

LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES PLATFORM

A trusted and inclusive space for indigenous peoples and local communities to work with Parties towards a climate-resilient world for all.

Concept note: LCIPP workplan activity 4

Capacity for engagement: annual thematic training workshops to build capacity for engaging indigenous peoples and local communities in the relevant work under and outside the UNFCCC process

Version of 26 May

1. Introduction:

The initial two-year workplan for implementing the functions of the LCIPP, under function 2 “Capacity for Engagement”, specifies that the FWG will “Organize annual thematic training workshops to build capacity for engaging indigenous peoples, and local communities in the relevant work under and outside the UNFCCC process”. As per the agreed workplan, one thematic training workshop will be held per year “with indigenous peoples, local communities, Parties and other relevant stakeholders”.

Please note: Given the COVID-19 pandemic, the date of the first workshop is still to be confirmed. The dates tentatively planned are 5-6 October 2020.

2. Objectives

General objectives of this activity

Through its function on “Capacity for Engagement”, the LCIPP aims to “build the capacity of indigenous peoples and local communities to enable their engagement in the UNFCCC process as well as the capacity of Parties and other relevant stakeholders to engage with the platform and with local communities and indigenous peoples, including in the context of the implementation of the Paris Agreement and other climate change related processes. Activity 4 of the initial two-year workplan also specifies that it will focus on both aspects of this function.

As a first step, first the workshop will focus on building capacity for engagement of Parties. As a second step, the second workshop will focus on the capacity of engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities, as a continuation of the same activity. The detailed concept note for the second workshop will be developed by the FWG after the first workshop is held, integrating lessons learned from the first workshop.

This first workshop does not directly address the topic of local knowledge based on the principle that indigenous peoples only speak to their knowledge and cannot speak on behalf of other groups. Over time an understanding of local knowledge may be developed. When local community representatives join the FWG as members (pending the mandated review), further consideration on how to build Parties’ capacity on engaging local knowledge can be initiated as a separate and distinct area of work from Indigenous Knowledge (IK).

Objectives of the first workshop

A key objective in relation to the first workshop is to increase the capacity of Parties and relevant institutions toward understanding, respecting, recognizing and increasing their potential for ethical engagement of indigenous knowledge in the context of averting, minimizing, and addressing the adverse impacts of climate change. This objective is consistent with the findings of the IPCC reports highlighting the adverse impacts of climate change upon indigenous communities, and the significance and value of indigenous knowledge of their respective relationships with diverse and biologically rich ecosystems across the globe. In addition to operationalizing the LCIPP's function of capacity for engagement, this activity will also inform the knowledge function thereby making linkages between these two functions of the Platform.

3. Approach/methodologies for planning and implementing this activity

The workshop will be held over two-days. It would ideally take place during the first days of the SBSTA 52 session pending consultation with the SBSTA Chair.

Co-leads for this activity, with support from the secretariat, will prepare a draft outline for the proposed workshop including proposed sessions and circulate to the FWG for input.

Sessions may include formats such as panels, presentations and group discussions. Each of the seven socio-cultural indigenous regions will have an allotted space to present their views on indigenous knowledge, to enhance understanding of it, as well as protocols for ethical engagement with indigenous knowledge. Reporting will be done to inform FWG 4 and the annual meeting at COP26, if the timing allows.

The workshop format should allow for the face-to-face interaction of participants. The number of participants envisioned to attend is 100-120.

4. Deliverables and results

The workshop sessions will be devoted to developing greater understanding in the context of climate change, of (1) the content of individual and collective human rights of indigenous peoples; (2) contours of indigenous knowledge through provision of an introduction of indigenous knowledge; (3) Indigenous peoples' protocols and guidelines; and (4) important substantive and procedural measures to ensure the ethical engagement of indigenous knowledge holders.

Insights from workshops will be applicable and relevant to ongoing regional and international discussions/processes and consideration of the co-production of knowledge and climate policy as well as the reporting, communication, and synthesis of existing climate knowledge. This event will provide a space to gather indigenous peoples, Parties, local communities and academia together to discuss issues related to indigenous knowledge and recommend ways forward.

At the conclusion of the workshop, the FWG would prepare a workshop **summary report** outlining the key outcomes and recommendations from the workshop, including links to materials that are presented at the workshop (e.g. protocols, definitions).

5. Timeline and milestones for the first training workshop

The timeline will be adjusted when there is more clarity on the date of the workshop.

Month	Task
April	Draft concept note
Dates t.b.c.	Draft agenda developed for circulation to FWG representatives Final agenda confirmed and outreach to speakers and facilitator begin List of materials and space required for the workshop finalized. Invitations sent to participants. Hold the workshop Summary report

6. Partners

United Nations Institute for Training and Research, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), multilateral development banks (World Bank, Asian Development Bank, etc.), Indigenous Peoples Organizations, individual experts and resource persons from Parties, indigenous communities and local communities, other constituted bodies of the UNFCCC, research Institutions/academia.

7. Linkages with other activities

Taking into consideration the initial two-year work plan in its entirety, Activity 4 is linked with a number of other activities, including those serving the function “capacity for engagement”. As an example, the recommendations coming out of the workshop could feed into Activity 6 of the LCIPP workplan, at FWG 4: “Develop recommendations for consideration at SBSTA 54 on the engagement and input of indigenous peoples and local communities across the UNFCCC process”.

It is also closely linked with Activity 1 (i.e. Organize annual meetings in conjunction with the sessions of the COP, with the participation of indigenous peoples, on traditional knowledge, knowledge of indigenous peoples, and local knowledge systems on cross-cutting themes related to addressing and responding to climate change). As these annual meetings are directed to focus on “traditional knowledge, knowledge of indigenous peoples, and local knowledge systems” it is imperative that they are designed, delivered and received with a clear understanding of these distinct knowledge systems. An expected outcome of this workshop is to build a collective and clear understanding of indigenous knowledge and related aspects, that will provide a strong and important foundation to the forthcoming annual meeting to take place at COP 26 and more broadly to operationalize various aspects of the work plan and the three functions of the Platform. Taking this approach will allow for consistency and ease of building on previous work with clear and tangible links between Platform activities.