



IWGIA

ANNUAL REPORT 2019



Acknowledgements

IWGIA promotes, protects and defends Indigenous Peoples' rights. We promote the recognition, respect and implementation of Indigenous Peoples' rights to land, cultural integrity and development on their own terms. We would like to acknowledge all the valuable individuals and groups who have made our work in 2019 possible through various ways of support.

We thank:

- ▶ our partners for their continued commitment and integral support;
- ▶ our members for their financial and operational support;
- ▶ our volunteers for their dedication and time;
- ▶ The Indigenous World authors, who year-after-year voluntarily contribute their expertise into this one-of-a-kind documentation tool;
- ▶ our network and alliances for their invaluable resources, time and energy;
- ▶ international institutions and mechanisms for their support and creating a platform for change;
- ▶ academics and experts for their knowledge and insights;
- ▶ our individual donors for their generous donations; and
- ▶ our project and institutional donors listed below for their financial support.



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF DENMARK



Contents

Supporting Indigenous Peoples' voices	4
Who we are	6
Our work in 2019	7
Climate	8
▶ Indigenous Peoples gain formal space to present strong climate commitment at the UN Climate Summit	9
▶ First national Indigenous climate platform established: A global precedent from Peru	10
▶ Indigenous defenders in Myanmar rising to defend their lands and environment	11
Land rights	13
▶ Pastoralist women demand protection of community land rights in Tanzania	14
▶ Indigenous Peoples in Nepal claim their rights to redress using international complaint mechanism	15
▶ Indigenous Ogiek youth establish own council; become part of the political process	17
▶ Tarimat Pujut: Wampis radio connecting communities	18
Global governance	20
▶ Indigenous Peoples from around the world meet for first time to discuss autonomy and self-government	21
▶ Securing collective rights at the local level in Bolivia	22
▶ Greater recognition of Indigenous Peoples' rights by the UNESCO's World Heritage Committee	24
Communications & documentation	26
▶ Visualising Indigenous autonomies	27
▶ Indigenous communities use data to protect their rights and drive their own development	28
Alliances & engagement	29
▶ IWGIA building strong alliances	29
▶ IWGIA engaging with academic institutions globally	30
▶ IWGIA increasing exposure of Indigenous Peoples' rights in Denmark	31
Finance	32

Supporting Indigenous Peoples' voices

Indigenous Peoples pay a high price for recent decades of unsustainable development. Global economic growth has led to an increased demand for land and natural resources with Indigenous Peoples' land being a primary target for land grabs. As a result, Indigenous Peoples are at a risk of losing their remaining lands and territories.

The implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is important for Indigenous Peoples, including in relation to securing land rights, the basis for their sustainable self-determined development. However, after five years, little progress has been made and a large proportion of the world's 476 million Indigenous Peoples risk discrimination, criminalisation and, in the worst cases, extrajudicial killings when defending their lands.

Indigenous Peoples depend directly on the natural resources on their lands and are the first to experience the impact of climate change. Policies supporting extractivism, agribusinesses and land speculation undermine Indigenous Peoples' land rights and livelihoods, and compound the effects of climate change. Global solutions to the climate crisis require us to address growing inequality, as well as to recognise the contribution of Indigenous Peoples to the conservation of biodiversity and sustainable development.

IWGIA supported Indigenous Peoples in the Amazon who were on the front line defending forested lands from the catastrophic fires throughout 2019. IWGIA also reported on the 130,000 km² of land and forests burned in Siberia, which has had detrimental effects on the lives and livelihood of the Indigenous Peoples who depend on the forest and have traditionally protected it. Fires were not the only dangerous climate change impacts on Indigenous Peoples in 2019. Many Indigenous Peoples across Africa were challenged by unpredictable rainfall, droughts and floods.

IWGIA recognises that Indigenous Peoples are at the centre of climate action. IWGIA addresses climate issues by championing Indigenous Peoples' rights and direct contributions to climate solutions at national and international levels (see Climate – page 8).

Indigenous Peoples' environmental and rights defenders are increasingly threatened, criminalised and murdered according to the global campaign on rights defenders. Nearly 500 Indigenous Peoples have been killed since 2017. Defending one's land, resources and human rights has never been more dangerous. The increasing attacks on environmental and rights activists, and criminalisation of their activities reflects a shrinking civic space across the global south.

Indigenous communities are often located in remote areas far from protection networks and support systems. Consequently, most violations go unreported. Additionally, Indigenous communities have inadequate access to the justice system. Marginalisation of Indigenous Peoples, racism and disrespect or outright criminalisation of their traditional use of natural resources and livelihoods adds to their vulnerability.

IWGIA remains focused on these fundamental challenges to Indigenous Peoples' rights and supports self-organisation and mobilisation projects in many countries, including engaging women and youth in the movement. We also provide expertise and facilitate the process of documenting rights violations and using redress mechanisms (see Land Rights and Territorial Governance – page 13).

Safeguarding rights to land, territories and natural resources is fundamental to the future of Indigenous Peoples. IWGIA supports the global Indigenous Movement, including in the current climate change context, by facilitating Indigenous Peoples' participation at various

high-level international fora, such as within UN agencies and human rights mechanisms. IWGIA also facilitates international meetings on variety of key issues, including territorial governance (see Global Governance – page 20).

At IWGIA, 2019 was a year of reflection and re-organisation at both programmatic and management levels. We have reviewed the way we work and future priorities as our existing institutional strategy comes to an end in 2020.

IWGIA held its biennial members' meeting in November 2019, which focussed on organisational set-up and membership involvement. The inputs received currently frames Board discussions on these matters. The meeting included an open discussion, hosted by Copenhagen University, on Indigenous Peoples' rights in renewable energy projects and how to ensure long-term sustainability. For the first time members attended the meeting virtually, which was an important step towards catering for our global membership.

A number of changes have taken place in the management and staff of IWGIA in 2019. Knud Vilby finished his second term as Board Chair. We would like to thank Knud for his commitment, vision and guidance throughout his tenure and are pleased that he remains a regular Board member.

Ida Theilade has taken over as the new Chair from 2020. With her, IWGIA has a strong leader who knows Indigenous Peoples' issues first-hand from 25 years of research with forest communities on the linkages between climate change, Indigenous Peoples' rights and tropical forest conservation.

At the end of 2019, we said goodbye to Board members Chris Tooley and Laila Susanne Vars. Thank you for your dedication and strong influence on IWGIA's direction with your invaluable insight as Indigenous persons. From the beginning of 2020, we welcomed Elsa Stamatopoulou and Rune Fjellheim to IWGIA's Board. Elsa is currently the first Director of the Indigenous Peoples Rights Program at the Institute for the Study of Human Rights at Columbia University. Rune Fjellheim is an Indigenous Sámi economist who has been serving as the Director General of the Sámi Parliament of Norway since 2008 and has been involved in the parliament since 1991.

In the Secretariat, Kathrin Wessendorf replaced Julie Koch as Executive Director. Kathrin has more than 20 years of experience working on Indigenous Peoples' rights and is highly committed to IWGIA and our partners. We would like to thank Julie Koch for her strategic vision, leaving IWGIA in a firm position to meet the challenges facing Indigenous Peoples globally. We also said goodbye to Bue Heckmann, Press and Communications Manager, a passionate storyteller dedicated to giving Indigenous Peoples a voice.

IWGIA will focus on institutional and fundraising issues in 2020. We will develop a new Institutional Strategy for the organisation incorporating our four new programmes: Land Defence and Defenders, Territorial Governance, Climate Change and Cross-Cutting Global Governance, as well as the implementation of a small grant facility.

We will continue to use our three-pronged approach of advocacy, empowerment and documentation to continue to tackle the root causes and historically systemic barriers that marginalise and endanger Indigenous Peoples lives, livelihoods and identities.

We treasure our fantastic partners, great team at the Secretariat in Copenhagen, wonderful and competent board, and engaged and committed membership of approximately 200 members.

We therefore believe that today we are in a strong position to implement a new 5-year strategy that will address our visions, aspirations and ambitions.

Indigenous Peoples are at the heart of the struggle for self-determination, rights, equality, participation and a more sustainable and just world. IWGIA is proud to stand by and behind Indigenous Peoples. We thank all those who support us to do so.



Kathrin Wessendorf
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Ida Theilade
CHAIR OF THE BOARD

Vision

Our vision is a world where Indigenous Peoples fully enjoy their rights.

Mission

We promote, protect and defend Indigenous Peoples' rights.

Triangle of change

IWGIA uses a three-pronged approach of advocacy, empowerment and documentation to tackle the root causes and historically systemic barriers that marginalise and endanger Indigenous Peoples' lives, livelihoods and identities.

