



HOMENETSEA PUSHES FOR SOCIAL PROTECTION, SOLIDARITY ECONOMY IN ASEAN PEOPLE’S FORUM



Leaders of Homenet Southeast Asia headed by Suntaree Saeng-ging participated in the virtual online ASEAN People’s Forum held in Hanoi Nov. 5-7 to advance the network’s social protection agenda as well as support social solidarity economy as a pathway for sustainability and resiliency of informal workers’ livelihood and enterprise activities.

tory governance as advocated by HNSEA and WIEGO and reflected in the 2013 ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening Social Protection.

During the workshop on Success Stories and Strategies in Advancing Transformative Social Protection, Yen Nguyen Hoang of LIGHT M-NET Vietnam, Lamphan Nanthapanya of Homenet Laos, and Suntaree of Homenet Thailand were among the resource persons who shared country experiences.

Yen talked about how they were able to secure emergency support under Covid 19 for informal migrant workers in street vending and waste collection by doing research and policy briefs which influenced the Vietnamese government to recognize them as legal residents entitled to social assistance.

Lamphan of Homenet Lao (HNL) shared the strategies used in a program promoting social protection for informal workers involving a number of other organizations such as Environment Conservation and Community Development Association (ECCDA) and the Informal Workers’ Association (IWAA). The primary strategy is to improve the livelihood or business of homebased workers so that they can have better access to the voluntary scheme under the NSSF (National Social Security Fund). Eighty out of the 500 members of HNL succeeded to have access through this strategy.

For her part, Suntaree recounted various successes of Homenet Thailand, now with 4085 members and registered in 2013 as a member-based organization called the HomeNet Thailand Association. It covers not only homebased workers but also vendors and motorcycle taxi drivers.

According to Suntaree, HNT’s advocacy efforts and mass mobilization led to the enactment of the Homeworkers Protection Act of 2010, providing among others minimum wages and provisions for ensuring occupational safety and health. She also mentioned Article 40 of the Social Security Act of 2011 which provides 30 percent government subsidy to informal workers’ contribution, 70 percent of which is paid by them. Benefits include sickness, disability, child allowance, death, and lump sum pension. What is lacking is unemployment benefit. Three million informal workers have applied for this type of social security coverage..

(Continued on p. 2)

Gathering under the theme “Southeast Asian People’s Solidarity for an Inclusive, Cohesive and Responsive Community,” almost 1,200 delegates from 11 countries made their presence felt through 11 convergence spaces and 24 workshops.

Homenet SEA participants were active in three convergence spaces: life with dignity, transformative economies, and alternative regionalism.

HNSEA’s Suntaree Saeng-ging and Rosalinda Pineda Ofreno of Homenet Philippines took part in the planning of the Life of Dignity sessions and served as resource persons in the workshop on Guaranteeing the Health and Lives of Peoples in Southeast Asia. Rosalinda talked about gender and health care for all, mentioning the plight of women in health care work and in the informal economy under covid and pointing out ways forward including livelihood support for recovery initiatives. Suntaree, in her synthesis, pointed out that most existing health care services in many countries are not good enough, and there should be transitions towards adhering to the principles of universalism, equity in standards, public financing, comprehensive and equitable benefits package, and participa-

HNSEA PUSHES FOR SOCIAL PROTECTION (con't from p. 1)

The latest campaign under Covid 19 continuing with the slogan “Recovery Starts With Us” succeeded in the granting of 5,000 baht social assistance to cover 15 million informal workers during the lockdown months. This represents 50 per cent of their minimum wage.

Suntaree emphasized that HNT’s strategies are anchored on member-based organizing, social dialogue, adherence to international standards as provided for by various ILO conventions, alliance-building with trade unions and other CSOs, and solidarity with regional and global networks such as HNSEA, and Homenet International.

Advancing Social Solidarity Economy (SSE)

In the run-up to the ASEAN People’s Forum as well as during the Forum itself, HNSEA and country homenet leaders spoke of their solidarity economy experiences in addressing COVID 19, building resilience, and advancing social protection. This was in close collaboration with the online academy of the Asian Solidarity Economy Council (ASEC) at regional level as well as the ASEC Philippine Network at country level.

