

Summary Report

Informal Virtual Youth Consultations

Designing the Annual Youth Round Table at COP 28 for Indigenous youth and youth from local communities

Session 1: 27th September 2023; 9:00-10:00AM (CEST)

Session 2: 29th September 2023; 6:00-7:00PM (CEST)

I. Background

The activity 8 of the 2nd three-year work plan¹ of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (LCIPP)² focuses on the role of Indigenous youth and youth from local communities, and concrete ways to advance their engagement in designing and implementing climate policies and actions at all levels, including the UNFCCC process, such as at COP 28.

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 COP28, 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 COP28 and subsequent sessions.

II. Overview of the consultations

- FWG co-leads for Activity 8 conducted two informal consultations with Indigenous youth and youth from local communities to enable wider participation from different time zones. The first session was conducted in English, Russian and French, and the second session was conducted in English and Spanish.
- The sessions were well attended by approximately ~57 participants in total representing all the socio-cultural regions
- The moderators provided overview of LCIPP, and a brief about Activity 8 of the second three-year work plan

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

² <https://lcipp.unfccc.int/>

- 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 mentimeter³ and Zoom chat were used 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 several questions facilitated by the FWG Activity 8 co-leads. The discussions are summarized below:

Suggestions on the design of the annual youth roundtable at COP 28 to achieve activity 8 objectives

- a. Format of the annual youth roundtable:** Participants provided suggestions on the design of the roundtable which included:
 - adopting a hybrid format, allowing live-streaming on YouTube to accommodate remote participants, especially youth unable to attend physically.
 - prioritize accessibility to ensure participation by a wide range of youth can benefit from the event
 - organize discussions in smaller working groups to facilitate meaningful contributions.
 - facilitate participatory sessions where diverse tools can be used to provide inputs.
 - create opportunities for informal knowledge sharing through relevant climate stories
 - space to enable networking amongst the Indigenous youth and youth from local communities
- b. Enhance engagement with Parties and other high-level stakeholders,** including through development of a comprehensive document or statement consolidating proposals from Indigenous youth
- c. Training and Capacity Building:** Participants suggested following to improve the capacity of youth to participate effectively at the annual youth roundtable, some of the suggestions are already being implemented
 - Provide specialized climate negotiation training tailored to UNFCCC processes and COP events, emphasizing COP-specific strategies.
 - Educate Indigenous youth about LCIPP objectives and their potential roles, offering mentorship by experts.
 - Facilitate connections between experienced negotiators and young Indigenous participants, fostering a supportive learning environment.
 - Organize meetings to prepare Indigenous youth prior to COP28 by discussing proceedings, agendas, and key events.
 - Offer local and regional training opportunities, including comprehensive toolkits with past negotiation analysis.
 - Create engaging events and mock COP sessions to build practical negotiation skills and confidence among youth

³ <https://www.mentimeter.com/>

- d. **Financial Support:** Participants also emphasized the need for financial support, including
 - Support to the participation of Indigenous youth at COP28 to cover travel, accommodation, and related expenses
 - Dedicated financial resources for Indigenous youth at COP28
 - Provide support, including orientation and information kit packets
 - Make resources available to help youth navigate the logistical challenges of COP28
- e. **Communication and Information:** Participants highlighted the importance of empowering youth with information and ensuring effective communication. Their suggestions underscored the need to:
 - Share information about COP28 proceedings and expectations well in advance
 - Provide resources to help youth understand their roles and responsibilities
 - Develop, or tailor, manuals to guide youth on navigating UNFCCC processes
 - Include sections on understanding Indigenous perspectives within the UNFCCC context, in collaboration with the Indigenous Peoples Caucus.
 - Address the problem of youth lacking essential information about COP events
 - Ensure youth have access to resources and information regarding LCIPP, its workplan, activities, and objectives
 - Disseminate the results and the way forward at regional and national levels to ensure the broader impact of the event.
- f. **Cultural and Traditional Integration:** Participants emphasized the need to integrate cultural, traditional and Indigenous perspectives
 - Recognize and value traditional Indigenous knowledge in climate discussions
 - Create dedicated spaces for Indigenous youth to share their stories, experiences, and knowledge through oral traditions, art, and culturally relevant means
 - Promote cultural diversity and Indigenous heritage at COP28
 - Showcase Indigenous sustainable practices and environmental stewardship as examples of effective climate action
- g. **Follow-up:** Participants identified the need for sustaining the momentum and activities beyond the dialogue. They emphasized the need to:
 - Implement more effective follow-up strategies and create platform for sustained engagement beyond COP28
 - Foster ongoing engagement and collaboration among Indigenous youth
 - Strengthen and reinforce Indigenous youth forum spaces for continuous dialogue and action
- h. **Interpretation:** Given the need to include and involve Indigenous youth from all sociocultural regions, participants also highlighted the importance of interpretation services to overcome language barriers.

Topics, themes and areas that could be discussed during LCIPP youth round table at COP28

- Indigenous Rights and Perspectives
- Youth Engagement and Empowerment
- Climate Justice and Equity
- Climate Impact and Adaptation
- International Cooperation and Exchange
- Community-Based Food Production

Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (LCIPP)

Activity 8 of the LCIPP 2nd 3-year workplan (2022-2024)

- Intergenerational knowledge sharing, including tools and methods for transmitting intergenerational knowledge.
- Land and Resource Management
- Legal Frameworks and Protection
- Youth-Led Climate Initiatives and Solutions
- Climate change and health including mental health
- Loss and damage
- Technology transfer

Annex I

The agenda of the consultations was as following:

Moderator:

- Session 1: Gunn-Britt Retter & Daria,
- Session 2: Graeme Reed,

Time	Agenda
Opening (7 minutes)	Overview of LCIPP and Activity 8 of second three-year workplan
Open Discussion (50 minutes)	Open discussion and questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ What sociocultural region do you associate with?○ What specific topics/themes could be discussed during LCIPP youth roundtable at COP28?○ How can the annual youth round table at COP27 be designed to achieve activity 8 objectives?○ What specific actions could help Indigenous youth participate fully and effectively in the annual youth roundtable at COP28?
Next Steps (3 minutes)	Wrap up and closing