



**GREEN
CLIMATE
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Meeting of the Board
21 – 24 October 2024
Songdo, Incheon, Republic of Korea
Provisional agenda item 5

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Summary of advice of the fourth meeting of the Indigenous Peoples Advisory Group, 5–8 February 2024, Songdo, Incheon, Republic of Korea

Summary

The following document contains the outcomes of the fourth formal meeting of the GCF Indigenous Peoples Advisory Group (IPAG-4) held 5–8 February 2024, Songdo, Incheon, Republic of Korea.

Summary of advice of the fourth meeting of the Indigenous Peoples Advisory Group, 5–8 February 2024, Songdo, Incheon, Republic of Korea

Agenda

- Item 1. Welcome and opening of the meeting
- Item 2. Election of Chair of the fourth meeting of the Indigenous Peoples Advisory Group
- Item 3. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
- Item 4. Update from the Indigenous Peoples Advisory Group on implementation, including from related bodies and processes at international and regional levels
- Item 5. Update and report from the Secretariat on the implementation of the Indigenous Peoples Policy
- Item 6. Progress in the rolling workplan of the Indigenous Peoples Advisory Group
- Item 7. Discussion on direct access and proposed global initiatives
- Item 8. Discussion on country work programmes with the Division of Country Programming and the Office of Sustainability and Inclusion
- Item 9. Discussion on Simplified Approval Process funding proposals with the Division of Mitigation and Adaptation – Simplified Approval Process team and the Office of Sustainability and Inclusion
- Item 10. Dialogue with Climate Impact Advisory Team
- Item 11. Dialogue with Private Sector Facility
- Item 12. Discussion on the evaluation of GCF's approach to Indigenous Peoples with the Independent Evaluation Unit
- Item 13. Preparations for the Indigenous Peoples Advisory Group 2025-2028
- Item 14. Upcoming meetings of the Indigenous Peoples Advisory Group
- Item 15. Other matters
- Item 16. Closing

This document records the main outcomes of the fourth meeting of the Indigenous Peoples Advisory Group (IPAG-4) of GCF held from 5 to 8 February 2024 in Songdo, Incheon, Republic of Korea.

Welcome and opening of the meeting (agenda item 1)

IPAG-4 was opened at 9:30 am on 5 February 2024 with a Shuar prayer from IPAG member Juan Carlos Jintiach. James Williams, the Secretariat's Sustainability Manager, provided welcoming remarks on behalf of the Office of Sustainability and Inclusion (OSI).

Election of the Chair of the fourth meeting of the Indigenous Peoples Advisory Group (agenda item 2)

Balkissou Buba, Mbororo pastoralist woman from Cameroon, was elected Chair of the fourth meeting of the Indigenous Peoples Advisory Group.

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work (agenda item 3)

The agenda was adopted as provided in annex 1 to this document.

Update from the IPAG on implementation, including from related bodies and processes at international and regional levels (agenda item 4)

The IPAG:

1. *Requests* the Secretariat to liaise with the Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in order to propose modalities and avenues for joint exchange between the IPAG and the Facilitative Working Group of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (FWG), and provide an update at the next meeting of the IPAG;
2. *Also requests* the Secretariat to provide information on GCF to Indigenous Peoples at the regional level, in the regions of developing countries where GCF may fund activities, and *further requests* the Secretariat to propose a strategy for highlighting GCF updates and good practices in relation to Indigenous Peoples at strategic global events such as at the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to be held in Cali, Colombia and the thirtieth session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP 30) to be held in Belém, Brazil, including through coordination with similar financial mechanisms, and to present these at the next meeting of the IPAG;
3. *Notes* the progress of the establishment of the Fund for responding to loss and damage¹ and *requests* the Secretariat to report on means by which GCF good practices on inclusion, particularly with relation to Indigenous Peoples, can be conveyed to that Fund; and
4. *Notes* that UNFCCC regional climate weeks are strategic avenues for intervention and communication with governments and other partners.

