

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

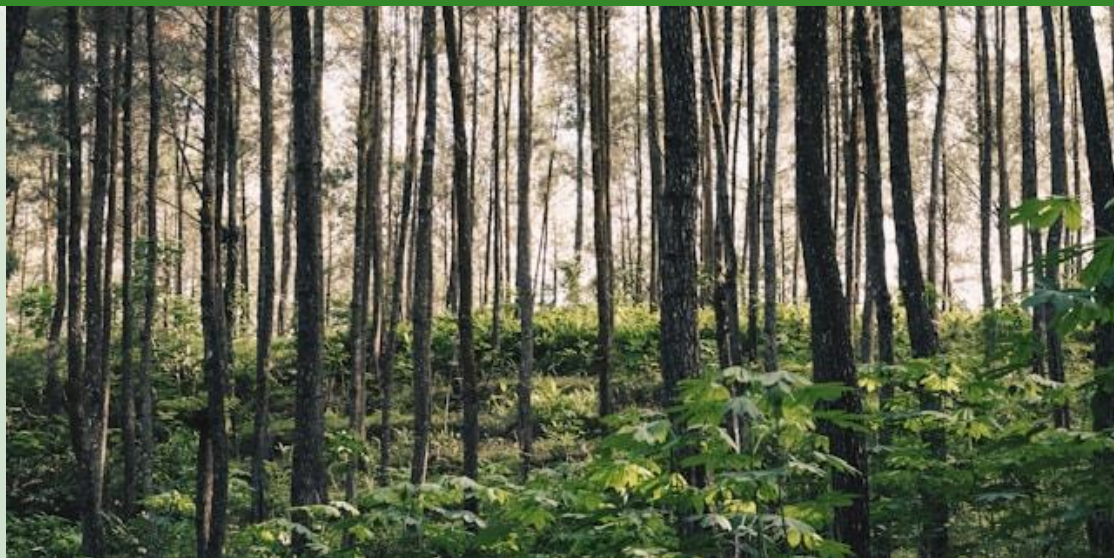
February 2025

FY25Q2

The EnABLE Quarterly Newsletter provides the latest updates from the EnABLE Trust Fund, and related work on social inclusion and gender equity.

This issue presents highlights of activities from October through December 2024, along with information on recent events and publications, articles of interest, and upcoming international events.

Indonesian Pine Forest
Photo credit: Unsplash



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REFLECTIONS ON THE 2024 UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE

EnABLE Technical Advisory Group member, Pablo Mís, attended the 2024 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP29), sponsored by EnABLE (see photos below and next page). Pablo participated in the following sessions:

- ✓ the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples' Platform;
- ✓ the International Indigenous Peoples' Forum on Climate Change Caucus, which brought Indigenous delegates together to plan their engagement at COP29;
- ✓ panels at the Indigenous Peoples' Pavillion; and
- ✓ side events and meetings with Indigenous regional and global networks and partners in work by Maya people in Belize.



Key takeaways in areas of most concern for IPs are summarized below:

- ✓ Indigenous delegates from across the seven sociocultural regions firmly advocated that the climate crisis cannot be justly addressed without fully upholding the rights of IPs.

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- ✓ Integral to identifying and taking action on climate mitigation and adaptation strategies, Indigenous delegates reiterated the call to include IPs as partners, rights holders, and knowledge keepers.
- ✓ Indigenous delegates affirmed their concern that negotiations and decisions on human and IP rights in the context of financing for carbon markets, climate adaptation and mitigation, and “Just Transition” actions do not go far enough and hence risk causing more harm and widening the gap of exclusion for the world’s most vulnerable populations.
- ✓ IP constituencies held high expectations that the financing needed to address climate change over the next 10 years would be ambitious. Nevertheless, the agreed target of US\$300 billion is seen as insufficient to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement and of limiting the global temperature increase caused by greenhouse gases to 1.5°C; strong concern remains that the most vulnerable countries and particularly Indigenous territories—who have the smallest carbon footprint—will continue to bear the brunt of the negative impacts of the climate crisis.

At the completion of the conference, Indigenous delegates affirmed their solidarity and pledged to continue advocating that

- ✓ human and IP rights be addressed in the updated Nationally Determined Contributions;
- ✓ States increase their ambitions to scale direct financing to IPs and their territories across all climate action; and
- ✓ as a basis for high social integrity, Article 6 (relating to carbon markets) be amended to include the protection of IPs’ land rights in its tools and assessments.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES’ PRINCIPLES AND PROTOCOLS FOR A JUST TRANSITION

The “Indigenous Summit on Just Transition: Indigenous Peoples’ Perspectives, Knowledge, and Lived Experiences” was held in Geneva, October 8–10, 2024 (see photo below). The goal was to challenge mainstream interpretations of the just transition to a “green economy,” which often does not represent real justice for IPs.



