



IFAD's
progress in its
engagement with
Indigenous
Peoples

in the biennium 2023 / 2024

Acronyms

AFN II	Agriculture for Nutrition – phase 2
APR	Asia and the Pacific Region
ASAP+	Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme
COSOP	Country strategic opportunities programme
CTN	Country technical note
ESA	East and Southern Africa region
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization (of the United Nations)
FIMI	Foro Internacional de Mujeres Indígenas
FPIC	Free, prior and informed consent
IFPI	Indigenous Peoples’ Forum at IFAD
IPAF	Indigenous Peoples Assistance Facility
IPPF	Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework
LAC	Latin America and the Caribbean
PES	Payment for Ecosystem Services
PICSA	Partnerships for Irrigation and Commercialization of Smallholder Agriculture Project
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
Sida	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
SWT	Samburu Women Trust
TIP	Indigenous Partnership for Agrobiodiversity and Food Sovereignty
UNDRIP	United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
UNPFII	United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
WCA	West and Central Africa region
WHO	World Health Organization

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Introduction

In the biennium 2023–2024, IFAD made significant progress in its engagement with Indigenous Peoples, guided by the updated Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples approved in December 2022. This policy serves as the cornerstone for IFAD’s work, providing instruments, procedures and resources to advance its strategic objectives. One of the key instruments present in the policy is the Indigenous Peoples’ Forum at IFAD (IPFI), a consultative process with Indigenous Peoples’ organizations, IFAD and governments. The IPFI has convened every two years since 2013 following a series of regional meetings with Indigenous Peoples’ representatives. These meetings ensure that the IPFI reflects a diversity of perspectives and recommendations from Indigenous Peoples around the world.

This report provides insights on the activities IFAD has carried in consonance with the recommendations emerging from the synthesis of deliberations from the sixth global meeting of the IPFI in 2023. The synthesis of deliberations of the IPFI provides a framework for IFAD’s ongoing efforts to empower Indigenous Peoples and integrate their priorities into global development agendas. Each recommendation is addressed with a list of related activities delivered by IFAD as it seeks to provide accountability for the IPFI process.

To date nearly 40% of IFAD’s portfolio, with an investment of US\$3.2 billion, directly supports Indigenous Peoples’ communities, ensuring that projects seek free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) in design and implementation. The synthesis of deliberations from the sixth global meeting of the IPFI underscored the importance of integrating Indigenous Peoples’ knowledge and perspectives into development programmes, ensuring that Indigenous communities are not only beneficiaries but active participants in shaping their futures. In response to that strategic guidance, IFAD is supporting key actions such as the implementation of the Indigenous Peoples Assistance Facility (IPAF), which continues to drive biodiversity and climate resilience projects in 42 countries, benefiting 53 Indigenous Peoples’ groups. IFAD is also focused on enhancing Indigenous Peoples’ access to climate and biodiversity finance, strengthening their leadership, and increasing their participation in global environmental agendas. The IPFI serves as a vital platform for policy oversight, guiding IFAD’s strategic direction and resource mobilization.

The full text of the synthesis of deliberations [can be accessed here](#).

IFAD Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples

Recommendation 1. Allocate adequate financial and human resources to fully implement the updated IFAD Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples. This includes: the recruitment of dedicated staff at all levels, including a lead technical specialist; the translation and publication of the Policy in indigenous languages; awareness-raising and capacity-building of Indigenous Peoples, governments and IFAD staff; and the development of monitoring tools.

Adequate financial and human resources

Resources dedicated to the Indigenous Peoples team and activities have been stable. A technical specialist has been hired to strengthen the Indigenous Peoples team at IFAD, ensuring that dedicated expertise is available to support the full implementation of the updated Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples.

Awareness-raising and capacity-building of Indigenous Peoples, governments and IFAD staff

Awareness-raising and capacity-building efforts are ongoing and include a series of events targeting Indigenous Peoples, governments and IFAD staff to enhance understanding and foster collaboration to effectively realize of the rights of Indigenous Peoples around the world. A non-exhaustive list of activities carried out follow.

Awareness-raising publications

- The brief [Indigenous Peoples and The United Nations Rome-Based Agencies Working to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#) was launched as a joint effort to raise awareness within the United Nations and promote dialogue on the engagement of the Rome-based agencies to promote the SDGs.
- The press release [Indigenous Peoples partner with IFAD, Sweden's Sida, and Packard Foundation to build resilience and adapt to climate change](#) highlighted the importance of Indigenous Peoples' climate action and biodiversity stewardship and announced the projects selected for the sixth cycle of the IPAF, focusing on advancing Indigenous Peoples' conservation and sustainable management of biodiversity for adaptation and resilience to climate change.
- The publication [Free, Prior and Informed Consent: Applying the principle to on-the-ground action: Learnings from the Indigenous Peoples' Livelihoods and Climate Resilience Programme](#) illustrates the importance and value of the expanded approach IFAD takes in regard to FPIC in its work with Indigenous Peoples.
- The brief [Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems: Lessons Learned from the SAMRIDDHI Rural Enterprises and Remittances Project in Nepal](#) showcases Indigenous Peoples' food systems, presenting lessons learned the project and highlighting how Indigenous Peoples' food systems in Nepal are embedded in the traditional knowledge, cultural practices, and biodiversity of various Indigenous communities.
- IFAD finalized the publication of the reviewed 36 country technical notes (CTNs) on Indigenous Peoples' Issues, with technical support from the International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs. The CTNs provide background information about Indigenous Peoples in their respective countries and are meant to inform IFAD operations. The review was undertaken to ensure ready and up-to-date access to information on Indigenous Peoples' issues at country level for use in country strategic opportunities programmes (COSOPs), the project cycle, policy dialogue with governments, and partnership-building with Indigenous Peoples' organizations and other stakeholders, in alignment with the IFAD Policy on

Engagement with Indigenous Peoples. The CTNs also serve to disseminate knowledge and to support in-house learning.

Capacity development events

- The Indigenous Peoples team actively participated in IFAD regional staff meetings to develop capacities and deepen understanding of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) among IFAD staff in the different regions. These sessions provide an opportunity to discuss the principles and provisions of UNDRIP, such as the rights to self-determination, participation, and control over lands and resources, and their implications for IFAD's operations.
- During IFAD Innovation Day 2023, the event [Innovating for Well-being: Exploring the latest indicators for Indigenous Peoples](#) was organized, inviting professionals and technical specialists from international organizations working with and for Indigenous Peoples. IFAD organized a panel to discuss the challenges associated with developing indicators and appropriate data collection processes to measure and monitor the progress of projects and programmes that target Indigenous Peoples. The panel showcased progress made in measuring impacts and identified areas for future collaboration among different stakeholders to attain shared objectives regarding indicators and monitoring.
- During the International Journalism Festival 2023, IFAD sponsored a panel on *Giving Indigenous Peoples' Voice: Media Facing the Challenges of Environmental Coverage*. The all-women panel of journalists and professionals working on communications as well as Indigenous rights activists explored the challenges that journalists face when covering Indigenous Peoples and their link to environmental issues. They identified ways to collectively create a safe environment that supports meaningful reporting and gives voice and space to Indigenous Peoples to tell their own story. They also discussed how the media can cover Indigenous Peoples' issues without co-opting the narrative.
- IFAD co-organized a parallel session on *Equitable and Inclusive Land Governance* during the 2023 SDG 16 Conference. The outcomes of the conference served as input to the deliberations of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in July and informed the preparations for the SDG Summit in September.
- IFAD participated in the dialogue and exchange for the construction of the Amazon regional platform of Indigenous Peoples within the framework of Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization. IFAD gave a presentation on the value of the knowledge of Indigenous Peoples in adaptation processes in the agriculture sector.
- IFAD participated in the second session of the UN Global Indigenous Youth Forum, hosted by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and organized by the Global Indigenous Youth Forum. The forum provided a space for dialogue between Indigenous youth, UN agencies, universities, research centres and other stakeholders to discuss policies affecting the future of Indigenous Peoples' food and knowledge systems in the context of climate action.
- The Indigenous Peoples team at IFAD actively participated in the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion group at IFAD, continuously advocating for increased participation of Indigenous Peoples in all dimensions of IFAD.
- IFAD participated (in person and virtually) in the 9th and 10th meetings of the Facilitative Working Group of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform, providing inputs to the agenda related to collaborative opportunities for synergies and engaging in discussions with all parties involved.

