



ADA Annual Report 2018



ADA Annual Report January – December 2018

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Foreword

Dear ADA Members/Partners, Colleagues and Friends,
Greetings of Solidarity and Peace !!

I am pleased to share ADA's annual report for 2018-2019. This report showcases the many ways in which we engage and support our missions at the national, regional and global level to realise the aims of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by working closely with our civil society members, partners, member states, UN institutions by linking development and human rights.

During the last 12 months, ADA accomplished many activities through outreach, research and advocacy and capacity development related to SDGs implementation, monitoring mechanisms and voluntary national reviews.

In our continued efforts to support the civil society in Asia, we have been organising Global Advocacy Leadership academy (GALA) since 2013 and in 2018, two GALAs focused on 'Peace and Human Rights in the CSO engagement with SDGs in Asia' were organized, one in Sri Lanka and another later in Central Asia, in Almaty Kazakhstan in our efforts to mainstream the central Asian civil society. This way ADA has also become truly Asia.

ADA has also been very active in voicing concerns of its members in various advocacy missions like Business of Human Rights conference in GENEVA, Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development organized by UN ESCAP, while many members had opportunities to share their concerns and voices in the organized side event with the UNDP (Asia), High level Political Forum (HLPF), UNGA UN High-level Meeting on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace, and other related events.

ADA worked with its members by successfully engaging in national outreach SDGs campaigns in (the VNR countries for 2018) in Sri Lanka, Lao PDR and Vietnam, Singapore and Bhutan. ADA helped the CSO in engaging with the government in the VNR process and capacitated them on CSO reporting in the process. CSOs in Vietnam, Lao PDR and Sri Lanka were able to prepare their own report and presented them during the side event organized by ADA during High Level Political Forum, New York, in 2018.

One of the important outcomes of the outreach and training program is that the participants got more clear ideas on Sustainable development goals especially goal 16 and 17 and they were able to create some national level indicators on SDG 16. Another important outcome has been creation and finalization of guidelines on CSOs engagement on VNR issues and SDGs mapping (CSO-government engagement) from these countries. The national level advocacy missions /support has been able to generate more awareness on sustainable development goals, and their implementation and review mechanisms, engagements with the government and UN institutions, knowledge on participation in various regional and global mechanism



and further more avenues for ADA's membership. ADA has also been able to corroborate national level data on CSO-government engagement in the SDGs ahead of preparing the position paper on the subject.

In our continued efforts to realise our mission, we are very grateful to our donor and partners, European Union, Forus International, Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) for supporting us not only in understanding and in achieving our mission throughout Asia but helping us at every stage apart from actively engaging our activities. We are also very thankful to Code-NGO for being our financial agency and providing us necessary support tirelessly. I also acknowledge the Steering Committee of ADA, our senior advisors, and secretariat for their continuous support, guidance, and execute to achieve ADA's mission and vision. More than anything, I would like to acknowledge the support of our members and partners in 26 countries and continued support from the AP-RCEM, UN ESCAP, UNDP Regional hub at the regional level and TAP Network, CIVICUS, AGNA, A4SD, Transparency International, Innovation for Change (I4C) at the global level. We are truly humbled for your trust in us as a regional platform in Asia and we hope to receive the same trust in support in future.

*Thanking you.
Sincerely,*

*Saroeun SOEUNG
On behalf of ADA Steering Committee
Executive Director of Cooperation Committee for Cambodia (CCC)*



1. Introduction

The Asia Development Alliance (ADA) is an international network of national or sub-national multi-sectoral NGO/CSO platforms (NP) or umbrellas in Asia engaged in development issues in the context of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

ADA is a regional (Asia) network among members of International Forum of National NGO Platforms (IFP), CIVICUS AGNA and other NPs engaged in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

ADA is a regional space and process for policy dialogue with governments and international organizations such as the UN, ADB and other stakeholders on issues related to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

2. Objectives

- 2.1. **Capacity Building** to strengthen the capacity of ADA members to achieve objectives, exchange and learning of various national and regional platforms in Asia and IFP
- 2.2. **Advocacy** to strengthen policy advocacy and campaign for effective implementation of SDGs at various national, regional and global levels.
- 2.3. **Membership and leadership** to strengthen membership base and internal governance process for effective decision-making and project management

3. ADA Activities: 2017-18

Global Overview

During the last 12 month, ADA tried to accomplish many activities through outreach, research and advocacy and capacity development by being part of leading SDGs campaigns at national, regional and global levels aiming at strengthening the capacities of CSOs and encouraging them to contribute through advocacy and being part of SDGs implementation monitoring mechanisms and voluntary national reviews .

In August, 2018, ADA organized its annual regional capacity building training 6th GALAA 2018 under the theme **Mainstreaming Peace and Human Rights in the CSO engagement with SDGs in Asia in Colombo, Sri Lanka from 23 to 30 August 2018** in partnership with INFORM Human Rights Documentation Centre as a local host and International Forum of National NGO Platform (IFP) and Transparency, Accountability and Participation (TAP) Network as international partner organizations. GALAA 2018 has also helped participants to learn about nexus approach titled **transformative and integral approach to SDGs** that is conflict-sensitive, gender-sensitive, climate-sensitive and human rights-based approach to SDGs by linking SDG 5, 13, 16, and 17

Later in December, 2018, ADA organized its second GALA training in Almaty for CSOs from Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan) from 10 to 12th December, 2018 at Almaty, Kazakhstan. The selection of the day was crucial and thoughtful since 10th December is also



celebrated as the World's Human Rights Day and this year it marked the 70th Anniversary of UN General assembly's adaptation to Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The training also focused on linking human rights with development (SDGs) since the advocates of both (HR and development) work in silo.

ADA has also been part of various advocacy missions like Business of human rights conference in GENEVA, Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development organized by UN ESCAP , organized side event with the UNDP (Asia), High level Political Forum (HLPF), where apart from organising the side event with the UNDP, it also participated actively other side events organized by partners and stakeholders , UNGA UN High-level Meeting on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace - 24-25 April, New York on 24-25 April while the concrete steps were taken for the historic Inter-Korean Summit on 26 April on peace-building in the Korean peninsular, Asia and beyond !

