

THE FORUM'S VISION

Democratic governance and equitable social, gender and environmental justice enjoyed/flourishing through Asia and the Pacific region

THE FORUM'S MISSION

Enhance the capacities of Civil Society Organizations and movements in Asia Pacific to amplify their struggles against ADB policies, projects and programs that threaten people's lives, the environment, and their communities.

WHAT WE DO ?

The NGO Forum on ADB is a network of civil society organizations (CSOs) that has been monitoring the projects, programs and policies of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB).

The Forum has been active since 1992.

The forum has been assisting project, program and/or policy-specific campaigns led by its members, and has been conducting capacity building workshops.

NGO Forum on ADB neither accepts money from the ADB nor is it in any way part of it.

The Forum Secretariat is based in Quezon City, Philippines.



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MESSAGE FROM THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENER



Asia is continent with 48 countries home to the population of 4.4 billion people. Two thirds of the world's poor lives in Asia. 1.4 billion (31%) people still live on less than \$2 a day. 850 million people still lack access to safe drinking water and 2 billion people lack access to improved sanitation. Meantime, over 100 million children under 5 are underweight. Further, 1 child in 20 dies before reaching age 5.

The Asian Development Bank is reaching 50 years by 2017. When the Asian development Bank established in 1966, the Asia Population was only 1.9 billion. The poverty level was almost 40%. Despite the fact that over 20 billion dollars pouring into the region the poverty levels still has not so much developed.

The ADB defines itself as a social development organization that is dedicated to reducing poverty in Asia

and the Pacific through inclusive economic growth environmentally sustainable growth and regional integration. However, ADB is a bank with interest of profit making and providing opportunities for the developed county businesses, consultancy firms and experts. It is an entity that advocates neoliberal policies for market driven development.

According to the ADB, the Asia region will need an estimated \$8.22 trillion of infrastructure investment for the current decade due to diversity of demands and factors such as rapid urbanization. Such estimates have no public engagement at all. However the AIIB is coming to rescue or compete ADB for this development business.

Since 2015, Forum started engaging the Asia Infrastructure Investment Bank(AIIB) to make sure that no weaker safeguard in their investments in the region. Forum believes that there should be minimum and uncompromised safeguards, transparency and accountability despite which financial institution is involve in infrastructure investments in the region.

Norman Chomsky wrote "A basic principle of modern state capitalism is that the costs and risks are socialized while profit is privatized". The ADB is a major driver of this paradigm. While the countries infrastructure is getting better, all the burrowing countries have increased the debts. Disregard of ADB policies and mechanisms, infrastructure projects have increased social and environmental risks and displacement of people have make their life harder. Failure to manage poverty in the region, still push for borrowing making countries more into the debt trap. This vicious cycle is never ending under the current growth based paradigm.

Although we are in the Asian region our development model is coming from the west. In the era of multi crisis including climate, food crisis, social and political, the world has one more time given Sustainable development Goals targets, but with no paradigm shift. As a regional bank ADB will undoubtedly push the same development model for meeting these targets.

Countries such ad Bhutan in the region have become happiest county in the world, and carbon negative country by following own models. I believe region has lot to learn from Bhutan rather than ADB officials.

Civil society organizations lead by the NGO Forum on ADB has been monitoring and engaging the Bank since 1989 to push for better safeguards, accountability and disclosure. Forum has been successful in highlighting the social and environmental risks, however not able to shift ADB development model. I believe it is time for the CSOs to further unite the civil society to push for an Asian development model.

Forum with over 250 members is the only network in the region to watch the ADB. The continuous support and interest of Forum members is most valuable to this Network. We need more and more ADB watchers in Asia-Pacific, Europe and the United States to make sure that communities do not become the victims of development. In this occasion I thank all Forum members and well wishers for their continuous support and contributions.

I would also like to express deep appreciation for the financial assistance provided by Charles Stuart Mott Foundation, Oxfam Australia, 11.11.11 Coalition of the Flemish North and South Movement, Heinrich Boell Foundation, The Sunrise Project, and Siemenpuu Foundation.

We thank them for keeping their trust on us and interest on our ADB-related advocacy.

I thank International Committee members, Eduardo Tadem (The Philippines), Titi Soentoro (Indonesia), Eang Vuthy(Cambodia) , Urantsooj Gombosuren (Mongolia), Silva Adamyan (Armenia), Kazi Zaved Khalid Pasha (Bangladesh), Yuki Tanabe (Japan) and Ryan Schlief(United States) who played a key role in keeping the Forum alive and leading the Network during difficult times.

I also thank Forum Secretariat, Rayyan Hassan, Lala Cantillo, Ronald Masayda, Annabel Perreras, Mayang Guerrero Azurin, Jen Derillo-Santos and Heidi Nicolas for keeping eye on ADB and bridging the gap between the ADB and the local communities. Without their support it is difficult to bring the local community voices on the policy instruments as well as the project impacts. I also thank the Philippine Civil society movement for having Forum with them.



HEMANTHA WITHANAGE
International Convenor





47th ADB Annual Governors Meeting (AGM) in Astana, Kazakhstan

From broad civil society assemblies in Bangkok to closed-door dialogues and public consultations in Manila to high-level negotiations in Washington DC, the NGO Forum on ADB parlayed its body of work and institutional expertise to achieve several political gains. Forum registered a trifecta of safeguard achievements through its parallel engagement with the Asian Development Bank, World Bank and emerging multilateral banks such as the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), through a platform called the Asian People's Safeguards (APS).

At the ADB front, the Membership and Secretariat jointly worked on:

1. the evaluation of the Bank's environmental and social safeguards implementation
2. accountability related to project complaints filed before the Bank
3. energy through an end-ADB coal investment campaign
4. post-Millennium Development Goals 2015 in the context of ADB's Strategy 2020, and
5. water through an Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) research.

Further boosting its alliance-building, the Network successfully reconnected with groups from China for collaborative monitoring of and engagement with the ADB and other international financial institutions

(IFIs). It also coalesced with Asian and international civil society networks on global issues that pertain to capital flows, human rights, safeguards and climate justice. These include the World Bank's (WB) on-going safeguard policy review; and the rise of multilateral institutions such as the China-led AIIB and BRICS New Development Bank (NDB).