- The Social Inclusion Network for Latin America and the Caribbean, a dynamic platform that brings together specialists working on social issues in IFAD-funded projects across the region, held a dedicated session on Indigenous Peoples in 2024. Participants explored ways to strengthen the inclusion of Indigenous Peoples' communities in IFAD-funded projects. The session featured contributions from the IPAF, Slow Food, and other experts, highlighting innovative approaches and best practices for supporting Indigenous rights, preserving cultural heritage, and promoting food sovereignty through FPIC.
- The IPAF team in Asia and the Pacific conducted a communications training in Indonesia, coordinated by Tebtebba, in order to develop the skills of the Indigenous Peoples' organizations implementing the IPAF in communication and knowledge management of issues related to Indigenous Peoples and their rights, including UNDRIP perspectives.
- Between September and November 2024, regional consultation meetings ahead of the global meeting of the IPFI took place in Cambodia, [Colombia](#), Fiji and Kenya. This model of engagement with Indigenous Peoples is being recognized as a good practice and – after participating as observers in the last global meeting of the Forum – this year the World Bank engaged with IFAD to organize back-to-back regional consultations as a means of pooling resources for economies of scale and strengthening partnership between financial institutions and Indigenous Peoples. During the meetings, IFAD reiterated its commitment to identify options for establishing a solid mechanism of consultation with Indigenous Peoples at country level, which is a priority expressed in the last global meeting and proves to be particularly challenging, although it has been successful in some countries (i.e. Cambodia, Colombia).
- Since 2009, IFAD has been collaborating with Slow Food to support sustainable grassroots initiatives that strengthen local value chains for traditional foods. A key aspect of this collaboration is the Indigenous Terra Madre network, which amplifies the voices of Indigenous Peoples in global discussions about food and culture. In preparations for Terra Madre 2024, an IPAF workshop took place, bringing together voices from the IPAF to highlight the critical intersection of food sovereignty, human rights, and climate action.
- IFAD hosted the 2024 Rome Gathering on Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems, supported by the Indigenous Peoples team and organized by the Indigenous Partnership for Agrobiodiversity and Food Sovereignty (TIP), part of Alliance Bioversity International. TIP presented the results of an assessment of Indigenous Peoples Food Systems with 500 households across Kenya, Mexico, Northeast India and Northern Thailand. The President of IFAD participated to the event, and Mr. Phrang Roy (Coordinator of the Indigenous Partnership for Agrobiodiversity and Food Sovereignty) moderated it. Representatives from the United Nations, Indigenous communities, and key partners attended.
- [During COP16 held in Cali](#), a case study on IPAF in the WHO/IUCN report on Nature-based solutions for health was launched. In addition, a presentation on the IPAF was delivered by the IPAF Coordinator in Africa during a [side event](#) organized by the Inter Agency Support Group of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII). The side event was held to discuss existing mechanisms for finance to Indigenous Peoples and LCs, and emerging and future opportunities in relation to nature and climate finance.
- The IFAD India country team organized a dedicated dialogue with Indigenous Peoples to strengthen collaboration, enhance mutual understanding, and ensure that the voices and priorities of Indigenous communities are integrated into IFAD's strategies and projects in India. The dialogue provided a platform for Indigenous representatives to share their experiences, challenges and aspirations while allowing the country team to present IFAD's efforts to support inclusive and sustainable rural development.

- In the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, a mission was undertaken to meet project management units and other key stakeholders of the projects *Agriculture for Nutrition – phase 2 (AFN II)* and *Partnerships for Irrigation and Commercialization of Smallholder Agriculture Project (PICSA)*, in preparation for the supervision mission of AFN II and implementation support and scaling up design of PICSA. The mission was an opportunity to understand the approaches to engaging with ethnic groups of different partners, including discussing modalities for implementing FPIC. The meeting with the Lao Front for National Development was particularly informative about the national processes of policy development related to ethnic groups.

Awareness-raising activities during the world’s Indigenous Peoples’ Day

- To commemorate the world’s Indigenous Peoples’ Day in 2023, which focused on youth, the *Indigenous youth are shaping our world* microsite was launched. This interactive site highlights cases of Indigenous youth from Brazil, Fiji, Guatemala, Peru and Tonga who are revitalizing community practices, protecting the planet, and mobilizing their communities and the world. The Indigenous Peoples team at IFAD shared with the UN inter-agency support group a range of relevant activities and publications that highlighted the day. IFAD’s President delivered an Indigenous Peoples’ Day Video Message in which he emphasized that IFAD will continue promoting the self-determination of Indigenous Peoples by working with them as equal partners, with a pledge to co-create strategies, co-design and monitor investments, and improve their livelihoods.
- IFAD organized a webinar on *Indigenous Peoples’ Leadership for Integrated Holistic Approaches to Health and Well-being* jointly with the World Health Organization (WHO) to commemorate Indigenous Peoples’ Day. Inviting leaders from international indigenous rights movements and Indigenous leaders who are a part of country-level work focusing on health, the webinar highlighted the leadership by and for Indigenous Peoples in the health sector, as well as on health-related activities across sectors. The aim was to raise awareness of the planetary and One Health needs of Indigenous Peoples and advocate for their rights. The webinar also shared knowledge on policies, strategies, programmes and interventions for the holistic health and well-being of Indigenous Peoples, including in the context of climate action and the green transition.
- IFAD organized the event *Enhancing Inclusive Engagement and Partnership Between Indigenous Peoples with the Government, Civil Society, Development Partners and Indigenous Youth as Agents of Change for Self-Determination*, which was held Phnom Penh. Speeches were delivered via video by the UN Secretary-General and IFAD’s President; In-person speeches were given by: a representative of the Cambodia Indigenous Peoples Alliance; a representative of the UN Human Rights Office Deputy; the Director of the Department for Ethnic Minority Development in the Ministry for Rural Development; and leaders and representatives of Indigenous Peoples’ organizations.
- IFAD released [a video](#) highlighting the transformative impact of the IPAF. The video showcases stories from Indigenous Peoples’ communities that, with IPAF support, are implementing projects rooted in their knowledge systems and cultural practices to address pressing challenges such as climate change and food security. By featuring these voices and successes, the video underscores IPAF’s role in empowering Indigenous Peoples to lead sustainable, community-driven initiatives that foster resilience and self-determination.
- IFAD launched a social media video to celebrate and honour Indigenous Peoples’ contributions to sustainable development and climate resilience. The video highlighted the vital role Indigenous Peoples’ communities play in preserving biodiversity, safeguarding traditional knowledge, and building resilient food systems. Through powerful visuals and

stories from Indigenous leaders and youth, the video emphasized IFAD's commitment to supporting Indigenous-driven solutions for a more sustainable future.

- An IFAD web story, [Climate finance isn't working for Indigenous Peoples. This must change](#), written by Helen Biangalen-Magata from Tebtebba, delved into the pressing need for climate finance tailored to Indigenous Peoples' unique challenges and solutions. She highlighted how Indigenous communities, despite being among the most vulnerable to climate impacts, often lack access to crucial funding for adaptation and resilience-building initiatives. The story emphasized the importance of empowering Indigenous Peoples to lead climate projects that are grounded in their traditional knowledge and cultural values.
- An IFAD web story, [Indigenous Peoples show how both people and the planet can thrive in harmony](#), was released to showcase Indigenous Peoples' climate action and how self-driven development initiatives can foster a more sustainable world.
- One of IFAD's *Farms.Food.Future* podcast episodes, [The Indigenous Peoples stewarding the planet](#), was dedicated to Indigenous Peoples.

Institutional tools

- In 2023, IFAD's Executive Board approved its new Poverty Targeting Policy, which serves as the overarching policy for the other people-centred policies such as the Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples, the Disability Inclusion Strategy 2022–2027, the Private Sector Engagement Strategy, the Strategy and Action on Environment and Climate Change 2019–2025, the Integrated Borrowing Framework and the Strategy on Biodiversity 2022–2025. The new Poverty Targeting Policy aims to step up engagement with persons with disabilities and strengthen commitments to Indigenous Peoples, thus reinforcing its focus on those who are most marginalized.
- In 2023, IFAD updated the Guidance Note of the Social, Environmental and Climate Assessment Procedures (Volume 2) in order to provide further guidance and clarification on implementation of the Standard 4 on Indigenous Peoples. The aim is to further support Indigenous Peoples in exercising their right to self-determined development and ensuring that IFAD-funded projects are designed in collaboration with Indigenous Peoples and with their full, effective and meaningful consultation, up to and including consensus.

Development of monitoring tools

During the biennium, the IPAF developed an indicators framework designed to provide valuable information for monitoring and evaluating IPAF projects. This framework serves as a robust tool to assess project progress, outcomes and impacts, ensuring that projects align with the priorities and aspirations of Indigenous Peoples. Importantly, the framework is also intended to complement IFAD investments whenever they target Indigenous communities. By offering standardized yet adaptable indicators, it ensures coherence and alignment across projects, enhancing the ability to measure and communicate results effectively. This approach not only strengthens the accountability and impact of IPAF projects but also supports IFAD's broader commitment to empowering Indigenous Peoples and fostering inclusive, culturally respectful development.

The translation and publication of the Policy in Indigenous languages

The procedures for carrying this activity will be discussed during the 7th global meeting of the IPFI as this was not developed during the biennium.

Recommendation 2. *Develop guidelines and protocols for the meaningful participation of the members of the Steering Committee of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum at IFAD as observers at the Executive Board of IFAD.*

In line with IFAD's Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples, Indigenous representatives actively participated in the 141st, 142nd and 143rd sessions of the Executive Board and the consultation leading up to it. This engagement highlights IFAD's commitment to ensuring that Indigenous Peoples' voices are heard and incorporated in decision-making processes that impact their communities. By involving Indigenous representatives in these high-level discussions, IFAD strengthens its efforts to align with the policy's provisions on meaningful consultation and partnership with Indigenous Peoples, and inclusion of their perspectives in the planning and implementation of IFAD's initiatives. This collaborative approach promotes mutual understanding and enhances IFAD's ability to support sustainable, culturally relevant development solutions.

