

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' ENGAGEMENT IN IFAD 13

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The Indigenous Peoples Forum at the IFAD had its 6th Global Meeting on February 9-13, 2023, ahead of the IFAD Governing Council. In preparation of the global meeting, 13 regional and sub-regional consultation meetings took place throughout October and November 2022. During this whole process we reviewed the partnership between IFAD and Indigenous Peoples.

We appreciate the involvement in the IFAD13 replenishment and we look forward to increased participation and collaboration.

We would like to put forward the following priorities for IFAD13 to be considered by the IFAD Member State Representatives, which are embedded in the updated IFAD's Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples, approved by IFAD EB at its 137 session (December 2022):

1. Set the Indigenous Forum process as top priority in IFAD agenda, whereby its importance as a unique process within the UN is visibly acknowledged while taking forward IFAD's commitment of yearly allocation of resources for the process.
2. Agree on exact modalities to bring forth the implementation of the *Observer Status* of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum's Steering Committee in the EB (as per the updated policy). This would facilitate advance sharing of documents of projects that are implemented in areas inhabited by IPs, and help in the development of guidelines for the process of nomination of indigenous representatives.
3. IFAD aims at gradually increasing investments that prioritize Indigenous Peoples, with an overall target of 11 million Indigenous persons expected to be reached by 2032. In this context, we expect IFAD to: (i) improve technical advice and participation of Indigenous experts in project design and implementation missions in order to seek IPs' perspective for exercising their right to development and to systematically implement Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) in its investments; and (ii) engage IPs in relevant country programmes through local and national consultative processes. This requires adequate budget allocation to support the consultation processes.
4. With respect to ASAP+, while it is appreciated that the IPFI SC is represented in the ASAP+ Advisory Committee, it is important that the potential of ASAP+ for direct financing/implementation to/by non-state actors is fully defined and operationalised.
5. Similarly, once the Private Sector Financing Programme (PSFP) becomes fully operational, a representative of the IPFI SC should be nominated in its Advisory Committee, and clear opportunities for engagement between IPs and private sector actors within the Programme should be identified.
6. The **Indigenous Peoples Assistance Facility (IPAF)** can be leveraged for greater impact. While we support the process of engaging donors for supplementary funding, it is important that IFAD regularly replenishes the Facility including through mobilization of its own grant resources.

Finally, we hope representatives of the Steering Committee of the Indigenous Peoples Forum at IFAD should be invited to follow the formal IFAD13 replenishment consultation as silent observers.

Thank you!