At the 47th ADB Annual Governors Meeting (AGM) in Astana, Kazakhstan last May, the Network's role as a relevant stakeholder earned a mention from the ADB President. He acknowledged Forum's long-time engagement in Safeguards issues during his yearly meeting with CSOs. The Bank president promised that CSOs will be proactively consulted in all major policy reviews based on the ADB Board-approved Strategy 2020 mid-term review. As a result, ADB scheduled an exclusive presentation of their internal evaluation findings with Forum members in August. Forum also made other demands such as full disclosure of the disbursement of US\$500 million Yolanda rehabilitation loan to the Philippine government, and a clearer mechanism governing ground implementation of ADB policies.

The network held two (2) CSO panels to critique the failings of Strategy 2020 in the achievement of MDGs, as well as, the policy gaps of the 2009 Safeguards Policy Statement (SPS). Organized by representatives from Center for Environmental Justice -Sri Lanka, Center for Human Rights

Development - Mongolia, Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement, Center of Bird Lovers - Armenia and the Secretariat, both panels were well-attended.

Banking on its inside-outside strategy in the second half of 2014, Forum Members and Partners participated in high-level negotiations, consultations, panel discussions and protest actions to urge ADB and WB to adopt upwards harmonization of the best safeguard standards among IFIs, as well as greater, and not diluted, safeguard protection for communities and ecosystems.

These events included:

1. ADB Safeguards Review Lobby in Manila
2. WB Safeguards Strategy Meeting in Bangkok, WB Group Annual Meeting - Safeguards Consultation, Washington DC
3. 2nd ADB Regional Country Safeguard Systems Workshop, Manila
4. World Bank Global Consultation in Manila, and;
5. Asian People's Safeguards Meeting: Platform for Action Meeting in Bangkok.

Forum's lobby efforts produced a most significant result in the form of verbal commitments from key Board members and Management officials that there will be no dilution of the current SPS. They assured that if there will be a policy update or revision, the process will not happen until 2017. Another positive outcome of this activity was the first time engagement of the Forum with the executive director of China in a long while. In addition, the US Treasury had a close-door meeting with Forum members in September for a discussion on the parallel safeguard review processes of the ADB and World Bank, as well as China's growing role in the global aid architecture.

In November, Forum together with Focus on the Global South, Jubilee South Asia Pacific Movement on Debt and Development, Green Watershed - China, and Alyansa Tigil Mina - Philippines successfully organized an Asian People's Safeguards (APS): Platform for Action meeting in Bangkok.



A broad assembly of more than 40 activists that champion a gamut of thematic/sectoral issues---human rights, Indigenous People, gender, children, PWD, core labor standards, climate change and sexual orientation gender and identity expression (SOGIE) ---under the environmental and social safeguards banner formed a civil society coalition, which obligates public and financial institutions, as well as governments to raise the bar of safeguard shields vis-à-vis development financing in Asia.

Project monitoring-wise, member organizations assisted project-affected communities in gaining ample space for dialogue or grievance with the Bank on high-profile cases. These are Cambodia's Railway Rehabilitation Project monitored by Equitable Cambodia, Inclusive Development International and Mekong Watch, as well as India's Tata Mundra Ultra Mega Coal Project monitored by Bank Information Center (BIC) and the Gujarat-based MASS or the Association for the Struggle for Fishworkers' Rights.

Another major Forum output was the production of an omnibus citizen journalism video documentary, as well as counterpart country documentaries and narrative case studies on six Asian river basins negatively impacted by ADB's Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM).

Water campaigners from Initiative for Right View - Bangladesh, Water Initiatives Odisha - India, KRuHA - Indonesia, Freedom from Debt Coalition (FDC) - Philippines, WARECOD - Vietnam, and Ratan Bandhari/Rashmi Kiran Shrestha from Nepal were involved with the "Strengthening South-South Networking to Promote "Water Democracy" in Asia" project.

On capacity building, a Mekong Dialogue was held to assess needs in terms of developing NGO capabilities and create strategic collaboration between Forum and Mekong civil society to engage with ADB.

1 POLICY ADVOCACY

ENVIRONMENTAL and SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS

Forum was able to leverage the political gains of its decades-long work on ADB Safeguards in lobbying the Board of Directors and high-ranking Management officials to make the operational review of the Safeguard Policy Statement (SPS) more inclusive of civil society inputs, particularly Forum's.

ADB LOBBY AND DIALOGUE

In the first half of 2014, Forum stepped up its Safeguards campaign with the ultimate goal of ensuring the non-dilution of the 2009 SPS. It carried on with its policy intervention, in terms of process and substance.

A number of the Forum's resident Safeguard campaigners dialogued and communicated with the Bank on the following grounds:

- (a) conduct and progress of the operational review
- (b) non-dilution of the SPS so that it remains protective of communities and ecosystems, and;
- (c) better civil society participation in the operational review.

Parallel to the lobby efforts, Forum sent official letters to the ADB Board and Management exhorting them to make the internal evaluation process more accessible and understandable to the public, particularly to the affected people and concerned CSOs. At the same time, Forum expressed repeated interest to provide comments and input that are backed by community-generated evidence to relevant SPS evaluation drafts and documents.

Forum carried these Safeguards discussions from the ADB's Manila office to the 47th AGM in Astana. As a result, the Independent Evaluation Department (IED), which oversees the policy review agreed to a two-step dialogue with the Forum: information exchange in July and a presentation of preliminary findings, exclusive for the Forum in August.

Forum organized a panel on "Who's Safeguarding Safeguards? A Critical Look at the On-going Review of the ADB Safeguard Policy Statement," that discussed the gaps and limitations of the current policy. Panel members demanded for transparency on the on-going operational review. In response, the IED Director General made a commitment to present the 'working draft' of the SPS evaluation to the Forum. He, however, clarified that IED's task is to evaluate SPS' effectiveness while the Regional and Sustainable Development Department (RSDD) is the one that takes charge of SPS' updating. He added that expanding the SPS scope is equally dependent two results, namely IED's policy evaluation and World Bank's updating of its own (safeguards) performance standards.

A notable outcome achieved by Forum from July to December, were verbal commitments from high-ranking Bank officials that that there will be no revision or even dilution of the current SPS until 2017.

Worth mentioning is China's executive director, who after so many years, opened its doors for a dialogue with the Forum Secretariat concerning ADB safeguards and the new multilateral. In addition, the US Treasury requested a meeting with Forum Members and Secretariat to discuss the simultaneous safeguards issues and China's growing role in the global aid architecture. The closed-door affair discussed the interplay between the on-going ADB and World Bank safeguards reviews and the rise of AIIB and NDB.

