



Investing in rural people

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES ASSISTANCE FACILITY (IPAF)

GUIDELINES FOR COMPLETING THE APPLICATION FORM 2022

Focus on

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

Please complete the [Application form 2022](#) carefully so that we can assess your proposal properly. Please ensure that you submit only **one application** within the deadline of **Tuesday 27 September 23:59 Italian time zone (CEST)**, using the standard application form, without exceeding **20 pages**.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. Applicant Organizations

Applicant organizations must meet the following criteria to be eligible for a grant:

- The applicant must be an indigenous/tribal peoples' organization.
- Evidence of the Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) by the indigenous peoples' community/ies must be enclosed with the application form. This should be a letter of the beneficiary community signed by the leader/s and representatives of the community. Not-for profit/non-governmental organizations can apply if designated by the indigenous peoples' communities to act as applicant and recipient of the grant on their behalf. The letter should state that the project is designed with and by the benefiting communities, and explain how the consent of the communities has been given. The people providing consent to the project need to be the representing institutions of the communities where the project will be implemented, and their name, role, address and telephone number will need to be included on the FPIC document in order for IFAD and its partner organizations to verify the information with the indigenous peoples' communities. **Consent** is the expected outcome of the consultation, participation and collective decision-making process by the local communities. It is the mutual agreement reached, documented and recognized by all parties. Consultation and participation are crucial components of a consent process. Consultation should be undertaken in good faith, and local communities must be able to participate through their own freely chosen representatives and customary or other institutions. We wish to ensure that the proposed project meets the needs, perspectives and aspirations of the people it will benefit. (*Application Form, item 5*).
- **Not-for-profit/non-governmental organizations**, or a local institution such as a local government (municipality, indigenous or tribal regional, territorial autonomous district, etc.) can apply if designated by the indigenous peoples' communities to act as applicant and recipient of the grant on their behalf. In such cases, the relationship between the indigenous peoples' communities and the organization acting on their behalf as the applicant entity must be made explicit in the application form and evidence of FPIC enclosed with the application

(*Application Form, item 5*). 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 (please find the list at: <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 financial contribution from IPAF regional partners (International Indigenous Women's Forum (FIMI-IIWF) for Latin America and the Caribbean; Samburu Women Trust (SWT) for Africa; and Tebtebba Foundation for Asia and the Pacific) under applicable law (*Application Form, item 6*).
- 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.

Applications from organizations without legal registration, or applications from individuals applying in their personal capacity are not eligible.

Applications from for-profit organisations, such as for profit cooperative societies etc. will not be considered.

Applications without evidence of the free, prior and informed consent of the community/ies the project will benefit will not be considered.

2. Applications

Applications must meet the following criteria:

1. All applications must be completed using the [IPAF Application Form 2022](#). Applications that do not use the IPAF Application Form 2022 will not be considered.
2. Applications must be submitted online using the IPAF online system: <https://webapps.ifad.org/ipaft/login>
3. Download the [Quick steps for project proposals submission](#).
4. Only in case of inaccessibility to internet can applications be sent by post mail to the following address and post-marked before the deadline:

Ms. Ilaria Firmian

Senior Technical Specialist
Indigenous Peoples and Tribal Issues
Environment, Climate, Gender and Social Inclusion Division
Strategy and Knowledge Department
International Fund for Agricultural Development, IFAD
Via Paolo di Dono, 44
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Tel: 0039 06 5459 2304
E-mail: indigenouspeoples@ifad.org

5. Applications sent by email will not be considered.
6. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
7. The application form **must not exceed a total of 20 pages**.

8. Applicants can submit **only one proposal under the 2022 IPAF call**. If an applicant submits more than one proposal, only the first completed application received will be registered and considered.
9. Applications must be received within deadline of **Tuesday 27 September 23:59 Italian time zone (CEST)**. We highly suggest that applicants avoid submitting their applications at the last minute.
10. Applications are accepted only in English, French and Spanish.
11. The Plan of Work must be attached to the application and indicate how the project will be completed within a maximum of 32 months for implementing activities and 4 months for reporting on project results and expenses, starting from the grant agreement date (*Application Form, item 47*).
12. Proposed project budget requests to the IPAF range between US\$20,000 and US\$70,000 (*Application Form, item 44*).
13. The budget must be submitted in US Dollars only, and must be itemized, showing details of administrative and personnel costs, and by activities (*Application Form, item 46*).
14. Administrative and personnel cost cannot exceed 20 per cent of the project budget requested from the IPAF (*Application Form, item 46*). Taxes and currency exchange losses are ineligible costs.
15. The contribution by the applicant organization must be minimum of 20 per cent of the amount requested to the Facility and must be itemized (*Application Form, item 45*).
16. Contribution can be in cash or in-kind (such as personnel costs or use of office facilities) and must be itemized and expressed in US Dollars (*Application Form, item 46, 4th column*).
17. Applications must include a copy of the certificate of the legal registration of the applicant organization under applicable law.
18. All applicant organizations must enclose evidence of the FPIC process and consent agreement by the indigenous peoples' communities with the application form.

