



**Asia Pacific Civil Society
Engagement Mechanism**

Asia Pacific Regional CSO Engagement Mechanism

*a platform for effective
engagement for development
justice*

Regional Coordinating Committee

17 Constituency Focal Points

5 Sub-Regional Focal Points

Advisory Group

AP- RCEM Constituents

Sub-regional Groups

Pacific, North East Asia,
Central Asia,
South Asia, South East Asia

Constituency Groups

- (1) Women, (2) farmers, (3) **fisherfolk**,
- (4) youth, children and adolescents
- (5) **migrants**, (6) trade union/workers,
- (7) **people living and affected with HIV**, (8) **LGBTIQ**, (9) **urban poor**, (10) **people displaced by disasters and conflict**, (11) **small and medium enterprises**, (12) science and technology, (13) **persons with disability**, (14) Indigenous peoples, (15) **Older People**, (16) Local Authorities, (17) NGOs

Thematic Working Groups

DEVELOPMENT JUSTICE

RE-DISTRIBUTIVE JUSTICE

ECONOMIC JUSTICE

SOCIAL AND GENDER JUSTICE

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

ACCOUNTABILITY TO PEOPLES

The world we want.



AP-RCCEM

Asia Pacific Civil Society
Engagement Mechanism

Collective Regional Submissions

- Assessment of Progress on themes
- Systemic Barriers to achieve Sustainable Development
 - Neoliberalism – Trade Agreements, Corporate Power,
 - Rising authoritarianism / fundamentalisms
 - Militarism
 - Patriarchy
- Means of Implementation
- Partnerships
- Strengthening Accountability



Opportunities

- ESCAP is taking an increasingly important role
- Roadmap should be a space for regional cooperation around tax, regional public goods, accountability of regional institutions and for ex-ante assessments of regional agreements compliance with Agenda2030
- Regional Submission 2019
- Voluntary National Reviews
- Establish TU Indicators
- RCEM Working group – Trade and Corporate Power
- Other ESCAP committees

Partnerships

- Partnerships primarily with private sector, diminished obligation of states and tripartism
- National implementation mainly excludes TUs
- Cement Public-Private Partnerships as UN policy
- Evident through indicator – World Bank's PPPs facility – no measurement of civil society partnerships nor of quality.
- ESCAP PPPs dashboard



Macro-Economic Indicators

- While providing a structured means to manage diversity among civil society, it has been argued that the major groups engagement mechanism, while formalizing participation, has also reduced the scope and role of CSO engagement with the UN system (Adams 2013).
- Little had occurred to ensure civil society from the Asia Pacific region is fully engaged in international and regional processes.
- Civil society engagement in regional processes, in particular, has been sporadic and primarily thematic.

Why AP-RCEM?



- Ensure that the diversity of Asia and Pacific civil society is able to engage with and influence national, sub-regional, regional and international intergovernmental processes, and
- To also ensure that the peoples of Asia and Pacific are able to monitor the implementation of the SDGs in national, regional and global level and hold the UN and governments accountable.
- Building and generate power of RCEM constituency, give pressure to the governments, reshape the sustainable development discourse through collective mobilised actions on development justice

How was RCEM created?

- The AP-RCEM was initiated, owned and driven by CSOs and their constituents. It has been set up after a series of meetings and collaborative consultations under the auspices of UNESCAP and seeks to engage with Member States and UN agencies on development related processes and issues in national, regional and global level.



AP-RCEM: Background History

- A **consistent call** during the **Post-Rio+20 process**: the need to have a **CSO Engagement Mechanism** in regional level!
- **Key Milestones**
 - UNEP Asia Pacific Consultation of Major Group and Other Stakeholder: November 2012, Kathmandu, Nepal
 - ESCAP Regional Implementation Meeting on the Follow Up of Rio+20, May 2013: Conference Room Paper (CRP), Presentation at the panel on CSO engagement.
 - ESCAP Commission Session 69th, May 2013

AP CSO Consultation on **Just and Transformative Development Agenda**, August 2013



Une développement fondé sur la justice

Keadilan Pembangunan

Desenvolvimento com justiça

ความเสมอภาคในการพัฒนา

ADAL PAR MABNI TARAQQI

справедливое развитие التنمية عدالة

Justicia para el Desarrollo

Phát triển công bằng

Калыстыкта өнүгүү

本於社會公義的可持續發展

DEVELOPMENT



JUSTICE

<http://peoplesgoals.org/global-day-of-action-for-development-justice/>
<https://www.facebook.com/daysfordevjustice>



Our World. Our Future. Our Goals.
CAMPAIGN FOR PEOPLE'S GOALS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

a transformative and redistributive framework that aims to reduce **inequalities** of **wealth power** and **resources** between **countries**, between **rich and poor** and between **men and women** and **other social groups**

Key Milestones



2nd Phase Election :

- NGO
- Youth, Children & Adolescent
- People living and affected by HIV
- Urban Poor
- LGBTIQ
- Local Authorities
- Workers and Trade Union
- Central Asia
- East Asia



Asia-Pacific Regional CSO
Engagement Mechanism

**SECOND PHASE OF ELECTION:
CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR AP-RCEM
CONSTITUENCY AND SUB-REGIONAL
FOCAL POINTS 2015 - 2017**

The image features a stylized map of the Asia-Pacific region in shades of purple and yellow. In the upper left, there is a circular logo with a central green dot and four large arrows pointing outwards in orange, blue, red, and green. The text 'Asia-Pacific Regional CSO Engagement Mechanism' is positioned to the right of the logo. A white rectangular box in the lower center contains the election announcement text in bold black font.

What RCEM has done so far

- Coordinating input from the Asia Pacific region ensuring a regional voice during the post2015 negotiating sessions both in regional and global level – done through constituency based approach.
- Recognized through the formal acknowledgement of its role as partner of ESCAP in organizing the official CSO forum that precedes the first APFSD in 2014 and 2015, as well as in providing direct inputs in the preparations for the official process – including agenda/programme of APFSD, fielding nominees for speaker and discussant roles.
- Bringing grassroots voices in the regional and global forums.





- AP-RCEM is aimed to enable stronger cross **constituency** coordination and ensure of all sub-regions of Asia Pacific are heard in intergovernmental processes, in national, regional and global level.
- Thus, the RCEM will ensure that the 60% of the world's people living in the Asia Pacific region are better represented by civil society and social movements in global negotiations and have a stronger, coordinated, and more effective voice in regional and global processes. It is designed to reach the broadest number of CSOs, harness the voice of grassroots and peoples' movements to advance a more just, equitable and sustainable model of development – a model of development justice.