

Contribution of the  
UN Food and Agriculture Organization

To the Report of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues  
Seventeenth Session, 2018

## Questionnaire to UN system

### Summary table of [FAO](#) main activities during 2017

<b>Raising awareness of the UN Declaration</b>
FAO – Global Indigenous Youth Caucus Meeting
Advanced discussions with youth to establish the Forum on Indigenous Youth
Global Campaign on the empowerment of indigenous women
Campaña: “Soy lideresa” in airport and metro
> 10 advocacy events organized on different Fora
> 20 advocacy and capacity development materials developed
<b>Supporting the Implementation of the UN Declaration, particularly at the country level</b>
12 capacity development initiatives on VGGT developed in 10 countries
Technical advice provided in 3 countries in Asia and Latin America
South-South exchanges of indigenous experts between El Salvador-Paraguay and Panama-Paraguay
Support to land devolution processes: Indonesia
<b>Supporting indigenous peoples’ rights in the implementation and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development</b>
FAO Strategic programme incorporates now indigenous peoples activities and has a regional work plan at global level and in Latin America
New programme of work 2017-2019 on indigenous peoples with 11 agreements with indigenous organizations already signed
<b>Mapping of existing standard and guidelines, capacities, training materials and resources for the effective implementation of the UNDRIP</b>
FPIC FAO Manual available in 6 languages (ENG, FRE, SPA, RUS, ARA, CHI)
FPIC capacity development materials finalized (video, e learning, face to face)
>50 FAO Global projects screened for compliance with FPIC
<b>Developing capacities of States, indigenous peoples, civil society and UN Personnel</b>
FAO indigenous internship programme started in 2017 following request from the GIYC to FAO: 18 Indigenous interns started the programme in 2017 (9 in FAO HQs and 9 in FAO field offices)
FPIC training to FAO and Government staff initiated: 3 regions trained and more than 132 people trained on how to implement FPIC
Leadership School for Indigenous Women: 75 women trained in 3 countries
High level Ministerial event on Indigenous Women in Latin America: postponed to January 2018 due to September Mexico Earthquake
<b>Advancing the participation of indigenous peoples in UN processes</b>
Indigenous youth speaking at plenary session in FAO during International women day
Chair of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues participated in CFS 2017
GIYC and Indigenous Youth participated at CFS 2017

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### Questionnaire to the UN system agencies, funds and programmes and intergovernmental organizations

The United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues was established by Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Resolution 2000/22. The Permanent Forum is mandated to provide expert advice and recommendations on indigenous issues to ECOSOC and through the Council to United Nations agencies, funds and programmes; to raise awareness and promote the integration and coordination of activities related to indigenous issues with the UN system; and prepare and disseminate information on indigenous issues.

The Permanent Forum's report of the sixteenth session of 2017 includes a number of recommendations within its mandated areas, some of which are addressed to UN system agencies, funds and programmes (attached).

The report can be found at:

<https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/news/2017/06/new-16th-session-report-unpfi/>

The secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues invites UN system agencies, funds and programmes and other inter-governmental organizations to complete the attached questionnaire on any action taken or planned in response to the Permanent Forum's recommendations and other relevant issues.

The responses will be compiled into two separate reports for the April 2018 session of the Permanent Forum: (a) Compilation of information received from the UN system and other entities on progress in implementation of PFII recommendations; and (b) Implementation of the System Wide Action Plan on Indigenous Peoples.

All responses will be placed on the DESA/DSPD website on Indigenous Peoples at:

<https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples>

*If you have any objections for your response to be made available on our website, please inform our office accordingly.*

Please submit your completed questionnaire by **29 December 2017** to:

Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Division for Social Policy and Development

Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Room: S-2954

United Nations Headquarters

New York, USA 10017

Telephone: 917-367-5100 Email: [indigenous\\_un@un.org](mailto:indigenous_un@un.org) and [sigurdarson@un.org](mailto:sigurdarson@un.org)

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The seventeenth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues will be held at United Nations Headquarters from 16 to 27 April 2018.

### Provisional Agenda

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Follow-up to the recommendations of the Permanent Forum.
4. Implementation of the six mandated areas of the Permanent Forum with reference to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
5. Dialogue with indigenous peoples.
6. Dialogue with Member States.
7. Dialogue with the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system.
8. Discussion on the theme “Indigenous peoples’ collective rights to lands, territories and resources”.
9. 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
10. Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples and the Chair of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
11. Follow-up to the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples:
  - (a) Implementation of national action plans, strategies and other measures;
  - (b) Ways to enhance the participation of indigenous peoples at the United Nations;
  - (c) Implementation of the United Nations system-wide action plan on indigenous peoples.
12. Future work of the Permanent Forum, including issues considered by the Economic and Social Council and emerging issues.
13. Provisional agenda for the eighteenth session.
14. Adoption of the report of the Permanent Forum on its seventeenth session.

# Questionnaire to UN system

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## Questionnaire

The theme of the Permanent Forum's session in 2018 will be:  
"Indigenous peoples' collective rights to lands, territories and resources"

Please provide information on the following:

### A. Recommendations of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

With respect to the implementation of the recommendations of the Permanent Forum addressed specifically to your agency, fund and/or programme:<sup>1</sup>

- i. Please provide information on measures taken or planned to implement the recommendations of the Permanent Forum addressed specifically to your organization.

The Sixteen Session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues issued the following specific recommendation to FAO: "The Permanent Forum notes the organization of preparatory meetings for indigenous youth for its sixteenth session, including the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus meeting hosted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). The Forum recommends that this practice be scaled up in 2018, with representative participation of indigenous youth through indigenous peoples' organizations from all regions, and invites FAO to report on progress achieved to the Forum at its seventeenth session."

This recommendation followed the reading of the [Rome Statement on the contribution of Indigenous Youth towards a world without hunger](#) by the representatives of the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus (GIYC) during the plenary session of the Permanent Forum. The Rome Statement, which is the result of the meeting between FAO and GIYC in April 2017, recommended the establishment of an Indigenous Youth Consultative Forum (IYCF) in FAO.

Since April 2017, FAO and the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus representatives have worked together in order to define the Terms of Reference of the IYCF and to frame its objectives, role and functions, governance and structure. To this end, a delegation of seven GIYC representatives from different regions took part in the [Committee on World Food Security \(CFS\) in October 2017 in FAO HQs to advance the work on the Terms of Reference of the IYCF](#).

In addition, in October 2017 a representative from the GIYC joined the FAO Indigenous Peoples Team to continue working on this issue.

The first Indigenous Youth Consultative Forum would tentatively take place in 2018.

Following the request from the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus in April 2017, FAO started in August 2017 its [FAO Indigenous Peoples Internship programme](#), attracting 18 young professionals to work in technical units in Headquarters Rome (9 of them) and another 9 young professionals working in FAO decentralized offices.

- ii. What are the enabling factors that facilitate your agency's implementation of the Forum's recommendations?

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<sup>1</sup> See attached document entitled 'Recommendations addressed to the UN Agencies' to facilitate your responses.

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The meeting held in [FAO HQ from 5 to 8 April 2017 with GIYC Representatives](#) catalysed the support of FAO Senior Management and staff, as well as support from the Permanent Representatives from Member Countries, with more than nineteen Representatives meeting with indigenous youth representatives.

The interest, participation and mobilization during this initiative created the necessary momentum to support the implementation of the recommendation from the Permanent Forum.

FAO remains committed to support indigenous youth and the establishment of a forum in Rome to advance the work on indigenous issues and indigenous youth's contribution to Zero Hunger.

In addition to working on the ToRs of the IYCF, FAO during the 44<sup>th</sup> Session of the CFS co-organised an event on "[An intergenerational knowledge exchange: indigenous forest management and food security in the context of climate change - Indigenous youth and elders present mechanisms for sustainable forestry and climate change adaptation](#)". The event portrayed the challenges that indigenous youth face and the importance of traditional indigenous knowledge.

- iii.* What are some of the obstacles your agency has encountered in implementing the recommendations of the Permanent Forum?

Some of the obstacles encountered so far relate to the difficulty to communicate and receive timely feedback from the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus. This results in delays in the definition of the Terms of Reference of the Indigenous Youth Consultative Forum, as well as in the support to the participation of indigenous youth in relevant technical committees and conferences organised by FAO.

In order to address communication and information exchange delays, a representative from the GIYC joined the FAO Indigenous Peoples Team in October 2017, contributing to an improvement of the coordination between FAO and GIYC.

### **B. System Wide Action Plan to achieve the ends of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

As requested in the Outcome Document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples (2014), a system-wide action plan (SWAP) to ensure a coherent approach to achieving the ends of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples was adopted in November 2015, and launched by the Secretary General at the UN Permanent Forum in May 2016. The Permanent Forum will follow up on progress made in the implementation of the system-wide action plan during its 2018 session.<sup>2</sup> For ease of reference, the questions have been framed under the six key elements of the SWAP-Indigenous Peoples as follows:

#### **1. Raising awareness of the UN Declaration**

Please provide information on any activities that raise awareness of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, including key messages, advocacy and other media and outreach initiatives. Please provide information on publications, films, audio material, maps, or other materials that feature or focus on the UN Declaration and on indigenous peoples. Please also provide links to the relevant websites and other sources.

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<sup>2</sup> See Report of the 15<sup>th</sup> session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (E/2016/43) at para. 73.

