

# Annual Report 2022



Forest  
Peoples  
Programme

# Acknowledgements

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A special thanks also from FPP and our partners to individual donors who have supported our work.

Frontcover photo: Marisol Garcia Apagüño and Nelsith Sangama Sangama are Peruvian Kichwa women representing their communities and the struggles they face, particularly the effects of climate change. They have been actively engaged in the international movement for climate justice and the rights of indigenous peoples by participating in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Credit Fabrice Bourgelle for the Fearless Collective.

Background photo: Long Isun, Indonesia. Credit Angus MacInnes, FPP

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FPP supported the first international meeting, in the Peruvian Amazon, of 70 members of a dozen Indigenous and Afro-descendant guards from Peru and Colombia. The meeting fostered solidarity and exchange of information on community self-protection against violence in local and global commodity supply chains, illegal exploitation of their lands and other territorial threats. Caimito, Lake Imiria, Ucayali, Peru 2022. Credit Matias Perez Ojeda del Arco, FPP



# About us

**Forest Peoples Programme is a human rights organisation working with forest peoples to secure their rights to their lands and their livelihoods. We work alongside more than 60 partner organisations representing indigenous peoples and forest communities from across the globe**

**Nearly all forests around the world are inhabited**

**The peoples who live in these forests have customary rights over them and have developed ways of life and traditional knowledge that are attuned to their forest environments. Yet forests are commonly treated as empty lands controlled by the state and available for development, settlement, logging, plantations, dams, mines, oil wells, gas pipelines and agribusinesses. These encroachments often force peoples out of their forest homes, whilst many conservation schemes such as wilderness reserves and protected areas also deny forest peoples' rights.**

## Our Vision

**Forests are owned and controlled by forest peoples in ways that ensure sustainable livelihoods, equity, and well-being based on respect for their rights, knowledge, cultures, and identities.**

## Mission

**Forest Peoples Programme supports the rights of peoples who live in forests and depend on them for their livelihoods. We work to create political space for forest peoples to secure their rights, control their lands and decide their own futures.**

## Strategic Approaches

### Self-determination

**Supporting and advancing the exercise of self-determination by indigenous and forest peoples by strengthening territorial governance, mobilisation and representation, and the creation and use of political spaces where indigenous and forest peoples' voices can be heard.**

### Access to Justice

**Ensuring access to justice by developing and using accountability and redress mechanisms in both public and private institutions that are directly accessible to indigenous and forest peoples and their communities.**

### Legal and Policy Reform

**Partnered advocacy towards legal and policy reform and the development of best practice and standards consistent with indigenous and forest peoples' rights in international law.**

### Building Solidarity

**Networking, sharing information and building solidarity for coordinated action among a wide range of actors.**

# Director's message

2022 saw the global pandemic receding, the appointment of Sônia Guajajara as Brazil's first ever Minister of Indigenous Affairs, and the conclusion of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. However, the world was also rocked by Russia's invasion of Ukraine, and the response to the climate crisis continues to fall short, with forests tipping towards becoming net carbon emitters.



For indigenous and forest peoples, it is all too often a case of *plus ça change*: the commodities concerned may seem different – in the form of carbon and other biocredits, and transition minerals – but the extractive models by which many of those commodities are derived remain all too familiar, as communities from Peru to Liberia and Indonesia can attest. Meanwhile conventional threats to forest peoples' rights continue, including from agribusiness, logging, oil and gas, and fortress conservation.

There have also been moments of hope and success. In Indonesia, after much lobbying by FPP, our partners and allies, the Asia Development Bank postponed the funding of a new road through the heart of Borneo, which threatened large-scale expropriation of indigenous peoples' lands, oil palm expansion and associated deforestation.

Agreement on the Global Biodiversity Framework was the culmination of a colossal effort by many actors, including indigenous peoples' advocates, who secured a significant victory in the clear recognition of the rights and contributions of indigenous peoples and local communities to combatting biodiversity loss. Relatedly in 2022, FPP and a coalition of indigenous organisations launched an ambitious six-year project to showcase the difference local indigenous and community initiatives make to global biodiversity.

Meanwhile, our Strategic Legal Response Centre (SLRC) provided key support for landmark cases, rapid response, legal capacity building, and networking. In one such case supported by FPP lawyers and the Katiba Institute, the Ogiek of Mount Elgon in Kenya celebrated a court ruling which found the conversion of Ogiek ancestral land into a state game reserve to have been unlawful, with the land – over 17,000 hectares – thereby reverting to community collective ownership and protection.

There continues to be a healthy discourse challenging the small proportion of donor funding directly reaching grassroots struggles. As a solidarity organisation with decades of experience supporting partners to access funding directly, alongside legal and technical accompaniment, FPP's model has a lot to offer. We count as a mark of success when roles are reversed and partners become direct grantees, and a test of our added-value when they still choose us as partners.

Building on that model, in 2022 we continued to grow FPP's 'Forest Visions Partnership', now supporting communities in Kenya, Peru, Colombia, Cameroon, Suriname and Liberia. This initiative supports communities to develop and implement self-determined visions for their forest lands and territories, via multi-year flexible funding, alongside a commitment to provide capacity support. The Partnership sits among several initiatives which FPP is now leading or collaborating on, including the SLRC, the Zero Tolerance Initiative, the Indigenous-led Education Network, and our gender programme's small grants mechanism.

Our work balances radicalism and pragmatism on the paths we tread with partners. We strive not just to disrupt power imbalances, but to upend them; not just to tweak systems, but to transform them. On that journey respecting the right to self-determination remains the best navigational tool we have in our collective saddle bag.

*¡Venceremos!*

Tom Lomax, Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Lomax'.

# Our global reach at a glance

## Global

RSPO began review of its Complaints Panel (▼ **Kuala Lumpur**)

Forest Stewardship Council adopted a new stand-alone Remedy Framework (▼ **Oaxaca, Mexico**)

UN Convention on Biological Diversity - technical inputs to final drafting of Global Biodiversity Framework; recognition of FPP inputs by COP15; briefings for CBD policymakers on indigenous peoples' and local communities' contribution to biodiversity (▼ **Montreal**)

International workshop on transmission of indigenous and local knowledge with Centres of Distinction on Indigenous and Local Knowledge (▼ **Montreal**)

Input to 9th Plenary of Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (▼ **Bonn**)

The Global Network on Indigenous-led Education (ILED), co-founded by FPP in 2020-2021, gained traction. Several online knowledge exchanges were organised, first

publication launched at start of the Decade on Indigenous Languages, and 7 grassroots projects initiatives funded by small-grants fund (▼ **Amsterdam**)

Forest Visions Partnership direct funding mechanism supported seven partners to develop and enhance the sustainable management of their lands and resources in line with their own visions for their lands. (global)

in climate policies and plans in Asia. Launched at UNFCCC meeting (▼ **Bonn**)

## Europe

• Adoption of Regulation to reduce EU deforestation footprint which contains provisions that can help communities negatively affected by commodity production to hold companies accountable (▼ **Brussels**)

• 10 country reports on how indigenous peoples' rights, roles and knowledge are recognised

## UK

• Input to UK government consultation on Secondary legislation of UK's Environment Act calling for alignment with international human rights law

• Shipibo-Konibo leader addressed the All-Party

Parliamentary Group on Global Deforestation

• Input to Oxford Nature Based Solutions Conference and support for indigenous and southern participation.