The Indigenous Peoples' Forum process and dialogue

Recommendation 3. *Enhance communication, dialogue and information-sharing with Indigenous Peoples, including the participants in the Indigenous Peoples' Forum, especially at the regional and national levels. This includes through: the organization of quarterly meetings; the establishment of country coordination groups; and the identification of focal points at the level of both IFAD country teams and Indigenous Peoples' organizations.*

Communication, dialogue and information-sharing with Indigenous Peoples, including the participants in the IPFI, improved during the biennium, in particular through a WhatsApp group that was set up during the global meeting and remains a relevant channel for sharing experiences and communicating between partners. Monthly meetings are held with the steering committee of the IPFI, which serve to provide guidance to IFAD in its activities according to the recommendations and visions received in the framework of the IPFI.

IFAD has designated regional focal points to advocate for Indigenous Peoples and oversee the implementation of regional action plans. These focal points play a critical role in enhancing communication, dialogue and information-sharing at the regional level. Efforts are underway to establish country coordination groups and identify focal points within both IFAD country teams and Indigenous Peoples' organizations to strengthen collaboration at the national level. In the Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) region, a meeting with regional focal points has already taken place, and the regional focal point at IFAD has initiated communication with country teams via email to organize further meetings. However, the organization of quarterly meetings has not yet taken place. These are planned to take place once each region has identified country-level Indigenous Peoples' focal points.

Recommendation 4. *Ensure that recommendations from the Forum are integrated in the regional action plans to be agreed upon with IFAD's regional divisions.*

Key recommendations from the Forum at the global level, such as the implementation of FPIC, have been integrated and developed at the country level through the regional plans; however, further alignment could be sought. As a lesson learned during the biennium IFAD is currently organizing pre-forum meetings to co-create the regional action plans (2025-2026) of the seventh global meeting of the IPFI. This aims to enable Indigenous Peoples' representatives and IFAD staff to establish linkages between the regional consultations' summary of recommendations and the final synthesis of deliberations.

From August to November 2024, consultations were held in preparation for the seventh global meeting of the IPFI, whose theme is "Indigenous Peoples' right to self-determination: a pathway for food security and sovereignty." The consultations provided platforms for meaningful dialogue between Indigenous Peoples and IFAD staff, where participants shared their perspectives on economic, social and cultural development. Discussions centred on enhancing food security and sovereignty while ensuring that Indigenous voices actively shape the policies and programmes affecting their communities. Representatives to the global forum were selected among participants of the regional and subregional consultation meetings across LAC, Asia, the Pacific, and Africa and they will be engaged in the co-creation of regional action plans to ensure that these reflect the main aspects covered at global level with the synthesis of deliberations.

IFAD country programmes

Recommendation 5. *Ensure the meaningful and independent participation of Indigenous Peoples in the design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation of IFAD’s strategies, projects and programmes at all levels in order to: (i) align them to our needs, priorities and aspirations, taking into account gender, intergenerational specificities, and persons with disabilities; (ii) integrate our values, land tenure, governance and knowledge systems, taking into account our territorial planning and visioning cycles; and (iii) ensure that interventions do not disrupt our systems but rather strengthen and build on them.*

IFAD effectively operationalizes the principle of FPIC with the understanding that the principle is not about Indigenous Peoples simply saying yes or no to a proposed action, or a mere safeguard to protect them from any adverse impacts (direct or indirect) of plans, policies and projects. FPIC is recognized, more broadly, as the exercise of the right to self-determination; it means working along with Indigenous Peoples in identifying, co-designing and pursuing development pathways that respond to their priorities and aspirations. FPIC processes are key entry points in the design of COSOPs and projects for the effective engagement of Indigenous Peoples.

A COSOP is a framework for making strategic choices about IFAD operations in a country, identifying opportunities for IFAD financing and facilitating management for results. In the biennium, IFAD approved 7 COSOPs and country strategy notes that include and/or target Indigenous Peoples (Argentina, Brazil, China, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Kyrgyz Republic, Paraguay and Philippines).

Regarding the design and implementation of IFAD-supported projects and programmes, it is important to mention that around 40 per cent of IFAD's current portfolio supports initiatives that target rural Indigenous Peoples' communities. A total 85 projects in 42 countries are expected to reach at least 5.4 million indigenous people for an estimated investment of US\$3.2 billion, of which US\$1.1 billion is directly financed by IFAD.

Under IFAD12 (2022–2024), the Fund committed for the first time to approve at least 10 projects that include Indigenous Peoples as a priority target group. In total, 14 projects prioritizing Indigenous Peoples have been approved between 2022 and 2024 by the IFAD Executive Board. The approved projects prioritizing Indigenous Peoples are listed in the table below.

Region	Country	Project name	Approval date
APR	India	Odisha PVTG Empowerment & Livelihoods Improvement Programme – II (OPELIP II)	12/12/2024
APR	Lao People’s Democratic Republic	Agriculture For Nutrition - Phase 2 (AFN II)	22/12/2022
APR	Philippines	Value Chain Innovation for Sustainable Transformation in Agrarian Reform Communities Project (VISTA)	24/04/2024
APR	Solomon Islands	Agricultural Investment for Markets and Nutrition - Solomon Islands (AIMN_SLB)	28/12/2023
APR	Vanuatu	Agricultural Investment for Markets and Nutrition (AIMN_VUT)	21/11/2024
APR	Viet Nam	Achieving emission reduction in the Central Highlands and South Central Coast of VN to support National REDD+ AP (RECAF)	11/12/2024
LAC	Bolivia	Programme for the Development of Sustainable and Resilient Agriculture (AGROSUSTENTAR)	26/12/2024
LAC	Brazil	Amazon Sustainable Management Project (PAGES)	11/04/2022

LAC	Brazil	Capacity Development for Overcoming Hunger and Mitigating the Effects of Rural Poverty and Extreme Poverty (Paulo Freire Project II)	11/12/2024
LAC	Brazil	Food Security and Nutrition and Climate Resilience in the Northeast Semiarid of Brazil Project (PDHC III)	11/12/2024
LAC	Brazil	Paraíba Rural Sustainable Development Project (PROCASE II)	16/12/2024
LAC	Colombia	Development of sustainable rural productive and entrepreneurial capacities at the national level (Rurality for life)	26/12/2024
LAC	El Salvador	Programme for the Sustainable, Inclusive and Nutritional Economic Development of Rural Areas in El Salvador	11/12/2023
WCA	The Democratic Republic of the Congo	Empowerment through Nutrition-sensitive, Inclusive and Resilient Agricultural and Rural Entrepreneurship (AVENIR)	28/12/2022

Furthermore, IFAD is involving Indigenous consultants in the design phase of some of the projects it supports through a pilot approach funded through supplementary funds provided by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida). This ensures that FPIC is implemented, and that indigenous visions, aspirations and knowledge are included in IFAD projects co-funded with climate funds. IFAD has in place a roster of consultants with a section dedicated to Indigenous Peoples. Furthermore, thanks to the engagement of the IPFI, the network of Indigenous Peoples' consultants is continuously expanding. This enables Indigenous Peoples to be involved in different sets of activities related to design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of strategies, projects and programmes. Updates for the 2023–2024 biennium are as follows:

- **Bolivia:** An Indigenous consultant participated in the *Bolivia Agroecological Frontier* design mission, providing direct support to the mission, including Indigenous perspectives in the design report and preparing an FPIC implementation plan. In addition, an Indigenous Peoples specialist was hired to support the development of an Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (IPPF) during the concept note stage of the *National programme to promote the productivity of domestic South American camelids*.
- **Cameroon:** Two Indigenous consultants conducted consultation at the design stage of the *Programme de Promotion de l'Entreprenariat Agro-Pastoral - Phase 2* and developed an IPPF as well as included Indigenous Peoples' perspectives in the overall project design.
- **Ethiopia:** Youth consultations were supported in Ethiopia in Somali region, Dire Dawa and Tigray with pastoralist and agropastoral young men and women engaged in IFAD's investments in Ethiopia, including beneficiaries from the Lowlands Livelihood Resilience Project, Rural Financial Intermediation Programme III and the Participatory Small-scale Irrigation Development Programme II. The objective was to gather information to feed the COSOP and strengthen indigenous youth's meaningful consultation and engagement in IFAD's programming as well as to collect rural young men and women's perceptions, challenges, needs, and hopes to thrive in rural economies.
- **Kenya:** An Indigenous consultant supported the *Eldoret-Iten Water Funds for Tropical Water Towers Conservation project*, co-funded by the Global Environment Facility. Consultations were finalized and Indigenous Peoples' actions plans were agreed upon with Indigenous Peoples present in the targeted areas. In addition, an Indigenous consultant was hired to develop an IPPF for the *Integrated Natural Resources Management Programme*, which will be reoriented towards the promotion of green finances for climate change adaptation and mitigation initiatives/interventions.

Recommendation 6. *Provide the necessary information, resources and capacity-building to enable Indigenous Peoples to effectively engage in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of strategies, projects and programmes; and ensure the involvement and hiring of Indigenous consultants in these processes.*

IFAD is continuously improving its efforts to actively involve Indigenous Peoples the design of strategies, projects and programmes. Once these designed projects enter into implementation, it will be important to provide the necessary support and capacity-strengthening to Indigenous Peoples' consultants to be fully and effectively engaging in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation phases.

