



The Indigenous Peoples Alliance for Rights and Development (IPARD)

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES: CHALLENGES AND NEEDS

Despite managing nearly one quarter of the earth's surface, Indigenous Peoples face an immense range of challenges—challenges which limit their capacity to secure their rights, strengthen their livelihoods practices, and consolidate sustainable development and governance within their territories.

The Indigenous Peoples Alliance for Rights and Development (IPARD) aims to change that. Enhancing and diversifying the capacities of Indigenous Peoples' organizations and communities will set Indigenous Peoples on the path to self-sufficiency and will be a key component to create positive and long-lasting impacts for their communities.

POLICY, INVESTMENTS, AND DEVELOPMENT FROM, TO, AND WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

In 2020, USAID launched both its new Policy on Promoting the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and GDA IPARD. These initiatives create a new framework and opportunities for triggering systematic change and institutional transformation on funding and investment mechanisms (FIM) from, to, and with Indigenous Peoples (FTW-IP). The FTW-IP FIM can inspire a new model of International Development that will advance progress toward international, regional and national development goals through supporting and co-creating policy and market-based solutions with the private sector and governments in line with Indigenous Peoples' long-term goals.

IPARD'S VISION AND OBJECTIVES

Led by the FSC Indigenous Foundation, and with support from the Forest Stewardship Council and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), IPARD will center Indigenous Peoples in the continued management and preservation of the world's forests. Its long-term strategic vision is to catalyze an enabling environment where Indigenous Peoples manage, develop, and govern their own territories based on the principles of self-determined development, traditional practices, environmental conservation, and respect for their customary rights.

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IPARD's vision will be achieved through three systematic and interlinked objectives:

1. To organize and convene a Capacity Development Program for Indigenous Peoples' organizations and stakeholders;
2. To foster an enabling environment for Indigenous Peoples' recognition, effective participation, and joint decision-making in matters affecting them, and;
3. To promote Indigenous Peoples' sustainable development based on self-determined economic models.

IPARD'S THEORY OF CHANGE

If Indigenous Peoples are provided with increased access to capacity-building training, spaces for inclusive decision-making, and support for Indigenous-led business enterprises, then they will be better equipped to influence public-private decision-making to secure self-governance of their territories, catalyze an enabling environment that recognizes and incorporates Indigenous Peoples' interests into policies and investments, and partner with the private sector to create opportunities to strengthen their economies.

Throughout this process, Indigenous Peoples will be the protagonists, building innovative ways to implement strategies on the ground. The partnership is driven by and for Indigenous peoples to create the underlying conditions necessary to achieve long-term impacts for Indigenous Peoples worldwide.

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