Indigenous Peoples Show Another Way Out of the Financial Crisis

Rukka Sombolinggi

Asia Indigenous Peoples’ Pact (AIPP)

108, Moo 5, Soi 6
Tambone Sanpranate, Amphur Sansai
Chiang Mai - 50210, Thailand
Phone: +66 (0)53 380 168
Fax: +66 (0)53 380752
Email: aippmail@aippnet.org
There are about 370 million World’s indigenous peoples, 2/3 or 250 million live in Asia (WB, ADB, UNPFII)

Photos source: AIPP Photo Library
Source of Livelihood: Traditional Occupation

Traditional Occupation: Swidden farming, hunting, gathering of forest products, fishing etc. (used to be sustainable and self sufficient)
Understanding of & Impacts of Financial Crisis

• Lack of understanding due to their remote locations & the global complexity of the crisis

• Yet, IPs relate the crisis to increased cost of goods & services, low demand & or price of their cash crop, and lesser work or job opportunities

• Adverse Impacts: Loss of Land and natural resources for development projects (ethnocidal effects)

Photos source: AIPP Photo Library
Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact

• A regional organization established by indigenous peoples’ organizations in 1992 To strengthen the building of cooperation & solidarity among IPs of Asia.

• It is committed to the cause of promoting human rights; protecting & revitalizing indigenous systems and institutions, control over their ancestral homelands, as well as their own development and future.

• 26 active members from 14 countries, including four national indigenous alliances.

• Its key activities are related to capacity building of indigenous organizations, communities and leaders, information dissemination, advocacy & lobby work at the local, national, regional & international levels.