



# IPCCA

## INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' BIOCULTURAL CLIMATE CHANGE ASSESSMENT INITIATIVE



### Indigenous Socio-Ecological Production Landscapes and Climate Change: IPCCCA Local Assessments in Action On-the-Ground Activities and Knowledge Facilitation

The Indigenous Peoples' Biocultural Climate Change Assessment Initiative (IPCCA) is an indigenous led initiative that has emerged as an innovative response to climate change adaptation and mitigation challenges in indigenous landscapes and environments. It brings together indigenous knowledge and science in a process that links biocultural realities with complex global processes. The IPCCCA uses biocultural methods and tools to involve communities from around the world in the assessment of climate change, local well-being, and the development of evidence-based responses for climate change adaptation. IPCCCA believes that indigenous adaptation processes must continue nurturing biocultural diversity in order to build resilience and better respond and adapt to the changes we face.

To this effect, the IPCCCA helps indigenous communities living in varied ecosystems around the world by: (i) providing support to indigenous peoples to carry out indigenous knowledge-led ground-level enquiries of conditions and trends, and to develop adaptation strategies, (ii) improving the resilience of communities by increasing their adaptive capacity and reducing vulnerability to the adverse effects of climate change risks; and; (iii) providing peoples-led policy lessons and mainstream local responses within national and international processes.

#### Local Assessments

Across the world, in a diversity of fragile ecosystems, such as the Sub-arctic tundra, Caribbean coast, Amazon and Asian rainforests, Southern Chinese and Andean mountains and African plains, IPCCCA local assessments are taking a biocultural approach to understanding the relationships between communities, their livelihoods, ecosystems, and climate. Results from the local assessments are synthesized into global reports to feed into climate change policy development.

#### Impacts

##### Building Resilient Communities

Communities are strengthening their traditional governance systems and customary use of biodiversity, consolidating their territorial management, and building capacity to make decisions and take actions that enable creative solutions based on traditional knowledge and practices. Knowledge and practices relating to biodiversity and livelihoods are the vehicle for ensuring food sovereignty and brighter futures for coming generations.

##### Supporting Climate Change Science

Using sophisticated local knowledge which has developed over millennia of coevolution with ecosystems and dealing with changes, the IPCCCA local assessments provide local knowledge on climatic phenomena and their impacts which is complementary to Western scientific knowledge.

##### Strengthening National Policies

Results of the local assessments are helping national adaptation and mitigation planning to build more integrated responses. The usually forgotten local voices are now gaining ground in national processes, to help plan future actions that will not infringe upon the rights and capacities of local and indigenous communities, but rather, will build more bioculturally aware national policies.

##### Building Local-Global Links

Results of the local assessments show how holistic understanding can link local knowledge, livelihoods and practices in response to climate change with global concerns of climate justice. The voices of indigenous communities and their concerns are expressed through synthesis reporting across the local assessments, contributing to global indigenous demands.

 <b>Adivasi Peoples</b> ANDRA PRADESH, INDIA Building resilience to climate change through traditional governance and territorial rights	 <b>Skolt Sámi, Lapland</b> FINLAND Building adaptation and survival mechanisms based on reindeer herding and salmon fishing practices	 <b>Karen Peoples, Huay Manao</b> THAILAND Adapting to changes in farming cycles and rice crops through locally appropriate responses	 <b>Yunan Province</b> SOUTHWEST CHINA Analyzing the role of traditional knowledge of agrobiodiversity in climate change adaptation
 <b>Ifugao Cordillera</b> PHILIPPINES Assessing changes in climatic conditions and trends and their impacts on ecosystems and culture	 <b>Comarca Kuna Yala</b> PANAMA Adapting to rising sea level and analyzing the impact of REDD+ on indigenous rights	 <b>Pacific North American Tribes</b> USA AND CANADA Building an assessment of climate change impacts on the salmon peoples	 <b>Massai Peoples</b> KENYA Assessing the role of traditional knowledge and institutions in addressing climate change for well being
 <b>Sápara Territory</b> AMAZONIA, ECUADOR Assessing impacts of climate change on forest livelihoods and analyzing impacts of REDD+ on indigenous rights	 <b>Potato Park</b> CUSCO, PERU Assessing impacts on native potato diversity to build responses and strengthen resilience		

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