Who we are

For over 50 years, IWGIA has supported the fight for Indigenous Peoples' rights. We are an international human rights organisation that works through a global network of Indigenous Peoples' organisations and international human rights bodies.

We promote the recognition, respect and implementation of Indigenous Peoples' rights to land, cultural integrity and development on their own terms.

IWGIA's work supports Indigenous Peoples around the world. The term Indigenous Peoples is a common denominator for distinct peoples who through historical processes have been marginalised and denied their right to control their own development. For Indigenous Peoples, self-identification is the basic principle in claiming and asserting Indigenous identity.

EMPOWERMENT

Supporting, promoting and empowering Indigenous Peoples' own organisations to control their own development



DOCUMENTATION

Contributing to global knowledge and awareness of Indigenous Peoples' situations by documenting their conditions and the human rights breaches they experience



ADVOCACY

Advocating for change in decision-making processes at local, regional and international levels, including active engagement in international networks

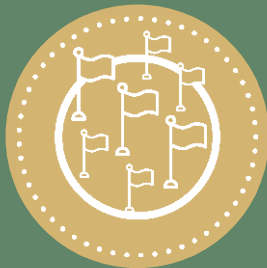
Our work in 2019

- We worked with **37** project partners in **15** project countries
- We supported **175** Indigenous representatives who participated in international and regional processes
- We engaged in **18** international and regional processes

Indigenous Peoples in 2019

- **476 million** Indigenous people around the globe
- Indigenous Peoples live in more than **90** countries
- Indigenous Peoples are the guardians of **80%** of global biodiversity
- Indigenous Peoples make up **6%** of the global population but **15%** of the world's poor





WE WORK IN **6**
COUNTRIES



WE WORK WITH
17 PARTNER
ORGANISATIONS



IWGIA enabled
our partners to
conduct over **54**
trainings



IWGIA and our
partners carried
out over **136**
advocacy actions



IWGIA and our
partners
developed and
disseminated **1,275**
communications
products

Climate action

Despite their environmental stewardship, Indigenous Peoples are not only disproportionately affected by climate change, they are also increasingly negatively impacted by top-down mitigation and adaptation efforts on their lands and territories.

IWGIA's thematic work under our climate change programme seeks to ensure that the rights of Indigenous Peoples affected by climate change and climate action are respected. The programme facilitates that Indigenous Peoples themselves are key actors claiming their rights and contributing with knowledge as part of the solution to climate change.

In 2019, our efforts involved 17 partner organisations in the following 6 countries: Colombia, Myanmar, Nepal, Peru, Tanzania and Vietnam.

In joint collaboration, a total of 54 capacity building interventions, such as technical trainings on international climate mechanisms and civil society coordination meetings for the empowerment of Indigenous women, men and youth were organised. 136 advocacy initiatives were executed at local, national and international levels, including press statements, meetings with national authorities and participation in meetings of international climate mechanisms. 35 Indigenous representatives attended and engaged in advocacy at international meetings including at the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Green Climate Fund. A total of 1,275 communication products, such as newsletters, videos and radio programmes, were produced in English, Spanish and Indigenous languages, covering subjects such as drivers of deforestation, Indigenous women's rights and REDD+ legal and policy frames.

As a result, IWGIA supported targeted Indigenous communities in the 6 countries to defend and protect the biodiversity and forests on their lands and territories (see Peru – page 10; and Myanmar – page 11).

Indigenous voices and influence were strengthened at the international climate negotiations. Targeted advocacy resulted in key decision makers supporting Indigenous policy proposals and including Indigenous Peoples in climate action initiatives (see Climate Summit – page 9).

Additionally, awareness was raised to global audiences on the challenges and opportunities facing Indigenous People in climate change through a variety of products, including award-winning documentary films, radio broadcasts, podcasts and analytical publications.

Indigenous Peoples gain formal space to present strong climate commitment at the UN Climate Summit

At the UN Climate Action Summit on 23 September 2019, Indigenous Peoples from all regions of the world living in diverse eco-systems united to combat climate change and presented their joint global climate commitment. Alongside presidents, prime ministers and corporate executives, Tuntiak Katan of the Ecuadorian Shuar People spoke on behalf of the International Indigenous Peoples' Forum on Climate Change, a caucus of Indigenous Peoples' representatives under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) advocating for Indigenous Peoples' rights and inclusion in response to the climate crisis.

Representatives from Indigenous Peoples and the youth were the only civil society representatives that were formally invited to address the summit. Despite their long-term advocacy stand, formal Indigenous representation has, to a large extent, been absent at UN climate talks. For one of the first times, the UN Climate Action Summit provided a formal space for Indigenous representation.

Strong voice and commitment from Indigenous Peoples to the climate struggle

It was a significant achievement that Indigenous Peoples, in a united voice, presented a strong and clear position on the commitment of Indigenous Peoples globally to respond to the climate crisis. Indigenous Peoples constitute approximately 476 million persons – or 6% of the global population – but protect up to 80% of the world's biodiversity. Indigenous Peoples have been voicing concerns about the consequences of climate change and the crucial role of their traditional knowledge in mitigation and adaptation action since the Rio Summit in 1992.

The UN Climate Action Summit was initiated by the UN Secretary General António Guterres who called on all governments and business leaders to commit to and collaborate on increasing ambitions for combating climate change. At the summit, Indigenous Peoples committed to leading the

implementation of holistic plans to protect biocultural diversity; develop actions to secure their rights to lands, territories and resources, self-determination and free, prior and informed consent (FPIC); and access development of renewable energies in accordance with self-determination and FPIC. These actions would contribute to carbon sequestration and biodiversity restoration, as well as strengthen climate resilience and adaption, and increase effectiveness of climate actions on ground, including disaster prevention and response with the use of Indigenous Peoples' knowledge systems in combination with scientific knowledge.

Bringing Indigenous Peoples together

Throughout 2019, IWGIA supported and facilitated the participation of Indigenous Peoples in several key strategic meetings leading up to the September summit, including with the UN Special Envoy for the 2019 Climate Summit.

A key event was the "Global Conference on Strengthening Synergies between the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", which took place in April 2019 in Copenhagen. IWGIA facilitated a meeting with 3 Indigenous representatives and UN Special Envoy on Climate Action Summit Luis Alfonso de Alba to ensure and strengthen Indigenous representation and engagement in the summit-related climate processes. Indigenous Peoples also used the opportunity to discuss their advocacy strategies for the summit. IWGIA and the Indigenous representatives also developed a roadmap and advocacy strategy for engagement and coordination to ensure meaningful participation, inclusion and influence at the climate event.

In July 2019, IWGIA and 8 Indigenous representatives participated in the Abu Dhabi preparatory meeting for the summit. This meeting was another milestone in developing Indigenous Peoples' positions and lobbying those positions with key decision makers.

"We are more than 400 million Indigenous Peoples in the world and we protect 80% of the world's biodiversity. (...) There's no time left. (...) We must make a pact for life and for our future."

TUNTIK KATAN AT THE UN CLIMATE SUMMIT

In order to ensure a coherent and democratic process with representation from all 7 Indigenous regions in the world, IWGIA co-organised a preparatory Indigenous Peoples meeting in August 2019 with the Mexican National Institute of Indigenous Peoples (INPI) and the Indigenous Peoples Major Group for Sustainable Development (IPMG). More than 20

Indigenous Peoples' representatives from across the world participated, including youth representatives. The meeting was conducted in a true Indigenous spirit and resulted in an agreement on the global joint response from the Indigenous Movement that was presented at the summit.

First national Indigenous climate platform established: A global precedent from Peru

In December 2019, the Peruvian government included the Indigenous Climate Platform into the Regulations of the Framework Law on Climate Change. This historic achievement for Indigenous advocacy in Peru was part of a set of 10 measures that Indigenous leaders successfully lobbied for to be included in the climate law. In particular, the platform is noteworthy as it is the first of its kind in the world and constitutes an avenue for the recognition of the work of Indigenous Peoples and their ancestral knowledge in biodiversity conservation.

The platform is directly inspired by the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples' (LCIP) Platform under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) which aims for local, national and international platforms to be established

around the world. The world is now looking at the precedent set in Peru and expectations are high.

The power of collective advocacy

The Framework Law on Climate Change, adopted in 2018, had been criticised for not being based on proper consultation from civil society, including Indigenous Peoples. In response, the Ministry of Environment initiated an informal consultation process for the regulations of the law, for which national Indigenous organisations elaborated a set of proposed measures and requested there be a formal and official prior consultation process.

When the ministry subsequently presented a draft that failed to include the Indigenous Peoples' proposals, Indigenous organisations, alongside the rest of civil society, repeated their call for an official consultation process. Consequently, the Peruvian government agreed to the call and the official prior consultation process commenced in January 2019. As a result of effective collective advocacy, the final law regulations included all 10 Indigenous measures, including the establishment of the Indigenous Climate Platform.



