



**INDIGENOUS  
PEOPLES'  
FORUM  
AT IFAD**

## Report

Asia Regional Workshop in preparation  
for the third global meeting of the  
Indigenous Peoples' Forum at IFAD



# WORKSHOP REPORT

## Asia Regional Workshop in preparation for the third global meeting of the Indigenous Peoples: Forum at IFAD: Economic empowerment of indigenous peoples, with a specific focus on women and youth



**22-25 November 2016  
Siem Reap, Cambodia**

Prepared by: Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP)

### Introduction

The Asia Consultation Workshop was conducted on 22-25 November 2016 in Siem Reap, Cambodia. Participants included 28 indigenous peoples, mainly women and youth; representatives from ten countries in Asia; six IFAD representatives; and 11 representatives from government agencies and non-governmental organizations.

Within an overall focus on economic empowerment of indigenous peoples, with a focus on women and youth, the objectives of the regional workshop were to:

- Exchange knowledge and experiences on good practices on indigenous peoples' economic empowerment that value and build on their distinctiveness, traditional knowledge, cultures and natural resources as assets; and
- Identify the challenges that indigenous peoples face in pursuing economic empowerment, in terms of their identities, knowledge and aspirations;

- Identify opportunities for strengthening good practices as sustainable solutions for the future, and the corresponding elements for regional strategies to enhance IFAD's support to them; and
- Analyse and formulate action-oriented recommendations on the theme of the 2017 Forum.

The regional workshop also:

- Assessed the progress of implementation of the IFAD Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples adopted in 2009;
- Reviewed the recommendations made at the second global meeting of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum at IFAD (2015), and assessed the progress of the recommendations and regional action plans adopted;
- Visited a project financed by IFAD or the Indigenous Peoples' Assistance Facility (IPAF) (depending on proximity and availability of resources) and
- Prepared the regional participation to the third global meeting of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum at IFAD.

The workshop was organized by the Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP) and hosted by the Cambodia Indigenous Peoples Organization (CIPO) and Cambodia Indigenous Peoples Alliance.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WORKSHOP

### I. Implementation of the IFAD Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples in selected IFAD projects in Asia

#### IFAD projects presented

##### 1. CAMBODIA

Project: Accelerating Inclusive Markets for Smallholders (AIMS)

Location: Stung Treng Province

Indigenous peoples involved: Prov

Organization involved: Prov Indigenous Community in Katot village, Kamphun commune, Sesan district

The project mainly looked at enhancing indigenous peoples' livelihoods, particularly those of indigenous women, by using non-timber forest products (NTFP) in the area, such as collecting fruits, mushrooms, bamboo shoots and other forest products as well as weaving mats and processing products from bamboo. The community still needs further training to be able to produce quality NTFP and also improve their entrepreneurial skills to be able to market their produce effectively.

##### 2. PHILIPPINES

Project: Cordillera Highland Agricultural Resource Management Project (CHARMP) 2

Location: Cordillera Region

Indigenous peoples involved: Bonto, Balangao, Ibaloi, Ifugao, Isnag, Kalinga, Kankana-ey and Tinggian.

Key project components:

- Component 1 – Social Mobilization Participatory Investment Planning and Land Tenure
- Component 2 – Community Watershed Conservation Forest Management and Agroforestry
- Component 3 – Agriculture Agribusiness and Income Generating Activities
- Component 4 – Rural Infrastructure Development
- Component 5 – Project Management and Coordination

Powerpoint presentation: <http://aippcloud.space/index.php/s/6ErSdJX9XPlkouY>

### 3. INDIA

Project: Tejaswini Maharashtra Rural Women's Empowerment Programme

Location: Maharashtra

Indigenous peoples involved: Gond

*The programme works to improve livelihood opportunities by developing participants' skills, fostering market linkages and providing market and policy support. It provides access to functional literacy and labour-saving infrastructure, and it strengthens women's participation in local governance. It also supports government policies that empower women and develop the capacity of executing agencies.<sup>1</sup>*

Powerpoint presentation: <http://aippcloud.space/index.php/s/tneQnI936n5HdgS>

### 4. INDIA

Project: Northeast Community Resource Management Project (NERCOMP)

Location of the project: Assam (Dima Hasao & Karbi Anglong Districts); Manipur (Senapati & Ukhrul Districts) and Meghalaya (erstwhile West Khasi Hills and West Garo Hills Districts).

Indigenous peoples involved: Hmar, Kuki, Dimasa, Karbi and Naga (in Assam), Naga & Kuki people (in Manipur) and Garo & Khasis (in Meghalaya).

Key activities:

- Community Institution Building
- Village Development Plans (livelihoods)
- Village Development Plan (social sector)
- Village Development Plans (rural electrification and road)
- Natural Resource Management Plans
- Hand holding

Powerpoint presentation: <http://aippcloud.space/index.php/s/ykXYyWtAtR8KsL>

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<sup>1</sup> Tejaswini Rural Women's Empowerment Programme

[https://operations.ifad.org/web/ifad/operations/country/project/tags/india/1314/project\\_overview](https://operations.ifad.org/web/ifad/operations/country/project/tags/india/1314/project_overview)

## 5. VIET NAM

Project: Project for the Sustainable Economic Empowerment of Ethnic Minorities in Dak Nong province (3EM)



Location: 23 communes in five districts: Đak G'Long, Đak R'Lap, Đak Song, Krong No and Tuy Đức  
Ethnic Groups Involved: Êđê and M'Nông

Project components:

- Component 1 – Ethnic Minority Livelihoods Development
  - Sub-component 1.1: Extension of Sustainable Agriculture
  - Sub-component 1.2: Value Chain Development
  - Sub-component 1.3: Participatory Planning and Community Infrastructure
- Component 2 – Rural Financial Service
  - Sub-component 2.1: Agriculture and Value Chain Lending
  - Sub-component 2.2: Women's Savings and Credit Groups
- Component 3 – Project Management

Powerpoint presentation: <http://aippcloud.space/index.php/s/AV8YsAykLXVRaep>

A summary of the implementation of IFAD projects vis-à-vis the implementation of the IFAD Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples is provided in Annex 1.

