



Investing in rural people

## Indigenous Peoples Assistance Facility (IPAF)

### 2022 Call for Proposals

Focus on:

***Advancing indigenous peoples' conservation and sustainable management of biodiversity for adaptation and resilience to climate change***

#### Call for proposals 2022 timeline

Deadline for application of project proposals: **Tuesday 27 September 2022 at 23:59 Italian time zone (CEST).**

Selection of finalists: December 2022\*

*\*Dates may vary depending on the number of proposals received*

In line with its overall mandate and strategic objectives, and within the framework of its [Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples](#), IFAD aims to ensure that indigenous peoples' communities in rural areas are empowered to improve their well-being, income and food security through self-driven development that builds on their identity and culture.

The objective of the Indigenous Peoples Assistance Facility (IPAF) is *to strengthen indigenous peoples' communities and their organizations by financing small projects which foster their self-driven development in the framework of the [UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#), and generate lessons learned and approaches for replication and up-scaling.*

The IPAF supports indigenous peoples to determine and develop priorities and strategies to fulfil development needs of their communities. Through small grants ranging from US\$20,000 to US\$70,000 and lasting up to three years, the IPAF will support the demand-driven initiatives of indigenous peoples' communities by funding small projects that are designed and implemented by indigenous peoples' communities and their organizations, and that build on their culture, identity, knowledge and natural resources. The IPAF finances projects that improve indigenous peoples' access to key decision-making processes, empower them to find solutions to the challenges they face, and promote collaboration in the public and private spheres. This IPAF cycle will focus on supporting Indigenous Peoples in enhancing the resilience of the ecosystems in which they live and depend upon for their livelihoods and in proposing innovative solutions for advancing indigenous peoples' conservation and sustainable management of biodiversity for adaptation and resilience to climate change.

The Facility is governed by a Board responsible for operations and directions. The Board, with a majority of indigenous and tribal peoples' representatives, reviews and makes final recommendations on grant awards. The Board is composed of three representatives of indigenous peoples' institutions/ organizations (one from Latin America and the Caribbean, one from Africa and one from Asia and the Pacific), one representative from the UNPFII and one representative from IFAD. The Board works closely with the IPAF Secretariat, responsible for the administrative and financial aspects of the Facility.

The Facility is managed at regional level by three indigenous peoples' organizations that are responsible for supporting and advising the IPAF Board on the selection of proposals; channelling resources to organizations awarded by the IPAF Board; monitoring and providing implementation support and capacity building to the grassroots organizations implementing their small projects financed through the IPAF. The Facility's regional partners are: Samburu Women Trust (SWT) in Africa; Tebtebba Foundation in Asia and the Pacific; The International Indigenous Women's Forum/Foro Internacional de Mujeres Indígenas (IIFW/FIMI) in Latin America and the Caribbean.

In response to IFAD's five calls for proposals since 2007, indigenous peoples' communities and organizations in 90 countries submitted more than 4,200 applications. In all, in the first five cycles, 159 projects were financed in more than 45 countries worldwide, for a total of around US\$5.1 million.

For additional information on approved projects, visit: <https://www.ifad.org/en/ipaf>

The 2022 IPAF cycle is being financed by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and co-financed by the Packard Foundation.

The resources initially available for grant financing under this call for proposals total US\$2.1million. It is therefore expected that the 2022 IPAF cycle will initially finance around 30 projects in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean. Efforts are being made to mobilize additional resources for the IPAF, so that more projects can be financed.

### **WHAT ARE THE PRIORITY AREAS FOR FUNDING in 2022?**

The focus of the IPAF for 2022 is climate change adaptation, resilience and biodiversity in/for indigenous peoples' communities. Over the years, IPAF has played a strategic role in promoting gender mainstreaming and women's empowerment. Priority will be given to proposals with a strong social inclusion focus on gender mainstreaming and women's empowerment and proposals submitted by indigenous peoples' organizations that have indigenous women and youth in their decision-making bodies. Organizations whose structures include indigenous people with disabilities will be given special consideration.

