

**Recommendations by the Facilitative Working Group to the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice on the engagement and input of indigenous peoples and local communities across the UNFCCC process**

*Activity 6 of the initial workplan of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform*

Version 30 July 2021

*The Facilitative Working Group (FWG) of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (LCIPP)*

Recalls that in establishing the LCIPP's Facilitative Working Group, decision 2/CP.24 emphasized "in its entirety, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in the context of the implementation of the functions of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform involving indigenous peoples".

Recalls that Article 18 of the UNDRIP affirms that "indigenous peoples have the right to participate in decision making in matters which would affect their rights, through representatives chosen by themselves in accordance with their own procedures".

Recalls that indigenous peoples are a long-standing, distinct and formal constituency within the UNFCCC structure. Representative, self-organized and self-defined participation of local communities as a distinct group working within the UNFCCC must develop independently in a way that does not impact the participation, unique status or standing of indigenous peoples in the LCIPP or other UNFCCC processes and bodies.

Acknowledges that engagement of local communities and indigenous peoples in policies, actions, and communications under the Convention has not yet realized its full potential. In order to address these gaps, the FWG offers the following recommendations for consideration by the SBSTA. As part of the initial two-year workplan of the LCIPP, the FWG will develop a toolkit with guidelines to support UNFCCC State parties, constituted bodies and other stakeholders to implement these recommendations.

**The activities carried out under initial two-year workplan of the LCIPP have provided information and guidance to the FWG in the development of the enclosed recommendations, notably:**

- Annual Capacity Building training workshops/webinars featuring presentations by Indigenous knowledge holders on ethical and equitable engagement of Indigenous Knowledge in the context of climate change (held on 21 January 2021)<sup>1</sup> (Activity 4);
- Mapping of existing policies and practices for the participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in climate change-related bodies and processes under and outside the Convention (Activity 7);
- Mapping of existing policies, actions, and communications under the Convention with respect to whether and how they incorporate consideration and engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities (Activity 9);
- Implementation of good practices for indigenous peoples' and local communities' participation

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<sup>1</sup> This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> session of a four-webinar series, see: <https://unfccc.int/topics/local-communities-and-indigenous-peoples-platform/the-big-picture/lcipp/events-meetings-and-workshops-lcipp>

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- in national climate policy including the June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021, interactive dialogue (Activity 10);
- Map and report on existing funding within the United Nations system and identify additional funding opportunities for the participation of indigenous peoples and local communities from all regions related to climate change (Activity 11);
- 2020 Climate Dialogue LCIPP Special Event “Advancing safeguards, protocols and good practices for knowledge-sharing and exchange of experiences for climate change adaptation, resilience and mitigation”, November 25, 2020.

***The LCIPP FWG submits the following recommendations to the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice at its session (November 2021) with aim to enhance and strengthen the effective participation and engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities in the UNFCCC process.***

1. Recommends Parties to:
  - a) Increase engagement and collaboration with indigenous peoples and local communities at the national level including through formal, ongoing participation in the development and implementation of the NDCs, NAPS and all types of climate actions, programs, and policies;
  - b) Strengthen the engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities in the design and implementation of climate policies, actions and communications under the Convention, such as NDCs, NAPs and other communications;
  - c) Identify and promote good practices for the participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in national climate policy;
  - d) Build capacity of Parties to strengthen effective, respectful, and consistent collaboration with indigenous peoples and local communities in the development and implementation of national policies, programs, and climate actions;
  - e) Include representatives of indigenous peoples and local community as members of Party delegations and enhance their capacity to effectively participate as full members of these delegations without prejudicing the recognition and standing of indigenous peoples or local communities who are participating independently within the UNFCCC process.
2. Recommends relevant bodies and processes under the Convention to:
  - a) Consider how activities and decisions may affect the rights of indigenous peoples, knowledge systems, practices and ways of life of indigenous peoples and the practices and interests of local communities;
  - b) Provide opportunities for consistent and ongoing participation of indigenous peoples and local communities including by providing translation of materials and interpretation during meetings in the six official languages of the UN as necessary and appropriate;
  - c) Strengthen engagement with work under the LCIPP, including activities to build capacity for respectful, ethical and equitable engagement with the knowledge of indigenous peoples and local knowledge systems;
  - d) Increase time allocation for the participation of indigenous peoples during UNFCCC sessions, including by providing opportunities for distinct indigenous peoples sociocultural regions to speak.
3. Recommends all relevant bodies and processes under and outside of the Convention, and Parties to:

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- a) Respect, promote and consider their respective obligations on human rights, the rights of indigenous peoples, and local communities, when taking action to address climate change;
  - b) Uphold the principles of free, prior and informed consent when engaging with traditional knowledge, knowledge and values of indigenous peoples, and local knowledge systems.
4. Recommends relevant bodies and processes outside of the Convention to:
- a) Collaborate with the FWG in order to, among other things, exchange experiences and good practices pertaining to the engagement and input of indigenous peoples and local communities in climate change-related policies, actions and activities.
5. Recommends relevant entities including financial entities to:
- a) Enhance financial support for the participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in climate change related bodies and processes under and outside of the Convention;
  - b) Provide support for projects led by indigenous peoples and local communities to protect the knowledge systems and cultural practices of indigenous peoples and the practices and knowledge of local communities which contribute to climate mitigation and adaptation;
  - c) Engage representatives of the FWG and indigenous experts in their events and proceedings and disseminate relevant financial information, including calls for proposals and project templates via the LCIPP's dedicated web portal;
  - d) Provide targeted training sessions, including e-learning opportunities and in-person workshops, to facilitate and enhance indigenous peoples and local communities' access to existing funding opportunities.