

ASIA- PACIFIC INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DIALOGUE WITH THE FOREST CARBON PARTNERSHIP FACILITY (FCPF)

ACTION PLAN OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

We, the 52 indigenous delegates to the Asia- Pacific Indigenous Peoples Dialogue with the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) successfully concluded this dialogue in Chiang Mai, Thailand, from September 25-28, 2012.

We reaffirm the Guna Yala Action plan issued at the end of the Indigenous Peoples Dialogue with the FCPF in Panama on September 27-29, 2011 and recognize that while some progress has been made, important work remains to be implemented, such as the conduct of studies on land tenure among others.

We appreciate and commend the active participation of government representatives, FCPF and UNREDD Programme, and their commitment to continue to strengthen engagements with indigenous peoples

We recognize that progress has been made in the implementation of the Guidelines on Stakeholders Engagement in REDD+ Readiness. However, we also express our continuing concern on the lack of awareness raising and information dissemination activities especially at the grassroots level, the conduct of more inclusive consultations, and the representation of indigenous peoples in relevant bodies relating to REDD+.

We reiterate our call on all governments and the FCPF to recognize the existence of indigenous peoples and their fundamental rights, including those articulated in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, ILO Convention 169, the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and its implementing decisions.

Based on our constructive discussions in the spirit of working together for the respect and recognition of the rights of indigenous peoples, we hereby agree to this action plan

I. Implementation of the Guidelines on Stakeholders Engagement in REDD+ Readiness:

A. Awareness Raising and Capacity Building:

1. Awareness raising shall be undertaken at the national up to the local levels. These activities shall be for indigenous communities, civil society organizations as well as concerned government agencies and institutions.

2. Awareness raising shall include information on the rights and concerns of indigenous peoples relating to REDD+ and not just be limited on FCPF/REDD+
3. Materials for awareness raising shall be simplified and translated in languages understood by indigenous peoples
4. Maximize all avenues for awareness raising (media, etc.) and produce popular materials that are culturally appropriate
5. Establish a repository/ database in partnership with UNREDD Programme, FCPF, AIPP, Tebtebba, RECOFTC, among others of information materials that shall be made accessible available to indigenous peoples and local communities.
6. In relation to the above, a clear communication and outreach plan and proposal at the regional level on awareness raising and capacity building especially for the grassroots level shall be submitted to FCPF and other donors. The funds shall be managed and implemented by indigenous peoples organizations/ institutions at the local, national and regional levels.

B. Consultation

1. Consultations shall be conducted at all levels (national and local) and shall ensure the full and effective participation of indigenous women and youth
2. Mechanisms for specific consultations and engagements with indigenous peoples at the national level, subnational and local levels shall be established in partnership with indigenous organization.
3. Ensure the effective participation of indigenous peoples in the formulation of national REDD+ strategy and R- Package and related plans and activities-- this should be explicitly stated in the criteria/guidelines; consultations shall not be limited to legally registered CSOs with the government.
4. Establish a baseline information on existing indigenous peoples organizations and traditional institutions in all REDD+ countries as a guide in the conduct of consultations, awareness-raising and other activities
5. Dialogues shall be conducted between the relevant government agencies and indigenous peoples towards the respect and recognition of the rights of indigenous peoples--traditional livelihoods, i.e. land tenure, traditional knowledge, resource management systems, etc. Funding support should be provided for this.
6. The FCPF shall facilitate the engagement of indigenous peoples with governments and seek to ensure that mechanisms for engagements and consultations with indigenous peoples are established at the national level.
7. FCPF shall monitor the conduct of consultations with indigenous peoples, and ensure the implementation of its IP Policy

C. Representation

1. Representatives of indigenous peoples participation in the structure and mechanisms at all levels of REDD+ process. This should be based on the Indigenous Peoples customary laws and practices, and on their own established system of selection process and criteria
2. Ensure the full and effective participation of IPs in every development activity of National REDD+ strategy /policy
3. Support shall be provided to duly selected IP representatives in the performance of their tasks
4. FCPF shall monitor the implementation of the above and provide support to indigenous peoples representatives as needed/ requested.

II. R-Package in relation to safeguards

1. To establish mechanisms for the effective participation of indigenous peoples in the formulation of guidelines and indicators relating to the R-Package
2. Strengthen the implementation of relevant national land and forestry laws and revise laws and policies that are not environmentally and IP friendly and ensure that they be consistent with the UNDRIP and other international instruments
3. The Safeguard Information system (SIS) has to go for the highest/maximum standard for safeguard, consistent with international human rights instruments
4. Ensure the Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) on any policies and projects related to customary forest and indigenous territories in the implementation of REDD+
5. Ensure the recognition and inclusion of the multiple benefits from the forest (non carbon) and the equitable entitlement of benefits for indigenous peoples
6. Grievance mechanism shall be established at the local, national and international levels, ensuring full, effective and institutional representation and access of indigenous peoples in these grievance mechanisms
7. There shall be sufficient staff/ personnel within the FCPF and the UNREDD Programme to include indigenous experts to monitor social safeguards, and to provide technical and other forms of support to government and indigenous peoples in strengthening the implementation and monitoring of social safeguards.

III. Harmonization of FCPF, FIP and UNREDD Programme with relation to IPs

1. Collaborative efforts shall be undertaken in the conduct of awareness-raising and capacity building activities to optimize resources, complement ongoing initiatives and address existing gaps for the effective engagement of indigenous peoples in REDD+ related processes

2. The capacity building fund shall be streamlined and shall have simple administrative process through the decentralization and management of the funds at the regional level
3. There shall be consistency in respecting international obligations recognized in FCPF charter, UNFCCC safeguards, UNDG guidelines/rights-based approach in UN system and the development and use of indicators and guidelines.

IV. Regional Activities and Coordination:

1. Regional workshop for exchange on R-Package preparation and development of readiness indicators: to be held in 2014 and participants shall come from IP representatives, governments, selected NGOs, FCPF and UNREDD Programme
2. In line with the Kuna Yala Action Plan, a regional participatory action research on land tenure shall be carried out by indigenous peoples shall be conducted in 2013. The outcome of this research shall be submitted or feed into the national REDD+ readiness activities and to global processes, especially on policy review and development relating to land tenure. The action research shall be conducted in at least 3 selected countries and shall complement and or to be coordinated in relation to ongoing studies or similar activities.
3. To establish a regional mechanism for coordination in order to facilitate this action plan forward. This coordination body shall be composed of representatives of indigenous peoples (2), government (2), FCPF (1), FIP (1) and UNREDD Programme (1). The main tasks of this regional mechanism are
 1. Coordinate and monitor the implementation of this action plan
 2. Strengthen engagements at the regional and national levels
 3. Facilitate cross learning, exchanges and sharing of updates and information.
 In terms of the functioning of this body, there shall be designated convenor and co-convenor, a host institution for secretariat support and translation support if possible. A TOR shall be developed for the members of this body.