## **Good practices, lessons learned and ways forward on the implementation of the IFAD Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples**

1. Indigenous peoples' must participate in project planning and management to ensure that their needs and priorities are addressed.
2. A separate dedicated unit (at the project level) for indigenous peoples needs to be established.
3. Prioritize the perspectives of indigenous peoples when making development plans in villages and communes.
4. Use existing networks, services and resources, including indigenous experts, to participate/be involved in project design and management.
5. An extensive period for project preparation/promotion is required; identify people (e.g. grassroots animator) within the community to engage with the community.
6. Establish/strengthen links to financial institutions/banks to sustain self-help groups/cooperatives.
7. It is necessary to learn about the native culture and traditional skills of ethnic minority/indigenous peoples when planning and implementing projects.
8. Use ethnic language in agricultural extension activities; promote farmer-to-farmer extension using indigenous languages.
9. Develop indigenous peoples' capacities for savings and use suitable lending services.
10. Connect indigenous peoples' produce to markets through linkages with private enterprises.
11. Capacity building/trainings needs to start from the identification of knowledge and skills of communities, whose needs and resources should be embedded in project design and planning.
12. Building/strengthening the organizations and associations of indigenous peoples, women and youth is critical in sustaining project impacts and benefits as well as in engaging with the private sector and local governments.
13. Sustained capacity building for indigenous women, including functional literacy, skills development and strengthening their organizations, is important for their overall empowerment and not just their economic empowerment.
14. Economic empowerment of indigenous peoples/women/youth cannot be isolated from their political, social and cultural empowerment; it is a long process that goes beyond the project cycle and needs a comprehensive and integrated approach.
15. Establish industries within the community and skills development for youth in order to prevent them from leaving their communities to find employment.
16. Long-term intervention/projects with sufficient resources are critical elements in empowering indigenous peoples.

## II. Experiences in the implementation of the Indigenous Peoples Assistance Facility



### Projects presented

- **Cambodia**  
Project: Build and strengthen capacities and raise awareness on indigenous peoples' rights to land and territories  
Indigenous peoples involved: Kui and Punong
- **India**  
Project: WADI (orchard) development to regenerate natural resources including unused lands  
Indigenous peoples involved: Santhal
- **Indonesia**  
Project: Strengthening Indigenous Jawatn Dayak Communities' Capacity (especially Indigenous Women) in Three Villages to Manage their Indigenous Forest/Territory Sustainably  
Indigenous peoples involved: Jawatn Dayak

### Good practices

- Training and knowledge workshops on dry-land farming help communities diversify their source of livelihood. In the case of the Santhal people in India, the training and knowledge workshops they undertook helped them regenerate 20 acres of individual and collective lands that were originally unused because of lack of water and land that was not fertile. The women and youth are actively involved. In the process, the community formed self-help groups to increase their savings.
- The Santhal women in India initiated collective farming of various vegetable varieties through traditional organic processes. The produce are for their family's consumption and for selling in the market. They promote the principle of equal labour and equal profit sharing.



- Initiatives targeting women increased in the proposals submitted for IPAF support. In India, for example, out of the 55 proposals received, 19 of them are focused solely on women as target beneficiaries.
- Indigenous peoples approach their issues in a multi-pronged manner. The IPAF proposals received did not focus only on economic empowerment but also addressed other issues in the communities, such as viability of lands and territories and food security and nutrition.
- Radio talk shows in Cambodia are an effective medium for raising the awareness of communities and the wider public about indigenous peoples and their rights to their lands and territories.
- The Indigenous Peoples' Working Group in Cambodia is composed of 50 per cent women, who are strong in building and raising the awareness of their communities on indigenous peoples' rights.
- Targeted awareness raising and capacity building for women in Indonesia resulted in increased awareness of women on their rights and the issues that are important. The women are now asserting spaces for their participation in their annual village development planning and are continuously organizing new women cadres in other villages.

### **Lessons learned**

- Effective use of information helps build indigenous peoples' knowledge and common understanding in order for them to improve their situation.
- Social business empowerment is different from social empowerment. Becoming social change actors and being social business actors are very different.
- Social business empowerment initiatives need enough initial research to identify the potential, market, financial sources, business plans and entrepreneurial skills. Capacity building for economic empowerment is essential.
- Learning from other successful projects and best models is important.

### **Challenges**

- Governments are reluctant to extend development support.
- Initiatives focused on youth are marginal. It was more common to see proposals for women and children.
- Women's meaningful participation in the implementation of project activities is not fully realized.
- Qualitative, not just quantitative, indicators need to be provided for women's involvement in IPAF projects.
- Planting traditional crops has been encouraged but it takes much longer to harvest them than commercial crops.
- While advocacy is important, people in Cambodia cannot fully engage due to time constraints and the need to do conduct livelihood activities to provide for their families.
- Many indigenous women are illiterate and lack the confidence needed to share their knowledge at the national level.
- The IPAF does not provide sufficient funding for capacity building.
- In terms of sustainability, 18-24 months is not enough to have full impact; projects cannot yet be self-reliant within this timeframe.

## Recommendations

- Regarding sustainable livelihoods, longer support and more capacity building for the partners and the co-managers are needed. (Tebtebba, which is coordinating the IPAF grants, found it difficult to provide helpful recommendations related to social enterprise as it is not within its expertise.)
- The cycle of livelihood projects needs to be followed, and a quality control mechanism should be in place for production and marketing.
- Provide support for legal assistance, advocacy and institutional strengthening for organizations so they can manage livelihood projects on their own.
- Regarding the economic empowerment of women and youth, IFAD should be able to create pilot projects in some communities within five years.
- In the context of identifying and prioritizing emerging development issues and challenges for indigenous peoples and their territory in terms of climate change and conflicts, it is important to encourage policy advocacy for the recognition of indigenous peoples' rights. Without the state's recognition, the territory, land and resources of indigenous peoples will not be sustained. Self-determined development of indigenous peoples will only be realized if they have a good bargaining position with outside parties.
- Traditional knowledge is powerful. IFAD may create projects to support and promote the traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples and create a community protocol for the community to protect themselves and receive fair benefit sharing.
- The IPAF should also engage with IFAD country programmes to ensure complementarity.

