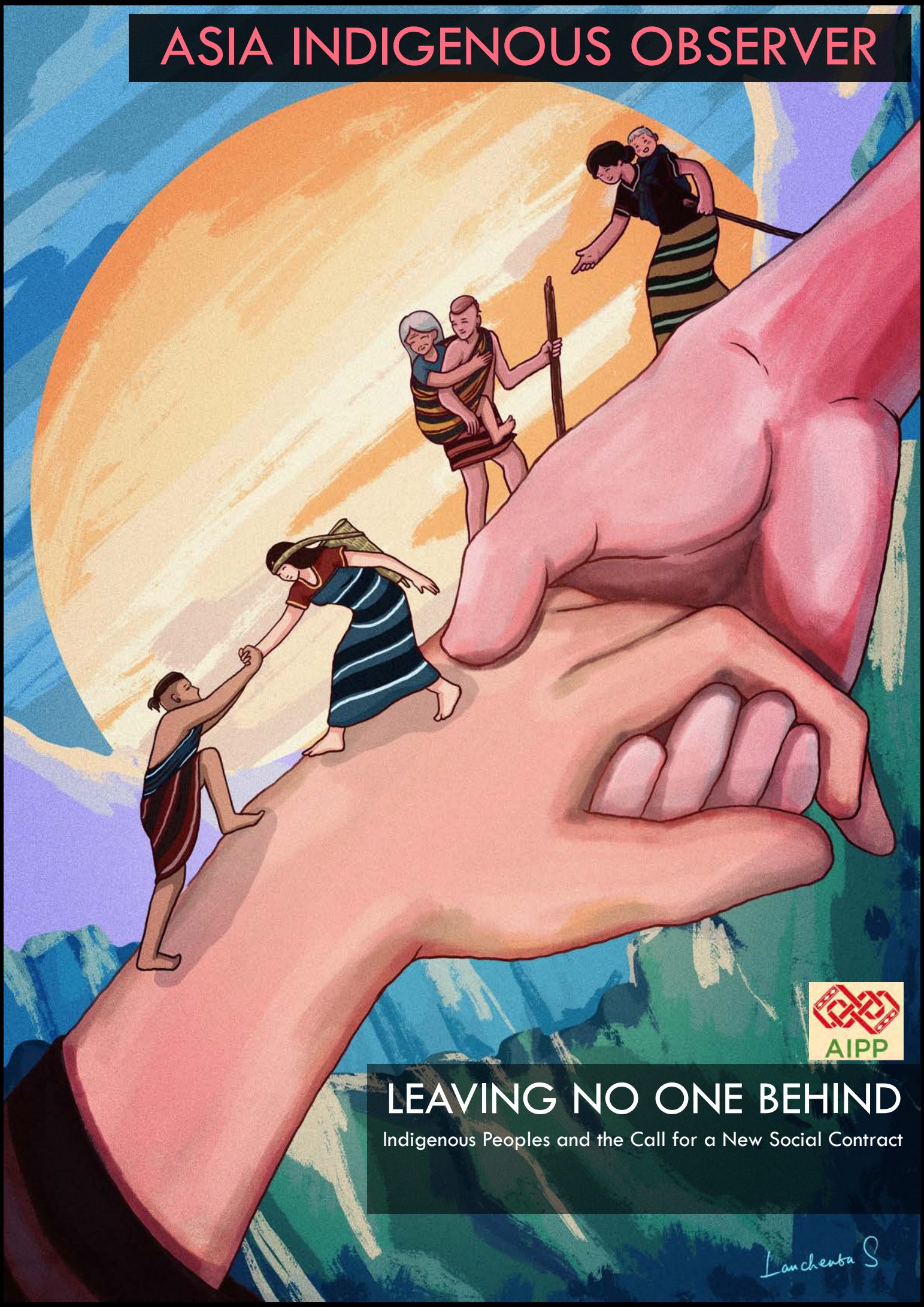
ASIA INDIGENOUS OBSERVER



AIPP

LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND

Indigenous Peoples and the Call