ADA also got engaged in national outreach SDGs campaigns in (the VNR countries for 2018) in Sri Lanka, Lao PDR and Vietnam, Singapore and Bhutan and helped the CSO in engaging with the government in the VNR process and capacitated them on CSO reporting on VNR process. Vietnam, Lao PDR and Sri Lanka were able to prepare their own CSO report and presented them during the side event organized by ADA during High Level Political Forum, New York.

The Asia Development Alliance (ADA), Asia Democracy Network (ADN),) and the Permanent Secretariat of Community of Democracies (PSCD), with the support of the government of the Republic of Korea and Metropolitan City of Busan, organised the Busan Democracy Forum 2018 (BuDF) on Democracy and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG): Promoting Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies in Busan, Republic of Korea from January 22-23, 2018.

The three-day event aimed at promoting Goal 16 of the United Nations (UN) 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as the enabler of all Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and discussed the inter-linkages of the Goals. The forum also provided a platform for a wide range of stakeholders to share experiences on advocacy initiatives, implementation, national level reporting and available tools for measuring progress towards SDG 16. The forum also deliberated various experiences related to democratization and democratic governance in Asia and beyond, highlighting the importance of democracy for sustainable development.

ADA also organized its face to face Steering Committee meeting of the year (in January 2018) and annual general body meeting following the BuDF.

In 2018, ADA also organized the Workshop under the theme **“Human Rights Cities for UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) - Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies” on 19-20 Oct. 2018 as part of the 8th World Human Rights Cities Forum (WHRCF) (18-21 Oct. 2018) www.whrcf.org , in Gwangju, south Korea.**

The Workshop aimed at providing space and opportunities for mutual learning and exchange among people engaged in human rights cities internationally including South Korea. More specifically, the Workshop made efforts to developing common long-term action agenda and plans for human rights cities in line with the UN 2020 Agenda for Sustainable Development / Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the UN HRC's resolutions on local government and human rights to be adopted in September 2018.

One of the important outcomes of the outreach and training program is that the participants got more clear ideas on Sustainable development goals especially goal 16 and 17 and they were able to create some national level indicators on SDG 16. Another important outcome has been creation and



finalization of guidelines on CSOs engagement on VNR issues and SDGs mapping (CSO-government engagement) from these countries. The national level advocacy missions /support has been able to generate more awareness on sustainable development goals, and their implementation and review mechanisms, engagements with the government and UN institutions, knowledge on participation in various regional and global mechanism and further more avenues for ADA's membership. ADA has also been able to corroborate national level data on CSO-government engagement in the SDGs ahead of preparing the position paper on the subject.

ADA also participated in various partners program and one of them was Latin and Caribbean region program The LAC Forum on Sustainable Development that took place in Santiago de Chile from April 16th to 20th. This regional forum was organized under the auspices of the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean -ECLAC-, hence, it's considered as the regional chapter of the HLPF. ADA, shared the Asian CSO experiences about engagement on SDGs including UN HLPF VNR, etc. at the CSO consultation about SDGs in Latin America and Caribbean countries at ECLAC, Santiago, Chile.

ADA was actively present with its members from Asia during Forus's 10th years anniversary in Santiago, Chile from 3 to 8th September. The occasion also witnessed the participation of almost with 47 National Platforms and 4 Regional Coalitions. The participants discussed the new narrative on Civil Society and Forus's role to boost ecosystems for the NGOs. Another workshop organised during the Forus' Strategic Week highlighted "Addressing challenges of NGO leadership" attended by the platforms of Seychelles, Hungary, Colombia, Denmark, Spain, the Philippines, Gambia and the Regional Coalition Asian Development Alliance for sharing their case studies. ADA along with few global stakeholders, pioneered a session on SDG 16 sub-working group, which was formalized a month after this meeting in Chile during its first webinar. ADA has joined hands with Forus and other national and global partners to initiate a spot light report on SDG 16 and finalise the same before HLPF, 2019, New York.

On 7th of September, Forus co-organised the High level debate with Acción AG and ECLAC on "Creating an Enabling environment for civil society and Agenda 2030". More than 70 representatives from Asia, Latin America & the Caribbean, Europe, Africa, Pacific, and North America participated in the event. ADA too made a presentation in the UN ECLAC, Santiago, about its VNR experience in Asia apart from representing UN ESCAP and making presentation on its behalf, which is remarkable, as it also shows the level of trust and its credibility among UN institutions in Asia.

ADA and its members also attended LTA working group meeting in Tbilisi, Georgia in order to strengthening the processes and building actions for the mobilization of national CSO platforms on these key issues. #AGNALTA #GAW2018

Meanwhile, ADA and some of its members (VANI, India, NGO Federation of Nepal) also attended AGNA annual general body meeting that held in Georgia, from 31st May to 1st June, 2018. The meeting was an opportunity to discuss various issues like LTA, enabling environment for the CSOs, domestic resource mobilizations etc. The members discussed their own and AGNA potential opportunities and strength which would be key to make the network stronger

ADA and its members also participated in the UNESCAP- Webinar Series on Stakeholder Engagement Module 1: An Introduction to Stakeholder Engagement in the 2030 Agenda, September, October and shared their experience in the VNR in Asia region.



ADA was also one of the important stakeholders with UN ESCAP while organizing sub regional meetings north -east and, south and south west Asia. ADA organized a civil society forum for its members and partners in S south east Asia during UN ESCAP sub-regional forum in New Delhi in September, 2018, to strategize the CSOs action in Asia as a prelude to the sub-regional forum.

At the global level, ADA also represents, the south Asia hub, in the global governance circle of Innovation for Change project, an initiative by CIVICUS, another global platform and acts as a bridge between South Asia region and global governance circle to communicate the issues of human right violations and enabling environment for the civil society attended its governance circle meeting organized in Mexico city from 12-16 November, 2018.