IED'S EXCLUSIVE PRESENTATION OF THE SAFEGUARDS OPERATIONAL REVIEW TO FORUM

Safeguards experts from Aksi! for gender, social and ecological justice – Indonesia, Center for Environmental Justice – Sri Lanka, Ulu Foundation, and the Secretariat, were joined by representatives from the Philippine Coalition on UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and Life Haven Independent Living Center in demanding for bigger civil society space in the safeguards operational review and the full-policy review scheduled in 2015.

In August, they provided critical inputs to the IED presentation meeting, specifically on the use of country safeguard systems (CSS), financial intermediation (FI), and delivery of safeguards. Nine (9) individuals attended the preparatory meeting for the IED presentation and subsequent two-day ADB lobby work. While unanimously agreeing to push for “non-dilution” of the 2009 SPS, participants also highlighted policy gaps and limitations. The group also met with the Board of Directors from China, United States, Japan, United Kingdom/Germany as well as the Managing Director General, and the Regional and Sustainable Development Department.

WORLD BANK GROUP ANNUAL MEETING - SAFEGUARDS CONSULTATION

Lobby rounds with members of the US Congress, US Treasury and World Bank executive directors on upward safeguards harmonization were conducted by Secretariat and select member organizations in October. Among others issues relayed to them were the global civil society concerns about the massive dilutions in the World Bank's draft environmental and social framework that will trigger a race to bottom effect among multilateral banks vis-a-vis safeguards conditionalities. Apart from raising substantive policy issues, they also assailed the flawed consultation process. Board officials from the

offices of Australia, United States, France, Germany, Canada, Switzerland, Kuwait, Nordic countries, and an African executive director, which represents 22 countries, were on hand to discuss. Two US Senators and House Appropriations Committee Republican and Democratic staff as well as representatives from the Treasury department dialogued with these CSOs. During the Safeguards consultation, Forum joined other activists in giving powerful statements and testimonies against bad social and environmental practices of multilaterals.

As lead-up event to the World Bank Group Annual Meeting, Forum joined a strategy meeting in Bangkok and co-drafted a sign on statement that heavily critiqued the Draft Environmental and Social Safeguard Framework of the World Bank in September.

Post-WB annual meeting, the first leg of the global safeguards consultation was held in Manila, wherein some 25 activists from the FDC and *Philippine Movement on Climate Justice (PMCJ)*-led Philippine Working Group (PWG), the Secretariat and other Filipino NGOs from the disability, children, IPs and SOGIE sector staged an inside-outside protest action. A statement, “*Protest Action against the World Bank*,” which slams the watered down policy draft and dubious consultation process was read and handed over to WB country officials and other participants. After heavily criticizing the entire review process, they walked out of the consultation and joined 200 rallyists protesting in front of the consultation venue.





ASIAN PEOPLE'S SAFEGUARDS (APS) MEETING: PLATFORM FOR ACTION MEETING

A high point in Forum's safeguards work was the drafting of an initial framework on APS by a broad assembly of civil society activists; an initiative that has been attempted a few times before but only came to fruition in November. This draft framework guides two major outputs, namely, an official introductory letter primarily written by Chinese NGOs that will be sent to AIIB, and a platform for action strategy plan for national and local NGOs to operationalize the APS.

More than 40 civil society activists representing a spectrum of sectoral or thematic advocacies in the regions of South Asia, Southeast Asia, Mekong, as well as from the countries of China, Australia and the United States were present. They developed the core elements of an alternative people-centric, community-driven and rights-based safeguards standards in Asia with a corresponding platform for collective civil society actions. Likewise tackled were existing safeguard and green policies of multilaterals, China's role in the regional aid architecture and rise of ADB and other development banks.

Thus, the first-ever draft of the *"Asian People's Platform on Principles, Standards and Safeguards in Development and Climate Finance"* was produced by the participants. The framework challenges and compels governments, inter-governmental institutions and international financial institutions (local, national and global) to deliver on their obligations to protect and ensure the fulfillment of individual and collective rights and place the well-being of communities, peoples and the planet above private profit.

Similarly, a formal letter of introduction, principally drafted by Chinese NGOs but signed only by NGO

Forum on ADB, was agreed to be sent to the AIIB and relevant ministries in Beijing. This diplomatic correspondence, which contains elements of the APS framework, provided the background, goals and expectations on AIIB in terms of inclusive development and safeguard principles. As this is an ongoing process, a corresponding regional strategy action plan was initially developed.

The ultimate goal of the APS is to reclaim the idea of safeguards away from the praxis of IFIs policies and bring them back to the people. The APS meeting provided the initial platform for this coalition of CSOs to define the core elements of a People's Safeguards. Participants set the basis of unity on and better understanding of development financing trends, safeguards of multilateral banks and China-led investments. They were in agreement that this preliminary undertaking has set the stage for long-term collaborative work and broader assembly among CSOs on APS. There was a general consensus that the participants were not entirely representative of the various groups, social movements and local communities. Hence, the next critical step is to enrich further the draft framework through national and regional consultations. Further, they underscored the importance of popularizing the concept of 'people's safeguards' with an emphasis on reclaiming people's rights and struggles on the ground.

PARTICIPATION IN OTHER EVENTS

In the first quarter of the year, Forum joined *Euro IFI net* and *both ENDS* in lobbying World Bank executive directors and members of parliaments on Safeguards updates in multilateral development banks such as the ADB in Belgium and the Netherlands. In June, Forum was represented by *All India Forum on Forest Movement* and the Secretariat in a critical dialogue on the financial intermediation of IFIs, including ADB, in Thailand.

In October, the Secretariat was a panelist at the 2nd ADB Regional Country Safeguard Systems

Workshop. Forum delved on the on the efficacy and relevance of CSS in safeguarding communities and ecosystems in borrowing nations that have militarized governments, mired in corruption and with track record of human rights violations.

Further, the Network asked critical questions in the following ADB-organized meetings/consultations:

1. 10th Anniversary of the IED dialogue
2. CSO consultation on the merging of Ordinary Capital Resources and Asian Development Fund
3. 10th Anniversary of ADB Accountability Mechanism, and;
4. CSO consultation on the Approach Paper to Upper Middle Income Countries.

