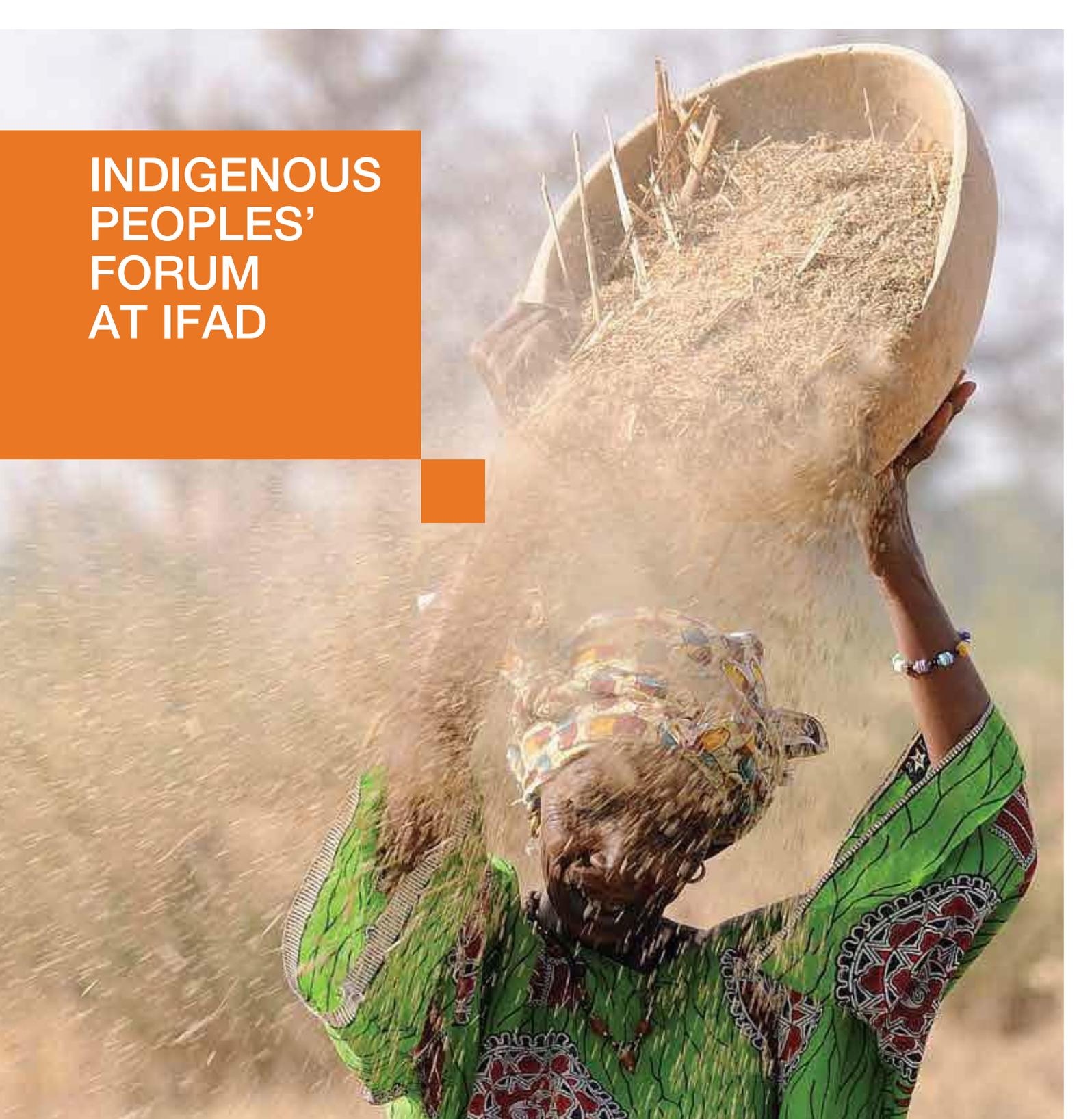


# INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' FORUM AT IFAD



## Report

Africa Regional Workshop in preparation for the  
Third Global Meeting of the  
Indigenous Peoples' Forum at IFAD



# Africa Regional Consultation Workshop in preparation for the third global meeting of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum at IFAD

## I. Introduction

The African Regional Consultation Workshop in preparation for the third global meeting of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum at IFAD was held on 5-7 December 2016 in Brazzaville Republic of Congo, the first African country to adopt a specific law on the protection of indigenous peoples.