With a focus on **advancing indigenous peoples' conservation and sustainable management of biodiversity for adaptation and resilience to climate change**, projects financed by the 2022 IPAF will improve indigenous livelihoods in:

- **Food security and nutrition and sustainable and resilient food systems**
- **Rights to land, territories and resources**
- **Biodiversity conservation and sustainable management**
- **Access to markets**

### **WHAT ARE EXAMPLES OF PROJECTS THAT COULD BE FUNDED?**

"True sustainability in addressing global warming implies a holistic approach, in which efforts to address global warming are combined with preserving biodiversity, tackling social inequalities and preserving disappearing human cultures".<sup>1</sup>The following are examples of projects that can be funded under the 2022 IPAF cycle (the list below is indicative but not exhaustive):

- Protecting, restoring and rehabilitating degraded farmland and ecosystems, adopting climate-resilience-building measures (e.g. reforestation/afforestation, improved rangeland management, watershed management, erosion control and soil rehabilitation);
- Indigenous peoples' community-based forestry and agroforestry management;

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<sup>1</sup> A. Kelles-Viitanen for IFAD, "Custodians of Culture and Biodiversity". Link: <http://www.ifad.org/english/indigenous/pub/documents/biodiversity.pdf>

- Engaging in organic and agroecological farming and documenting and adapting indigenous and alternative disease and pest management systems to the changing pressures of climate change;
- Preserving and promoting a diversity of local varieties of traditional crops in indigenous peoples' food systems, including [neglected and underutilized species](#) (NUS);
- Supporting the use, recovery and conservation of traditional varieties such as seeds, crops, livestock, etc. identifying and enhancing traits particularly relevant to support climate resilience and adaptation;
- Supporting diversification of the resource base and livelihoods in response to changes in climate patterns, in line with self-determination;
- Providing support and training on indigenous peoples' sustainable agricultural techniques and livelihoods, promoting resilience-building strategies through a diversity of plants and animals;
- Grazing and livestock management practices with a focus on local breeds and climate-resilient species;
- Adaptation of fishery practices to the impact of climate change
- Enhancing traditional early warning systems for forecasting weather patterns as the basis for improved land governance and management;
- Promoting the integration and documentation of indigenous peoples' knowledge and practices in disaster risk reduction and prevention;
- Valuing indigenous peoples' knowledge and practices by supporting research on traditional knowledge and practices, as well as their blending with modern scientific approaches for climate change adaptation and biodiversity conservation;
- Recognizing and valuing the intergenerational transfer of knowledge and revival of ancestral practices, enhancing climate adaptation and resilience;
- Marketing products with distinctive characteristics associated with their origins and the cultural practices used to produce them through labelling and participatory certification (adding value through processing, social enterprise and branding, geographical indication of traditional products and participatory guarantee systems, using digital platforms to directly connect with consumers around the value of healthy and biodiversity-friendly food, etc.);
- Developing culturally appropriate and community-based eco- and ethno-tourism models;
- Supporting indigenous peoples' communities' plans and strategies for land and resource management;
- Using participatory mapping to collectively advocate for land rights and open dialogue with the authorities;
- Strengthening capacity for responsible systems of traditional land, territory and resource governance through a greater gender balance.
- Increasing indigenous peoples' communities' and organizations' capacity for self-development and engagement in policy processes with local governments on indigenous peoples' rights and development, respecting their culture, resources and identity (including for climate action);
- Documenting and integrating indigenous peoples' knowledge and practices to find, manage, and share underground water sources.

For additional information on activities that can be funded, please refer to the [IPAF Guidelines](#).