### III. Experiences and good practices in indigenous peoples' economic empowerment that value and build on their distinctiveness, traditional knowledge, cultures and natural resources as assets, with focus on women and youth

Experiences shared in this session were from:

- India: Indigenous Women Forum Northeast India (IWFNEI)
- Myanmar: Center For Education, Art and Literature/ Bright Dawn Children Library and Pann Nu Arakan Traditional Hand Woven Textile
- Nepal: Youth Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (YFIN)
- Thailand: Indigenous Women's Network in Thailand (IWNT)



### **Changes/impacts at village level**

- Villagers have stable income and own a business.
- Youth return home from the city to help their family in the business.
- There is increased job employment in the village and improved quality of life.
- Family members stay and work together instead of going to the city to find employment.
- The village in Thailand has learning centres for villagers who are interested in developing their skills.
- Through the community-based tourism in the village, indigenous peoples' culture is being promoted and recognized. This makes indigenous peoples more proud of their identities and culture and motivates them to preserve it.
- Children have more access to education.
- Youth are taking the initiative to economically empowering themselves, as in the case of YFIN in Nepal.

### **Lessons learned**

- When women are economically empowered they can take care of their family and are able to contribute to work in the wider society. Some are in agriculture, piggery, poultry and floriculture. They also run institutions and schools. These businesses are able to sustain themselves.
- When women are empowered, the community cannot sideline them and they are respected.
- Education is an important asset for women to be able to stand on their own feet.
- Youth who haven't had higher studies are receiving vocational training and becoming entrepreneurs as well as working in local markets and foreign employment.

### **Challenges**

- Lack of funding to develop better products, etc.
- Lack of human resources and skills regarding marketing, design and packaging, management, quality control, etc.
- Lack of equipment for production.
- Lack of knowledge on how to develop/turn indigenous knowledge into products and how to add value to products.
- Limited access to markets due to language barriers and lack of experience in marketing.
- Non-recognition of collective land rights, which poses risks of being displaced/forcibly relocated.
- Danger of exploitation by non-indigenous businesspeople.
- Poor infrastructure and high transportation cost.
- Poor governance.
- Natural calamities.
- Weaving designs are being copied by other people, thus patenting is very important.
- Lack of identity and citizenship.
- No ownership rights for women.
- Shrinking of natural resources.
- Lack of participation of women in decision making.
- Gender wage gaps.

- Social exclusion of youth because of their age and/or ethnicity and thus their increased migration to other countries.

### **Recommendations**

- Set up a fund to assist indigenous women and youth for their business.
- Provide support for equipment and access to modern technology, including skills training.
- Advocate with the governments to recognize the rights of indigenous peoples over their lands and resources.
- Promote sustainable community-based tourism in indigenous communities.
- Set up indigenous peoples' markets.
- Establish institutions that provide skills and knowledge on social business and marketing for indigenous peoples.

## **IV. Working groups on opportunities and challenges that indigenous peoples face in pursuing economic empowerment (in terms of their identity, knowledge and aspirations), and recommendations**

<b>OPPORTUNITIES</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals and the commitment of governments to conduct participatory planning at the national and local levels.</li> <li>• Availability of NTFP such as rattan, bamboo and honey, which can be processed for income.</li> <li>• Mineral resources in indigenous communities.</li> <li>• Agricultural lands for rice and mixed vegetables and agro-culture plantation, such as cashew nut and rubber.</li> <li>• Diversification of livelihoods (non-farming activities) such as piggery, poultry and fisheries.</li> <li>• E-business.</li> <li>• Ecotourism.</li> <li>• Traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples on seed keeping, textiles, handicrafts and weaving, among others.</li> <li>• Indigenous women's traditional knowledge of herbal medicines.</li> <li>• Market demand for indigenous peoples' organic products.</li> <li>• Indigenous peoples, including women and youth, are gaining interest and engaging in entrepreneurial activities and self-help groups.</li> <li>• Due to unemployment, youth return to their villages to help in farming activities.</li> <li>• Organizations that can mobilize youth to engage in livelihood activities.</li> <li>• Restitution of indigenous peoples' lands previously used by companies for plantations.</li> <li>• Government programmes for economic empowerment, rural development and indigenous peoples' development.</li> <li>• Having indigenous peoples' representatives in the government.</li> </ul>
<b>CHALLENGES</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individualization/privatization of community assets where the elite tend to capture community assets.</li> <li>• Language barriers.</li> </ul>

- Loss of lands and forests resulting from illegal logging and economic land concessions.
- High interest rates of some microfinance schemes.
- Youth are not in school due to financial considerations and parents' lack of appreciation of the value of education.
- Out-migration for better income/occupations.
- Many indigenous peoples are not used to engaging in entrepreneurial activities.
- Lack of market space and access to markets for better market prices of community produce.
- Loss of cultural identity due to globalization.
- Lack of skills on agricultural techniques, packaging and marketing of products.
- Unstable market prices.
- Dwindling water resources and climate change.
- Lack of capital to start a business.
- Lack of infrastructure.
- Extinction of culture and youth's loss of interest in their cultural practices and traditions.
- Lack of proper implementation of laws, policies and programmes for indigenous peoples and economic empowerment, and conflicting policies of governments.
- Governments' lack of information on livelihood opportunities.
- Adapting to modern needs without losing identity.
- Traditional knowledge-holders are not transferring their skills to the next generations.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Provide support for the conservation of traditional seeds (seed banks).
- Provide capacity building and financial support for indigenous peoples' engagement with governments.
- Provide direct support to indigenous organizations.
- Provide support for access to markets.
- Provide support for infrastructure and improved water sources for communities for their agricultural activities.
- Provide support for the establishment of eco-tourism initiatives owned by indigenous peoples.
- Provide targeted skills development trainings for women and youth.
- Provide gender sensitization workshops and trainings.
- Encourage intergenerational transfer of knowledge from the elders to youth.
- Provide scholarships and training for youth.
- Conduct cultural exchange programmes.
- Ensure the implementation of Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC).
- Include indicators that focus not only on income generated but also on how the culture, identity and well-being of indigenous peoples have been strengthened.
- Disaggregate data by age and gender.
- Have a holistic approach to economic empowerment.
- Support formal and informal education for women and youth.
- Support networking and horizontal knowledge sharing on social enterprise among indigenous peoples.
- Enhance advocacy on the economic empowerment of women and youth.
- Promote sustainable community-based tourism to indigenous communities.
- Replicate effective models on economic development for indigenous peoples.

