# SIXTH GLOBAL MEETING OF THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' FORUM AT IFAD

9, 10 and 13 February 2023



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#### 1. Alvaro Lario

Alvaro Lario is the President of the International Fund of Agricultural Development (IFAD). A seasoned international development finance leader, he has more than 20 years of experience across academia, private sector asset management, World Bank Group and the United Nations, including as Associate Vice-President of Financial Operations at IFAD.

Under his stewardship, IFAD became the first United Nations Fund to enter the capital markets and obtain a credit rating, enabling IFAD to expand resource mobilization efforts to the private sector.



#### 2. Carine Nzimba Zere

Carine Zere Nzimba is an indigenous human rights activist from the Babongo in the Republic of Congo. She is the president of the NGO *Debout Femmes Autochthones du Congo* and the Secretary in Charge of Human Rights at *Réseau National des Populations Autochthones du Congo*, a network of indigenous organizations that work to promote and defend indigenous rights in her country.

She has been a long-time advocate for indigenous representation at the highest level of government. In partnership with international organizations, Carine works to improve access to education and health services for indigenous women in her country, Congo-Brazzaville.



#### 3. Cathérine Fleur Amban Nkoro

Cathérine Fleur Amban Nkoro is the president of the Management Committee of Ngoyang Foyer (COGEFONO and president of the association Subi Baba y Dilan of the Bakola community in Lolodorf, in Cameroon. She works for the Indigenous and Local Peoples Network for Sustainable Management of Central Africa Forest Ecosystems (REPALEAC) in Cameroon.

She represents her community and the Fondation pour l'Environnement et le Développement au Cameroun (FEDEC)'s project for the Indigenous Peoples Awards 2023 at the sixth global meeting of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum at IFAD.



### 4. Dania Yasmin Peñaloza Gomez

Dania Yasmin Peñaloza Gomez is a 23 years old Bolivian community leader, originally from the department of Oruro - Ayllu Lerco community. She studied Veterinary Zootechnics and is a Senior Technician in Agronomy. Her and her community were the beneficiaries of an IFAD project in Bolivia, Pro-Camélidos.

Ms. Peñaloza represents the Ayllu Lerco community and Pro-Camélidos for the Indigenous Peoples Awards 2023 at the sixth global meeting of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum at IFAD.



## 5. Dario Mejía Montalvo

Dario Mejía Montalvo is the Chair of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. Dario belongs to the Zenú Indigenous People of San Andrés de Sotavento in Colombia. He is a political scientist from the National University of Colombia, with a master's degree in Development Management from the University of the Autonomous Regions of the Caribbean Coast of Nicaragua (URACCAN). He is a professor and consultant for several organizations and institutions. He is also a member of the National Commission for the Work and Coordination of Education of the Indigenous Peoples of Colombia.



## 6. Dayana Domicó

Dayana Domicó is Coordinator of the National Indigenous Youth at National Indigenous Organization of Columbia and Member of the Red de Jóvenes Indígena de América Latina y El Caribe.

She was a Focal Point in the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus in the southern zone of the United States, and she has been nominated as a young leader activist for the rights of Indigenous Peoples by the UN in the Marco Mundial de los Pueblos Indígenas 2021. Dayana currently serves as a Member and youth representative in the Steering Committee of the Indigenous Peoples Forum at IFAD.



## 7. Dismas Partalala Meiteya

Dismas Partalala Meiteya is a Maasai conservationist from the Loliondo district working as a programme coordinator for Ujamaa Community Resource Team. The 48-year-old self-taught conservationist has been instrumental in securing land rights for the local Hadzabe community, with 100,500 hectares of land secured by law since 2011.



#### 8. Dominik Ziller

Dominik Ziller is Vice-President of IFAD. He gives strategic direction to the institution, and promotes corporate approaches and solutions. He has direct oversight of the budget, quality assurance and ethics offices.



#### 9. Donal Brown

Donal Brown is Associate Vice-President, Programme Management Department, at IFAD. He is responsible for developing and managing the operations that IFAD supports through its loans and grants. He oversees the programme of work of the department, which is undertaken by five Regional Divisions and the Operational Policy and Results Division.