The workshop was supported by IFAD and facilitated by a local non-governmental organization, *Organisation pour le développement et les droits humains au Congo*, in collaboration with the International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA) and Dr Albert Barume, the current Chair of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The substantive discussions and exchanges of the workshop were grounded in IFAD's strategic framework for 2016-2025, which is aligned to the 2030 global development agenda and reaffirms IFAD's commitment to continue supporting indigenous peoples, including through their economic empowerment – and with a focus on women and youth, which is the theme of the third global Indigenous Peoples' Forum at IFAD.

The workshop had the following objectives:

- ✓ Exchange knowledge and experiences on good practices on indigenous peoples' economic empowerment that value and build on their distinctiveness, traditional knowledge, cultures and natural resources as assets.
- ✓ Identify the challenges that indigenous peoples face in pursuing economic empowerment, in terms of their identities, knowledge and aspirations.
- ✓ Identify opportunities for strengthening good practices as sustainable solutions for the future, and the corresponding elements for regional strategies to enhance IFAD's support to them.
- ✓ Analyse and formulate action-oriented recommendations on the theme of the 2017 Forum.

Over 30 participants attended the workshop, including representatives of indigenous communities from Botswana, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Ethiopia, Kenya, Morocco, Namibia, Republic of Congo, Tanzania and Uganda. Representatives of the Congolese Ministry in charge of agriculture also participated in the workshop.

The workshop enabled participants to learn more about IFAD's engagement with indigenous peoples, share country experiences, comment on each other's activities and consolidate common recommendations to bring as a region to the third global meeting of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum at IFAD.

## **II. Workshop proceedings**

The African Regional Consultation Workshop was held over three days.

### **Day One: 5 December 2016**

The first day of the workshop started with an indigenous welcoming ceremony followed, by several opening statements, including by Antonella Cordone, representative of IFAD, and Joseph Ole Simel, member of the Steering Committee of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum.

After the opening statements, a number of presentations were given to provide participants with an overall context and background information relevant to the regional workshop. The first presentation, by Antonella Cordone, provided a summary and historical background of the IFAD Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples, including its results or achievements to date, the uniqueness of the policy within the UN system and its process of adoption.

The second presentation was given by Wolde Tadesse, Member of the Board of the Indigenous Peoples' Assistance Facility (IPAF), a small-grants mechanism devised by IFAD to support community-based projects. The presentation explained how the grant mechanism operates, its size, its decision-making processes and the geographic coverage of the projects it is currently supporting.

The question-and-answer session that followed the presentations provided an opportunity for indigenous peoples' representatives to seek further clarifications regarding IFAD's engagement with indigenous peoples, its Policy and related instruments. They were also able to comment and make general recommendations on the overall work of IFAD with indigenous peoples, and underlined the following points as priority areas:

- Enhancing direct participation of indigenous peoples in the implementation of IFAD-supported projects;
- Improving collaboration among IFAD's partners at national level;
- Extending IPAF to more African countries;
- Prioritizing access to land and natural resources in IFAD's support to indigenous peoples;
- Supporting indigenous women's access to funds and resources through IFAD-funded projects;
- Working toward sustainability of IFAD-supported projects;
- Addressing the issue of socio-cultural marginalization of indigenous peoples;
- Enabling indigenous peoples to access basic services.

### **Day Two: 6 December 2016**

The second day of the workshop focused on the three core objectives of the meeting: (i) to enable participants to understand the concept of economic empowerment of indigenous peoples, with a focus on women and youth; (ii) to share experiences from IFAD-supported projects as well as IPAF small projects in various African countries; and (iii) to adopt a set of recommendations that Africa as a region would bring to the third global meeting of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum at IFAD.