- Explore joint funding opportunities (e.g. Green Climate Fund)

## V. Working groups on action-oriented recommendations on the theme of the 2017 Forum

### RECOMMENDATIONS TO IFAD

- Provide training on agricultural techniques;
- Provide targeted capacity building for women and youth (e.g. trainings for youth to be able to certify organic products);
- Support the establishment of seed/grain banks;
- Provide direct funding to indigenous organizations/institutions;
- Provide capital support to youth's and women's initiatives, eco-tourism initiatives, markets;
- Provide support for irrigation and infrastructure for indigenous communities;
- Conduct awareness raising on the ground on the IFAD Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples and build/establish engagements between the government and indigenous peoples to monitor the implementation of the policy;
- Provide support for the implementation of development plans on indigenous peoples (e.g. National Policy on Indigenous Peoples Development in Cambodia);
- Facilitate experience sharing among farmers, youth and women;
- Provide resources/scholarships to support education for youth, especially girls;
- Lobby with governments to adopt policies on scholarship grants for indigenous peoples;
- Educate parents to understand the value of education;
- Support research and documentation of indigenous peoples' dances, songs and literature;
- Develop indicators that not only focus on the income generated but also how it strengthens the culture and identity and well-being of indigenous peoples;
- Disaggregate data not only in terms of gender but also in terms of age and ethnicity;
- Have a holistic approach to economic empowerment;
- Advocate with the government to recognize the rights of indigenous peoples over their homeland and farmland;
- Support formal and informal education of women and youth;
- Support value formation among youth (e.g. support youth and elder exchange);
- Allocate funds to assist indigenous women and youth for their business and associated entrepreneurial skills, equipment and modern technology;
- Support networking and horizontal knowledge sharing among indigenous peoples' groups working on social enterprise;
- Coordinate with and support indigenous women and youth in selling their products;
- Promote and link indigenous products to international markets and networks;
- Set up an institution that provides knowledge on social business and marketing in countries where there are indigenous peoples;
- Promote the product quality standards set up by indigenous peoples themselves to international markets;
- Start pilot projects on businesses based on traditional knowledge for the youth;
- Enhance advocacy on the economic empowerment of women and youth (e.g. press releases);
- Promote sustainable community-based tourism to indigenous communities;
- Lobby governments to adopt the UNDRIIP and for the governments who adopted it to uphold it;

- Support consultations on what has been achieved on the UNDRIP so far;
- Assist the governments in learning international experiences for consolidating policies on indigenous peoples' development through regional policy dialogues;
- Increase the support for indigenous peoples through development projects with loans and grants;
- Promote replication of successful models of economic development for indigenous peoples through the formulation of guidelines for national programmes.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS**

- Repeal/review laws and policies prohibiting traditional livelihoods of indigenous peoples (e.g. shifting cultivation and collection of non-timber forest products);
- Strengthen linkages and ensure the inclusion of indigenous peoples' needs and priorities in any development plans;
- Enhance the participation of indigenous women and youth in development processes;
- Provide trainings on disaster preparedness;
- Provide resources and market space for indigenous peoples to be able to sell their produce;
- Provide resources to strengthen and promote self-identification of indigenous communities and support their non-farming activities;
- Establish/rehabilitate health centres in remote areas;
- Provide scholarships for traditional skills enhancement (e.g. weaving, handicrafts);
- Conduct cultural exchange programmes;
- Ensure the effective implementation of the governments' youth programmes;
- Include indicators that not only focus on the income generated but also on how it strengthens the culture, identity and well-being of indigenous peoples;
- Disaggregate data by age and gender;
- Have a holistic approach to economic empowerment;
- Recognize and protect the rights of indigenous peoples over their homelands and territories;
- Support value formation among youth (e.g. youth and elders exchange);
- Support both formal and informal education of women and youth;
- Allocate funds to assist indigenous women and youth for their business and associated entrepreneurial skills, equipment and modern technology;
- Coordinate with and support indigenous women and youth in selling their products;
- Set up a policy that supports indigenous peoples' products;
- Recognize the product quality standards set up by indigenous peoples themselves;
- Start pilot projects for youth on businesses based on traditional knowledge;
- Enhance advocacy on the economic empowerment of women and youth (e.g. press releases);
- Promote sustainable community-based tourism to indigenous communities;
- Develop appropriate policies and strategies to strengthen the roles and capacities of indigenous peoples;
- Organize forums to exchange and share information on policies and experiences;
- Respect and recognize indigenous peoples' role, identity, traditional knowledge, practices and customary laws in economic development;
- Develop indicators for indigenous peoples' engagement in all national policies and programmes;

- Promote respect for indigenous peoples' self-driven development and full and effective engagement in economic and other development activities;
- Host regional policy dialogues to learn about international experiences, with the aim to consolidate national strategies and approaches for the empowerment of indigenous peoples.

#### **WHAT INDIGENOUS PEOPLES WILL DO**

##### *Recommendations to indigenous peoples:*

- Advocate for the mainstreaming of indigenous peoples' economic development plans with relevant government agencies;
- Advocate for the consolidation of government policies and programmes to support indigenous peoples' development;
- Implement projects/interventions protecting the interests of indigenous peoples and indigenous knowledge;
- Participate in global/regional and local networks for indigenous peoples' development;
- Conduct capacity building on disaster preparedness for indigenous communities;
- Advocate for changes in the attitude of health practitioners;
- Promote and preserve traditional knowledge and values;
- Educate youth on traditional skills;
- Conserve crops that are adaptable to climate change;
- Include non-farming activities (e.g. poultry rearing) in the diversification of livelihood activities;
- Revive cultural and traditional activities;
- Enable indigenous youth to link up with government programmes for the economic empowerment of youth;
- Approach economic empowerment in a holistic manner;
- Support value formation among youth (e.g. youth and elders exchange);
- Continue the commitment for horizontal knowledge sharing among fellow indigenous peoples;
- Promote, patronize and improve indigenous products;
- Set up indigenous cooperatives or federations that will help promote indigenous peoples' products and develop quality products;
- Start pilot projects on businesses for youth based on traditional knowledge;
- Enhance advocacy on the economic empowerment of women and youth and continue awareness raising among indigenous peoples;
- Promote sustainable community-based tourism to indigenous communities;
- Engage in the implementation of national targeted programmes of the government (e.g. New Rural Development and Sustainable Poverty Alleviation programmes in Viet Nam).

## **VI. Indigenous food systems and nutrition**

#### **CHALLENGES**

- Fast foods.
- Younger generations do not care much about nutrition.
- Some herbal food and vegetables cannot be cultivated anymore.



