

Title	Ensuring Quality and Value through Empowering Community Enterprise Initiatives in the Forest Products Trade in the Asia Pacific Region	
Organizer	Non-Timber Forest Products - Exchange Programme Asia (NTFP-EP Asia)	
Type of event	Discussion forum; Plenary; Seminar	
Venue	Room 306	
Date/Time	Wednesday, June 19; 15:30-17:00	
Event description		
<p>Community forestry enterprises have proven to contribute in raising rural incomes and improving food security. In their analysis, the Program on Forests (PROFOR) in 2018 highlighted that at the global level, it is estimated that small and medium-sized enterprises account for an estimated 45 million, or about 80-90 percent of enterprises within the forestry sector. But these enterprises face challenges without initial investments, capacity and access to markets to support inclusive, responsible business.</p> <p>In this session, NTFP-EP along with its consortium partners AFA and AIPP, will highlight the emerging successful models leading to added value and quality business endeavors benefitting community forestry beneficiaries.</p> <p>Aadhimalai, a trailblazing producer company of over 1200 indigenous women and men, will present its story of consolidating, processing and marketing farm and NTFP produce from the Nilgris Biosphere Reserve in Southern India. They will share their struggles and their strategies to stay viable. Thai colleagues will discuss how hin laad nai initiatives have documented and developed the process of indigenous foods systems to prepare slow food offerings. In collaboration with chefs from different parts of the country, they have developed slow food meals with ingredients naturally sourced out from their forests. The Lao Farmers Network will present their advocacies and economic efforts to add value to Lao rural producers. NTFP-EP will present one of its models of green intermediaries as a responsible initiative to effectively bring community products to urban center.</p> <p>These collective examples across the "forest to fork" distribution chain, provide a collection of interventions emphasizing multiple values of local initiatives resulting in multiple socio-cultural and economic benefits.</p>		
Time	Speaker / Panelist	Theme
15.30 - 15.35	Femy Pinto, Executive Director, NTFP-EP Asia	Introduction and Key Messages
15.35 - 15.50	Dr. Prasert Trakansuphakon, Chairperson, Pgakenyaw (Karen) for Sustainable Development (PASD) and a Board member of the Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP)	Slow food and other enterprise initiatives: Case of hin laad nai, Thailand
15:50 - 16:05	Jestin Pauls, Production and Sales liaison Manager, Aadhimalai	Indigenous peoples and farmers producers - Producers cooperative experience in Southern India
16.05 - 16.20	Phouttasinh Phimmachanh, Lao Farmer Network	Cooperatives and cooperative union in Lao PDR
16.20 - 16.35	Julius Domingo, Production Officer, Custommade Crafts Center, Philippines	Green intermediaries - empowering communities and providing credibility
16.35 - 16.55	Moderator: Crissy Guerrero, Senior Adviser, NTFP-EP Asia Note taker: Dazzle Labapis, Program officer, NTFP-EP Asia	Question & answer
16.55 - 17:00	Crissy Guerrero, Senior Adviser, NTFP-EP Asia	Wrapping-up and closing