IFAD, through the Indigenous Peoples team, is providing assistance to Indigenous Peoples' experts to navigate the project design cycle by sharing information and resources and giving one-to-one sessions to strengthen their knowledge of IFAD's project cycle. Dedicated staff provide continuous guidance during the development of the consultancy of the Indigenous Peoples' specialists. The participatory approach ensures that their knowledge, priorities and cultural perspectives are fully integrated into the initiatives that affect their communities. Moreover, by including consultants with lived experiences and deep cultural understanding, IFAD can strengthen the relevance and impact of its initiatives. This approach not only fosters mutual respect and co-creation but also helps build the capacity of Indigenous professionals, promoting sustainable and inclusive development outcomes that align with the aspirations and self-determined priorities of Indigenous Peoples.

Recommendation 7. *IFAD country teams to actively engage and collaborate with other UN agencies to strengthen complementarity and enhance synergies in supporting the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and the updated IFAD Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples.*

During the sixth global meeting of the IPFI, the [Indigenous Peoples and The United Nations Rome-Based Agencies Working to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals](#) brief was launched to communicate the complementarities and synergies of the three Rome-based agencies: FAO, IFAD and the World Food Programme.

IFAD actively participates in the Rome Group of Friends of Indigenous Peoples, a multiregional coalition of States and UN agencies that focuses on strengthening synergies. The group convenes with the participation of the UNPFII and staff from the Rome-based agencies.

IFAD's participation in the Inter-agency support group on Indigenous Issues remains steady. Joining Working Group II (SWAP Indicators working group) has strengthened the linkages between IFAD and other UN agencies, including UN Human Rights Office, The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization is a specialized agency of the United Nations, United Nations Population Fund, UN Women and WHO. Furthermore, the event *Innovating for Well-being: Exploring the Latest Indicators for Indigenous Peoples* was organized by IFAD to discuss challenges, showcase progress, and identify future collaboration in developing indicators and data collection processes.

IFAD launched its Country Advisory Services, aimed at providing tailored support to countries in addressing development challenges. In 2024 the IFAD country team in Angola, in consultation with the Government, requested a dedicated study on Indigenous Peoples to better understand their needs and challenges. This study will help inform targeted policies and programmes that support Indigenous communities in Angola, ensuring their inclusion in national development plans and enhancing their resilience in the face of climate change and other socioeconomic challenges. Through this collaboration, IFAD and the Government of Angola aim to foster a more inclusive and sustainable development approach for Indigenous Peoples.

Recommendation 8. *Strengthen IFAD's leadership in engaging with Indigenous Peoples by promoting their rights and well-being, including FPIC and grievance mechanisms; fostering meaningful dialogue between Indigenous organizations, traditional institutions, and governments while raising awareness of IFAD's engagement policies; mobilizing international support for Indigenous climate leadership; and enabling their active participation in climate and biodiversity actions globally.*

Strengthening IFAD's leadership in engaging with Indigenous Peoples by promoting their rights and well-being, including FPIC

IFAD is working on the implementation of the updated Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples by guaranteeing full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples through FPIC implementation. At IFAD, FPIC is applied as an operational instrument that empowers local and Indigenous Peoples' communities, ensuring mutual respect and full and effective participation in decision-making on proposed investments that may affect their rights, their access to lands, territories and resources, and their livelihoods.

FPIC is implemented as an iterative process, solicited through consultations in good faith with the representative institutions endorsed by communities. IFAD is the first international financial institution to adopt FPIC as an operational principle in its Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples (2009) and as a criterion for project approval. IFAD-funded projects and programmes are people-centred and rarely finance large-scale infrastructure. For IFAD, therefore, FPIC is not simply a safeguard principle; it is a proactive approach to identify development pathways with local communities.

IFAD is operationalizing the principle of FPIC in its projects, particularly through the involvement of Indigenous consultants in project design, to ensure that FPIC is implemented, and that indigenous visions, aspirations and knowledge are included in IFAD projects, with a focus on climate funding. In 2023 Indigenous experts were involved in the design of projects in Bolivia, Ethiopia and India, and in the design of the COSOP in Ethiopia; in 2024 Indigenous consultants were hired to participate in the design of projects in Bolivia, Cameroon and Kenya. This was achieved through funds from Sida in projects cofinanced by the Global Environment Facility, Green Climate Fund, *Adaptation for Smallholder Agriculture Programme* (ASAP+) and IFAD-funded projects with a strong focus on climate and Indigenous Peoples.

The ongoing [Enhancing Indigenous Youth and Women Capacities to Protect and Promote Their Communities' Food Heritage](#) project, in collaboration with Slow Food, strengthens local value chains, empowers leaders, and supports agroecology. A new grant to scale-up this initiative has been proposed and approved by IFAD in December 2024.

Enabling Indigenous Peoples to actively participate in climate and biodiversity actions globally

IFAD is facilitating direct access to climate financing through IPAF grants. The recipients of the sixth cycle of IPAF grants were announced through a [press release](#) published by IFAD together with its partners Sida and the Packard Foundation. Under the IPAF, a funding instrument specifically designed to support Indigenous Peoples' communities, awardees will receive between US\$50,000 and \$70,000 to finance their own projects and solutions to the challenges they face, fostering communities' self-driven development. In addition to the financial resources, the facility offers technical assistance and capacity development to adopt the solutions designed and implemented by Indigenous Peoples. The sixth cycle awardees were selected from 42 countries across Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean, and represent 53 Indigenous Peoples' groups. Activities are taking place between 2023 and 2026 with the support of IPAF's implementing partners

working on the ground – Foro Internacional de Mujeres Indígenas (FIMI/IIWF), Samburu Women Trust (SWT) and Tebtebba.

As a result of the inclusion of two Indigenous youth representatives from Africa and Asia in the Steering Committee of IFAD’s ASAP+, in line with the updated IFAD Policy of Engagement with Indigenous Peoples, for the first time the IPAF received ASAP+ funding (US\$400 000) to scale up projects focusing on climate adaptation.

The Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation approved a supplementary fund agreement of US\$2.9 million to IFAD to support the seventh IPAF cycle in Africa and institutional strengthening of Indigenous Peoples’ organizations to enhance their direct access to finance.

Owing to its experience in channelling funds directly to Indigenous Peoples through the IPAF, IFAD was invited to participate in the workshop *Tracking funds for the indispensable partners* held in Paris on 6–7 November 2023. The multistakeholder workshop was convened by Shandia and Charapa with the aim to contribute to the ongoing discussion of enhancing the tracking of funding. The workshop brought together approximately 50 participants, including key resource persons from Indigenous Peoples groups, local communities, bilateral donors, philanthropies, multilateral agencies, civil society organizations, and institutions with a mandate and role in monitoring development, climate and biodiversity finance.

In April 2023 a UNPFII side event on *Climate Finance for Inclusive and Transformative Climate Action* was co-organized by IFAD and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and with FIMI, SWT and Tebtebba.

Recommendation 9. *Invest in building the capacities of Indigenous Peoples, including to access climate finance that is culturally appropriate, including in relation to disaster risk and response mechanisms, and to design and manage projects and programmes. As concrete measures: (i) develop an internship and fellowship programme for Indigenous leaders and professionals at IFAD, prioritizing women and youth; and (ii) facilitate inter-learning exchanges among the partners of the Indigenous Peoples Assistance Facility (IPAF) in relation to climate leadership.*

IFAD is committed to empowering Indigenous Peoples by investing in building their capacities across multiple areas. This includes funding projects that enhance their ability to access climate finance in ways that are culturally appropriate and tailored to their unique needs. For instance, the *Sustainable Atlantic Rainforest Development Project in Brazil* will promote agroecological practices to conserve biodiversity and prevent habitat degradation. It will establish a participatory governance framework for Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) in the Southern Bahia Cocoa Region, promoting municipal PES programmes and developing a Regional PES Plan and Network for landscape and forest restoration in Indigenous and *quilombola* communities. The *Programme for the Sustainable, Inclusive and Nutritional Economic Development of Rural Areas in El Salvador* (Rural Adelente 2.0) has set up a culturally adaptive, intercultural approach that will guide all project actions, honouring Indigenous worldviews and integrating traditional knowledge into project decisions. Geographic Information System mapping will identify Indigenous communities, in order to enhance inclusion and prevent Indigenous beneficiaries from being overlooked. The *Agricultural Investment for Markets and Nutrition project in Vanuatu* focuses on enhancing climate resilience and sustainable development in Vanuatu, particularly targeting the most vulnerable communities. It aims to improve food and nutrition security, strengthen disaster risk management, and empower women and youth through capacity-building initiatives. Key activities include training, resource mobilization, and fostering economic opportunities in sectors such as agriculture, fisheries, and renewable energy. In Democratic Republic of the Congo, the project *Empowerment through Nutrition-sensitive, Inclusive and Resilient Agricultural and Rural Entrepreneurship* will prioritize the involvement of Indigenous

communities, integrating their knowledge and practices into local agricultural and economic activities. It will strengthen initiatives that empower Indigenous groups, including through the promotion of city–country supply chains and e-commerce platforms such as "e-granary."