## ***Economic empowerment of indigenous peoples, with a focus on women and youth***

The keynote presentations on the theme “economic empowerment of indigenous peoples, with focus on indigenous women and youth”, were given by Dr Elifuraha Laltaika from Tanzania and Jane Meriwas from Kenya.

Dr Elifuraha is an indigenous academic and lawyer from Tanzania who is currently representing Africa at the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII). His presentation explored several African countries’ national development agendas, such as the Tanzanian vision 2025, underlining a common objective of building middle-income economies. He argued that “*poverty is still pervasive among rural communities in Africa*” and concluded that “*depressingly, African communities self-identifying as indigenous peoples, notably hunter-gatherers and pastoralists, are in the lowest rank of human development in their respective countries*”. He went on to explain how indigenous women and youth are even poorer. Dr Elifuraha concluded his presentation by calling for disaggregated data and targeted programmes aimed at indigenous peoples in general, and indigenous women and youth in particular.

Jane Meriwas, a Samburu indigenous woman from Kenya, presented a case study on the economic empowerment of indigenous women and youth in a context of large-scale infrastructure and energy projects, as is the case in Kenya. She provided an account of the opportunities and major economic challenges indigenous women face, and then went on to make several concrete recommendations, including building the capacity of pastoralist women in livestock value chains and facilitating partnerships between private sector actors and indigenous women. She concluded by stating that “*businesses on indigenous peoples’ lands should provide sound economic opportunities for indigenous women*”.

A short presentation was given by IFAD’s representative Antonella Cordone, on a scoping study on Indigenous Peoples and the Private Sector that was prepared by the Centre for Indigenous Peoples’ Autonomy and Development (CADPI).

From the presentations and ensuing discussions, it emerged that indigenous peoples’ economies and knowledge could generate many marketable products and services that can become successful and viable businesses. In addition, women and youth are the guarantee for the continuity and survival of indigenous peoples’ communities, which are already in a vulnerable position due to the loss of most of their lands and natural resources. Therefore empowering indigenous women and youth is critical. It was also agreed that indigenous peoples in general, and women and youth in particular, should seize emerging business opportunities to empower themselves, including in the cultural sector where indigenous peoples have a comparative advantage.

## ***Country experiences of IPAF and IFAD-funded projects***

Presentations of country-specific experiences of IPAF- and IFAD-supported projects were given, with a view to sharing knowledge and enabling participants to comment or ask questions. Jacqueline Macharia, Coordinator of the IPAF Africa, provided an overview on the implementation, achievements, opportunities and challenges of projects financed by the IPAF Africa to date.

Her overview was followed by presentations from Uganda, Morocco, DRC, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Tanzania. Of the eight ongoing IPAF-supported projects in Africa, representatives from six of them were present at the regional workshop.