## 10. Eleanor P. Dictaan-Bang-oa

Eleanor P. Dictaan-Bang-oa, a Kankanaey Igorot from Northern Philippines is the Coordinator for the Indigenous Peoples Assistance Facility (IPAF) for Asia at the Indigenous Peoples International Centre for Policy Research and Education (Tebtebba), and an IPAF board member.

Dictaan-Bang-oa's work and research have focused on indigenous peoples' rights, culture and knowledge, conflict, and development. She is currently the coordinator of the Indigenous Women's Program at Tebtebba which acts as the secretariat of the Asian Indigenous Women's Network.



## 11. Espérance Binyuki Nyota

Espérance Binyuki Nyota is a Member of the Steering Committee of the Indigenous Peoples Forum at IFAD and part of the Batwa people. She is the Coordinator of the Union for Emancipation of Indigenous Women (UEFA), Democratic Republic of the Congo which works for the promotion, protection and defence of the rights of indigenous peoples, pygmies with a particular focus on women, youth and children. The organisation also works to strengthen local management of eco-systems, effective action against land grabbing, and secure tenure rights for Indigenous Peoples.



#### 12. Estrella Flores Catarata

Estrella Flores Catarata is the Executive Director of Sibol ng Agham at Teknolohiya Inc. (SIBAT), a non-governmental and non-profit organization engaged in the promotion and development of appropriate technology (AT) for village level sustainable development in the Philippines.

She accompanies Glendo Gayyed as SIBAT's Executive Director for the Indigenous Peoples Awards 2023 at the sixth global meeting of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum at IFAD.



## 13. Glendo Gayyed

Glendo Gayyed is a member of the Banao Tribe in Malibcong Abra, in the Philippines. A graduate from the Trinidad Valley Institute of Technology and King's College of the Philippines, he works as a Renewable Energy electrician at Sibol ng Agham at Teknolohiya Inc. (SIBAT), a non-governmental and non-profit organization engaged in the promotion and development of appropriate technology (AT) for village level sustainable development in the Philippines.

Mr. Gayyed represents his community and SIBAT for the Indigenous Peoples Awards 2023 at the sixth global meeting of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum at IFAD.



#### 14. Ilaria Firmian

Ilaria Firmian is IFAD's Senior Technical Specialist on Indigenous Peoples and Tribal Issues. An anthropologist, she has worked as Technical Adviser and Knowledge Officer on Environment, Climate and Natural Resources Management for 14 years in IFAD, supporting the mainstreaming of environmental, climate and social inclusion issues at policy/programme/project levels.

Prior to joining IFAD, she has been working both on Land Tenure and Socio Economic and Gender Analysis with FAO, and as NGO Project Coordinator for an EU-funded project focusing on Batwa livelihoods in the tropical Central African rainforests.

## 15. Jacqueline Macharia

Jacqueline Macharia is the Coordinator for the Indigenous Peoples Assistance Facility (IPAF) in Africa at Samburu Women Trust. She has been managing the Facility in Africa since 2013. She is a passionate supporter and advocate for Indigenous Peoples in the continent with experience working in program development and conservation.



#### 16. Jennifer Rubis

Jennifer Rubis works as the Indigenous Peoples Specialist at the Green Climate Fund. She has worked on Indigenous Peoples and environment for around 20 years and is a Dayak from Sarawak, Malaysia. She has extensive experience in UN and intergovernmental secretariats linked to indigenous issues, the science-policy interface, and the environment, with specific focus on climate chance and biodiversity.



#### 17. Jesús Amadeo Martínez

Jesús Amadeo Martinez is a member of the Steering Committee, Senior Advisor of the Indigenous Council of Central America (CICA) and representative of the Salvadoran National Indigenous Coordinating Council (CCNIS).

He belongs to the Lenca people living in El Salvador and Honduras. Exercising his career as a lawyer he also served as Chairman of the IDFAC Commission on Standards and Human Rights and FAO Focal Point for the Abya Yala Forum for Latin America and the Caribbean.



## 18. Joan Carling

Joan Carling has been defending land and environmental rights of Indigenous peoples for more than twenty years. She actively participated in the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and REDD+, twice served as Secretary-General of the Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP) and was Chairperson of the Cordillera People's Alliance.