Update and report from the Secretariat on the implementation of the Indigenous Peoples Policy (agenda item 5)

The IPAG:

Policies and Frameworks

5. *Notes* with appreciation the update from OSI on the information presented on the implementation of GCF policies and *requests* updates at future meetings.

GCF regional dialogues

6. *Appreciates* the opportunity to participate in 2023 GCF regional dialogues and *notes* the arrangements to date for future regional dialogues in 2024; and
7. *Agrees* to continue to participate in future GCF regional dialogues and the Global Programming Conference and *requests* the Secretariat's Division of Country Programming and OSI to continue to facilitate participation, including within the agenda of the dialogue.

GCF funded activities

8. *Notes* with appreciation the update from OSI on GCF funded activities, both those recently adopted at the thirty-seventh meeting of the Board and those currently under implementation and *requests* updates at future meetings.

¹ See: <https://unfccc.int/loss-and-damage-fund-joint-interim-secretariat>

Progress in the rolling workplan of the Indigenous Peoples Advisory Group (agenda item 6)

The IPAG:

9. *Notes* the progress made in the IPAG rolling workplan;
10. *Requests* the Secretariat to update the workplan for 2024 to take into consideration the outcomes of this meeting;
11. *Identifies* the need to strengthen capacity of GCF partners on the Indigenous Peoples Policy (IPP); and
12. *Highlights* with appreciation the important role of OSI on leading GCF in issues of inclusion, particularly on Indigenous Peoples and *requests* that the Secretariat continue to provide further support for OSI especially on Indigenous Peoples' issues.

Studies on the review and analysis of the delivery of GCF funds to Indigenous Peoples, relevant Indigenous Peoples advisory bodies and Indigenous Peoples-targeted funds

13. *Notes* progress made on the study on the “review and analysis of the delivery of GCF funds to Indigenous Peoples”, the survey on the “relevant Indigenous Peoples advisory bodies, including within GCF Accredited Entities (AEs) and other partners” and the review of “experiences of IP-targeted funds” and *requests* the Secretariat to reflect the input in the revised draft to be presented at IPAG-5; and
14. *Also requests* that the data and analysis presented be synthesized into communication materials, including briefs which can be used by the IPAG.

Ad hoc learning missions on land use, forests and ecosystems of the Division of Portfolio Management

15. *Appreciates* the update on ad hoc learning missions on land use, forests and ecosystems, including on the GCF funded project FP019 Priming Financial and Land use Planning Instruments to Reduce Emissions from Deforestations;
16. *Requests* the Division of External Affairs, Division of Portfolio Management, and respective GCF partners to facilitate the production and dissemination of knowledge products and information on the outcomes of ad hoc learning missions, including case studies on Indigenous issues;
17. *Also requests* OSI and relevant specialists from the Division of Portfolio Management to facilitate the participation of the IPAG in future ad hoc learning missions relevant for analysing the effect of GCF activities on Indigenous Peoples.

Discussion on direct access and proposed global initiatives (agenda item 7)

The IPAG:

18. *Highlights* the importance of innovative models that enable direct access of Indigenous Peoples to climate finance, especially at GCF;
19. *Recalls* the invitation of the Executive Director of GCF at IPAG-3 to contribute to enhancing Indigenous Peoples' access to climate finance as well as the vision in the updated Strategic Plan for the GCF 2024–2027 of facilitating direct access and, towards these goals:
 - a. *Invites* GCF to prioritize global initiatives that enhance Indigenous Peoples' access in the 2024–2027 period, and provide updates on progress on this at the next meeting of the IPAG;
 - b. *Requests* OSI to facilitate, during and in between IPAG meetings, exchanges between IPAG members with relevant GCF staff, that aim to strengthen the GCF portfolio and pipeline with relevance to Indigenous Peoples; and
 - c. *Also requests* from OSI a report on the modalities that can enhance direct access of Indigenous Peoples at GCF.
20. *Welcomes* with appreciation the leadership of Malaysia in submitting a Readiness proposal on a GCF Global Indigenous Peoples Dialogue and towards this end:
 - a. *Endorses* the proposal;
 - b. *Recalls* the urgency of promoting the role of Indigenous Peoples in addressing climate change and requests the GCF Secretariat to process the submission made by the Delivery Partner and the Government of Malaysia to implement the proposal before UNFCCC COP 29;
 - c. *Encourages* the Secretariat, the Government of Malaysia and partners to implement the proposal so that the widest possible group of GCF stakeholders benefit from the proposal including Indigenous Peoples, national designated authorities, direct access entities, AEs, relevant GCF Secretariat staff, and the GCF Observer network of Civil Society Organizations, Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities;
 - d. *Also encourages* the Secretariat to raise awareness of the proposal and explore possible collaborations and partnerships at upcoming relevant events, including at the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the sessions of the UNFCCC subsidiary bodies, Climate Week NYC 2025 and the GCF Global Programming Conference;
 - e. *Welcomes* the offer by H.E. Razan Al Mubarak, UN Climate Change High-Level Champion for the leadership team of the COP 28 Presidency, to support and promote Indigenous Peoples' access to climate finance and GCF; and
 - f. *Requests* the Secretariat to explore collaboration with H.E. Razan Al Mubarak in this matter.

Proposed global initiatives

21. *Notes* with appreciation the update on the ongoing initiatives to develop multi-country proposals that include components that enable Indigenous Peoples and local communities to propose sub-project activities;
22. *Requests* AEs and relevant divisions of the Secretariat to continue to keep the GCF Indigenous Peoples Focal Point informed and consulted in the development of

- proposals so that the Focal Point may update the IPAG, in line with their roles and functions;
23. *Highlights* that having dedicated activities for Indigenous Peoples, including technical and sub-grant instruments, is an important good practice that can enhance direct access;
 24. *Recalls* the IPAG-3 advice to AEs to consult directly with as many Indigenous Peoples organizations as possible in the design and development of the proposals, and their subsequent implementation, and *notes* that:
 - a. These organizations should primarily be based in the countries, localities and communities where the programmes and projects will be implemented;
 - b. Indigenous Peoples advisory bodies need to have both experts and Indigenous Peoples representatives who possess regional legitimacy; and
 - c. The efforts expended by Indigenous Peoples to achieve the design and development of the proposals should be fairly compensated;
 25. *Highlights* with concern the need to ensure that GCF financing does not lead to violations of human rights, including the rights of Indigenous Peoples, and *also highlights* that in the conservation sector in general, there are historical and ongoing cases where Indigenous Peoples have been killed, displaced, intimidated and unfairly restricted from access through enhancement of protected areas;
 26. *Requests* that the GCF Secretariat ensures that potential partners have satisfactorily resolved any allegations of human rights violations, have robust processes and structures in place to prevent future human rights violations, and that these organizations are fully compliant with the IPP, before the organizations proceed with the development and submission of any proposal that may affect Indigenous Peoples; and
 27. *Recalls* that the project-specific assessment approach eligibility criteria set out the need for entities to be able to meet all GCF accreditation requirements, the need to have a consistent and positive track record including on environmental and social safeguards and gender; and *requests* the Secretariat to provide an update to the IPAG on the ways by which these criteria are satisfied.

Discussion on Country Programmes with the Division of Country Programming and the Office of Sustainability and Inclusion (agenda item 8)

The IPAG:

28. *Welcomes* an intentional approach to enhancing the inclusion of Indigenous Peoples' voices in country programming and towards that end:
 - a. *Notes* that greater awareness-raising and capacity-building of GCF partners and Indigenous Peoples with respect to the GCF Readiness and Preparatory Programme is urgently needed;
 - b. *Supports* the development of targeted capacity-building activities and tools; and

29. Requests for periodic exchanges with the GCF regional desks as standing items in the meetings of the IPAG.

Session on the Simplified Approval Process funding proposals with the Division of Mitigation and Adaptation and the Office of Sustainability and Inclusion (agenda item 9)