CREDIT: ONAMIAP

Linking national and international advocacy

IWGIA's long-term climate policy engagement in Peru is primarily implemented through the longstanding support of our partners: Servindi, a leading Spanish language news agency on Indigenous issues that IWGIA helped establish; ONAMIAP, the national organisation for Indigenous Andean and Amazonian women; and Coharyima, an Indigenous territorial organisation.

Since 2016, IWGIA has supported each of the 3 partners, including by facilitating their participation at the UNFCCC, enabling them to develop expert

knowledge on the LCIP Platform and other key aspects of the international climate negotiations which they took back to their communities. IWGIA's support allowed all 3 partners to play important roles in the national consultation process in Peru, participating directly in the consultation process and conducting extensive communication work to raise awareness of Indigenous Peoples' proposals among decision makers. Consultations also took place at the regional level, where IWGIA also worked with partners to build the capacity of Indigenous community leaders to advocate for national policy processes on climate and forests, resulting in their effective engagement throughout the consultation process.

Indigenous defenders in Myanmar rising to defend their lands and environment

In 2019, four Indigenous communities in Shan State, Magway Region and Bago Region of Myanmar successfully stood up against the expansion of extractive industries, agroforestry and protected areas into their customary lands. The communities' mobilisation resulted in halting plans to establish teak plantations on Indigenous Peoples' lands without the affected communities' consent in Bago Region; starting a dialogue between mobilised Indigenous communities and companies interested in their lands in Shan State; and the government recognising the right of Indigenous communities in Magway Region to use the land within the Public Protected Forest.

forests are degraded, polluted or simply taken from them. This results in increased food insecurity and has negative impacts on the health of community members.

A long history of government oppression and limited recognition of Indigenous Peoples' rights in Myanmar, coupled with lack of awareness about their rights as Indigenous Peoples and no experience in advocacy work, often means that Indigenous communities do not know how to confront incursions by powerful actors onto their lands, prevent land grabbing and land dispossession, and address environmental issues caused by extractive industries.

No consideration for Indigenous Peoples' rights

In Myanmar, companies representing the extractive and agroforestry sectors often acquire permissions to use community land, forest and other resources without any consultation with – let alone obtaining *free, prior and informed consent* (FPIC) from – Indigenous communities who have been using the land for generations. On some occasions, companies do not even seek permission from the government and carry out their activities illegally. In most cases, the affected Indigenous communities receive limited or no benefits from mining and agroforestry activities on their customary lands; while their lands, water and

"On the way to democratic transition, it is important for the country to have a bottom-up approach amidst the many development projects and investments. Indigenous Peoples have been suffering from lack of awareness about their rights since the military government time. Now is the time to grasp the opportunities to let them stand up for their rights. When Indigenous Peoples can defend their rights, it does not only benefit them but also the natural environment that they are taking care of as custodians."

EI EI, POINT DIRECTOR

Empowering Indigenous leaders

IWGIA and POINT (Promoting Indigenous and Nature Together), one of the key Indigenous Peoples organisations focusing on environmental and land issues in Myanmar, have collaborated since POINT's foundation in 2012. Together we build the capacity of and empower Indigenous leaders to mobilise their respective communities and effectively represent communities' interests before actors interested in their customary lands.

Over the last 5 years, activists received training on their rights as Indigenous Peoples as enshrined in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), as well as on women rights and environmental rights. They also learned about how to conduct advocacy work, not simply through trainings, but also through the exposure of attending various fora and meetings at sub-national and national levels. In these meetings, experienced advisors mentored them to find the right advocacy opportunities, frame messages and build their confidence in speaking up. Learning from the experiences and struggles of Indigenous communities in other parts of Myanmar and other countries in the region were used for inspiration in

the meetings. Targeted communities were provided with communications support – disseminating information through their website, social media and mailing list – giving their struggles increased visibility to a varied audience that includes relevant decision-makers. Communities were also empowered through mapping of their customary lands, providing activists with a powerful tool in their negotiations with the government and companies eyeing their lands.



CREDIT: Saw Eh Khu Dah



WE WORK IN
15 COUNTRIES



WE WORK WITH
26 PARTNER
ORGANISATIONS



IWGIA enabled
our partners to
conduct over **90**
trainings



IWGIA and our
partners carried
out over **140**
advocacy actions



IWGIA and our
partners
developed and
disseminated **1,800**
communications
products

Land rights and territorial governance

Securing land rights and territorial self-governance remain the most critical and urgent global issues for Indigenous Peoples and are key aspects for achieving IWGIA's overall objective of securing Indigenous Peoples' rights to self-determined sustainable development.

In 2019, IWGIA supported land rights and territorial governance through projects with partners in 15 countries in Latin America, Asia and Africa (Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, India, Kenya, Mexico, Myanmar, Nepal, Peru, Tanzania and Vietnam); and IWGIA collaborated with Indigenous Peoples in 11 countries on alliance building and international advocacy.

A total of 26 project partner organisations were supported by IWGIA and this enabled our partners to carry out more than 90 trainings and other forms of empowerment and capacity building interventions with the aim of strengthening the awareness and self-organisation of Indigenous communities on land matters.

A key component of the projects supported was the monitoring and documentation of land rights issues and violations. IWGIA supported partners with the production of 33 reports, booklets and fact sheets, 1 video, 47 radio programmes, 27 TV programmes, 1,621 news stories and 41 memoranda/petitions. In addition, IWGIA produced its own documentation material, including more than 30 radio programmes, reports and urgent alerts. This comprehensive documentation was used to back-up and strengthen IWGIA's land rights and territorial self-governance advocacy and its partners who carried out more than 140 advocacy actions including meetings with government officials, parliamentarians and other duty bearers as well as international lobbying and initiation of legal action.

IWGIA's support has contributed considerably to increased land rights awareness and mobilisation among Indigenous communities in our target countries; increased numbers of women being involved in the land rights struggle; comprehensive documentation and exposure of violations; vigilant protests and actions against land dispossession; enhanced use of the judiciary in the land rights struggle; and – notably in the case of Latin America – to strengthened Indigenous territorial self-governance institutions.

Deforestation, mineral, oil and gas extraction, expansion of plantations, national parks, agribusiness, dams and infrastructure (see Nepal – page 15), are just some of the industries Indigenous Peoples are up against when they defend and protect their land. By uniting and organising themselves (see Kenya – page 17) and developing communication channels (see Peru – page 18), Indigenous Peoples are seeking to protect their territories from land grabbing (see Tanzania – page 14) and from the influx of businesses, settlers and other dominant or armed groups.



CREDIT: PAICODEO

Pastoralist women demand protection of community land rights in Tanzania

In Tanzania in 2019, over 800 pastoralist women organized themselves and lobbied authorities successfully resulting in the country's President and Ministry of Regional Administration and Local Government ordering regional and district authorities to resolve reported land rights violations of pastoralist communities.

The continued efforts of these women delegations exposed, for instance, repeated instances of land grabbing by powerful elites and neighbouring and migrant farmers. Authorities are now investigating such individual claims.

Public affairs not the domain of women

Pastoralist women from 4 regions across the country – Tanga, Mbeya, Coast and Morogoro regions – have now united and are spearheading the women empowerment movement through their own organisation: PAWODEO, which was made possible with the support of IWGIA and its partner organisation in Tanzania, PAICODEO.

Traditionally marginalised, pastoralist women in Tanzania are rarely present or able to participate in public affairs, including land matters, which are

normally exclusively the domain of men. However, pastoralist women can be determined activists who prioritise land tenure security as fundamental for the survival of their children and pastoral communities. Currently, pastoralist communities in the country are increasingly being dispossessed of their ancestral lands, thus making it vital that women become politically involved to strengthen their communities' power and efficiency over their rights.

The women of PAWODEO have become an important part of these processes through the years of work, training and learning they have achieved through PAICODEO and IWGIA's long-standing collaboration for over 10 years.

Providing foundational support through the years

PAICODEO is one of the only organisations working on securing the pastoralist rights in central/southern Tanzania. With continuous technical, strategic, advocacy and financial support from IWGIA, the organisation continues to focus on empowering women and elders and raising rights awareness among hundreds of communities representing more than 200,000 individuals.

PAICODEO representatives have given speeches in front of hundreds of leaders and delegates in numerous key regional and international meetings, including at the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and several UN bodies, to raise awareness of their situation and demand change.

IWGIA has supported and facilitated their participation, continuing to connect them to partner organisations and other representatives in Tanzania and abroad, as well as assisting with advocacy strategies. This has allowed PAICODEO to create ties with the global Indigenous and human rights movement and reinforce the impact of their advocacy work from local to international levels and has also translated into the securing of funds from other institutional donors through joint fundraising activities.