She was appointed by the United Nations Economic and Social Council as an Indigenous expert of UNPFII and has been a member of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.



## 19. Jyotsna (Jo) Puri

Jo Puri is a well-recognized thought-leader and advocate for international policy in the areas of climate, poverty, agriculture and infrastructure, recognized as one of sixteen women leaders globally by the Global Landscape Forum, for taking forward environmental and climate action. She is the Associate Vice-President of the Strategy and Knowledge Department (SKD) at IFAD. She has provided strategic advice to countries and international organizations on climate, agriculture and development, using evidence and data and costs.



## 20. Liliana Vianey Vargas Vásquez

Liliana Vianey Vargas Vásquez is currently working as an independent consultant from the Ayüükjä'äy people in the Oaxaca State in Mexico. She holds a PhD in Anthropology from the Universidad Iberoamericana in Mexico City. She has extensive experience working in research, public policy advocacy with gender perspectives and policy design with cultural relevance. In the field of human rights, she specialises in Indigenous Peoples issues in relation to the mechanisms of the United Nations system. She has also worked with various non-governmental organizations as an advisor on local development projects in indigenous communities, teaching and facilitating organizational processes.



## 21. Mirna Cunningham

Mirna Cunningham, indigenous Miskita from Nicaragua, is an internationally known indigenous rights activist, former chair of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and was the Special Advisor to the President of the United Nations General Assembly to advice on the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples in 2014.

She is currently the chair of the Center for Indigenous Peoples' Autonomy and Development (CADPI), the Pawanka Fund, The Tenure Facility and vice-president of the Fund for the Development of Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribben-FILAC. Ms. Cunningham also serves as the



Chairperson of the Steering Committee of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum at IFAD, and as Board Member of the Indigenous Peoples' Assistance Facility.

#### 22. Nestor Perez Valiente

Nestor Perez Valiente is from the Nahua community, El Salvador. He is a Member of the Consejo Coordinador Nacional Indigenas Salvadoreñas. Nestor's area of work focuses on strengthening Indigenous Peoples autonomous capacities in relation to Indigenous Peoples rights, climate change and biodiversity. He was one of the key facilitators from the regional indigigenous organizations CADPI that organised the subregional and regional consultations in Latin America and the Caribbean prior to the global meeting of the forum.



## 23. Oliver Page

Olivier Page is IFAD's Lead Climate and Environment Specialist for Latin America and the Caribbean based in Panamá. He has developed a climate and environment vision and strategy for IFAD in the region, promoting an integrated approach to incorporate climate, environment, and social inclusion themes across projects and programmes. He is an IPAF Board member.



#### 24. Pallab Chakma

Pallab Chakma is a Chakma activist from Chittagong Hill Tracts, Bangladesh. Currently, he is working as Executive Director of Kapaeeng Foundation (KF), a leading Indigenous Peoples' organisation of Bangladesh that works for the promotion and protection of the rights of Indigenous Peoples. Pallab has been working for Indigenous Peoples' land rights for the last 14 years.

He is one of the Asian representatives in the Steering Committee of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum at IFAD.



## 25. Phoolman Chaudhary

Phoolman Chaudhary hails from the Tharu community in Nepal and serves as a Member of the Steering Committee of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum at IFAD. He presently also serves as Executive President of Asian Indigenous International Network (AIIN) and Consultant Advisor of Unison for People's Alliance (UPA) in Nepal, organizations who advocate for Indigenous Peoples' rights and for building the capacity of indigenous peoples to address the challenges facing their respective communities. He has also served as an Indigenous Fellow with the Office



of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in Geneva, Switzerland.

## 26. Pratima Gurung

Pratima Gurung is an indigenous academic, activist and researcher from the Gurung people in Nepal, associated with Padmakanya College, one of the single women colleges in Nepal. She serves as a Member of the Steering Committee of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum at IFAD and is a founding member and current General Secretary of Indigenous Person with Disabilities Global Network and the president of National indigenous Disabled Women Association Nepal.



## 27. Devasish Roy

Devasish Roy is the Chief of the Chakma Circle and advocate to the Supreme court of Bangladesh. He is also a former Minister of State to the government of Bangladesh, former expert member to the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and co-chair of the Indigenous Peoples Caucus.