The IPAG:

30. Recognizes the potential that the simplified approval process (SAP) has in catalysing locally led adaptation implemented by Indigenous Peoples;
31. Notes that any efforts to improve the efficiency of the SAP should not compromise the quality of the proposals especially with respect to the objectives of the IPP;
32. Notes the key role that the SAP may have in enhancing the implementation of the IPP through supporting the leadership role of Indigenous Peoples in tackling climate change, through their knowledge systems and resilience, and requests periodic updates on the number of SAP funding proposals that enhance participation of Indigenous Peoples in climate action; and
33. Requests the Division of Mitigation and Adaptation and OSI to collaborate in the generation of communication material, short case studies, best practices and lessons learned illustrating how the simplified procedures used by the SAP satisfactorily fulfil the standards of due diligence requested by GCF, and also requests that this material be shared with Indigenous Peoples.

Dialogue with the Climate Impact Advisory Team (agenda item 10)

The IPAG:

34. Requests that working documents be shared with the IPAG for their input including the guidance document on climate risk analysis and the guidance on setting out the climate context of GCF proposals;
35. Also requests that working arrangements be made for the IPAG, Climate Impact Advisory team and OSI to collaborate in unpacking Indigenous knowledge for climate evidence creation and adaptation impacts, including through case studies from the GCF portfolio; and
36. Further requests that the Climate Information Gateway platform with elements on Indigenous knowledge be shared with the IPAG for comments.

Dialogue with the Division of the Private Sector Facility (agenda item 11)

The IPAG:

37. Welcomes the dialogue with the Division of the Private Sector Facility (PSF);
38. Recalls the outcomes of the first dialogue with the PSF at IPAG-1;
39. Notes the importance of these exchanges and invites the PSF to meet with the IPAG at its sixth meeting;
40. Invites the PSF to include Indigenous Peoples and the IPAG in meetings organized by the PSF with the private sector;

41. *Welcomes* the proposals outlined by the PSF that engage Indigenous Peoples, including through their knowledge systems, and *invites* the PSF to keep the IPAG informed about their development;
42. *Highlights* the need to improve the disclosure of information on environmental and social risks and opportunities for Indigenous Peoples in PSF programmes and projects and *requests* recommendations from PSF and the GCF Secretariat that achieve this aim; and
43. *Urges* the PSF to engage Indigenous Peoples experts in the review and development of proposals and *invites* the PSF and the GCF Secretariat to consider establishing a roster of experts to promote access to this expertise.

Discussion on the evaluation of GCF's approach to Indigenous Peoples with the Independent Evaluation Unit (agenda item 12)

The IPAG:

44. *Notes* the presentation of the Independent Evaluation Unit (IEU) on the Indigenous Peoples evaluation;
45. *Welcomes* that the IEU will be liaising with the IPAG for guidance and advice;
46. *Encourages* the IEU to undertake a robust and independent evaluation of GCF's approach to Indigenous Peoples.

Preparations for the Indigenous Peoples Advisory Group 2025–2028 (agenda item 13)

The IPAG:

47. *Recalls* the delays in meeting and implementing the workplan caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, *decides* exceptionally to extend the current term of office for members of the IPAG (including alternates) and the workplan until the end of 2026, and *amends* paragraph 10 of the Indigenous Peoples Advisory Group Terms of Reference correspondingly.

Upcoming meetings of the Indigenous Peoples Advisory Group (agenda item 14)

The IPAG:

48. *Agrees* that the next meeting of the IPAG shall take place from 26 to 29 August 2024, at GCF headquarters in Songdo, Incheon, Republic of Korea and *requests* the Secretariat to make arrangements as necessary towards the organization of IPAG-5.

Closing (agenda item 16)

IPAG-4 was closed by the Chair of IPAG-4, along with a traditional song from Helen Magata and a Shuar prayer from Juan Carlos Jintiach. Tiffany Hodgson, Head of the Office of Sustainability and Inclusion, officiated on behalf of the GCF Secretariat.
