

# Summary Report

## Informal Virtual Youth Consultations

*Designing the Annual Youth Round Table at COP 27 for indigenous youth and youth from local communities*

**Session 1: 30<sup>th</sup> August 2022; 19:00-20:30 CEST**

**Session 2: 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2022; 9:00-10:30 CEST**

### I. Background

The activity 8 of the 2nd three-year work plan<sup>1</sup> of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (LCIPP)<sup>2</sup> focuses on the role of indigenous youth and youth from local communities, and concrete ways to advance the engagement of youth in designing and implementing climate policies and actions at all levels, including the UNFCCC process, such as at COP 27.

The objectives of Activity 8 are:

1. Enhancing the understanding of the substance and procedures of the UNFCCC, both within and outside the Convention, and the important linkages between the international human rights standards of Indigenous peoples and the UNFCCC and other climate-related intergovernmental initiatives, including the IPCC.
2. Enhancing the engagement of indigenous youth and youth from local communities in climate policy development and implementation at all levels;
3. Facilitating the participation of indigenous youth and youth from local communities in intergenerational knowledge-sharing, strengthening practices on the ground and promoting intergenerational equity;

In preparation for COP27, FWG co-leads for activity 8 conducted informal consultations with indigenous youth and youth from local communities.

The informal consultations gathered inputs on effective ways of designing the annual youth round table at COP27 and subsequent sessions.

### II. Overview of the consultations

- FWG co-leads for activity 8 conducted two informal consultation with indigenous youth and youth from local communities. The first session was conducted in English and Spanish and the second session was conducted in English, French and Russian<sup>3</sup>.
- The sessions were well attended by approximately ~60 participants in total representing all the regions
- The moderators provided overview of LCIPP, and a brief about Activity 8 of the second three-year work plan

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://lcipp.unfccc.int/about-lcipp/workplan-activities>

<sup>2</sup> <https://lcipp.unfccc.int/>

<sup>3</sup> Interpretation for session 2 was made available by [Docip or the Indigenous people's center for Documentation, Research and Information](#)

- This was followed by an open discussion with the participants where participants provided inputs based on the objectives of the session. Engaging virtual tools such as mentimeter<sup>4</sup> and zoom chat functionality were utilized by participants to further network and provide their inputs

Further details on the agenda of the event are included in Annex I

### III. Key takeaways from open discussion

The participants responded to three questions as outlined below

#### a. Question 1: How can the annual youth round table at COP27 be designed to achieve activity 8 objectives?

- The participants highlighted that the annual youth round table can provide a more organic and interactive space, which can:
  - give the opportunity of knowledge exchange, greater participation, and continuity after the events;
  - be inclusive of as many indigenous people and local communities as possible with better understanding of the context of different indigenous peoples, who live in both urban and rural areas with a lack of access to internet and information, etc;
  - acknowledge indigenous knowledge and technology which would help indigenous and local communities participate in the process and share knowledge on the ground;
  - enable discussion on how to share information, how to interact with indigenous youth, how to organize this process to engage any youth and especially indigenous youth;
  - enable engagement with youth from local communities especially those who are suffering so that they can learn, exchange knowledge with each other
- Participants suggested that the roundtable should be designed in a more casual and friendly manner
  - to let participants feel comfortable and avoid very technical and formal discussion;
  - to give the youth confidence to make their voice heard at the COP;
  - to work towards a collective idea that indigenous youth are the future;
- Participants highlighted that the round table can be made more impactful by
  - inviting "high-level" people from politics to discuss policy support for youth;
  - making a report to raise local issues to the policy level;
  - disseminating results and way forward at regional and national level;
- Participants suggested that the below should be involved in the round table
  - Youth from any indigenous people groups and communities;
  - Youth from every single indigenous region so that they can highlight their problems and solutions to respect unique information and practices of indigenous knowledge from different regions, which may also be applicable to other areas;
  - Indigenous Youth Representative (team or individual) from every country to help the coordination and report presentation for the round table.
- Participants suggested the below topics for agenda:
  - climate change policies based on indigenous knowledge with a focus of how indigenous youth could be involved and engage on the national level;
  - for instance, issues faced by indigenous women from coastal areas of Bangladesh, who are facing reproductive health problems due to the rise of sea level as well as increase of salinity in water;
  - ideas that would push for every area of the indigenous life should be acknowledged and respected in the process

---

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.mentimeter.com/>

- Participants emphasized that the event should be hybrid and accessible virtually as it is necessary to think of how to involve youth who are not able to participate physically;
  