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FAO has undertaken a wide range of activities in order to raise awareness on the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, such as:

1. During the plenary session of the Sixteenth Session of the UN Permanent forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII16) FAO made a series of statements:
  - [Agenda Item 3: Follow up on the recommendations of the Permanent Forum: a\) Empowerment of Indigenous Women, b\) Indigenous Youth](#)
  - [Agenda Item 8: Tenth anniversary of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: measures taken to implement the Declaration.](#)
2. FAO co-organized a number of side-events during the UNPFII16:
  - [Indigenous Women's Empowerment Challenges and Achievements](#): co-organized with the International Indigenous Women's Forum (IIWF-FIMI) in order to highlight the importance of the empowerment of indigenous women worldwide to achieve gender equality and overcome gender and ethnic-based discrimination. It also provided a space to discuss the challenges that still remain and share successful experiences. The event was chaired by the Chair of the UNPFII, Mariam Wallet Aboubakrine.
  - [Indigenous Youth perspective on the Tenth Anniversary of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#): co-organized with the Fondo para el Desarrollo de los Pueblos Indígenas de América Latina y Caribe (FILAC), the Panamerican Health Organization, the World Health Organization, the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus and the Red de Jóvenes indígenas de Centroamérica y México. This event provided the opportunity to discuss the unique challenges indigenous youth face to preserve their livelihoods as pressure mounts over their lands and territories and they are forced to migrate to urban areas to seek better employment and education. The event also focused on how these situations are often linked to the high levels of suicide and self-harm among indigenous youth.
3. During the [technical anniversary forum in commemoration of the endorsement of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Land, Fisheries and Forests \(VGGT\)](#) a session on “Community-based Governance and Tenure of Indigenous Peoples and other Communities with customary tenure systems” was organized. This session, co-organized with the International Land Coalition, brought together more than 70 participants from different organizations. Thanks to the advocacy work of the FAO Indigenous Peoples team, indigenous peoples' perspectives were also included in other two sessions of the anniversary: one on “Tenure, VGGT, Climate change and sustainable soil management”; and “Tenure in fisheries: making the VGGT work for fisheries stakeholders”.

The specific recommendations on indigenous peoples' rights to land, territories and natural resources, emerged during these sessions, were included in a [declaration](#) read during a High-Level event organized during the session of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS).

4. Supported the participation of indigenous peoples in the Committee on World Food Security 44 (CFS), in particular by ensuring the participation of the UNPFII Chair. In this context, FAO:



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- [“An intergenerational knowledge exchange: indigenous forest management and food security in the context of climate change - Indigenous youth and elders present mechanisms for sustainable forestry and climate change adaptation”](#) during the Committee on World Food Security (CFS): Organised a side-event, that particularly timely following the issuance this year of the High Level Panel of Experts report on [sustainable forestry for food security and nutrition](#), which was one of the focus areas during the CFS discussions. In this context, the discussion during the side event revolved around the importance of preserving the traditional knowledge that indigenous peoples have been keeping for generations as custodians of forests, as well as the practices for climate change adaptation and mitigation that they have developed, which can provide significant lessons in the pursuit of Sustainable Development Goal 2 – Zero Hunger. The UNPFII Chair participated in the event as one of the panellists.
  - Invited Ms. Mariam Wallet Aboubakrine, **the Chair of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues** and a delegation of seven Global Indigenous Youth Caucus Representatives to the [CFS 44 Plenary Session](#) in order to raise awareness on Indigenous Peoples’ rights in the context of Nutrition, Sustainable forest management and food security. In particular, the UNPFII Chair delivered statements during the sessions on nutrition and on urban migration, in addition to taking part to the side-event. Finally, meetings between the UNPFII Chair and the Indigenous Peoples Constituency in the Civil Society Mechanism (CSM) and with FAO technical experts were organised.
  - [“Women’s empowerment for better resilience in pastoralist communities”](#): Organized a side event together with the Pastoralist Knowledge Hub and the Committee on World Food Security during the CFS 44. The all-women panel emphasised that ensuring access to natural resources and economic opportunities is key to empowering pastoralist women. Ms. Marite Alvarez, a pastoralist from Argentina, and a member of the regional network Pastoramericas, brought to attention the marginalization of women through resource loss and large-scale land acquisitions. As men increasingly move towards urban centres in search of work opportunities, the burden of food production through agriculture and pastoralism falls largely on the shoulders of women. However, they still they do not enjoy secure rights over their natural resources.
5. [“Indigenous and Rural Women Economic Empowerment and Food Security”](#): Contributed to the side-event during the 61<sup>st</sup> Session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), organized by the Permanent Mission of Spain, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Asociación de Familias y Mujeres del Mundo Rural (AFAMMER). [FAO’s contribution](#) touched upon the FAO Policy on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples and FAO’s initiatives supporting indigenous women, including the Leadership Schools for Indigenous Women that FAO has implemented in Bolivia, El Salvador, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, India and Philippines, to accelerate women’s empowerment and foster gender equality in indigenous communities.



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6. The [Pastoralist Knowledge Hub](#) and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) jointly organised a session titled [“Guardians of Rangelands: combatting desertification in the rangeland through sustainable pastoralism,”](#) on the sidelines of the thirteen session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 13) to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). The event aimed to dispel myths about the negative impact of pastoralism on the landscape and to encourage the development of sustainable pastoralism for improving rangeland health.
7. [“Empowering rural and indigenous Women to achieve Food Security and Nutrition”](#): Jointly organized with UN-Women and the gender focal points in FAO, IFAD, WFP and OHCHR, a side-event in the context of CSW. The side event discussed how CEDAW and the General Recommendation 34 on the right of rural women can promote gender equality in agriculture and rural development and guide efforts towards the achievement of the SDGs. It provided a platform for government representatives, indigenous women leaders and the UN to share their experiences related to women’s empowerment. One of the participants of the first edition of the Leadership School for Indigenous Women from the Philippines shared her experience in the school and the impacts it had for her work in the community.
8. [“Leaving no one behind: Achieving gender equality for food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture”](#): Held a special side-event during the 40<sup>th</sup> Session of the FAO Conference. The event focused on the important role that women play for the achievement of food security for all and the Sustainable Development Goals. This event touched upon three critical items: the crucial role that rural women play in ending hunger and poverty; the need for policies and programmes to accelerate rural women’s economic empowerment; and the importance of promoting transformative approaches to tackle the underlying causes of gender inequality in rural areas.

On the occasion of the FAO conference, The FAO Indigenous Peoples team supported the participation of Jessica Vega Ortega, [representative of the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus, and the only indigenous panelist](#). A Mixteca woman from Mexico, Jessica brought into the discussion the indigenous perspective, stressing the multiple discrimination indigenous young women face across the world, especially regarding land rights and political participation. [Watch webcast here](#).

9. [“I am a leader: indigenous, woman and producer”](#): Prepared and showcased this photographic exhibition, in order to mark the celebration of the International Women’s Day on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March. The photo exhibition highlights the testimonies of indigenous women from Panama and the challenges they face to preserve their culture and food systems. The photos and testimonies were collected under the framework of the Leadership School of Indigenous Women in Human Rights and Food and Nutrition Security, which has been implemented by FAO in 6 other countries in Latin America and Asia in collaboration with the International Forum of Indigenous Women (IIFW/FIMI).
10. **High level Ministerial event on Indigenous Women in Latin America**: Hosted by the Government of Mexico and SAGARPA and organized by the FAO Indigenous Peoples Team with the FAO Mexico office, the FAO regional and Subregional office and a technical committee of indigenous women organizations, the High level event had the objective of bringing the attention of policy makers, Ministers and UN about the situation of indigenous

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women in Latin America in the context of the Zero Hunger challenge and the SDGs. The event "Empoderar a las Mujeres Indígenas para erradicar el hambre y la Malnutrición en América Latina y el Caribe" had to be postponed a cause of the september earthquake that affected Mexico. The event will now take place in January 2018

11. "[Make indigenous women visible, empower them](#)": Designed a global advocacy campaign with the aim of supporting the recognition of indigenous women as key allies in the achievement of Zero Hunger. To elevate the launch of this advocacy campaign, FAO is implementing a digital strategy through FAO corporate [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) accounts, disseminating FAO's global messages and encouraging their adaptation to local contexts.

The main communication products developed under this digital strategy are:

- Video "[A day in the life of Telvina](#)". By showing the daily routine of Telvina, an indigenous woman living in the Emberá community in Panama, the video highlights the involvement of women in different parts of the food production process, from agriculture to food preparation, as well as their critical role as educators and leader in their families.
- [Cards and GIFs with the messages of the campaign.](#)

12. Developed advocacy materials such as:

- [Mujeres indígenas Mayangna, motores de desarrollo en Nicaragua](#), ONU Radio, February 28
- [FAO advierte que las mujeres de América Latina son cada vez más pobres](#), Gestión, March 8
- [Scandinavia's Sami struggle with suicide, worsened by climate change](#), Thompson Reuters, April 7
- [Roma: Caucus Global de Jóvenes Indígenas se reúne con la FAO](#), Fondo Indígena, April
- [La FAO subraya el papel "central" de las indígenas en la lucha contra el hambre](#), EL Diario.es, April 4
- [Falta mucho para garantizar los derechos indígenas](#), Inter Press Service, April 25
- [Jóvenes indígenas piden normas para respetar igualdad de género en herencias](#), Agencia Efe, July 5
- [ONU promueve pesca sostenible artesanal en zonas indígenas en Centroamérica](#), Agencia Efe, 1 September
- [FAO urge empoderar a mujeres indígenas para erradicar el hambre](#), Economía Hoy, September 14
- [Indígenas panameñas piden visibilizar rol social de la mujer](#), Prensa Latina, September 8
- [Exposición fotográfica visibiliza la labor de las líderes indígenas de Panamá](#), La Estrella, September 28

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- [Mejorar los medios de subsistencia de las mujeres indígenas en Nicaragua](#), FAO In Action
13. Developed key advocacy and capacity development videos such as:
- [FAO and the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus working together to achieve Zero hunger](#) Highlights of the meeting between FAO and the GIYC.
  - [Partners, policies and pastoralism: Bringing pastoral voices to the global stage](#), a video by the Pastoralist Knowledge Hub where experts and pastoral representatives discuss the importance of pastoralism.
  - [Aprendizajes compartidos \(Shared learning\)](#) Indigenous peoples from different countries (Peru- Latin America, D.R. Congo- Africa and Thailand- Asia) share some of their main issued related to tenure of, respectively, land, forests, and fisheries. They explain, in simple words, the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of land, fisheries and forests in the context of national food security, linking them with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
  - [Un día en la vida de Telvina](#) Developed as part of the advocacy campaign on indigenous women, it shows the daily routine of an indigenous women from Panama.
  - [Empoderar a las mujeres indígenas para erradicar el hambre y la malnutrición en ALC](#) developed for the HLF Empower indigenous women to eradicate hunger and malnutrition in Latin America and the Caribbean.
  - [FAO and Ekta Parishad. Supporting the recognition of land rights of indigenous peoples and local communities in India.](#) In this interview, Ramesh Sharma, campaigns coordinator of Ekta Parishad, gives more details about the ongoing work of the Indian Organization and FAO.
  - [FAO, Indigenous Peoples and the Free, Prior and Informed Consent \(FPIC\)](#), explaining the principle of FPIC and how it is implemented by FAO.
  - [Drones: Community Monitoring of Forests in Indigenous Territories in Panama](#), a webinar that systematizing the lessons learned in community-based forest monitoring in Panama and [testimony of Rafael Valdespino, indigenous technician](#) as part of the e-Agriculture Learning tool of FAO.
14. Regularly updated and enriched the [FAO Indigenous Peoples webpage](#), featuring key publications and advocacy material as well as stories from the field and relevant news.
15. The [Pastoralist Knowledge Hub](#) maintains a [knowledge repository](#) where publications and legislations in regard to pastoralism are uploaded and regularly updated.
16. Supported the participation of the indigenous peoples in the Regional and Global Consultation on Farmers' Rights, to build capacities of indigenous peoples and to promote the implementation and realization of Farmers' Rights. The outcomes of the Consultations were presented at the Seventh Session of the Governing Body of the [International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture](#) (ITPGRFA), 2017.