for a New Social Contract

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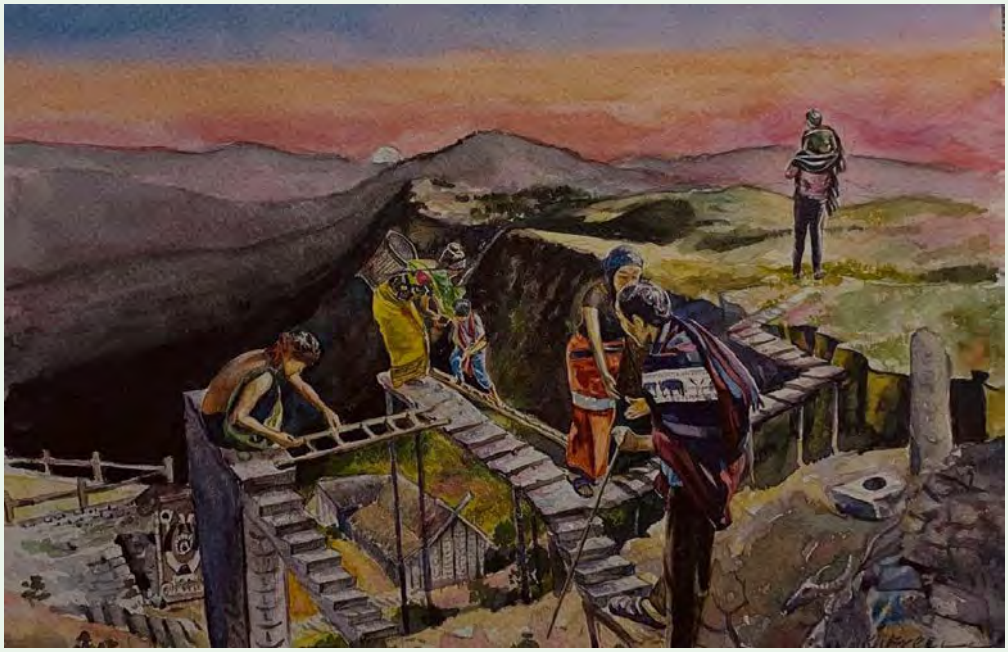
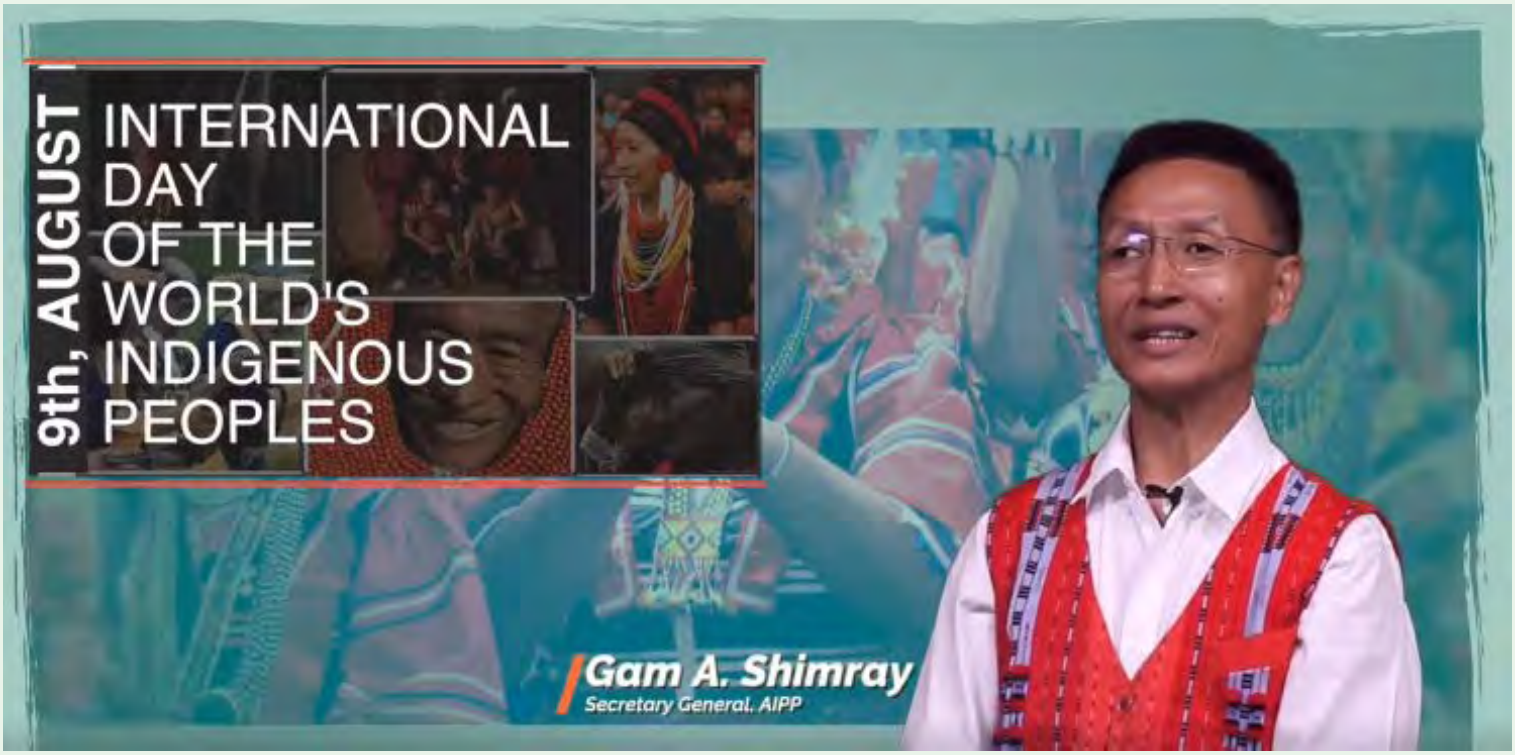