The organisation has trained and supported paralegals over the last decade who travel extensively from community to community to raise awareness about rights, advise on legal issues and encourage communities to resolve issues through courts.

IWGIA was PAICODEO's first institutional donor and partner and has supported their fundamental human rights work since 2008. Prior to IWGIA's support, PAICODEO relied purely on the membership fees of its many, but often poor, members. The first grant from IWGIA planted the seed for PAICODEO's organisational sustainability, helping the organisation design its first strategic plan, in which many of the organisation's 2,000 members across 8 regions participated, as well as secure its first official office and be able to keep a fixed, salaried staff.

Indigenous Peoples in Nepal claim their rights to redress **using international complaint mechanism**

In 2019, the European Investment Bank Complaint Mechanism (EIBCM) recognised the complaints of Indigenous and non-indigenous communities in Lamjung district, Gandaki Province, Nepal, against a power transmission line being developed by the Nepalese Electricity Authority (NEA) and funded by the EIB. This official recognition is a direct result of community mobilisation actions demanding that hydropower sector projects in their region respect their rights.

A choice between accessing electricity and enjoying rights

The topography of and perennial rivers in Nepal offer abundant opportunities for hydro-power development and international finance institutions and investors have quickly recognised the country's business potential. In 2019 alone, a total of 120 hydropower projects and 31 high voltage transmission line projects were under construction. The 220 kV Marsyangdi Corridor power transmission line (including power stations) is a massive project the communities are rallying against, which is being developed by the NEA with nearly 100 million Euro from the EIB as one of the financial contributors.

Indigenous Peoples, as the rest of the population in

Nepal, need access to electricity to improve their quality of life as only about 60% of the 30 million people living in the country have access to electricity. However, this cannot be done at the expense of their rights. Indigenous Peoples in Nepal have learned from bitter experience that the development of such projects often comes at a high cost for them despite the country being signatory to the ILO convention 169 and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Around 1,500 community members in Lamjung district – 70% of whom are Indigenous – fear they might be displaced by the power project, thus losing their lands, livelihoods and sacred sites, or that living near the high voltage power line will have health consequences. The main concerns of the communities include the violation of their right to Free Prior and Informed Consent – which is in sharp violation of international and requirements – as well as the lack of compensation for loss of land and insufficient environmental and social impact studies.

The snowball effect of long-term support

Together with IWGIA's long-term partner Lawyers' Association for Human Rights of Nepalese Indigenous Peoples (LAHURNIP) – a pioneer organisation of human rights lawyers working for

the rights of Indigenous Peoples in Nepal – and their associated Indigenous Peoples Human Rights Defenders working on the ground, the communities in Lamjung district mobilised and formed the FPIC & Rights Forum – an umbrella organisation of 14 village level Struggle Committees.

The FPIC & Rights Forum filed a complaint to the EIBCM in October 2018, requesting it to provide mediation between the affected communities and EIB's management, the NEA and relevant Nepali authorities. The EIBCM produced the 2019 report recognising the complaints, recommending dialogue mediation between NEA and the affected communities. The NEA refused to participate, but the FPIC & Rights Forum continues the struggle and is currently following up on a potential dialogue.

IWGIA's continuous support to LAHURNIP in over a decade has directly contributed to communities such as the ones in Lamjung district to become aware of their rights and how to fight for them through mobilisation, acting collectively and achieving significant success in having complaint mechanisms, such as the EIB, acknowledge their complaints and proposing steps towards redress. Thanks to this success, other communities are seeking LAHURNIP's assistance in cases of rights violations – especially when companies or investors are involved.

IWGIA has consistently supported LAHURNIP since 2008. In the beginning our support was mainly to strengthen the organisation and set up the country-wide network of defenders who monitor and document human rights violations on the ground. From 2015 the collaboration between IWGIA and LAHURNIP turned its attention towards the growing rights violations committed by the private sector. The support IWGIA has rendered to LAHURNIP and the defenders network includes capacity development on organising communities for effective advocacy and awareness raising, technical assistance to prepare statements and reports delivered at international UN meetings and processes, and connecting LAHURNIP to experts, other Indigenous communities experiencing similar issues, donors and academics.

"EIB management approved the loan and released funds without ensuring its environmental and social rules are being followed. Now, must sit on the mediation table with local communities and help find solutions to the problems its loans have contributed to."

MR. KHEM JANG GURUNG, FPIC & RIGHTS FORUM COORDINATOR



Indigenous Ogiek youth establish own council; become part of the political process

In February 2019 in Kenya's Narok County, 39 Ogiek youth representatives from all areas of the Mau Forest formally organised and established themselves as the Ogiek Youth Council (OYC). The active involvement of these youth and the organisation now has the potential to considerably strengthen the entire Ogiek human rights movement.

The OYC comprises young Ogiek professionals, as well as college and university students, and is facilitating the involvement of Ogiek youth in the land rights struggle of the Ogiek people in Kenya. Officially organising themselves has also meant that the youth now have a seat at the table in internal and external decision-making processes. The council will also support the documentation of Ogiek history, traditions, customs and language to serve as learning material for the youth and future generations.

Building a youth movement to advance Indigenous rights

The Ogiek people are an Indigenous hunter/gatherer people who have suffered from human rights

violations and evictions from their ancestral land in the Mau Forest in western Kenya for many years. The Ogiek won an important legal land rights case in 2017 at the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights, but the ruling has yet to be implemented, and the rights and future existence of the Ogiek people are still threatened.

One of the reasons why the Ogiek struggle has long-suffered from drawbacks is that a very critical component of the Ogiek community – namely the youth, representing a third of the Ogiek community – has only been minimally involved, which is why the establishment of the OYC is so critically important.

The council, though new and young, has already managed to conduct important community awareness raising and actions on human and land rights for the Ogiek people. In particular, it has played an important role in keeping the poor, remote and scattered Ogiek communities informed of the status of implementation of the African Court ruling, which is fundamental for keeping up the Ogiek peoples' spirit and unity and sustaining their determination to push for the ruling's implementation. The youth have



CREDIT: OPDP

also tapped into social media and are actively using it to increase awareness and outreach considerably across Ogiek communities.

The result of decade-long support to the Ogiek people

The formation of the OYC is a result of IWGIA's support to its partner organisation Ogiek Peoples' Development Programme (OPDP) in implementing an empowerment programme aimed at involving Ogiek people – including youth – in community matters through training on human rights, community land laws and mobilisation for community actions.

IWGIA has consistently supported the Ogiek people since 2010 through financial and technical support to their organisation (OPDP) at the local, national and international level. This has led to substantial progress in the advancement of Ogiek peoples' rights through human rights awareness raising in the Ogiek communities to more than 30,000 people, as well as community mobilisation, organising and empowerment (including that of women and youth), establishing a network of community human rights monitors, regular monitoring and documentation of rights violations, advocacy towards duty bearers, legal action at the regional African level and alliance

building with other Indigenous groups and civil society actors. Additionally, IWGIA funded and facilitated the participation of Ogiek representatives in key international human rights fora at the UN and regional African level for several years and assisted OPDP in linking up with the global Indigenous movement, thus growing their network, alliances and capacities.

Key support to OPDP from IWGIA has also included organisational capacity building support, which has enabled the organisation to employ and train staff, sustain its office, conduct regular board meetings, purchase essential equipment and strengthen fundraising towards other donors. This is an area that few donors accept to support due to the lack of immediate visible results, yet has been essential to ensuring the sustainability of the organisation and in turn the Ogiek people.

IWGIA has been instrumental in promoting Ogiek culture as a key component of human rights for the Ogiek Indigenous community, which led to the Ogiek holding their first ever cultural day in 2012. This has now become an annual community event, which other partners have joined to support, including receiving support in 2019 from the Narok County government in Kenya.

Tarimat Pujut: Wampis radio connecting communities

During an Assembly of the Wampis Parliament in 2019, the President of the Autonomous Territorial Government of the Wampis Nation, Wrays Pérez, announced: "For the first time, the Wampis Nation now has the opportunity to get our voice heard quickly, throughout our territory. Each and every one of our brothers and sisters will be informed of our work, of the actions we are taking. And we would like to thank our young communicators for making this happen".

Since the creation of the Wampis autonomous government in November 2015, one of the main challenges it has faced has been to build a communications system that would enable

constant communication among all its Indigenous communities that are spread out far and wide, across rivers and over mountains, often taking several days of travel to reach the most distant villages. There are 50 Wampis communities in Peru situated along the banks of the Santiago and Kanus rivers, covering a territory of 1,300,000 hectares of tropical forest, and a mountain chain that stretches across the whole territory.

With IWGIA's support, the Wampis radio station Tarimat Pujut is now broadcasting from Soledad community, on the Santiago River, via a 60-metre aerial that makes it possible to reach virtually every one of the communities.