Indigenous Peoples internship pilots

In May 2023, IFAD's LAC division launched a pilot programme to promote diversity within its country teams by recruiting an Indigenous intern in its Brazil Country Office to enhance the role of Indigenous youth in IFAD's work at the country. Due to the success of the pilot, the IFAD Country Office in Salvador hired an afro-descendant to expand the Indigenous internship initiative.

Inter-learning exchanges among the partners of the Indigenous Peoples Assistance Facility

Two learning exchange events were conducted during the biennium. The first event, *Telling IPAF Results* workshop, was held in October 2023 at IFAD headquarters with IPAF regional partners, the IPAF Secretariat, IFAD teams focusing on biodiversity, environment, climate, agroecology, youth, gender and nutrition, along with representatives from regional divisions and the Financial Management Division. The workshop created space for dialogue on critical aspects such as knowledge management, monitoring and evaluation, and financial management. Notably, a comprehensive framework of indicators for the IPAF sixth cycle was established, facilitating a structured approach towards assessing project outcomes. The event also featured regional meetings with IFAD staff, fostering dialogue and aligning strategies for effective implementation. The outcomes of this workshop serve as a milestone in enhancing the efficacy of IPAF initiatives, reinforcing a collective commitment to sustainable development and impactful results. IFAD will evaluate integrating these well-being indicators into larger projects targeting Indigenous Peoples.

Given the relevance of the first meeting, the second IPAF workshop took place in Turin in conjunction with the Terra Madre event of Slow Food (23–25 September 2024). The objectives of the workshop were to: (i) share lessons and experiences in the implementation of the IPAF among IPAF partners; (ii) discuss the future of the IPAF; and (iii) strengthen the IPAF network and partnership with Slow Food.

Recommendation 10. *Increase direct support to the initiatives of Indigenous Peoples, with a focus on women, girls, persons with disabilities, and youth, in climate leadership and resilience, including through the IPAF.*

The IPAF plays a vital role in strengthening IFAD's capacity to engage effectively with Indigenous Peoples. Through its support to grass-root projects, the IPAF enhances IFAD's understanding of Indigenous Peoples' rights, priorities and traditional governance systems. By fostering capacity-development, advocacy, and institutional strengthening within Indigenous communities, the IPAF provides IFAD with valuable insights and practices for inclusive and culturally sensitive project design and implementation. Additionally, the coordination and monitoring efforts led by regional partners such as FIMI, SWT and Tebtebba help refine IFAD's approaches, ensuring that they are grounded in Indigenous knowledge and aligned with their aspirations for self-determined development. As highlighted in the Assessment of the fifth IPAF cycle, capacity-building and institutional strengthening provided by IPAF-supported projects were also means for promoting the collective empowerment of Indigenous communities. The full list of projects supported during the sixth IPAF cycle can be accessed [here](#).

Indigenous Peoples' organizations are currently developing three grant proposals for the implementation of the US\$400,000 ASAP + financial contribution to the IPAF.

With financial support from Supplementary funds from Italy to IFAD (US\$470,000), the *Enhancing Indigenous Youth and Women Capacities to Protect and Promote Their Communities' Food Heritage*

project (2022–2025) is being implemented by Slow Food. It aims to empower Indigenous youth and women leaders, focusing on building their leadership skills to safeguard and promote their food heritage through training, events and grass-root projects. By involving members of the Slow Food Indigenous Peoples’ Network in Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan and the Philippines, the project ensures that implementation is culturally relevant. The community-scouting process initiated in 2023 served to identify Indigenous leaders and tailor activities to local contexts, advancing self-determination, cultural preservation, and sustainable development as outlined in the UNDRIP. In 2024, an IFAD grant was approved to top-up resources for this initiative and strengthen Indigenous Peoples’ commercialization and marketing approaches.

ANNEX I: New IFAD-funded projects approved in in the biennium 2023–2024 - Highlights of the strategy to work with Indigenous Peoples

Region	Approval Year	Country	Project title	Project area and target group	Highlights of strategy to work with Indigenous Peoples (IPs)
APR	2023	Bangladesh	Diversified Resilient Agriculture for Improved Food and Nutrition Security (RAINS)	<p>Project area: 14 districts with about 60 upazilas in the Coastal Zone, the Barind and Drought Prone Areas, and the River Systems and Estuaries (Char) hotspot areas. The project districts cover nearly 12 million acres of agricultural land, of which 50 per cent is irrigated land.</p> <p>Target group: The project is estimated to intervene in 500 unions and directly serve 420,000 rural men and women, extending its benefits to an additional total of 1.89 million of household members. Female direct participation is estimated at 40%, and youth at 30%.</p>	The project is situated in an area that has previously been used by IPs specifically small ethnic minorities such as the Santal, Orao, Chakma, Marma, and Tripura. While the project does not directly impact their rights, lands, or cultural heritage, it may have a moderate indirect effect due to its proximity to Indigenous communities.
	2023	Bangladesh	Program on Agricultural and Rural Transformation for Nutrition, Entrepreneurship, and Resilience (PARTNER (PforR))	<p>Project area: Chittagong Hill Tracts, greater Mymensingh, greater Rajshahi, greater Sylhet, Patuakhali and Barguna</p> <p>Target group: approximately five million farmers will benefit from one or more of the Program activities, of which at least 40 percent will be women and 50 percent will be youth</p>	Around 45 indigenous communities are present in Bangladesh most of them living in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, greater Mymensingh, greater Rajshahi, greater Sylhet, Patuakhali and Barguna. IPs are part of the vulnerable population in the country, the program will deploy measures to ensure that they are well represented in program-related decision making, that negative impact is avoided and that benefits also reach these groups. There are no constrains for IPs to participate in project interventions and former projects by the implementing partner have equally targeted IPs. Project interventions are expected to result in increased incomes, increased food security and improved nutrition for all beneficiaries including IPs.
	2024	China	Gansu Rural Revitalization Demonstration Project (G2RDP)	<p>Project area: Five counties, Tianzhu, Jingtai, Maiji and Weiyuan.</p> <p>Target group: 108,000 rural households, extending its benefits to a total of 351,500 of household members.</p>	The project is located in areas where IPs are present, including within its area of influence, and may have indirect impacts on the lands, territories, or resources they claim. However, project activities will not directly affect Indigenous rights, lands, natural resources, livelihoods, cultural practices, governance systems, or tangible and intangible heritage. There may be minor influences on certain traditions, such as dietary habits or traditional attire, potentially providing Indigenous communities with an increased income that could offer them greater choice in these areas.

	2024	China	Hunan Specialized Forestry Industry Development Project (HuSFID)	<p>Project area: 7 counties (Taojiang, Hengshan, Yanling, Pingjiang, Heshan, Yuanling and Xupu).</p> <p>Target group: smallholders especially women and youth who will, for purposes of production and marketing, be aggregated/linked to cooperatives, private and state-owned enterprises involved in the three selected value chains.</p>	<p>The project area has a small population of ethnic minorities (8.39%), with 74.2% residing in Yuanling County. The government provides preferential policies and support for the social, cultural, and economic development of ethnic minorities, who are well integrated with the majority Han population. No risks to ethnic minorities are anticipated from project activities. However, since the project may be located within commuting distance of Indigenous communities and offer employment opportunities to Indigenous individuals, a separate Indigenous People's Planning Framework (IPPF) has been developed, along with an FPIC process conducted in a culturally appropriate manner.</p>
	2024	India	Competitiveness Improvement of Agriculture and Allied Sectors Project in Jammu and Kashmir (J&KCIP)	<p>Project area: The project will be implemented in all 20 districts of J&K (Jammu and Kashmir).</p> <p>Target group: Resource-poor farmers and rural households, involved in farming in areas with the potential for cultivation of high-value niche crops and horticultural crops, using climate-resilient and environment-friendly technologies; vulnerable communities including pastoralists, fishermen and other Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) communities.</p>	<p>The project aims to uplift IPs and marginalized communities, specifically focusing on communities such as Gujjars, Bakarwals, and Gaddis. Emphasizing youth and gender sensitivity, the project seeks to improve livelihoods through enhanced agricultural practices and value chain development, supporting smallholder farmers in cultivating high-value crops like saffron and aromatic rice that have been underutilized due to lack of support. By employing a participatory and demand-driven approach, the project focuses on the specific needs of Indigenous Peoples, guaranteeing their active engagement through FPIC. By providing matching grants and access to finance, the project empowers these communities, especially women and youth, helping them shift from subsistence farming to a more commercially viable agricultural economy. The initiative also aligns with broader government programs, like the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP), allowing lessons learned to inform larger state-wide efforts.</p>
	2024	India	<p>Odisha PVTG Empowerment & Livelihoods Improvement Programme – II (OPELIP II)*</p> <p>*Project prioritizing Indigenous Peoples</p>	<p>Project area: 1,679 PVTG villages (541 OPELIP villages and 1,138 new villages), 287 Gram Panchayats, 46 blocks, and 14 districts (Angul, Dhenkanal, Gajapati, Ganjam, Jajpur, Kalahandi, Kandamal, Keonjhar, Malkanagiri, Mayurbhanj, Nuapada, Rayagada, Sundargarh, Deogarh)</p> <p>Target group: The primary target population of OPELIP-II are the 13 PVTGs residing in the state of Odisha, namely: Birhor, Bondo, Chuktia Bhunjia, Didayi, Juang, Kharia, Dongria Khond, Kutia Khond, Lanjia Saora, Lodha, Mankidia, Paudi Bhuyan, and Saora. The Gol identified these PVTGs using the following characteristics, among others: (i) preagricultural levels of technology; (ii) low</p>	<p>OPELIP-II employs a two-pronged strategy to support Indigenous Peoples, tailored to the specific needs of existing OPELIP villages and new Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG) villages. For OPELIP-supported villages, the programme focuses on consolidation efforts by updating Village Development Plans (VDPs) to build upon previous achievements. This includes strengthening community governance and capacities, promoting household involvement in nutrition through behavioural change initiatives like Participatory Learning and Action (PLA), and intensifying sustainable agriculture using climate-resilient technologies. Additionally, the programme enhances natural resource management (NRM) and biodiversity conservation, improves the collection and marketing of non-timber forest products (NTFPs), strengthens post-harvest infrastructure, diversifies market access, and supports the development of small and micro-enterprises (SMEs) with better access to finance. In new PVTG villages, OPELIP-II adopts a transformation approach, developing new VDPs that integrate climate resilience, biodiversity, and nutrition. The programme emphasises</p>