So overall, ADA's activities revolve around two core areas at the National, Sub-regional, Regional and Global levels., through

- **Capacity Building on Strategic Planning**
- **Outreach and Advocacy**

In 2018, ADA focussed on national level outreach , capacity building and advocacy, apart from regional and the global level.

3.1. Capacity Building on strategic planning

3.1.1. National Level



3.1.1.1. CSO partnership for implementing SDGs: Hanoi, Vietnam, 24 April, 2018

On May 24, 2018, Research Center of Management and Sustainable Development (MSD) and Vietnam Institute of Leadership and Public Policy (ViLEAP) under Ho Chi Minh Academy of National Politics co-hosted a workshop on "CSO partnership for implementing SDGs". The workshop witnessed the representatives from the United Nations, Ministry of Planning and Investment, Asia Development Alliance (ADA), Action Aid Vietnam, and over 120 participants from CSOs in Vietnam and other interested organizations and individuals.

The panellists discussed on CSOs contributions to SDGs in terms of their roles in achievement; challenges and enabling environment for CSOs Full report [here](#)

3.1.1.2. ADA National Meeting on SDGs in Singapore : Challenges and Implications for Civil Society in Asia

ADA organised national workshop on #SDG in Singapore on June 10, 2018. The workshop was conducted by ADAs Advisor Anselmo Lee. Mr.Lee shared the SDG mechanism with local CSOs and members of political party at Bras Basah Complex in Singapore. The meeting allowed participants to clarify what were involved in observing the work of the government and how each of the goals of the SDG are interlinked and indivisible. Datuk Dr Dennison Jayasooria shared Malaysia's experience in VNR to give Singaporean participants an idea of the process and help them familiarize themselves with the preparation work involved.



Singapore is one of 5 Asian governments at the UN HLPF VNR on SDGs at UN in New York on 16-18 July 2018 - Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Laos and Vietnam.

The ADA and the partners also prepared the statement on DPRK-US Summit (Singapore, 12 June 2018). The statement can be viewed [here](#)

1.1.1. Sub Regional Level:

GALA Central Asia in Almaty (10-12 December, 2018)

Global advocacy Leadership Academy – Central Asia, Almaty, Kazakhstan (10-12 December 2018)

ADA organized three days national capacity building workshop for CSs from Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan) from 10 to 12th December, 2018 at Almaty, Kazakhstan. The selection of the day was crucial and thoughtful since 10th December is also celebrated as the World's Human Rights Day and this year it marked the 70th Anniversary of UN General assembly's adaptation to Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The training also focused on linking human rights with development (SDGs) since the advocates of both (HR and development) work in silo.

The event was attended by officials from Ministry of Foreign Affairs and UNESCAP, Almaty, office apart from approximately 30 civil society participants from the five central Asian countries

The three days workshop was very timely as two courtiers from this regional, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan prepare for the voluntary national reporting in 2019 and the role of the CSOs in the monitoring and planning has been very critical.

The three days event deliberated the issues of importance of national CSO Platform by introducing the CSO tool kit for national CSO platform. The participants provided their crucial inputs to the toolkit apart from presenting the status of enabling environment for the CSOs in these five countries by making country level presentations. The workshop also deliberated on Goal 16 and 17 with story telling exercise by linking all the SDGs with the UDHR and further providing a chronological sequencing of all the 30 articles of UDHR, apart from linking goal 16 with human rights and peace.

The participants were also given presentations on Voluntary National Review and CSOs endangerment with the process by showcasing some good and bad countries examples of CSOs engagement level. By the end of the three days workshops, the CSOs were able to frame their own national strategic plans for the CSOs, map the Government actions on SDGs (country level), laws related to the CSOs, human right and public institutions apart from preparing their national action plans for 2019. Full report [here](#)



1.1.2. Regional Level

Following regional activities were organized by ADA in 2018



1.1.2.1. Glo-cal Advocacy Leadership Academy (GALA): ‘Mainstreaming Peace and Human Rights in the CSO engagement with SDGs in Asia’ (23-30 August, 2018), Colombo

The GALAA 2018 under the theme ‘Mainstreaming Peace and Human Rights in the CSO engagement with SDGs in Asia’ was organized in Colombo, Sri Lanka from 23 to 30 August 2018 by Asia Development Alliance (ADA) in partnership with INFORM Human Rights Documentation Centre as a local host and International Forum of National NGO Platform (IFP) and Transparency, Accountability and Participation (TAP) Network as international partner organizations.

The 30 selected participants (from Asia and Pacific) were oriented on synergising local and global connect (bottom up and top down) apart from the role of public advocacy which is a set of organized (communicative) actions by CSOs and people themselves to influence development policy-making process – planning, implementation and evaluation - and outcomes for sustainable positive change / transformation through a variety of actions including campaign, lobby, litigation and direct actions and using Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a tool for the advocacy. The program was also oriented towards linking and focusing SDGs with human rights, peace, environment, social movement, economic development, gender equality and democracy and overall inclusive development. During the opening day, the participants also got to hear the



The program was financially supported by the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and European Union through IFP. Full Report [here](#)

3.2. Outreach and Advocacy

3.2.1. National Level

3.2.1.1. Sri Lanka SDG Network Meeting, Colombo, 26 April, Colombo



The Civil society organisations in Sri Lanka have formed Sri Lanka Stakeholder SDG Platform – a multi stake holder platform of CSO, academic, local government, business, activist, professional, youth, women etc. The platform was formed on 8th March, 2018 followed by a national consultation on 26th April in Colombo having convergence of these stakeholders to facilitate an ‘inclusive transformation’ in Sri Lanka with an aim to establish an ‘independent monitoring and Reporting Mechanism’ on the SDGs in Sri Lanka called ‘Voluntary People’s Report, with almost 120 people from human rights groups, Private Sector, academia, etc. in attendance. The consultation



culminated into making some strong outputs on Report preparations by experts including environmentalists, gender groups, youth , LGBTIQ, fisherman's etc.