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### 2. Supporting the implementation of the UN Declaration, particularly at the country level

Please provide information on actions taken or planned by your agency, fund, programme, entity on the following:

- i. Measures taken or planned to support national partners in reform and implementation of legal frameworks, policies, strategies and plans to implement the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, including any joint programming initiatives. Please also include information related to include indigenous women in your responses.

17. FAO has developed a series of capacity development initiatives on the [Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure, Land, Fisheries and Forests](#) (VGGT), which have a specific section on indigenous peoples' rights to land, territories and natural resources, based on the UNDRIP:

- **India:** Following-up on the recommendations emerged during a capacity development programme on the VGGT implemented in India in 2016, FAO in partnership with the Indian organizations *Ekta Parishad and Prayog Samaj Sevi Sanstha* developed a series of awareness-raising and capacity development material on the VGGT and the Indian Forestry Rights Act (FRA) with a specific focus on indigenous peoples (*Adivasi* in India). The materials include a kit targeting community leaders and local authorities, including posters, leaflets, cartoon booklets and videos. The materials were developed with the objective of giving simple information on the relevant legislation and applicable procedures to secure Adivasi' lands and forests at local level. At the same time, the VGGT have been translated and disseminated in four indigenous languages used in India.
- **Central America:** Together with the *Centro para la Autonomia y el Desarrollo de los Pueblos Indigenas* (CADPI), FAO has been developing and collating training material specifically designed for indigenous peoples, which was used during the capacity development programme on the VGGT for and with Indigenous Peoples implemented in Central America during 2016. The material is currently being finalized and expected to be released in 2018.
- **Cambodia:** FAO supported the translation of the VGGT into local language for further dissemination through local NGO partners. In addition, FAO in Cambodia, Lao PDR and the Philippines are designing a regional initiative in order to extend the experience of the Philippines Indigenous Women Leadership School to the other two countries. Through the school, the programme would address food security, livelihood, conservation of natural resources and biodiversity, and capacity building on legal instruments and tools like the VGGT and the SDGs.
- **Latin America, Africa, Asia:** A video to explain, in simple words, the VGGT, linking them to the UNDRIP and covering topics such as FPIC was produced in collaboration with ONAMIAP, an indigenous organization based in Peru. It showcases indigenous peoples from different countries (Peru- Latin America, D.R. Congo- Africa and Thailand- Asia) who share some of their main issues related to tenure of, respectively, land, forests, and fisheries. The video is accompanied by a

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didactical guide which can be used during meetings or capacity development workshops. [The video is available here.](#)

18. FAO partnered with the Fund for the Development of Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean (FILAC) to implement a specific capacity development programme on the [Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication](#) (SSF Guidelines) in relation to indigenous peoples. The SSF Guidelines are based on international human rights standards, and specifically mention the UNDRIP. Between 2016 and 2017, several meetings were organized with the participation of FILAC, indigenous independent experts, FAO office for Mesoamerica, the policies, economics and institutions branch of the fisheries and aquaculture department and the Indigenous Peoples Team, to develop the methodology and plan the course. The latter took place in September 2017 in Panama City and involved more than 30 indigenous representatives involved in small-scale fisheries either directly or for policy and advocacy work, and representatives of the Governments of Central American countries. With the knowledge acquired during the course, which included insights on sustainable fishing practices, the participants reflected around the status of small-scale fisheries related to indigenous peoples in their countries, identifying challenges and opportunities, and detailed work plans were jointly elaborated by the indigenous representatives and governments' representatives for each country. The FAO Indigenous Peoples Team provided technical assistance during the whole process, giving specific guidance on how to use the SSF Guidelines in advocacy processes at national and regional level and in the development of the plans, some of which will be implemented during 2018.
19. FAO through [the Pastoralist Knowledge Hub](#) organised a knowledge sharing workshop for pastoralist organisations in Eastern and Southern Africa where one of the key themes was the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (VGGT) Technical Guide on Improving governance of pastoral lands. Seven action areas were identified within the Technical guide for implementation.
- ii.* Support provided to Member States to mainstream the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and ILO Convention No. 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in national development plans and in the UN Development Assistance Frameworks and Common Country Assessments (CCA/UNDAFs).
20. **Indonesia:** FAO provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Environment and Forestry of Indonesia in the roll out of the Presidential commitment to allocate of 12.7 million hectares of forest land to indigenous peoples and local communities by 2019. Since May 2017, the FAO Indigenous Peoples team, the FAO Representation in Indonesia, the FAO Land Tenure team, and the FAO Regional Office in Asia and the Pacific have been providing support in the context of territorial management and land reform, as well as social forestry and forestry management. This technical assistance and support to indigenous peoples in Indonesia will continue throughout 2018 and will include an “Analysis of Pre & Post Recognition of Masyarakat Adat (Indigenous Peoples) rights’ to their Customary Forest in Indonesia”, which will be carried out in collaboration with the organization “Rimbawan Muda Indonesia” as well as other local indigenous organisations.



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21. **India:** Following up on recommendations emerged during the capacity development programme on the VGGT in India in 2016, FAO is supporting the establishment of a network of lawyers, lawmakers, judges, universities, and organizations working in supporting the rights of Adivasi and other marginalized communities. Such network will support tenure rights of land and forests of indigenous peoples in India in collaboration with NALSAR University, PRAYOG and other organizations working with Adivasi and indigenous peoples.
22. **Philippines:** FAO in the Philippines is implementing a GEF-funded project titled “Dynamic conservation and sustainable use of agro-biodiversity in traditional agro-ecosystems of the Philippines” The project pilot sites are located in Hingyon and Hungduan, Ifugao Province and Lake Sebu in South Cotabato Province, where these areas are all considered as ancestral domains. Since June 2017, the project team has been collaboratively working with the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) for the conduct of Free and Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) in line with the Indigenous Peoples Right Act of 1992 and Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Practices (IKSP) 2012 Guidelines. In November 2017, the Project completed the FPIC community dialogue in 17 pilot communities through the conduct of disclosure meetings and field-based investigations. Likewise, initial trainings on the rights of farmers and indigenous communities related to conservation and management of crop genetic resources for food and agriculture, community-based enterprise, agrobiodiversity mapping and inventory, and training needs assessment have been conducted in line with the goal of conservation and sustainable use of agrobiodiversity in traditional agro-ecosystems.

Through the Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) *Mainstreaming Voluntary Guidelines on Governance of Tenure in the Philippines*, a case study featuring the Tagbanwas of Coron, Palawan was conducted to contextualize some of the issues faced by the fishery sector in relation to the VGSSF. It highlighted the ongoing discussion on the need to clarify the policy in resolving the overlap of the Certificate of Ancestral Domain Titles (CADTs) with municipal waters as the overlap is usually resolved in favor of the municipal local government unit, reflecting lack of appreciation of recognition of indigenous peoples’ rights.

- iii.* Promote the establishment or strengthening of consultative mechanisms and platforms of dialogue including under the leadership of the Resident Coordinators.
23. **Paraguay:** FAO has been actively supporting two important commission created with indigenous peoples and Government institutions: the Coordination of the Commission of Food and Nutritional Security (SAN Commission), formed by the Paraguayan Institute of the Indigenous (INDI) and Indigenous Organizations (Guaraní Federation and the Federation for the Self-Determination of Indigenous Peoples (FAPI – Spanish acronym); and the Commission on Indigenous health together with the Ministry of health and the main indigenous organizations
24. The FAO Indigenous Peoples Team and the FAO Representation in Paraguay have been providing technical advice to the national authorities in order to have a decree on how to implement Free Prior and Informed Consent in the country. The draft Decree on Free Prior

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and Informed Consent has been shared and socialized with several leaders' in the departments of San Pedro, Caazapá, Caaguazú, Concepción and Guairá. Currently the document is with INDI for referral to the Executive Branch.