- John Kaeru, from the Institute of Tropical Forest Conservation in Uganda, gave a presentation on the project *“To support conservation of Bwindi Impenetrable National Park using a cultural values approach that supports Batwa sustainable livelihoods”*. His presentation highlighted how an income-generating programme could also serve other purposes, including generating baseline information on the Batwa, restoring their self-esteem, and contributing to the conservation of the environment;
- The Morocco case study *“Economic integration of indigenous women in Morocco – support for commercialization of local terroir products”*, presented by Zioual Amina from The Voice of the Amazigh Woman (*La Voix de la Femme Amazigh*), focused on the role of indigenous women in traditional economies and how unlocking their potential could transform their communities. The presentation called for: (i) sensitizing against early marriage, which is still prevalent in Amazigh communities in Morocco and constitutes a major obstacle to women’s economic empowerment; and (ii) enhancing the capacity of Amazigh women to control their resources, better manage their incomes and develop viable business models;
- Donatien Munyali, from the Kivu Indigenous Peoples Collective (CPAKI), shared the experience from the project *“Empowerment of Kalonge and Bunyakiri indigenous households with beekeeping in South Kivu province”*, a beekeeping project by Batwa indigenous peoples around Kahuzi National park in DRC which revealed how an economic activity can also help to revive a culture. Honey is not only a mere commodity among Batwa indigenous peoples. It also plays a key cultural role within the communities, including in marriage-related practices.
- Still from DRC, the project *“Enhancing the territories/traditional lands of indigenous peoples through community forestry at Walikale”* was presented by Diel Mochire from the Programme for the integration and development of the Pygmy population in Kivu (*Programme d’intégration et de développement du peuple pygmée au kivu*). The presentation illustrated how indigenous peoples’ rights to forest, through a community forest scheme, can become an economic opportunity for them;
- The Cameroon project *“Improving the livelihoods of Bedzang Pygmy populations in the Tikar plain”*, presented by Jean Daniel Mansing Yawé from the Centre for Support to Women and Rural People (CAFER), showed how extreme marginalization and loss of lands has seriously hampered economic opportunities for Bedza indigenous peoples, who have also lost most of their cultural identity. This presentation illustrated further the inter-linkage between culture and economic empowerment;
- Manaye Maya, from DERE Integrated Development Action, presented on the Ethiopian project *“Improving the Livelihoods of the Women of South West Ethiopia Who Depend on Enset Crop”*. She showed how culture and art can contribute to promoting income generating activities within indigenous communities. The Enset plant is traditionally used for producing clothes, shelter and baskets, as well as for ceremonial practices. Parts of this plant are also used in traditional medical practices. The project focused on the ways that a viable and sustainable business model can result from such multiple uses of a plant like the Enset;
- The IPAF-supported project in Tanzania *“Securing land and natural resources for the Hadzabe of northern Tanzania”* focused on several indigenous communities, including pastoralist and hunter-gatherers. It provided support to their traditional use and management of lands and resources. The innovation presented by Dismas Partalala from the Ujamaa Community Resource Team (UCRT) lies in ensuring that when supporting

the hunter-and-gatherer communities, the project has an intercultural and inclusive approach, working with pastoralists and farmers.

IFAD's country office in the Republic of Congo made a short presentation on the "*Agricultural Value Chains Development Programme*" and its impact on indigenous peoples' communities in the country. The presentation highlighted, for instance, that indigenous peoples are explicitly listed among the target group of the programme and that a number of activities specific to them have implemented in several areas, including in Likouala.

It emerged from all the presentations of country-specific case studies that IFAD's methods and mechanisms of engagement with indigenous peoples is contributing to addressing the extreme poverty and marginalization of indigenous peoples in Africa.

The discussions emphasized: (i) the critical importance for indigenous peoples to develop viable business models; (ii) the pioneering role of IPAF-funded projects in Africa and their potential to change paradigms; (iii) the need to address structural challenges preventing women and youth from accessing economic means; and (iv) the need to build on indigenous peoples' business capabilities, including through training in basic accounting skills.

### ***Drafting of recommendations***

The last segment of the workshop's second day consisted of participants breaking into two working groups – one for Francophones and another for Anglophones. The groups were requested to generate sets of draft recommendations regarding indigenous peoples' economic empowerment, with focus on women and youth. Once compiled and consolidated, the recommendations would constitute Africa's contribution to the third global meeting of the Indigenous Peoples Forum at IFAD.

### **Day Three: 7 December 2016**

Three major segments constituted the third day of the workshop: (i) a presentation on the general situation of indigenous peoples in the Republic of Congo; (ii) a plenary session on draft recommendations; and (iii) an indigenous peoples' art fair.

### ***Indigenous peoples' situation in Republic of Congo***

A representative of indigenous peoples from the Republic of Congo (Mr Parfait Dihoukamba) delivered a presentation on the general situation of indigenous peoples in the country. He highlighted: (i) the lack of statistical and geographical data on indigenous peoples in the country; (ii) the relevance of forests and biodiversity for indigenous peoples in the country; and (iii) a number of legal and policy initiatives on indigenous peoples, including a first-ever African domestic law on indigenous peoples adopted by the Republic of Congo in 2011, the establishment of an international forum on indigenous peoples in the central African sub-region, a country visit by the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples in 2010, and a visit from the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights in 2011. His presentation also highlighted an Inter Session of the UNPFII held in Brazzaville in 2013. Several comments to the presentation welcomed the Government's efforts but also highlighted persisting challenges, including the full implementation of the law on indigenous peoples.