- Chemicals used in the agriculture sector.
- Many do not have time to cook nutritious food because of work.
- Discrimination on the food of indigenous peoples.
- Loss of land and forests to land concessions, etc.
- Chemical fertilizers that communities have been using to kill weeds affect food.
- Lack of access to indigenous and traditional food in urban areas.
- Climate change. In Bangladesh, the nutritional value of food in the communities is higher than in the city, but now forests are shrinking and climate change affects food production.
- Governments prohibit the gathering of NTFPs.
- Developing multiple sources of nutritional food remains a challenge because of the seasonality of food.
- Demand for cash income (for education, health, etc.) prevents many families from consuming their livestock products.
- Malnutrition in rural communities is very visible, e.g. iron and protein deficiencies.
- Governments are converting agricultural areas for horticulture and multi-cropping (commercial crops).
- Nutrition concerns are overlooked because hunger response is primary.
- Early marriage – young mothers often do not know how to feed their family.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Provide more access to information about nutrition;
- Promote indigenous peoples' knowledge of food and nutrition and link it to income for indigenous peoples;
- Document food and nutrition of indigenous peoples;
- IFAD to support more communities to better understand nutrition;
- Raise awareness on health, sanitation and nutrition and advocate to include them in the education curriculum;
- Adopt a nutrition policy with consultation and participation of indigenous people;
- Document highly nutritional food in communities (e.g. moringa, pako), protect them and possibly propagate them in other communities;
- Support and promote indigenous peoples' organic traditional knowledge of farming or food systems;
- Stop the use of chemicals;
- Support avenues for marketing indigenous food in terms of food fairs and festivals;
- Map traditional foods;
- Package traditional foods in a different way;
- Link farmers to markets';
- Provide technical support to maintain traditional foods;
- Focus on the diversification of food systems;
- Raise awareness among women on the importance of nutrition;
- IFAD to provide assistance to analyse the changes in the food basket and nutrition and advise on how indigenous peoples can survive (e.g. cheap food with high nutrition).

## ANNEX 1: SUMMARY of IFAD Projects

Implementation of the IFAD Policy on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples	PROJECT					REMARKS
	CAMBODIA	PHILIPPINES	INDIA (MAHARASHTRA)	INDIA (MANIPUR)	VIET NAM	
<b>Information sharing and participation of indigenous peoples</b>						
Project information shared (e.g. appropriate language, national language through community seminars, posters)	Report did not mention anything	Yes <sup>2</sup>	Yes	Report did not mention anything	Yes	No report if information on the IFAD Policy of Engagement with Indigenous Peoples shared and discussed with project partners
Participation of indigenous peoples' representatives, including women and youth, in project design and at all stages of the project cycle, with consideration of recommendations of indigenous peoples' communities/ representatives	Yes	Yes <sup>3</sup>	Yes	Mentioned in the strategy <sup>4</sup>	Yes <sup>5</sup>	Reports did not elaborate on the level of participation in terms of meaningful and effective participation of indigenous peoples.

<sup>2</sup> Information shared: The Project in general, Organizational management and development including participatory monitoring, Agricultural and agroforestry technologies (including organic production and value chain), and Environmental preservation and climate change. Information shared through: Community meetings/assemblies; Field visits; Trainings/demonstrations; Distribution of printed materials (English); Farmer field schools/farmer business schools; School on the air – Ilocano.

<sup>3</sup> In all stages of the project cycle – all people in the community are involved - women, men, youth, children, persons with disabilities, senior citizens. However, in monitoring activities, only 40 per cent of women were involved (lowest in monitoring reforestation activities, as it takes longer to hike in the mountains and is more strenuous for women). In livelihood and agroforestry activities, 64 per cent are indigenous women.

<sup>4</sup> Involve communities in an intimate participatory approach where they are involved at every stage in decision making/planning and implementation, besides participating in self-monitoring. (Source: Powerpoint presentation by Helam Haokip)

<sup>5</sup> The community members, including indigenous women, are involved in formulating their commune socio-economic development plan, determining infrastructure projects to be implemented, and supervising project implementation. Indicators on the participation of indigenous peoples are included in the project design and monitoring.

<p>How the project has enhanced the decision-making role of indigenous peoples in community affairs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhanced the decision-making role of indigenous peoples in community affairs.</li> <li>• Increased participation of indigenous women in India (Maharashtra), North East India (Senapati in particular), Philippines and Viet Nam.</li> <li>• Enhanced leadership skills of indigenous women – e.g. in Viet Nam and Maharashtra, women are elected to lead their women’s saving and credit group and in local governance bodies (Panchayati Raj).</li> <li>• In the Philippines, the CHARM project conducted consultations with indigenous peoples and then asked the whole community to attend the meeting, explaining the purpose of the project and encouraging them to participate in project implementation. Men, women and youth are all involved. Those who attend the meeting join in the planning and in identifying beneficiaries. Each project has a group of monitoring and evaluation team members from the area which was identified by the people from the community.</li> </ul>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Application of FPIC through clear partnerships with communities/ indigenous institutions not elaborated in the case studies submitted/ presented.</li> <li>• How are representatives selected to participate in project related bodies? By project proponents? Or by the communities themselves?</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Impacts of the project relating to indigenous peoples’ empowerment, welfare and well-being</b></p>						
<p>Economic empowerment of indigenous women largely through self-help groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased income, confidence, independence, skills, food security; access to finance and markets</li> <li>• <i>Participation and involvement of youth, and subsequent impacts, were not elaborated.</i></li> </ul>					
<p>Indigenous peoples’ traditional knowledge and sustainable resource management</p>		<p>Yes<sup>6</sup></p>	<p>Activities involve proper packaging of traditional</p>	<p>NERCORMP adopted an interdisciplinary and multi-sectoral approach, whereby sustainable farming is</p>	<p>Community identifies available indigenous</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other countries did not report on this point.</li> <li>• How are sustainable</li> </ul>