On the Sept. 25 session, Men Sinoeun of Homenet Cambodia, Titin Kustini of Homenet Indonesia, Josephine Parilla of Homenet Philippines, and Poonsap Tulaphan of Homenet Thailand presented case studies on the theme “SSE for Economic Empowerment: (Pre and During Pandemic Times): What can we Learn from the Homebased Workers of Southeast Asia?” after a short introduction by HNSEA Regional Coordinator Suntaree Saeng-ging.

The Sept. 25 online session highlighted the fact that homebased workers who belong to the informal economy have had a lot of SSE initiatives, many of which have been affected by the current pandemic. Yet, organized homebased workers are struggling towards food security and livelihood recovery, seeing themselves among the ranks of essential informal workers without whom no economy can recover and thrive.

Sinoeun dwelt on the experiences not only of Homenet Cambodia but also of its supporting NGO, the Artisans Association of Cambodia (AAC) in fair trade and social enterprise. Titin discussed how Homenet Indonesia’s Tenggara Cooperative empowered homebased workers through its savings lending, training and child-care services, as well as strengthened their resiliency during the pandemic. Josephine, in relating SSE initiatives of organized homebased workers in the Philippines, pre- and during the pandemic, highlighted the solidarity-based actions such as solicitations, production and donation of Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs), and livelihood training launched by its affiliates, particularly PATAMABA, in addressing the crises which altogether showed resilience, innovation, and empowerment. Poonsap summarized Homenet Thailand’s responses to the pandemic, which included distributing food packs, setting up community kitchens, facilitating informal workers’ access to cash grants, and holding policy dialogues with local governments.

On Oct. 30, ASEC online academy at regional level conducted a session on social protection and workers in the informal

economy, featuring Suntaree Saeng-ging and Josephine Parilla, among others. In this interactive session, they responded to questions regarding SSE implementation and social protection initiatives of informal workers’ organizations so far, and what recommendations may be forwarded to the ASEAN People’s Forum to be held the following week.

Among the initiatives mentioned by Suntaree are support for the ILO-led social protection floor, the extension of social security to informal workers, and the implementation of universal health care in countries where this is already officially approved. Josephine added that country homenets are supporting the implementation of the ILO Recommendation 204 on transitioning from informal to formal economy, with SSE as an important pathway to decent work with a social protection component. She said this should be pushed within ASEAN.

As to recommendations to the ASEAN Secretariat, Suntaree proposed the drafting of an ASEAN Declaration on SSE, and the full implementation of the 2013 ASEAN Declaration on Social Protection, which she said should be legally binding. Both she and Josephine recommended that ASEAN promote and support SSE organizations such as cooperatives, self-help groups, and social enterprises within the region since they can serve as the foundation of social protection. These have to be supplemented and strengthened by cash grants, social assistance, livelihood support and universal health care to be advocated and accessed by SSE and other organizations from government at national and local levels.

As illustrated in the Sept. 25 session featuring case studies of HBW initiatives in four countries, SSEs can have built-in social protection mechanisms (kindergarten for child care, savings and loans, DRRM, food production and distribution, alternative skills and IT-based training) that can provide additional benefits to their members.

During the ASEC session on Building Pathways to Transformative and Solidarity Economy held Nov. 6 during the ASEAN People’s Forum itself, the points raised and recommendations made with particular reference to social protection for workers in the informal economy were highlighted, with Poonsap Tulaphan representing Homenet Southeast Asia.

Homenet Philippines, through Rosalinda Pineda Ofreneo, also made a presentation during the session on “Strategies towards Alternative Regionalism” in Southeast Asia. She gave a brief summary of SSE principles and practices, and highlighted the potentials of SSE in fostering the regional exchange of products, services, and experiences through fair trade fairs, bazaars, study tours, exposure dialogues, and online platforms.

The efforts of Homenet Southeast Asia and the country homenets to influence the agenda of the ASEAN People’s Forum bore fruit in the APF Joint Statement containing very strong provisions promoting SSE within the region and social protection for all, especially for vulnerable groups such as workers in the informal economy.

INFORMAL WORKERS DEMAND BASIC ASSISTANCE, SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT, AND SOCIAL PROTECTION FROM THAI GOVERNMENT



On 7 December, HomeNet Thailand Association together with the Informal Workers' Confederation organized the gathering of more than 700 informal workers in front of the Ministry of Labour to call for measures to facilitate their recovery from the economic and social impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The gathering, which included homebased workers, street vendors, domestic workers, motorcycle taxi drivers, beauticians and masseuse, forwarded the following demands:

1. The Thai government should provide basic assistance to informal workers who need employment and work to fulfill our potential, to live with dignity, and economic independence.