3. Project Proposal

The proposed project must directly benefit indigenous peoples in a culturally appropriate, sustainable and youth- and gender-inclusive manner and address issues central to indigenous peoples' aspirations. The proposed project must build upon the assets of indigenous peoples' culture and identity and take full advantage of indigenous peoples' knowledge, culture, governance systems and natural resources, and focus on improving the participation of women and youth in such processes.

Priority areas for funding

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**

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 include indigenous women and youth in their decision-making bodies. Organizations that include indigenous people with disabilities will be given special consideration.

BOX 1

The 2022 IPAF focuses on advancing indigenous peoples' conservation and sustainable management of biodiversity for adaptation and resilience to climate change

Indigenous peoples are key protagonists and partners for climate action. Recognized and respected as custodians of fragile ecosystems, there are around 476 million indigenous peoples in approximately 90 countries worldwide. Eighty per cent of the world's remaining biodiversity is found in indigenous peoples' territories. They hold a sacred bond with their ancestral land, territories and natural resources; however, encroachment, dispossession, lack of respect for and protection of their right to their lands continue to threaten their ability to govern and manage land and resources, which are their primary source of livelihood. The COVID-19

pandemic has heightened existing vulnerabilities and exacerbated inequalities. Nevertheless, indigenous peoples have applied their own solutions to cope with the pandemic. Their lifestyle, traditional knowledge and practices, food systems and culture have been a great source of resilience in the face of COVID-19.

The 2022 IPAF Call for Proposals values the critical role of indigenous peoples' culture and knowledge in effective action to prevent biodiversity loss and in the active use of biodiversity for adaptation and mitigation of climate change. In November 2021, COP26 urged Parties "to actively involve indigenous peoples and local communities in designing and implementing climate action", and the IPCC's Sixth Assessment Report (2022) has highlighted and recognized "the value of diverse forms of knowledge such as scientific, as well as Indigenous knowledge and local knowledge in understanding and evaluating climate adaptation processes and actions to reduce risks from human-induced climate change".

True sustainability in addressing global warming and its impacts on indigenous food systems implies a holistic approach, in which efforts to address global warming are combined with preserving biodiversity, tackling social inequalities and protecting disappearing human cultures.¹ The innovations proposed by IPAF-financed projects are rooted in their holistic approach, where economic, social and environmental sustainability are integrated and coupled with gender equality and women and youth empowerment.

Examples of activities that can be funded under IPAF 2022

Within the overall framework of **advancing indigenous peoples' conservation and sustainable management of biodiversity for adaptation and resilience to climate change**, below are examples of activities that can be funded under IPAF 2022, under the four priority areas for funding illustrated above. Please understand that these are examples and that this is not an exhaustive list. Other activities within the framework and objectives of the call can be proposed.

a. Food security and nutrition and sustainable and resilient food systems

Indigenous Peoples' food systems are at the heart of resilience and are playing a critical role in communities' response to both the global pandemic and the climate crisis. A treasure trove of knowledge, indigenous food systems contribute to well-being and health, benefiting communities, preserving a rich biodiversity that includes agrobiodiversity, and providing nutritious food.² Food in indigenous peoples' worldview is sacred; it is not a commodity. In order to attain food security, indigenous peoples must be able to possess full control in the food production process. The IPAF will prioritize those projects in which indigenous productive systems are encouraged, practiced and adapted to the accelerating impacts of climate change. This will include integrated and adaptive natural resources and biodiversity management that not only strengthens community food and nutrition security/food sovereignty but also preserves local ecosystems and natural resources whose degradation can threaten food security.