#### 28. Reehana Rifat Raza

Reehana Rifat Raza is Regional Director for the Asia and the Pacific Division at the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). She is responsible for the overall management of the Asia Pacific Regions portfolio at IFAD which covers 53 projects in 20 country offices. In a period of unprecedented economic challenges, Reehana's priority is to ensure that IFAD projects in Asia and the Pacific are supporting and protecting the rural poor in the region.



#### 29. Rossana Polastri

Rossana Polastri is the Regional Director for the Latin America and the Caribbean Division (IFAD). Appointed in January 2019, Polastri brings to IFAD a wide and diversified work experience as Peru's Vice-Minister for Finance and, more recently, as Vice President and Executive Board Member of the Bank of the Nation of Peru, (Banco de la Nación).



#### 30. Satu Santala

Satu Santala is Associate Vice-President of the External Relations and Governance Department at IFAD. She is responsible for communications, global engagement, partnerships, and resource mobilization, as well as overseeing the relations with IFAD's 177 Member States. Santala has extensive experience in international relations and development. Prior to her role at IFAD, she served as Director General for Development Policy at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.



## 31. Sherilee Harper

Sherilee Harper is an internationally-renowned Canadian expert in climate change and health and an associate professor at University of Alberta. She is the lead author of the IPCC's Sixth Assessment Report. She co-leads the Indigenous Health Adaptation to Climate Change (IHACC) program, an international research initiative working with Indigenous populations in the Peruvian Amazon, Canadian Arctic and Uganda. She works closely in partnership with Inuit communities in the Artic. Her work and research have advanced community-based approaches, integrating local voices, experiences and priorities into international decision-making on climate change.



## 32. Tunda Lepore

Tunda Lepore is a member of the Maasai people, playing a key role in advocating for the preservation of positive cultural practices in the Maasai community. She holds a degree in Development Studies from Busoga University in Uganda and a Master in International Studies from The University of Nairobi.

Having lived and witnessed the challenges faced by minority communities in Kenya, Tunda realized that these communities should be supported to ensure that their rights to land and natural resources are protected and their voices heard. She is currently collaborating with Slow Food to conserve and promote the red Maasai sheep, a local breed.



## 33. Ulaiasi Baya

Ulaiasi Baya is member of the Steering Committee of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum at IFAD. He studied law in Queensland (Australia) and the UK. His main area of work is access and development of customary resources, in particular pertaining to the relation between nature and customary property. He co-founded Customary Land Solutions (CLS), with the vision of equity for indigenous landowners



#### 34. Wolde Tadesse

Wolde Tadesse is a Gamo Ethiopian anthropologist and visiting scholar at the African Studies Center, University of Oxford. He has several years of field experience as an ethnographer among southern Ethiopian pastoralists and cultivators of the Omotic area as well as pastoralists around Lake Chew Bahir. He also worked as a programme officer in the African Rift Valley Programme of The Christensen Fund in California. Dr. Tadesse is an elder (huduga) in his native community of dere Chencha in Gamo, Ethiopia. He is also a board member of the Indigenous Peoples' Assistance Facility (IPAF) at IFAD.



#### 35. Yohanis Amador

Yohanis Amador is an indigenous woman of the Zenú people, born on the northern coast of Colombia. She is a psychologist and specialist in international cooperation and project management for development.

Since 2009, she is the coordinator of Seeds and IPAF projects of the AYNI Fund, a programme of the International Indigenous Women's Forum – FIMI, which works for the individual and collective rights of indigenous women in Africa, Asia, the Pacific and the Americas.



#### 36. Yun Mane

Yun Mane is an Indigenous Women from Mondulkiri in the North East of Cambodia and a Member of the Steering Committee of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum at IFAD. She graduated in law from the Royal University of Law and Economics. Ms. Mane has spent the last twenty years working to support indigenous people in Cambodia through efforts to promote and preserve Indigenous People's culture and their rights to land and education. She is a member of the Cambodian Indigenous Women's Working Group (CIWWG), a technical advisor to Cambodia Indigenous Peoples Organisation (CIPO), a board member of the Cambodia Centre for



Human Rights (CCHR) and the Organization to Promote Kui Culture, and the former chair of the Cambodia Indigenous Youth Association (CIYA).