## Africa

▼ **Sharm El-Sheikh** - Eight indigenous delegates supported at COP27 of the UNFCCC.

## Liberia

• Supported local communities' resistance to forced evictions as a result of the planned creation of new national parks on their customary lands

• Enhanced community and civil society capacity to defend rights and hold agribusiness accountable

• Monitored the operations and practices of palm oil companies

• Provided legal analysis of the 2018 Land Rights Act in the context of conservation and agribusiness projects.

## Cameroon

• Supported the Gbabandi women's forum dialogue on the challenges indigenous women face in natural resource management participation

• Supported Baka cultural revival event in Djoko community forest

• Supported Bagyeli cases contesting the grant of palm oil concessions on their lands.

## Republic of Congo

• Advocated for reform of Wildlife and Protected Areas Law to recognise indigenous peoples' rights

• Documented Baka and Bakwele views on conservation and customary lands in the Messok Dja forest.

## DRC

• High-level dialogue by Batwa communities with Kahuzi-Biega National Park authorities

• Rapid response legal support for communities who faced eviction from Salonga National Park

• Law clinics and training of lawyers, magistrates, and others in indigenous and forest peoples' rights.

## Uganda

• Batwa land rights case began its appellate stage in the Supreme Court

• Continued work to fully inform the Batwa about

their Constitutional Court judgment, and what the appeal process means for their land rights struggle.

## Kenya

• Mau - Collaborated with MRG on the ACHPR ruling granting Ogiek collective title; provided support for Ogiek Council of Elders to understand implications of the ACHPR ruling granting the Ogiek collective title

• Mt. Elgon - Court ruling that conversion of Ogiek ancestral land for a game reserve was illegal, with the land (over 17,000 hectares) thereby reverting to community collective ownership and control; Ogiek mapped lands for community management.

• Sengwer people of Embobut forest reject proposed GEF-funded project that has not sought their FPIC; and insist that their land rights and role in taking care of the Embobut ecosystem be recognised.

## Tanzania, Uganda, DRC and Kenya

• Four forest and pastoralist community-led assemblies involving 13 communities sharing learnings and experiences.

## Rwanda

• 1<sup>st</sup> African Protected Areas Congress increased the profile and recognition of indigenous peoples' and local community rights.

## Central & South America

### Colombia

• Cañamomo Lomapieta Reserve - mapping of indigenous territory for planning and management; rapid response legal support for human rights defenders; technical support for autonomous FPIC and Territorial law-making

• Palenke Alto Cauca - Youth training on human rights; inter-peoples exchange with Cañamomo Lomapieta Reserve on territorial defence and mining

• Technical assistance to community complaint denouncing flawed USAID-funded HCV Screening scoping study in Montes de Maria

• Indigenous auto-ethnography, territorial delimitation and mapping of traditional lands by the Nipodimaki People (Amazonas).

### Costa Rica

• Follow-up of IACHR precautionary measures and support for litigation before the Constitutional Court of Costa Rica on behalf of Bribri and Boran peoples.

### Panama

• Support to community food security initiative and indigenous-led education initiative in Guna Yala (through partner FPIC).

### Peru

• Santa Clara de Uchunya - 1500 ha of ancestral lands formally registered and continuing support for community land defenders against threats; complaints submitted about Ocho Sur and Louis Dreyfus agribusiness companies; case on land restitution brought before IACHR

• Ucayali - Indigenous and Afro-descendant guards from Peru and Colombia exchange territorial and self-protection strategies

• San Martin - Kichwa communities uncovered large-scale carbon trading on their untitled lands in the Cordillera Azul National Park; legal support for Kichwa collective land titling claims; Kichwa women obtained recognition for intercultural protocol against gender-based violence; submissions to UNCERD and UNHRC about imposition of exclusionary conservation and carbon trading

• Support for Kichwa and Shipibo Indigenous radio programmes in San Martin and Ucayali.

## Guyana

• Indigenous groups challenged national certification of carbon credits under the TREES standard

• Support to SCPDA to develop a draft Cultural Heritage Policy, using information obtained in five communities of the South Rupununi

• The High Court of Guyana found that the Akawaio and Arekuna peoples hold aboriginal communal title.

## Suriname

• Follow up on I/A Court HR 2007 Saramaka v. Suriname and 2015 Kaliña and Lokono v. Suriname decisions

• Supported VIDS projects reviving local fishery association, mapping fish grounds and other mapping activities; support to VIDS leadership to organise important strategy and visioning sessions and implement a self-determined approach to governance matters in the communities.

## Asia

### Bangladesh

Support to community cooperative in which traditional resource user groups in the Sundarbans collaborate to improve resilience, livelihoods, and transmission of traditional knowledge (through Unnayan Onneshan).

### Thailand

• Support to IMPECT (working with other civil society networks in Thailand) to train community leaders and collect data on the impacts of National Land Policy Commission's project on National

Parks on indigenous communities; presented recommendations to Commission Office, containing recommendations on e.g., respect for land use rights, non-discrimination, and FPIC

• Northern highlands: Indigenous-Led education initiative supported through ILED small grant.

## Malaysia

• Kota Kinabalu - 2<sup>nd</sup> Asia Parks Congress increased recognition of indigenous rights

• Eight indigenous people engaged with RSPO, wrongdoing palm oil companies and buyers.

## Indonesia

• North Sumatra - Toba Batek mobilise to halt pulp/paper concessions on their lands

• Two communities filed RSPO complaints about palm oil takeover of lands (West Sumatra)

• Kalimantan - community field study to improve HCVN screening tool (Central Kalimantan)

• Long Isun - Dayak Bahau continued FSC quest for remedy from Harita group, but it broke down, but subsidiaries suspended from FSC system

• Guidance improved on the Social Requirements of the HCSA standard (Singapore)

• HCSA advice note clarifies community rights on swidden areas (Singapore)

• North Kalimantan - ADB Board delayed high-risk road project affecting Dayak Lundayeh

• Sumatra - Akit and Suku Anak Rawa peoples researched impacts of APRIL pulpwood and oil palm plantations (Riau); Talang Mamak peoples' complaint to RSPO against Samsung-owned PT INECDA (Jambi)

• Rapid response legal support for Dayak Agabag facing false criminal charges (North Kalimantan).