Over 100 representatives of IPs from the world’s seven sociocultural regions unanimously agreed on defining the just transition and provided principles and protocols to eliminate harm from renewable energy and green development.

The summit outcomes have been released in the statement [*Indigenous Peoples Principles and Protocols for a Just Transition*](#).

Photo credit: Indigenous Summit: Just Transition



Reported by Pablo Mís, EnABLE Technical Advisory Group

Photo credits: International Indigenous Peoples’ Forum on Climate Change Caucus /World Bank

STATUS OF EnABLE'S PROGRAMMING

EnABLE's work is currently active in 13 of its 15 target countries, and EnABLE country-level programming has been endorsed in 8 of these countries (see table below). Note that [EnABLE's webpage](#) features a [dashboard](#) where more information and resources can be found on the fund's activities and each country's emission reductions program (ERP).

REGION	COUNTRY	STATUS OF PROGRAMMING
Africa	Côte d'Ivoire	Knowledge and capacity building initiated
	Democratic Republic of Congo	Programming yet to be initiated
	Ghana	Country programming initiated
	Madagascar	Country programming in preparation
	Mozambique	Country programming initiated
	Republic of Congo	Knowledge and capacity building initiated
East Asia and Pacific	Fiji	Country programming in preparation
	Indonesia	Country programming initiated
	Lao People's Democratic Republic	Country programming in preparation
	Viet Nam	Knowledge and capacity building initiated
Latin America and the Caribbean	Chile	Programming yet to be initiated
	Costa Rica	Country programming in preparation
	Dominican Republic	Knowledge and capacity building initiated
	Guatemala	Knowledge and capacity building initiated
South Asia	Nepal	Country programming in preparation

News of EnABLE's Programming from the Field

Ghana. Since EnABLE's country programming in Ghana was activated in June 2024, steady progress has been made in developing and implementing effective strategies to empower marginalized communities and groups in engaging in the country's ERP and benefit sharing plan. The implementing civil society organizations—Solidaridad West Africa and Tropenbos Ghana—have developed key documents, including the implementation manual, workplan, budget, and procurement plan. An inception workshop was held in Accra October 4–6, 2024, to strategize and agree on initial activities. A key milestone was the selection of beneficiary communities. To ensure inclusivity and meet EnABLE's objectives, clear selection criteria were developed in close consultation with the National REDD+ Secretariat, six target Hotspot Intervention Areas, and relevant stakeholders. While consultations and validations continue, the implementing organizations are also establishing a steering committee to oversee activities and provide strategic guidance. Workshops have been held with communities; traditional authorities; and metropolitan, municipal, and district assemblies to strengthen understanding of EnABLE's approaches, jointly identify gaps and needs, and discuss synergies with existing initiatives.

Reported by Ashutosh Raina and Sarah Antwi Boasiako of the EnABLE task team for Ghana

Costa Rica. Preparations for EnABLE's country-level programming in Costa Rica were finalized as of the end of 2024 in preparation for approval in early 2025. The nationwide participatory process held from May to October 2024 attracted 524 participants (302 women and 222 men) across territorial (24 workshops), regional (4 workshops), and national (1 workshop) levels. Eight facilitators representing four regions led these workshops to introduce EnABLE's country programming, discuss its objectives, and gather local input into the design and implementation of activities. The territorial workshops focused on informing participants about EnABLE's processes and gathering recommendations on organizational structures, the selection of beneficiary entities, and the prioritization of activities. Regional workshops consolidated these recommendations, nominated beneficiary entities, and selected regional representatives for the national workshop, which solidified decisions on benefit distribution, implementation structures, and resource allocation.

Key findings from the territorial workshops highlighted the importance of inclusion and empowerment, concerns about resource allocation, feedback on participation and representation, ensuring channels for local voices to be heard, and reassuring continuity and adaptation. Regional workshops addressed inter-territorial priorities, with each region focusing on specific areas, such as providing environmental education, preserving cultural heritage, developing leadership capacity, and strengthening local governance structures. The national workshop synthesized regional findings into a cohesive national strategy, including finalizing criteria for beneficiary entities, reaching agreement on proportional resource allocation across regions, establishing a national steering committee (see photo below), and setting criteria for EnABLE-funded activities.