25. FAO has been leading the support and accompanying several Government institutions and Indigenous Peoples Organizations in the drafting process of the National Plan on Indigenous Peoples.
26. In addition, thanks to FAO's South-South programme, a two-day meeting was held to exchange experiences about the process of drafting El Salvador National Plan on Indigenous Peoples. This South-South exchange created a space for dialogue among indigenous leaders from El Salvador and Paraguay to learn about each other and the processes they are engaged with in relation to the National Indigenous Plans of their respective countries. This South-South exchange was complemented with two territorial consultations in the Departments of San Pedro and Caazapá, with the participation of 108 leaders from 47 indigenous communities belonging to the departments of Avá Guaraní, Mbya Guaraní, Ache, Toba Qom, Paí Tavyterá and Western Guaraní.
27. **El Salvador:** The formulation of the Salvadoran National Plan for Indigenous Peoples was led by the indigenous organizations of El Salvador in coordination with the Government of the country through its Chancellery and the technical assistance of the United Nations System, especially FAO. The document was elaborated through a process of consultation with different indigenous organizations and governmental institutions involved in its implementation. With support from FAO, El Salvador is developing a monitoring mechanism to supersede the implementation of the National Indigenous Action.
28. El Salvador was the first country engaged in FAO's South-South cooperation programme with indigenous peoples, fielding to Paraguay several Salvadoran indigenous leaders that had conducted together with the FAO team the drafting of the National Plan for Indigenous Peoples in El Salvador. This South-South exchange was extremely useful, providing key tips to the Paraguay indigenous leaders who are engaged in a similar process in their country.
29. **Panama:** Indigenous communities in Panama have been empowered and trained to undertake community-based forest monitoring using modern technologies such as the use of drones and geographic information system in their ancestral forests. This FAO and Ministry capacity-building initiative was expanded this year to the [four Kuna territories](#) with the collaboration of the Research and Development Institute of Kuna Yala (IIDKY). To date, the 12 indigenous territories in Panama have at least one indigenous technician capable of monitoring their ancestral forest in close collaboration with the elders and the traditional local authorities.
30. Based on the experience in Panama, and thanks to the FAO South-South programme with indigenous peoples, indigenous technicians from Panama have exchanged with indigenous



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peoples in Guatemala and Paraguay their experience in using [drones to monitor the natural resources and forest of their territory](#). This work continues expanding to other countries in the region and FAO continues to receive interest and demands from other indigenous forest communities that are interested in learning about the participatory community based monitoring of forests using drones and GIS systems. Right now, this programme is in progress in Colombia, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama, Paraguay, and Peru.

### 3. Supporting indigenous peoples' rights in the implementation and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues will continue to address indigenous issues in the follow up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

- i.* Has your agency/organization taken any measures to incorporate indigenous issues into policy and programming to implement the 2030 Agenda in line with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples?
  31. FAO participated in the Inter Agency Support Group of the United Nations (IASG) 2017 annual meeting held in Ecuador, which enabled the IASG to interact with the UN Resident Coordinator and the UN Country team. One of the challenges identified by the IASG in 2016 was the need to enhance the scope of application in priority countries in support country team. Notably, an appeal was made to incorporate indigenous peoples as one of the main areas of work in the country UNDAF, which is currently being drafted.
  32. The Indigenous Peoples Team chairs and coordinates the FAO Inter-Departmental Working Group on Indigenous Peoples (IDWG). The IDWG is composed of technical experts from forestry, seeds, livestock, statistics, gender, partnerships, investment, legal and fisheries. This body serves both as a network as well as a coordination body that enables FAO units to work with DPSA (Advocacy Unit of the Partnerships and South-South Cooperation Division) in the implementation of the 2010 FAO Policy on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples. During 2017, the IDWG was convened 3 times.
  33. The FAO Indigenous Peoples Team has engaged in strategic discussions with the FAO Strategic Programmes managers during 2017 to develop a programme of work on indigenous peoples for FAO 2017-2019. This fruitful work has resulted in more than 11 agreements between FAO and indigenous organizations to implement the programme of work on indigenous peoples during 2018.
- ii.* Has your agency/organization/entity supported the participation of indigenous peoples in the implementation and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including at the national level? Please also include information on indigenous women, persons with disabilities, older persons and children and youth in your responses.

FAO has been supporting financially the travel and participation of indigenous peoples' representatives in meetings and fora related to FAO mandate at the global, regional and national level including, but not limited to, the following:

34. Supported the establishment of a dialogue between the CFS Civil Society Mechanism (CSM) and the UNFPII through:

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- Ensuring the participation of the UNFPPII Chair in the CFS.
  - Facilitating meetings between the UNFPPII Chair and the CSM.
  - Organizing a side event during the CFS, having the Chair of the UNFPPII as panellist.
35. Financially and logistically supported the participation of a Global Indigenous Youth Caucus delegation of seven youth to the CFS.
36. Provided technical support to the REDD+ team to strengthen the technical capacities of local actors, in particular indigenous peoples, in particular indigenous technicians, on community-based forest monitoring in indigenous territories, towards a more sustainable landscape management in the context of climate change mitigation as well as towards an increased governance of tenure. The activities of the regional “package” have been implemented both at regional level, in particular through south-south cooperation exchanges, as well as at more specific country/subnational level, and will continue throughout 2018.
- iii.* Please provide information on any reports or other documents in implementing the 2030 Agenda for indigenous peoples. Also include information on any measures taken or planned for the collection of statistical data on indigenous peoples, in particular as related to the SDG indicators for target 1.4 (secure tenure rights to land), target 2.3 (income of small-scale food producers), target 4.5 (parity in access to education) and target 10.3/16.b (experience of discrimination).

#### 4. Mapping of existing standards and guidelines, capacities, training materials and resources for the effective implementation of the UNDRIP

- i.* Please provide information on any specific standards and guidelines on indigenous peoples adopted or planned by your agency/organization.

FAO has finalized the [Free, Prior and Informed Consent Manual](#) and its translation in all six UN official languages: [Arabic](#), [Chinese](#), [English](#), [French](#), [Russian](#), and [Spanish](#).

- ii.* Please provide information on any training materials prepared or planned related to the implementation of the UN Declaration.

On FPIC, the following capacity development material were developed:

- [Awareness video on FPIC \(video in English with subtitles in English, Spanish, French and Arabic\)](#)
- Awareness raising sessions on FPIC
- Face-to-Face training material on the application of FPIC during project implementation, including case studies.
- Self-paced e-learning course on FPIC.

On the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture:

- [Developed and published the Educational Module on Farmers' Rights](#), FAO-ITPGRFA, October 2017

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Developed and published the Educational Module on Farmers' Rights, FAO-ITPGRFA, October 2017.

*iii.* Please provide information on current resources and funds allocated to effectively implement the UN Declaration. Please also provide information on any joint initiatives with other UN agencies in the implementation of the UN Declaration.

37. The FAO Indigenous Peoples team is involved in the development, appraisal and implementation of project proposals affecting indigenous peoples through the new project cycle 2015. So far, the team has provided technical assistance to a number of project formulators based in HQ and at decentralised office level – the request for similar assistance, which involves also missions to country offices, is expected to increase in future. As part of the corporate process of projects review from February to December 2017 nearly 50 projects with a global coverage were screened for sustainability against criterion 2.3 Indigenous and Tribal Peoples.

In particular, in 2017 the team has increased its assistance to Global Environment Facility (GEF) projects through coordination with the FAO GEF team and direct assistance to projects in Burundi, Colombia, Chile, Mexico, India, Kenya, Peru, Uganda, to name but a few. In 2018, it is expected a stronger engagement of the FAO Indigenous Peoples team in GEF as well as in Green Climate Fund (GCF) projects to ensure the compliance with FPIC.

38. [FAO Indigenous Peoples Team](#): In terms of resources allocated, the team counts with one Team leader, five specialists and an intern supporting the different areas of work of the organisation with indigenous peoples at global level. These include technical assistance on the implementation of FPIC and VGGTs, as well as coordination of specific work in relation to indigenous food system, traditional knowledge, climate change and resilience, indigenous women and indigenous youth, to name but a few. Ad hoc resources to further develop these areas of work in 2018 were allocated in 2017. At global, regional and country level, the FAO Indigenous Peoples Team counts with focal points providing assistance to FAO, Governments and partner organisations on the work with indigenous peoples. In this context, the team is regularly interacting with five focal points at regional level and eighteen at country level. As part of the compliance with FAO's project cycle, projects affecting indigenous peoples have resources allocated to implement FPIC.

39. FAO, along with the Regional Interagency Group on Indigenous Peoples (IWGIP) for Latin America and its Indigenous Consultative Group, reflected on [lessons learnt after ten years of interagency work for the implementation of the UNDRIP](#).

### 5. Developing the capacities of States, indigenous peoples, civil society and UN personnel

Please provide information on any capacity development initiatives that your organization is conducting for indigenous peoples, government officials and UN staff. Also include information on the participation of indigenous women, children and youth as well as indigenous persons with disabilities in your response.

The FAO Indigenous Peoples team initiated a series of actions in order to develop the capacities of States, indigenous peoples, civil society and UN personnel as follows:

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40. FAO Indigenous Internship programme: In coordination with headquarters, regional and national offices and units, developed an internship programme specifically targeting indigenous youth. This programme is recognized by the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus, more particularly in the [Rome Declaration](#), read on the occasion of the sixteen session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. The call for application offered 20 internships in FAO HQ, but also in FAO regional offices in Asia and the Pacific, Central America and the Caribbean and Africa. As of December 2017, there are 19 indigenous interns working in the Organization: 9 in FAO HQ and 10 in the following country offices: Bangladesh, Myanmar, Nepal, Thailand, Chile, Ecuador, El Salvador, Panama and Paraguay. These interns are both being trained and contributing to FAO's work related to indigenous peoples, specifically regarding issues such as: Farmer field schools, horticulture, pastoralist knowledge hub, nutrition, fisheries, forestry, gender equality and Women's empowerment, to name a few.
41. Leadership School for indigenous women: Supported the implementation of the second edition of the Leadership School, during 2016 and 2017 in El Salvador, Panama and Paraguay, with the participation of around 25 indigenous women per country. The programme resulted in a unique opportunity to increase the participants' knowledge on food security and nutrition and human rights, providing them with tools to raise awareness with different actors and advocate to improve indigenous peoples' conditions at country level. In addition, the programme allowed to strengthen the local indigenous women's organizations and the network among them, and to improve the collaboration of FAO with national organizations in the different countries involved. In fact, with the technical support of the FAO Indigenous Peoples' team and the accompaniment by the FAO offices in the different countries, the participants prepared some advocacy plans related to specific situations in their communities. Among all the plans prepared, two were selected in each country and have received small funds in order to be implemented during 2018. The third edition of the leadership school for indigenous women will be implemented during 2018.
42. High Level academy for Government Officers and UN staff, organized by the International Labour Organization (ILO): Together with ILO, presented FAO's work on Indigenous Peoples, but also FPIC and VGGT on "[Decent work in the rural economy for indigenous and tribal peoples](#)" in Torino 27<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> November.
43. National Adaptation Plans: Building Climate resilience in Agriculture. The FAO Indigenous Peoples team, together with UNITAR, UNDP and GIZ has set up and participated in the [e-learning massive course on national adaptation plans: building climate resilience in Agriculture](#). To date more than 17 000 students are following this year's course and the module on indigenous peoples has received more than 800 questions and comments.
44. Through the [Forest and Farm Facility \(FFF\)](#), has supported women producers in different countries. For instance in Nicaragua, six Mayangna organizations have been strengthened on leadership, technical capacities, improvement of their legal status, product design, financial management. Additionally, exchange of knowledge with other indigenous women organizations at international level took place such as the participation in the VII Latin American and Caribbean encounter of organic and ecological agriculture, held in May 2017. Exchange visit between Indigenous Women Mayangna from Nicaragua with