# Land, forests and territories



An Ogiek homestead, looking towards the peak of Mount Elgon. On the far right an older man is inspecting a raised enclosure for sheep and goats to sleep in overnight, out of reach of hyenas. In the centre a young family member looks after a child in front of their family homestead. Notice the woolly hats given that days can be cold in such homesteads that are at over 10,000 feet. Credit Justin Kenrick, FPP

**Recognising land rights is vital** for the security, cultural survival and livelihoods of forest communities, and the ecosystems on which they depend. Forest Peoples Programme supports indigenous and forest peoples to secure their land rights by equipping them with tools to manage and safeguard their territories and create the political spaces to assert their rights at the national, regional, and international levels.

FPP expanded the **Forest Visions Partnership** to support self-determined projects with the Wacuco Guna (Panama), Donderskamp community (Suriname), Resguardo Cañamomo Lomoprieta (Colombia), Wampis Nation (Peru), Assoumindele and Se'eh communities (Cameroon), Mt Elgon Ogiek (Kenya) and Toba Batak (Indonesia). This partnership directly supports forest peoples through providing flexible, immediate, and sustained funding to support their self-determined visions for their lands. Supporting the resilience of indigenous culture at this crucial moment, when the geographic and political landscape is changing rapidly, is a vital foundation for protecting indigenous peoples' territories, combatting climate change, and preserving biodiversity.

During 2022 FPP expanded the Indigenous Navigator, an indigenous-led programme for proactive **monitoring of human rights in indigenous territories and areas**, to include partners in Uganda and Guyana. The **Transformative Pathways project** was launched in August. Led by indigenous organisations in five countries and supported by FPP and other global partners, the six-year project supports collective actions towards self-determined land and resource governance, biodiversity conservation and sustainable livelihoods and progressive elements of the 2022 Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework agreed under the Convention on Biological Diversity.

FPP continued advocating for **human rights to be at the core of conservation agendas**, with ongoing support to Batwa communities evicted from the Kahuzi-Biega National Park in DRC. The Batwa have long argued that if allowed to return to their lands and work with the management of the Park, they could significantly assist protection of Kahuzi-Biega's ecosystems. FPP supported a national-level multi-stakeholder dialogue with park authorities for the Batwa to present a pathway that secures their forestlands and their

***“Our homes are the hub of the most biodiverse and healthy ecosystems. Our contributions to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity shall be recognized, respected, and fulfilled.”***

*Ms. Jantanee, Inter Mountain Peoples Education and Culture in Thailand Association (IMPECT)*

rights. The new park manager, the Wildlife Conservation Society, offers a potential reset of the previously poor relationship between park management and the Batwa. Work with partners to challenge dispossession of lands by protected areas continued in multiple other contexts, including Peru, Kenya, Uganda, Liberia, Republic of Congo, and Indonesia.

Support for **community-led protection and conservation of biodiversity** continued with a series of assemblies held by 11 forest and pastoralist communities from Tanzania, Uganda, DRC, and Kenya. The assemblies were led by women and convened and hosted by the communities themselves. The long-term strategy is to foster mutual support between communities in ways that centre the more marginalised and enable sharing of learning and experience. The assemblies produced a collective Declaration and five participants went on to make effective input to the 1<sup>st</sup> African Protected Areas Congress in Kigali, Rwanda.

Inputs to **regional and international level conservation policy** continued with FPP-supported events for indigenous peoples' organisations and local community representatives leading up to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Asia Parks Congress in May and the 1<sup>st</sup> African Protected Areas Congress in July. Indigenous-led declarations, formally presented to the congresses, resulted in significant new language in the final Kinabalu Declaration and the Kigali Call to Action, calling for redress for historic and on-going harms inflicted by conservation on indigenous peoples and for free, prior and informed consent in the declaration of new sites. Indigenous participants were also able to hold direct talks with conservation managers in the margins of the Congresses. To mark the occasion of the 1<sup>st</sup> African Congress, FPP launched a new briefing series on 'Transforming Conservation' in multiple languages. FPP continues to serve on the Steering Committee of the ICCA Registry, a global reporting platform for indigenous or community-led conserved territories and areas.

## Country focus

### Cameroon

FPP supported the Gbabandi platform's women's forum to commemorate International Women's Day by organising a two-day dialogue on the challenges indigenous women face in managing natural resources. Attended by more than 20 indigenous Baka and Bagyeli women, the event created a space for indigenous women to discuss perspectives for valorising non-timber forest products as well as agricultural difficulties presented by changing climate patterns.

FPP's partner Okani continued supporting Assoumindele and Se'eh indigenous communities in south-eastern Cameroon, including consultations on better protection for the 5,000 hectare Djoko community forest and boundary markings warning against illegal intrusion. Okani also facilitated a three-day 'cultural revival' exercise in the Djoko community forest aimed at developing self-esteem and leadership and reinforcing Baka identity and cultural belonging to the forest, particularly for the younger generation.

### Liberia

Programmes aimed at rapidly expanding the Liberian Protected Area system led to intensive work by FPP with partners on the potential implications for community land rights. Using the 2018 Land Rights Act, FPP and its partners engaged in dialogue and advocacy in order to prevent potential widespread exclusion, eviction and dispossession (from potentially many 100s of thousands of hectares of forest) to make way for new National Parks and other protected areas. This included working with government, conservation organisations, and donors, to explore how community-led conservation approaches present a practical and viable conservation alternative to the exclusionary protected area model, and thereby achieve a win-win for protecting forests and customary land rights.

FPP supported our partner, Social Entrepreneurs for Social Development, to urge USAID, the World Bank, and the Norwegian government to respect their internal safeguards and policies and prevent the financing of protected areas that have so far failed

to respect and secure the rights of customary landowners.

### Kenya

Assistance to Ogiek and Sengwer communities to better secure their customary lands included legal successes (see Law & Policy section) and community mapping with the Mt. Elgon Ogiek. This showed how encroachment and conservation enclosures by state agencies undermine Ogiek conservation and land management practices and highlighted the Elgon Ogiek's conservation of caves and tracks used by a distinct local population of elephants. The mapping will support community-owned land management and the rapid production of maps as needed, such as for registering lands under the Community Lands Act and potential inclusion in the global registry of Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas.

### Colombia

FPP supported the Cabildo of the Resguardo Indígena de Origen Colonial Cañamomo Lomapieta to advance the target of planting 100,000 trees to create permanent forest in critical sites in their territory,



The Embera Chamí of the Resguardo de Origen Colonial Cañamomo Lomapieta in Colombia are undertaking an ambitious landscape restoration programme planting native trees to establish permanent forests to protect and steward critical sites in their territory. Here they are planting on the summit of the Sacred Mountain named Carbuco. Photo credit: Viviane Weitzner, FPP

and to map key areas for ecosystem protection in the Cañamomo Lomapieta Indigenous Reserve and digitise the data for the community's use in land use planning and management. Strengthening the Resguardo's Geographic Information System supports their monitoring of the implementation of the 2016 Constitutional Court decision recognising their land title and helped fulfil requirements for international registration as an Indigenous and Community Conserved Area. FPP led a youth leadership training with the Nonuya, Muinane, Andoke and Nipodimaki (Uitoto) students in self-government over five days in February 2022 conducted with teachings on indigenous governance provided by traditional authorities and elders; alongside legal training provided by FPP.