Indicative examples of projects that can be funded:

- Increasing indigenous peoples' communities' access to a diversity of healthy food and enhancing the sustainability and resilience of the food systems they contribute to and benefit from;
- Preserving and promoting a diversity of local varieties of traditional crops in indigenous peoples' food systems, including [neglected and underutilized species](#) (NUS);
- Promoting intergenerational transfer of indigenous peoples' knowledge related to food systems;
- Re-establishing lost, threatened and neglected food sources, practices and/or knowledge and integrating varieties and species adapted to changing climate conditions;
- Preserving wild species and seeds by establishing seed savers/keepers networks, participatory variety selection and mixing for identifying and strengthening resilience/tolerance traits suited to changing climate conditions and establishing community seed banks for indigenous seed varieties;
- Promoting the use of micronutrient-rich species and foods, including those with medicinal value (food medicine);
- Documenting and supporting indigenous and alternative pest management systems;
- Promoting agroecology, natural and regenerative farming;
- Recording and disseminating knowledge about traditional food production, innovative indigenous practices for adaptation to changing climate conditions and related cultural knowledge and practices (using new and/or traditional knowledge transmission methods);
- 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;
- Promoting activities linking food-health-medicines-environment;
- Supporting responsible and effective governance mechanisms/institutions for management of biodiversity and indigenous food systems;
- Reinforcing the role of indigenous peoples as custodians of biodiversity and foods in governance platforms;
- Building indigenous peoples' participatory networks for supporting biodiverse food systems at the local and regional levels.

Examples of proposed indicators to be adopted by the proposed project (to be disaggregated by indigenous women, youth and people with disabilities):

- Proportion/number of indigenous peoples' communities/members with improved access to food biodiversity;
- Proportion/number of indigenous peoples' communities/members with increased production of a diversity of nutritious and climate-resilient varieties and species through culturally-appropriate agroecological and regenerative practices.
- Proportion/number of indigenous peoples' communities/members with an increased wealth of dietary species;
- Proportion/number of indigenous women and youth with greater awareness of the nutritional value of local foods;

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

² <https://www.ifad.org/en/web/latest/-/story/indigenous-food-systems-are-at-the-heart-of-resilience>

- Proportion/number of children/youth from indigenous peoples' communities who access and consume meals made from nutritious, biodiverse local food;
- Number of indigenous peoples' communities/members trained in use, recovery and conservation of traditional foods;
- Number of governance mechanisms/institutions for indigenous management of biodiversity and food systems supported by the proposed project;
- Number of indigenous peoples' participatory networks on food systems established at the local and regional levels.

b. Rights to land, territories and resources

Based on a close relationship with the environment, indigenous peoples' values often entail a holistic approach to well-being that emphasizes harmony with nature, self-governance within their communities, security of land and resource rights, cultural identity and dignity.³ IPAF will prioritize projects supporting equitable access to land and territories by indigenous peoples and strengthening their own capacity to gain better control and management over their lands, territories and the natural resources on which they depend. In terms of climate change, "Research shows that when IP/LCs⁴ have legally recognized and enforceable rights, both deforestation and carbon emissions can be significantly lower compared with areas outside of community forests" and as such, contribute to climate change mitigation with co-benefits for adaptation and resilience.⁵ Another important aspect which will be considered by IPAF is the project's capacity to increase indigenous peoples' communities' and organizations' capacity to engage in policy dialogue, including for climate action (e.g. through recognition of their collective rights over their territory, their knowledge and practices for climate resilience and the inclusion of indigenous peoples' plans in local or higher-level policies).

Indicative examples of projects that can be funded:

- Supporting the implementation of rights and community-based forest management systems;
- Sustainable and participatory governance mechanisms for the management of natural resources and ecosystems;
- Supporting indigenous peoples' communities' plans and strategies for land and resource management;
- Strengthening capacity, advocacy and awareness with respect to indigenous peoples' rights to land, territories and resources;
- Using participatory mapping to collectively advocate for land rights and open dialogue with the authorities;
- Promoting policy engagement with governments for the recognition of indigenous peoples' rights to land, territories and resources;
- Conducting studies by indigenous peoples' communities and their partners to assess the impacts of imposed development (e.g. dams, deforestation, urbanization, industrial agricultural, mining, drilling) on their traditional lands, territories and subsistence resources;
- Strengthening capacity for responsible systems of traditional land, territory and resource governance through a greater gender balance.
- Documenting and integrating indigenous peoples' knowledge and practices to find, manage, and share underground water sources.

