



REPORT ON THE INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON INDIGENOUS WOMEN'S RIGHTS, LAND AND RESOURCES

THAILAND, FEBRUARY 2015



Forest Peoples
Programme



AIPP

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ABBREVIATIONS

ACHPR	African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights
ADB	Asian Development Bank
AIPP	Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact
ASEAN	Association of South East Asian Nations
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CBOs	Community-based Organisations
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organisation
FPIC	Free Prior and Informed Consent
FPP	Forest Peoples Programme
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
IMPECT	Inter Mountain Peoples Education and Culture in Thailand Association
IPOs	Indigenous Peoples' Organisations
IWIW	International Workshop on Indigenous Women
NCIP	National Commission on Indigenous Peoples
NFTPs	Non-Forest Timber Products
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisations
UNCERD	the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
UNDRIP	United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNPFII	United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
VAIW	Violence Against Indigenous Women

BACKGROUND

The International Strategy Workshop on Indigenous Women's Rights, Land and Resources (shortened to IWIW workshop in this report) was held in February 2015. It marked the conclusion of a multi-year programme led by FPP, and implemented in partnership with a number of organisations providing human rights support to indigenous peoples and communities living across Africa, Asia and Latin America. From 2009 to 2015, FPP partners were supported to document, study, report and advocate in relation to the gender and land rights issues affecting indigenous peoples and communities. This programme was substantially but not exclusively funded by Oxfam Novib¹.

The FPP gender and land rights programme was conducted with a view to filling an identified gap in regional and international jurisprudence in relation to the human rights of indigenous women². While international legal standards on (a) indigenous peoples' rights and (b) women's rights had developed significantly in the past decades, reports from the ground were indicating that indigenous women were not using both sets of legal standards in conjunction and that the synergies that could exist between these different standards were not well developed. The individual rights focus of women's rights standards and the collective nature of the rights inherent to indigenous peoples needed to be better interpreted in light of both sets of standards.

During the IWIW workshop, Joji Cariño (Director of FPP 2013-2016) emphasised the need for the gender dimension of FPP and partners' on-going and future projects/programmes to

be sharpened and well informed. The EU-funded project on 'Improving indigenous peoples' access to justice and development through strategic monitoring' was mentioned as an example of opportunity to achieve this. It is hoped that this follow-up report can also be used in addressing this need. The full minutes of the workshop are available and although it is not expected that they will be published, they constitute an important reference for those who took part in the workshop.

This follow-up report incorporates two sections. Firstly, it provides a summary of the outcomes of the 2015 Thailand workshop, which includes: a presentation of the issues that were raised and the strategies that were presented at the workshop on Days 1 and 2; a list of key points coming out of the training sessions of Day 3; and a breakdown of the results of the strategic planning workshops of Day 4. Secondly, this report provides an analysis of the work undertaken and makes suggestions for possible future orientations of FPP's work on gender and land rights. This involves: a brief recapitulation of the legal and human rights developments achieved through the Gender and Land Rights Programme for the period 2009-2015; some lessons learned/considerations to inform FPP's strategic work on gender and land rights; and identified priorities for FPP to take on board when planning and fundraising for gender and land rights.

FPP would like to thank Valérie Couillard for compiling this report of the workshop.

¹ Other donors contributed to the implementation of the gender and land rights programme, including other existing FPP grants at the time provided by the Sigrid Rausing Trust, the European Union, DFID, SIDA, JF Kennedy Center, and the Christensen Fund.

² See initial FPP funding proposal submitted to Oxfam Novib in 2008.

OUTCOMES

ISSUES PRESENTED BY PARTNERS ON DAY 1

On the first day of the workshop, participants looked into local and national level advocacy, key issues & strategies and developments.

The results presented by the working groups confirmed once again that the discrimination that indigenous peoples face in relation to their land rights³ is a unanimous starting point for any conversation on indigenous women's rights. It is well understood and advocated by indigenous women that their rights can simply not be conceived, addressed or realised independently of the realisation of indigenous peoples' collective rights. All group discussions on Day 1 reflected this viewpoint.

On that basis, discussions on Day 1 were centred on indigenous peoples' rights in general and with indigenous women's

rights discussed as part of these issues. The table below provides a snapshot of the various issues that were raised. The vast majority of issues are similar across regions. The issue of trafficking was raised only by partners from Asia. The issues around sexual violence were more prominent in Africa and Latin America. Maternal mortality was raised by participants from Africa only. There are of course important limitations to such representation of the discussions; it cannot be concluded that because an issue was not brought up by partners from a given region, it thereby means this particular issue is not a problem for indigenous women living in this region.

A fundamental point, however, is that all of these issues were reported as disproportionately affecting indigenous women. Also, there were a smaller number of issues that could be identified as mainly or exclusively affecting women (sexual violence, maternal mortality).

³ This point was well articulated in the shadow report to UN CEDAW submitted by indigenous women's and indigenous peoples' organisations from Nepal and FPP in 2011, available at: http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/Treaties/CEDAW/Shared%20Documents/NPL/INT_CEDAW_NGO_NPL_49_9805_E.pdf
The IWIW workshop and FPP's gender land rights work over the period 2009-2015 solidly confirms that understanding and approach.

TABLE 1: Indigenous peoples/women's rights issues discussed during Day 1

INDIGENOUS ISSUES DISCUSSED	AFRICA	ASIA	LATIN AMERICA
Land rights – Denial of self-determination	X	X	X
Land rights – Eviction from ancestral lands (creation of parks, extractive industries, agro-forestry activities, tourism, etc)	X	X	X
Land rights – Lack/denial of land ownership	X	X	X
Land rights – indigenous peoples not consulted / no implementation of FPIC	X	X	X
Land rights – denial of access to natural resources	X	X	X
Discrimination – based on class, age, sex, belief, ethnicity etc	X	X	X
Discrimination – lack of political representation	X	X	X
Discrimination – lack of access to employment	X	X	X
Discrimination – lack of access to education in general and to culturally appropriate education in particular	X	X	X
Discrimination – Poverty	X	X	X
Challenge to the preservation of culture and natural resources	X	X	X
Lack of implementation of UNDRIP and human rights in general	X	X	X
Violence – against indigenous peoples, killings, legal sanctions, etc	X	X	X
Violence – (forced) migration of indigenous peoples causing trafficking/sexual exploitation		X	
Violence – Sexual violence in general	X		
Violence – Sexual violence by military and extractive industries personnel			X
Violence – Lack of judicial protection against violence	X		X
Health – Maternal mortality	X		

Strategies currently used

In addition, a discussion was held on strategies that the partners presenting were employing to deal with the issues faced by indigenous peoples and women. Some strategies that were deemed essential and meaningful to indigenous women were reported and insightful points were made about the importance of:

- Increasing indigenous women’s voices to allow for their strong and meaningful participation in political spheres and decision-making processes in general, in order to ensure ‘a guaranteed representation of indigenous women’;⁴
- Advocating cultural rights in relation to and in conjunction with issues and rights pertaining to the environment;
- Developing the capacity and the knowledge of indigenous women to operate at all levels: local, national, regional, international;
- Tackling, in particular, issues arising from the presence and activities of transnational corporations on indigenous territories and their impact on the rights of indigenous women;
- Strengthening youth and women leadership;
- Involving men in the advocacy for indigenous women’s rights, and in the discussions with indigenous women about human rights.