Transmitting and protecting across vast lands

The cost of transport in the Amazon region and the travelling times involved are very high and any urgent action, for example related to the constant illegal mining or deforestation threats or the presence of oil companies without prior consultation, requires joint, coordinated action on the part of all leaders and communities. Radio is proving to be a particularly effective tool in this.

Indigenous Peoples have a right to their own means of communication, as stated in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. This rarely becomes a reality, however. Radio is one of the most effective and cheapest means of communication and enables territories as vast as that of the Wampis to establish a communication network, bringing people closer together.

Tuning in the youth

Setting up the radio station evolved over stages with IWGIA's continuous support. In the beginning it was difficult to ensure the station had a constant electricity supply to broadcast; it also needed a team of communicators to regularly produce radio programmes. The installation of a solar energy plant in 2017 and the establishment of the Wampis communicators' training programme in 2019 gave the final boost necessary for the station to be able to operate properly.

The radio station and communicators' training school are offering an attractive space for young people who are becoming more involved in the political organisational process through the radio. 10 young women and men from the different communities are now being trained in the production of a variety of different radio programmes, from gathering the concerns of the communities to broadcasting the autonomous government's initiatives. Thanks to this training of new Indigenous

journalists, the Wampis radio station is now producing 10 hours of programming per day, from Monday to Friday.

On the long journey with the Wampis

IWGIA has been working with the Wampis government since 2010, supporting its long process of becoming autonomous in 2015 through to today. The radio station is yet another key initiative that is vital to the development of the Wampis Nation.

IWGIA has been in continuous discussion with the nation's leadership in how to develop the communication programme, and also financed its different stages. IWGIA has also helped the young new journalists by connecting them with other young Indigenous journalists from across Latin America and facilitating their involvement in the October 2019 American Summit of Indigenous Communicators, where over 400 journalists, community broadcasters and media professionals gathered in Peru to learn from each other and assessed the state of the right to communication for Indigenous Peoples in the region.

The radio station is supplemented by a print newspaper, also supported by IWGIA, and, from 2021, IWGIA hopes to continue to support the communication programme by installing Internet masts in a number of communities to continue to connect its communities and reach out to the rest of the world.



CREDIT: Pablo Lasansky



WE WORK WITH
68 INDIGENOUS
PARTNERS FROM **26**
COUNTRIES



IWGIA and our partners engaged in **7** key international fora



IWGIA and our partners engaged in and used **7** human rights mechanisms



IWGIA and our partners produced and contributed to **38** documentation products

Global governance

The aims of IWGIA's Global Governance programme are to ensure that Indigenous Peoples' right to participate in all decisions concerning their lives are respected and to keep states accountable to their international human rights obligations regarding Indigenous Peoples' rights. This programme works in close collaboration with IWGIA's other thematic programmes and is our tool to link local realities to international decision-making and global developments, as well as to bring achieved gains back to Indigenous communities for concrete change.

Linking international human rights processes to national and local efforts, and successful advocacy for rights through country level initiatives is key if decisions made by global actors should lead to real change. We believe that supporting Indigenous representatives to speak to the international community is key for making their voices heard.

In 2019, IWGIA supported 68 Indigenous representatives from 26 countries to advocate, lobby and speak for their rights in 14 key international fora and relevant UN and regional human rights mechanisms, such as the UN Human Rights Council, UN Climate Summit, UN Forum on Business and Human Rights, UN Commission on the Status of Women, and others.

IWGIA organized 7 side events at these meetings, as well as produced and contributed to 38 reports, submissions, briefs and statements to document human rights violations and provide recommendations to states, bodies and international mechanisms.

This work resulted in an increased number of direct references to Indigenous Peoples' rights in 16 reports, declarations and concluding observations issued by mechanisms such as the Universal Periodic Review (Kenya and Bolivia), Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD), Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the World Heritage Committee (see page 24).

IWGIA also supported initiatives aimed at strengthening its cooperation and collaboration with the 3 central UN mandates dealing with Indigenous Peoples' rights, as well as with regional human rights institutions. One of the biggest results of these collaborative efforts was the co-organisation of the mandates and IWGIA of an international seminar held in Mexico on the Indigenous Peoples right to autonomy as an expression of their right to self-determination (see page 21).

Indigenous Peoples from around the world meet for first time to discuss autonomy and self-government

In March 2019, 62 participants representing 24 Indigenous Peoples from 22 countries across Latin America, Africa, Asia and the Arctic met at a 3-day conference in Mexico City to share, discuss and analyse their experiences with and developments of their Indigenous autonomy and self-government. This marked the first time that such a geographically diverse group met to actively engage on these issues.

It was also the first time that representatives of Indigenous Peoples and international/regional human rights mechanisms relevant to the protection of Indigenous Peoples' rights were able to meet and agree on common strategies to position the recognition of the right of Indigenous Peoples to autonomy and self-government as a central theme in their programmes and to identify specific actions required for implementation.

Autonomy and self-government have been discussed and analysed by researchers for decades, but Indigenous Peoples have – surprisingly – not been involved in or had the opportunity to exchange their own experiences, challenges and opportunities. Very often, Indigenous Peoples are limited to learning from their own national and/or regional environments without taking advantage of the experiences of Indigenous Peoples from other countries, legal and political traditions, and demographic realities.

IWGIA facilitated the international conference entitled: Right to Autonomy and Indigenous Self-Government as a Manifestation of the Right to Self-Determination of Indigenous Peoples, and co-organised the event with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), United Nations Special Rapporteur for the rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNSR), Permanent Forum of the United Nations for Indigenous Issues (UNPFII), and United Nations Expert Mechanism for the Rights of Indigenous People, in collaboration with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

"I think that the seminar was excellent because it afforded Indigenous Peoples from diverse regions of the world to come together and talk about the substance, the content of self-determination and autonomy and self-government and what it means to their people, their communities, their nations. So it was a really important opportunity to exchange views."

**DALEE SAMBO DOROUGH, CHAIR,
INUIT CIRCUMPOLAR COUNCIL
(ICC), ALASKA**

International and regional mechanisms put new focus on Indigenous Peoples' right to autonomy and self-governance

Both the UNPFII and UNSR prepared and presented important official reports on the right to autonomy of Indigenous Peoples alongside recommendations to various actors, which were expressly based on the discussions and recommendations made by Indigenous Peoples during the conference.

The UNPFII report analysed the question of autonomy and included specific recommendations to the UN system, which were also based on the experiences and perspectives of the Indigenous Peoples themselves. The UNSR's report, which was presented to the UN General Assembly in October 2019, analysed the autonomy of Indigenous Peoples as an exercise of their right to self-determination. The report focused on identifying positive elements in existing arrangements, as well as limitations and challenges, and provided recommendations to states on ways to move forward in recognising and implementing the right to autonomy of Indigenous Peoples. Further, the IACHR is considering holding a thematic hearing on the topic and preparing a thematic report.

Supporting the path to autonomy for over 30 years

The 2019 conference was a follow-up to IWGIA's foundational, decades-long work built upon the numerous series of initiatives we have supported and promoted in the long and complex development of Indigenous autonomy processes, particularly in Latin America, but also in the Arctic and Asia.

Our work in this field began with the strengthening of Indigenous organisations in the Peruvian Amazon (1989-2000), which resulted in the legal recognition of approximately 4 million hectares of land for some 150 Indigenous communities. This experience provided IWGIA with an opportunity to promote similar experiences in neighbouring countries, such as in Bolivia where Indigenous territories are currently in the process of becoming autonomous territories.

Over the years, IWGIA has facilitated exchanges among Indigenous governments in Latin America and the involvement of international human rights bodies. This work – which has been documented and disseminated through the publication of numerous books and reports and the



production of documentaries, radio programmes and podcasts – has become the cornerstone reference material for how to best implement Indigenous Peoples' right to self-government.

Securing collective rights at the **local level in Bolivia**

In October 2019, after the advocacy efforts of Indigenous communities in the Jach'a Marka Tapacarí Cóndor Apacheta territory, the municipality of Pazña in Bolivia recognised the rights of Indigenous Peoples in its Annual Operational Plan and budget and allocated financial support for the construction of storage spaces for cattle fodder.

The Indigenous community members of the territory located in the Bolivian highlands succeeded in using the data and tools from the Indigenous Navigator Initiative, as well as the advocacy skills gained during workshops, to secure inclusion of their collective rights as Indigenous Peoples in the municipality and take lead in their own development.

A global initiative with local impact

IWGIA – in collaboration with 5 other organisations (Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact, Forest Peoples Programme, International Labour Organization, Tebtebba Foundation and the Danish Institute for Human Rights) – developed the Indigenous Navigator Initiative, a framework and a set of tools for Indigenous Peoples to monitor the level of

recognition and implementation of their rights and the UN Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). Currently in operation in 11 countries including Bolivia, the initiative also provides small grants to Indigenous communities to implement pilot projects based on the needs they self-identify through the collected data (see more on page 28).