Examples of proposed indicators to be adopted by the proposed project (to be disaggregated by indigenous women, youth and people with disabilities):

- Proportion/number of indigenous peoples' communities/members with recognized rights over land and natural resources;
- Hectares of indigenous peoples' land mapped/demarcated/titled;
- Proportion/number of indigenous peoples' communities/members with improved access to a safe water supply and improved soil quality/health;
- Coverage of areas under traditional indigenous peoples' governance;
- Number of indigenous peoples' communities/members trained in participatory mapping;
- Number of indigenous peoples' communities/members trained in land and natural resource rights and advocacy.

c. Biodiversity conservation and sustainable management

Indigenous peoples are custodians of much of the world's biodiversity. Their traditions and integrated approaches underscore the deep connection between human societies and ecosystems. Traditional indigenous peoples' territories are home to 80 per cent of the planet's biodiversity, and indigenous peoples' food systems often play a wider role in environmental conservation. Today, fewer and fewer varieties and species/breeds of plants and animals are being cultivated, raised, traded and maintained. Learning from indigenous peoples' food systems can offer us holistic, sustainable ways of interacting with nature and addressing the climate crisis.

Indicative examples of projects that can be financed:

- 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);
- 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;
- Conserving biodiversity, including agrobiodiversity, adapting to climate change by drawing on indigenous peoples' values and practices;

³ IFAD Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples, p. 31. Link: http://www.ifad.org/english/indigenous/documents/ip_policy_e.pdf

⁴ Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities

⁵ https://rightsandresources.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Indigenous-Peoples-and-Local-Community-Tenure-in-the-INDCs-Status-and-Recommendations_RRI_April-2016.pdf

- Indigenous peoples' community-based forestry and agroforestry management;
- 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;
- Supporting indigenous peoples' ancestral knowledge and multi-crop farming practices and agroecological diversification of farming systems (e.g. intercropping, crop rotation, agroforestry, edible fences, integrated animal-crop farming systems);
- 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
- Providing support and training on indigenous peoples' sustainable agricultural techniques and livelihoods, promoting resilience-building strategies through a diversity of plants and animals;
- 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;
- Conducting studies to assess the economic value of environmental services provided by indigenous peoples' communities in areas with potential for setting up Rewards for Environmental Services systems.

Examples of proposed indicators to be adopted by the proposed project (to be disaggregated by Indigenous women, youth and people with disabilities):

- Proportion/number of indigenous peoples' communities/members with increased diversity of crops and livestock products;
- Proportion/number of indigenous peoples' communities/members maintaining traditional crop varieties and animal breeds;
- Proportion/number of indigenous peoples' communities/members with increased knowledge and use of wild edible plants and animals;
- Proportion/number of indigenous peoples' communities/members with improved agroecological and regenerative practices integrating a diversity of crops and animals in farming systems;
- Number of indigenous peoples' community-based seed banks keeping traditional seed varieties and identifying important resilience traits for changing climate conditions;
- Number of indigenous people served by the banks keeping traditional and climate resilient seed varieties;
- Proportion/number of indigenous peoples' communities/members using multiple land-use systems for agriculture and food acquisition (resilience from the diversity of land uses);
- Number of biodiversity-related knowledge products created and disseminated by indigenous peoples' communities and organizations;
- Coverage of restored or rehabilitated land managed by indigenous peoples' communities;
- Coverage/proportion of land resilient to natural hazards and climate impacts;
- Number of indigenous peoples' communities/members trained in the use, recovery and conservation of traditional varieties/local breeds and traditional agricultural techniques;
- Number of indigenous peoples' communities/members adopting traditional agricultural/breeding techniques;
- Number of indigenous peoples' communities/members reporting the adoption of environmentally sustainable and climate-resilient technologies and practices;
- Number of indigenous people trained in local early warning systems for forecasting weather patterns and action to be taken to reduce vulnerabilities and increase resilience.
- Hectares of landscape area managed by indigenous peoples' communities under sustainable management;
- Number of hectares of land brought under climate-resilient management by indigenous peoples' communities.

d. Access to markets

Indigenous peoples' concept of economic development underscores their particular relationship to the sustainable use of their land, territories and resources. Their economies recognize that human beings are not merely consumers of energy and necessities and seek to create conditions in which members of the community can individually and collectively realize and exercise their human potential. Indeed, indigenous peoples' economic systems differ starkly from the market economy since, in principle, they seek to maintain an adaptive and harmonious spiritual relationship with the environment.⁶ The IPAF will prioritize project proposals that empower indigenous peoples' communities to access market opportunities by valuing and promoting indigenous peoples' knowledge and products derived from (agro)biodiverse farming and land-use systems. Important dimensions for access-to-market initiatives are the creation of solidarity networks based on cooperation and reciprocity, improvement of social cohesion through the intergenerational transfer of knowledge and the creation of self-help groups, cooperatives and small enterprises.