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Please note that your community or organization **must meet all** of the following criteria to be eligible for a grant:

- The applicant must be an indigenous or tribal peoples' organization;
- The project proposal must have been designed with and by the communities it will benefit, and evidence of their free, prior and informed consent must be enclosed in the proposal. For more information on the Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) requirements, refer to the [IPAF Guidelines](#);
- Not-for-profit/non-governmental organizations and local institutions such as a local government can apply if designated by the indigenous peoples' communities to act on their behalf. Evidence of the FPIC by the indigenous peoples' communities must be enclosed with the [application form](#)\*. For-profit organizations (e.g. for-profit cooperatives) are not eligible for funding;
- The applicant must be legally registered in an IFAD developing Member State ([List available at: https://webapps.ifad.org/ipaft/countries?lang=en](https://webapps.ifad.org/ipaft/countries?lang=en));

- The applicant's headquarters must be located in the country of grant implementation, which must also be an [IFAD developing Member State](#), and be close to the area where the project will be implemented;
- The applicant should have an established bank account in the name of the applicant organization and be able to receive international financial contribution under applicable law;
- The applicant should demonstrate internal controls to govern the use of funds (upon approval of project proposals, organizations will be requested to produce documentary evidence of the organization's financial and control capacity to receive and manage funds, under applicable law, and the latest annual audit of the organization's accounts or any other external or internal assessment of the organization's internal controls);
- The applicant must demonstrate gender and intergenerational balance in its governing system and that women, youth and, if applicable, people with disabilities participate in decision-making;
- The applicant should not be implementing an IFAD grant at the time of the application;
- The applicant can submit **only one proposal to the 2022 IPAF**. If an applicant submits more than one proposal, only the first completed proposal received will be considered.

\* An indigenous peoples' community or organization may ask a legally registered not-for-profit organization, non-governmental organization or local institution such as a local government (municipality, indigenous or tribal regional, territorial autonomous district, etc.) to act as applicant and recipient of the grant on its behalf. In such cases, the relationship between the indigenous or tribal community and the entity submitting the application to the IPAF must be made explicit in the application form (item 5). Furthermore, the applicant must indicate the name and address of the representatives of the indigenous or tribal peoples' community that will benefit from the project. Evidence of FPIC needs to be enclosed with the application form. For more information on the FPIC requirements, refer to the [IPAF Guidelines](#).

The Facility WILL NOT consider applications from organizations without legal registration, or applications from individuals applying in their personal capacity.

The Facility WILL NOT consider applications from for-profit organizations, such as for profit cooperative societies, etc.

The Facility WILL NOT consider applications that do not include as a separate enclosure evidence of the FPIC process and consent agreement by the benefiting communities.

**Please note that only project proposals that are designed with and by indigenous peoples' communities and that clearly/directly benefit men, women and youth of indigenous peoples' communities will be considered eligible for funding.**

**NOTE: For information on indigenous peoples in Africa please refer to the following sources:**

- African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights - Working Group on Indigenous Populations/Communities in Africa <https://www.achpr.org/specialmechanisms/detail?id=10> Kindly refer to the reports of the Working Group's missions to: Botswana, Burundi, Central African Republic, Congo, DRC, Gabon, Kenya, Libya, Namibia, Niger, Rwanda, Uganda
- Report of the African Commission's Working Group of Experts on Indigenous Population/Communities:  
[http://www.iwgia.org/iwgia\\_files\\_publications\\_files/African\\_Commission\\_book.pdf](http://www.iwgia.org/iwgia_files_publications_files/African_Commission_book.pdf)
- Indigenous Peoples of Africa Co-ordinating Committee (IPACC) [www.ipacc.org.za](http://www.ipacc.org.za)
- The International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs <https://iwgia.org/en/>

### **WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICATIONS?**

All applications must directly benefit indigenous peoples in a culturally appropriate, sustainable, and youth and gender inclusive manner and address issues central to indigenous peoples' aspirations.

- All applications must be sent completed using the [IPAF Application Form 2022](#).
- Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- The application form must not exceed a total of 20 pages.
- Applications must be received by **Tuesday 27 September 2022 at 23:59 Italian time zone (CEST)**.
- Applications are accepted only in English, French, and Spanish.