CLIMATE JUSTICE & CLEAN ENERGY

Climate change under the lens of social and environmental safeguards is an intrinsic part of Forum’s campaign and lobby with both ADB and WB and soon at the AIIB. In its conversation with ADB officials, Forum repeatedly cited the lack of specific principles or provisions in the current SPS that directly address climate-induced disasters and migration. Further, in their meetings with WB officials and US Congress representatives, the Forum delegation raised the critical issue of biodiversity offsetting that WB is proposing under its new safeguards policy. In addition, there are enshrined principles in the draft APS Framework that pertain to climate justice.

ASIA CLEAN ENERGY FORUM

In June 2014, the Secretariat attended the 9th Asia Clean Energy Forum and discussed with Bank officials the need to adopt Emission Performance Standards (EPS) that would eventually lead to the phasing out of coal and other dirty energy projects in ADB’s loan portfolio. A “Civil Society Statement Calling on the ADB to End Coal Support,” which was endorsed by 103 organizations from 19 countries, was disseminated to the media and to

the ACEF participants by the Secretariat and PWG. The Management, through its Regional and Sustainable Development Department (RSDD) and ADB Board members representing Canada, UK and other European constituencies officially responded to the CSO coal statement by underlining the Bank’s commitment to clean energy investments but will continue to consider coal projects under extreme circumstances.

Similarly, the PWG, FDC and PMCJ issued a statement “Stop the Double-Speak and Fraud! Stop Financing Coal and Dirty Energy!” and also distributed to reporters and photo journalists.

WATER POLICY and INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT (IWRM)

In July, Forum launched the *Strengthening South-South Networking to Promote “Water Democracy”* in Asia video documentary. The omnibus 26-minute short film wove together six different documentaries that were individually produced by members from Philippines, Vietnam, Bangladesh, Indonesia, and Nepal. Apart from the video documentary, the six (6) companion narrative case studies were also completed. Both research products cover direct reflections of basin communities made vulnerable by ADB’s IWRM approach. Individuals and household members in the six (6) river basins cited numerous yet identical problems on information disclosure, involuntary resettlement to livelihood to environmental concerns to gender issues. The collective articulation of their shared development struggles



ACEF Outside Mobilization

and experiences concerning IWRM, as documented by written and audio-visual research, offers a strong argument against this management approach being perpetrated by the ADB.

Covering important river basins in the region, the Strengthening South-South Networking to Promote “Water Democracy” in Asia project advances a people-centric governance in river management against the private-sector and corporate bias of ADB. Forum accomplished the project’s main outputs, which altogether vigorously promote the “democratic” ownership of vulnerable communities over river basins.

CITIZEN JOURNALISM VIDEO DOCUMENTATION

In April 2014, Forum came up with the final cut of the omnibus video documentation. The video weaves together the six (6) basin and riparian community narratives and evidential footages that were produced by member-organizations and water activists. The organizations and researchers also submitted the counterpart narrative case studies, which details the problems faced by basin/riparian communities caused by ADB-assisted IWRM projects in their respective river systems.

GENDER

In the over-all safeguards advocacy vis-a-vis multilaterals (ADB, World Bank and now AIIB), gender is a major focus. In the draft Asian People’s Safeguards framework, a key principle pertains to Gender Justice that calls for the application of gender mainstreaming in all development-related processes.

2 RESEARCH

**DESK STUDY:
“ANALYSIS ON ADB INVESTMENTS IN THE GMS: THE IMPACT ON PEOPLE’S LIVELIHOODS”**

This research product, which commenced in the first quarter, aims to generate critical analysis on the livelihood impacts of three (3) ADB projects in the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS). It attempts to construct further analytical knowledge on the devastating consequences of ADB’s large-scale investments in Mekong, under prevailing civil society lens, and based on existing secondary case or



scholarly studies.

Slated for release in 2015, the research mainly focused on available literature on three GMS projects. These are the -

1. Nam Theun 2 Hydropower Project in Laos
2. Song Bung 4 Hydropower Project in Vietnam, and;
3. Rehabilitation of the Railway in Cambodia.

In a nutshell, the paper illustrates how communities that are dependent on natural resources bear the brunt of direct disempowerment from construction of hydropower dams, road rehabilitation, and involuntary resettlement. Once removed from their rights to access customary resources, the communities face the challenge of adapting to their

new environment, adjusting to available livelihood opportunities and integrating themselves into a new – market based economy. These are the impacts of ADB’s poverty reduction strategy, which is underpinned on economic progress through infrastructure development.

The insights from civil society working closely on the ground and the ADB response to Forum were fed into the analysis. This study will be published to primarily serve as an advocacy tool for Forum’s Mekong Members. It will also be shared with ADB’s Southeast Asia Department (SERD).

3 CAPACITY BUILDING

MEKONG DIALOGUE

Twelve (12) individuals representing NGO Forum on Cambodia, Equitable Cambodia, Community Managed Development Partners (CMDP), Sahakum Teang Tnoat (STT), International Rivers, ActionAid Myanmar and the Secretariat attended the Mekong Dialogue in June in Phnom Penh. Through a needs assessment, participants were able to identify key areas of capacity building and strategize on collaborative action between Forum and Mekong CSOs towards engaging with and lobbying the ADB.

Forum gave an update on the implementation of its “Roadmap to Strategic Campaigning 2014-2020,” as well as the ongoing SPS operational review process. Forum underscored the imperative for Mekong-based NGOs to do lobby work at their ADB Resident Missions or at the Manila Headquarters regarding project impacts on community access on and management of natural resources.

Cambodian NGOs cited respective skills in capacity building, advocacy, policy research, monitoring, and bringing CSOs together. They identified three main issues with ADB, to wit:

- (a) the SPS Policy is not respected;
- (b) the Accountability Mechanism is difficult and inefficient to use and;
- (c) human rights are not respected.

For its part, regional groups identified the following key issues: associated facilities under SPS; the need for Technical Assistance to be monitored; the lack of Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC); interconnectivity of projects in the region particularly in the dams and energy sector; and the lack of timely



Affected communities of the Cambodian Railway Rehab Project

disclosure of documents.

They presented a strategy on ADB’s GMS where regional interconnectivity programs on energy, dams and road have potential or existing safeguard violations.

After the Mekong Dialogue, the Secretariat and Equitable Cambodia had a brief visit to one of the communities in Phnom Penh that are affected by the Railway Rehabilitation Project.