Conclusions from the workshops emphasized achievements in representation and ownership, cultural and economic integration, transparency and accountability, collaborative governance, and readiness for implementation. The participatory process undertaken in preparation for EnABLE's programming in Costa Rica is considered an innovative approach to successfully engaging IPs and LCs in decision-making and fostering their sense of ownership in climate finance initiatives. This process has laid a robust foundation for the implementation of EnABLE's country-level programming.

*Reported by Ken Rapp and the EnABLE task team for Costa Rica
Photo credit: EnABLE task team for Costa Rica/World Bank*



News of EnABLE's Programming from the Field (cont.)

Dominican Republic. As part of EnABLE's knowledge and capacity building activities in the Dominican Republic, the REDD+ Coordination Office and executing entities formally agreed to launch activities, emphasizing the importance of collaboration and shared commitment as a key factor in building trust and ensuring the relevance and sustainability of proposed actions focusing on (1) enhancing social inclusion and building capacity, and (2) promoting gender equity in government institutions. Plans for EnABLE's activities were formally presented to and approved by the Association for Sustainable Forestry Development and Restoration (ASODEFOREST) and San Ramón Association, marking a significant milestone.

Field visits to partner farms were conducted to gain direct insight into their realities and challenges, and an initial needs assessment workshop was held with members of ASODEFOREST and San Ramón to identify gaps and explore opportunities to strengthen social inclusion and capacity. These onsite activities have been instrumental in fostering dialogue and advancing trust-building with local stakeholders (see photo below).

Initial meetings were also held with the gender department of the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, the National Climate Change and Gender Coordination, the Dominican Coffee Institute (INDOCAFE), and the Vice Ministry of Protected Areas and Biodiversity to identify strategic priorities, specific needs, and opportunities for collaboration. These efforts include plans for training and awareness-raising to promote women's active participation in decision-making processes, strengthening their role in climate action and environmental management. These actions are laying the groundwork for advancing EnABLE-supported and other activities, fostering trust, and improving gender equity and community participation. Preparations are also underway to advance a third component on enhancing civil society capacity to monitor transparency and accountability in the allocation and distribution of climate finance.

Reported by Ken Rapp and the EnABLE task team for the Dominican Republic

Photo credit: EnABLE task team for the Dominican Republic/World Bank



Guatemala. During the second quarter of fiscal year 2025, Utz Che'—the civil society organization implementing EnABLE's knowledge and capacity building activities in Guatemala—supported Indigenous community organizations in monitoring actions to ensure environmental transparency, especially as it relates to the implementation of the country's ERP. These efforts have sparked interest among forest communities eager to understand the program and ensure their effective participation.

Additionally, Indigenous communities that manage and protect the country's strategic forests and are considered "water producers" began participating in the recently launched "Water Dialogues," which is an initiative led by the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources to develop a water law bill in Guatemala. Participation in the dialogues by these communities needs to be maintained and strengthened because trust building between community members and the government remains a challenge.

During December 5–6, 2024, an additional 35 young Indigenous leaders from communities in the departments of Totonicapán, Quiché, Huehuetenango, and Sololá completed their training at the Community Forestry School (see photo below). The training program focused on three key aspects: (1) defending rights and promoting social auditing processes; (2) accessing technology and strengthening community forest management; and (3) promoting community-based economic development.



Utz Che' carried out the annual campaign for the protection of the *Pinabete* tree, with the participation of the Minister of Environment and Natural Resources. During this event, Indigenous leaders presented the Minister with findings and concerns identified during the social auditing processes. Among the issues discussed was the need to evaluate budget allocations within the ERP by category, given that processes identified significant disparities in the amounts assigned to forest protection projects, which typically involve Indigenous Peoples and local communities. The Minister committed to following up on the communities' requests.

Reported by Ken Rapp and the EnABLE task team for Guatemala

Photo credit: EnABLE task team for Guatemala

News of EnABLE's Programming from the Field (cont.)

Nepal. In the second quarter of fiscal year 2025, EnABLE's task team in Nepal continued to strengthen partnerships and advance programming preparations—including numerous consultations, for example, with Community Forest User Groups (see photos below of consultations with Bachela and Shree Samaichi CFUGs, respectively). The Asia Network for Sustainable Agriculture and Bioresources (ANSAB) was confirmed as EnABLE's implementing partner, and six partner organizations were engaged to ensure broad representation of IPs and marginalized communities: the Dalit Alliance for Natural Resources (DANAR), Federation of Community Forest User Groups Nepal (FECOFUN), National Federation for Indigenous Women (NIWF), Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities, Rastriya Dalit Network (RDN), and Tharu Welfare Society.