### Peru

The Kichwa people's struggle for collective land titling and against the imposition of exclusionary conservation and carbon-trading

gained greater momentum, with women strengthening their leadership. The Kichwa worked with international media to highlight their struggle and engaged in negotiations with the Peruvian protected areas authority, conservation NGOs and the IUCN, in order to persuade them to adopt a new social contract for conservation with respect for indigenous self-determination. Shipibo land defenders from Santa Clara de Uchunya and neighbouring communities in Ucayali continued to resist agribusiness-led land grabbing, deforestation and intimidation. 70 members of 11 indigenous guards from across Peru and Colombia held the First International Meeting of indigenous guards across three days in the Shipibo community of Caimito to strengthen their strategies for territorial control.

The Autonomous Territorial Government of the Wampis Nation took actions to confront illegal logging and mining, in their territory of 1.3 million hectares of lowland

rainforest in the northern Peruvian Amazon. The Santa Clara de Uchunya community's efforts to gain legal recognition of their territory moved forward with the formal registration of 1500 ha of ancestral land in response to a request for title extension submitted in 2015. A territorial emergency fund enabled FPP partners across the Peruvian Amazon to respond to a series of threats, ranging from illegal logging in the Wampis territory, to contesting oil palm expansion and corporate smear tactics and threats to indigenous rights defenders in Ucayali.

### Indonesia

FPP continued to support partners YMKL, AMAN Tano Batak and local trade union SERBUNDO, to uphold the rights of the Toba Batak people. Their lands and incense forests in north Sumatra have been taken over by Toba Pulp Lestari, owned by Indonesian billionaire, Sukanto Tanoto under the Royal Golden Eagle (RGE) corporate group. Following the Toba Batak's recognition as an indigenous people under local legislation, the Ministry of Environment and Forestry recognised the customary forests of three communities, one of which overlaps Toba Pulp Lestari. The Toba Batak mobilised, securing local, national, and international support for Toba Pulp Lestari's permits to be cancelled. FPP's meetings with RGE decision makers and staff of APRIL (also owned by Tanoto) revealed that RGE does not yet recognise customary rights. This puts RGE at odds with the local Riau government – which, investigations by FPP and partners show, has recognised customary communities in APRIL's concessions. RGE is now under pressure to recognise customary rights so it can re-join the Forest Stewardship Council. FPP has commissioned a detailed study of the RGE group.

***“We are part of the land and part of the water. Indigenous Peoples must be the ones to guide us forward in protecting, conserving, and stewarding our environment.”***

*Yukon Regional Chief Kluane Adamek, head of the delegation from the Assembly of First Nations in Canada*

# Global finance and trade

FPP continued to focus on the **critical role of robust protections for human rights** to ensure the sustainability of global finance and supply chains. FPP assisted communities and local organisations in a number of countries (e.g., Colombia, Peru, Guyana, Liberia, Cameroon, Kenya and Indonesia) to challenge harmful corporate conduct and finance, demand accountability in supply chains, and promote private sector and public sector reforms.

The Zero Tolerance Initiative (ZTI) coalition, facilitated by FPP, supported communities in Peru, Brazil, Philippines, Nigeria, and Sierra Leone to mount **defences against killing and violence linked to global supply chains**. The ZTI also provided rapid funding for five acute cases in Colombia and Nepal. ZTI's engagement with Mars contributed to the company aligning its Human Rights Defender Statement with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders. ZTI advocacy with international NGOs resulted in five consumer goods companies suspending sourcing from Indonesian palm oil company Astra Agro Lestari, whose subsidiaries are criminalising local farmers and human rights defenders.

FPP continued to engage with **voluntary supply chain standards** to protect forest peoples' rights in agroforestry sectors affecting traditional territories. The Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) began a review of its Complaints Panel, after FPP revealed that the complaints system was not working. In Indonesia, FPP and partners assisted two communities to file complaints about the forced takeover of customary lands by palm oil companies.

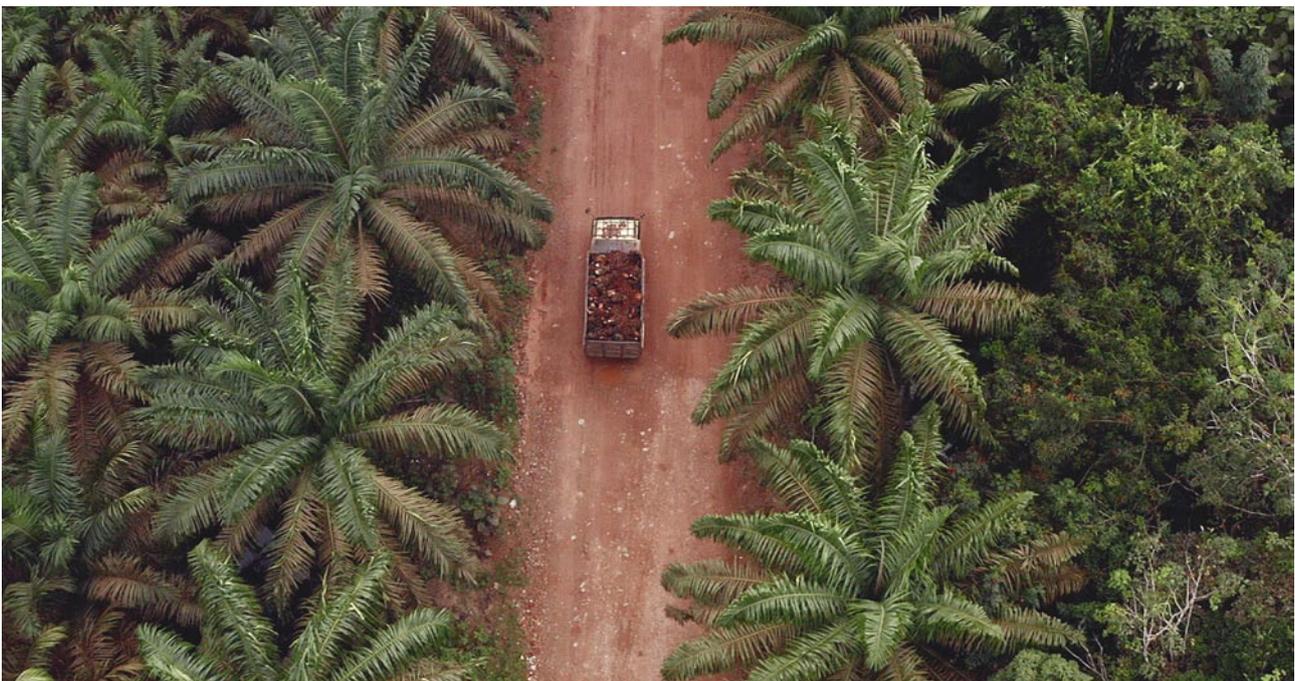
Representatives from eight indigenous peoples, that had filed RSPO complaints against Indonesian companies, presented their concerns to RSPO staff, the company managers and the downstream companies that purchase from them. After years of advocacy, the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) finally adopted a new stand-alone Remedy Framework. Companies that want to re-join the FSC must now make remedy for social and environmental harms associated with past conversion of natural forests.