In 2017, the Indigenous community members of Jach'a Marka Tapacarí Cóndor Apacheta conducted a survey, analysed the collected data and identified issues within their communities as part of the initiative and with the support of IWGIA-partner organisation Centre for Legal Studies and Social Research (CEJIS). The communities then pointed out that one of the major issues affecting their livelihood and having a serious impact on their food security and sovereignty was that their cattle feed often becomes ruined during the winter and rainy season.

As a farming region that produces meat, milk and cheese, storehouses would be essential to ensuring that there is enough food produced for their communities, remaining independent from having to acquire and use external products. Community

members concluded that this issue could be resolved through a pilot project they themselves would design and implement via the initiative.

In parallel, IWGIA and the initiative supported CEJIS to organise workshops on Indigenous Peoples' rights and the Sustainable Development Goals in which community members and municipal authorities actively participated. Before the workshops, community members were neither aware that they are rights holders nor that they could advocate for their rights. These workshops also led local municipal authorities to acknowledge Indigenous Peoples' rights, which was further reinforced by their decision to support the construction of the storage facilities.

As a direct result of the initiative and advocacy efforts, the pilot project supported the construction of 45 storehouses and the municipality of Pazña provided the means to build 10 additional storehouses. Although each storehouse is valued at around 3,107 Bolivianos (USD \$445), the actual investment has been far greater than just monetary, as the community itself also contributed greatly by constructing the storehouses themselves.

Perhaps the impact of the project is best told by CEJIS project coordinator Angela Agreda:

The most significant impact that I see is that the beneficiaries have been fully committed, putting everything they have to make this happen, in spite of the limitations. For example, the single women and the elderly looked for ways to contribute and sought out how to ensure that the work would be completed. They identified their own contributions for the construction – and these surpass the financial contributions as a great testament to the community. On the other hand, the contribution and the will of the municipality to prioritise budgets for the needs and development for these Indigenous communities is added value, and something to be celebrated considering that Pazña is a poor municipality with little budget or resources. In the end, the contribution of this project is huge and is significant for the families that benefited since they will now be able to ensure sufficient food for their livestock and therefore be able to market the cheese and have the sustenance for their families – building their community.

"The storage sheds have benefited us a lot, they serve to keep the fodder dry which means that we can feed the cattle every day. The cattle are becoming stronger and producing more milk as a result. They also now have shelter, as the sheds give them protection from the cold, the animals are healthier. The sheltered animals are healthier and they are no longer suffering from altitude sickness or pneumonia. As Indigenous women, we are the ones who manage the cattle – we ensure they are milked – so in this way we really benefit from the support and collaboration of the Indigenous Navigator and CEJIS."

**VITALIA ARROYO MARTINEZ,
COMMUNITY MEMBER**



Greater recognition of Indigenous Peoples' rights by UNESCO's World Heritage Committee

At its 43rd session held in Baku, Azerbaijan in June 2019, the World Heritage Committee (WHC) adopted new requirements to states that ensure a greater recognition of Indigenous Peoples' rights in relation to World Heritage sites.

These decisions are a very important step forward as, until 2015, the Operational Guidelines for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention contained neither references to human rights nor to Indigenous Peoples' rights.

Advancing the recognition and protection of Indigenous Peoples' rights

Of the 1,121 places listed as World Heritage sites under UNESCO's World Heritage Convention, roughly 10% incorporate Indigenous Peoples' lands, territories and resources. Many of those World Heritage areas have a history of human rights violations against Indigenous Peoples, such as forced evictions, prohibitions of Indigenous livelihood practices or exclusion from decision-making process that affects them. Moreover, there are many examples where Indigenous Peoples have been repeatedly and consistently excluded from crucial processes under the World Heritage Convention, such as nomination processes, site management and monitoring.

Among the key decisions added to the World Heritage Convention's Operational Guidelines were:

- the requirement for states to obtain Indigenous Peoples' consent at the initial stage of "tentative listing" (the first step to World Heritage listing);
- the encouragement to adopt a human rights-based approach in the identification, nomination, management and protection of World Heritage sites;
- the request that states closely collaborate with Indigenous Peoples in managing World Heritage sites; and
- to develop equitable governance arrangements, collaborative management systems and redress mechanisms.



CREDIT: Stefan Disko

IWGIA's 10-year engagement with the World Heritage Convention

IWGIA is the only non-indigenous NGO that has been closely engaged with the WHC regarding recognition of Indigenous Peoples' rights in the implementation of the World Heritage Convention for nearly 10 years.

As a result of a successful advocacy strategy carried out by IWGIA and Indigenous representatives, the committee has clearly been paying greater and significant attention to the situation and needs of Indigenous Peoples, increasingly referring to their rights in its decisions.

In recent years, several provisions relating to Indigenous Peoples and their rights have been added to the guidelines, not least as a result of the International Expert Workshop on the World Heritage Convention and Indigenous Peoples organised by IWGIA in cooperation with the Danish Agency for Culture and the Greenland government as part of the Convention's 40th anniversary in 2012. In 2014, IWGIA published a major book: *World Heritage Sites and Indigenous Peoples' Rights*, which has become the key reference book used by Indigenous Peoples, international institutions and UN mechanisms.

There has also been an increasing level of Indigenous participation in the committee's sessions and, in 2017, IWGIA was instrumental in the establishment of

the International Indigenous Peoples' Forum on World Heritage, an institutional platform for Indigenous delegates participating in the WHC sessions. IWGIA's active engagement and the support provided to the International Indigenous Peoples Forum on World Heritage over the past 3 years has meant greater visibility of Indigenous issues and has been a key factor for increasing the recognition of Indigenous Peoples in the implementation of the World Heritage Convention.

Additionally, IWGIA has directly engaged and positively influenced the committee's decisions on issues related to the violation of Indigenous Peoples rights in specific World Heritage sites, such as the Ngorongoro Conservation Area (Masaai/Tanzania), Lake Bogoria National Reserve (Endorois/Kenya) and Kahuzi-Biega National Park (Batwa/Democratic Republic of Congo) by submitting letters of concern and oral statements on these cases to the World Heritage Committee.



Communications and documentation

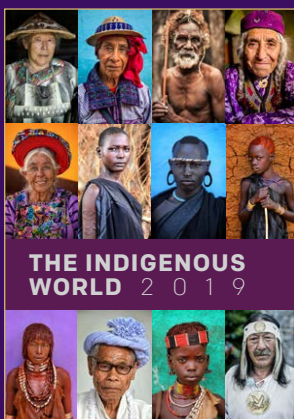


Over **7,300**
newsletter
subscribers

Over **26,000**
social media
followers

Featured **161** times
in Danish, English
and Spanish
language media

Over **12,500**
downloads of The
Indigenous World
2019 and over **1,500**
physical books
distributed globally



One of the three key pillars of IWGIA's work – as part of our Triangle of Change (see page 6) – is to produce and disseminate documentation in a variety of languages providing Indigenous Peoples with data and argumentation to advocate for their cause. We also place a strong emphasis on raising awareness globally on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, as well as to report on the advancements Indigenous Peoples have achieved and the setbacks they fight against.

Our documentation gives policy makers evidence of the realities on the ground and recommendations on what measures should be taken to ensure Indigenous Peoples' rights are protected. It is also a source of information for students, academics, journalists and others interested in understanding and following the development of Indigenous Peoples' rights.

Through our rigorous research and collaborative approach, IWGIA has become a trusted source of information for Indigenous Peoples and other relevant stakeholders.

Our documentation takes many forms. Over the years, we have published one of the most comprehensive collections of books, journals, briefing papers, reports, urgent alerts and articles on Indigenous issues, as well as a growing number of documentaries, podcasts and other media productions.

As mentioned throughout the report, documentation and communication efforts are an intrinsic part of all of IWGIA's work. In 2019, we published 7 reports, 7 books, 1 urgent alert and 50 news articles and we worked with our partners to produce hundreds of podcasts, documentaries, news programmes and other materials in local languages. We share news and information through our website which was visited over 490,000 times in 2019, our newsletters which reach over 7,300 subscribers and our social media profiles which are followed by over 26,000 people. In 2019, IWGIA featured 161 times in English, Spanish and Danish language media contributing to raising the awareness of Indigenous Peoples.

In 2019, we published the 33rd edition of The Indigenous World, featuring reports on 62 countries and 13 international processes. The book was downloaded over 12,500 times and over 1,500 physical copies were distributed around the world. The Indigenous World is IWGIA's annual flagship publication, which is internationally recognised as a unique monitoring tool of the situation of Indigenous Peoples' rights and is the result of a collaborative effort between Indigenous and non-indigenous activists. The book, which has been published for 34 consecutive years (since 1986) and is available in English and Spanish, is widely and continuously used by Indigenous Peoples, organisations, donors, academics and others as a reliable reference for policy input to decision makers.