### ***Adoption of Africa's recommendations for the Indigenous Peoples' Forum at IFAD***

A plenary session enabled each working group to present its draft recommendations and all participants to comment on them, after which they were consolidated into one common regional set to be presented in Rome in February 2017.

Immediately after the plenary, a closing ceremony was held, with numerous delegates expressing their appreciation to the host country, indigenous peoples, the organizers and all the participants.

### ***Indigenous peoples' art fair***

The last segment of the workshop was an indigenous peoples' art fair, to which participants donated handicrafts to IFAD that would be part of the "IFAD Indigenous Peoples' Place" to be inaugurated by the President of IFAD during the global meeting of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum at IFAD in February 2017. IFAD's representative received several handicrafts from indigenous peoples' representatives, who explained the cultural value and use of each of the objects.



*A picture from the Regional Consultation held in Brazzaville*

### **III. Recommendations from the Africa Regional Consultation meeting for the Third Global Meeting of the IPs Forum at IFAD**

#### **Recommendations to IFAD**

1. We recommend IFAD to be flexible enough to take advantage and support emerging strategic opportunities (land reforms in favor of indigenous peoples/pastoralists/local communities, economic empowerment programs, SDGs) related to land security for indigenous peoples in its member state countries;
2. We ask IFAD to intentionally create and facilitate dialogue between indigenous peoples and their national governments by increasing the participation of indigenous peoples in national development projects that have an impact on their land tenure;
3. We call upon IFAD to support the assessment of the impact of the green economy/green funds on the access and control of natural resources of indigenous peoples and local communities;
4. We call upon IFAD to support indigenous peoples both at the national and regional level to be able to engage meaningful with implementation of the SDGs and provide resources in the beginning of the year 2017 for a capacity building workshop for indigenous peoples and strategic organizations/institutions at the national level and UN agencies;
5. We ask IFAD to support legal activities (e.g. research and documentation in support of land rights/land tenure);
6. We ask IFAD to support indigenous peoples in branding of traditional artifacts and other goods, creation and access to markets for these goods;
7. We call upon IFAD to continue providing resources for the capacity building of institutional capacity and traditional skills, enterprises and the value chain addition to indigenous people's products, especially those developed by indigenous women and the youth and local communities;
8. We ask IFAD to provide an active platform for knowledge sharing among the Indigenous Peoples Assistance Facility (IPAF) partners, indigenous women and youth and local communities and have the lessons garnered from these sessions used to improve indigenous peoples' development projects. IFAD should provide resources to have exchange visits to facilitate in the learning processes;
9. A huge contribution is made and continues to be made by women in the economic sector but goes unrecognized and unappreciated. We therefore call upon IFAD to support in the research/assessment of the contribution made by women to local and national economies. Use the assessment as a tool for support of these economies;
10. We call upon IFAD repeat grants for IPAF and linking these small grants and indigenous peoples with the development of the Country Strategic Opportunities Programmes (COSOPs) in order to intentionally create visibility for indigenous people;
11. We call upon IFAD to increase the existing resources to the IPAF instrument in order to implement the SDGs specifically the empowerment of women and youth goal and also whose motto is "leaving no one behind";
12. We call upon IFAD to establish country based grants at their country offices for indigenous peoples.

