

**SIDE
EVENT**

**2022 SESSION OF THE UNITED
NATIONS PERMANENT FORUM
ON INDIGENOUS ISSUES**



Call to Action: Seeking Free Prior and Informed Consent to promote Indigenous Peoples-driven pathways

5 May 2022

11:30-12:45 (NY Time)

17:30-18:45 (Rome Time)

Event in English, French & Spanish

Register [here](#)



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Concept Note

IFAD is the first International Financial Institution (IFI) to adopt the Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) as an operational principle in its [Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples](#) (2009) and as a criterion for project approval. At IFAD, FPIC is applied as an instrument that empowers local and Indigenous Peoples' communities, ensuring mutual respect and full and effective participation in decision-making on proposed investment and development programmes that may affect their rights, their access to lands, territories and resources, and their livelihoods. In IFAD-funded projects and programmes, the borrowing entity or grant recipient is responsible for seeking and obtaining FPIC, which is not simply a safeguard standard, rather a proactive approach to co-create development initiatives with local communities. FPIC is solicited through consultations and the participation of communities and local institutions in the design and implementation of IFAD's investments.

The Fund has developed a [“How to do note on Seeking, free, prior and informed consent in IFAD investment projects”](#) that offers practical guidance for IFAD staff, consultants and in-country partners for seeking FPIC in the design and implementation of IFAD-funded projects and programmes, in compliance with IFAD policies and procedures. As such, IFAD has established several instruments to ensure that Indigenous Peoples are in the decision making process, from the [Indigenous Peoples' Forum at IFAD](#), which is an institutionalized process of dialogue with Indigenous Peoples at the country, regional and corporate levels to the strong participatory approach and community driven development in IFAD funded projects to the [Indigenous Peoples Assistance Facility \(IPAF\)](#), which is a dedicated fund financing small grassroots projects designed and implemented by Indigenous Peoples and governed by the a Board formed in majority by indigenous leaders.

This side event will take us on a journey to explore different participatory and community-driven approaches in seeking FPIC within IFAD-funded projects, which contributed to build strong partnerships where Indigenous Peoples are leading their own development pathways. Indigenous experts and IFAD staff will share their experiences and perspectives on how to promote FPIC as an operational tool that respect and promote Indigenous Peoples' rights. During the event, representatives of the Fund and the Steering Committee of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum at IFAD will launch a [call to action](#) to invite other development actors **to promote, respect and apply FPIC** in the engagement with Indigenous Peoples.

Programme

Moderator: **Lola García-Alix**, Senior Policy Advisor, Global Governance, International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA)

Introduction by the moderator

Opening remarks

- **Stig Traavik**, Director of Climate, Energy & Environment, Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad)

Panel discussion

- **Oliver Page**, Regional Climate Change and Environmental Specialist for Latin America and the Caribbean, IFAD
- **Filiberto Penados**, FPIC facilitator for the IFAD/GCF-funded project Resilient Rural Belize
- **Elifuraha Laltaika**, Senior Law Lecturer and Director of Research and Consultancy, Tumaini University Makumira
- **Q&A**

FPIC Call to Action Launch

- **Tunda Lepore**, Youth Member of the Steering Committee of the IP's Forum at IFAD for Africa
- **Antonella Cordone**, Ad-interim Senior Technical Specialist – Indigenous Peoples, IFAD

For more information:

- [Event webpage](#)
- [FPIC Policy Brief](#)
- [Call to action: Full and effective participation of indigenous peoples through FPIC](#)