- a. Support a fund, including micro-loans and grants for informal sector occupation promotion, such as (1) 50,000-300,000 Baht interest-free micro loan to individuals in the informal sector without collateral, and (2) a working capital grant to registered informal sector groups at 100,000-1,000,000 Baht per group.
- b. Review grant criteria and requirements for existing funds, such as the Homeworker Protection Fund, to have similar provisions
- c. Allow informal workers to use public vending spaces such as hawking areas, walking streets, bazaars, open air markets, green markets, and government agency markets.
- d. Government agencies and Local Administrative Organizations should establish a workfare program to recruit workers for public services, such as care givers for bed-ridden patients and the elderly in a community, or fixers to help with home-fixing and repair work for vulnerable populations, etc.
- e. Ensure that informal workers will have employment guarantees of at least ten days' minimum wages per month.
- f. Ensure that the formal workers severely affected by COVID, especially in Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) receive a form of wage subsidy; i.e. ,wage co-payment to maintain employment, so that they will not



- g. Allocate at least 30% quotas for the informal sector in public procurement projects. Quotas should be given especially to the informal sector members affected by COVID-19.
- h. Provide a budget for informal worker groups and cooperatives to increase competitiveness, and invest in a platform to support the sales and distribution of goods and services produced by the informal sector.
- i. Deploy available government economic stimuli, such as "Rao Tiew Duai Gan" (We Travel Together) campaign and "Khon La Khrueng" (Let's Go Halves) shopping campaign to cover services or products made by the informal sector.

2. Government should enable informal workers to improve our skills to pursue sustainable employment in the new post-COVID labor markets.

- a. Organize re-skilling or up-skilling training activities for existing informal sector producers, especially older persons and persons with disability.
- b. Organize new skills development activities, such as using the internet or online platform and e-commerce for marketing goods or services.
- c. Provide skills development activities free of charge and with subsidies for meals, commuting, and wages at least equal to the minimum wage to compensate for income loss during the training activities, after which the government should provide marketing or distribution platforms or secure employment and jobs for trainees.

3. The government should establish an equal and inclusive social protection system, ensuring that the informal sector and workers can survive the COVID-19 pandemic, and that we can bounce back better in the future.

- a. Include unemployment benefits to Article 40 of the Social Security Law for self-contributing informal workers.
- b. Review and revise the benefits in every social security category so that all those insured receive the same benefits.
- c. The Social Security Office must be reformed to be a genuine independent body that shall be administered by representatives from every category of insured members.



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Homenet Laos: Improving Access to Social Security

By Lamphan Nanthapanya

The Government of Laos (GoL) has been promoting social protection for all, and has established a national social protection system (NPS),



adding it to the National Social and Economic Development Plan (NSEDP). It also amended the Social Security Law in 2013 in order to provide informal workers the opportunity to access to the National Social Security Fund (NSSF) through voluntary schemes while improving services at national and local levels.



In general, health insurance services improved for civil servants, formal economy workers and their family members, the poor, and informal economy workers. Child birth and maternal and child health services can be obtained free of charge.

Social security for government staffs private sector workers and the self-employed also improved but, but there is still very limited access for informal workers.



In order to improve access of informal workers to the NSSF voluntary scheme, Homenet Laos is advocating the following:



- 1) Reduce the rate of contribution for informal workers, or co-contribute from government;
- 2) Revisit coverage of benefit package; i.e., including single parents;
- 3) Improve services and access to information of informal economic sectors, especially in remote areas;
- 4) Ensure that disadvantaged

informal workers have access to adequate social security benefits.

The most effective strategy at the moment is capacity building, skills training in business development, job creation, and job finding support program for informal workers to ensure they can generate income to access NSSF. Eighty out of 500 members of HNL groups were able to gain access to the NSSF after improving their business.



INFORMAL WORKERS DEMAND (from p. 3)

4. Ensure effective implementation by including informal worker representatives from the Informal Workers Confederation, the academe, and civil society organizations who should be consulted, should participate, and should monitor every aspect of the activities conducted as a result of these recommendations.