***“For me, certification schemes are one amongst many tools that creates space for indigenous peoples and local communities, especially when we talk about producer countries that don't have strong human rights legal framework.”***

*Norman Jiwan is a Dayak indigenous leader from Borneo, West Kalimantan Indonesia*

In Indonesia and Colombia, FPP and partners highlighted misapplication of the Screening Tool of the High Conservation Values Network (HCVN), with FPP, HCVN and local communities beginning a field study in Kalimantan to improve this tool. In Colombia, FPP's training supported the Organization of Displaced Populations' complaint about a USAID-funded HCV Screening report. FPP contributed to the Palm Oil Collaboration Group on independent verification of corporate respect for land rights. FPP also re-joined the steering group of the

**Palm oil truck travels through FAP Agri's (First Resources) concession in Sebuku, Nunukan, North Kalimantan, Indonesia. Credit: Jamie Wolfeld**



Accountability Framework initiative (AFi) and co-organised a training webinar for companies on how due diligence in supply chain processes can ensure that collective land rights are respected.

Working with indigenous organisations and allies, **FPP continued to push for protection of human rights in supply chain and corporate due diligence legislation in the EU.** While the final text of the EU's regulation on deforestation-free products fails to include all provisions that indigenous peoples and FPP had called for, it does contain important provisions that can help communities negatively affected by commodity production to hold companies accountable. With the Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive still under negotiation, FPP produced briefings on the implications of the draft Directive for forest communities and a blog sharing local experiences of certification processes in producer countries, to highlight the need for strong legislation. **FPP also continued work to strengthen secondary regulations of the UK's forest-risk commodity legislation,** Schedule 17 of the Environment Act (2021), including through responding to a public consultation. If the further development of secondary regulations to the Environment Act ensures meaningful participation of indigenous peoples, this could bolster efforts to hold

downstream companies accountable for harms in their supply chains. Facilitated by FPP, a Shipibo-Konibo leader from Peru addressed the UK All-Party Parliamentary Group on Global Deforestation, urging that any legal obligations placed on financial institutions must include protection of human rights.

Continuing efforts to influence **global climate negotiations,** FPP, Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact and UN Development Programme launched 10 country reports at the UNFCCC's intersessional meeting in Bonn, showing how the rights, roles and knowledge of indigenous peoples are addressed in national-level climate policies and plans in Asia. With Indigenous Peoples Rights International (IPRI), FPP published a report in 2022 analysing the implications of COP26 for indigenous peoples. Further, FPP was able to support eight indigenous representatives to attend **COP27 in Egypt** where they engaged in public speaking events, collective advocacy calling for decisive action to tackle climate change and in high-level meetings – including with MEPs, representatives of the ART secretariate and in the launch of the Forest and Climate Leaders Partnership, which seeks to operationalise many commitments made at COP26. FPP assisted indigenous representatives at COP27 to gain information about international carbon markets under the UN system.

## Country focus

### Peru

Shipibo land defenders in Ucayali sent complaints to the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights about the Ocho Sur palm oil group and US-based investors, and to the OECD in Netherlands for non-compliance by agrocommodities trader Louis Dreyfus Company (LDC). Amazonian indigenous organisations also called on Ocho Sur's international palm oil buyers to demonstrate their supply chain sources are not implicated in deforestation and human rights abuses. Kichwa communities in San Martin obtained court orders uncovering large-scale carbon trading on their untitled lands in the Cordillera Azul National Park and REDD+ Project, worth over \$100 million USD and involving some of the planet's biggest polluters. FPP supported the Kichwa's efforts to denounce this and push for a new social contract for conservation that respects the rights of the Kichwa communities.

Thirteen indigenous communities in Ucayali succeeded in getting



Logs stacked in a timber yard in Sinoe County, Liberia, 2022. Following reform to key commodity sectors, such as forestry, which included mechanisms for sharing forestry industry revenues with communities, the 2018 Land Rights Act confirmed legal recognition for community ownership of customary land. The challenge now is in reconciling the implementation of those legal frameworks to enable communities to be in the driving seat for how their lands (and the natural resources on them) are owned and sustainably managed for present and future generations. Credit Tom Lomax, FPP

CEPSA Peru to withdraw from oil block 200, after years of resistance, with support from FPP. In a further win, the government suspended the Amazonian Hidrovía megaproject which indigenous peoples had opposed for facilitating commodity trade without respecting indigenous rights.

### Guyana

FPP assisted indigenous organisations and communities to gain information about – and challenge the lack of their participation and consent in – Guyana's certification of carbon credits under the TREES standard (The REDD+ Environmental Excellence Standard).

## Liberia

FPP continued to monitor the implementation of the RSPO Complaints Panel decision and stop work order in the case of Golden Veroleum Liberia. FPP supported our partner, Social Entrepreneurs for Social Development, to urge USAID, the World Bank, and the Norwegian government to respect their internal safeguards and policies and prevent the financing of protected areas that have so far failed to respect and secure the rights of customary landowners.

## Kenya

FPP supported the Sengwer Indigenous Peoples of Embobut forest to respond to the \$3 million GEF-funded Eldoret-Iten Water Fund project. The project presents itself as respecting indigenous peoples' rights and as recognising the key role of indigenous people in protecting the local environment, yet the project lacks any meaningful consultation with the Sengwer and appears to continue previous World Bank and EU projects which have sought to prepare the way for government to claim carbon credits and other benefits from appropriating indigenous peoples' lands.

## Indonesia

The Dayak Bahau of Long Isun continued to seek remedy through FSC for the harms caused by the Roda Mas Group's logging activities. However, after the company had its certificate suspended, it withdrew from FSC before the case could be addressed through FSC's new Alternative Dispute Resolution mechanism. FPP worked with Indonesian NGOs, five affected communities and an oil palm company to improve guidance on the Social Requirements under the High Carbon Stock Approach (HCSA) standard. Detailed FPP input shaped HCSA's advice note on shifting



Nipode ringo Rita Suarez of the Jurai 'Planting Stone' clan with a dubúgoi 'arrowroot' plant in her forest garden located in fallow forests surrounding Guacamayo Community, Caquetá, Colombia. Rita and a local women's group are documenting customary cultivation of edible tubers as part of self-determined intergenerational traditional knowledge transmission and native language initiatives that got underway in 2022 among Nipodimaki women – with FPP accompaniment and grant support from the Royal Anthropological Institute's Urgent Anthropological Research Fund (AFUAR), The JJ Charitable Trust and Wellspring Philanthropic Fund. Credit: Tom Griffiths, FPP

cultivation, which clarifies community rights to control, use and manage their swidden areas.