FIELD TRIP TO MAE LA KEE ON DAY 2: AN INSIGHT INTO THE GENDER DIMENSIONS OF LAND MANAGEMENT AND OWNERSHIP

On Day 2, participants took part in a field visit day in the village of Mae La Kee. This village in Thailand is located in Moo 6, Samoeng Tai Sub-district, Samoeng District, Chiang Mai province and is comprised of five communities: Mae Lan Kham, Huay Hia, Sob Lan, Baan Mai and Huay Ya Sai. People have lived there for hundreds of years, their language is P’gakenyaw and the population is about 500 people.

The livelihoods in the community were predominately traditional farming systems at small scale, including terraced paddy fields and rotational farming (sometimes called “shifting cultivation”). People from Mae La Kee also gather tea leaves⁵ and other non-timber forest products that they then sell in markets.

Organisers of the workshop confirm that: “this area is being annexed to Ob Khan national park, which was established in 1992 by the National Park Committee resolution 2/2535”.⁶

In preparation for the field trip, participants were presented with the following issues:

1. *“The contribution of women in natural resource management (i.e. fire breaks). Mae Lan Kham has managed a large tract of forest using indigenous knowledge documented in both writing and using GIS.*
2. *The struggle of the community is for the recognition of their land rights within the national park. To strengthen their collaboration they formed the Ob Khan Watershed Network of which indigenous women also play a key role in the network.*
3. *Doing research with IMPECT on herbal medicine and stitching traditional designs where each design has a meaning for the community.*
4. *Women’s role and contribution in the rotational farming system: communities in Mae Lan Kham still practise rotational farming or shifting cultivation. Such practice has been considered as one of the key drivers of deforestation in many countries including Thailand, in particular the REDD+ pilot project, but the rotational farming system of Mae Lan Kham will reflect that rotational farming contributes to food security and sustainable land use.*
5. *Economic empowerment of indigenous women through the collection of non-forest timber products (NFTPs): collecting wild tea, honey and other NFTPs is the main source*

⁴ Minutes of the workshop.

⁵ ‘Ma Khaen’ (*Zanthoxylum Limonella Alston*).

⁶ Background note to the field trip provided in the annex.

of income for communities living in these areas. They have specific knowledge in taking care of and harvesting these plants in a sustainable manner.”⁷

It was reported from the field trip that three sites of shifting cultivation were visited in relation to forest management. There was interaction with the villagers on: “how the land ownership idea of the indigenous people is disconnected from the State’s absolute idea of land ownership”.⁸

Of particular interest were the gender dimensions of: land ownership; the geographic characteristics of the land; and land management. It was explained that: “The ownership of the land

belonged to women and it was also explained how the community continues indigenous practices within the practices of shifting cultivation, i.e. their belief in mountains having feminine and masculine terrains, with e.g. the evergreen lush part of the mountain being feminine”.⁹

The watershed networks presented a fascinating example of an integrated governance structure, which works not only on the management of rotational agriculture, such as ensuring fire breaks but also as an actor in other issues important to the community issues such as taxation and justice. It was reported that the watershed network is ‘working for political change in the society’.¹⁰



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⁷ These issues were presented in the background note to the field trip, provided in the annex to the minutes of the IWIW workshop. IMPECT stands for the Inter Mountain Peoples Education and Culture in Thailand Association, it is a non-governmental organization working to protect the rights of indigenous peoples in Thailand and regionally in Asia.

⁸ Minutes of the workshop.

⁹ Minutes of the workshop.

¹⁰ Minutes of the workshop.

TRAINING SESSIONS OF DAY 3: KEY POINTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

On Day 3, five training sessions were held and an impressive amount of information was shared. The notes of these trainings are available in PowerPoint presentations and can be consulted for further details.¹¹ Here below are the key points and highlights of the training sessions.

Session 1:¹² Training on legal and human rights mechanisms pertaining to indigenous women's rights at regional and international levels using tools and toolkits developed in the past year

This training session allowed participants to:

- Receive and explore the new publication on indigenous women's rights in Latin America;¹³
- Review the Toolkit on indigenous women's rights in Africa¹⁴ of 2011 and be reminded of the progressive and innovative approach of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights for women's rights and its receptivity to indigenous women's rights issues;
- Get an overview of the recommendations from UN CEDAW relevant to indigenous women and be provided with a publication on the same;¹⁵
- Be informed of ASEAN's human rights regional platforms and opportunities to promotion indigenous women's rights.

Session 2: Experience of using the regional and international processes

Five participants shared their experience in using the UN Commission on the Status of Women, UN CEDAW, the African system and the Inter-American Commission for raising issues specific to indigenous peoples and indigenous women's rights.¹⁶

Session 3: Climate change and public finance safeguards

This session highlighted the need to increase indigenous women's participation in indigenous peoples' caucuses and platforms for civil society participation. The need to raise gender awareness in general was also pointed out. Some opportunities for participation were identified and in general, the need for a greater allocation of resources for advocacy was emphasised.

Session 4: Biodiversity

The gender plan of action of the CBD was mentioned as an opportunity for engagement by indigenous women. The specific mention of indigenous women's role in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in the Programme of Work and Decisions around Article 8(j) was highlighted, as well as the need to develop mechanisms to increase the participation of indigenous women and indigenous and local communities in the programme of work.

A concrete opportunity for indigenous women in the CBD processes is the possibility to submit case studies on the role of women in biodiversity. The limitations of gender monitoring within the CBD processes were also mentioned. Finally, it was explained that the activities of the indigenous women's network has allowed for the substantial participation of indigenous women in the CBD's work, but that there are some financial limitations and more support is needed.

