<td>(3,329,072)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Other Comprehensive Income</td>
<td>(56,868)</td>
<td>355,597</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Comprehensive Income</td>
<td>(56,868)</td>
<td>355,597</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Land is might, land is right,
land is water, land is shelter,
land is dignity, land is honour,
land is our mother.

Let us promise each other,
that it will not be for barter,
let us unite to save it from exploiters.

Women need forests,
women need water,
access to education
and to power,
freedom from bondage,
freedom from hunger.

Let us bring them ‘honour’.
land to women
is actually revolution
as it saves children
from malnutrition,
and makes family function.

Vidya Bhushan Rawat

Drawn from the words of women at a workshop
on women’s land rights in Uttar Pradesh