After these demands were discussed in a three-hour meeting with the Minister of Labour, he committed to organize a meeting of involved government agencies to discuss micro loans for informal workers. There will be another meeting with the Bangkok Metropolitan Administrator to discuss the use of public space by street vendors. There was agreement on 30% informal sector quotas for public procurement projects, with preference given to those affected by COVID-19. A subcommittee of the Social Security Scheme to revise the benefits of Article 40 will be formed with the participation of informal workers' representatives. For closer communication, the Minister and other key persons of the Ministry of Labour will meet with informal worker leaders every month.

HomeNet Thailand Association and the Informal Workers' Confederation will follow up all these agreements until they are implemented.

SNAPSHOTS OF HOMENET INDONESIA'S PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

Since May, Homenet Indonesia has engaged in food distribution in home-based workers' communities affected by Covid 19, strengthening individual and group enterprises, establishing a salon online, and consolidating groups to build a cooperative.

Food Distribution

In Indonesia, currently there are still many people affected by COVID-19 and who have lost their jobs including homeworkers. Helping provide staple food is very important for them and this is what was done with the distribution direct to 300 home-based workers in Tangerang and East Java with the assistance of leaders in these areas. Before distribution, area leaders also provided information about the government regulations regarding response to Covid 19, including the implementation of health protocols.



In Jakarta, the homeworkers' group with a catering business also distributed food to the homeworkers during the pandemic, which also increased earnings for their business.



Activities to strengthen individual and group enterprises in Jogjakarta and Central Java have been planned and implemented as a program since the beginning of 2020



Building a Home-based Workers' Salon Online

The Jogjakarta Women's Homeworkers Federation has a School for Economic Empowerment which trained 28 women homeworkers leaders from 10 village groups in skills related to doing healthy and clean facial makeup last October 17. The end goal is to build a Women Home-Based Workers (WHBWs) Salon Online on behalf of the Federation, with the trainees expected to share their acquired knowledge and skills to their respective groups.

There were four resource persons / trainers who are also women homeworkers. They already have experience in running a healthy make-up business online.



(Continued on p. 6)

HNSEA participates in World Social Forum on Transformative Economies (WFSTE)

Homenet Southeast Asia had a chance to contribute to an online intercontinental convergence session with the RIPESS-QDM in the framework of the WSFTE 29 June. RIPESS is the intercontinental network for the promotion of social solidarity economy

Topic of the session was "SSE tools and strategies with an intersectional gender perspective for a post-COVID construction that places the human being at the center of transformative development".

Rosalinda Pineda Ofreneo represented Homenet Philippines-SEA in the session, together with representatives from various organizations based in France, Latin America, and Cameroun, Africa.

The speakers shared specific cases and strategies already in progress based on their country and continental contexts and put forward ideas for a collective construction of the post-covid context, always emphasizing the need to put life at the center. They also stressed the importance of linking the work and exchange of

experiences, approaches and tools among all countries and continents. In sum, their idea is to promote the development of SSE with a gender perspective in order to achieve a truly emancipatory transformation that will enable women's groups to participate directly in the transformation process.

Speaking for Homenet Southeast Asia, Rosalinda Pineda Ofreneo shared the problems faced by women working in the informal economy: lack of social protection, social services. etc. which worsened under COVID-19, well as the solutions they seek. She cited the experience of small cooperatives, fair trade groups, microfinance initiatives, etc. in which women are able to practice economic democracy.

She cited the need to strengthen networking and convergence, build a multi-stakeholder approach, and create online platforms given the limitations imposed by lockdowns and physical distancing. (Continued on p. 8)

HOMENET PHILIPPINES JOINS JOINT SP PROJECT WITH AMRC

Homenet Philippines joined a social protection network composed of eight worker-oriented organizations in a joint project with the Asian Monitoring and Resource Center (AMRC) entitled “Solidarity –Based Action as Social Protection Response in the time of Covid-19.”

The project aspires to (1) contribute in public and private actions to reduce vulnerabilities of workers and their families through social protection measures as solidarity based actions, that will address health, safety and other social and economic concerns of workers; (2) demonstrate the role of social protection programs in mitigating the adverse impact on health and economic crises, and in guaranteeing a life of dignity ; and (3) mobilize workers and contribute in the larger advocacy for democratic and non-market based alternative social protection policies as key. It also serves as a venue to enhance the capabilities of informal worker leaders and youth to conduct participatory research and advocacy work.