Leaving no one behind Indigenous Peoples and the call for a new social contract

Leaving No One Behind: Indigenous Peoples and the Call for a New Social Contract."
This illustration is in keeping with this year's theme of the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples, it has been illustrated by young Indigenous artist K Free Themreichan who belongs to the Tangkhul Naga community from North East India who explained his version saying,
"The painting depicts an old man leading the way and a young man working tirelessly to pave the way for their people. In a fast-developing world, it also shows the need to adapt to changes and embrace development. At the same time, holding on to our traditions and beliefs."
Art: free_themreichan kasom

This August 9, International Day of Indigenous Peoples, we the Indigenous Peoples demand indigenous peoples' inclusion, participation and approval in the constitution of a system with social and economic benefits for all.
That is why the 2021 theme is ""Leaving no one behind: Indigenous peoples and the call for a new social contract." But, what does it mean?
A social contract is an unwritten agreement that societies make to cooperate for social and economic benefits. In many countries, where indigenous peoples were driven from their lands, their cultures and languages denigrated and their people marginalized from political and economic activities, they were never included in the social contract to begin with. The social contract was made among the dominant populations.
You can attend the virtual commemoration here



Message from the Secretary-General

This year's theme to mark the United Nations International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples celebrated on the 9th of August every year is,
"Tackling the Inequality Pandemic: A New Social Contract for a New Era"
The need for re-examining our mode of being in our world had been raised, especially by Indigenous Peoples, since the start of the pandemic. Indigenous Peoples for a long time have been exposing the risks we are imposing on our planet, and advocating for solutions based on pluralism that includes Indigenous ways of living and relationship with the land.
However, Indigenous Peoples have always been in troubled relationship with the state and historically have been dispossessed of control over their lands and territories, including plundering of their resources, militarization and occupation to facilitate state agenda.
Indigenous brothers and sisters, your audacity awakens the spirit of this journey. Your resilience and your persistent journey in pursuit of of self-determination that respects your lands and territories, institutions, Indigenous knowledge and systems rooted in the symbiotic relationship and respect for nature, inspires us every day.
So, continue to share your struggles and stories of courage for peace, justice and reconciliation!
Gam A. Shimray
Secretary General
Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact
For the full statement please click here
You can watch the full video message here

