

## Civil Society Organizations Prepare for FAO Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific



Caption: FAO Assistant Director-General and Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific, Kundhavi Kadiresan (second left), receives a thank-you gift following remarks to civil society organizations prior to APRC33.

**05/03/2016, Selangor, Malaysia** – Civil society organizations from Asia and the Pacific opened a two-day meeting today near Putrajaya, Malaysia, where FAO is convening the 33<sup>rd</sup> Regional Conference for Asia Pacific – APRC33. The CSO consultation aims to concentrate positions among the organizations in anticipation of their contributions to discussions at the APRC.

While the APRC is a formal meeting of FAO member countries in Asia and the Pacific, CSOs are also invited to make interventions during the Conference, a reflection of the value that FAO and member countries place on their views.

“In order for us to do our work, we need you to do your work,” said FAO Assistant Director-General and Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific, Kundhavi Kadiresan, during remarks to the CSO meeting.

The CSO meeting has attracted more than 50 participants from some 27 organizations. The participants represent various constituencies including small-scale producers, artisanal fisherfolks, pastoralists, indigenous or landless organizations, food and rural workers, consumers, woman and youth organisations and NGOs.