<sup>6</sup> The community mobilization officers maximize the wealth of intangible indigenous knowledge and practices such as the Bilin system of Benguet and the Ganap system of the i-Maengs. Tapping this indigenous knowledge and practices is helpful in the organizing process and in appreciating the community’s priceless role as counterpart to the project. The Aluyon, Aduyon, Binnadang, Gammal, Garates, etc traditional systems, institutions and best practices of mutual aid and cooperation are the internal resources that lighten feelings of self-sacrifice when implementing and monitoring become challenging. These are used well and recognized by the communities themselves in implementing and monitoring projects. The CHARM project, in coordination with the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples, the state universities and colleges, and with the indigenous communities themselves, came out with the documentation on indigenous forest management systems and practices, such as the Lapat System of Vanaw Tinggians in Malibcong, Abra and Lapat/Senned of the Isnegs of Conner, Apayao. The research was validated by the community and the elders.

systems/practices protected/strengthened			products (e.g. kini-ng – meat processed in a traditional way).	promoted, <b><u>with an emphasis on reducing shifting cultivation</u></b> and introducing/upscaling crops in a balanced manner that would enhance the economy of the people.	products and the project supports them in processing and marketing.	livelihoods, particularly shifting cultivation, protected and enhanced?
Self-determined development/ community-driven development including perspectives of indigenous women are accounted for or given due consideration in project design and implementation		ANGKAS (collective labour in Kalinga) is weakened because the project promotes cash labour.	Yes (not much elaborated in the report)	The project supports a number of initiatives for women, e.g. formation of self-help groups and inclusion of women in community-based organizations.	Yes (not much elaborated in the report)	
Capacities of indigenous peoples, including women and youth, were strengthened	Skills development for indigenous peoples, including women, related to livelihoods, use of technology, financial management, functional literacy, inter-learning exchange, technical and managerial skills, and community procurement, among others.  Youth are involved in improving and documenting feasibility studies (e.g. in Northeast India and the Philippines).					

## ANNEX 2

### FIELD VISIT: Bang Korn Phal village, Preah Vihear province

#### 1. Profile

Bang Korn Phal village is in Romtum commune, Rovieng district, Preah Vihear province, Cambodia. The village was founded in 1972 in the era of the Cambodia Republic when citizens migrated from Romchek, O Po, and Chi Ouk villages to work on traditional farms. Bang Korn Phal village is about 58 km from the town, across the National Road number 62 by the Phnom Dek village, then using a trail of about 7 km. It takes around one hour and 30 minutes from the capital of the province to reach the village. Currently, there are 170 households with 664 people (369 women), and most of them are Kui indigenous peoples. The main traditional occupation of the community members is dependent on land, forest and biodiversity that surround their community. The activities are shifting cultivation, planting on rice fields, feeding domestic animals, fishing for consumption, and collecting non-timber forest products (NTFP). These support their daily livelihood, especially those resources which are the cultural spirit and identification of Kui indigenous peoples. Most of the community members still practice their traditional beliefs and ceremonies, such as the ritual celebration during planting and harvest, respecting and honouring spirits (*neak ta*), the yearly village ceremony, and a ceremony to the *araks*, a kind of spirit called upon to understand why someone is sick. They have their own language but some have forgotten it and do not use the traditional clothing and equipment/material.



#### 2. Involvement of Organization

The village has been supported by the Organization for the Promotion of Kui Culture (OPKC) and World Vision. OPKC has been providing the technical support on Advocacy and Networking, Community Organizing (Support Communal Land Registration), supporting the protection of community natural resources, and empowering indigenous women through livelihood creation and awareness raising. World Vision has been providing support for community organizing on natural resources protection, community development, forest product processing, building of the small dam, and student scholarships.

#### 3. Challenges

##### a. Forestry

Economic land concessions (ELCs) are the main cause of deforestation and anarchy in transportation in the Kui area. The collection and trading of luxury wood is from the Prey Lang, Boeung Pe and Prey Preah Roka areas and from community patrol areas or the community protection areas. The buyers are connected with the company that exports the wood from Cambodia and are allowed by local authorities, who gain from the illegal activity.



##### b. Land

Huge areas of ELCs in PVH province are for rubber, sugar and cashew plantations, and other wood business companies. ELCs are also the cause of loss of forest land, burial grounds, village land, and land for animal raising and shifting cultivation. The implementation of ELCs is not consulted with the villagers.

### **c. Health**

The district and provincial hospital is far from the village and accessible only by difficult roads. Sometimes this is the cause of some pregnant women dying on the way. Most of them are aided by traditional midwives.

### **d. Education**

Kui students usually stop their studies in grade 7 because of lack of money to support their education.

## **4. Actions**

With the technical support of OPKC and World Vision, the community has been organized as an indigenous peoples' community with the following actions:

- They have identified natural protected areas.
- Community organizing for collective land registration (which is now under step 2, where they can almost obtain the legal entity from the Ministry of the Interior) and planning to prepare the community internal rules on land use and management and primary map development.
- They are advocating with the company to protect land, conducting meetings with stakeholders and submitting requests for intervention from the authorities.

## **5. Next steps of the community and OPKC**

- Continue the communal land registration process with the community internal rules on land use and management and primary map development.
- Strengthen networking, advocacy and mobilization.
- Empower indigenous women.
- Strengthen the capacity of the community.

## **Key activities, outcomes, lessons learned, challenges and recommendations from previous IFAD projects (2007-2008)**

### **1. Key activities implemented**

- Facilitating the demarcation of community traditional boundaries
- Facilitating the development of the community boundary map
- Supporting communities in developing or increasing rice banks
- Supporting communities in buying zinc roofs for poor families
- Providing community capacity building to promote an understanding of relevant indigenous peoples' rights and laws
- Supporting the indigenous students' accommodation
- Providing training on leadership to indigenous women
- Coordinating the district meeting of community networks
- Mobilizing the community



### **2. Outcomes**

- Seven communities were mobilized to prevent illegal mining that used chemicals.
- Kui communities have strong commitment and solidarity through collective decision making and ability to protect their land, forest and natural resources from the company and powerful people.
- The community boundary is protected and being used in the traditional way.
- Women, youth and elders are more actively involved in claiming and protecting their forest land.
- Women, youth and elders have improved their knowledge of advocacy to protect the land and forest.

- Commune authorities have recognize communal land title documents.
- Committees and members of indigenous communities have more confidence to advocate with local (village) authorities on the issue of land and forest grabbing, and to find solutions for the community.
- Indigenous peoples come together for advocacy when encountering problems with the company and when an offense is committed.