Session 5: Community based human rights monitoring

The sustainable development goals were presented with particular focus on the goals aiming at ending poverty and addressing gender inequality. UNEP and UNPFII were reported to be working closely with other UN agencies in order to address indigenous peoples and indigenous women's rights issues. The need for indigenous women to link up with women's organisations working on the same goals was highlighted.

¹¹ The minutes of the IWIV workshop do not fully reflect the content of the training sessions so it is advised to look at the PowerPoint slides.

¹² Sessions 1 and 2 were interchanged at the beginning of the workshop when the group discussed and fine-tuned the programme. It was not deemed necessary to amend the written version of the programme for the workshop. So there is a discrepancy with the most recent version of the programme and the minutes of the workshop. This report follows the minutes of the workshop.

¹³ *Indigenous Women's Rights and the Inter-American Human Rights System: A Toolkit on Mechanisms*, authored by Andrea Galindo and Ellen-Rose Kambel, edited by Valerie Couillard, published by FPP in 2015.

¹⁴ *Indigenous Women's Rights and the African Human Rights System: A Toolkit on Mechanisms*, authored by Stéphanie Vig, edited by Valerie Couillard, published by FPP in 2011.

¹⁵ *Compilation of General Comments and Concluding Observations adopted by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) 1993–2013*. <http://www.forestpeoples.org/topics/gender-issues/news/2011/06/compilation-general-comments-and-concluding-observations-adopted-c>

¹⁶ For further details on the content of the presentations, please refer to the minutes of the meeting. Some presentations were also supported by PowerPoint slides.

The realisation of UNDRIP, as stated as a priority by the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, was mentioned as an important point to be put on the agenda of the UN General Assembly in 2016. It was stressed that UN Women have to play an important role in raising indigenous women's rights issues.

Community-based monitoring activities that have taken place so far were briefly explained and it was highlighted

that there had been much work done at various levels, but the full embedding of gender issues into the core set of rights for indigenous peoples remained a challenge. Advancing community-based monitoring with due attention to gender dimensions was presented as a good way to embed gender into indigenous peoples' rights in day-to-day issues and strategic governance.

STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOPS OF DAY 4: DEFINING PRIORITIES

On Day 4, three working groups were formed to undertake strategic planning at the regional level (Africa, Asia and Latin America). It was decided that a fourth group would be formed in order to address the gender dimensions of human rights monitoring. The following questions were used to guide the strategic planning work:

- *What work needs to be done (local, national, international)?*
- *What is being done already (local, national, international)?*
- *What are the top priorities (which are the key targets)?*
- *What are the capacity needs?*

Regional Groups: The work needed and underway

The group reflecting on the work in **Latin America** highlighted:

- Their knowledge sharing and capacity building work with elders in relation to indigenous women's and indigenous peoples' rights;
- Their capacity building work specifically aimed at indigenous women;
- The documentation of indigenous women's rights violations (including the creation of a documentation centre in Argentina);

- The development and implementation of methodological guidelines on how to deal with indigenous women cases, which are aimed at the Inter-American Commission and Court and can also be useful for national court cases.¹⁷ This work is undertaken with a view to strengthen indigenous women's rights by creating a body of relevant jurisprudence with potential cases (named 'the jurisprudence project').

The group with responsibility for the work undertaken in **Asia** presented the following:

- In Thailand: partners are working towards the consolidation of local and national policy reforms, campaigns in order to address inconsistencies between national legal framework and international law on human rights;
- In the Philippines: partners are looking into the possibility of addressing the alleged FPIC violations and looking into the role and responsibility of the NCIP in relation to these alleged FPIC violations;¹⁸
- The documentation of indigenous women's good practice, especially in relation to land and resources is underway;
- There is work undertaken to ensure community participation and indigenous women's participation in processes such as those involving FPIC;
- There is capacity building work in relation to: communications and documentation; organisational/ institutional

¹⁷ *Indigenous Women of the Americas – Methodological and conceptual guidelines to confront situations of multiple discrimination*. By multiple NGOs, 2014 <http://www.forestpeoples.org/topics/gender-issues/publication/2014/indigenous-women-americas-methodological-and-conceptual-guide>

¹⁸ NCIP stands for the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples, a government body responsible for, among other things, implementing the Indigenous Peoples Rights Act (IPRA) in the Philippines. The NCIP has promulgated the Implementing Rules and Regulation (IRR) for the exercise of FPIC in the Philippines - these IRRs have weaknesses/ violations in regard to customary laws and processes. There are also weaknesses and violations in the implementation of the FPIC IIR themselves by corporations. The NCIP's role can be described as an oversight body of FPIC.

OUTCOMES

strengthening; gender issues for IPOs and communities; and leadership including the youth;

- They have been using the International Day for Indigenous Peoples for awareness raising on indigenous women's rights and have been using this opportunity to work in collaboration with thematic mandates of human rights mechanisms for the promotion of indigenous peoples' rights;
- The translation of materials into other languages (indigenous, popular or any other important language) is undertaken where resources allow as this is deemed essential.

The group with participants from **Africa** articulated their reflection around all the four questions and emphasised that they are undertaking work on the following issues and at the same time, those are the priorities. The work needed and being done that was reported during the workshop is as follows:

- Awareness raising work in relation to human rights, indigenous peoples' rights and in some cases and to a limited extent on indigenous women's rights. The group emphasised that the majority of indigenous peoples in Africa are not well informed, if at all, on these topics;
- Community mapping of indigenous peoples' ancestral lands has taken place in some countries, including Uganda. There is a need to further use the maps that have come out of these exercises;
- There is a desire, expressed by the participant from Kenya, to document and map the existing organisations working on women's rights issues in order for indigenous women to take part and ensure indigenous women are represented in these forums.

Regional Groups: Priorities and capacity building needs

The **top priorities** identified by partners were all linked to capacity building needs. All three groups brought up the following needs:

- Training and awareness raising activities on human rights, women's rights and land rights;
- Training on national policy making, national legal reforms and international instruments and mechanisms;
- Institutional capacity building for non-governmental organisations;

- Land grabs and resolutions of conflicts over land in general;
- Addressing the lack of political will for the implementation of the rights of indigenous peoples;
- Addressing the overarching discrimination against indigenous peoples;
- Stopping violence against indigenous peoples, killings, legal sanctions, etc.;
- Ensuring resources for translation and interpretation (indigenous, popular or any other important language).