- b. Question 2: Key take away from open discussion II: What specific actions could help indigenous youth participate fully and effectively in the annual youth roundtable at COP27?**
  
- To enhance participation, it was highlighted that
  - More youth should have opportunities to participate in events. A declaration could help highlight the importance of youth participation, especially indigenous youth around international climate policy and work under the UNFCCC.
  - Accreditation of organizations at COP requires a specific process. Information and help getting organizations familiar with the process would facilitate greater, more flexible youth participation. More youth wish to participate in work under the UNFCCC.
  - More funds and resources would help to support self-funded youth to take part in international climate policy work under the UNFCCC. The secretariat should facilitate a channel to request financial support;
  - Special envoy of the SG could be involved for an event just with the youth
  - It would be good to invite country representatives, indigenous youth leaders, youth organizations who have supported indigenous youth issues;
  
- Regarding logistical arrangements, participants highlighted that
  - Language is a great challenge for indigenous youth in participating in international climate policy work under the UNFCCC. At the COP, there is a wish from indigenous youth to facilitate translation for minorities like indigenous people and local communities since they are not familiar with UN languages;
  - it is important to share information directly with indigenous people and indigenous experts including local tribes having their own languages and cultures, before and after COP. It is time to develop a correct and context-specific way to share information with indigenous people;
  - More energy and efforts are needed for COP registration. Information should be shared among indigenous people much earlier to arrange the travel and more indigenous youth and local communities should have more opportunity to participate in international climate policy work under the UNFCCC.
  - Support is essential for indigenous youth since they have difficulties leaving the countries and travel to the COP, so the secretariat should be engaged with them from the beginning. Early registration opportunities for those interested in presenting their local initiatives can be considered
  
- Some innovative ideas as follows were also suggested by the participants
  - Youth education in awareness and behavioral change campaigns can be organized around international climate policy work under the UNFCCC, which can include more campaigns to build capacity and confidence among indigenous youth and encourage them to participate in the process;
  - A space in a pavilion for short videos showing some of the initiatives of young people on climate issues that can be played continuously while activities evolve inside a meeting room to arouse curiosity to know more about different initiatives;
  - Platforms to enhance networking could be utilized such as using a whatsapp group for communication;
  - Organize a series of national- or regional gathering for indigenous youth as a safe space to share their perspectives and objectives;

- Emphasize activity implementation with a data-driven and thematic approach, such as who are active on adaptation actions among indigenous people, where more action is needed, etc.
- **Prior to COP**
  - There was a suggestion made to have a preparatory session with youth before the (LCIPP indigenous youth) round table to make the event designed and led by youth. The process and contents should be led by indigenous youth;
  - There was a suggestion to have a consultation prior to COP to incorporate ideas reflected by indigenous youth and youth from local communities from each indigenous sociocultural region for international climate policy work under the UNFCCC, since participation at the COP is difficult.

**c. Topics, themes, areas that could be discussed during LCIPP youth round table at COP27**

Following topics were inputted by participants in response to the above question using mentimeter

- Relationship with nature
- Ethno-biology
- Traditional knowledge
- Climate crisis
- Climate impact
- Role of indigenous youths in adaptation and mitigation of climate crisis
- How to ensure climate justice for indigenous communities, traditional knowledge and its collaboration with modern scientific method to protect the environment. Cultural exchange to mitigate the climate problem
- Indigenous knowledge and knowledge transfer
- Impact of climate change on the people's health
- Food systems, biodiversity, territories, land, and water in an integral way, not only exclusively climate change

**Annex I**

The agenda of the consultations was as following:

Moderator:

- Session 1: Mr. Chris Honahnie, FWG Alternate Member from North America
- Session 2: Mr. Aslak Holmberg, FWG Alternate Member from the Artic

<b>Time</b>	<b>Agenda</b>
<b>Opening</b> (10 minutes)	Overview of LCIPP and Activity 8 of second three-year workplan
<b>Open Discussion</b> (70 minutes)	<p><b>Building connections:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Participants shared their contact details, socio-cultural regions, and topics that they expect to be discussed at the annual youth round table during COP27</li> </ul> <p><b>Framing questions for open discussion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ How can the annual youth round table at COP27 be designed to achieve activity 8 objectives?</li> <li>○ What specific actions could help indigenous youth participate fully and effectively in the annual youth roundtable at COP27?</li> </ul>
<b>Next Steps</b> (10 minutes)	Wrap up and closing