Indicative examples of projects that can be financed:

- Creating and strengthening income-generating indigenous peoples' groups/cooperatives and biodiversity-friendly production systems;
- Promoting the [marketing of wild species and neglected and underutilized species \(NUS\)](#), ensuring equal opportunities for indigenous women and youth;
- Assisting indigenous peoples' communities with the production and marketing of their products derived from (agro)biodiverse farming and land-use systems;
- Providing training and capacity-building in traditional income-generating activities;
- Developing culturally appropriate and community-based eco- and ethno-tourism models;
- Promoting and supporting linkages to fair trade networks or alternative markets;
- 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.);
- Facilitating networking, training, exchanges and the transfer of knowledge, practices and technologies among indigenous peoples' communities for accessing markets;

⁶ Tebtebba, "Towards an Alternative Development Paradigm: Indigenous People's Self-Determined Development", pg. 613. Link: <http://www.tebtebba.org/index.php/all-resources/category/8-books?download=28:indigenous>

- Establishing rural financial services through the formation of saving and loan groups;
- Creating indigenous peoples' microenterprises, marketing groups and common property resource groups.

Examples of proposed indicators to be adopted by the proposed project (to be disaggregated by Indigenous women, youth and people with disabilities):

- Proportion/number of indigenous peoples' communities/members with diversified livelihood and income activities;
- Proportion/number of indigenous people with livelihoods or increased income derived from local biodiversity, food systems and territories;
- Number of active traditional solidarity mechanisms in place (e.g., mutual and communal work, barter, food sharing and donations, free food and care for vulnerable people and families);
- Number of networks/social mechanisms established to facilitate the marketing of indigenous peoples' products and access to market for indigenous peoples' communities;
- Number of indigenous peoples' communities/members trained on income-generating activities enhancing resilience and promoting biodiversity.
- Proportion of indigenous peoples' foods (including NUS) sold in local markets at affordable prices;
- Number of activities organized to encourage conscious consumer choices and purchases of nutritious and climate-resilient foods.

Cross-cutting issues

- 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);
- Developing partnerships and alliances with other stakeholders, such as governments and international organizations, or between indigenous peoples' organizations, communities and networks;
- Implementing the [UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#);
- Promoting gender mainstreaming and women's empowerment: priority will be given to proposals with a direct focus on women's empowerment;
- Strengthening indigenous peoples' institutions and organizations;
- Promoting indigenous peoples' direct representation networks.
- Identifying and promoting best practices and lessons that could influence climate change interventions to have positive impacts on indigenous peoples' communities.

Examples of proposed indicators to be adopted by the proposed project (to be disaggregated by Indigenous women, youth and people with disabilities):

- Proportion/number of indigenous women with increased power in decision-making;
- Number of indigenous peoples' communities consulted that gave their free, prior and informed consent to the proposed project;
- Number of indigenous peoples' representatives involved in project management and coordination.
- Number of indigenous peoples' communities/members trained on their rights according to the [UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#) (UNDRIP).
- Number of new laws/legislation recognizing the rights of indigenous and tribal communities passed and enforced at the regional or national levels.

About indigenous youth

"The definitions of childhood, adolescence and youth show several levels of complexity. a strict definition of these concepts can discriminate a percentage of this population. each society and culture define characteristics, roles and meanings of each of these stages. It is even possible that a society grants greater relevance to other stages of the individual (such as adulthood or old age).... Indigenous youth are at the midst of several tensions. Being part of an indigenous people and coexisting with the modernized globalized world, they are responsible for the biological, cultural and social continuity of indigenous peoples, they have the right to demand more inclusive processes and the recognition of the collective rights of their peoples. In turn, indigenous youth demand greater spaces for participation and decision making.Indigenous peoples, in their traditions and customary law, have given meaning, responsibilities, roles, rights and obligations to their children, adolescents and young people. Despite the current effects of colonization and the influence of the global world, the meaning of being-young-indigenous is found in assuming responsibilities with the community, its tradition and its identity."