In August, FPP published a report warning that Asian Development Bank's (ADB) support for a high-risk road and infrastructure project in Kalimantan will lead to a new wave of investment, transmigration, and land-grabbing, to the detriment of Dayak indigenous peoples, unless safeguards are applied. After 23 national and international NGOs, including FPP, called for the territorial rights of the Dayak peoples to be recognised and legally secured before

the project can go ahead, the ADB Board announced a delay in the project and that there would be a public consultation.

Working with local partner, Bahtera Alam, FPP helped the Akit and Suku Anak Rawa peoples of Riau Province in Sumatra with a field study of their customary rights and the impacts of imposed pulpwood and oil palm plantations. At the same time, FPP had meetings with APRIL on how they should make remedy for violations of these rights in the frame of FSC's new policies.

***“There will be no COP that will save us from this climate crisis, but as long as we have breath of life left we will continue to fight, raising the cry of the Amazon, in defence of life, land, water, and above all, we will raise our voices for the future of our children.”***

*Marisol García Apagueño, leader of the Tupac Amaru indigenous community and secretary of the Federation of Kichwa Indigenous Peoples of Chazuta Amazonas (FEPIKECHA), Peru*



Delivery of the landmark Reparations Judgement from the African Court of Human and Peoples' Rights and its implementation in favour of the Mau Ogiek in Kenya on 23 June 2022. Credit Lucy Claridge, FPP

FPP's legal programme supports **indigenous and forest peoples to use legal tools for maximum effectiveness** – often in partnership with local lawyers and civil society organisations – to gain control over their traditional lands, territories, and resources. Our lawyers and legal experts provide advice and support through grassroots capacity-building and regional sharing activities, the use of national and regional courts, human rights law mechanisms and grievance mechanisms, and support for legal reform and human rights advocacy within countries.

FPP's innovative **Strategic Legal Response Centre (SLRC)** continued to grow in 2022, offering flexible support for strategic legal cases and urgent responsive legal action, and supporting the 'community of practice' working on land rights and forests, including by building the legal capacity of indigenous and forest peoples in countries with little or no access to justice. The unique approach of technical legal support via country teams and partners, alongside a community-driven approach, continued to achieve significant results.

In 2022, these included several **strategic legal cases**, such as support for the landmark reparations judgement from the African Court of Human and Peoples' Rights and its

implementation, following its 2017 ruling in favour of the Mau Ogiek in Kenya. The 2022 judgement is the first to grant indigenous peoples collective title in Africa, and sets precedent by unequivocally ruling that the undisturbed possession, use and control of their lands and natural resources is fundamental for indigenous peoples' survival. Also in Uganda, a strategic case by the Batwa began its appellate stage in the Supreme Court, and SLRC also supported the Benet Mosopisyek of Teriet, Mount Elgon, to respond to human rights abuses by the Uganda Wildlife Authority.

The SLRC supported follow-up of precautionary measures at the Inter-American Commission and **litigation** at the Constitutional Court on behalf of the Bribri and Brörán peoples in Costa Rica. Other cases included the follow-up of the Court's 2007 *Saramaka v. Suriname* and 2015 *Kaliña and Lokono v. Suriname* decisions. FPP also continued to support cases brought by Bagyeli and other communities in Cameroon contesting palm oil concessions on their lands. These concessions impact about 182,000 hectares of land. Of this total, 3,348 hectares are attributed by Presidential decree to Biopalm, more than 56,000 hectares of land titles have been appropriated by the State to attribute to Biopalm and 23,000 hectares are already

***"We're not responsible for climate change, for deforestation or for the degradation of our environment. We didn't cause any of this. If people with funding want to address climate change they should use their money to help impacted communities, not to pay governments, and they should stop the cause of climate change, which are in the actions of industrialised countries."***

*Mosopisyek participant, East Africa Community Assembly, June 2022*

***“As Indigenous Peoples, we have been custodians of our lands, territories, and waters for millennia and have deep interaction with the ecosystems where we live. Evidence shows our lands are among the most biodiverse on the planet.”***

*Lakpa Nuri Sherpa, one of the Co-Chairs of the IIFB, and programme lead at AIPP (Asia), speaking at the opening of UN Biodiversity's COP15.*

matriculated on behalf of the state. In the case of CamVert, almost 40,000 hectares have already been attributed by Presidential decree, with CamVert having priority to obtain a further 20,000. The ongoing court procedures, brought by Bagyeli and other communities, are aimed at annulling the titles granted by the state and some other Decrees enacted to expropriate affected communities. There have been several written exchanges between the State's lawyers and the FPP lawyer (representing Bagyeli communities) in both the Biopalm and CamVert cases. Whereas as yet there are no visible activities of Biopalm in the field, CamVert is heavily involved in deforestation and planting of palms. The next phases of the court cases will consist of hearings and ultimately the decision from the courts.

Eleven cases received **rapid response legal support**, including the Embera Chami in the Resguardo Cañamomo Lomapieta in Colombia whose land and resource rights remain under threat despite a favourable 2016 Constitutional Court ruling. SLRC also assisted communities near Salonga National Park in Democratic Republic of Congo who have faced eviction, and the Dayak Agabag in Indonesia facing false criminal charges, as well as at least 31 indigenous human rights defenders suffering credible death-threats, harassment, and/or criminal charges.

With the resumption of **in-person capacity building and land dialogues**, SLRC exposed university students in DRC to the experiences of indigenous Batwa evicted from the Kahuzi-Biega National Park, and trained paralegals and lawyers, and supported an exchange meeting of magistrates, and law enforcement officials on indigenous and forest peoples' rights to create a network of legal practitioners. In Kenya, FPP's support to the Ogiek Council of Elders helped the community to unpack, understand and digest the implications of the African Court rulings of 2017 and 2022. In Suriname, community actions and a high-level workshop with key government decision-makers continued pressure for the legal recognition of indigenous peoples and their land and FPIC rights. Online communication between Peruvian communities and the UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples was maintained.

FPP's legal input to indigenous and forest peoples' organisations in **global standard setting and policy processes** included strengthening rights protections in the policies of the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil, Accountability Framework Initiative, Forest Stewardship Council, and the Green Climate Fund.

