

Indigenous Peoples' Day at the COP23



Indigenous Peoples

There are over 370 million indigenous people around the world. They have their own distinct languages, cultures, and social and political institutions apart from mainstream society. Though divided amongst all continents, at least 5000 different peoples, and approximately 4000 languages, they are coming together with a common voice to address historic inequities which have resulted in these groups being some of the most marginalized and victimized communities.



International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change (<http://www.iipfcc.org/>)

The International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change (IIPFCC) was established in 2008, as the Caucus for IPs participating in the UNFCCC processes. The IIPFCC represents the IP Caucus members who are present/attending the official UNFCCC COPs and intersessional sessions of the SBSTA/SBI bodies in between COPs. Its mandate is to come into agreement specifically on what IPs will be negotiating for in specific UNFCCC processes. IP representatives attending the meetings have their own organizations at subnational, national and global levels which have their own agenda, priorities and own proposals that they may carry and push for during the IP Caucus meetings.

Indigenous Peoples, the Environment and Climate Change

Given their widespread reliance on natural resources and ecosystems, indigenous peoples and local communities are especially vulnerable to, and disproportionately impacted by, climate change. They are being forcibly removed from their lands by deforestation, sea-level rise, major infrastructure projects, and conflict arising from resource scarcity. All the while, they play a

critical role in climate change mitigation and adaptation through their historic and effective role as stewards of much of the world's remaining forests.

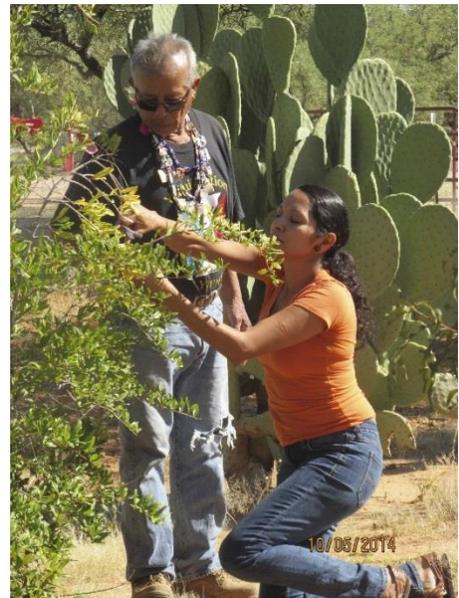
Indigenous Peoples Traditional Knowledge

Since indigenous peoples often lack a voice in decision-making processes that affect them, it is imperative they are supported and enabled to participate in and influence global decision-making on climate change. Facilitating their participation can contribute to a stronger, more effective, and more equitable climate outcome by ensuring traditional knowledge, perspectives and innovations are taken into account. Indigenous peoples in particular have unique perspectives and aspirations for development and environment that are frequently not heard by decision-makers. Negotiating Indigenous Peoples Knowledge Platform.



A Common Voice

Indigenous peoples (IPs) have a particular contribution to make in discussions around climate change and sustainability, given their strong historic and cultural connection and the stewardship role they continue to play in sustainably managing many of the world's biological resources.



Indigenous Peoples' Day

AGENDA

7 November 2017, Room 12, Bonn Zone

9:45-11:15 Official opening of the day

Opening rites: Pacific

IIPFCC co-chair welcome and introduction of the day

Fiji Presidency statement

UNFCCC Secretariat statement

IIPFCC-GSC (7 regions rep remark introduction)

Presentation of the IPs position for COP23

11:30-18:00 Side events held by different regions

11:30-13:00 Coordinating Body of Indigenous Organizations of the Amazon Basin (COICA) - Traditional Knowledge, Paris Agreement and Indigenous Territorial Organizations

13:15-14:45 Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating Committee (IPACC) - African Perspectives: Indigenous Knowledge Platform

15:00-16:30 UN Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization (UNESCO): Reinforcing the contributions of indigenous and traditional knowledge to the Paris Agreement

16:45-18:15 International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA) - Indigenous Peoples Rights: Addressing implementation gaps of the PA preamble through the IP Platform

18:30-19:00 IIPFCC-GSC: Closing rites and reception