(Source: Report Perspective of Indigenous Young People 10 Years after the Adoption of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples – Indigenous Youth Network of Latin America – FILAC, 2017)

It is evident that the world's indigenous youth have many different multidimensional identities and cannot be considered a homogeneous group. *In different cultures there are rites and practices that mark the transition between different age benchmarks.* Hence, the definition and criteria for identifying indigenous youth should take into account not just age and gender aspects but indigenous peoples' understanding of who is young in their own societies and communities and the meanings and roles that indigenous peoples have developed for this segment of their population. We request that when submitting proposals to the IPAF, all applicants to provide a profile of the target group that is considered indigenous youth in the communities that will benefit from the projects (*Application Form, item 29*).

Please note that only projects 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.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF APPLICATIONS

Every application is expected to address the criteria listed below. The paragraphs that follow will guide you in making sure that your project proposal reflects such criteria:

1. Development with Culture and Identity

Your project builds upon the assets of the indigenous peoples' communities' traditional knowledge, culture, governance systems and natural resources. Make sure that your proposal clearly addresses the following elements:

- The socio-economic and biocultural specificities of the indigenous peoples' communities living in the project area: demographic, social, cultural and political characteristics; the land and territories that they have traditionally owned or customarily used or occupied, and the natural resources (*Application Form, items 24, 25*)
- Consistency of the project proposal with the needs and priorities as expressed by the women and youth of indigenous peoples' communities who will benefit from the project and participate in its implementation (*Application Form, items 28, 29, 31, 32, 33*)
- Participation of the communities' members, especially women and youth, in implementation, monitoring and evaluation mechanisms (*Application Form, items 36, 38, 41, 42*)
- Specific indicators to measure well-being, poverty and sustainability in a way that is relevant to indigenous peoples, ensuring gender balance and intergenerational participation (*Application Form, items 38, 39, 40, 42*).

Further guidance to build your project upon indigenous peoples' culture and identity can be found in the IFAD Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples (http://www.ifad.org/english/indigenous/documents/ip_policy_e.pdf)

2. Project Relevance

Your project's objectives are consistent with the needs of the community and responsive to its own livelihood circumstances, including the vision of women and youth and enhancing social inclusion. Make sure that your proposal clearly addresses the following elements, within the 4 priority areas illustrated above:

- Relevance to the particular needs and constraints of the indigenous peoples' community. Ensure that the project has been designed with and by the benefiting and participating community/ies, especially women and youth (*Application Form, items 31, 32, 33, 38*)
- Target group and number of direct and indirect community(ies) members who will benefit from the project (*Application Form, items 2, 34, 35*)
- Use of local capacities and resources (*Application Form, items 36, 38*)
- Expected results (*Application Form, item 39*)
- Promotion of gender equality (*Application Form 18, 28, 35, 36, 41, 42*)
- Inclusion of indigenous youth (*Application Form, items 29, 34, 35, 36, 41, 42*)
- Inclusion of indigenous people with disabilities (*Application Form, items 19, 30, 35 and 41*)
- Indicators for measuring project's achievements (*Application Form, items 38, 39, 42*)
- Project objectives, activities, results and indicators are consistent with each other.

3. Project contribution to advancing indigenous peoples' conservation and sustainable management of biodiversity for adaptation and resilience to climate change

- Issues and challenges faced by indigenous peoples' communities due to climate change and loss of biodiversity (*Application Form, items 26, 27, 31*)
- Activities envisaged by the project to promote conservation and sustainable management of biodiversity (*Application Form, item 26*)
- Expected results in terms of enhanced adaptation and resilience to climate change for indigenous peoples' communities and sustainable management of biodiversity (*Application Form, items 26, 27, 39, 40*)
- Indicators proposed by the project in terms of biodiversity conservation/management and adaptation/resilience to climate change (*Application Form, items 39, 40*). *To complete this section, you can refer to examples of activities/indicators provided in Box 1 of these Guidelines.*
- Traditional knowledge and practices of indigenous communities that will be promoted and valued by the project for adaptation and resilience to climate change and biodiversity conservation/sustainable management (*Application Form, items 25, 26, 27.*)

4. Project Feasibility and Sustainability

Your proposed project has a practical and sound approach and adequate budget to fulfil its objectives in a maximum of three years, as well as to create mechanisms for sustainability. Make sure that your proposal clearly addresses the following elements:

- Realism and coherency of the overall design: consistency of budget, timeframe and expected results (*Application Form, items 33, 39, 46, 47*)
- Long-term sustainability of project activities after funding is over (*Application Form, item 43*). Ensure that you describe the aspects of the project that will be sustainable after the project. For example **institutional sustainability**: functional institutions will be self-sustainable after the project ends; **environmental sustainability**: a system that maintains a stable resource base, avoids over-exploitation of renewable resources and preserves biodiversity, securing natural resources for the next generations, securing the adaptation of livelihoods to the changing climate; **economic sustainability**: sustained and stable increase in family and community income, resilience to economic shocks and reduction in household/ community vulnerability; **technical sustainability**: technical solutions are simple and appropriate, supported by skills and trainings for operations and maintenance, are easy to access and affordable when spare parts and repair are needed; **social sustainability**: community bonds, commitment and reciprocity among community members and among communities are maintained and strengthened; **cultural sustainability**: traditional knowledge and cultural practices are used and strengthened throughout implementation.
- Free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) will be instrumental to assessing project ownership by the communities and its sustainability. Describe the process of consulting and engaging members of the indigenous peoples' communities in the design and implementation of the proposed project, based on the systems of governance and customary law in the communities. (*Application Form, items 5, 38*).

5. Institutional Credibility and Capacity

The skills and qualifications of the staff involved are adequate to implement the activities of your project and achieve the objectives. Make sure that your proposal clearly addresses the following elements:

- Experience in project management (*Application Form, items 16, 20, 21*)
- Experience in the management of a similar amount of funds in the past, either from other donors or from own sources (*Application Form, items 16, 20*)
- Types of projects that your organization has implemented in the past if any, also with other donor funds or with other partners, including government agencies. (*Application Form, item 16, 20*)

- Technical expertise/knowledge of the issues to be addressed, including qualifications of the overseers (*Application Form, items 36, 38, 41, 42*)
- Presence of women in leadership/coordination role (*Application Form, items 36, 41*)
- Staff experience with indigenous peoples' communities or their knowledge of issues related to the project (including technical experts and consultants needed for the project) (*Application Form, items 36, 37, 38*)
- Types of partnerships with the beneficiaries of the project (*Application Form, items 37, 38*)
- Membership in network(s) of indigenous peoples' organizations (*Application Form, item 17*).

CHECKLIST FOR APPLICANTS

Before submitting your proposal, please check if your organization and proposed project meet the following eligibility criteria:

- ✓ Your proposed project is directly benefiting an indigenous peoples' community or organization.
- ✓ Your organization is legally registered as a non-for-profit organization and its headquarters is located in an [IFAD developing Member State](#).
- ✓ You are enclosing a copy of the certificate of your organization's legal registration in the country of grant implementation.
- ✓ Your organization has an established bank account in its name in a bank that accepts international transfers (details of bank account have been indicated under item 6 of the application form).
- ✓ Your organization has the financial and control capacity to receive and manage funds under applicable law, and upon request can provide a copy of the annual audit of the organization's account or any other external or internal assessment of the organization's internal controls.
- ✓ The implementing organization has gender balance and intergenerational participation in its governance body, and women, youth and, if applicable, people with disabilities participate in decision-making.
- ✓ Your organization is not implementing an IFAD grant at the time of the application.
- ✓ The proposed project budget request to the Facility ranges between US\$20,000 and US\$70,000.
- ✓ The budget is in US Dollars and is itemized as indicated in item 46 of the application form. The budget for personnel and administration does not exceed 20 per cent of the amount requested from the IPAF.
- ✓ The budget includes a match amount, to be financed by the applicant organization, that should be a minimum of 20 per cent of the amount requested from the IPAF.
- ✓ Your application form does not exceed 20 pages.
- ✓ Your organization is submitting only one application under the 2022 call for proposal.
- ✓ You are enclosing a detailed work plan for a maximum period of 32 months for implementing activities and 4 months for reporting, as indicated in item 47 of the application form.
- ✓ You are enclosing evidence of the FPIC process and consent agreement by the indigenous peoples' communities who will benefit from the project.

Applicants should refer to the [Frequently Asked Questions](#). 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: indigenoupeoples@ifad.org

NOTIFICATION OF THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES ASSISTANCE FACILITY BOARD'S DECISION

Applicants will be informed via an email of the IPAF Board's decision concerning their application.

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.

All applicants will be notified to the email address they have indicated in the IPAFT online registration (or in the application form for those proposals sent by post mail).