At the regional level and looking into regional similarities, the Latin America, Asia and Africa groups presented the following requests for support.

In the **Latin America** group, partners have expressed requests for support regarding:

- Documentation of human rights violations;
- Indigenous knowledge transmission;
- Monitoring of indigenous women's rights, more specifically to support work with the Inter-American Commission for the development of indicators to follow up on human rights reports;
- The implementation of the methodological guidelines for indigenous women's rights cases;
- The development of the ongoing work regarding the development of jurisprudence on indigenous women in Latin America and access to justice for indigenous women;
- Facilitating internship programmes;
- Development and expansion of a regional capacity building programme.

In the **Asia** group, partners have expressed requests for support regarding:

- Illegal logging;
- Access to education;
- Access to health;

- Addressing the non-recognition of indigenous peoples' religion/spirituality;
- Continuing the monitoring work on VAW (violence against indigenous women);
- Follow up on the implementation of the UN CEDAW concluding observations on Nepal, in particular those on indigenous women;
- Using UNDRIP in advocacy and legal work;
- Developing a database for advocacy, media and communication of knowledge to youth.

In the **Africa** group, partners have expressed requests for support regarding:

- Mapping of existing networks/ NGOs, CBOs with a view to

integrate indigenous women's rights in existing women's rights groups;

- Regional sharing of knowledge;
- Regional planning meetings for Africa;
- The inclusion of both men and women in gender and land rights work.

Participants from the Africa group decided not to share their specific issues because those needed to be discussed with more partners from the region in order to qualify as regional priorities. As explained above in this report, partners from Cameroon, DRC and Liberia were not able to attend the workshop because of the quarantine measures taken in relation to the Ebola pandemic at the time. Because of this, there was a strong demand for the organisation of a regional meeting on indigenous women's rights for Africa.



TABLE 2: Priorities identified by regional groups during the workshop²⁰

PRIORITIES	AFRICA	ASIA	LATIN AMERICA
Training and awareness raising activities on human rights, women's rights and land rights	X	X	X
Training on national policy making, national legal reforms and international instruments and mechanisms	X	X	X
Institutional capacity building for non-governmental organisations	X	X	X
Stop land grabs and support the resolution of conflicts over land in general	X	X	X
Address the lack of political will for the implementation of the rights of indigenous peoples	X	X	X
Address the overarching discrimination against indigenous peoples	X	X	X
Stopping violence against indigenous peoples, killings, legal sanctions, etc.	X	X	X
Ensure available resources for translation and interpretation	X	X	X
Inclusion of both men and women in gender and land rights work	X	X	X
Documentation of human rights violations and indigenous knowledge transmission			X
Monitoring of indigenous women's rights			X
Implementation of the methodological guidelines for indigenous women's rights cases			X
Development of jurisprudence on indigenous women in Latin America and access to justice for indigenous women			X
Facilitating internship programmes			X
Development and/or expansion of a regional capacity building programme, including regional knowledge sharing	X		X
Address illegal logging		X	
Access to education		X	
Access to health		X	

²⁰ This table illustrates what was discussed during the workshop in the various regional groups. It should be noted that some issues identified as priorities by one regional group could still be real priorities for the two other regional groups even if they were not explicitly mentioned during the workshop.

PRIORITIES	AFRICA	ASIA	LATIN AMERICA
Addressing the non-recognition of indigenous peoples' religion/spirituality		X	
Monitoring work on VAIW (violence against indigenous women)		X	
Implementation of UN CEDAW recommendations		X	
Use UNDRIP in advocacy and legal work		X	
Develop a database for advocacy, media and communication of knowledge to youth		X	
Mapping of existing networks/ NGOs, CBOs with a view to integrate indigenous women's rights in existing women's rights groups.	X		
Regional planning meetings	X		

Community based monitoring and gender

The fourth working group looked into strategies for enhancing gender and human rights monitoring tools. It was discussed that the EU is currently funding a pilot project on human rights monitoring, which is looking in particular into the implementation of UNDRIP (the project title is "Improving indigenous peoples' access to justice and development through strategic monitoring"). This project is steered by Tebtebba, AIPP, IWGIA and FPP and is implemented in 6 countries across Africa, Asia and Latin America. Several people attending the workshop were part of this programme. The main advantage and the most innovative feature of the programme is that it focuses on community-based monitoring, which means that communities can decide what they wish to monitor and villagers themselves can experience the importance of data collection.

The work of the fourth working group on Day 4 mainly consisted of studying and revising the national and community-level questionnaires for monitoring implementation of UNDRIP and gender justice. These surveys are called 'Indigenous Navigator' and are among the tools developed with the support of the EU funds. It was deemed useful and important that the IWIW workshop took time to perform concrete work to improve the monitoring tools so far developed so they could be used in the piloting phase of community-based monitoring. About 50 individual suggested changes were proposed in order to ensure that gender disaggregated data would be considered and collected as part of monitoring UNDRIP implementation. Since the workshop, these changes have been incorporated into the final questionnaires.

Additional identified opportunities and strategies

In addition to the outcomes of Days 1, 2, and 3, participants gathered again on Day 4 to discuss additional strategies and highlight existing opportunities. The suggestions and decisions listed below were made.

- #### Global Call for Action on Indigenous and Community Land Rights

The Global Call to Action on Indigenous and Community Land Rights is an initiative to engage and mobilize communities, organizations, governments, and individuals worldwide in promoting and securing Indigenous Peoples and local communities' land rights. The target is to double the global area of land legally recognized as owned or controlled by Indigenous Peoples and local communities by 2020. The aim is to work together to support the existing struggles of local communities and Indigenous Peoples in different parts of the world in persuading national and local authorities, as well as private sector actors and influential national and international institutions, to take concrete steps to secure land and resource rights.

The Global Call is convened by Oxfam, International Land Coalition and Rights and Resources Initiative and a 22 member Steering Group which includes Forest Peoples Programme and Huairou Commission. It had not yet been launched at the time of the IWIW in February 2015, but was identified as an upcoming opportunity for partners to engage with. Since its official launch in March 2016 500 organizations have signed up to participate.

You can sign-up here: www.landrightsnow.org – there is no cost involved with joining and your organization can publicly support the call, stay informed and link activities using the Land Rights Now Banner and hashtag #LandRightsNow. During 2016-2017 a number of studies on Women and Land rights are being launched by participants in the Global Call.