### 3. Lessons learned

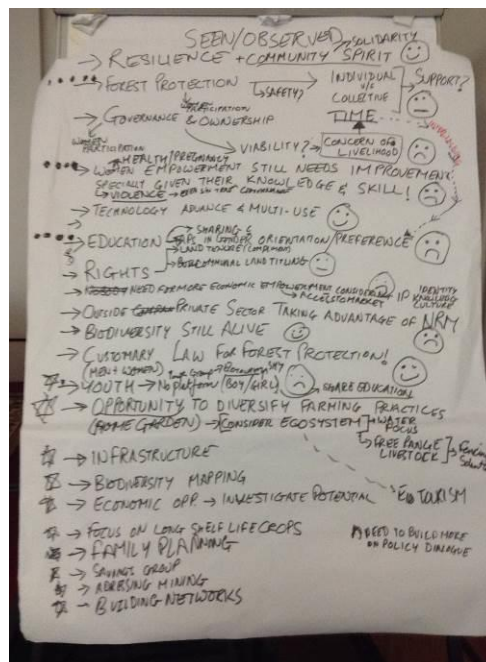
- Consultation with and participation of community members in decision making strengthens and refines the process.
- Indigenous communities have begun demanding the protection of their natural resources after they understand their rights and other relevant laws.
- The organization has an important role in helping to strengthen community awareness on rights to land and natural resources.

### 4. Challenges

- Authorities prevented the protest of the indigenous communities.
- The government's ELCs and mining concessions had an impact on the traditional occupations and livelihoods of indigenous peoples.
- The community representative was accused and threatened by the authorities.
- Communities were affected by chemicals from extractive gold mining.
- The authorities accused the non-governmental organizations involved in the protest movement against the government on forest and land issues.
- The police always monitored the activities of the community protesting land and forest issues.

### 5. Recommendations

- Donors should continue to support indigenous communities.
- Indigenous communities should continue to protect their forest and land.



Feedback from workshop participants on the field visit

**ANNEX 3: List of Participants**

No.	COUNTRY	NAME	ETHNICITY	GENDER	DESIGNATION AND ORGANIZATION	EMAIL
<b>Indigenous Peoples Representatives</b>						
1	Bangladesh	Chandra Tripura	Tripura	F	National Coordination Committee Member Bangladesh Indigenous Women Network (BIWN)	chandra.roaza@gmail.com
2	Cambodia	Vann Veng		M	Prao Indigenous Community in Katot village	kakada.deng@yahoo.com
3		Mane Yun		F	Cambodia Indigenous Peoples Organization (CIPO)	yunmanes@gmail.com
4		Tan Phly		M		
5		Chet Et		F		
6		Phon Sotheara		M	Highlanders Association (HA)	sotheara.phon2010@gmail.com
7		Tin Kim		F		
8		Choung Phea		M	Project Officer, Cambodia Indigenous Peoples Organization (CIPO)	choungphea@cipocambodia.org
9		India	Khesheli Chishi	Sumi Naga	F	Advisor Indigenous Women Forum Northeast India (IWFNEI)
10	Helam Haokip		Kuki	F	Chief functionary, Integrated Rural Management Association (IRMA)	haokiphelam@yahoo.com
11	Uikey Vandana Sawalram		Gond	F	Member of Yashaswi Lac cultivation (MLP), SHG President, presently Executive Committee Member Narichetna CMRC Deori, District-Gondia	cmrcdeori12@rediffmail.com
12	Indonesia	Stefanus Masiun		M	AMAN West Kalimantan	st.masiun@gmail.com
13	Laos	Noimaniphone Lorbliayao		F		nou.sisterhood@gmail.com
14	Myanmar	Khun Aung Hte	Pa-O	M	Pa-o Youth Organization	<a href="mailto:khunoo007@gmail.com">khunoo007@gmail.com</a> ; <a href="mailto:pyorg.net@gmail.com">pyorg.net@gmail.com</a>
15		Su Mwan Phroe	Rakhine/Ara kan	F	- Cecil Myanmar Co Ltd. - Center For Education, Art and	nitaukkray.rice@gmail.com



					Literature/ Bright Dawn Children Library - Pann Nu Arakan Traditional Hand Woven Textile	
16	Nepal	Ghaman Singh Gurung	Gurung	M	<i>Vice President</i> Youth Federation of Indigenous Nationalities Nepal (YFIN)	gs_tamu@yahoo.com
17	Philippines	Julius Ceasar Daguitan	Kalinga and Kankanaey	M	Secretary General Asia Pacific Indigenous Youth Network (APIYN)	julcea72@gmail.com
18		Mena Sukil-ap	Kankanaey	F	Vice President, Bonglo Rural Improvement Club	apagtan@gmail.com
19		Aida Pagtan	Kankanaey	F	Social Mobilisation and Gender Coordinator, Cordillera Highland Agricultural Resource Management Project	apagtan@gmail.com
20	Thailand	Orn Anong Saenyakul	Lisu	F	Indigenous Women's Network of Thailand (IWNT)	chomedoichang@gmail.com; iwnt.org@gmail.com
21	Vietnam	Thi Py Om	M'nong	F	Chairman Quang Tam Commune, Tuy Duc District, Dak Nong Province	hienphuong1425@gmail.com
22		Luong Thi Truong	Tai	F	Centre for Sustainable Development in Mountainous Areas	luongthitruong04@yahoo.com
23	IP Forum Steering Committee Members	Joan Carling	Kankanaey	F	Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP)	joan@aippnet.org
24	IFAD	Antonella Cordone		F	Senior Technical Specialist, Indigenous Peoples and Tribal Issues (HQ)	a.cordone@ifad.org
25		Rahul Antao		M		r.antao@ifad.org
26		Vincent Darlong		M	Country Technical Officer, India (Delhi's Country Office)	v.darlong@ifad.org
27		Benoit Thierry		M	Country Programme Manager, Asia and the Pacific Region (HQ)	b.thierry@ifad.org