3.2.2. Regional Level

3.2.2.1. Exchange program JANIC (Japan) and CCC (Cambodia)



Japan NGO Center for International Cooperation (JANIC), the largest NGO network in Japan on international cooperation and a member/co-convener of ADA, is conducting a research project on civic space and enabling environment for CSO and how we can improve this by promoting dialogues and collaboration with different sectors. The research is funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Japan, and JANIC has so far studied current civic space situations in 7 different countries, including Cambodia. From 19th to 21st February 2018, JANIC invited Mr.

Soeung Saroeun,, Executive Director of Cooperation Committee for Cambodia (CCC), to Japan, in order to discuss this issue and establish an action plan for better enabling environment in Cambodia. Mr. Saroeun visited the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to talk with the Director of First Southeast Asia Division, Southeast and Southwest Asian Affairs Department, and JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency) to discuss JICA’s legal assistance to Cambodia, such as training for young lawyers. He also had a chance to meet Mr. Yasushi Akashi, former Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) during 1992-1993.

3.2.2.2. ADA and Members Participation in Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development and Asia -Pacific People’s Forum in Sustainable Development

Asia-Pacific Civil Society Forum on Sustainable Development 2018, 25- 27 March 2018, BANGKOK, THAILAND: Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies in Asia and the Pacific

The Asia-Pacific Civil Society Forum on Sustainable Development was organized by civil society (the secretariat represented by the Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development as a coordinator of the Asia-Pacific Regional CSO Engagement Mechanism (AP-RCEM)), in collaboration with the ESCAP and the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) as a preparatory meeting for the APFSD.

The peoples Forum on Sustainable Development 2018 was organised with the emphasis on “defending the environment and redefining resilience” in Bangkok from 25th to 27th March, 2018 with participation from more than 200 CSOs representing various groups, constituencies with the commitment to strengthen the inter-linkages among rights, development and sustainability and ensure prioritised attention for the most marginalised.

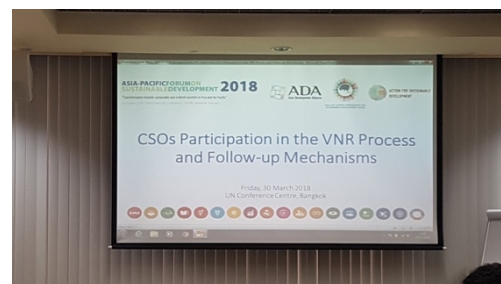
[Peoples’ Forum Statement for Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development 2018](#)





3.2.2.3. APFSD Side Event: ADA-APSD-A4SD: CSO Engagement in VNR Process and Follow up Mechanism, 30th March, UNCC, Bangkok

The Asia Development Alliance (ADA) along with its partners, the Asian CSO Partnership for Sustainable Development (APSD) and the Action for Sustainable Development (A4SD) organized the side event entitled CSOs engagement in the VNR process and the follow up mechanism on 30th March during the APFSD, 2018 to share the experiences of government-CSO engagement and the role of United Nations to encourage multi-stakeholder partnership and ensure that the transformative promise of the SDGs to “Leave No One Behind’ is delivered.



The side event focussed on challenges and opportunities related to CSO-government engagement based on previous CSO lessons learned during VNR reporting and other follow-up mechanisms in 2016 and 2017. The event also was an opportunity for CSOs from countries in Asia with upcoming VNRs in 2018 to learn from their experiences.

[Full Report here](#)

3.2.2.4. LAC Forum on Sustainable Development -Santiago de 16-20 April, 2018

The LAC Forum on Sustainable Development that took place in Santiago de Chile from April 16th to 20th. This regional forum was organized under the auspices of the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean -ECLAC-, hence, it's considered as the regional chapter of the HLPF.



A regional workshop was also organised on April 16th - on methodologies for elaborating spotlight reports and how to use these as advocacy tools- followed by a Civil Society consultation on 17th April focusing on building a participation mechanism in the context of the Forum. Mr. Anselmo LEE, Senior Advisor , ADA, shared the Asian CSO experiences about engagement on SDGs including UN HLPF VNR, etc. at the CSO consultation about SDGs in Latin America and Caribbean countries at ECLAC, Santiago, Chile.

3.2.2.5. UNESCAP- Webinar Series on Stakeholder Engagement Module 1: An Introduction to Stakeholder Engagement in the 2030 Agenda, 19 September 18

The process of formulating the 2030 Agenda was one of the most inclusive in the history of intergovernmental negotiations at the UN. It certainly lived up to the legacy of Agenda 21, and the precedents it set for ensuring that all stakeholders in society are included in the work of creating, implementing, and reviewing sustainable development policy. As the world moves quickly towards the year 2030 and the sustainability deadlines set by the agenda, it is critical that governments and stakeholders work together in partnership to further ensure progress is made on achieving the goals and targets of the framework.

in the 2030 Agenda, a bit of history, and specific references to the sections and text of the agenda where stakeholder engagement plays a particularly important role.

The webinar recording is available [here](#)

3.2.2.6. 2nd North-East Asian Multi-Stakeholder Forum on SDGs on 5-6 September 2018

UNESCAP organized the 2nd North-East Asian Multistakeholder Forum on SDGs on 5-6 September 2018 in Ulanbatar , Mongolia. Many ADA members participated in the two days forum and presented views on Goal 10, goal 16 and other Sustainable Development Goals. ADA Senior advisor Mr. Anselmo LEE presented PPT about SDG 16+ in Northeast Asia.



3.2.2.7. ADA and Members Participation in ASEAN Civil Society Conference/ ASEAN Peoples' Forum : 2-4 November 2018, Singapore Polytechnic Graduates' Guild

The ASEAN Civil Society Conference and ASEAN Peoples' Forum (ACSC/APF), a solidarity gathering of diverse civil society organizations (CSOs) in Southeast Asia, carries a strong mandate in representing and strengthening ASEAN peoples' voices especially from disadvantaged and marginalized groups, to engage ASEAN member states and mechanisms, by honoring mutual respect, integrity, joint development and promoting peoples' solidarity. It focuses on ASEAN's commitment to its people using the principles of human rights, democracy, equality, and development. This year's conference theme is "**Empowering Peoples' Solidarity Against All Forms of Discrimination**".