## Country focus

### Peru

FPP contributed legal inputs to a complaint to the Dutch OECD National Contact Point calling on the Louis Dreyfus Company to remedy its role in Amazon deforestation and human rights violations linked to Peruvian palm oil. Shipibo leaders took part in a criminal investigation of deforestation and environmental crimes led by the First Supraprovincial Corporate Prosecutor's Office Specializing in Organized Crime in Lima; the first time an indigenous community in Peru has been recognised as an aggrieved party in such an investigation. There is the possibility of compensation to the community for agribusiness-led land grabbing and deforestation.

ORPIO, IDL and FPP sent a letter to the IACHR urging the Peruvian State to

address serious violations of the rights of Indigenous Peoples in Isolation in Loreto, due to the granting of illegal forestry concessions in their territories.

FPP continued legal support for Kichwa collective land titling claims, through participation in the indigenous land titling working group convened by the Regional Government of San Martin, another working group established to deal specifically with the Cordillera Azul National Park case, and preparation of lawsuits. Moreover, FPP worked with Kichwa organisations to file urgent action requests about threats against Kichwa defenders and the exclusionary conservation and carbon trading they face to the UN Committee on Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Kichwa women were

successful in getting the San Martin high court of justice and Kichwa Indigenous organisations to adopt their intercultural protocol to protect Kichwa victims of violence. FPP also supported Shipibo leaders to bring Santa Clara de Uchunya's case for land restitution before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, following a disappointing ruling by Peru's Constitutional Court.

Finally, organisations of the Kichwa, Shipibo-Konibo and Kakataibo peoples, together with human rights organisations, submitted a shadow report to the Peruvian State for the Universal Periodic Review of the intergovernmental working group of the United Nations (UN) Human Rights Council.

### Liberia

FPP provided legal analysis and guidance for actors (including civil society organisations) working on land-based investment, community rights and tackling drivers of deforestation, in the context of the 2018 Land Rights Act (LRA) and wider legal framework. FPP supported partners' work with 14 communities in south and southeast Liberia to explore what legal support those communities may need to hold agribusiness, logging, and mining companies accountable to their human rights and environmental responsibilities.

### Republic of Congo

FPP continued to advocate for reform of the Wildlife and Protected Areas Law to recognise indigenous peoples' land, resource and FPIC rights and the customary tenure rights of local communities. FPP documented the views on conservation and natural resource use of Baka indigenous people and Bakwele communities in the Messok Dja forest, highlighting concerns related to their customary lands and forests.

### Europe

Work on legal reform included EU deforestation legislation adopted in December which now requires compliance with indigenous peoples' rights, although only if the producer country has ratified international human rights treaties or adopted national human rights legislation.

### Guyana

The High Court of Guyana found that the Akawaio and Arekuna peoples hold aboriginal communal title, the first time a Court in Guyana held aboriginal title exists in Guyana.

### Indonesia

FPP's legal team provided inputs to the Long Isun community's complaint to the FSC against the Roda Mas

group, and a complaint to the RSPO of the indigenous Talang Mamak people against Samsung-owned PT INECDA in Riau.



Workers march through central Jakarta protesting unfair contract labour practices. Civil society remains strong in Indonesia despite shrinking political space. Credit: Marcus Colchester, FPP

**“Our bylaws define our places for settlement, for grazing, sacred sites, medicinal sites. We don’t allow activities along riverbanks, nor felling or cutting of live trees. The laws that we have were there from the beginning. We have scouts to stop poachers. Our clans are named after different animals and birds. We interrelate with them, whereas the government allows our indigenous forest to be cleared, harming our trees, bees, and other animals. Elephants can’t feed on the exotic trees they plant.”**

*Elgon Ogiek participant, East Africa Community Assembly, June 2022, Kenya*

# Cultural identity and knowledge



Indigenous leaders representing the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity meet with António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations, as part of the COP15 biodiversity negotiations in Montreal. December 2022. Credit Tom Dixon, FPP

During 2022, FPP continued its long-standing collaborative partnership on **cultural and biological diversity** with partners and communities in Suriname, Guyana, Panama, Thailand, Bangladesh, Cameroon, Antigua, Tuvalu, and Madagascar. This partnership focuses on strengthening inclusive and strong leadership, customary sustainable use of resources, conservation and restoration, sustainable livelihoods, revitalisation of traditional knowledge, and empowerment of local groups to participate in key processes at national and international levels (see country details below).

FPP continued to support inputs from indigenous peoples and local communities into the negotiations of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). FPP, with its partner of 25 years, the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity, provided detailed technical analysis to three sessions in the negotiations towards the CBD's final Global Biodiversity Framework. At one of these sessions (March 2022), FPP worked with the UK Government, the Government of Norway, and Rainforest Foundation Norway to highlight the COP26 Climate Summit donors' pledge to fund tenure for indigenous people and local communities.

The 15<sup>th</sup> UN Biodiversity Summit (COP15) in Montreal adopted the Global Biodiversity Framework, which incorporates significant human rights commitments, including the recognition and respect for the land, territories and resource rights of indigenous peoples and the distinct rights of local communities. This framework will provide a structure for 30 years of multilateral action to reduce the drivers of biodiversity loss and support for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. FPP co-convoked the **Human Rights in Biodiversity Working Group**, with two publications in 2022 highlighting the importance of human rights in all biodiversity planning and action.

Local Biodiversity Outlooks, co-published by FPP and revised in 2022, has been widely cited in biodiversity negotiations and was welcomed by COP15. FPP has produced additional short policy briefs providing evidence for CBD policy makers, of indigenous peoples and local communities contribution to biodiversity.

FPP continued work with the network of **Centres of Distinction on Indigenous and Local Knowledge** by co-organising an international workshop on transmission of indigenous and local knowledge and participating in the 9<sup>th</sup> Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) where key inputs were made on the sustainable use of wild species, the assessment of values of nature, and on the impact of businesses on biodiversity.

***"In our language, we don't have the word 'nature', 'peace' or 'love'. Or 'freedom' or 'health'. Or 'fidelity' or 'loyalty'. Because that is 'me'. I am peace, I am a plant, I am freedom. That's who I am. I am all those forms..."***

*Alí Garcia Segura, Bribri community*

The **Global Network on Indigenous-led Education (ILED)** co-founded by FPP in 2021, is starting to gain traction. Through the ILED's small grants mechanism, seven grassroots ILED initiatives projects were supported in India, the Philippines, Thailand, Uganda, Kenya, Panama and Costa Rica in 2022. Some examples below, and more information can be found on this [interactive map](#). Several online knowledge exchange sessions were organised among the ILED members, including regional

exchanges on the role of gender in education. The ILED network produced its first publication **Pass it on! Stories of Indigenous-Led Education from the Grassroots**. The publication, seizing the momentum created by the start of the UN Decade on Indigenous Languages 2022-2023, spotlights various examples of self-determined education initiatives based on communities' own priorities, ways of learning, and aiming at empowering youth. The stories also reveal the many issues and challenges around education and language loss faced by indigenous peoples worldwide. The ILED network also attended the high-level launch event on the Decade, on 13 December 2022 in Paris at the UNESCO offices and joined the global (social media)

campaign on indigenous languages, highlighting the messages from the publication.