For more information contact: Fionuala Cregan, Coordinator of the Global Call to Action on Indigenous and community Land Rights, Fionuala.cregan@oxfamnovib.org

- **UN System-Wide Action Plan on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

Joan Carling shared information in relation to an action plan within the UN that aims at enhancing land rights for indigenous peoples and to which indigenous women should contribute. It was explained that this initiative will be brought up at the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and that UN Women will be the lead. Joan offered to be the communication point for partners to contribute to the initiative.

- **IFI: World Bank safeguard review process**

Helen Tugendhat from FPP referred to her presentation from Day 3, and invited organisations not already involved in the World Bank Safeguard Review process to consider getting involved in order to bring gender issues into the process.

- **IFI: Indigenous Peoples Advisory Council within the Asian Development Bank**

Joan Carling shared information regarding the indigenous peoples advisory council that has been formed in relation to the Asian Development bank (ADB). The work to be done during an upcoming meeting (13-15 April 2015) with

regards to gender and discrimination was briefly brought up as an opportunity for engagement and follow-up.

- **Convention on Biological Diversity**

Florina Lopez, Sofia Robles and AIPP expressed interest in taking part in and leading a small group to be created following the IWIW workshop, to support and feed into the work of the CBD in relation to women, biodiversity and land use. This decision from the workshop followed up on the training session on the CBD presented on Day 3 by Caroline De Jong and Florina Lopez.

- **Voluntary Guidelines for Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests**

Participants from Uganda, Cambodia and Colombia expressed interest in and commitment to participating in the promotion of the UN Voluntary Guidelines for the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests. These guidelines are seen as another tool to work on towards better recognition of land rights at national level, and an additional opportunity to ensure gender and land rights dimensions are taken into account. Participants have been invited to multi-stakeholder workshops to take place in the coming months.

- **Report of the UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

Ellen Dictaan Bang-oa reminded all participants that the UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples was currently preparing a report on indigenous women and development. This was highlighted as another opportunity for indigenous women to feed into human rights mechanisms.



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FUTURE POSSIBILITIES FOR WORK ON GENDER AND LAND RIGHTS

OVERVIEW OF THE LEGAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS 2009-2015

As a result of FPP's work with its partners within the logical framework of the Gender and Land Rights Programme, several legal and human rights standards were adopted by regional and international human rights bodies. UNCERD adopted concluding observations on Cameroon. ACHPR adopted concluding observations on Uganda, Cameroon and DRC.

The ACHPR adopted a resolution on the rights of indigenous women.

As a consequence of the submission of joint reports with partners, the following human rights standards were adopted:

- **Concluding Observations on Cameroon by the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR):**²¹ notes the extreme vulnerability of indigenous women and the double discrimination they suffer and calls on the government to take special protective measures; recommends that Cameroon abandon the term "marginalised peoples";
- **Concluding Observations on Uganda by UN CEDAW:**²² acknowledges the extreme vulnerability of Batwa women and recommends that the government adopt special measures to ensure the protection of their human rights;
- **Concluding Observations on DRC by UN CEDAW:**²³ recommends that the DRC 'ensure that Pygmy women have access, without discrimination, to basic services, including health care and education, and to land, ensure that they have access to self-sufficient livelihoods in the forest and provide compensation when they have been displaced from the forest';²⁴
- **Concluding Observations on Nepal by UN CEDAW:**²⁵ addresses issues raised in the FPP-supported shadow report, including political participation of indigenous women, access to education by indigenous girls, and bonded labour; recommends that Nepal take specific action to address instances of "multiple discrimination";
- **Concluding Observations on Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) by ACHPR:** specific recommendations on the rights of indigenous women and peoples;
- **ACHPR Resolution on the rights of indigenous women in Africa:** recognises the "crucial role played by indigenous women in the protection and preservation of natural resources and in the protection, development and transmission of indigenous knowledge and culture", and urges State parties to "collect disaggregated data on the general situation of indigenous women; pay special attention to the status of women in their countries and to adopt laws, policies, and specific programs to promote and protect all their human rights";²⁶

²¹ African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, Concluding Observations on Cameroon, adopted in May 2010 in Banjul, The Gambia, paragraph 28 and recommendation xix.

²² CEDAW, Concluding observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, 5 November 2010, CEDAW/C/UGA/CO/7, paragraph 39 and 40.

²³ NGO report available here: http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/ngos/JointNGOsubmission_DRCForTheSession55_en.pdf.²² CEDAW, Concluding observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, 5 November 2010, CEDAW/C/UGA/CO/7, paragraph 39 and 40.

²⁴ Ibid, paragraph 36(a).

²⁵ CEDAW, Concluding observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, 11 August 2011, CEDAW/C/NPL/CO/4-5, available at: http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CEDAW%2fC%2fCOD%2fCO%2f6-7&Lang=en

²⁶ African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, Resolution on the Rights of Indigenous Women in Africa, adopted in May 2010 in Banjul, The Gambia, paragraph 28 and recommendation xix.

- **Statement by the United Nations Permanent Forum of Indigenous Issues (UNPFII):** UNPFII released a statement expressing concern with the extreme vulnerability and abuses against indigenous Wayuu women and children in Colombia,²⁷ and adopted a report in which it urged Colombia to comply fully with an order from its Constitutional Court to address the “dire situation facing displaced women in general and indigenous women in particular”.²⁸

These recent standards complement and extend the legal protections for indigenous women offered by regional and international human rights bodies, mechanisms and platforms. While these standards, along with those existing prior to the programme are relevant and useful for enhancing the rights of

indigenous women, there is scope for additional and more targeted advocacy in order to generate a stronger body of legal standards.²⁹ Partners were also keen to carry on feeding into the mechanisms. This means that it would be justified to continue to implement the Gender and Land Rights Programme’s objectives via future grants.

Also in the course of the programme, FPP produced with its partners a number of publications. The main ones are listed in an annex to this report. Additional details on the advocacy and other activities that were held in order to achieve these results can be obtained from the narrative reports to Oxfam Novib submitted in the framework of the Gender and Land Rights Programme.

TAKING STOCK IN IMPLEMENTING THE GENDER ASPECTS OF LAND RIGHTS WORK

The workshop outcomes and the activity reports for the period 2009-2015 show that FPP’s support work had a positive impact, and continued support is requested. This useful experience for FPP has the potential to support staff in the implementation of the gender dimensions of their work. Below are key points that have emerged as important considerations that could be useful to FPP staff.