The engagement of ACSC/APF in the ASEAN process brings attention to the issues and concerns of its constituents – the working class, the peasantry, urban poor, fisherfolk, women, children, LGBT community, indigenous peoples, the older persons, persons with disabilities, employees, professionals, migrants, and students.

Some of the ADA members also attended this forum. ADA Senior advisor, Mr. Anselmo LEE spoke on '*How CSOs can leverage on SDGs in their advocacy efforts*' to an audience of 200 or so guests from a diverse range of regional civil society organisations from all ASEAN member states and Timor Leste Mr. Denison Jayasooriya highlighted the theme of Sustainable Development Goals - the 2030 agenda with that the ASEAN community vision of 2025 drawing complementarities and lessons.

https://www.acscapf2018.org/?fbclid=IwAR009kP73GIVhVQ9SszdnW0kp_1BGX5vv5TtpmzdB61V6OATz1cUlf3_4g



[ACSC/APF 2018 Statement](#)

[Joint statement to ASEAN leaders post-ACSC/APF 2018](#) : ASEAN must not consider the option of voluntary return without addressing the root causes of the displacement and entrenched discrimination of the Rohingya

3.2.2.8. ADA AGM and Steering Committee – 24th January, Busan, 2018

ADA organised its Annual Meeting with its members and few observers on 24th January to review 2017 and strategic actions for 2018-2020. The meeting also reviewed the governance structure of ADA. [Detailed SC Meeting Decisions here](#)

Office Bearers for ADA 2018-2019

Position	Name		NGO	Sub-region
Co Conveners	Mr Gopal Lamsal (Mr. Jit Ram Lama)		NFN	South Asia
	Mr Saroeun Soeung (Focal Point)		CCC	South East Asia
	Mr Hideki Wakabayashi		JANIC	North East Asia
Steering Committee Members	Primary Member	Alternate Member	Org.	Sub-region
	Mr Gopal Lamsal	Ms Bhawana Bhatta	NFN	South Asia
	Mr Zia Ur Rahman	Ms Maryam Amjad	PDA	
	Mr Saroeun Soeung	Ms El Sotheary	CCC	South Asia
	Mr Sugeng Bahagijo	Mr Hamong Santono	INFID	North East Asia
	Mr Hideki Wakabayashi	Mr Aoi Horiuchi	JANIC	
	Hyunbong Yoon	Ms Minyoung KIM	KCOC	
Senior Adviser	Harsh Jaitli, India / Anselmo Lee, Korea			
Secretariat	Jyotsna Mohan, India – Regional Coordinator Yaerum Jun, Seoul Office – Program Coordinator			

3.2.3. Global Level :

There were various representations from ADA at the global level for its advocacy through global events through platforms like I4C, AGNA, CIVICUS, HLPF, C20 during the last one year.

3.2.3.1. Busan Democracy Forum (BuDF) 2018: UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Democracy “Promoting Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies in Asia and beyond” Grand Hotel, Busan, Republic of Korea, 22-24 Jan. 2018 (Mon.-Tue.)

The Busan Democracy Forum (BuDF) 2018, a joint initiative of the Permanent Secretariat of the Community of Democracies (PSCD), Asia Democracy Network (ADN), Asia Development Alliance (ADA), the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) of Busan and in cooperation with the government of the Republic of Korea and the Metropolitan City of Busan.



The Forum, under the theme “Promoting Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies in Asia and beyond”, took place at the Haeundae Grand Hotel, Busan, South Korea from 22 to 24 January 2018.

The Forum’s aimed at promoting Goal 16 of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as the enabler of all Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and discuss the inter-linkages with other Goals and Targets.

More specifically, the Forum witnessed almost 250 civil society participants from all over the globe especially from Asia who shared their experiences on advocacy initiatives, implementation, national level reporting and

available tools for measuring progress towards SDG 16 which is one of global priorities at the UN High Level Political Forum (HLPF) in 2019. Furthermore, the Forum also deliberated diverse experiences of democratization and democratic governance in Asia and beyond, highlighting the importance of democracy for sustainable development.

The workshop solicited collective worldwide effort, in which governments, private sector, civil society, and people in general to work together to ensure a sustainable future for the planet. The meeting also deliberated ways to achieve the agenda 2030. Goal 16 and complimentary indicators (developed by CoD and later by ADA) was another important highlight during of the meeting, useful for states providing inspiration in their effort to develop complimentary national indicators that consider their national contexts; and the wider democratic community, including civil society, in strengthening their monitoring processes, facilitating synergies and helping assess progress toward the achievement of Goal 16. One of the important output of the two days deliberation was SDG 16 national level indicators developed by ADA apart from draft VNR guidelines. The Civil society also came up with the [statement](#)

Full Report [here](#)

3.2.3.2. UN High-level Meeting on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace - 24-25 April, New York

The event took place in New York on 24-25 April while the concrete steps are being taken for the historic Inter-Korean Summit on 26 April (NY time) on peace-building in the Korean peninsular, Asia and beyond !

UNGA President Miroslav Lajcak convened a high-level meeting to assess efforts undertaken and opportunities to strengthen the UN's work on peacebuilding and sustaining peace. As specific objectives, the meeting reflected on how to: 1) Adjust to the new UN approach to peace with the emphasis on conflict prevention; 2) Strengthen operational and policy coherence within the United Nations system towards peacebuilding and sustaining peace; 3) Increase, restructure and better prioritize funding to United Nations peacebuilding activities; 4) Strengthen partnerships between the

UN and key stakeholders in the field; 5) Address the root causes of conflict to sustain peace; 6) Address the role of women and youth in peacebuilding.