CAMBODIAN ADVOCACY PLAN ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND SAFEGUARDS

In June 2014, the Cambodian Working Group developed a national advocacy plan with particular focus on human rights and safeguards. According to the Working Group, there are a number of human rights violations related to ADB projects in the country. Thus, there is a clear imperative for ADB to recognize and respect human rights laws and conventions, including its own Safeguards Policy Statement. Important sections of the advocacy plan refer to continued research on human rights

violations; a study that determines the human rights approach ADB; and a new research on the government human rights policy.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT TRAINING in SRI LANKA

An EIA training was conducted by CEJ in Kandy, which was attended by a Secretariat staff in October. The 10 – day intensive training enabled the policy officer to gain technical knowledge in developing an EIA report. Lectures centered on key concepts and processes that assess the direct and indirect impacts of a project on the biophysical and human environment. In addition the appropriate environmental protection, mitigation and enhancement measures were also highlighted to aid decision- makers and to help protect the project affected communities. The culmination was a site visit and development of an EIA report for the construction of the Sampoor Coal Power Plant.

GLOBAL ADVOCACY LEADERSHIP in ASIA ACADEMY TRAINING in THAILAND

Forum’s policy officer attended a 7–day Global Advocacy Leadership in Asia Academy (GALAA) 2 training in Bangkok, Thailand. With the theme: “Mainstreaming Human Rights and Democracy into Post – 2015 Development Goals,” participants were trained on the:

1. Conceptual interplay of democracy -development-human rights in the context of human rights based approach
2. Advocacy at the global, regional, national and local levels, and;
3. Advocacy for Asian voices to be heard at the global drafting of sustainable development goals.



The Forum Annual Meeting (FAM) took place in July and was attended by some 50 participants. Membership formally ratified the strategy document “Roadmap to Strategic Campaigning 2014-2020: Towards systemic and lasting change.” The Members also drafted an eight-point Charter of Principles that serves as an overarching guideline to the regional and national implementation of thematic advocacy plans. A two-day Safeguards Meeting took place where members gave critical updates on the policy-related developments in a number of multilaterals; at the same time formulated a short-term campaign plan on CSS and FI. Further, a new set of Board of Trustees or International Committee was elected.

As in the previous years, Forum was allocated two (2) panel discussions in the civil society program of the 47th Annual Governors Meeting in Astana. The panels on ADB Safeguards and ADB Strategy 2020 in relation to Post-MDGs 2015 elicited robust and spirited discussions among panelists as well as the audience. These panels likewise precipitated further dialogue between Forum and ADB officials concerning the Bank’s ongoing Safeguards evaluation. In the CSO Meeting with ADB President Takehiko Nakao and other senior officials, Forum prodded the Bank to open its Safeguards operational review for public commenting; better mechanism for on-the-ground implementation of ADB’s operational policies; and full disclosure of the disbursement of the Yolanda emergency loan to the Philippines.

Seasoned Safeguards campaigners from Forum led by Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement, Center for Human Rights and Development, the



Safeguard Campaign Team



Forum Annual Meeting

Secretariat along with Human Rights Watch and ADB's Regional and Sustainable Development Department (RSDD) deputy director general critiqued the current SPS in order to further strengthen its policy language and implementation procedures; at the same time address its current limitations and gaps. It also discussed ways to make the current SPS evaluation/review more transparent and inclusive of all stakeholders, particularly civil society and affected people.

The Secretariat together with Centre for Environmental Justice, Center for Bird Lovers, Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement, Kazakhstan-based Azamattyk Kuryltay "Civil Meeting" and ADB's strategy and policy department director general examined the gaps and emerging challenges in the post – MDG era. Discussants also talked about how ADB's Strategy 2020, which is focused on promoting inclusive growth, environmentally sustainable growth and regional integration, will play a key role in post-2015 in terms of pro – poor policies, improved human development and environmental sustainability.

6 PROJECT MONITORING

The Secretariat provided information, communication or policy/lobby support to member organizations working with affected communities on the Tata Mundra Ultra Mega Coal Project in India, and Railway Road Rehabilitation Project in Cambodia, both of which have pending cases before the Compliance

Review Panel (CRP) of the Accountability Mechanism.



Affected Families of the Cambodian Railway Rehabilitation Project

These same support was extended to membership that monitor the following:

- I. Sri Lanka's Education for Knowledge Society Project, which faced a corruption complaint from the Ceylon Teachers Union and assisted by Sri Lanka Nature Group
- II. Northeast India's SASEC Subregional Road Connectivity Project (Subproject 25) monitored by North East Peoples Alliance, and;
- III. Kyrgyzstan's Taza Suu / Community-Based Infrastructure Sector Services Project monitored by Taza Tabigat. These projects have outstanding project concerns with ADB's Operations Department.

The draft APS framework that Forum members and partner organizations crafted recognizes the inherent rights of communities, especially farmers and fisherfolks, Indigenous Peoples and marginalized sectors to have access to, management, governance and control of the commons, natural resources and traditional livelihoods. The framework subscribes to the "Do No Harm" principle on communities related to the development projects and policies of multilaterals and related institutions.

Another key principle pertains to Free Prior Informed Consent that must be made obligatory to both IP and non-IP communities in rejecting any development project. Several principles call on public and financial institutions to respect customary, traditional and local rights and laws; preserve community access to land, coastal and marine resources; and recognize community-driven development agenda as basis of development prioritization.

7 INSTITUTIONAL PROGRESS

Forum elected a new set of Board of Trustees / International Committee (IC) members. Hemantha Withanage from CEJ was reelected as convener and South Asia representative. The new treasurer and Philippine representative is Eduardo C. Tadem from FDC. The election for Central Asia and Caucasus seat has been deferred.