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Indigenous Women Q'eqchi Alta Verapaz, Guatemala, were organized in Guatemala in order to learn about entrepreneurship. In Bolivia, FFF has strengthened the capacities of the Central Indígena de Pueblos Originarios de la Amazonia de Pando (CIPOAP – Spanish acronym) and Central Indígena de Mujeres de la Amazonia de Pando (CIMAP – Spanish acronym) in order to design and implement projects for improving the sustainable management of their territory. These projects have been implemented after the community has been involved in an FPIC process. Through the implementation of a Letter of Agreement between FAO and the Asociación de productores de cacao nativo ecológico del pueblo Leco de Larecaja (CHOCO LECO), FFF will support the strengthening of the internal capacities of the association. In this context, CHOCO LECO will promote the sustainable management of its territory and will work with a value chain approach with selected products such as cacao.

### 6. Advancing the participation of indigenous peoples in UN processes

Please provide information on any support provided for the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples at relevant UN bodies, including at the country level. Please also provide information on any consultative mechanisms, tools and other measures to obtain free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples in processes that affect them.

In order to support the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples at relevant UN bodies, including at the country level, FAO has facilitated activities, such as:

45. [FAO Indigenous Peoples team](#) hosted for the first time a meeting with the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus (GIYC), with fifteen participants across seven world regions visiting FAO HQ to discuss partnerships between FAO and indigenous youth worldwide. This meeting provided an opportunity for indigenous youth representatives to discuss with FAO about their challenges and opportunities, and promote the integration of indigenous youth in FAO's areas of work. In addition, the GIYC representatives met with more than 19 Permanent Representatives to discuss challenges faced by indigenous youth in the context of food security and agriculture. The meeting resulted in the "Rome Statement", which includes recommendations to Member States and United Nations Agencies regarding UNDRIP and the Sustainable Development Goals. [Global Indigenous Youth Caucus, watch webcast.](#)
46. Invited Ms. Mariam Wallet Aboubakrine, the Chair of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and a delegation of seven Global Indigenous Youth Caucus Representatives. During plenary sessions, Ms Wallet brought into focus important matters faced by indigenous peoples worldwide such as forced displacement, rural to urban youth migration and conflicts over lands and natural resources among others. Likewise, she stressed the important role that traditional knowledge can play in informing more sustainable food production systems, especially when combined with new technologies, and reiterated the need for more research on this topic.

More specifically on the Free, Prior and Informed Consent process, in 2017 FAO has delivered a series of capacity development sessions in FAO Country offices as follows:

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Location	Participants	Type of session	Date
Regional Office Asia and the Pacific, Bangladesh	FAO staff (programme and project staff)	Face-to-Face training	June 2017
Regional Office Asia and the Pacific, Bangladesh	UN agencies, Donor agencies, NGOs	Awareness session	June 2017
Regional Office Asia and the Pacific, Myanmar	FAO staff (programme and project staff)	Face-to-Face training	July 2017
Regional Office Asia and the Pacific, Nepal	FAO staff (programme and project staff)	Face-to-Face training	June 2017
Regional Office Asia and the Pacific, Nepal	UN agencies, Donor agencies, NGOs	Awareness session	June 2017
Regional Office Asia and the Pacific, Philippines (Skype)	FAO staff	Awareness session (Skype)	September 2017
Regional Office Asia and the Pacific, Thailand	FAO staff (LTOs)	Awareness session	July 2017
Regional Office Asia and the Pacific, Thailand	FAO staff from regional office and staff from country offices	Awareness session in the context of the Environmental and Social Management training	July 2017
Regional Office Africa, Ghana (Skype)	FAO staff from regional office and staff from country offices	Awareness session (Skype)	July 2017
Regional Office Africa, Ghana	FAO staff from regional office and staff from country offices	Face-to-Face training	December 2017
Regional Office Africa, Uganda	FAO staff and government staff involved in GEF project	Face-to-Face training	November 2017
Regional Office Latin America and the Caribbean, Ecuador	FAO staff	Awareness session	June 2017
Regional Office Latin America and the Caribbean, Panama	FAO staff from the regional and country offices	Face-to-Face training	November 2017

# Questionnaire to UN system

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ANNEX 1: Report on the work of the FAO Indigenous Peoples team, 2017





Report on the  
work of the FAO  
Indigenous  
Peoples team

2017

Partnerships and South-South  
Cooperation Division,  
Advocacy Unit (DPSA)

“Ancestría” by Newton Mori Julca - Chirapaq

## Report on the work of the FAO Indigenous Peoples team - 2017

Partnerships and South-South Cooperation Division, Advocacy Unit (DPSA)

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### *Background*

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Since the creation of the FAO Indigenous Peoples Team in DPSA in June 2014, the strategy of the team has been to position an agenda of work within FAO, rooted in the 2007 UN Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and to set in motion the implementation of the 2010 FAO Policy on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples.

The work of the FAO Indigenous Peoples Team is the result of constant interactions and discussions with indigenous peoples representatives. Two important caucuses have taken place in FAO headquarters to discuss joint collaborations and strategic areas of work:

- In February 2015, with representatives from the 7 sociocultural regions to define a FAO-indigenous peoples joint workplan; and
- In April 2017 with the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus (GIYC) to set up the work with indigenous youth and discuss a new pillar of work.

The joint workplan emanating from the 2015 meeting between indigenous representatives and FAO was structured around 6 pillars of work (Advocacy and capacity development; Coordination; Free Prior and Informed Consent; Voluntary Guidelines on Land and voluntary Guidelines on Fisheries; Indigenous Food systems; and Food Security Indicators).

Resulting from the discussions with indigenous youth in April 2017, a new relevant pillar was outlined related to intergenerational exchange and traditional knowledge within climate change and resilience.

While for the FAO Indigenous Peoples Team 2015-2016 was a period of intense advocacy and strategic work within FAO to create an identity that would raise attention to the need for the Organization to work with Indigenous Peoples, 2016-2017 has been a period of transition towards a more programmatic approach through the FAO Strategic Programmes teams.

To this end, in 2017 the FAO Indigenous Peoples Team developed a programme of work for the period 2017-2019, linking the 2015 workplan with the FAO Strategic Programme and the Sustainable Development Goals. In 2017, in addition to scaling up the technical assistance to staff in HQ and decentralised offices, particularly in the context of the implementation of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), efforts were directed at mobilising resources within the organisation and outside to accompany the implementation of the programme of work. A summary of the main results in 2017 can be seen in the infographic below.

## 2017 AT A GLANCE: **FAO INDIGENOUS PEOPLES TEAM**

### **FPIC**

**>100** FAO STAFF TRAINED IN 3 REGIONS IN 6 MONTHS

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT MATERIAL DEVELOPED

MANUAL IN **6** LANGUAGES

MORE THAN **50** PROJECTS SCREENED

### **ADVOCACY AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT**

FAO-GLOBAL INDIGENOUS YOUTH CAUCUS MEETING

GLOBAL CAMPAIGN FOR THE EMPOWERMENT OF INDIGENOUS WOMEN DEVELOPED

### **INDIGENOUS FOOD SYSTEMS**

RESOURCES FOR FIELD RESEARCH AND EXPERT SEMINAR IN 2018 SECURED

### **INDICATORS**

RESOURCES FOR STUDY ON FOOD SECURITY STATUS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES SECURED

### **VGGT**

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT IN **INDIA, INDONESIA, CENTRAL AMERICA**

### **COORDINATION**

**18** INDIGENOUS INTERNS RECRUITED AT HQ AND DECENTRALISED OFFICE LOCATIONS

**7** EXPERTS PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO FAO, GOVERNMENTS AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

FUNDS SECURED FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF 2017-2019 PROGRAMME THROUGH PARTNERS  
**USD 1063075**

Resources



■ Yet to be secured  
■ Funds secured

### *Pillar 1: Advocacy and Capacity Development*

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The FAO Indigenous Peoples Team has continued the implementation of its advocacy strategy, as a critical step to raise the voices of indigenous peoples worldwide. This year, particular attention has been given to mainstreaming the work with indigenous youth throughout the Organization, as well as, enhancing the commitment with indigenous women. Both these groups are fundamental in the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

#### 1.1. External Advocacy

##### *1.1.1. International Women's Day*

*March 8, FAO Headquarters, Rome*

*Photo exhibit: "I am a leader: indigenous, woman and producer"*

Access the exhibition [here](#).

To mark the celebration of International Women's Day, the FAO Indigenous Peoples Team featured at FAO HQ the photographic exhibition "I am a leader: indigenous, woman and producer". This exhibition showcases the testimonies of indigenous women from Panama and the challenges they face to preserve their culture and food systems. The photos and testimonies were collected under the framework of the Leadership School of Indigenous Women in Human Rights and Food and Nutrition Security, which has been implemented in seven countries in Asia and Latin America, in partnership with the International Forum of Indigenous Women (IIWF/FIMI).