Please read the details [here](#)

3.2.3.3. Legitimacy, Accountability and Transparency (LTA) Working group meeting: Tbilisi, Georgia, 30 May, 2018



ADA and its members also attended LTA working group meeting in Tbilisi, Georgia in order to strengthening the processes and building actions for the mobilization of national CSO platforms on these key issues. #AGNALTA #GAW2018

3.2.3.4. Affinity group of national associations (AGNA) AGM, Tbilisi, Georgia :31-May – 1 June, 2018

Meanwhile, ADA and some of its members (VANI, India, NGO Federation of Nepal) also attended AGNA annual general body meeting that held in Georgia. The meeting was an opportunity to discuss various issues like LTA, enabling environment for the CSOs, , domestic resource mobilisations etc. The members discussed their own and AGNA potential opportunities and strength which would be key to make the network stronger.

3.2.3.5. ADA Side Event: High Level Political Forum (HLPF-2018)

CSOs Participation in the VNR Process and SDG Follow up Mechanism

13 July 2018, UNDP Office, New York

The Asia Development Alliance (ADA), the UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub, the International Platform for National NGOs (IPN), the UNECE Regional Civil Society Engagement Mechanism and the UNECLAC civil society engagement mechanism jointly organized a side event on 13 July 2018 at the UNDP headquarters, during the 2018 HLPF.

The side event contributed to share experiences of government-CSO engagement across regions and understand the role of the United Nations to encourage multi-stakeholder partnerships and ensure that the transformative promise of the SDGs to ‘Leave No One Behind’ is delivered. It also focused on challenges and opportunities related to CSO-government engagement based on previous CSO lessons learned during VNR reporting and other follow-up mechanisms in 2016 , 2017 and 2018.



Full Report [here](#)



Some important Side Events of ADA and Partners interests – [here](#)

3.2.3.6. FORUS General Assembly and Strategic week, Santiago, Chile (3-8 September)

FORUS, which is a global network of national civil society organization, celebrated its 10th years anniversary in Santiago, Chile from 3 to 8th September. The occasion also witnessed the participation of almost with 47 National Platforms and 4 Regional Coalitions. The participants discussed the new narrative on Civil Society and Forus's role to boost ecosystems for the NGOs. Another workshop organised during the Forus' Strategic Week highlighted "Addressing challenges of NGO leadership" attended by the platforms of Seychelles, Hungary, Colombia, Denmark, Spain, the Philippines, Gambia and the Regional Coalition Asian Development Alliance for sharing their case studies!!!

3.2.3.7. World Human Rights Cities Forum – Gwangju, South Korea (18-21 October, 2018)

The World Human Rights Cities Forum, hosted by Kwangju City, the National Human Rights Commission of Korea and the Kwangju Office of Education, kicked off a four-day event at the Kim Daejung Convention Center



on the afternoon of the 18th. The World Forum on Human Rights Cities, held this year, themed, "Who do we live with? Diversity, Embracing and Peace," 40 seminars and other events were organised based on seven themes. In particular, this forum has been co-hosted with the National Human Rights Commission and establishing a new model for collaboration between the central government and local governments. The Opening Ceremony was held in celebration of Kwangju International Cultural Center Civic Choir's "March for

yours", followed by opening remarks by Lee Yong-sup, Kwangju Mayor, welcome by Choi Young-ae, Chairman of National Human Rights Commission, and celebration.

ADA in partnership with ADN organised a two days workshop under the theme "Human Rights Cities for UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) - Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies" on 19-20 Oct. 2018 as part of the 8th World Human Rights Cities Forum (WHRCF) (18-21 Oct. 2018) www.whrcf.org

The Workshop aimed at providing space and opportunities for mutual learning and exchange among people engaged in human rights cities internationally including South Korea. More specifically, the Workshop made efforts to developing common long-term action agenda and plans for human rights cities in line with the UN 2020 Agenda for Sustainable Development / Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the UN HRC's resolutions on local government and human rights to be adopted in September 2018.

The Workshop also aimed at revising the Kwangju Guiding Principles for Human Rights Cities which was adopted in 2014 in order to update it with





the new development such as the SDGs, and UN HABITAT III relevant to human rights city.

This way the workshop got synchronised with the human rights cities to broaden and align their policies and strategies with international norms and agenda for sustainable and synergetic impacts.

“Strengthening Governance through Inclusivity: Integration of Leaving No One Behind in the Sustainable Development Agenda”- OGP Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting



Asia Democracy Network in collaboration with Asia Development Alliance (ADA), organized a session as a part of OGP Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting. The session was based on the fact that the United Nations Member States pledged to ensure that “no one will be left behind” when adopting the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals Agenda (SDGs). The SDGs has become the guiding spirit of the member states when developing and implementing the goals into their respective national policy. This discussion session aimed to gather a diverse panel of speakers from civil society, academia, and the government to assess how respectively they have integrated inclusivity in the planning and implementation of the 2030 agenda and share challenges and best practices.

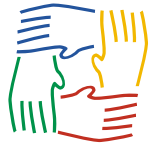
4. Summary of Activities - 2018

Objective 1: Capacity Building

Activities	Narrative	Indicator/s	Achievement/s
GALAA Training (Asia) - Colombo	The Glo-cal Advocacy Leadership in Asia (GALAA) Academy is a joint initiative by two leading regional civil society networks working in the field of human rights, development and democracy in Asia - namely, the Asia Development Alliance (ADA) and Asia Democracy Network (ADA)- with the aim to strengthen the international advocacy capacity of mid- and high-level staff in CSOs and thereby facilitate second-tier	Percentage of trainers taking initiatives in various human rights/development, democracies and SDGs activities/programs by the end of the project (2020)	The participants were trained on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Framing national indicators on SDG 16 , based on the global indicators. • Participant also prepared their draft Guidelines and Timeline for CSO engagement in HLPF VNR 2017 country
GALA Training Central Asia - almaty			