### **Recommendations to national governments:**

1. We ask governments to support indigenous peoples to map their territories and facilitate processes that ensure land tenure security for pastoralists, hunter-gatherers and other marginalized communities;
2. We call upon governments to ensure equitable access to land and natural resources for indigenous women and youth;
3. We call upon governments and IFAD to support the protection of indigenous peoples' intellectual property rights including artifacts especially those created, developed and designed by women;
4. We ask governments to value indigenous women knowledge and know-how particularly in climate change policy and programs through study and research;
5. National governments should create proper policy environments that enable the development, protection and sale of these indigenous products;
6. There is a need for all stakeholders, indigenous peoples, national governments and IFAD to actively engage with the private sector to ensure that the voice of indigenous peoples is on the table. We then call upon IFAD to provide resources for capacity building of indigenous peoples to discuss, negotiate and engage with the private sector;
7. We ask governments to have data and repositories on indigenous people food system and resources.

### **Recommendations to indigenous peoples:**

1. We indigenous peoples commit to begin developing models around the green economy that will ensure land tenure for our communities;
2. We indigenous people will set up strategies and mechanisms for consultation information and identification of prioritized needs of indigenous peoples on the ground;
3. We indigenous peoples commit to reinforce the institutional and organizational communities taking into account indigenous women and youth on the ground;
4. We commit to conduct advocacy for securing indigenous cultural identity throughout the production process;
5. We commit to conduct feasibility studies on the profitability of economic projects by indigenous peoples;
6. We commit to strengthen our indigenous peoples' networks to stand as one voice and meaningfully engage with governments and IFAD.

## Annex 1

### Agenda: Regional Consultation Workshop in preparation of the third global meeting of the Indigenous Peoples Forum at IFAD

#### FIRST DAY : Monday 5 December 2016

The expected output of the first day of the regional consultation workshops is to assess the implementation of IFAD Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples. This is done through an analysis of IFAD-funded projects, ongoing and project designs in the pipeline. In order to have an assessment, one or two projects need to be selected and assessed according to the principle of engagement of IFAD Policy, assessing the project design, its implementation, monitoring and indicators.

Experience and knowledge emerging from the small projects financed through the Indigenous Peoples Assistance Facility will also be shared during the regional consultation workshops.

Time	Activities	Participants	Methodology
8:00- 8:30	Participants accreditation		
8:30- 9:00	Indigenous ceremony		
9:00- 10:00	Opening Statements  <i>Moderator:</i> Albert Barume	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Indigenous representatives from the hosting organization</li> <li>- Representative from IFAD</li> <li>- Member of the UNPFII</li> <li>- Member(s) of the Steering Committee of the Indigenous Peoples Forum at IFAD</li> </ul>	Show Video of the second global meeting of the Indigenous Peoples Forum at IFAD
10:00- 10:15	Participants introduction	<i>Moderator:</i> Albert Barume	
10.15 – 10.30	Presentation of the agenda and methodology of the consultation workshop	Albert Barume	
10.30-10.45 Coffee Break			
10:45- 12:00	Acknowledging IFAD's	1) <i>Presented by:</i> IFAD's Representative (Antonella	

	achievements in implementing its Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples	Cordone) 2) <i>Moderated by</i> Member Steering Committee IPs Forum at IFAD (Joseph Simel)	
12.00-13.30 <i>Lunch Break</i>			
13.30-15.30.	Analysis of selected IFAD-funded projects	<p><i>Presenters:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- IPAF</li> <li>- Projects beneficiaries/country</li> <li>- IFAD-HQ (overall achievement in Africa)</li> <li>- IFAD country programmes</li> </ul> <p><i>Moderated by:</i> Member of the Steering Committee on the Indigenous Peoples Forum at IFAD</p>	
15.30-15.45	Coffee break		
15.45-17.00	The IFAD Indigenous Peoples Assistance Facility	<p><i>Presenters:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- IPAF Co-manager at the regional level Kivulini in Africa</li> <li>- Representatives of Indigenous peoples assistance facility-supported projects</li> </ul>	Presentation/video
19.00-20.00	Reception		Cultural activities

## SECOND DAY : Tuesday 6 December 2016

Expected outputs of the second day of the regional consultation workshop are the following:

- Analyse the concept and characteristics of the economic empowerment of different actors, including the private sector;
- Learn about experiences of economic empowerment of indigenous peoples with a focus on women and youth. How is this pursued? Which are the factors that contribute to economic empowerment of indigenous peoples? Which are the barriers and limitations? What are the recommendations for IFAD? (Cases from IFAD-funded projects; IPAF small projects; indigenous peoples' organizations;
- Define some recommendations for the global meeting of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum at IFAD on economic empowerment of indigenous peoples with a focus on women and youth.