The Secretariat drafted a Communication Plan for the next three years, which is a part of an over-all Action

Plan that would operationalize in full the Roadmap to Strategic Campaigning 2014-2020. The Comm Plan is designed to anticipate and respond to general or specific communication needs of regional advocacies on water, energy, urbanization, climate change and human rights. This will enable better coordination between and among Secretariat, Regional Working Groups and/or Country Working Groups as regards conveying the right message to its target audience via effective channels and time-bound deliverables. It should be noted that two major developments, namely, the 50th founding anniversary of the ADB in 2017 and the operationalization of the AIIB and NDB will spell or re-shape this Comm Plan's strategies for messaging. The Action Plan will contain separate section for Funding, Networking and Policy Advocacy.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE



HEMANTHA WITHANAGE
International Convener
Center for Environmental
Justice, Sri Lanka
2014-2016



EDUARDO C. TADEM
Freedom from Debt
Coalition, Philippines
Treasurer



**URANTSOOJ
GOMBOSUREN**
Center for Human Rights
and Development, Mongolia
CENTRAL ASIA



TITI SOENTORO
Aksi! for gender, social and
ecological justice, Indonesia
SOUTHEAST ASIA



EANG VUTHY
Equitable Cambodia
MEKONG



KAZI ZAVED KHALID JOY
Initiative for Right View
SOUTH ASIA



YUKI TANABE
Japan Center for a
Sustainable Environment
and Society
(JACSES) Japan
AUSTRALIA/JAPAN



RYAN SCHLIEFF
International Accountability
Project, US
EUROPE/UNITED STATES

THE FORUM'S MISSION

- * To stimulate public awareness and action as well as develop closer working ties with Peoples' Organizations (POs), Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and other public interest groups on issues related to the Asian Development Bank
- * To develop a cohesive framework and overall strategy in coordination with partner NGOs, Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) and Peoples Organizations (POs) for the campaign on the ADB
- * To sharpen public debate on and understanding of the Bank's growth-oriented development paradigm and top-down development strategies
- * To influence the Bank to adopt poverty reduction-focused and grassroots-based policies for sustainable development
- * To critique the development models adopted by the Bank
- * To assist and build capacities of CSOs and movements (including local communities) through Forum networks to fight for equitable social and environmental justice, democratic governance, and safeguards in Bank's projects

THE FORUM'S OBJECTIVE

- * To stimulate public awareness and action as well as develop closer working ties with Peoples' Organizations (POs), Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and other public interest groups on issues related to the Asian Development Bank
- * To develop a cohesive framework and overall strategy in coordination with partner NGOs, Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) and Peoples Organizations (POs) for the campaign on the ADB
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NETWORKS WORLD WIDE



8

FINANCIAL REPORT


REDOR, EMERSON & CO.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Phil. Cooperative Center Bldg., 90 Balete Drive Ext., New Manila
 Quezon City, Philippines 1112

REECO

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 Tel./Fax (632) 411-4063
 Email: redor@i-manila.com.ph
 Website: www.redoremerson.com

PRC/BOA Certificate of Registration No. 0015
 (valid until December 31, 2012)

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

The Board of Trustees
NGO FORUM ON ADB, INC.

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of **NGO FORUM ON ADB, INC.** which comprise the balance sheets as at December 31, 2011 and 2010 and the related statements of revenues and expenses, fund balances and cash flows for the years then ended and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

Management Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the Philippine Financial Reporting Standards for Small and Medium-sized Entities. This responsibility includes the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. Except as discussed in the following paragraph, we conducted our audit in accordance with Philippine Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

REDOR, EMERSON & CO.
Certified Public Accountants

The Board of Trustees
NGO FORUM ON ADB, INC.
Page 2

Unidentified payables amounting to Php 370,771.29 as of December 31, 2010 were not confirmed.

Opinion

In our opinion, except as stated in the preceding paragraph, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, on all material respects, the financial position of **NGO FORUM ON ADB, INC.** as of December 31, 2011 and 2010 and the results of its operations, fund balances and cash flows for the years then ended, in accordance with the Philippine Financial Reporting Standards for Small and Medium-sized Entities.

Report on Supplementary Information required under Revenue Regulations 15-2010 of the Bureau of Internal Revenue

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The supplementary information on taxes, duties and license fees in Note 16 to the financial statements is presented for purposes of filing with the Bureau of Internal Revenue and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management.



E.P. REDOR
Partner
CPA Certificate No.: 021784
PTR No. : 6121561
January 12, 2012
Quezon City, Metro Manila
BIR Accreditation No.: 07-003019-01-2009

March 26, 2012



NGO FORUM ON ADB, INC.
 (A Non-Stock, Non-Profit Organization)
BALANCE SHEETS
 (in Philippine Pesos)

December 31,	Notes	2014	2013
A S S E T S			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	2, 3	3,213,062.10	3,561,900.25
Accounts receivable	2, 4	56,769.96	97,326.21
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		3,269,832.06	3,659,226.46
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT - Net	2, 5	27,030.46	42,826.15
OTHER ASSETS			
Miscellaneous deposit/prepayment	2, 7	504,777.00	281,575.76
TOTAL ASSETS		3,801,639.52	3,983,628.37
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accounts payable	2, 6	1,369,577.88	1,083,087.80
TOTAL LIABILITIES		1,369,577.88	1,083,087.80
FUND BALANCES			
General fund		1,509,966.26	1,869,872.08
Restricted funds	15	895,064.92	987,842.34
Property and equipment fund	2, 5	27,030.46	42,826.15
Total Fund Balances		2,432,061.64	2,900,540.57
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES		3,801,639.52	3,983,628.37

See Accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

NGO FORUM ON ADB, INC.
(A Non-Stock, Non-Profit Organization)
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES
IN FUND BALANCES OF RESTRICTED FUNDS
(in Philippine Pesos)

Year ended December 31, 2014	Notes	11,11,11 COALITION	C.S. MOTT FOUNDATION	HEINRICH BOLL FOUNDATION	SIEMENPIJU FOUNDATION	OXFAM AUSTRALIA	THE SUNRISE PROJECT	2014 TOTAL
REVENUES								
Grants	2	2,875,036.25	2,598,240.00	656,019.66	-	2,672,685.90	78,471.00	8,880,452.81
Local counterpart		-	-	76,162.42	-	-	-	76,162.42
Interest income		-	-	-	582.65	-	-	582.65
Foreign exchange gains (losses)	2	(17,279.77)	(11,337.18)	-	-	-	-	(28,616.95)
TOTAL REVENUES		2,857,756.48	2,586,902.82	656,019.66	76,745.07	2,672,685.90	78,471.00	8,928,580.93
LESS EXPENSES:								
Information Management								
Website/webhosting & other expenses	2	91,150.00	13,898.00	-	-	-	-	105,048.00
Sub-total		91,150.00	13,898.00	-	-	-	-	105,048.00
Research/Policy Analysis and Publication								
Salaries & benefits		150,000.00	508,149.83	-	37,954.40	202,156.00	-	898,260.23
Foreign travel & other expenses		-	447,361.70	-	-	-	-	447,361.70
Publication		89,500.00	19,650.00	-	120,569.45	-	-	229,719.45
Sub-total		239,500.00	975,161.53	-	158,523.85	202,156.00	-	1,575,341.38
Advocacy Support & Network Building								
Policy review		735,948.52	45,289.29	655,727.95	316,383.50	1,503,443.98	36,945.85	3,293,739.09
Forum annual meeting		673,474.67	4,688.80	-	332,718.67	167,204.17	-	1,168,086.31
Salaries & benefits		180,000.00	97,802.00	-	24,846.30	319,352.00	-	622,000.30
NGO campaign at ADB annual meeting		333,027.65	-	-	-	230,119.65	-	563,147.30
Sub-total		1,922,450.84	147,780.09	655,727.95	673,948.47	2,210,119.80	36,945.85	5,646,973.00
Capability Building and Internship								
Skillshare workshop		59,645.80	-	-	-	-	-	59,645.80
Sub-total		59,645.80	-	-	-	-	-	59,645.80
Personnel								
Salaries & benefits		129,001.40	185,202.37	-	8,803.40	179,635.50	-	502,642.67
Legislated benefits		-	381,361.77	-	-	-	-	381,361.77
Other contracted services		-	86,300.00	-	9,283.32	-	-	95,583.32
Medical benefits		-	59,315.29	-	-	-	-	59,315.29
Pension benefits/allowance		-	24,108.84	-	-	-	-	24,108.84