Critical environmental and social assessments were completed, and pre-approval from Nepal's Social Welfare Council was secured. In addition, safeguard activities were initiated, including an action plan to address gender-based violence and guidelines for equitable benefit sharing. These steps set the stage for full implementation of EnABLE-supported activities to ensure results-based climate finance delivers meaningful benefits to Nepal's most vulnerable communities.

Reported by Gloria Malia Mahama, Margaret Arnold, and Meerim Shakirova, EnABLE task team for Nepal

Photo credit: EnABLE task team for Nepal/World Bank

RECENT EVENTS OF NOTE

Knowledge Exchange on Emission Reductions Programs: Social Integrity, Managing Risk, Operational Challenges, And Effective Functioning of Benefit Sharing Plans

The World Bank's Social Development and Environment Global Practices organized a global knowledge exchange comprising teams from the emission reductions programs (ERPs) of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) and BioCarbon Fund Initiative for Sustainable Forest Landscapes (ISFL), which includes teams overseeing implementation of EnABLE's country-level programming. The event was held in Bangkok, November 13–15, 2024 (see photo below).



Discussions on Day 1 focused on identifying and sharing lessons learned to date in terms of managing social risk and ensuring the effective functioning of benefit sharing plans (BSPs), especially in terms of the inclusion of Indigenous Peoples (IPs) and local communities (LCs) that lack formal recognition of land and resource tenure. Key topics included the draft global stocktake on social integrity in ERPs; operational challenges and solutions; the timing of Emission Reductions Payment Agreements; the importance of high-quality reporting; and the application of free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC). Sessions also included presentations on experiences in the field in Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, and Indonesia.

Day 2 began with a presentation of the draft World Bank directive "Managing Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts for the Emissions Reduction Programs under the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility and the BioCarbon Fund Initiative for Sustainable Forest Landscapes." Following the presentation, participants discussed areas requiring further guidance and training before breaking into groups to focus on issues of relevance to each region.

The first session on Day 3 focused on advancing social integrity, specifically addressing the role of BSPs and EnABLE, showcasing three examples of good practices:

1. Costa Rica implemented a participatory design process to create a cohesive platform for collaborative decision-making, applying FPIC for a bottom-up approach within five months.

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This led to the formation of a steering committee using EnABLE as a platform to present a unified message to the government.

2. In Madagascar, EnABLE provided a grant to support institutional inclusion in the BSP by uniting the country's Ministry of Decentralization and Ministry of Environment. This iterative process, which ultimately improved livelihoods, involved assessing value chains for women and remote communities, addressing barriers to inclusion, and targeting areas lacking support from nongovernmental organizations. Efforts in Indonesia identified risks of exclusion in the BSP, built on national policies, and worked with communities without land titles or IDs; ultimately, the design of the BSP was made more inclusive by fixing eligibility conditions.

Finally, the event delineated next steps in terms of strategic actions, guidance and knowledge sharing, and community building and engagement.

Reported by Macarena Martin Segurado and Mayra Lucia Hoyos Benitez of the Social Development global team

Photo credits: Nikolas Myint/World Bank



NEWLY RELEASED PUBLICATIONS

- ✓ [EnABLE Annual Report 2024](#). EnABLE's annual report for fiscal year 2024 is now available in [French](#) and [Spanish](#).



- ✓ The [French](#) and [Spanish](#) versions of the FY25Q1 issue of the EnABLE Newsletter are now available.



ARTICLES OF INTEREST FROM THE WEB

- ✓ [Mongabay](#) article, "[Carbon markets must recognize Indigenous 'high forest, low deforestation' areas \(commentary\)](#)," October 24, 2024.
- ✓ [Le Monde](#) article, "[COP29: Nations approve new standards on carbon markets](#)," November 11, 2024.
- ✓ [Mongabay](#) article, "[What Indigenous leaders want from the COP29 U.N. climate conference](#)," November 11, 2024.
- ✓ [Climate News Home](#) article, "[New UN carbon market standards are a step change in protecting people and planet](#)," November 18, 2024

UPCOMING INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

- ✓ [World Sustainable Development Summit](#), March 5–7, 2025
- ✓ [12th Annual World Ocean Summit & Expo](#), March 12–13, 2025
- ✓ [Economic and Social Council \(ECOSOC\) Youth Forum](#), April 15–17, 2025
- ✓ [GLF Forests 2025: Defining the Next Decade of Action](#), April 24–25

Photo credit: Unsplash

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