- The Plan of Work attached to the application should include indications on how the project would be completed within a maximum of 32 months for implementing activities and 4 months for reporting on results and costs. The maximum project duration (including reporting) is 36 months from the date of the grant agreement.
- Proposed project budget requests to the IPAF should range between US\$20,000 and US\$70,000.
- The budget should be based on realistic local costs. Details should be provided on amounts and sources of contribution (including from the applicant organization). The budget MUST be submitted in US dollars, clearly itemized according to project activities, and including details of administrative and personnel costs.
- The budget for administrative and personnel cost cannot exceed 20 per cent of the project budget requested from the IPAF.
- Contribution by the applicant organization must be minimum of 20 per cent of the amount requested to the Facility and must be itemized. The contribution can be in cash or in-kind (such as personnel costs or use of office facilities).
- Applications must include a copy of the certificate of the legal registration of the applicant organization under applicable law.
- Evidence of the FPIC process and consent agreement by the indigenous peoples' communities benefiting from the project must be enclosed with the application form by all applicant organizations.

### HOW WILL THE DECISIONS ON APPLICATIONS BE MADE?

All applications received by the deadline will be reviewed according to the criteria listed below. Applications received after the deadline will not be accepted. Applications will be acknowledged within one month of receipt. Once the screening of all applications is finalized and decisions on grant awards made by the IPAF Board, the IPAF Secretariat will notify the results to all applicants by email (using the email address they have indicated in the IPAFT online registration or in the application form in case of proposal sent by post mail).

The date on which IFAD plans to announce the decision following the completion of the award procedure is December 2022. This date is indicative only; it may vary depending on the number of proposals received.

Decisions on projects to be financed will be made by the IPAF Board based on the following criteria:

- **Indigenous peoples' development with culture and identity:** How does the project build upon the asset of indigenous peoples' culture and identity? How does the project take full advantage of indigenous peoples' traditional knowledge, culture, governance systems and natural resources?
- **Project relevance:** Does the project address the needs of the indigenous peoples' community/ies, particularly women, youth and indigenous persons with disabilities? Will it make a difference in the community/ies to aid or resolve issues? Can it be replicated elsewhere?
- **Project contribution to indigenous peoples' biodiversity conservation and sustainable management for adaptation and resilience to climate change:** What solutions does the project propose to respond to the challenges of climate change and promote biodiversity conservation, adaptation practices and enhanced resilience of indigenous peoples, building on their ancestral knowledge and practices? Are the proposed solutions viable and potentially successful in producing the intended results?
- **Project feasibility and sustainability:** Is the proposed approach practical? Is the timeline realistic and the budget adequate? How will results be sustained after project completion?
- **Institutional capacity:** What relevant skills does the organization's staff bring to the project? Has the organization succeeded in similar endeavours?
- **Institutional credibility:** What kind of credibility does the organization enjoy within its community/ies and beyond?
- **Balance of grant portfolio:** Does the project provide for a balance of the grant portfolio with regard to geographic distribution, gender and issues being addressed?

## MONITORING AND SUPERVISION

The implementation of the projects financed by the IPAF will be monitored and supervised directly by IFAD's regional partners (FIMI, Samburu Women Trust and Tebtebba) or through other possible forms as decided appropriate by the IPAF regional partner organizations and IFAD.

## HOW TO APPLY FOR A GRANT

- ✓ All applications must be sent completed using the [IPAF Application Form 2022](#).
- ✓ Applicants should carefully read the [IPAF 2022 Call for Proposals](#) and the [IPAF Guidelines](#) prior to completing the application form.
- ✓ Applications and respective documents must be submitted online at: <https://webapps.ifad.org/ipaft/login>
- ✓ Applications sent by email will NOT be considered.
- ✓ Only in cases of inaccessibility to internet can applications be sent by post mail to the address below before the deadline:

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- ✓ Questions may be sent by e-mail no later than 10 days before the deadline for the receipt of proposals to the following email address: [indigenouspeoples@ifad.org](mailto:indigenouspeoples@ifad.org)

### CLICK TO DOWNLOAD:

[APPLICATION FORM](#)

[GUIDELINES FOR COMPLETING THE APPLICATION FORM](#)

[FAQs](#)

[QUICK STEPS FOR THE ONLINE APPLICATION](#)