TOP STORIES

How KISS and Indian anthropology degrade tribal people

Virginius Xaxa writes about how anthropology in India and the world over has traditionally been associated with the study of tribes, whom the discipline initially defined in terms of their supposed savageness. Anthropology has tried hard to move beyond this. Since the 1940s, it has gradually shifted away from the study of tribes to that of peasant societies. In India, however, the study of tribes continues to be the dominant concern, and the old conception of tribes still lingers among many practitioners. Like the discipline of anthropology, KISS too has made tribes and their education its exclusive concern. Founded as a tribal residential school in 1993 and run by a foundation, it now proudly claims to be the "world's largest residential education institution for tribal children." By its own numbers, the institute now houses 27,125 children at its Bhubaneshwar campus, which includes a school and a college, and has 20,000 children enrolled at satellite centres in ten so-called "tribal" districts of Odisha. Tribal children are provided free education up to the tenth standard, which can extend to the postgraduate level as well, and this is combined with vocational education in different trades from the sixth to the tenth standard. KISS's stated mission is "to break the vicious cycle of poverty and social isolation" of its students, which in practice it sees as involving their removal from their families and communities, in the belief that everyone can "live and develop with dignity" and "become an active and contributing member of our society." The objection to KISS owes to the disconcerting agenda it stands for and promotes—an agenda rooted in a conception of tribal people shared and reinforced by outdated ideas of anthropology—and the impact of the underlying notions on tribal children.

Read the full story here

Bangladesh faces destruction of Madhupur forest

Bangladesh is seeing the destruction of its tropical rainforest increase every year. Illegal logging, industrial developments and commercial agricultural are being blamed. Al Jazeera's Tanvir Chowdhury reports from Madhupur, Bangladesh.
Watch the full documentary here

Source: Al Jazeera

Bangladesh Indigenous Student Action Forum arranged a human chain in the capital city, Dhaka on 17 August demanding exemplary punishment for the perpetrator raping a Hajong Indigenous woman in Sunamganj district three days ago. The Student Forum also demanded appropriate compensation for five Garo families whose crops were cut down by the forest department on 12 August in Sherpur. They alleged the forest department did it to evict the Indigenous peoples from their ancestral places in the name of creating social forestry there.

A Hajong Indigenous woman (23) was rapped by a Bengali man, Abdul Rashid (45) at Rajai village of the district when she went to take bath in the river beside their house in the morning on August 14. The victim's mother filed a case at the Tahirpur Police Station of Sunamganj district on that day. Police detained the accused perpetrator on the same day.

#iphrds Pic: Alik Mree,

Source: https://www.facebook.com/groups/acspdu

The Naga Peoples Movement for Human Rights (NPMHR) commemorated the International Day of the World Indigenous Peoples on the theme "Indigenous peoples and the call for a new social contract".

As part of the Morung Dialogue, a talk series organized by NPMHR, Delhi, the keynote address was delivered by Secretary-General of AIPP, Gam A. Shimray.

