



**SUBMISSION FROM THE «COMUNIDADE DO MONTE VECIÑAL EN MAN COMÚN DE FROXÁN»
ON THE LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' PLATFORM**

Decision 1/CP.21 paragraph 135.

The «Comunidade do Monte Veciñal en Man Común de Froxán» (Froxán Village Commons) is a consuetudinary body that has managed a local community territory in the current municipality of Lousame, Galiza (Spain), for over five centuries. Over the past 100 years it has struggled with State usurpation of and interference in its traditional lands, rights and conservation practices, leading to significant degradation due to mining activities and introduction of invasive forestry species. Since the legal restoration of most of its land rights in 1977, the Community has struggled for the preservation and restoration of the land it stewards.

We thus welcome the COP's recognition of the role of local communities and indigenous peoples in climate action, particularly through decision 1/CP.21 paragraph 135. We hope the proposed Platform may contribute to develop the appropriate recognition and support of indigenous peoples' and community conserved territories and areas ("ICCAs") by national governments and the wider world.

To fulfill the decision of establishing "a platform for the exchange of experiences and sharing of best practices on mitigation and adaptation in a holistic and integrated manner", we call COP to recognize and cooperate with existing efforts working on this matter, globally, regionally and locally, such as the Global ICCA Registry (<http://www.iccaregistry.org/>), the ICCA Consortium (<http://www.iccaconsortium.org/>), LandMark Global Platform of Indigenous and Community Lands (<http://www.iccaconsortium.org/>), etc.

We also call for further efforts in the recognition of indigenous peoples' and community conserved territories and areas, as called for in CBD COP 10, where it was noted that national legislation should explicitly foresee them, but also to safeguard due respect for customary governance systems, which has not been specifically addressed so far. We adhere to the recommendations and proposals set forth in the comprehensive review of international law and jurisprudence relevant for Indigenous peoples and local communities developed by the ICCA Consortium.

In the Commons of Froxán, January 17, 2017.