

## Land Policy for Poverty Reduction: Promoting Access to Land for the Landless and Marginal Farmers (LANDPOL)

### In brief

This project is a collaborative study between CAPSA and the Indonesian Center for Agricultural Social Economic and Policy Studies (ICASEPS), and is funded by the Food and Agriculture Organization – Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (FAO-RAPA), Bangkok, Thailand. The three main components of this study are policy analysis, policy formulation and design, and policy implementation, which is conducted in a participative way by involving the government and major stakeholders.

### Overview

Four main strategies to exit from poverty are: agricultural intensification and diversification; increasing farm size; increasing off-farm income and employment; and the integration of the rural-urban economy. Farmland is the most important factor in exiting from poverty, because the agricultural sector is traditionally the dominant employer and its existence is more crucial when off-farm employment are not available. In addition, land provides a foundation for economic activities and non-market institutions. The main issues related to agricultural land are decreasing land sizes, high inequality in land distribution, and sufficient land-derived income to support household needs. Therefore, there is a need for policy support to strengthen the rights of disadvantaged people and to improve their access to agricultural land. This research is designed to look deeper into promoting the accessibility of land for the landless and marginal farmers in respect to poverty alleviation.

### Objective

The objectives of this study are: (i) to conduct an analysis on current agricultural land policy relevant to accessibility of land for marginal farmers; (ii) to analyse the impact of current land policy on the land accessibility and the effectiveness of agricultural land use; (iii) to formulate a comprehensive policy design for improving the accessibility to land and effective land use for the landless and marginal farmers; and (iv) to implement a pilot project that adopts the policy design, including monitoring and evaluation, and identification of pre-conditions and a strategic plan for its replication.

### Methodology

The project consists of three main activities: analysing current policy and programmes, policy design, and policy implementation. Policy analysis will focus on the review and assessment of existing land policy and programmes that have strong connections with land accessibility for the landless and marginal farmers. Since the beginning, the main stakeholders at the national and regional levels related to land policy will be involved. The study approach uses wide and in-depth discussions with the main stakeholders and key informants through individual or focus group discussion (FGD) at the national and regional levels. Policy design is basically based on the main output of policy analysis. Land policy design, pilot project design and implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and possible project replication would be conducted in a participative way with the main stakeholders. The numbers pilot studies and their sites will be based on the adopted policy designs and the various of socio-economic conditions that will determine the performance and sustainability of the project.

Output:

Expected output of this study is a formulation of the integrated land policy dealing with the land accessibility for the landless and marginal farmers that summarized as follows: (a) Performance and prospects of the agricultural land policies and programme to improve the land accessibility for the landless and marginal farmer; (b) Technical, economic, social and institutional policy support options to enhance the effective use of land and to improve the welfare status of the marginal farmer; (c) Comprehensive land economic programme formulation that supported by the relevant policy to improve access to and effective use of the agricultural land; and (d) Implementation of the pilot project of land policy and the strategic policy support for its replication.