1. What are the particular challenges to exercising assembly and association rights in the context of natural resource exploitation in your country or region? In China, AA is illegal. But assembly is often practiced, though some leaders were arrested.

For example, are all stakeholders affected by projects consulted, with their rights and concerns taken into account? No.

Are peaceful assemblies facilitated or viewed as a nuisance? YES.

Are companies cooperative and understanding of the need to preserve individuals peaceful assembly and association rights?  No.

1. To what extent do these challenges stem from:
   * a)  Gaps/inadequacies in the domestic or international legal framework (e.g., laws on FOAA rights themselves, environmental laws, labour laws, trade agreements)
   * Gaps in laws and government regulations and administration.
   * b)  Government institutions (e.g., ineffective enforcement, lack of independence, lack of capacity, corruption, lack of political will, independence of the judiciary)?
   * lack of political will, independence of the judiciary. Government’s “social stability “missions.
   * c)  The broader business environment (e.g., lack of voluntary guidelines or industry standards, deregulation /pro-business attitude by governments and  the “race to the bottom”, unequal bargaining power for affected communities)
   * pro-business attitude by governments, unequal bargaining power for affected communities.

* d)  Businesses themselves (e.g., focus on profits over rights, lack of interest in  consulting local communities, willingness to leverage government  corruption)

focus on profits over rights, lack of interest in  consulting local communities, willingness to leverage government  corruption

* e)  Any other factors

Government often use police or military force to solve problems.

1. What type of action should be taken to mitigate these challenges?

States and businesses should make their policies to protect FOAA rights and open to public.

1. Please provide any specific case studies illustrating natural resource exploitation activities which you believe had a positive or negative impact upon FOAA rights, for example: (1) suppression or facilitation of lawful/peaceful protests regarding a project; (2) harassment or facilitation of civil society or grassroots groups involved in opposing a project; (3) outcomes when consulting – or failing to consult – with affected communities; (4) harassment/violation/sexual abuse committed particularly against women; (5) involvement of private security companies; (6) role of the trade unions in these contexts. *We would especially appreciate examples that demonstrate how government or business action helped or hurt the protection and promotion of FOAA rights.*
2. What measures/actions would you recommend that States, businesses and individuals take to enhance the promotion and protection of freedom of peaceful assembly and of association in their policies, projects, goals and other engagements with civil society?

States and businesses should have policies to protect rights of FOAA, and open to publics. Civil society should communicate Rights of FOAA to publics.