You can read the full address here

https://tinyurl.com/m4xh7ck3

AIPP PRESENTS

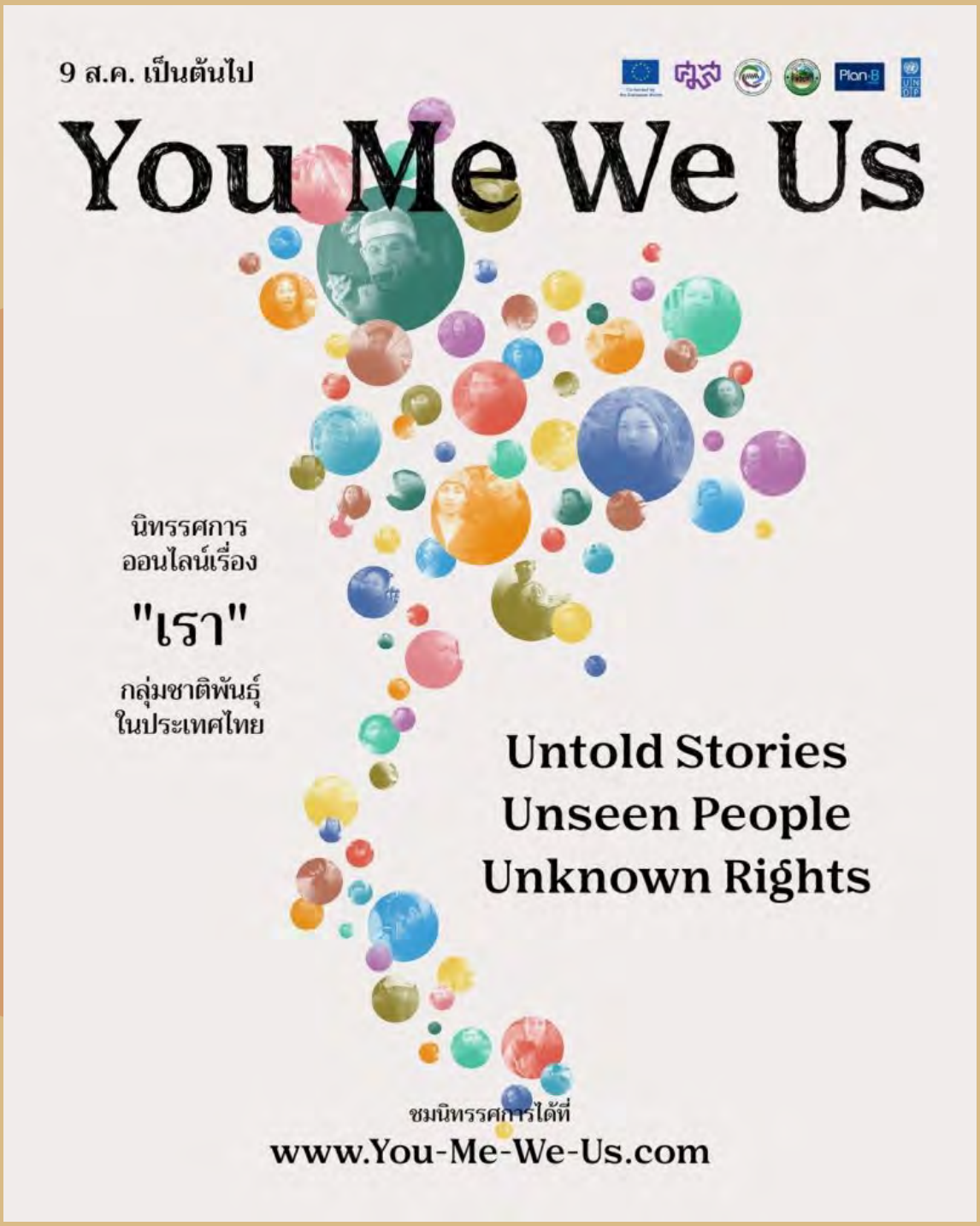
What is a New Social Contract and how can we the Indigenous Peoples take meaning and action from it in our journey towards self actualization through a life of inclusion and dignity? This crucial conversation tomorrow took place on Friday, 6th August and included the voices of our partners and allies from our networks such as

- Indigenous Peoples Human Rights Defenders Network(IPHRD)
- Delegation of the European Union to Thailand
- Frontline Defenders (FLD)
- Business and Human Rights Resource Center (BHRRC)

You can watch the recording of the session here

CONNECTIONS

Our partner organizations and we delved into how Indigenous Women and Men can overcome multiple dimensions of marginalization through various strategic interventions and future leaderships. You can watch the recorded session here



To mark #IndigenousPeoplesDay & celebrate the diversity of people in Thailand, UNDP Thailand & partners from Sirindhorn Anthropology Center, IMPECT Thailand & support from EU🇪🇺& PlanB.Media showcased #YouMeWeUs, an online exhibit of stories and photos

UNDP in Asia and the Pacific, Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact. Indigenous Environmental Network, RECOFTC, Manushya Foundation, Amnesty International, Indigenous Peoples Global Forum for Sustainable Development, The International Indigenous Youth Council, Seed Indigenous Youth Climate Network, GYBN Europe, BIOFIN - Biodiversity Finance Initiative and UN Human Rights – Asia participated in this exhibition

You can check out our entry and others here

POINT OF VIEW

"To separate the Adivasi from his land is to stop his breathing."