28		Tung Nguyen Thanh		M	IFAD Country Programme Officer in Vietnam	nt.tung@ifad.org
29		Meng Sakpouseth		M	IFAD Country Programme Officer in Cambodia	m.sakpouseth@ifad.org
30	IPAF/Tebtebba	Marie Ngoddo	Kankana-ey	F	Regranting (IPAF Coordinator) Tebtebba	marie@tebtebba.org
31	AIPP	Robie Halip	Kalanguya and Kankanaey	F	Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP)	robie@aippnet.org
32		Chanda Thapa		F	Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP)	chanda@aippnet.org
33	Local Secretariat (CIPO)	Lat Sok Em		F	Cambodia Indigenous Peoples Organization (CIPO)	sokemlat@yahoo.com
34	Interpreter	Rim Sarem		M	Cambodia Indigenous Youth Association (CIYA)	sarem.rim@gmail.com
35	Procasur	Ariel Harpen		M	Vice President Asia Pacific PROCASUR	ahalpern@procasur.org
<b>Government and Civil Society Organizations</b>						
36	Cambodia	Puth Kunthea		F	Chief of IP Development Unit, Provincial Department of Rural Development Cambodia	kakada.deng@yahoo.com
37		Deng Kakada		M	Chief of the planning and statistic, Provincial Department of Rural Development	kakada.deng@yahoo.com
38		Seng Tuy		M	Deputy Manager Manager of the Project for Agricultural Development and Economic Empowerment	
39		Sary Seng		M	Director Fresh Solutions Ltd.	
40		Hok Kimthourn		M	Director	

					ASPIRE Project	
41	India	Donde Gauri Vivek		F	Manager MAVIM	gib.mavim@gmail.com
42		Bratin Biswas		M	Secretary, Surul Centre for Services in Rural Area (CSRA)	csra.org@gmail.com
43	Nepal	Shree Ram Subedi		M	Knowledge Management Officer Poverty Alleviation Fund	
44	Vietnam	Nguyen Thi Hien Phuong		F	Deputy Director of Women's Economic Empowerment Fund	hienphuong1425@gmail.com
45		Pham Tuan Anh		M	Director Economic Empowerment of Ethnic Minority Project (3EMP)	3emdaknong@gmail.com

## ANNEX 4

### WORKSHOP AGENDA

<b>November 21</b>		
(arrival in Siem Reap)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Registration</li> <li>- Dinner Reception for all participants</li> <li>- Introductions</li> </ul>		
<b>November 22</b>		
8:30 – 9:00	Registration	
9:00- 10: 00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Welcome Remarks: CIPA, AIPP and IFAD</li> <li>- Acknowledgement of participants by country</li> <li>- Agenda/Programme</li> <li>- Presentation of the Background, context and objectives of the Workshop</li> </ul>	Joan Carling, AIPP  Antonella Cordone, IFAD
10:00- 10:30	Summary presentation of the IFAD Policy of Engagement with Indigenous Peoples/brief Q&A	Antonella Cordone, IFAD
10:30- 10:45	Group Photo and Tea/Coffee Break	
10:45- 11:45	Presentation of IFAD Funded Projects  Panel 1: Vietnam, Cambodia, and Lao PDR  Q& A session and discussions	Joan Carling, AIPP
11:45- 12:30	Panel 2: Philippines, India (main land and North East),  Q& A session and discussions	Joan Carling, AIPP
12:30- 1:30	Lunch break	
1:30- 2: 00	Continuation of Q& A and discussions	Joan Carling, AIPP
2:00- 3:00	Presentation of IPAF funded projects:  Cambodia, India and Indonesia  Q&A and discussions	Marie Noel Ngoddo, Tebtebba
2:30- 3:30	Summary presentation on IFAD and IPAF funded projects in relation to the progress in the implementation of the IFAD Policy of Engagement with indigenous peoples	Joan Carling, AIPP
3:30- 3:45	Tea/Coffee break	

3:45- 5:30	Discussions on the progress of the implementation of the IFAD Policy of Engagement with Indigenous Peoples: Strengths, good practices, lessons learned, gaps, challenges and recommendations	Vincent Darlong, IFAD
5:30 – 5:45	Orientation on the field visit	Mane Yun, CIPO
7:00- 9:00	Dinner and Solidarity Night of cultural Presentations	
<b>November 23</b>		
9:00-10:30	Panel Presentation on experiences and good practices on indigenous peoples economic empowerment that value and build on their distinctiveness, traditional knowledge, cultures and natural resources as assets with focus to women and youth  Panel: India, Indonesia, Thailand, Nepal	Benoit Thierry, IFAD
10:30-10:45	Tea and Coffee break	
10:45- 12:30	Workgroups on opportunities and challenges that indigenous peoples face in pursuing economic empowerment, in terms of their identities, knowledge and aspirations; and recommendations	
12:30- 1:30	Lunch Break  <i>Check out from the hotel</i>	
1:30- 3:00	Report back of workgroups and discussions	Benoit Thierry, IFAD
3:00- 4:00	Summary of presentations and recommendations	
4:00	Departure for the community visit in Preah Vihear	
<b>November 24</b>		
AM: Community visit for inter-learning (see attached agenda and profile of the community)		
PM: Travel back to Siem Reap		
<b>November 25</b>		
9:00-9:30	Reflections on the community visit  (a) What are new or interesting things you have seen/ observed/ learned from the community field visits?	Rahul Antao, IFAD

	(b) What new ideas/experiences you have shared with the communities from your project or home country? (c) What specific new ideas from community visit that you can take forward in your project in your country?	
9:30- 9:45	Presentation of the recommendations made at the second global meeting of the Indigenous Peoples Forum at IFAD (2015)	Joan Carling, AIPP
9: 45-10:30	Session to assess the progress of the recommendations and regional action plans adopted	Vincent Darlong, IFAD
10:30-10:45	Tea/Coffee Break	
10: 45-12.30	Indigenous Food Systems and Nutrition (based on recommendations made at the second global meeting of the Indigenous Peoples Forum at IFAD, discuss on how participants would like to see nutrition reflected in IFAD-funded projects and activities. (A questionnaire will be distributed for participants to fill in so to come prepared to the sessions with their suggestions).	Antonella Cordone, IFAD
12: 30- 1:30	Lunch Break	
1.30-2:45	Identify opportunities for strengthening good practices as sustainable solutions for the future, and the corresponding elements for regional strategies to enhance IFAD's support to them.	Antonella Cordone, IFAD
2:45 – 4:45	Workgroups on action-oriented recommendations on the theme of the 2017 Forum.	
4:45-5:00	Tea/Coffee Break	
5:00-5:45	Report Back of workgroups and summary	Antonella Cordone, IFAD
5:45-6:15	Overall recap of the workshop and Closing session / giving of certificates	Joan Carling, AIPP