			levels of literacy; and (iii) a declining or stagnant population. The total population of the targeted PVTG villages is approximately 185,000 households, with an estimated population of 833,500.	enhanced service delivery by bringing resources closer to farms and households. It also builds governance capacities and involves households in nutrition and home food production. Climate-resilient agricultural and livestock practices are introduced, blending tribal knowledge with technical solutions. The collection, processing, and marketing of NTFPs are improved, alongside the construction of productive and resilience-focused infrastructure. Furthermore, the programme fosters market linkages, supports SMEs, and ensures culturally relevant access to financial services.
2023	Indonesia	Horticulture Development in Dryland Areas Sector Project (HDDAP)	<p>Project area: Pakpak Bataknese subethnic, Balinese tribe, Lio tribe, Massenrempulu tribe</p> <p>Target group: approximately 100,000 poor and near poor farmers participating in the project value chains who voluntarily collaborate in project activities.</p>	The subproject site selections must fulfill the criteria such as: (i) Physical conditions (land categorized as dryland, slope of less than 15%); (ii) local government commitment; (iii) potential for horticulture development; (iv) feasible market access; (v) supporting infrastructure; (vi) farmer socioeconomic conditions warrant assistance; (vii) use lands only with clear and clean status; (viii) not located or interfere with forest areas (production and protection); and (ix) not located in the culturally sensitive areas for the respected indigenous peoples or Masyarakat Hukum Adat (MHAs) (i.e. sacred sites, indigenous tombs, or other sacred properties belonging to IP). Total proposed subproject site in Wiwipemo is 24 hectares for the horticulture farm to be planted with banana commodities. One of subproject core representative areas, Wiwipemo Village is in an indigenous peoples (IP) territory belongs to the Lio tribe. The IP screening showed positive impact from the project consequences on increasing local horticulture productivity, institutionalizing the Horticulture Village in the form of Horticulture Farmer Groups and increase farmers.
2024	Nepal	Resilient High Value Agricultural Programme (R-HVAP)	<p>Project area: three provinces in Western Nepal: Lumbini, Karnali, and Sudurpashchim</p> <p>Target group: poor smallholder households engaged in mixed farming systems and deriving most of their income from agricultural production at different scales: subsistence, semi-commercial, and commercial.</p>	The program actively involves IPs in every phase - from planning to implementation - by conducting dedicated focus group discussions to understand and address their specific needs, integrating these insights into the Agroecological Cluster Plan (PAP). Training initiatives, such as Financial Education and Business Literacy (FEBL) for women, equip IPs with essential skills to engage in economic activities and decision-making. Quotas ensure the participation of IPs women and youth in leadership roles, while access to agricultural training and job opportunities is prioritized. To support ultra-poor and marginalized IPs households, the program provides up to 80% co-financing, enabling them to join producer organizations and shift toward commercial farming. The approach is culturally sensitive, respecting IPs' social norms and practices, with IPs actively participating in Multistakeholder Platforms (MSPs) and program supervision.
2024	Philippines	Value Chain Innovation for	Project area: Upland areas of two regions, Region XII on the island of Mindanao and the	Targeting support for 70,000 smallholder households, the project commits to including at least 30% Indigenous households and 50%

		<p>Sustainable Transformation in Agrarian Reform Communities Project (VISTA)*</p> <p>*Project prioritizing Indigenous Peoples</p>	<p>Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) in Luzon.</p> <p>Target group: 70,000 smallholder households (approximately 350,000 people) engaging with the production of selected crops.</p>	<p>women. VISTA collaborates closely with Indigenous Peoples Organizations (IPOs) to align project activities with Indigenous cultural values and secures FPIC to uphold IP rights.</p> <p>The project places special emphasis on empowering Indigenous women by increasing their access to resources and enhancing their participation in community decision-making. Integrating Indigenous Knowledge Systems into sustainable agriculture, VISTA promotes key crops - such as coffee, cocoa, and native rice varieties - to boost food security and improve livelihoods.</p>
2023	Solomon Islands	<p>Agricultural Investment for Markets and Nutrition - Solomon Islands (AIMN_SLB)*</p> <p>*Project prioritizing Indigenous Peoples</p>	<p>Project areas: Choiseul, Isabel and Western Provinces in Solomon Islands, and in Malampa, Penampa and Tafea Provinces in Vanuatu.</p> <p>Target group: 130 rural communities (65 in each country), where the majority of households engage in subsistence or semi-subsistence households farming, with limited linkages with the market and some non-farm income from seasonal youth migration. It is estimated that about 50 communities would benefit from project activities in the target health zones.</p>	<p>In the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, IPs comprise the vast majority of the population (95% and 99%, respectively), and all target beneficiaries will be IPs. The project design and implementation align with the IFAD Policy on Engagement with IPs (2022), emphasizing the safeguarding of their rights. Recognizing that women are primarily responsible for feeding their families and cultivating food crops, the project will engage women's groups - particularly those comprised of mothers with young children - as a focal point for Component 1 (Action for Nutrition). For Component 2 (Inclusive Partnerships for Market Access) the project will connect farmer groups with buyers to enhance market access, empowering the women's groups involved in Component 1. Direct beneficiaries will include organized women, their families, other households benefiting from nutrition education and kitchen garden support, and participating farmer groups. The project also aims to empower youth, particularly young women, by facilitating their access to new opportunities and technologies. The Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) Strategy will ensure vulnerable households are actively included and that quotas for women and youth are met.</p>
2024	Vanuatu	<p>Agricultural Investment for Markets and Nutrition (AIMN_VUT)*</p> <p>*Project prioritizing Indigenous Peoples</p>	<p>Project area: AIM-N will operate in selected provinces of the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, chosen for high poverty, malnutrition, agricultural potential, and market access, avoiding overlap with other agriculture projects.</p> <p>Target group: 130 rural communities in Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, focusing on 33,680 people, with an emphasis on women (50%) and youth (20%). 39% IPs.</p>	<p>The project focuses on enhancing climate resilience and sustainable development in Vanuatu, particularly targeting the most vulnerable communities. It aims to improve food and nutrition security, strengthen disaster risk management, and empower women and youth through capacity-building initiatives. The project works in partnership with local stakeholders, including government agencies and community organizations, to implement climate-adaptive agricultural practices and improve livelihoods, especially in remote areas prone to natural disasters. Key activities include training, resource mobilization, and fostering economic opportunities in sectors such as agriculture, fisheries, and renewable energy.</p>
2024	Viet Nam	<p>Achieving emission reduction in the Central Highlands and South Central</p>	<p>Project areas: 5 Provinces including Gia Lai, Dak Lak, Dak Nong, Lam Dong in the Central Highlands, and Ninh Thuan in the adjacent South Central Coast of the country.</p>	<p>The approach to the non-Kinh ethnic groups is consistent with IFAD's policy on ethnic minorities. FPIC consultation will be adopted for targeting of ethnic minority groups. Cultural differences will dictate the approach adopted. Local languages will be used in all village meetings,</p>