##### *1.1.2. Meeting between FAO and the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus (GIYC)*

*April 5 - 8, FAO Headquarters, Rome*



FAO Indigenous Peoples Team hosted for the first time a meeting with the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus (GIYC), with fifteen participants across seven world regions visiting FAO HQ to discuss partnerships between FAO and indigenous youth worldwide. This meeting provided an opportunity for indigenous youth representatives to discuss with FAO about their challenges and opportunities, and

promote the integration of indigenous youth in FAO's areas of work.

In addition, the GIYC representatives met with more than 19 Permanent Representatives to discuss challenges faced by indigenous youth in the context of food security and agriculture. The meeting resulted in the "Rome Statement", which includes recommendations to

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Member States and United Nations Agencies regarding UNDRIP and the Sustainable Development Goals. Access the Rome Statement [here](#).

### *1.1.3. Sixteenth Session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues*

*24 April to 5 May, UN Headquarters, New York*

The FAO Indigenous Peoples Team co-organized a two side events during the UNPFII:

– [Indigenous Women’s Empowerment: Challenges and Achievements](#)

Co-organized by FAO and International Indigenous Women’s Forum (IIFW-FIMI), this event highlighted the importance of the empowerment of indigenous women worldwide in order to achieve gender equality and overcome gender and ethnic-based discrimination. The event also provided a space to discuss the challenges that still remain and share successful experiences. The event was chaired by the newly appointed chair of the UNPFII, Mariam Wallet Aboubakrine.

– [Indigenous Youth perspective on the Tenth Anniversary of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#)

The event was co-organized with the Fondo para el Desarrollo de los Pueblos Indígenas de América Latina y el Caribe (FILAC), the Panamerican Health Organization, the World Health Organization, the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus and the Red de Jóvenes indígenas de Centroamérica y México. It provided an opportunity to discuss the specific challenges that indigenous youth face to preserve their livelihoods and traditional knowledge as pressure mounts over their lands and territories and they are forced to migrate to urban areas to seek better employment and education. The event also discussed how these situations are often linked to the high levels of suicide and self-harm among indigenous youth.

FAO also made the following statements during the plenary session of the Permanent Forum:

47. [Agenda Item 3: Follow up on the recommendations of the Permanent Forum: a\) Empowerment of Indigenous Women, b\) Indigenous Youth](#)

48. [Agenda Item 8: Tenth anniversary of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: measures taken to implement the Declaration](#)

In addition, the “Rome Statement on the Contribution of Indigenous Youth towards a World without Hunger”, which was finalized at the FAO preparatory meeting of the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus in April 2017 was read by indigenous youth present during the plenary session of the Sixteenth Session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII16).

### *1.1.4. Sixty-first session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW61)*

*March 8, UN Headquarters, New York*

*Side event: “Indigenous and Rural Women’s Economic Empowerment and Food Security”.*



FAO contributed to the panel discussion with a synopsis of the FAO Policy on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples and an overview of FAO's initiatives supporting indigenous women. These include the Leadership Schools for Indigenous Women that FAO has implemented in Bolivia, El Salvador, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, India and the Philippines. The objective of the school is to support women's empowerment and foster gender equality in indigenous communities. This side event was organized by the Permanent Mission of Spain, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Asociación de Familias y Mujeres del Mundo Rural (AFAMMER).

*March 15, UN Headquarters, New York*

*Side event: Empowering rural and indigenous women to achieve food security and nutrition*

This side event was jointly organized by UN-Women and the gender focal points in FAO, IFAD, WFP and OHCHR. The event reviewed how CEDAW and the General Recommendation 34 on the right of rural women can promote gender equality in agriculture and rural development and guide efforts towards the achievement of the SDGs. It provided a platform for government representatives, indigenous women leaders and the UN to share their experiences related to women's empowerment. One of the participants of the first edition of the Leadership School for Indigenous Women from the Philippines shared her experience in the school and the impacts it had for her work in the community.

### *1.1.5. Leadership School for Indigenous Women*

The second edition of the Leadership School for indigenous women was implemented during 2016 and 2017 in El Salvador, Panama and Paraguay, with the participation of around 20 indigenous women per country.

The programme resulted in a unique opportunity to increase the participants' knowledge on food security and nutrition and human rights, providing them with tools to raise awareness with different actors and advocate to improve indigenous peoples' conditions at country level.

In addition, the programme allowed to strengthen local indigenous women's organizations and the network among them, and to improve the collaboration of FAO with national organizations in the different countries involved.

In fact, with the technical support of the FAO Indigenous Peoples team and the accompaniment by the FAO offices in the different countries, the participants prepared advocacy plans related to specific situations in their communities. Among all the plans prepared, two were selected in each country and have received small funds in order to be implemented during 2018.

The third edition of the leadership school for indigenous women will be implemented during 2018.

### *1.1.6. Fourteenth Session of the FAO Conference*

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July 2017, FAO Headquarters, Rome

Side event: “Leaving no one behind: Achieving gender equality for food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture”. [Webcast](#)



On the occasion of the 40<sup>th</sup> Session of the FAO Conference, the Organization held a special event focused on the important role that indigenous and rural women play for the achievement of food security for all and the Sustainable Development Goals.

This event touched upon three critical items: the crucial role that rural women play in ending hunger and poverty; the need for policies and programmes to accelerate rural women’s economic empowerment; and the importance of promoting transformative approaches to tackle the underlying causes of gender inequality in rural areas.

The FAO Indigenous Peoples team supported the participation of Jessica Vega Ortega, representative of the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus, and only indigenous panellist. From the Mixteca People, Jessica brought into the discussion the indigenous perspective, stressing the multiple discrimination indigenous young women face across the world, especially when it comes to land rights and political participation.

### *1.1.7. Forty-fourth Session of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS)*

*Plenary sessions: October 9-13, FAO, Rome, Italy*

On the occasion of the Committee on World Food Security, FAO invited Mariam Wallet Aboubakrine, the Chair of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and a delegation of seven Global Indigenous Youth Caucus Representatives. During plenary sessions, Ms Wallet Aboubakrine brought into focus important matters faced by indigenous peoples worldwide such as forced displacement, rural to urban youth migration and conflicts over lands and natural resources among others. Likewise, she stressed the important role that traditional knowledge can play in informing more sustainable food production systems, especially when combined with new technologies, and reiterated the need for more research on this topic.

*October 13, FAO, Rome, Italy*

*Side event: “An intergenerational knowledge exchange: indigenous forest management and food security in the context of climate change-Indigenous youth and elders present mechanisms for sustainable forestry and climate change adaptation”.*





The side-event was organized in partnership with the Government of Norway and the Government of Panama, the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII), the Fund for the Development of Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean (FILAC), the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus (GIYC), the International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA), the Mesoamerican

Alliance of People and Forests (AMPB), and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) – UNREDD. This side-event provided an opportunity for dialogue for indigenous representatives, UN Agencies, Country Representatives, Academic Institutions, Civil Society Organizations and indigenous issues experts.

This dialogue was particularly timely following the issuance this year of the High Level Panel of Experts report on sustainable forestry for food security and nutrition, which was one of the focus areas during the CFS discussions. In this context, the discussion during the side event revolved around the importance of preserving the traditional knowledge that indigenous peoples have been keeping for generations as custodians of forests, as well as the practices for climate change adaptation and mitigation that they have developed, which can provide significant lessons in the pursuit of Sustainable Development Goal 2 – Zero Hunger.

### *1.1.8. Make indigenous women visible campaign and High Level Forum on the Empowerment of indigenous women to eradicate hunger and malnutrition in Latin America and the Caribbean*



With the aim of supporting the recognition of indigenous women as key allies in the achievement of Zero Hunger, FAO has designed a global advocacy campaign entitled: “[Make indigenous women visible, empower them](#)”. To highlight the launch of this advocacy campaign, FAO designed and implemented a digital strategy through FAO corporate Facebook and Twitter accounts, disseminating FAO’s global messages and encouraging their adaptation to local contexts.

The main communication products developed under this digital strategy are:

- Video “A day in the life of Telvina”. By showing the daily routine of Telvina, an indigenous women living in the Emberá community in Panama, the video highlights the involvement of women in different parts of the food production process, from agriculture to food preparation. <https://www.facebook.com/UNFAO/videos/10155869720583586/>

- Cards and GIFs with the messages of the campaign.  
<https://twitter.com/FAOKnowledge/status/912352595204804609>

The advocacy campaign was to be launched during the High Level Forum (HLF) on the Empowerment of indigenous women to eradicate hunger and malnutrition in Latin America and the Caribbean, which was to be held in September. Unfortunately, the Forum was postponed to 2018 due to the earthquake that hit Mexico on September 19.

The Forum is an initiative funded by the Government of Mexico, with technical assistance from FAO Mexico and the FAO Indigenous Peoples Team. The event, postponed to January 2018, will gather high-level participants from Governments, Indigenous Peoples Organizations, Civil Society Organizations and Academia from more than 10 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean to discuss how to advance public policies of poverty reduction and rural development specifically targeting indigenous women.

### *1.1.9. Media outreach*

- o [Mujeres indígenas Mayangna, motores de desarrollo en Nicaragua](#), ONU Radio, February 28
- o [FAO advierte que las mujeres de América Latina son cada vez más pobres](#), Gestión, March 8
- o [Scandinavia's Sami struggle with suicide, worsened by climate change](#), Thompson Reuters, April 7
- o [Roma: Caucus Global de Jóvenes Indígenas se reúne con la FAO](#), Fondo Indígena, April
- o [La FAO subraya el papel "central" de las indígenas en la lucha contra el hambre](#), EL Diario.es, April 4
- o [Falta mucho para garantizar los derechos indígenas](#), Inter Press Service, April 25
- o [Jóvenes indígenas piden normas para respetar igualdad de género en herencias](#), Agencia Efe, July 5
- o [ONU promueve pesca sostenible artesanal en zonas indígenas en Centroamérica](#), Agencia Efe, 1 September
- o [FAO urge empoderar a mujeres indígenas para erradicar el hambre](#), Economía Hoy, September 14
- o [Indígenas panameñas piden visibilizar rol social de la mujer](#), Prensa Latina, September 8
- [Exposición fotográfica visibiliza la labor de las líderes indígenas de Panamá](#), La Estrella, September 28
- [Mejorar los medios de subsistencia de las mujeres indígenas en Nicaragua](#), FAO In Action

### *1.1.10. Videos*

- [FAO and the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus working together to achieve Zero hunger](#). Highlights of the meeting between FAO and the GIYC.
- [Aprendizajes compartidos \(Shared learning\)](#). Indigenous peoples from different countries (Peru- Latin America, D.R. Congo- Africa and Thailand- Asia) share some of their main issues related to tenure of, respectively, land, forests, and fisheries. They explain, in simple words, the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of land, fisheries and forests in the context of national food security, linking them with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

## Questionnaire to UN system

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- [Un día en la vida de Telvina](#). Developed as part of the advocacy campaign on indigenous women, it shows the daily routine of an indigenous women from Panama.
- [Empoderar a las mujeres indígenas para erradicar el hambre y la malnutrición en ALC](#). Developed for the HLF Empower indigenous women to eradicate hunger and malnutrition in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- [FAO and Ekta Parishad. Supporting the recognition of land rights of indigenous peoples and local communities in India](#). In this interview, Ramesh Sharma, campaigns coordinator of Ekta Parishad, gives more details about the ongoing work of the Indian Organization and FAO.