	<p>leadership for strategic “glocal (global and local)” actions on key human rights, development and democracy issues as well as related regional and international processes. The GALAA Academy is also part of continued endeavors by human rights and development CSOs in the region to meaningfully activate intrinsic linkages between the agendas of the two communities</p>		<p>specific guidelines on VNR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SDG 16 Mapping about Glocal Actors (GO, CSO and Multi-stake Holders (MSH)). • The GALA 2018, Colombo Central Asia made the participants aware on importance of linking peace and SDGs (development) and enabled them to establish a positive correlations between these two syncing with the UN Agenda 2030. • linking each SDG goal with special procedures (human rights)¹ which has become one of the guiding resources for those interested in linking human rights with SDGs. • Immediately after the training program, two GALA alumni from Japan and S. Korea participated and made presentations in the UN ESCAP sub – regional
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¹ <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Pages/ListOfIssues.aspx>



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			<p>meeting in Mongolia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There are also request to organize the training program in the pacific region which will be a step further from ADA mandate , however, it's a good learning opportunity for the CSOs, The ESCAP suggests to take this training program for the government and the UN official which is another important feature for ADA's• ADA proposes to organize such training program at the national level also , especially in the VNR countries like Pakistan, , Mongolia, timor Leste and other countries where the CSO national platforms are nor very active. <p>Participants learnt about nexus approach :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 'transformative and integral approach to SDGs'• conflict-sensitive,• gender-sensitive,• climate-sensitive and
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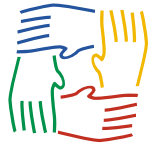
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • human rights-based approach to SDGs by linking SDG 5, 13, 16, and 17 • Through this session, the participants understood important regional and global mechanism for advocacy in the field of development , democracy and human rights and who needs to be approach and for what purposes
National capacity Building /Outreach workshops	As discussed in the earlier paragraph, that it was decided among ADA members to spread the outreach program at the national level also especially considering the national VNR process and CSOs engagement in the VNR countries. This would also help the CSOs at the national level to voice up their opinions in solidarity in realtion to national SDGs planning, implementation and monitoring.		National outreach SDGs campaigns in (the VNR countries for 2018) in Sri Lanka, Lao PDR and Vietnam, Singapore and Bhutan and helped the CSO in enagaging ith the government in the VNR process and capaciated them on CSO reporting on VNR process. Vietnam, Lao PDR and Sri Lanka were able to prepare their own CSO report and presented them during the side event organized by ADA during High Level Political Forum, New York.

Objective 2: Advocacy

Thematic Policy Brief and Position Papers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Busan declaration and statement on goal 16 	Number of contributions by ADA	ADA came up with all the documents in last one years.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft national level indicators on goal 16 • Guidelines on CSOs engagement in the VNR Process • Linking each SDGs with special (HR) procedure 		<p>The statements were presented to KOICA and government of Korea.</p> <p>The CSO guidelines have been shared with various national platforms apart from UN ESCAP and UNDP, Forus and well acknowledged</p> <p>The SDG national level indicators will be circulated among national CSO platform of VNR 2019 countries and they can adapt the same for their own CSO monitoring report</p>
<p>SDGs independent Monitoring Reports</p>	<p>Here we propose to help and capacitate the local CSO's at country level to come up with independent SDG's monitoring report, which will not only review the government processes and planning but review of CSOs engagement in SDG's and their monitoring using locally developed indicators and VNR</p>	<p>Number of shadow reports coming as a result of ADA's initiatives by the end of project year</p>	<p>ADA has taken a lead in coordinating and capacitating its partners in Asia on the issues of SDG, (Goal 16 especially) and VNR.</p> <p>Prepared 10 countries VNR excerpt following its first regional consultation in Bangkok in February, 2017. The report was finalised during the APRCEM and APFSD meeting in Bangkok a month later and was submitted to UN ESCAP and all partners, members and global networks like A\$SD, TAP etc. where it was widely acknowledged.</p> <p>ADA has also been coordinating with its 9 Asian partners on development on VNR and /or shadow</p>

		<p>report and carried out a couple of webinars with APSD in the last couple of months</p> <p>Later in 2018, ADA again prepared 5 countries excerpts for VNR countries from Asia, namely (Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Vietnam, Lao PDR and Singapore) based on the inputs taken from ADA members /partners engages in the process at the national level. ADA has also been instrumental in CSO report preparatons/updates from Vietnam, Lao PDR, Bhutan and Sri Lanka , wheer the civil society prepared independent CSO report. In Bhutan, there was no independent report though, but the CSOs made an update on the whole VNR process and level of engagement with the civil society .</p> <p>ADA also initiated / pioneered the process of CSO statement from Singapore with fellow colleagues during High Level Political Forum in New York, and took inputs from the colleagues back in Singapore on the draft statement (for presentation during HLPF) which was</p>
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			<p>presented during the VNR session on Singapore.</p> <p>Bhutan CSO Report</p> <p>Lao PDR CSO Report</p> <p>Sri Lanka Voluntary Peoples Report</p> <p>Combined INGO Comments on the Voluntary National Review (VNR) Report of Vietnam</p> <p>Vietnam CSO Report</p> <p>Korea Civil Society Report for 2018 HLPF</p>
<p>Policy engagement with national governments</p>	<p>Through our members and independent advocacy, we propose to get engaged with various national governments</p>	<p>Number of country level intervention/policy level engagements of ADA partners by the end of project year</p>	<p>ADA encourages engagements with national government as a first step towards creating better spaces for the civil society organizations, especially in the context of VNR reporting. During the last one year, ADA did many national level advocacy workshops and pledge the CSOs to engage with their respective government in the SDGs implementation, monitoring and review process and VNR. Some of the countries which got</p>

			<p>with their governments are Bhutan, while in Sri Lanka, there were mix response. While one few got engaged in the official VNR process whereas the CSOs went ahead and wrote their independent Voluntary People's report.</p> <p>Sadly, in Lao PDR, Vietnam and Singapore, there could not be any positive or critical engagement with the government.</p>
<p>International presence and engagement on issues of G20, ADB, NDB etc.</p>	<p>We propose to continue our international presence in the global platforms</p>	<p>Number of international presence made by the end of project year</p>	<p>So far there have quite a few international representations by ADA, for example, SDG 16 meeting in Geneva, Lisbon, USA etc. , apart from representation in I4C meetings in Sri Lanka and S.Africa. Kazakhstan, San Francisco, Mexico and other.</p> <p>Some ADA members also participated in C 20 Argentina and IMF-WB meeting in Bali.</p> <p>ADA prepared a statement on linking OGP and Goal 16 and sent to IMF-WB meeting which was submitted to the organisers.</p> <p>ADA was also represented and made presentations during Global Forum on Human Rights and</p>