NGO FORUM ON ADB, INC.
 (A Non-Stock, Non-Profit Organization)
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES
IN FUND BALANCES OF RESTRICTED FUNDS
 (in Philippine Pesos)

Year ended December 31, 2014	Notes	11.11.11 COALITION	C.S. MOTT FOUNDATION	HEINRICH BOLL FOUNDATION	SIEMENPUU FOUNDATION	OXFAM AUSTRALIA	THE SUNRISE PROJECT	2014 TOTAL
Sub-total		129,001.40	736,288.27	-	18,086.72	179,635.50	-	1,063,011.89
Organizational expenses:								
Office rent		61,261.20	122,522.40	-	-	20,420.40	-	204,204.00
Utilities		61,000.00	24,345.49	-	6,294.40	19,977.01	-	111,616.90
Audit fees & other expenses		30,000.00	30,227.55	-	18,826.90	19,500.00	-	98,554.45
Local transportation		17,619.00	27,961.57	-	-	-	34.00	45,614.57
Postage and communication		-	8,644.77	-	4,688.49	19,955.72	10,948.07	44,237.05
Office & equipment supplies		-	7,387.30	-	7,700.25	66.00	1,616.70	16,770.25
Taxes, licenses & other expenses		3,750.77	10,871.00	-	-	-	-	10,871.00
Bank charges		-	281.48	291.71	-	855.47	1,373.24	6,552.67
Repairs & maintenance		-	4,583.25	-	-	-	-	4,583.25
Representation allowance		-	661.00	-	-	-	-	661.00
Reproduction of materials		-	120.00	-	-	-	-	120.00
Sub-total		173,630.97	237,605.81	291.71	37,510.04	80,774.60	13,972.01	543,785.14
TOTAL EXPENSES		2,615,379.01	2,110,733.70	656,019.66	868,069.08	2,672,685.90	50,917.86	8,993,805.21
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES		242,377.47	476,169.12	-	(811,324.01)	-	27,553.14	(65,224.28)
ADD (DEDUCT):								
Fund balance, beginning		-	124,402.78	-	863,439.56	-	-	987,842.34
Funds returned - The Sunrise Project		-	-	-	-	-	(27,553.14)	(27,553.14)
FUND BALANCES (DEFICIENCY), December 31, 2014		242,377.47	600,571.90	-	52,115.55	-	-	895,064.92

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statement.

NGO FORUM ON ADB, INC.
 NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 December 31, 2014
 Page 5

5. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

These are accounted as follows

	2014		2013	
Equipment, furniture and fixtures				
Cost				
Balance at beginning of year	P	738,324.01	P	712,304.01
Additions (disposals)		-		26,020.00
Balance at end of year		738,324.01		738,324.01
Accumulated depreciation				
Balance at beginning of year		695,497.86		655,112.13
Depreciation		15,795.69		40,385.73
Balance at end of year		711,293.55		695,497.86
Net book value, end of year	P	27,030.46	P	42,826.15

6. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

This consists the following:

	2014		2013	
Staff	P	61,381.31	P	73,926.59
Unreleased checks/withdrawals		646,941.88		405,853.69
Other payables		661,254.69		603,307.52
TOTAL	P	1,369,577.88	P	1,083,087.80

7. LEASE AGREEMENT

In January, 2014, the Organization renewed its lease agreement with Ms. Lorena A. Alcorido for the office and premises it presently occupies. The lease agreement was for a term of one year and renewable upon the mutual agreement of both parties. The required deposit for the current lease is included and presented in the balance sheet under Other Assets.

NGO FORUM ON ADB, INC.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 December 31, 2014
 Page 6

8. INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

This consists the following:

		2014		2013
Website/webhosting and other expenses	P	105,048.00	P	146,761.80
Salaries		-		-
TOTAL	P	105,048.00	P	146,761.80

9. RESEARCH/POLICY ANALYSIS AND PUBLICATION

This consists the following:

		2014		2013
Salaries and benefits	P	1,081,252.58	P	1,265,747.70
Foreign travel & other expenses		570,840.70		408,504.40
Publication		229,719.45		149,512.15
TOTAL	P	1,881,812.73	P	1,823,764.25

Salaries and benefits include contributed services of Php37,954.40 in 2014 and Php185,027.70 in 2013.

10. ADVOCACY SUPPORT AND NETWORK BUILDING

This consists the following:

		2014		2013
Network building	P	23,075.36	P	3,609,184.44
Forum annual meeting		1,168,086.31		1,296,107.47
Policy review		3,293,739.09		1,176,244.86
Salaries & benefits		672,784.30		777,607.67
NGO Campaign at ADB annual meeting		563,147.30		800,130.66
Advocacy support		-		-
TOTAL	P	5,720,832.36	P	7,659,275.10

In 2014, Policy review and Salaries and benefits include contributed services of Php8,500.00 and 24,846.30, respectively while in 2013, Policy review and Salaries and benefits include contributed services of Php26,100.00 and Php105,182.67, respectively.