Visualising Indigenous autonomies

As part of IWGIA's support for the promotion of Indigenous autonomies, we have produced a series of videos and documentaries on Indigenous Peoples' experiences of self-government in Latin America.

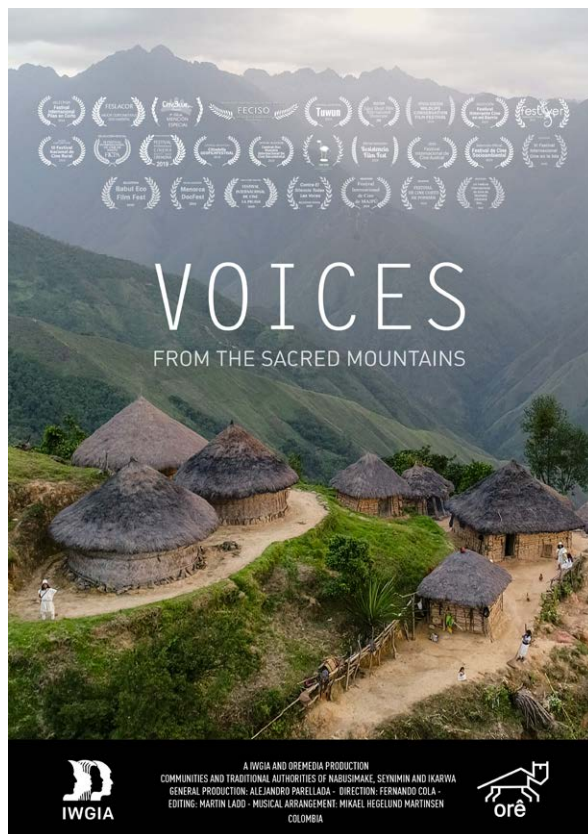
Produced in collaboration with local Indigenous organisations, the series began with videos from the Arhuaco people of the Sierra Nevada in Colombia, the autonomous government of the Wampis people in the Peruvian Amazon and the building of the autonomy for the Multi-ethnic Indigenous Territory of Bolivia.

The videos have been widely popular amongst a variety of Indigenous and non-indigenous audiences and have been recognised and won a number of prizes at film festivals all over the world from the time

they were produced and released and continued to draw critical attention in 2019.

One of the first video series produced was on the Arhuaco people of the Sierra Nevada in Colombia. This documentary, *Voces de las Montañas Sagradas*, won the best national documentary prize in 4 film festivals in 2019 in 3 Latin American countries. The documentary was also the official selection of 15 film festivals throughout Latin America, Europe and the USA.

Another popular documentary, *El Tiempo es Agua – Time is Water*, on the Wampis Nation in the Peruvian Amazon, received special mention at 2 film festivals and was the official selection of 13 film festivals throughout Latin America, Asia and Europe.



Indigenous communities use data to protect their rights and drive their own development

Throughout 2019, Indigenous communities in 11 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America, supported by the Indigenous Navigator Initiative (INI), collected data on the implementation of their rights, identified critical gaps in the realisation of those rights and implemented their own projects to address those gaps.

The Indigenous Navigator is an innovative set of tools developed by and for Indigenous Peoples to monitor their human rights across a range of areas, housed on an online portal which provides access to the tools and key results. Through the Indigenous Navigator framework, data is collected that can be used by Indigenous people to advocate for their rights and systematically monitor the level of recognition and implementation of those rights. By using the Indigenous Navigator, Indigenous organisations and communities, duty bearers, NGOs and journalists can access free tools and resources based on updated community-generated data. By documenting and reporting their own situations, Indigenous Peoples can enhance their access to justice and development and help document the situation of Indigenous people globally.

National partners worked in over 200 communities throughout 2019 in Bangladesh, Bolivia, Cambodia, Cameroon, Colombia, Kenya, Nepal, Peru, Philippines, Suriname and Tanzania to conduct surveys, build community ownership of data and analyse that data to prioritise their needs. These efforts covered an estimated population of over 270,000 Indigenous people. The data from over 60 comprehensive community surveys were added to the Indigenous Navigator global data portal, hosted by IWGIA. The breadth of the information gathered covers 13 broad thematic areas with questions that refer to rights as stipulated in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and other relevant declarations and conventions, as well as the

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

With support from IWGIA through the Indigenous Navigator, partners design and implement projects based on the needs identified, produce communications materials and reports, conduct workshops and hold events focused on advocacy and alliance building within their national frameworks advocating for their fundamental rights. The Bolivia case study in this report (see page 22) is a concrete result of such a project implemented by one of our partners.

The INI, begun in 2014, has been developed and carried forward by a consortium consisting of the Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP), Forest Peoples Programme (FPP), International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA), Tebtebba Foundation – Indigenous Peoples' International Centre for Policy Research and Education (TEBTEBBA), Danish Institute for Human Rights (DIHR) and International Labour Organization (ILO).

IWGIA has been implementing the Indigenous Navigator project with partners and manages the small grants facility, coordinates project development, leads on the evaluation process, ensures that best practices in project management are included and shared between partners, and provides support on the data portal.



CREDIT: Pablo Lasansky

Alliances and engagement

IWGIA building strong alliances

Alliances with relevant stakeholders are important to make lasting change. Environmental and development organisations working with broader agendas need to adequately account for Indigenous Peoples' rights. Human rights organisations are potential strong allies for Indigenous Peoples. The private sector is a key driver of change in the world, often, however, to the detriment of Indigenous Peoples' rights. If we are to achieve our 2030 ambitions, we need all stakeholders to move along together.

In our 2017-2020 institutional strategy we recognise that we cannot achieve our goals alone. In 2019 IWGIA worked towards its vision by engaging and creating alliances with relevant stakeholders, from human rights and development organisations to coalitions and members. By sharing experiences and collaborating, we minimise duplication and maximise impact.

In 2018, at its General Assembly meeting, global civil society organisations elected IWGIA as their 3-year representative in the Council of the International Land Coalition (ILC), an international coalition of 250+ organisations working on people-centred land governance. One of ILC's commitments is to secure territorial rights for Indigenous Peoples. Throughout 2019, IWGIA engaged with the ILC and its members, providing direction to its operational plan and budgets, as well as giving input to its gender audit guide and discussing other strategic matters. We are proud to be a member of such a strong coalition that we consider an important ally to push for Indigenous Peoples' issues on all matters related to land rights and land governance. From 2020 we will play an active part in the development of a new ILC strategy.

Alongside more than 50 international, regional and national organisations (including ILC) IWGIA joined the Defending Land and Environmental Defenders Coalition in 2019 and has been an active member. As part of the coalition we are learning about what resources already exist to support defenders and sharing knowledge about how to access those resources. We are also supporting members' initiatives to improve safeguards and protections mechanisms, and so amplify their impact. IWGIA has shared several cases from partners to the coalition and has facilitated partner's access to resources and solidarity through the network.

The Zero Tolerance Initiative was launched in Geneva in November 2019 during the UN Forum on Business and Human Rights. The initiative is an attempt to find more effective ways to hold companies and investors to account for killings, criminalisation and human rights abuses happening against (Environmental) Human Rights Defenders in their supply chains. The initiative is led by Indigenous Peoples and local communities with support from international organisations such as Forest Peoples Programme (FPP), the Business and Human Rights Resource Center, Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP) and IWGIA. A number of organisations are involved and signatories to the declaration developed in Geneva. IWGIA, which is part of the backbone team driving the initiative forward with AIPP and FPP, was actively involved in the Geneva seminar and launch as well as preparatory work leading up to the seminar.

In its work on climate change, IWGIA is a member of the Working Group on Human Rights and Climate Change. This network consists of organisations that take a human rights-based approach to climate change and bring a human rights angle into the climate change negotiations. The group provides a platform to exchange views and expertise and to influence decision makers at international climate-related discussions and negotiations. IWGIA contributes to the network with its expertise on Indigenous Peoples' rights in climate actions.

IWGIA is a member of the Coalition of European Lobbies for Eastern African Pastoralism (CELEP), which focusses on sharing information and advocating for the rights of pastoralists in key fora, notably the EU. Through this coalition IWGIA networks with numerous pastoralist organisations in Africa and elsewhere, with development and human rights organisations, and with renown and leading researchers globally. Within this collaboration IWGIA aims to ensure that the Indigenous rights agenda is part of global pastoralism discussions and initiatives.