			<p>Development- Geneva. Asia -Europe People's forum , ASEAN People's Forum (APF) / ASEAN Civil Society Conference (ACSC) – Singapore apart from World Human rights cities forum (WHRCF) – Gwangju (October), apart fom co-organising workshop during Open Government Partnership Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting 2018</p> <p>“Promoting Democracy, Improving Governance, Renewing Trust” - Seoul</p>
<p>UNESCAP Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD)</p>	<p>The meeting was proposed at Bangkok (2018) and ADA was not only solicited to scan and recommend the names of CSOs applicants with few fellow organizations like Asia -Pacific Regional CSO mechanism, but also organised a side event with UNDP</p>	<p>Number of meetings attended, and contributions made</p>	<p>ADA has been attending all the APFSDs since its inception and has been well recognised in the forum by the UN ESCAP and UNDP .</p> <p>Many ADA member have been attending the forum</p> <p>ADA organised a side event on CSOs participation in SDGs implementation and review mechanism with UNDP as a co-host in the UN ESCAP . The side event proposal was accepted by the UN ESCAP.</p> <p>The meeting was attended by approximately 40 participants</p>
<p>UN-High Level political Forum (July, 2017)</p>	<p>ADA'a continued presence in High Level Political forum</p>	<p>Number of HLPF attended, number of side events</p>	<p>ADA has been attending the High level Political Forum since its inception</p>

		organized, co organized	and was well represented again in 2018. ADA along with colleagues from department of Ageing prepared a statement on behalf of the CSOs from Singapore, who could not attend the HLPF, for presentation during Singapore VNR presentation. ADA also organised a side event on CSO engagement mechanism in the VNR process with UNDP (Asia hub), Forus, TAP network and Transparency International apart from other side event on ODA with KOICA.
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Objective 3: Membership, Leadership

Activities	Narrative	Indicator/s	Achievement/s
Outreach to new members	Working in the countries having absence of national civil society platforms	Number of new members made every year/ and cumulative by the end of project	Proposition / application received from Bhutan, Vietnam and Maldives, Kazakhstan.
ADA consultation and annual Steering Committee (SC) meeting	ADA organized its Steering Committee meeting in Busan, during Busan democracy forum. ADA also co-hosted the Busan democracy forum which was also its annual regional consultation for its members and partners	Number of ADA consultations by the end of project year	1 SC meeting in Busan, south Korea January, 2018 and one regional consultation. The Steering Committee of ADA was also reviewed and renewed with

			some member retiring while new member joining in the Steering committee (Nepal, Cambodia, Japan-new SC member)
Representation at international meetings and networks (e.g. IFP, CIVICUS AGNA, TAP Network, ADN, APSD, etc.)	Continued presence in these platforms for better outreach	Number of ADA representations made on various platforms by the end of project year	AGNA meeting in Tbilisi, Georgia (May 2018), I4C Global governance circle meeting in San Francisco (March 2018) and Mexico (November, 2018), TAP Network face to face Steering Committee meeting (October, 2018, Bangkok)
ADA Directory & Brochure	Updating ADA directory and brochure		The Directory is ready and its reviewed constantly to accommodate new membership applications
ADA Web hosting	ADA website updation	Number of updates made on website and number of clicks to read the materials	Every month the website is updates, (in the form of monthly newsletter, information, statements etc



5. ADA Registration Certificate (Korean Language)



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고유번호증

(수익사업을 하지 않는 비영리법인 및 국가기관 등:본점)

고유번호 : 203-82-62090

단체명 : 아시아발전연대(ADA)

대표자성명 : 이성훈

생년월일 : 1961년 08월 30일

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발급사유 : 신규

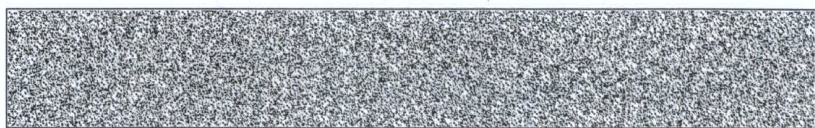
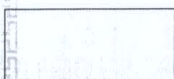


(유의사항)

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- (2) 수익사업을 하고자 하는 경우에는 사업자등록 신청 및 수익사업개시신고를 하고 납세의무를 이행하여야 하며, 미이행 시 가산세 등 세무상 불이익을 받을 수 있습니다.

2017년 02월 14일

마포세무서장





6. Office Bearers for ADA 2019

Position	Name		NGO	Sub-region
Co-Conveners	Mr Jit Ram Lama		NFN	South Asia
	Mr Saroeun Soeung (Focal Point)		CCC	South East Asia
	Mr Hideki Wakabayashi		JANIC	North East Asia
Steering Committee Members	Primary Member	Alternate Member	Organization	Sub-region
	Mr Jit Ram Lama	Ms Bhawana Bhatta	NFN	South Asia
	Mr Zia Ur Rahman	Ms Maryam Amjad	PDA	
	Mr Saroeun Soeung	Ms El Sotheary	CCC	South East Asia
	Mr Mugiyanto	Ms Tatat	INFID	
	Mr Hideki Wakabayashi	Mr Aoi Horiuchi	JANIC	North East Asia
	Mr Daeshik Jo	Ms Minyoung KIM	KCOC	
Senior Adviser	Mr Harsh Jaitli, India Mr Anselmo Lee, Korea			
Secretariat	Dr Jyotsna Mohan, Regional Coordinator- Asia, India Ms Yaerum Jung, Program Coordinator, Seoul Office			