The project focused on five PATAMABA areas, and unravelled the effects of COVID-19 on the livelihood of homebased and other informal workers, its impact on the local economy and on health, and the adjustments done to mitigate the impact . An FGD in Bulacan in Central Philippines sums up the over-all impact of COVID-19 as “the biggest challenge not only to the economy but also to the health of everyone. It strikes any age, gender, status in life, location and time. And at this instance, government was not ready with the facilities for the number of the infected and the medicines for them. Neither were funds sufficient especially for the poor and the workers of the informal economy.”

PATAMABA leaders played a big role in helping its local members to connect with the LGU, private organizations and individuals for financial and non- financial assistance. Fund raising was done to support the needs of the members while COVID pandemic is happening, through distribution of food packages and disinfectants.

As a homebased worker leader remarked, “Basic necessities such as food, disinfectants, medicines, milk, vitamins (to strengthen the immune system) and income are the most important things for the family to survive. Economic activities should be revived and strengthened, as it is the foundation for family and community survival. If we have no income, how can we spend for everything?”

Members of research teams from five areas as well as representatives of Homenet affiliates (ACIW, BSK, PKKK) presented their findings and observations during the online sharing held on October 5 to validate results of the participatory research

Highlighted during the validation are the foremost issues of informal workers: lack of social protection in health, housing, education, food and livelihood which were already present even before pandemic times. Gender issues were also noted especially among home-based workers. Unpaid care work with the stay home and work from home arrangement made women’s work heavier, mental stress increased, and so did cases of violence against women and children.

State-financed and regulated universal health care was seen as an important way forward.

Homenet Philippines conducts relief drive and solidarity action in November with survivors of Typhoon Ulysses in severely



HOMENET PRODUCERS COOPERATIVE HOLDS 7th GENERAL ASSEMBLY

In the midst of the pandemic, HomeNet Producers Cooperative, the economic arm of HomeNet Philippines, held its 7th ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY via Zoom on July 4. It was a breakthrough meeting using zoom and with two-thirds of its members attending from Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao, as well as from Japan with a member having been stranded due to the lockdown.

The salient points discussed and approved in the AGM are the transformation of HPC into a multi-purpose cooperative; opening its membership to associate members; distribution of the interest on share capital and patronage refund; and the extension of the term of office of the Board of Directors and committees. The current elected officers and board members are Zone C. Narito, chairperson; Delilah Rivera, vice chair; Divina Cesar, Trinidad Domingo, and Myrna Magbitang. Appointed members are Olive Parilla (secretary), Lourdes Gula (treasurer) and Rosalinda Pineda Ofreneo (General Manager).

Building a Cooperative in Semarang (from p. 5) ...

Sixteen leaders from four village groups in Semarang District, Central Java met on Sept. 30 to discuss plans for consolidating their membership and facilitating their economic empowerment through the formation of a WBHW cooperative owned by them. This consolidation process is being guided by field facilitators from YASANTI, which includes sharing of business development, and developing a plan for cooperative formation. The consolidation meeting resulted in a collective agreement to join the WBHWs Semarang Regency cooperative, and to collaborate with the Central Java Cooperatives and SME Office to support the process.



CAMBODIA UPDATE UNDER COVID:

What has happened to home-based workers and what has Homenet Cambodia done for and with them?

By Men Sinoeun



As of December, Cambodia has had a total of 329 confirmed cases of COVID-19. As a result of the pandemic and policies associated with it, the UN estimates that poverty in Cambodia will double in 2020

What has happened to home-based workers ?

.COVID – 19 pandemic has had a negative economic impact on home-based workers’ families. Sales dramatically dropped 90% due to fewer tourists, the closure of the Cambodia Thai border, no order placed from AAC members and overseas buyers, no local trade fair organized and less people traveling. Moreover, many garment factories closed and continue to close

Family members of home-based workers lost their jobs and many home-based workers have been suspending their work. Some make products based on orders even though the price offered by buyers is less than before COVID – 19 pandemic, or they make products to stock while waiting for better opportunities to sell. Many home-based workers shifted jobs. They earn a little money or have no income from day to day; because of this our HBWs have faced food shortage and most of them lack Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for preventing infection.



What has Homenet Cambodia (HNC) been doing to overcome these issues and improve the situation?

HNC’s activities are clustered around strengthening the network, advocacy, livelihood, and communication.

To maintain and strengthen the network, HNC pays regular visits to monitor different groups of home-based workers. Home-based workers are stressed due to little income, lack of food to eat, and the need to pay loans. In this regard, they need encouragement, advice, and moral support to stay together as a solidarity-based community.