Also at the EU level, IWGIA maintains close cooperation with the Indigenous Peoples' Center for Documentation, Research and Information (DOCIP), a Geneva-based organisation that supports

Indigenous Peoples' representatives to participate in UN meetings, including translation and strategic support, as well as talks on Indigenous Peoples' rights at the EU in Brussels. In 2019, DOCIP provided training for IWGIA on the EU system and spaces for engagement, and contributed to the Indigenous

World 2019 with an article on the EU's engagement with Indigenous Peoples.

IWGIA would like to thank all of our alliances for great cooperation throughout 2019 and continued collaboration in 2020.

IWGIA engaging with **academic institutions globally**

IWGIA continues to engage academics and researchers across the globe who are part of our important network and contribute to our work through articles, analysis and advise. IWGIA is also teaching courses and giving guest lectures at a number of universities and academic institutions.

IWGIA taught a 3-day course on the UN human rights system and specific UN mechanisms for Indigenous Peoples, including their participation and interaction with these mechanisms, at the University of Deusto in Bilbao, Spain, where 12 Indigenous young leaders from 8 countries in Latin America attended. The fellows were provided with a package of training materials specifically developed by IWGIA, which provided detailed information on the system and mechanisms, including how Indigenous Peoples can make better use of them for the protection of their rights.

IWGIA's annual week-long advanced course on Indigenous Peoples' rights was held for its 9th consecutive year at the University of Pretoria, in South Africa, with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR). The course covered a host of themes, including the definition and

conceptualization of indigeneity, Indigenous Peoples' rights within the African regional human rights system, Indigenous Peoples' rights within the global human rights system, rights to land and natural resources rights, as well as business and human rights. In 2019, 30 people from 8 different African countries graduated from the course

IWGIA's publications and resources, such as The Indigenous World, Land Rights of Indigenous Peoples in Africa, and many of the co-published reports with the ACHPR, such as the Report of the African Commission's Working Group of Experts on Indigenous Populations/Communities are used as part of the course.

In 2019, IWGIA also signed institutional agreements with 2 universities in Latin America. IWGIA is now developing a diploma programme on Indigenous Peoples rights for the second semester of 2020 with NUR University of Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia. Additionally, the Faculty of Law of Santiago University in Chile is providing legal advice to IWGIA and its Indigenous partners in the prior consultation processes in Latin America.



CREDIT: University of Pretoria

In November 2019, the University of Copenhagen hosted, as part of IWGIA's biennial members' meeting, an open discussion on Indigenous Peoples' rights in renewable energy projects and how to ensure long-term sustainability. The public event featured representatives from the Danish Export Credit Agency, Indigenous Peoples' organisations, the Danish board member in the Green Climate Fund from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as well as Danish students and academics.

IWGIA increasing exposure of Indigenous Peoples' rights in Denmark

One of IWGIA's priorities is to influence Danish civil society and decision-makers as well as to raise Danish public awareness on Indigenous Peoples' rights.

Throughout 2019, IWGIA met with 9 Danish development and foreign policy spokespersons representing 7 political parties to ensure that Danish politicians are more aware of and strengthen their focus on Indigenous Peoples' rights and issues. Through these meetings IWGIA has established political relationships with some parties that have started to push for and include Indigenous Peoples' rights in negotiations and discussions in the Danish parliament on policy issues related to climate change, development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

As part of 3 Danish civil society networks – Globalt Fokus, CISU and the 92-Group – IWGIA organises joint events and engages in joint advocacy efforts focusing on civic space and Indigenous Peoples Human Rights Defenders, linking climate action with human rights, and development issues, including the SDGs.

In March 2019, IWGIA co-organised a thematic workshop on environmental and Indigenous activists, bringing Indigenous activists from Brazil and Tanzania to Denmark to speak first-hand on the human rights violations they face and the environmental challenges they fight against for the Claiming Civic Space Together conference, organised by Globalt Fokus. Following the conference IWGIA has been working with the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs to develop an urgent relief mechanism providing support to human rights defenders at-risk via its active participation in the Globalt Fokus Civic Space working group.

IWGIA held three events with a range of large Danish CSOs at Folkemødet, the largest annual political gathering for Danish

civil society, where we highlighted the struggles of Indigenous Peoples Human Rights Defenders, Denmark's role and responsibility in the UN Human Rights Council, and the "leaving no one behind" principle within the SDGs.

In November 2019, IWGIA organised an event at the University of Copenhagen focusing on Indigenous Peoples' rights and renewable energy projects, featuring representatives from the Danish Export Credit Agency, Indigenous Peoples' organisations, the Danish board member in the Green Climate Fund from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as well as Danish students and academics.

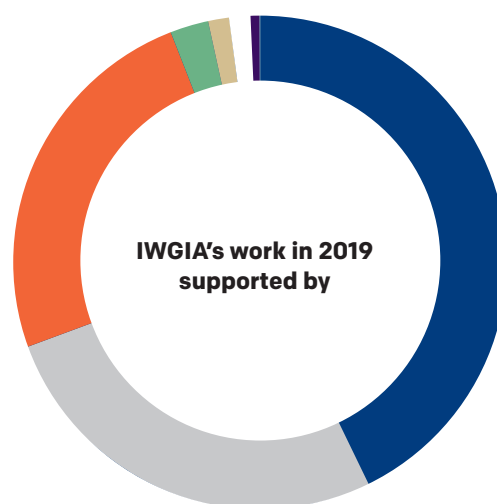
In Copenhagen in December 2019, as part of the global mobilisation #LandRightsNow campaign targeting the criminalisation of land rights defenders, IWGIA screened 3 of its award winning short films about North and South American Indigenous communities defending their territories even when they are threatened by the pressure of extractive and exploitative industries.

IWGIA was also largely present in the Danish media in 2019 bringing to the forefront issues and awareness on Indigenous Peoples' traditional knowledge, rights and contribution to climate solutions and sustainable development, forest fires, Greenland, inequality and rights defenders through 43 press hits, including 12 editorials and features in 5 national newspapers and outlets.

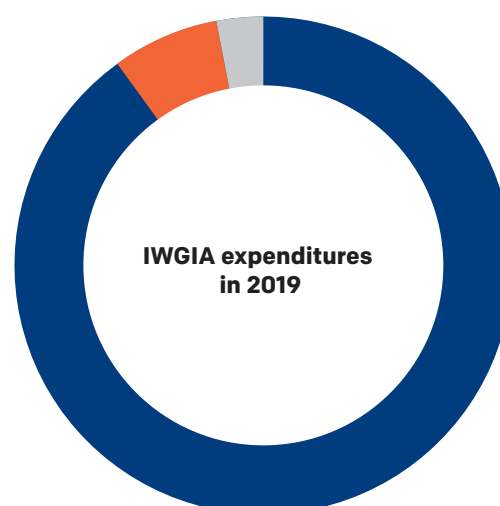


2019 Finance

	IWGIA's work in 2019 supported by	Danish krone	%
●	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark	16,683,559	42.84%
●	European Commission	10,266,462	26.36%
●	Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad) / Norway's International Climate and Forest Initiative (NICFI)	9,564,125	24.56%
●	International Labour Organization (ILO)	1,093,968	2.81%
●	International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)	586,006	1.50%
○	Ford Foundation	503,628	1.29%
●	Comic Relief	248,440	0.64%
●	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	14,127	0.04%
	Net returned funds	-15,492	0%
	Total	38,944,825	100%



	IWGIA expenditures in 2019	Danish krone	%
●	Projects and programmes	35,282,536	91%
●	Cost of doing business	2,728,568	7%
●	Development & other activities	933,721	2%
	Total	38,944,825	100%



IWGIA



Alejandro Parellada
SENIOR ADVISOR



Annette Kjærgaard
SECRETARY



David Nathaniel Berger
ADVISOR



Dwayne Mamo
DOCUMENTATION AND
COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER



Ena Alvarado Madsen
PROGRAMME
COORDINATOR



Geneviève Rose
SENIOR ADVISOR



Julie Marion
DONOR RELATIONS MANAGER
AND FUNDRAISER



Kathrin Wessendorf
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Kåthe Jepsen
PROGRAMMES ASSISTANT



Lola García-Alix
SENIOR ADVISOR



Lærke Marie Lund Petersen
POLICY ADVISOR



Marianne Wiben Jensen
SENIOR ADVISOR



Nikita Bulanin
PROGRAMME COORDINATOR



Pi Bjerregaard
CONTROLLER



Signe Leth
SENIOR ADVISOR



Stefan Thorsell
ADVISOR



Søren Aarslev
HEAD OF FINANCE AND
ADMINISTRATION



Zainab Qasim
FINANCE ASSISTANT

www.iwgia.org

Prinsessegade 29 B, 3rd floor, DK 1422 Copenhagen, Denmark

Phone: (+45) 53 73 28 30

E-mail: iwgia@iwgia.org



@IWGIA



@IWGIA