

The background of the slide is a photograph of a mountain range. In the foreground, there are green, forested hills. In the background, there are higher, more rugged mountains, some of which are covered in snow. A prominent red line, possibly a road or a ridge, runs horizontally across the middle of the image. The sky is blue with some white clouds.

Strengthening Engagement of Indigenous Peoples and Local communities: Recommendations for GEF and its implementing partners

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Overview

- ◎ *Review*
- ◎ *Elements for Engagement*
- ◎ *Recommendations*



Yucate (Maya) Community youth in a fashion show at the IPs side event during the 5th GA in Cancun, Mexico (May 2014)

Review



- address “*exclusion by design*”, the pattern where project managers design a project based on the avoidance of Indigenous Peoples, with particular to **women and youth** in order to avoid the triggering of safeguard standards and extra work.
- need to focus beyond the biodiversity focal areas with respect to Indigenous Peoples so the need for IP capacity to effectively engage and compliment work on other thematic areas including Climate Change, Sustainable Development and Post 2015 Development Agenda

Elements of Strengthening Engagement

- ② *Building decision-making and institutional capacity at regional, national and local level (interactive workshops, trainings, experiential learning, case studies etc.)*
- ② *Ensure that the capacity strengthening activities involve not only indigenous peoples - but governments, civil society, academics and attention to other groups (women, youth), including GEF SEC and staff.*
- ② *Funding assistance is necessary for long-term capacity development and sustainability*

Recommendation



- ◎ Indigenous peoples involvement in the identification, execution and evaluation of GEF programs at country and local level to strengthen ownership
 - ☑ SGP – Indigenous people representation in the national committee
 - ☑ Involves indigenous peoples' in the design of activities to work towards the identified objectives in the needs assessment
 - ☑ Participation in the process of planning and involving in national dialogues to allow an open dialogue regarding GEF issues in the country and sharing up to date GEF strategies, policies and procedures.

Recommendation

- ◎ GEF and Implementing Agencies to ensure better integration of social and rights issues in GEF projects and more effective implementation of standards set forth in the GEF's Policy on Agency Minimum Standards on Environmental and Social Safeguards (Minimum Standard 4 related to indigenous peoples) and the Principles and Guidelines for Engagement with Indigenous Peoples.
 - ☑ Strengthen GEF compliance and oversight mechanisms to ensure GEF rules and procedures are applied during project implementation, including GEF's Policy on Gender Mainstreaming in particular to indigenous women
 - ☑ Carry out a GEF-6 mid-term review of assessment on the implementation of Safeguards relevant for Indigenous Peoples and local communities, including gender mainstreaming

Recommendation (cont')



- ③ Take practical steps to better implement COP guidance in relation to Article 8j
- ③ Provide targeted support to promote the implementation of Article 10c of the CBD to promote the traditional management of biological diversity by indigenous peoples and local communities and focusing on the implementation of the Plan of Action on Customary Sustainable use that will be adopted at COP 12
- ③ Ensure each GEF project has an adequate dedicated budget to undertake social and environmental requirements of GEF policies e.g., baseline studies, social and poverty risk, assessments, land tenure work, consent procedures etc.
- ③ Support an independent, focused and timely evaluation of the impacts of the GEF biodiversity portfolio on indigenous peoples.

Recommendation (cont'd)

- ③ Ensure project information is translated into appropriate local languages
- ③ Take steps to ensure indigenous representatives are properly involved in project decision-making processes
- ③ Ensure that GEF funds are not used to legally establish protected area types that are not acceptable to affected indigenous peoples and local communities but support ICCAS and CCA. Their recognitions should be based on the rights, needs and aspiration of indigenous peoples and local communities and women themselves and as such there needs to be a proper profound bottom-up and participatory assessment

IPAG members, CSO IPs Representatives and GEF IPs Focal Person and SEC meeting during the 5th GEF Assembly in Cancun, Mexico (May 2014)





Thank you
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