Other activities to capacitate the network members include leadership training, annual planning, data collection, collation, and analysis, and training on hygiene, sanitation, and personal protection equipment (PPE).

HNC continues to advocate for social protection, including cash transfer support for home-based workers by participating in a consultation workshop on a draft social protection law, coordinating with Oxfam, and providing inputs in various sessions of the ASEAN People’s Forum and the Asian Solidarity Economy Council Online Academy on building resilience and extending social protection to workers in the informal economy.



In the early part of the pandemic, HNC was able to provide emergency assistance in the form of food and PPE to all HBWs in Battambang and Siem Reap, and majority of home-based workers in Pnom Penh. It has provided technical and marketing assistance to HBWs in the production of high-quality masks from local fabric both for the domestic and export markets.



The response to the impact of COVID-19 from the government scheme was restricted as reported by HBWs and confirmed by some village leaders. The scheme included, the provision of Health Equity Fund Card (HEFC) and six-month Cash Transfer support. The first round of the scheme will be closed by

the end of 2020 and there is no news whether there is a second round provision.

With the popularity of online marketing during the pandemic, HNC is capacitating its members and groups to use Facebook and Messenger for communication and promotion of their products.



Celebrating October 20: International Home-based Workers' Day



Around 196 members of networks, associations and trade unions of home-based workers from five regions gathered last October 20 to celebrate International Home-based Workers' Day and the launching of Homenet International (HNI) Network cum Assembly via zoom. It was a celebration of the organizing progress that

HBWs have made, creating a momentum from the Kathmandu Declaration 20 October 2000 towards the HNI launching congress in February 2021.

Patricia Coñoman Carrillo, ab HBW from Chile rendered a poem entitled "SALUDO 20 DE OCTUBRE". Renana Jhabvala Chairperson of Homenet South Asia (HNSA) and representative of the Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA) at the signing of the Kathmandu Declaration on 20 October 2000 traced the celebration of International Homebased Workers's Day to the Declaration. She also contextualized the day in terms of HBWs' current struggles for global recognition. Edwin Bett of HN South Africa shared on the preparation for the HNI launching congress in February 2021.



Key messages echoed throughout the celebration were:

1) Recovery starts with us. Home-based workers demand social protection across the world; 2) Home-based workers contribute to their household incomes and the country's economy; and 3) Made by Home-based Workers – We are Workers!



Janhavi Dave HNI International Coordinator Designate and Sofia Trevino of WIEGO launched the HNI website which can be accessed at homenetinternational.org. The celebration was capped with the animated singing of "We shall Overcome" in different languages by homebased workers from all over the world.

HomeNet Southeast Asia's Josephine Parilla served as moderator.

HNSEA's WORK IN THE COMING MONTHS

Policy advocacy on social protection and strengthening the organizing and expansion work of Homenet in the different countries in Southeast Asia are the main thrusts of Homenet Southeast Asia from September 2020 to August 2021, based on an online planning session held in August.

An Assembly will be held to draft the HNSEA sustainability plan, discuss strategies, and elect the Executive Committee members. HNSEA at both regional and country levels participated in the ASEAN People's Forum and will join the Homenet International Congress early next year. Homenet SEA will also serve in the technical working group of the AMRC Social Protection Advocacy Training Kit which will include a video production for its introduction. This will be rolled down on the country level with the training of homebased workers leaders.

Country level programs will include strengthening of the national networks, advocacy for policies that respond to the impact of COVID-19, and campaign activities on social protection through the website, FB pages, and other platforms.

Bi-annual publication of Homenet SEA newsletter will be done in the Philippines. The website and social media will be used as vehicles for Homenetsea's advocacy campaign.

These activities comprise commitments under year three of the SIDA-supported project on strengthening home-based workers networks in the region.

HNSEA participates ... (con't. from p. 5)

Following are the proposals she forwarded: 1) Campaign for recognition, reduction, and redistribution of unpaid care work which engages men and boys; advocacy so that SSE will also provide food, laundry, and child care/elderly services that will ease the burden of unpaid care work; 2) Intensive education and training within SSE organizations on gender (from an intersectional perspective) for both women and men, so that women especially those from the grassroots can participate more actively and take up leadership positions; and 3) Regarding the second item, take into account the SSE Academy launched by the Asian Solidarity Economy Council (ASEC), which can contribute to this effort.

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