- **Indigenous women’s rights versus gender and land rights:** During the period 2009-2015, FPP has mainly allocated its gender and land rights funding to specific issues pertaining to indigenous women’s rights. This orientation constituted a response to specific requests from partners, which led to a project proposal essentially based on the need to develop jurisprudence pertaining to the rights of indigenous women in the international and regional human rights mechanisms.³⁰ The importance of addressing the broader nexus between gender and land rights was brought up on many occasions during the course of the implementation of FPP work on gender and land rights. While it was clear that for cost-efficiency reasons

the programme has a focus on indigenous women’s rights within the international human rights mechanisms, it was also stressed that FPP should in the future devote efforts in fundraising resources to address broader gender and land rights issues, in addition to addressing issues pertaining more specifically to indigenous women’s rights.

- **The importance to continue targeting/using women’s rights mechanisms:** UN Women and the CEDAW Committee have become more aware of the necessity to be more inclusive of the specific needs of indigenous women in their work on gender. Advocacy at this level has slowly paid off and should be pursued.

In general, indigenous women need to continue ‘educating’³¹ human rights and other relevant mechanisms on their situation and to deal with their specific human rights issues. It is clear that those differ from mainstream women’s rights approaches, mainly because indigenous women’s rights have to be approached holistically and include the collective rights and land rights dimensions specific to indigenous peoples. It is not possible to achieve appropriate remedies for indigenous women if only the legal framework pertaining to women’s rights

²⁸ Situation of indigenous peoples in danger of extinction in Colombia, Summary of the report and recommendations of the mission by the Permanent Forum to Colombia, Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, E/C.19/2011/3, 11 February 2011, paragraphs 23, 24, 26, and 83.

²⁹ A more exhaustive list of legal and human rights standards is found in the training manuals and toolkits produced by FPP and its partners in the course of the programme.

³⁰ The key objectives of the multi-year gender and land rights programme funded by Oxfam Novib are notably described in the initial project proposal submitted in 2008. They refer to the need to support indigenous women in participating in international and regional human rights mechanisms, in order to influence the adoption of standards relevant to them and to fill an identified gap in the jurisprudence.

³¹ ‘To educate the mechanisms’ was the vocabulary privileged by the participants to the IWIV workshop.

is applied. Indigenous women's rights stem from both women's and indigenous peoples' rights frameworks.

- **The continuous need for capacity building/awareness raising/training and participation in human rights mechanisms:**

Human rights training for indigenous peoples' and indigenous women's organisations and groups are still much needed and explicitly requested. Participants are in general largely unfamiliar with other countries' jurisprudence and with international standards, as are the people in authority in their own countries. Women's groups are organised and capable of delivering training with minimal technical support (using existing toolkits for example) but require consistent financial support to organise and lead the training programmes. The need for additional training was particularly obvious at the workshop, as participants explained they wish to have more time to explore further the issues brought up on Day 3 (essentially training on mechanisms).

Equally, while partners are keen and able to participate in mechanisms, they require adequate financial support. This includes support post-participation, where advocates return to the communities and share their knowledge. This support for participation and feedback is key to deepening knowledge and advocacy skills with the communities that their organisations support.

- **A holistic approach to human rights:** During the workshop, it was expressed that it was often challenging to apply human rights jurisprudence to indigenous issues, and in particular to indigenous women's issues. It is felt that existing jurisprudence on indigenous women is not inclusive enough of what participants defined as a 'holistic approach to human rights'. A holistic approach involves integrating

various spheres of rights, rather than a cumulative list of individual or compartmentalised rights. Good examples of this approach are illustrated in the shadow reports to UN CEDAW presented by Nepalese and Ugandan IPOs/NGOs.³²

- **Indigenous women disproportionately affected:**

The indigenous women's rights issues raised during the workshop are essentially indigenous peoples' rights issues. The manner in which human rights issues were framed and approached during the IWIW workshop was similar if not the same as the manner in which human rights issues are approached in other indigenous peoples' rights workshops. The distinction lies in the additional layer of discrimination that results in indigenous women being disproportionately affected by, for example: extractive industries; lack of access to education, health or employment; and lack of political representation.³³

The IWIW workshop strongly reaffirmed that women are distinctly affected by human rights violations, because of their gender. Therefore, the international women's rights legal framework is applicable, as the notion of discrimination against women is a useful advocacy component of indigenous women's rights. The nexus between indigenous peoples' rights and women's rights has been and can continue to be effectively used in advocacy work. It has produced significant change at regional and international levels, which lays the groundwork for change at national level.

- **A well-recognised and praised complementarity of roles between women and men, with an unambiguous need for separate spaces and specific strategies for indigenous women:** A discussion on this during the workshop created particular interest in the wider group. Echoing

³² For a good illustration of this point see, among others:

Report to UN CEDAW of 2013: Submission to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) : The Land Rights of Rural Women. 31 October 2013, available at: www.forestpeoples.org/topics/rights-land-natural-resources/publication/2013/submission-committee-elimination-discrimination

Shadow report to UN CEDAW on Nepal of 2011, available at: http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/Treaties/CEDAW/Shared%20Documents/NPL/INT_CEDAW_NGO_NPL_49_9805_E.pdf

Shadow report to UN CEDAW on Uganda of 2010: Batwa women in Uganda : disproportionate human rights violations. Alternative report to the Combined 4th to 7th periodic reports of Uganda (CEDAW/C/UGA/7), available at: www.forestpeoples.org/topics/un-human-rights-system/publication/2010/batwa-women-uganda-disproportionate-human-rights-viol

Shadow report to UN CEDAW of 2013 on Colombia: Colombian indigenous women inform the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) of the multiple forms of discrimination they face, available at: www.forestpeoples.org/sites/fpp/files/news/2013/10/REPORT%20CEDAW%20INDIGENOUS%20WOMEN%20IN%20COLOMBIA.pdf

Shadow report to UNCEDAW on DRC of 2013: Alternative Report to the Democratic Republic of Congo's Periodic Report to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women, available at: www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/docs/ngos/JointNGOsubmission_DRCForTheSession55_en.pdf

³³ *Idem.*

what is mentioned above in relation to the holistic approach to human rights, indigenous women feel their methodology is somewhat different from what they understand as that of mainstream women's rights movements. Indigenous women participating in the workshop described themselves as wanting to work in close collaboration with men and with the collective, rather than use a method focussed on 'the rights of the individual woman'.