### 1.2. Internal Advocacy

#### 1.2.1. Intranet Articles

[Indigenous peoples' arts](#), numerous indigenous artists participated in FAO's contest by submitting their artwork – meet the winners and see their work.

[Photo exhibit](#), I am a leader, woman, indigenous and producer.

[Hosting at home](#), FAO staff welcome Indigenous youth representatives into their homes for the duration of the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus taking place at headquarters for the first time this week

[Learning from indigenous youth](#), Indigenous youth from around the world convene at headquarters to share their perspective in the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus

[For, with and by indigenous peoples](#), A successful cultural and knowledge exchange with indigenous youth

[Free, Prior and Informed Consent](#), A new capacity development programme on FPIC to promote a sustainable and equitable development by respecting, including and promoting indigenous peoples' rights.

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#### *Pillar 2: Coordination*

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### 2.1 Inter Agency Support Group of the United Nations

*June 20-22, 2017, Ecuador*

*Annual meeting 2017*

The Inter Agency Support Group of the United Nations (IASG) groups together twice a year the Indigenous Peoples' focal points from all UN agencies. The main role of the IASG is not only to mainstream the work of indigenous peoples inside the different UN organizations but also to provide support to the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNFPII).

One of the challenges identified by the IASG in 2016 was the need to enhance the scope of application in priority countries in support of country teams. As such, the 2017 annual meeting in Ecuador enabled the IASG to interact with the UN Resident Coordinator and the

UN Country team. Notably, an appeal was made to incorporate indigenous peoples as one of the main areas of work in the country UNDAF, which is currently being drafted.

### 2.2 FAO Inter-Departmental Working Group on Indigenous Peoples

The indigenous Peoples team chairs and coordinates the FAO Inter-Departmental Working Group on Indigenous Peoples (IDWG). The IDWG is composed of technical experts from forestry, seeds, livestock, statistics, gender, partnerships, investment, legal and fisheries. This body serves both as a network as well as a coordination body that enables FAO units to work with OPCA in the implementation of the 2010 FAO Policy on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples. During 2017, the IDWG was convened 3 times.

### 2.3 Support coordination between CSM and UNFPPII

In 2017, the Indigenous Peoples team supported the establishment of a dialogue between the CFS Civil Society Mechanism (CSM) and the UNFPPII through:

- Ensuring the participation of the UNFPPII Chair in the CFS.
- Facilitating meetings between the UNFPPII Chair and the CSM.
- Organizing a side event during the CFS, having the Chair of the UNFPPII as panellist.

### 2.4 Indigenous Internship Programme

The FAO Indigenous Peoples Team, in coordination with headquarters, regional and national offices and units, developed an internship programme specifically targeting indigenous youth. The call for application offered 17 internships in FAO HQ, but also in FAO regional offices in Asia and the Pacific, Central America and the Caribbean and Africa.

As of December 2017, there are 18 indigenous interns working in the Organization, 9 in FAO HQ and 9 in the following country offices: Bangladesh, Myanmar, Nepal, Thailand, Chile, Ecuador, El Salvador, Panama and Paraguay. These interns are both being trained and contributing to FAO's work related to indigenous peoples, specifically regarding issues such as: farmer field schools, horticulture, pastoralist knowledge hub, nutrition, fisheries, forestry, gender equality and Women's empowerment, to name a few.

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### *Pillar 3: Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC)*

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Free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) is a right that pertains to indigenous peoples throughout the world allowing them to give or withhold consent to any activity that may influence their territories, livelihoods and customs. FPIC has also emerged as an international human rights

standard that is linked to the collective rights of indigenous peoples to self-determination and to their lands, territories and other properties.

FAO has aligned its core guiding documents with the principle of free, prior and informed consent and is in the process of ensuring that all personnel developing and implementing projects know how to effectively apply FPIC.

### 3.1 Finalization of the FPIC capacity development material and of the manual in all UN official languages

Following the launch in October 2016 of the [Manual on Free, Prior and Informed Consent \(FPIC\)](#), during 2017 the manual was translated and published in all six [UN official languages](#): Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

In addition, the following capacity development material were developed:

- Awareness [video](#) on FPIC (with subtitles in English, Spanish, French and Arabic);
- Awareness session;
- Curriculum and modules for Face-to-Face training, including case studies;
- E-learning course on FPIC.

### 3.2 Delivery of training and capacity development sessions

In 2017, the following training and capacity development sessions were delivered:

Location	Participants	Type of session	Date
RAP, Bangladesh	FAO staff (programme and project staff)	Face-to-Face training	June 2017
RAP, Bangladesh	UN agencies, Donor agencies, NGOs	Awareness session	June 2017
RAP, Nepal	FAO staff (programme and project staff)	Face-to-Face training	June 2017
RAP, Nepal	UN agencies, Donor agencies, NGOs	Awareness session	June 2017
RLC, Ecuador	FAO staff	Awareness session	June 2017
RAP, Myanmar	FAO staff (programme and project staff)	Face-to-Face training	July 2017



## Questionnaire to UN system

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RAP, Thailand	FAO staff (LTOs)	Awareness session	July 2017
RAP, Thailand	FAO staff from regional office (LTOs and FLOs) and staff from country offices (FAORs, programme staff)	Awareness session in the context of the Environmental and Social Management training	July 2017
RAF, Ghana (Skype)	FAO staff from regional office (LTOs and FLOs) and staff from country offices (FAORs, programme staff)	Awareness session (Skype)	August 2017
RAF, Ghana	FAO staff from regional office (LTOs and FLOs) and staff from country offices (FAORs, programme staff)	Face-to-Face training	December 2017
RAP, Philippines (Skype)	FAO staff	Awareness session (Skype)	September 2017
RAF, Uganda	FAO staff involved in GEF project, Ministries staff, Local government officials, academia, research institutes and civil society	Face-to-Face training	November 2017
RLC, Panama	FAO staff from RLC, SLM and country offices from Central and South America	Face-to-Face training	November 2017

### 3.3 Participation in PPRC to provide feedback and technical assistance to project formulators and budget holders in relation to indigenous peoples and FPIC

The FAO Indigenous Peoples' team is being involved in the development, appraisal and implementation of project proposals affecting indigenous peoples through the new project cycle of 2015. So far, the team has provided technical assistance to a number of project formulators based in HQ and at decentralised office level – the request for similar assistance, which may involve also missions to country offices, is expected to increase in future. As part of the PPRC review of projects with a global coverage, from February 2017 until the end of the year, nearly 50 projects were screened for sustainability against criterion 2.3 Indigenous and Tribal Peoples.

In particular, in 2017 the team has increased its assistance to Global Environment Facility (GEF) projects through coordination with the FAO GEF team and direct assistance to projects in Burundi, Colombia, Chile, Mexico, India, Kenya, Peru, Uganda, to name a few.

In 2018, it is expected a stronger engagement of the FAO Indigenous Peoples team in GEF as well as in Green Climate Fund (GCF) projects to ensure the compliance with FPIC.

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*Pillar 4: Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests (VGGT)*

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### 4.1 Supporting the use of the Forests Rights Act and the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests (VGGT) among indigenous peoples' organizations and local governments in India.

- a. Following-up on the recommendations emerged during a capacity development programme on the VGGT implemented in India in 2016, FAO, in partnership with the Indian organizations *Ekta Parishad* and *Prayog Samaj Sevi Sanstha* has developed a series of awareness-raising and capacity development material on the VGGT and the Indian Forestry Rights Act with a specific focus on indigenous peoples (*Adivasis* in India).

The materials include a kit targeting community leaders and one for local authorities, and they are composed by posters, leaflets, cartoon booklets and videos. They were all developed with the objective of giving simple information on the relevant legislation and applicable procedures to secure *Adivasis'* lands and forests at local level. At the same time, the VGGT have been translated in 4 indigenous languages used in India.

- b. Again, following-up on a recommendation emerged during the capacity development programme on the VGGT in India, a network of lawyers, lawmakers, judges, universities, and organizations working in supporting the rights of *Adivasi* and other marginalized communities was created to support tenure rights of land and forests of indigenous peoples in India.

This started with a first meeting of nearly 30 participants including senior advocates from supreme court, various high courts, law research organizations, State's institutions, educational institutes and civil society organizations, which was convened in the Nalsar university of law in January 2017. The main objective of such network is to influence the legislation, support the implementation of the local legislation on land rights, and assist indigenous peoples in the resolution of concrete cases. In addition, the network of research institutions, advocates, lawyers is supporting national, state and grass roots level activities like research and advocacy etc.

### 4.2 Capacity development material on the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests (VGGT) for and with indigenous peoples

- a. Following the capacity development programme on the VGGT for and with Indigenous Peoples implemented in Central America during 2016, the Centro para la Autonomia y el Desarrollo de los Pueblos Indigenas (CADPI) and FAO have been developing training material specifically designed for indigenous peoples, which is currently being collated into a manual.
- b. A video to explain, in simple words, the VGGT linking them to the UNDRIP and covering topics such as FPIC was produced in collaboration with ONAMIAP, an indigenous organization based in Peru. The video showcases indigenous peoples from different countries (Peru- Latin America, D.R. Congo- Africa and Thailand- Asia) who share some of their main issues related



to tenure of, respectively, land, forests, and fisheries. The video is accompanied by a didactical guide, which can be used during meetings or capacity development workshops. The video is available [here](#).

