

Thematic Workshop: Further Engaging Local Communities in the UNFCCC Process

Convened by the Incoming COP 30 Presidency

10 November 2025; 13:30 - 17:00 BRT

Meeting Room 15, COP Venue, Belém

I. Mandate and Context

COP 29 invited the incoming COP 30 Presidency to convene a thematic workshop and related dialogues to consider ways to further engage local communities.

II. Mandated Dialogues feeding into this workshop:

Dialogue 1: *Advancing the role of local communities in the UNFCCC process* (3 September, Addis Ababa/hybrid), see: <https://lcipp.unfccc.int/events/advancing-role-local-communities-unfccc-process-convened-incoming-cop-30-presidency>

Dialogue 2: *Co-creating pathways to further engage local communities in the UNFCCC process* (14 October, Brasilia/hybrid), see: <https://lcipp.unfccc.int/events/2nd-LC-Dialogue>

III. Overall purpose

To convene a focused, solutions-oriented workshop that centers the lived realities and place-based knowledge of local communities; identifies concrete pathways to further engage local communities across the UNFCCC process; gathers clear and actionable recommendations for Parties and constituted bodies; and delivers on relevant mandates arising from relevant COP decisions.

IV. Core Principles

- a. “With,” not “for”: Co-create pathways to enhance the engagement of local communities for the benefit of all.
- b. Knowledge systems complementarity: Bridge diverse knowledge systems, understanding that climate change is a common concern of humankind.
- c. Speaking with care: Share from lived experiences; all voices are welcome.
- d. Listen with care: Practice active, respectful listening to understand and connect.
- e. Inclusive and accessible: Provide multilingual interpretation and hybrid participation options.

V. Participants

- a. Party representatives
- b. UNFCCC constituted bodies and work programmes
- c. UNFCCC constituencies
- d. UN agencies and intergovernmental organizations
- e. Local community representatives and networks
- f. Other relevant entities

VI. Provisional Agenda

TIME	ITEM
13:30-14:00	Meet and greet
14:00 - 14:10	Opening and Welcome Remarks <i>by the incoming COP 30 Presidency</i>
14:10 – 15:10	Panel Discussion and Open Dialogue: From Local Realities to Pathways for Engagement ▪ Scene setting by moderator to present the outcomes from the mandated dialogues (5 mins) ▪ Panel discussion (30 mins) ○ Voices of local communities - stories and testimonies from local communities ○ Party representatives – existing or possible new ways to further engage local communities ○ Constituted Bodies ▪ Reflections and Open Dialogue (25 mins)
15:10 – 16:10	Shaping together: from lived experiences to participation and representation with integrity ▪ Group A: Ways to capture, highlight, and disseminate experiences and practices of local communities across the UNFCCC process (e.g., membership in relevant bodies and expert/advisory groups). ▪ Group B: Pathways to mobilize participation and representation of local communities in an inclusive and transparent process that reflects local communities' agency and voices.
16:10 – 16:50	Key takeaways ▪ Indicative list of pathways to mobilize the participation and representation of local communities in the UNFCCC process ▪ Recommendations for Parties and relevant constituted bodies, in particular the Facilitative Working Group, and workstreams under the Convention and the Paris Agreement to further engage local communities.
16:50 – 17:00	Closing Remarks <i>by incoming COP 30 Presidency</i>

Annex I: LCIPP and its FWG

COP 24 established the Facilitative Working Group (FWG) of the LCIPP to further operationalize the LCIPP and facilitate the implementation of its functions. COP 24 decided that the FWG would be comprised of fourteen representatives, as follows:

- a) One representative of a Party from each of the five United Nations regional groups;
- b) One representative of a Party from a small island developing State;
- c) One representative of a least developed country Party;
- d) Seven representatives from Indigenous Peoples organizations, one from each of the seven United Nations Indigenous sociocultural regions;

With the same decision (i.e., [decision 2/CP.24](#)), COP 24 requested the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice to consider, in the context of the FWG review, and taking into account progress related to the representation of local communities, the addition of at least three additional representatives to represent local communities, as well as a process for the appointment of such representatives, and an equal number of Party representatives, with a view to recommending a draft decision on the representation of local communities on the LCIPP for consideration and adoption by the COP in November 2021.

Annex II: Mandates

The COP and CMA recognized the important role of local communities, as expressed in their respective decisions, and urged Parties to enhance their engagement in the design and implementation of climate action. These decisions include, but are not limited to:

Decision	Text	Link
14/CP.29	COP 29 “encourages Parties and relevant constituted bodies, in particular the Facilitative Working Group, and representatives of workstreams under the Convention and the Paris Agreement to consider ways to further engage local communities and invites the incoming Presidency of the thirtieth session of the Conference of the Parties (November 2025) to convene in conjunction with that session a thematic workshop and relevant dialogues in line with the activities included in the workplan of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform;”	Here
1/CMA.5	CMA 5 “recognizes the role of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform in strengthening the capacity of Indigenous Peoples and local communities to effectively engage in the intergovernmental process under the Paris Agreement and calls on Parties to meaningfully engage Indigenous Peoples and local communities in their climate policies and action”	here
2/CMA.5	CMA 5 called for “Protecting cultural heritage from the impacts of climate-related risks by developing adaptive strategies for preserving cultural practices and heritage sites and by designing climate-resilient infrastructure, guided by traditional knowledge, Indigenous Peoples’ knowledge and local knowledge systems;”	
	CMA 5 “recognizes the leadership of Indigenous Peoples and local communities as stewards of nature and encourages the ethical and equitable engagement with Indigenous Peoples and local communities and application of traditional knowledge, the knowledge, wisdom and values of Indigenous Peoples, and local knowledge systems in implementing the United Arab Emirates Framework for Global Climate Resilience;”	
16/CP.26	“Invites Parties and stakeholders to enhance engagement of indigenous peoples and representatives of local communities in diverse and innovative ways in addressing and responding to climate change;”	Here
1/CP.26, 1/CMA.3	“Emphasizes the important role of indigenous peoples’ and local communities’ culture and knowledge in effective action on climate change and urges Parties to actively involve indigenous peoples and local communities in designing and implementing climate action;”	Here
2/CP.24	COP 24 requested “Requests the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice to consider, in the context of the review referred to in paragraph 27 below, and taking into account progress related to the representation of local communities, the addition of at least three additional representatives to represent local communities, as well as a process for the appointment of such representatives, and an equal number of Party representatives, with a view to recommending a draft decision on the representation of local communities on the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform for consideration and adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its twenty-seventh session (November 2021);”	Here
1/CP.16	“Also requests developing country Parties, when developing and implementing their national strategies or action plans, to address, inter alia, the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, land tenure issues, forest governance issues, gender considerations and the safeguards identified in	Here

	paragraph 2 of appendix I to this decision, ensuring the full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, inter alia indigenous peoples and local communities;	
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