Time	Activity	Participants	Methodology/Guidance notes
9.00- 9:15	Indigenous short ceremony		
9.15 – 10.00	Promoting economic empowerment of indigenous peoples, with focus on women and youth	<u>Panelist discussion presenters:</u> - Elifuraha Laltaika - Jane Meriwas (on women and youth)	Panel 15 minutes presentation each and 30 minutes discussion to set the context
10.00 –11.00		<u>Respondents from</u> - Cooperatives, - Private sector - Government representative.  <u>Moderated by:</u> Wolde Tadesse	10 minutes each to the respondents and 30 minutes plenary discussion
11.00-11.15	Coffee break		
11.15 – 11.30	Presentation of the draft scoping study on Indigenous Peoples and Private Sector prepared by CADPI for IFAD	<u>Presented by:</u> IFAD Representative (Antonella Cordone)  <u>Moderated by:</u> Steering Committee Member	
11.30- 13.00	Strategies for economic empowerment of	<u>Cases presentations by:</u> 1) D R Congo	Each case will be presented for 15 minutes and 30 minutes

	Indigenous Peoples in IFAD-funded projects	2) Cameroon 3) Morocco  <i>Moderated by:</i> Wolde Tadesse	for discussions
<i>13.00- 14.00 Lunch Break</i>			
14.000- 15.30	Strategies for economic empowerment of indigenous peoples	<i>Case presentations by:</i> 1) Uganda 2) Tanzania 3) Kenya 4) Ethiopia  <i>Moderated by:</i> Joseph Ole Simel	Each case will be presented for 15 minutes and 30 minutes for discussions
13.30- 17.30	Recommendations to IFAD on economic empowerment of Indigenous Peoples with a focus on women and youth for IFAD's operations	Working Groups	2 working groups, French speaking and English speaking each group by members of the Steering Committee  All recommendations emerged to be put together and printed in FR and EN for the groups to discuss the final and key recommendations to IFAD
<i>18.00-21.00 Diner and cultural activities</i>			

## THIRD DAY : Wednesday 7 December 2016

### Expected Output:

- Share the expectations on the third global meeting of the Indigenous Peoples Forum at IFAD to be held in Rome on Friday 10 and Monday 13 February 2016
- Agree on recommendations for the dialogue with the Staff and Director of the Regional Divisions during the global meeting of the IPs Forum at IFAD (Feb. 2017)
- Learn about the situation on indigenous peoples in the hosting country and ongoing processes with the government to implement the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Time	Activity	Participants	Methodology
8.00- 8:30	Short Indigenous ceremony to start the day		
8:30 – 9:30	Situation of indigenous peoples in Republic of Congo	Parfait Dihoukamba, Indigenous representative  <i>Moderated by:</i> Joseph Simel	
9:30 – 11:30	Plenary Session: Consolidation of recommendations	<i>Group Representatives</i>	Rapporteur of each groups presents the results of the working group on key recommendations to IFAD on economic empowerment of indigenous peoples with a focus on women and youth  Discussion
11:30 – 12:00	Closing ceremony		
12:00 – 13:30	Indigenous peoples' Fair Items to be donated by indigenous to the IFAD Indigenous Peoples' Space	Exhibition of handcrafts and Indigenous peoples' products	Different products by Indigenous Peoples (from the participants and the hosting country). Selection of items to be donated to IFAD for the permanent indigenous space IFAD

			will dedicate to indigenous peoples to be inaugurated by IFAD President during the global meeting of the IPs Forum at IFAD in Feb. 2017
<b><i>END OF THE WORKSHOP</i></b>			

## Annex 2

### List of Participants

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