It was expressed that in pre-colonial/traditional society, the complementarity between women and men was more obvious, that the colonisation process has created a gap between women and men and that there is a need to work on preserving the tradition of complementarity between the two.³⁴ However, it was also clear from the conference that indigenous women wish to maintain and create more spaces for indigenous women only, in order to discuss issues specific to them, gain capacity and counteract some gender imbalances in their communities.³⁵

- **FPP's 2012 institutional review:** In 2012, FPP commissioned an independent organisational review. This review was both desk-based and country-based. It involved a desk-based review of FPP's documentation, including grant proposals, reports to donors, strategic plans, administrative documents, FPP policies, FPP publications and many other documents. It also involved a number of phone interviews with staff and partners as well as a country visit to Cameroon. The report is an internal document of FPP and it contains a number of constructive points, including useful suggestions in relation to the gender and land rights work. Those were raised during Executive Committee meetings as important suggestions to be followed-up on in coming years. It is well worthwhile going back to this document and taking the relevant information on board when planning future work.

FUNDRAISING AND PLANNING FUTURE PROGRAMMES

Existing funding: Several FPP projects have included a gender dimension in their rationales. Gender and land rights activities can therefore be supported through these programmes. It is useful to continue mainstreaming gender across programmes. It not only addresses crucial human rights issues and responds to explicit partners requests, it also strengthens the chances of success of grant proposals. Many donors do indeed need to ensure their monies go to programmes supporting women's rights and/or gender and land rights initiatives.

From the FPP 2012 institutional review, it emerged that the gender dimension of each individual grant (excluding ON) was often not fully implemented.³⁶ FPP staff have also explained

they need support in understanding gender and to build capacity in implementing the gender dimension of the projects they are responsible for. This was also expressed during the FPP staff-sharing day on gender held in November 2012. It is important for FPP to take on board this request for support from staff in its strategic planning.

In the period 2009-2015, funds from general grants other than the Oxfam Novib gender and land rights grant have been allocated to gender following suggestions from the staff responsible for implementing and developing gender and land rights work. It is while collaborating and interacting with staff working on gender and land rights that the various FPP projects have used funds to support gender work. Now that gender and land rights work is not funded on a rolling basis, it is also impor-

³⁴ The minutes (original minutes page 6) are evocative on this point: "Decision making are always men such as social and economic area, if we talk about gender it is accused as feminist, but in indigenous peoples our way before colonization, we want to complement our work with men".

"Continue to consolidate our struggles and extend support to work together."

"Look for different strategy for complementary between man and women, what do we do if we have no land and territories?"

"(...) many indigenous peoples gender issues is sensitive and we have to be careful how to complement the different role to strengthen."

"Traditional society where there is complementary pre-colonial but in the colonization process the gap was created – revitalization of complementary role need of the hour" (p.6 minutes).

³⁵ "Structural violence: work together with men to respect women concerns but also women have our own spaces."

"There are some moments where men and women should be united; but there are also topics particularly related to men, and some particularly for women. We have to maintain our culture, and this is the responsibility of both men and women. There has to be a balance and equality, to gain more space little by little and to propose new ideas."

A desire to develop strategies to address specific imbalances between indigenous women and indigenous men was also expressed. "Despite indigenous women have advance in demanding in political spaces there is still need to enhance the participation of women. In the project we should include men but priority should be women."

³⁶ This review was mentioned above and is part of FPP's internal administrative documents.

tant that FPP reflects on how best to use the existing funding available to respond to partners' ongoing needs for support. The specific requests that have come out of the workshop can guide this allocation of resources.

New fundraising efforts: Based on the work done in the period 2009-2015 and on the explicit requests from the IWIW workshop of 2015, some fundraising priorities can be identified.³⁷

General priorities applicable to all countries

1. Awareness raising and training: Partners have expressed a need for continued support to enable them to work towards awareness raising and to provide training on women's rights and land rights.

There is a significant body of human rights standards that can be useful to support legal and human rights advocacy and court cases. However, this is not well known by partners. There is a need for more understanding of how existing human rights standards across regions can be useful in each country. Further training and experience sharing on this is a priority in order to empower indigenous peoples' organisations and indigenous women's groups to use all the international law background available to advocate their rights at local and national level.

It was clearly expressed on many occasions during the implementation of the Gender and Land Rights Programme, and also during the training sessions of the IWIW workshop, that the Toolkits and other publications specific to indigenous women's rights and human rights mechanisms were useful and could be used in national workshops. FPP can provide more copies of these publications and also support in training and capacity building. Further financial resources for this have to be secured.

2. Mapping of existing networks: Partners have expressed the need to identify existing and potential partners in order to build a stronger network of organisations working on

women's rights and on indigenous people's rights. It was suggested that the relevant organisations, their relationships to each other and the work they are carrying out be documented.

3. The Global Call to Action on Indigenous and Community Land Rights: This project convened by Oxfam Novib, the Rights and Resources Initiative and the International Land Coalition was identified as an opportunity for partners to engage with.³⁸

4. The UN System-Wide Action Plan on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: This United Nations Action Plan was highlighted as an opportunity for indigenous women to ensure their specific issues are taken into account. How in practice this contribution can be made was not discussed in detail so this possibility would have to be investigated further.³⁹

5. The World Bank Safeguard Review Process: This was presented as a space where gender issues can be raised. A number of participants to the workshop expressed interest in engaging with it at this level. Follow-up was to be facilitated by Helen Tugendhat.⁴⁰

6. The Convention on Biological Diversity: A small group was created during the IWIW workshop to support and feed into the work of the CBD on Article 8(j) and the Plan of Action on Customary Sustainable Use of Biodiversity. The suggested activities included the submission of case studies on gender and land rights and the activities of the Indigenous Women Biodiversity Network. Caroline de Jong and Florina Lopez were facilitating the creation of the group.⁴¹

Priorities specific to partners working in certain regions or countries

It was noted during the workshop that meaningful efforts to support gender and land rights work would require further strategy discussions with partners in order to identify and explore the specific needs in each country.⁴² It was not expected that the outcomes of an international four-

³⁷ It would be a mistake to understand the results of group exercises such as those carried out during the workshop as exhaustive. Additional consultations with partners to corroborate and examine further their priorities are necessary when drawing up project proposals. It is also worth noting that, while the workshop took place in 2015, it is likely that the priorities identified during the workshop are still similar to partners' priorities to this date, because their programmes are based on situations that unfortunately take some time to change.