			Coast of VN to support National REDD+ AP (RECAF)* *Project prioritizing Indigenous Peoples	Target group: RECAF will directly reach 100,000 smallholder farm households equivalent to some 420,000 people in 21 districts of the five target provinces and about 1,000,000 indirect beneficiaries living in and around the project area including the most vulnerable groups: women, youth and ethnic minorities.	planning and extension sessions. Community meetings will be organized in a manner that is appropriate culturally to each of ethnic minority groups being affected by potential project activities. District teams responsible for implementation will reflect gender balance, and their members will have command of ethnic languages. Capacity building tools will be developed in the languages of the main ethnic groups that have written characters and take into consideration cultural differences. Ethnic verbal languages will be used during project planning, discussions, trainings, etc. as preferred by affected ethnic minority groups. Special efforts will be made to recruit project extension agents speaking ethnic groups languages and in mobilizing and mentoring students from the ethnic schools.
	2024	Viet Nam	Climate Resilient and inclusive Water Infrastructure for rural Smallholders in Thanh Hoa and Nghe An provinces (CRWIS)	Project area: The project is targeting the most climate-vulnerable communities in two districts (Ha Trung and Hoang Hoa) in Thanh Hoa province within the Ma river watershed, and six districts (Con Cuong, Anh Son, Do Luong, Thanh Chuong, Nam Dan and Hung Nguyen) in Nghe An province within the Lam river watershed, which are vulnerable to climate change. Target group: CRWIS will be implemented through a combination of geographical targeting and direct beneficiary targeting approaches aimed at the most climate-vulnerable communities, including poor and near-poor households, women and other vulnerable groups.	Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Ethnic Minority Plan, and FPIC Implementation Plan have been prepared to set forth procedures for iterative engagement of Ethnic Minorities in village Bãi Gạo during this subproject planning and implementation. SEP has included special consultation measures which address also the need of specific different groups such as ethnic Minority, people with disability, women, female-headed households, elderly, and children.
ESA	2024	Kenya	Integrated Natural Resources Management Programme (INReMP)	Project area: Cherangany Hills and Mau West water towers focusing on the following ten counties: a) The Cherangany water tower counties of Elgeyo Marakwet, West Pokot, Trans Nzoia and Uasin Gishu; b) Cherangany downstream counties of Nandi and Kakamega (implementing the GEF funded Integrated Land and Water Management for Food, Water and Climate Security in the Dairy Food System to co-finance INReMP); and c) one upstream county of the Mau West Catchment and three downstream counties of the Lake Victoria basin of Kericho, Kisumu, Homa Bay and Migori.	The project will work with legitimate Indigenous peoples' structures of governance and decision-making such as the Council of Elders and identified legitimate Indigenous Peoples Organizations working within the project area. Such a consultation should be based on mutual trust and respect with IPs given a chance to nominate their representatives based on self-determination. This will contribute to strengthening the sustainable management of natural resources.

				Target group: 407,176 vulnerable rural households.	
	2023	Tanzania, United Republic of	Climate-Smart Dairy Transformation Project (C-SDTP)	<p>Project area: 3 regions in Southern Highlands (Mbeya, Iringa, Njombe); Tanga and Morogoro regions; Zanzibar (Unguja and Pemba).</p> <p>Target group: Extremely Poor (20%), Poor (40%), Near Poor (30%), Rural Non-Producers (10%).</p>	C-SDTP is not expected to target IPs territories and will not alter their culture nor marginalise them. For peoples with pastoral livelihoods, although specialised in livestock, zero-grazing dairy farming may deviate from their cultural norms habits.
LAC	2024	Bolivia	<p>Programme for the Development of Sustainable and Resilient Agriculture (AGROSUSTENTAR)*</p> <p>*Project prioritizing Indigenous Peoples</p>	<p>Project area: Border municipalities in Bolivia facing high climate vulnerability, poverty (>50% UBN), and food insecurity (ICA). Areas are selected for improved connectivity and optimized service delivery.</p> <p>Target group: Women heads of household with triple burdens due to migration and climate, youth (18–28) with limited resources for non-land-based enterprises, and indigenous peoples (Aymara, Quechua, Amazon, Chiquitanía).</p>	Bolivia has transitioned to a lower middle-income country, with agriculture contributing around 13% of GDP, mainly through soy exports, while urbanization has risen to 70.2%. Climate change remains a major challenge, ranking Bolivia as the 10th most vulnerable country globally. Poverty reduction measures since 2006 have significantly lowered extreme poverty from 38.2% to 12.9% by 2019, though the COVID-19 pandemic caused setbacks. In 2021, extreme poverty improved to 11.1%, but rural areas remain disproportionately affected. IFAD's Frontera Agroecológica Programme aligns with national policies to address rural poverty, promote agroecological transitions, and enhance food security for vulnerable groups, including women, youth, and Indigenous peoples in border regions.
	2024	Brazil	<p>Capacity Development for Overcoming Hunger and Mitigating the Effects of Rural Poverty and Extreme Poverty (Paulo Freire Project II)*</p> <p>*Project prioritizing Indigenous Peoples</p>	<p>Project area: The Project will cover 74 municipalities in the semiarid region of the state of Ceará. The selection of the municipalities is based on the Municipal Alert Index (IMA), developed by IPECE, which integrates 12 strateg to measure the vulnerability of municipalities in climatic, agricultural, and social assistance dimensions. The selection also considered that the areas of operation of the three IFAD interventions in Ceará - PPF II, Sertão Vivo and Projeto Dom Helder Câmara III - cover the entire semiarid region of the state and do not overlap.</p> <p>Target group: The population of the Project area is estimated at 2,400,605, of which 50.9% are women (1,271,632), 23.7% are young people aged 15 to 29 (592,541) and 5% are IPs. The population of the municipalities in the Project's area is among the poorest in Brazil</p>	The project aims to bring together the three main Indigenous groups – Lenca, Kakawira, and Nahua-Pipil – through a participatory and inclusive approach rooted in respect for their cultures and rights. At its core is the principle of FPIC, ensuring that Indigenous communities are informed, engaged, and actively involved in decisions regarding activities that could impact their lands, resources, and livelihoods. This approach aligns with IFAD's 2021 standards and national frameworks, with FPIC applied in regions inhabited by Indigenous Peoples and in projects affecting land access. Guided by a culturally adaptive, intercultural framework, the project prioritizes Indigenous worldviews and traditional knowledge, embedding these into decision-making processes. To overcome data gaps, GIS mapping will identify Indigenous communities, ensuring no beneficiaries are excluded and enhancing the project's inclusiveness. Furthermore, a specialized agency will facilitate investments in sustainable agri-food systems, explicitly targeting Indigenous groups, women, and youth. These efforts aim to bolster resilience against food insecurity, environmental challenges, and climate risks, fostering a holistic and equitable approach to development.

			(45% of people in poverty and extreme poverty), with limited access to basic social services, high levels of social, environmental, and climatic vulnerabilities, and high rates of food insecurity and malnutrition.	
2024	Brazil	Food Security and Nutrition and Climate Resilience in the Northeast Semiarid of Brazil Project (PDHC III)* *Project prioritizing Indigenous Peoples	Project area: 9 Northeastern states and the state of Minas Gerais, totaling 10 states. Target group: The Project will benefit approximately 90,000 family farming families (around 315,000 people), of which 60% will have a Single Registry profile. 50% of the activities will focus on women, 30% on young people and 7% on traditional peoples and communities (PCTs).	Indigenous peoples and traditional communities, such as quilombolas, face heightened vulnerability due to historical patterns of exclusion and structural racism. These groups are heavily reliant on natural resources, marginalized in their ways of life, and often excluded from public policy development. They also experience limited access to essential services, including healthcare, education, sanitation, infrastructure, and Technical Assistance and Rural Extension (ATER) services. In 2023, data from the Single Registry revealed that 72% of indigenous families in the project area live in poverty or extreme poverty, a rate six times higher than that of the general Brazilian population. Similarly, 74.7% of quilombola families in the project area live in poverty or extreme poverty. The 2006 Quilombola Nutrition Survey highlighted significant deficits in living conditions, reporting that 71% of homes lacked garbage collection, 45.8% had open sewers, 35.9% of communities lacked treated water, and 15% of children under five suffered from stunted growth due to severe malnutrition.
2024	Brazil	The Sustainable Atlantic Rainforest Development Project (Parceiros da Mata)	Project area: rural areas in 77 municipalities in four territories in the Atlantic rainforest of the State of Bahia: Baixo Sul, Litoral Sul, Médio Rio das Contas and Vale do Jiquiriçá. Target group: poor family farmers and poor rural populations, with priority given to women, youth, traditional communities and LGBTQIAPN+ (lesbian, gay, bi, trans, queer, intersex, asexual/aromantic/agender, pan/poli, non-binary and more) persons from priority rural communities.	The project area spans three Indigenous Lands (ILs) with 27 communities of the Tupinambá, Pataxó, and Pataxó Hã Hã Hã ethnic groups along the South Coast, with an estimated 7,516 Indigenous residents as of 2019. Many families in these communities face severe economic hardships, with 77% in extreme poverty and 5% in poverty. This project aims to improve their livelihoods by securing land rights, strengthening institutions, and respecting FPIC. Indigenous and Quilombola communities will actively shape development priorities, ensuring their involvement and equitable benefits. Additionally, the project will promote agroecological practices to conserve biodiversity and prevent habitat degradation. It will also establish a participatory governance framework for Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) in the Southern Bahia Cocoa Region, fostering municipal PES programs and developing a Regional PES Plan and Network for landscape and forest restoration. The preparation of productive development plans will consider social and cultural aspects and traditional knowledge and ways of life. These communities will benefit from greater access to water for domestic and productive use and other social technologies (e.g. energy and sanitation) to improve their livelihoods. The project will promote land titling for quilombola communities and strengthen the social organization of