The Conundrum Of Competing Land Laws: How Multiplicity of Laws Hamper The Rights of Adivasis

The clarion-call of 'jal, jungle, jameen' that has reverberated through several Adivasi movements succinctly condenses the precarious relationship of the Adivasis with their land. Being demographically distributed in India's forested regions, the Adivasis have always been the 'collateral damage' that marks most development projects. The construction of dams, mines, and roads is an explicit violation of the Adivasis' rights to customary landholdings. On the other hand, the push towards biodiversity conservation and scientific forest management robs them of traditional livelihoods that are dependent on forest produce. Their situation is akin to being caught between a rock and a hard place. Read the full story here.

GENDER LENS

The Network of Indigenous Women in Asia participated in HLPF with side events as follows
8th July 2021- Side event led by AIPP- NIWA represented by Maslah Rompado
9th July 2021- Side event led by GCAP Global- NIWA represented by Kakay Tolention
Both presented the Challenges for Indigenous Women in Asia amidst Covid-19. The issues presented were:

- Escalating Socio economic burden
- Rising cases violence against Indigenous Women
- Human rights violation during COVID

Recommendations were as follows
- Provide special protection measures to indigenous women and girls in conflict and militarized regions.

- Collect disaggregated data on the impact of COVID-19 to reflect on situation of indigenous women and girls.

- Minimize the human right violations against Indigenous Women and Indigenous Women Human right Defenders

GROUND REPORT

All grassroot IPs organizations across Nepal and Mainland India took the lead to conduct a celebration of this the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples including this year's theme of "LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND THE CALL FOR A NEW SOCIAL CONTACT" which is aligned to our SSNC project. The main focus was to encourage 'gramsabha' or village councils, forests rights act, land rights, PESA Act so that Indigenous Peoples may live a life of dignity. Our aim is also to strengthen the protection and management of forest produce as well as secure livelihoods.

A virtual celebration of IPs Day in Kathmandu, Nepal was focused on the past, present and future of IPs in Nepal and was attended by our Executive Council member Jagat Baram,Deputy Secretray-General Shree Kumar Maharjan and the Environment Programme Officer, Prem Tharu.

Simultaneous celebrations took place in Lucknow, Balrampur, Motipur, Srawasti and Lakhimpur in Tharuhat areas of UP, India through rallies and focus on the importance of Indigenous Peoples Day, history of Tharu and rights of Tharus in India.

09 अगस्त
विश्व
की हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

9 अगस्त
विश्व
आदिवासी
दिवस
की हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

विश्व आदिवासी दिवस
आदि उत्सव

Our partner organizations in Chattisgarh and Odisha also celebrated Adivasi Diwas on the 9th of August. Adivasi Navjeevan Gathan Navjyoti Agua (ANGNA) celebrations focused on the importance of tradition and culture and the need for protection of forests and climate.

CLIMATE WATCH

🌾"One rice plant can feed one person. One rice plant can feed a whole family.

And one rice plant can feed the whole world."🍚

- Lua Proverb

Indigenous Women are the key practitioners, innovators, and holders of Indigenous Knowledge relating to their traditional livelihoods. They play a crucial role in preserving indigenous seeds, maintaining food security, and ensuring the wellbeing of community members. Indigenous Women are also the protagonists in ensuring the inter-generational transfer of knowledge and cultural values associated with seeds and food systems in the communities.

As part of the celebration of the 2021 International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples, the Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP) launched a photobook "Indigenous Women, Ancestral Wisdom" in Thai, and English languages. The photobook features the roles and contributions of Shan, Lua, and Akha Indigenous Women of northern Thailand in the practice, cultivation, and transfer of knowledge relating to indigenous seeds, food, and culture.