### 4.3 The Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forest (VGGT) 5<sup>th</sup> year Technical Anniversary Forum

*5 - 6 October 2017 FAO*

The FAO Indigenous Peoples Team contributed in the 2 days technical anniversary forum in commemoration of the endorsement of the VGGT by the Committee on World Food Security in May 2012. In particular, a session on “Community-based governance and Tenure of Indigenous Peoples and other Communities with customary tenure systems” was co-organized with the International Land Coalition (ILC), bringing together more than 70 participants.

Thanks to the advocacy work of the team, Indigenous peoples’ perspectives were also included in other two sessions, one on “Tenure, VGGT, Climate change and sustainable soil management”, and “Tenure in fisheries: making the VGGT work for fisheries stakeholders”. The main recommendations emerged during these sessions were included in a declaration read during a High- Level event on the occasion of the 5th Anniversary of the Voluntary Guidelines on Tenure organized during the session of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS). A more extensive report is currently being developed to ensure all lessons learnt and recommendations are widely shared.

### 4.4 Technical advice to the Ministry of Environment and Forestry of Indonesia in the roll out of the Presidential commitment to allocate of 12.7 million hectares of forest land to indigenous peoples and local communities by 2019.

This technical support initiated in coordination with the FAO Representation in Jakarta, the Land tenure team and FAO-RAP looks into aspects of territorial management and land reform, as well as social forestry and forestry management.

The work will continue throughout 2018 and will include Analysis of Pre & Post Recognition of Masyarakat Adat (Indigenous Peoples) rights’ to their Customary Forest in Indonesia”, which will be carried out in collaboration with the organization “Rimbawan Muda Indonesia”.

### 4.5 Promoting the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines on Small-Scale Fisheries (SSF Guidelines) with and for Indigenous Peoples in Central America.

*September 2017*

In 2016, FAO partnered with the Fund for the Development of Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean (FILAC) to implement a specific capacity development

programme on the SSF Guidelines in relation to indigenous peoples. Between 2016 and 2017, several meetings were organized with the participation of FILAC, indigenous independent experts, FAO office for Mesoamerica, the policies, economics and institutions branch of the fisheries and aquaculture department and the Indigenous Peoples Team, to develop the methodology and plan the course. The latter took place in September 2017 in Panama City and involved more than 30 indigenous representatives involved in small-scale fisheries either directly or for policy and advocacy work, and representatives of the Governments of Central American countries.

With the knowledge acquired during the course, which included insights on sustainable fishing practices, the participants reflected around the status of small-scale fisheries related to indigenous peoples in their countries, identifying challenges and opportunities. Indigenous representatives and governments' representatives for each country jointly designed detailed work plans.

The FAO Indigenous Peoples Team provided technical assistance during the whole process, giving specific guidance on how to use the SSF Guidelines in advocacy processes at national and regional level and in the development of the plans, some of which will be implemented during 2018.

#### 4.6. Regional package on community-based forest monitoring and management in Latin America.

The FAO Indigenous Peoples Team provided technical support to the FAO REDD+ team to strengthen the technical capacities of local actors, in particular indigenous technicians, on community-based forest monitoring in indigenous territories, towards a more sustainable landscape management in the context of climate change mitigation as well as towards an increased governance of tenure.

The activities of the regional "package" were implemented both at regional level, in particular through south-south cooperation exchanges, as well as at more specific country/subnational level. These activities will continue throughout 2018.

#### 4.7 Contribution to the Final Evaluation of the Global Programme to Support the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests (2012 – 2016).

The FAO Indigenous Peoples Team contributed to the evaluation carried out by the FAO Evaluation office, supporting on the analysis of the extent to which indigenous peoples participated in the VGGT programme, and of how their needs were considered in the design and implementation at various levels, providing specific recommendations for future programmes.

### *Pillar 5: Indigenous Food Systems*

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In 2016, indigenous food systems received prominence in the review process of FAO's Strategic Programme. Building on this, in 2017 the FAO Indigenous Peoples Team along the Strategic Programme Teams started the preparatory work for implementing research and field work at regional level, while involving a various range of stakeholders.

To this end, FAO and Bioversity International signed a Letter of Agreement entitled "Research and field work to inform the debate on indigenous food systems through development of knowledge material". This initiative aims to reduce rural poverty by informing the overall food systems and climate change adaptation debate through analytical and field activities in the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals. Traditionally, indigenous food systems are low in energy resource intake, preserve the natural resource base and are diversified, which all can be considered as sustainability characteristics.

A task force comprising FAO, the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), the Indigenous Partnership for Agrobiodiversity and Food Sovereignty, as well as Indigenous organizations, local partners and other stakeholders, will be supporting the activities. In addition, a particular focus has been stressed to ensure direct involvement of indigenous communities and local indigenous organizations in the implementation of the Letter of agreement, through subcontracting.

The research activities will deliver two outputs. First, the profiling of five indigenous food systems compiled in a report, and the preparation of a study on climate resilience of indigenous food systems for climate change adaptation. Second, the compilation and analysis of specific labelling and protection schemes developed by indigenous communities and the development of the Terms of Reference as preparatory work for the establishment of a network of indigenous agrifood producers.

From 5 to 11 December 2017, Edmond Dounias - the Representative of the French National Research Institute for Sustainable Development (IRD) for Indonesia and Timor Leste and Senior Research Associate to CIFOR – visited FAO HQ in Rome to support the development of the methodologies to be followed for the research activities and to identify indigenous communities and local partners to work with. During his visit, the entire task force convened for a series of meetings to jointly achieve these ends.

An additional LoA has been signed with the the Fund for the Development of Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean (FILAC) to organize a Seminar on Indigenous Food Systems in FAO in 2018, which will showcase the results of the profiling of indigenous food systems portrayed by Bioversity International.

### *Pillar 6: Food security indicators*

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Indigenous peoples can play a critical role in the overall achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Their traditional knowledge can contribute to increasing ecosystems' resilience and adapt to the negative effects of climate change, preserve biodiversity and promote sustainable food systems, to name but a few. Pursuant to the spirit of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development of "leaving no one behind" indigenous peoples should be included in the planning and implementation of policies on economic growth and development.

In order to do this, it is important to provide member countries and development practitioners with up to date information about indigenous peoples' food insecurity and challenges in the context of agriculture and climate change impact to their livelihoods.

The Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES) methodology is an important tool to allow indigenous peoples to collect their own data and should be further explored in collaboration with the Office of the Chief Statistician.

In this context, in 2015 the Indigenous peoples' team together with the Voices of the Hungry project in the Statistics Division organized a workshop with 15 indigenous representatives from Latin America to exchange knowledge about food security and new methods to measure it. In addition, specific focus on indigenous peoples' agricultural and adaptation practices could be included as appropriate in the State of Food and Agriculture (SOFA).

To this end, in 2017 the FAO Indigenous Peoples team prepared a Letter of Agreement with the International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA) to undertake "Research work to analyse the status of food security and nutrition of indigenous communities for the production of an Indigenous Peoples' focused global report" during 2018. Through field work in Asia, Africa and Latin America, the agreement will result in seven case studies, a global-level analysis of data in order to improve the understanding of the relationship between Indigenous Peoples, food security, nutrition and agriculture, and an analysis of the status of food security and nutrition in four of the seven indigenous socio-cultural regions.

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### *Pillar 7: Climate change adaptation, resilience and indigenous peoples*

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The decision to include an additional Pillar to the FAO plan of work with indigenous peoples stems from a series of events.

Since the COP 21 Paris Agreement, UNFCCC and Indigenous Peoples Organizations have been increasingly working together to ensure that climate change mitigation involves indigenous communities already affected by Climate change. In fact, climate change

adaptation can greatly benefit from the traditional knowledge that Indigenous peoples have developed by living in environments where the climatic window of opportunity for generating food is narrow. Despite on and off involvement of indigenous peoples in the UNFCCC discussions, today there is overall acceptance that they are a fundamental player and that while not having contributed to climate change they are suffering its consequences. This was further re-established in November 2017, when COP 23 endorsed a [decision](#) on the Local communities and indigenous peoples platform.

The importance of traditional knowledge as key to climate change adaptation and resilience emerged during the meeting between FAO and the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus in April 2017. To this end, FAO in partnership with governments, indigenous peoples organisations, experts and the Permanent Forum, organized a side-event on the importance of traditional knowledge during the 44<sup>th</sup> Session of the Committee on World Food Security.



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

# e-Agriculture Promising Practice Drones for Community Monitoring of Forests

December 2017



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## Key Facts

- **Location:** Panama
- **ICT used:** GIS, remote sensors, mobile phones and drones
- **Area of work:** Forestry
- **Target group:** Indigenous communities (Bribri, Bugle, Emberá, Kuna, Naso, Ngäbe and Wounaan)
- **Stakeholders:** UN-REDD, FAO, COONAPIP, MIAMBIENTE, Rainforest Foundation US
- **Timeframe:** 2015-2017

## New technologies for self-management of indigenous territories in Panama

In 1950, approximately 70% of the Panamanian territory was covered with forests, a figure that fell to 60% of the area in 2012, and which is still decreasing. Indigenous people are the main forest inhabitants and they play an invaluable role in monitoring and conserving forests, a fundamental resource for biodiversity and food security.

To strengthen the natural resource management capacities of indigenous territories, FAO, with support of the UN-REDD programme, implemented a community forest-monitoring project. The project had as strong focus on capacity development of members of the indigenous communities. The training included the preparation of flight plans, arming and flying drones, image processing and mapping with high-resolution images. The main objective of the project was to identify changes in specific points of forest cover undergoing deforestation and degradation processes, to monitor the status of crops and to monitor invasions of territory. The introduction of drones made the whole process a lot easier.