

# SUPPORTING INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES' INITIATIVES

## KEY ACTORS

**Co-Leads:** Norway and Peru.

**Active Members:** Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, DRC, Ecuador, Fiji, Germany, Ghana, Netherlands, UK, USA.

**Critical Non-Members:** GATC, Indigenous leaders within FCLP countries, Forest Tenure Funders Group (FTFG), COP30 Presidency, HE Razan Al-Mubarak (former Climate Change Champion), Rights + Resources Initiative, International Land Tenure Facility, Rainforest Foundation Norway, UNDP.

## OBJECTIVE

This workstream exists to provide political and technical support to governments who are willing to prioritise the recognition of Indigenous Peoples, and local communities' tenure rights as a critical part of national climate, biodiversity and development strategies.

## DEFINING THE PROBLEM

Deforestation rates on Indigenous lands were between 17% and 26% lower on average compared to unprotected tropical forests globally. With territories covering over 50% of the Earth's terrestrial surface, Indigenous Peoples', and local communities play a critical role in protecting tropical forests and preserving vital ecosystems. However, only 11% of the land Indigenous Peoples' conserve is recognised as theirs which means that an additional estimated 1,375 million hectares of land remains unrecognised. Nearly all land investments affect rural communities and without secure rights, conflict and dispute can risk slowing investment, displacing people, and preventing those communities from acting in their critical roles as guardians of the forest.

## VALUE ADD

- Specifically, Indigenous People's representatives have asked for a permanent and regular space which brings together governments, funders and Indigenous organizations representing forest dependent communities away from a formal negotiation space.
- The FCLP can provide regular high-level platforms for IP and LCs to access critical decision-makers, as well as ensuring that IP and LCs rights are considered across a range of critical work areas rather than being treated in isolation.

## COP30 DELIVERABLES

1. Deliver a global inter-governmental commitment across tropical forest countries to scale up the recognition of forest and land tenure rights for Indigenous Peoples, and local communities, by 2030.
2. Support the delivery of a renewed financial pledge to support land tenure recognition for IP and LCs.
3. Support FCLP members to advance national policies in support of Indigenous Peoples, and local communities.

## SYNERGIES ACROSS FCLP PRIORITIES

- Existing National Plans: Some countries have commitments on land tenure recognition already in FCLP Country Packages, NDCs and NBSAPs, and through their bilateral and multilateral partnerships. There are likely to be synergies in Pillar 3, where the FCLP is seeking to make connections with organisations supporting countries to implement national strategies like UNDP Climate Promise and the NDC Partnership.
- All workstreams at some stage will encounter IP and LCs as key stakeholders. There may be opportunities for other workstreams to use the Platform to consult on key issues and secure feedback from a range of stakeholders and experts in this sector.

## PROGRESS TO DATE

1. At COP28, Norway and Peru launched a Platform to support Indigenous Peoples', and local communities in forest climate action. This brings together representatives of all critical stakeholders and seeks to deliver the global commitment at COP30 and to support countries technically, politically and financially to deliver their national plans.
2. At COP29, 12 countries committed to work together to support the delivery of a global pledge **across tropical forest countries** on land recognition at COP30. The FCLP is (and has) facilitating support for these countries through coordination with FTFG members.

## MILESTONES AND KEY EVENTS