				traditional peoples and communities, from community-level associations to regional and state commissions with political representation.
2024	Brazil	Paraíba Rural Sustainable Development Project (PROCASE II)* *Project prioritizing Indigenous Peoples	Project area: PROCASE II will cover the rural areas of all 223 municipalities of the State of Paraíba. Target group: family farming families in poverty and extreme poverty, especially in municipalities with a lower Human Development Index and more significant deprivation. The project will directly reach 60,000 families (around 210,000 people), of which 50 per cent will be women, 20 per cent young people, 5 per cent PCTs and 2 per cent persons with disabilities. The project's main target groups are: (i) family farmers living in poverty and extreme poverty, (ii) rural women, (iii) rural youth, (iv) TPCs, (v) persons with disabilities and (v) LGBTQIABP+.	The project targets impoverished families with productive potential, including Indigenous peoples, Afro-Colombian and Raizal communities, female-headed households, rural women, youth, people with disabilities, older adults, and victims of armed conflict in prioritised municipalities. The project strengthens Indigenous cultural and physical resource protection, promotes economic development, values traditional agricultural systems, and preserves Indigenous food culture. It aims to increase incomes, food security, and nutrition for Indigenous communities while prohibiting land acquisition or restriction in Indigenous areas. The Environmental, Social, and Climate Management Plan (ESCMP) includes public consultation and social communication programs that are culturally appropriate and accessible. The project employs a participatory, demand-driven approach, enabling Indigenous and traditional communities to co-create development activities. FPIC is ensured for affected communities, and a socio-cultural analysis of Indigenous and traditional populations in the project area will be conducted.
2024	Brazil	Promotion of PES for deforestation-free supply chains in Brazil (CompensACTION Brazil)	Project area: 77 municipalities of 4 Territories in Bahia: Baixo Sul, Litoral Sul, Vale do Jiquiriçá and Médio Rio de Contas. Target group: 1,600 families (around 6,400 people), of which 50% will be smallholder farmers whose subsistence is based on low-productivity family farming and at least 20% will be quilombolas (traditional communities), 30% agrarian reform settlers.	The project focuses on enhancing the quality of life and preserving traditional practices within Indigenous Lands (ILs) of the Tupinambá, Pataxó, and Hã Hã Hã communities, as well as quilombola communities in the area. Through agroecological production, reforestation, and improved access to water, sanitation, and energy, it seeks to strengthen sustainable practices and biodiversity conservation. Guided by FPIC and traditional knowledge, the project supports land rights recognition, organizational empowerment, and resource protection, ensuring no harm to critical habitats. Prioritizing women and youth, it fosters equitable, culturally appropriate opportunities while actively involving communities in every project stage, safeguarding their cultural heritage.
2023	El Salvador	Programme for the Sustainable, Inclusive and Nutritional Economic Development of Rural Areas in El Salvador (Rural Adelante 2.0)*	Project area: central, paracentral and western regions of the country, and will complement the activities of the existing Program in the eastern region, especially with enterprises aimed at young people and the improvement of the infrastructure of the irrigation district in that region. Ninety-one municipalities will be involved. Target group: 74,000 rural family farming families in vulnerable conditions. Of these, at	Affirmative actions that favor inclusive and equitable participation of the target groups have been incorporated throughout the design. These include the creation of community savings groups led by women; support for women and youth entrepreneurship and job opportunities; the application of gender-transformative methodologies, for example "closing gender gaps"; capacity building, including the promotion of associative, commercial and entrepreneurial leadership of these groups; the promotion of the inclusion of indigenous groups, considering their prior, free and informed consultation and also by changing attitudes, knowledge and behaviour regarding food consumption, nutrition, healthy and climate resilient agri-food systems. The methodologies will facilitate

		*Project prioritizing Indigenous Peoples	least 50% are women, 25% are young people and 4% are indigenous people, especially indigenous women and young people.	the identification of productive, economic, participatory and social gaps within rural organizations and the development of action plans to mitigate them.
2024	Honduras	Strengthening innovation, Resilience and the Sustainability of Agrifood Systems in North Central Honduras (INNOVASAN)	<p>Project area: 21 municipalities in 4 Departments (Comayagua, Cortés, Francisco Morazán, Yoro) of the north central region.</p> <p>Target group: segment of the rural population in its geographic area, most specifically families of small-scale producers in conditions of poverty or extreme poverty (classified either as “self-consumption” or “in transition” family farmers) and rural population in vulnerable conditions.</p>	In the project area, two IPs are present: the Lenca and the Tolupán. In particular, the Tolupán community is present in 10 municipalities covered by the project (representing 3.76% of the total project area). They lack an autonomous territorial system and face unresolved land conflicts in certain areas. As their productive activities are closely tied to the local economic dynamics, the project proposes a representation goal of 5% for this population. The project aims to ensure that the rights of IPs are respected, avoiding any harm to their worldview, culture, and decision-making capacity. To achieve this, the FPIC mechanism will be implemented in line with IFAD and Honduran government policies, as well as international agreements. Dedicated spaces for dialogue will be established to ensure proper consultation with IPs and to safeguard their cultural heritage, including ancestral knowledge related to natural resource management and production.
2024	Colombia	Development of sustainable rural productive and entrepreneurial capacities at the national level (Rurality for life)* *Project prioritizing Indigenous Peoples	<p>Project area: 214 municipalities in 12 departments were identified, concentrated in three large intervention areas.</p> <p>Target group: The target groups of the project are families in conditions of poverty and extreme poverty with productive potential, which may be: small producers (peasants and small farmers); indigenous communities; black, Afro-Colombian, Raizal and Palenquero communities (NARP for its Spanish acronym); families headed by women; rural women; rural youth; people with disabilities, older adults, victims of the armed conflict, who reside permanently in one of the prioritised municipalities.</p>	In line with the policies of IFAD, the country, and AECID, the strategy focuses on Indigenous communities that are either organized for territorial governance or displaced, forming new settlements, to respect their social and political integrity. The approach to Indigenous Peoples will follow the mechanism of FPIC to ensure their agreement with the project proposals (self-targeting). The most vulnerable Indigenous communities in terms of poverty and social exclusion will be identified through participatory assessments involving community leaders and Indigenous organizations to determine the specific needs and opportunities of each community. These assessments will consider the causes of limited access to basic services, lack of economic and social opportunities, as well as opportunities related to their organizational structure, ancestral knowledge, and techniques for agroecology, environmental conservation, natural resource management, climate change adaptation, and resilience. This information will be fundamental in designing and implementing interventions tailored to the realities and priorities of each Indigenous community, ensuring a significant and sustainable impact on poverty reduction and the strengthening of their cultural, socioeconomic, and climate resilience. It is important to note that only a small portion of the country’s Indigenous population engages in agricultural activities, and Indigenous agriculture in the country is undergoing a transition from traditional, itinerant farming to more sedentary practices in many regions. It has been observed that improving the economic conditions of Indigenous women and youth contributes to a better overall well-being for Indigenous families. The project will promote

					initiatives aimed at strengthening cultural identity and ancestral knowledge while respecting their social organization based on collective territories and governance institutions. The names and population of the Indigenous Peoples living in the project area are included in the Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (IPPF) (see Annex 5c of the SECAP Note).
WCA	2023	Burkina Faso	Programme to Strengthen Smallholder Resilience to Climate Change (PSSRC)	<p>Project area: two regions, the North and the Centre-West. In these regions, the project will intervene in all eight provinces and delimit its actions around concentration areas at the district level and in the main production basins. These concentration areas are located in 36 municipalities (20 in the North and 16 in the Centre-West).</p> <p>Target group: 109,000 people, 45 percent of whom are women (49,050) and 50 percent young people (54,500) in 36,556 poor rural households in Burkina Faso.</p>	While Burkina Faso's Constitution does not formally recognize IPs, groups like the Peul and Touareg are identified as indigenous by the International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA). This project involves public consultations with farmers, local councils, and IPs groups to gather input on planned activities in the region. Following IFAD's Social, Environmental, and Climate Assessment Procedures (SECAP), the project commits to upholding the rights of these communities while mitigating potential social and environmental risks. Key actions of the project include building resilience through agricultural capacity-building, awareness-raising on climate change, and economic development initiatives. Training activities focus on improving agricultural practices, product quality, and equipping communities with climate adaptation skills. While IPs are not the primary target, they are integrated into the project's social inclusion plans and the Environmental, Social, and Climate Management Plan (ESCMP).
	2023	Central African Republic	Livestock and Youth Support Project (LYSP)	<p>Project area: Nana-Mambéré; Ombella Mpoko; Ouham-Pende; and Lobaye; will be extended to four new prefectures: Kemo; Ouham; Ouaka; Nana-Gribizi.</p> <p>Target group: 30,000 households, or 180,000 beneficiaries. Young people (18-35) and women will each represent 40% of direct beneficiaries, organized into three categories.</p>	In Central Africa, particularly in the Central African Republic (CAR), the term "Indigenous Peoples" mainly refers to the hunter-gatherer peoples of the tropical rainforests, commonly called Pygmies, who represent a significant minority of the population in the tropical forest area. Approximately 90% of them live in forests, which they consider their heritage, where they sustain themselves through traditional hunting, gathering, and fishing activities. The Pygmies live in the prefectures of Lobaye, Ombella Mpoko, and Sangha-Mbaéré in the southwest, and Mambéré Kadéi in the west. Efforts are made to avoid harmful effects of subprojects and activities on IPs and where avoidance is not possible, measures are taken to minimize, mitigate, or compensate for these impacts. By fostering responsible management of transhumance (the seasonal movement of livestock), the project aims to prevent conflicts between Indigenous groups, such as nomadic herders and local farmers.