NGO FORUM ON ADB, INC.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 December 31, 2014
 Page 7

11. CAPABILITY BUILDING AND INTERNSHIP

This consists the following:

	2014		2013	
Skillshare workshop	P	59,645.60	P	-
TOTAL	P	59,645.60	P	-

12. PERSONNEL

This consists the following:

	2014		2013	
Salaries & benefits	P	584,595.05	P	898,457.45
Legislated benefits		580,004.47		489,756.78
Other contracted services		95,583.32		131,749.96
Medical benefits		100,502.85		118,532.52
Pension benefits/allowance		31,623.84		22,545.00
TOTAL	P	1,392,309.53	P	1,661,041.71

In 2014, Salaries and benefits and Other contracted services include contributed services of Php3,778.40 and Php1,083.32, respectively while in 2013, Salaries and benefits and Other contracted services include contributed services of Php88,117.40 and Php3,249.96, respectively.

13. ORGANIZATIONAL EXPENSES

This consists the following:

	General Fund		Restricted Fund		Total 2014		2013	
Office rent	P	40,840.80	P	204,204.00	P	245,044.80	P	245,044.80
Utilities		90.00		111,616.90		111,706.90		115,038.17
Audit fees/expenses		-		98,554.45		98,554.45		79,694.44
Local transportation		7,527.75		45,614.57		53,142.32		46,732.78
Postage & communication		4,050.10		44,237.05		48,287.15		73,614.61
Office equipment and supplies		-		16,770.25		16,770.25		27,131.82
Taxes, licenses and other expenses		-		10,871.00		10,871.00		10,401.00
Repairs & maintenance		6,240.00		4,583.25		10,823.25		8,400.00
Bank charges		611.06		6,552.67		7,163.73		5,021.46
Representation allowance		865.00		661.00		1,526.00		1,307.65
Reproduction of materials		459.00		120.00		579.00		10.00
Miscellaneous		17,700.00		-		17,700.00		5,230.00
TOTAL	P	78,383.71	P	543,785.14	P	622,168.85	P	617,626.73

NGO FORUM ON ADB, INC.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 December 31, 2014
Page 8

14. RESTRICTED FUNDS

The Organization is a custodian of funds for humanitarian projects consistent with its organizational objectives. These funds are specifically intended to finance designated projects and accordingly, are accounted for separately from its general-purpose fund. These are carried as restricted funds until such time that the project has been completed. The balances of these funds will revert to the grantor/donor or in certain instances, to the Organization's general or other similar purpose funds once the project is completed. The balances (deficiency) of these funds are accounted for as follows:

		2014		2013
C.S. Mott Foundation	P	600,571.90	P	124,402.78
Siemenpuu Foundation		52,115.55		863,439.56
11.11.11 Coalition		242,377.47		-
TOTAL	P	895,064.92	P	987,842.34

15. APPROVAL OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements of the Organization for the year ended December 31, 2014 were approved by the board of trustees and authorized for issue on March 2, 2015.

16. TAXES PAID BY THE ORGANIZATION

In compliance with the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) Revenue Regulation no. 15-2010 issued on December 15, 2010, the following are being reported by the Organization:

Taxes Paid During the Year 2014:				
Withholding tax on compensation			P	507,099.40
Expanded withholding tax on contracted services				11,400.00
Expanded withholding tax on rent				12,252.24
Other taxes:				
National:				
Annual BIR registration				500.00
Local:				
Barangay clearance				500.00
LGU permits/fees				8,732.00
Community tax certificate				500.00
BFP-QC inspection/clearance fee/doc. stamps				249.00
TOTAL	P			541,232.64

Other matters

The Organization has no deficiency tax assessments, whether protested or not, nor tax cases under preliminary investigation, litigation and/or prosecution in courts or bodies outside the BIR.

OUR PARTNERS



ANNUAL REPORT 2014 POST SCRIPT

2014 was a year of expansion for NGO Forum on ADB. This expansion was both in terms of the scope of the advocacy as well as in outreach of the membership. As the year began the Forum was following through with its activities as earmarked in its LTSP, and looking to engage in the 1st phase evaluation of the ADB SPS by IED and continue monitor projects on the ground. After being stonewalled by the IED all through 2013 the Bank finally relented in the 47th AGM in Kazakhstan and allowed a more thorough integration into the SPS evaluation. This was counted as a victory by the membership and was further capitalized down the year for a full sharing of IEDs findings with the network. The Forum continued to not only monitor ADBs investments but also its role in the overall development finance architecture of Asia. Allies and Forum members in Europe and the USA were continually sharing information on the ongoing WB Safeguards review, which was



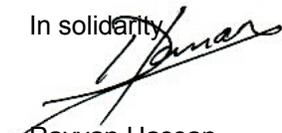
not ushering well. There were long discussions on dilutions of policies being heralded by the WB, which would have a cascading influence on the ADB policies as well. In order for loans to be lucrative to borrower the WB was looking to downplay the need for environmental and social safeguarding.

The Forum was quick to realize the urgency of this dynamic (and its aftermath) and decided extended its experience and support to the global civil society advocacy campaign on the World Bank Safeguards. Through direct engagement and dialogue with WB EDs, US Treasury, Congress the Forum continued its advocacy on the position of 'upward harmonization' of safeguard policies. Thereby implying that the binding requirements within the ADB standards should not be diluted and the WB should recognize those similar requirements and strengthen them accordingly. The notion of 'upward harmonization' was a key advocacy strategy gain for the Forum. Through the campaign the Forum also managed to widen its reach and credibility with northern groups and became a critical civil society voice on 'infrastructure investments' from Asia.

Another key issue in 2014 was Forum's understanding in Safeguards work and reclamation of the Peoples Safeguard agenda. As much as institutional reform for better Safeguard policies was being championed, the membership felt that most of its energy and resources was being invested in the Bank's own processes where 'real' outcomes were far from being achieved on the ground. This led the Forum to initiate the Asian Peoples Safeguard: Platform for Action along with key regional groups in Asia. The platform focused on strengthening local resistance, engaging national policies and government agencies; and advocating in regional and global platforms to ensure social and environmental protection from trans-boundary mega scale infrastructure projects. It was a key dialogue in November 2014 in Bangkok, which led the Forum to write a letter to the China led Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank to disclose its safeguards. To this end the Forum continues to closely monitor the AIIB and its emerging role in Asian development finance.

As the development finance architecture was shifting from the west to the east with the rise of China, India and the BRICS, the Forum also learnt to adapt, engage, network and unite accordingly. This adaptability has been the hallmark of our advocacy all through 2014; and I thank all of you for your commitment, talent and determination to continue our vital work ahead.

In solidarity,


Rayyan Hassan
Executive Director
NGO Forum on ADB