³⁸ Refer to section 1d) Additional identified opportunities and strategies of this report for more details.

³⁹ *Id.*

⁴⁰ *Id.*

⁴¹ *Id.*

⁴² Minutes of the workshop, recap of Day 1 delivered on Day 3.

day workshop – during which two days were allocated to identifying overarching issues and articulating core strategies to address them⁴³– would be sufficient for the planning of impactful country level actions. Nevertheless, it is possible from the workshop and the outcomes of the gender and land rights work for the period 2009-2015 to highlight the following specific requests for support and opportunities for changes that were voiced by partners.

1. Africa – regional planning meeting on gender:

Partners from Cameroon, DRC and Liberia were not able to attend the workshop because of the quarantine measures taken in relation to the Ebola pandemic at the time. Because of this, there was a strong demand for the organisation of a regional meeting on indigenous women’s rights for Africa. It was discussed that FPP would look into the possibility of planning this meeting using EU and other existing funding, notably the multi-year grants for central Africa, which have included significant gender dimensions in their project proposals (in particular Cameroon and DRC).

2. Africa – all countries: The African Commission on Human and People’s Rights (ACHPR) has proven to be a very progressive human rights body that is supportive of indigenous women’s rights. The mechanisms of the *Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Women, the Working Group on Indigenous Populations/Communities and the Working Group on the Environment, Extractive Industries and Human Rights* are three particularly collaborative actors. Partnerships have been established over the years between these special mechanisms and FPP and its partners. Work is currently underway in relation to indigenous peoples’ rights and FPIC for example. There are unwritten expectations that FPP will continue to support the ACHPR in implementing human rights in relation to FPP’s work themes, including indigenous women’s rights. However, the people in charge of these mechanisms rotate over the years and continued participation and communication is crucial to the survival of the working relationship.

FPP’s partners have requested on numerous occasions to be supported in relation to the work with ACHPR. This includes requests for funding to attend sessions of the ACHPR, support to prepare and submit alternative reports within the state reporting mechanism, support to lead in-country training with communities on human rights and the ACHPR, and funding to allow the inviting of ACHPR representatives to visit their country and meet with governmental

authorities. Where this was made possible, the work of the ACHPR has been extremely supportive and governmental authorities have been responsive. There have been notable changes in national legislation and policies following such work (Cameroon, Uganda as examples). For these reasons, it would be important to ensure that the collaboration of FPP staff and FPP partners with the ACHPR mechanisms continues to form an integral part of activity planning and is supported by adequate budgets.

- 3. Kenya:** It was reported that the relatively new constitution had provisions on inheritance of property that could become useful to indigenous women. Land titles are available to both men and women (as opposed to some other countries where only men are entitled to own land).
- 4. Kenya and Uganda:** Partners have reiterated the importance of livelihood projects for economic empowerment and requested continued support in relation to this, both for indigenous women and indigenous peoples in general.
- 5. Uganda:** In the past years, partners have submitted reports to ACHPR and to UNCEDAW, which have led to the adoption of strong human rights standards and recommendations in relation to indigenous peoples and indigenous women. Partners require support to ensure implementation of these recommendations specific to Uganda.
- 6. Cameroon:** During the implementation of the FPP gender and land rights programme, Cameroon partners have submitted reports to ACHPR and to UNCERD, which have led to the adoption of strong human rights standards and recommendations in relation to indigenous peoples and indigenous women. Partners require support to ensure implementation of these recommendations specific to Cameroon.
- 7. Asia:** The Indigenous Peoples’ Advisory Council within the Asian Development Bank was about to enter discussions on gender and discrimination at the time of the IWIW workshop. Follow-up through Joan Carling is possible.
- 8. Thailand:** Partners wish to devote efforts to the consolidation of local and national policy reforms in order to address inconsistencies in relation to indigenous peoples’ rights.
- 9. Philippines:** Partners have specifically requested support to address the alleged FPIC violations perpetrated by NCIP.

⁴³ The other two days were dedicated to a field visit and legal and human rights training.

10. Nepal: In the course of the implementation of the FPP gender and land rights programme, Nepal partners have submitted reports to UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women and the UN Commission on the Status of Women, which have led to the adoption of strong human rights standards and recommendations in relation to indigenous peoples and indigenous women. Partners require support to ensure implementation of these recommendations specific to Nepal.

11. Latin America: A report is being prepared by the Inter-American Commission, which addresses specifically the human rights of indigenous women. Partners have already been involved in documenting the report and are collaborating with the rapporteurs of the Commission in relation to this report. There appears to be, however, a shortage of resources (in general) at the Commission and completion of the report is still pending. Follow-up provisions could be included in future funding proposals.

12. Latin America: Partners are looking to use the existing tools in order to build capacity of indigenous women but also of the Inter-American Commission, notably through the distribution of the *Methodological and Conceptual*

Guidelines to Confront Situations of Multiple Discrimination.⁴⁴ There is strong capacity among partners' organisations to ensure this document is useful to the Commission; however, financial support is required.

13. Mexico: Partners have been supporting indigenous women to bring cases to the Inter-American Commission. Some of them involve sexual violence by the army, others violence against indigenous women living in extreme poverty. Some cases are also pending at national level. Local lawyers are involved and working pro-bono, including indigenous women lawyers. These partners from Mexico require technical and financial support to be in a position to see these cases through.

14. Uganda, Colombia, Cambodia – The FAO Voluntary Guidelines: Participants from Uganda, Cambodia and Colombia expressed interest in participating in the promotion of the *FAO Guidelines for the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests*, and have seen this as another opportunity to work towards the inclusion of gender issues in the implementation of land rights at national level.



⁴⁴ **Indigenous Women of the Americas – Methodological and conceptual guidelines to confront situations of multiple discrimination.** By multiple NGOs, 2014 <http://www.forestpeoples.org/topics/gender-issues/publication/2014/indigenous-women-americas-methodological-and-conceptual-guide>

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NIWF, LAHURNIP and FPP Submission to the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) regarding the Rights of Indigenous Women in Nepal, NIWF, LAHURNIP, FPP, 11 January, 2012

United Nations Commission on the Status of Women adopts draft resolution on "Indigenous Women: key actors in poverty and hunger eradication", 13 March, 2012

Asia Indigenous Peoples' Pact adopts a strong gender policy for work on indigenous issues, 15 October, 2012

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