

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' FORUM

In conjunction with the Fortieth Session of IFAD's Governing Council
10 and 13 February 2017



Indigenous Peoples Forum at IFAD, 2017 Synthesis of Deliberations

Preamble

We, indigenous peoples of Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean, acknowledge progress in the implementation of the IFAD Policy on engagement with indigenous peoples and the strengthening of partnership between indigenous peoples and IFAD.

The increased participation of indigenous peoples in IFAD operations has resulted in improved targeting and enhanced quality in the design of IFAD's country strategies and a number of projects and their implementation.

We acknowledge IFAD's leading role in finding avenues for indigenous peoples to promote our concept of self-determined development. In particular, we highly appreciate the strong commitment of IFAD's outgoing President Kanayo Nwanze, and we call upon the new leadership to enhance IFAD's development effectiveness with indigenous peoples within the framework of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

In line with this, we put forward the following recommendations and commitments:

Recommendations to IFAD

- Develop a holistic approach to supporting indigenous peoples' economic empowerment based on the respect and protection of their collective land and resource tenure rights and by ensuring the interlink between the social, organizational, cultural and spiritual dimensions that characterize indigenous peoples' livelihoods and ways of life – taking into account the specific needs and priorities of women and youth;
- Under the IFAD operating model, promote programme-based mechanisms to ensure the systematic participation of indigenous peoples in project design and implementation, and in in-country policy engagement, and ensure those mechanisms support consultation with and participation of indigenous women and youth, in line with the IFAD Policy on engagement with indigenous peoples;
- Support capacity building according to specific needs and priorities of indigenous peoples, including women and youth at the country level, and facilitate the exchange of best practices - including those emerging from projects funded by the Indigenous Peoples' Assistance Facility - within and between countries and regions;
- Consider the Indigenous Peoples' Assistance Facility as a strategic partner under the IFAD grant policy. Encourage governments and donors to contribute to the Indigenous Peoples' Assistance Facility as an instrument to further strengthen the implementation of the IFAD Policy on engagement with indigenous peoples;
- Establish partnerships with indigenous peoples to mobilize resources through the Green Climate Fund that will support community resilience and adaptation initiatives, using indigenous peoples' traditional knowledge and innovations;
- Support direct access to markets for indigenous peoples' products – including from women

and youth. Facilitate linkages to innovative and inclusive collaborations in which indigenous peoples are equal partners, including private-public partnerships that value the natural and cultural landscapes of indigenous peoples;

- In monitoring systems, ensure data disaggregation for indigenous peoples and include indicators on social, economic, cultural and institutional aspects, including the identity and well-being of indigenous peoples, in line with IFAD Strategic Framework 2016-2025, that shall contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals for indigenous peoples;
- We finally call upon IFAD to sustain and continue strengthening the instruments set forth for the Policy implementation, that is: the dedicated office at IFAD in charge of Indigenous Peoples and Tribal Issues; the Indigenous Peoples Forum at IFAD and its regional and country processes; the Indigenous Peoples' Assistance Facility; and the country policy engagement processes.

Recommendations to governments

- Support the participation of indigenous women and youth in all development processes upholding the rights of indigenous peoples, and guarantee the inclusion of their needs and priorities in development plans and initiatives that concern them, along with the allocation of sufficient resources;
- Support indigenous peoples to map or otherwise secure their territories and facilitate processes that ensure land tenure security for all the ecosystems of indigenous peoples, including pastoralists, hunter-gatherers and other marginalized communities;
- Ensure the recognition and inclusion of indigenous peoples in the planning, implementation, monitoring and review of the national plans of the Sustainable Development Goals, with culturally relevant indicators and data disaggregation for indigenous peoples, to achieve the 2030 Agenda of leaving no one behind;
- Generate financial resources with assistance from IFAD as needed, to support relevant government institutions with mandate on indigenous peoples issues in order for them to implement policies and programmes for the empowerment of indigenous peoples.

As indigenous peoples, we commit to:

- Build and strengthen our indigenous peoples' networks to stand as one voice and meaningfully engage with governments, development partners and other organizations at all levels to support the recognition of indigenous peoples' rights, including our self-determined development;
- Actively engage in policy dialogue, raise awareness and continue advocating for the development and implementation of policies and programmes for the empowerment of indigenous peoples – including women and youth – at all levels.