You can access the photo book here

NIWF
Kathmandu, Nepal
Estd. 1998

राष्ट्रिय आदिवासी-जनजाति महिला महासंघ
NIWF

National Indigenous Disabled Women Association, Nepal
2015
NIDWAN

RECOFTC

INTERNATIONAL
LAND
COALITION

IWGIA

CSDM

Bai

IWRAW
ASIA PACIFIC

BIWN

Papora Indigenous
Development Association

आदिवासी महिला कानूनी संचेतना केन्द्र
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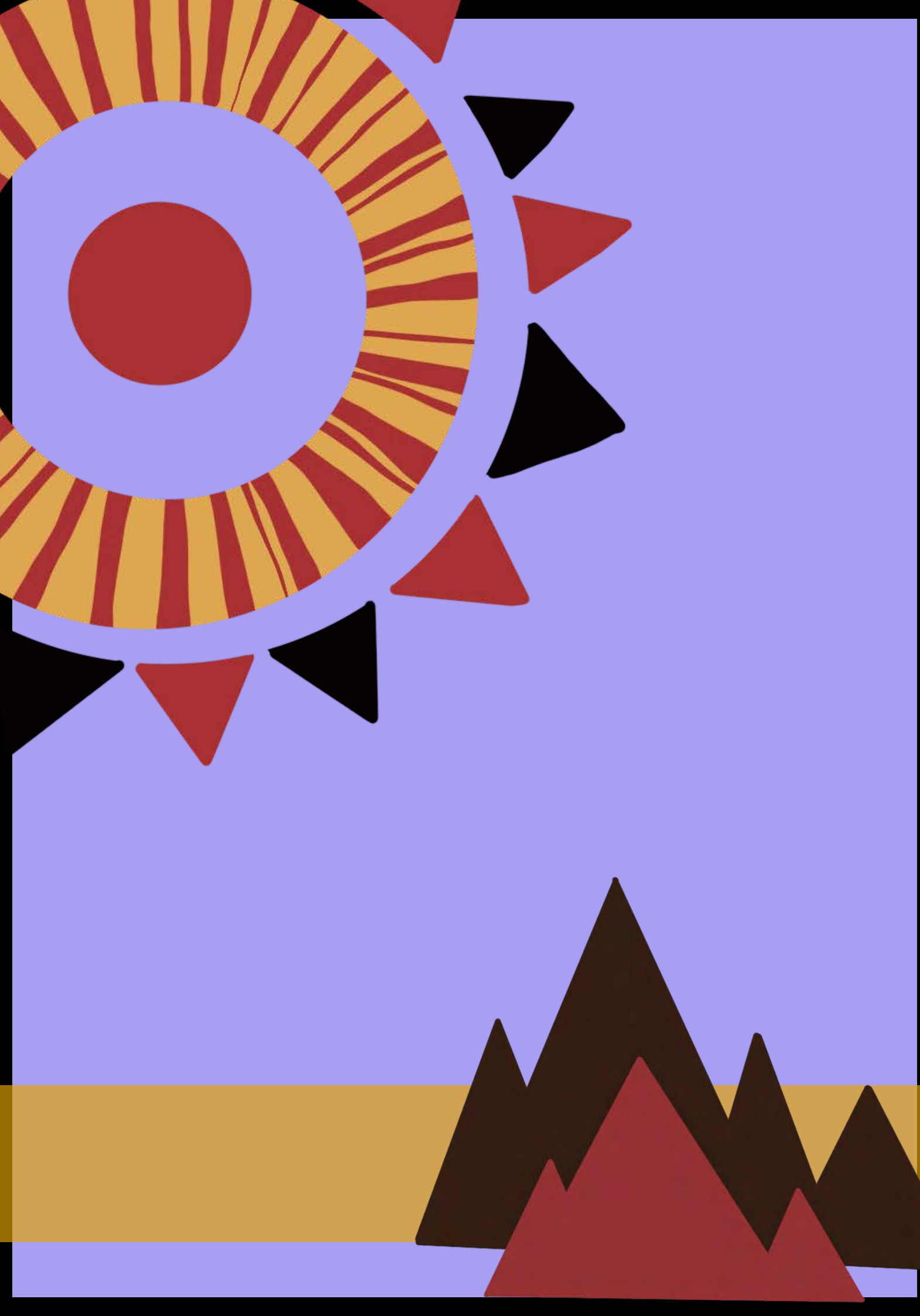
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