FPP participated in the **Nature Based Solutions** Conference, led by the University of Oxford, co-convened a session on indigenous and community voices and facilitated participation of Kichwa leader Marisol Garcia Apagüño, the Bolivian UNFCCC government delegate and a Masaai representative from Tanzania.

## Country focus

### Bangladesh

FPP supported partner organisation Unnayan Onneshan in the Sundarbans. They facilitate regular meetings between members of three community cooperatives, where especially the female members have intensified exchanges on their practices and ideas to improve their livelihoods and resilience (e.g., through cultivation of winter vegetables). Traditional knowledge transmission is taking place at the cooperatives between generations on sustainable harvesting practices and climate-proof innovations. Integrated mangrove aquaculture; crab and fish farming in paddy fields; and watermelon and sunflower cultivation on lands in coastal areas that were long labelled 'unproductive', are becoming more popular and successful day by day.

### Panama

FPP supported partner FPCI to implement their programme for community empowerment and capacity building in Guna Yala, focused on revival and recovery of traditional ecological knowledge and associated livelihoods and food security. This involved training sessions for community members to recover native seeds and provision of seeds, tools and technical advice for the production of staple foods in allocated field sites. To facilitate this work and strengthen the participation of Guna youth and women in the process, the Institute

"Masar Ibegun Galu" was created. A study of Indigenous Guna Knowledge on Biodiversity and Ecosystems was also done and a cartographic study was completed, based on eco-geography methodology, that lays foundations for the integrated management and protection of the territory.

Through the ILED small grant scheme, an initiative of the Guna was supported to undertake participatory and inter-generational studies about environmental and cultural issues, working with the science clubs of two schools in the Guna Yala region.

### Suriname

FPP supported the newly appointed Board of the VIDS (the Association of Indigenous Village Leaders in Suriname) to organise important strategy and visioning sessions, and to implement a self-determined approach to governance matters in the communities. Also supported expansion and strengthening of VIDS' mapping unit, and in the coastal community Galibi, helped to re-activate the local fishing association and mapping of fishing grounds; an important first step towards the development of their community-based management and governance plans including water ecosystems, responding to climate, pollution, and overfishing pressures.

### Kenya

Through the ILED small grant, the Berur women's group of the Sengwer community of Kapolet started a project called 'Growing a tree for my own breath', an initiative to teach Sengwer children about ecosystem restoration by growing trees and explaining the importance of tree planting for their own life, with input from the elder members of the community, especially the women running a tree nursery.

### Thailand

In the Northern Highlands, FPP worked with IMPECT Association to provide continued capacity building support to local indigenous leaders and the watershed network leaders, including through increased self-management of (funds for) small community projects. Through a dedicated women programme, more women are encouraged and empowered to participate in the watershed network activities. A focal issue in the watershed network meetings is the Thai National Land Policy Commission's project on the Conservation and Maintenance of Natural Resources in the National Parks, where many indigenous communities are located and a lot of uncertainty exists about the potential implications. In the trainings and exchange meetings, the local leaders spent time analysing the impacts of these laws and policies on the

***“We need policies that protect our Indigenous knowledge, we need policies that protect our languages, and we need policies to make sure that our Indigenous knowledgeable elders and communities are not overlooked as if they have nothing to contribute to our wellbeing.”***

*Robert Kugonza, Director of Friends with Environment in Development (FED), Uganda*

communities, and on practicing engagement with policy-makers (e.g. improving negotiation skills).

Through one of the ILED small grants, FPP also supported the Morwakhee Community Learning Center in Nong Mon Tha, a Karen community. This community-based education centre offers opportunities for children to study and practice indigenous life skills.

### **Madagascar**

FPP supported our partner Fanamby, who created an eco-volunteer group building awareness and capacity to become active in Loky-Manambato area biodiversity management and conservation. Four women’s associations in Loky-Manambato received training

and practical support (seeds) to increase local vegetable and fruit gardening. The project further supported the community mangrove reforestation programme (196,603 young mangroves were planted, rehabilitating an area of 40 ha) and the marine ecological monitoring of protected marine species, observing flamingo populations, tracking of sea turtles and their nesting activities.

### **Antigua and Barbuda**

FPP partnered with MEPA Trust to continue their support to local communities’ integrated, sustainable solutions and initiatives on e.g., reservoirs restoration, transforming wood waste, and recycling. Advocacy and engagement of local groups is being built and strengthened.



Members of Harinagar Banojibi (Bohumikhi) Unnayan Samity, Bangladesh loading a truck with their own produced watermelons for selling in Dhaka. Credit Md. Mumun, Unnayan Onneshan



Traditional installation ceremony of new village council in Hollandse Kamp, Suriname, in December 2022. All village councils are united in the Association of Indigenous Village Leaders in Suriname (VIDS). Credit: Gilliamo Orban

## Local partners

FPP partners with indigenous and forest peoples, their community-based organisations, and other civil society organisations to support forest peoples' struggles for the recognition of their rights. Our relationships with communities, organisations and movements are rooted in FPP's principal objective of enhancing respect for and enjoyment of forest peoples' right to self-determination.

FPP is not prescriptive about the shape of our working relationships, but takes a context-specific approach, respecting that each community is different, and every community will evolve over time. The voices and preferences of the communities with whom we work take precedence at all times. Our relationships reflect the changing needs of rights holders and their organisations, and our readiness to be flexible and responsive wherever possible. We value long-term commitment to the peoples, communities, and civil society partners we work in solidarity with – and we recognise that the struggles they face can take many years and often decades to address.

FPP has for decades deliberately facilitated partners to access funding directly, despite structural barriers to direct funding that are evident and have been well reported on in recent years. In 2022, FPP reflected on our own role in supporting increased direct financing, including through convening a Roundtable Dialogue on the role of support organisations (see publications). We see success in cases where as a result of our long-term solidarity-based support for partners and their capacity, we can swap roles so that partners become direct grantees. Should partners choose, FPP can become a partner/sub-grantee, which highlights the value of our role as a solidarity organisation to partners.

## Global allies

FPP works to connect local organisations, partners, and communities with global allies, knowing that the power of our movement is in our networks and alliances. We partner with international organisations including Indigenous Peoples Rights International (IPRI), International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA), Land Rights Now, The International Land and Forest Tenure Facility, The Land Portal, The International Land Coalition (ILC), Global Landscapes Forum, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the International Labour Organisation. We also support and value our engagement with coalitions and networks, including the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity, the UK NGO Coalition on Forests, UK Corporate Justice Coalition, EU Forest Coalition, and the European Corporate Justice Coalition, and many others.



Partners for Indigenous Knowledge Philippines is implementing the Transformative Pathways project in areas in the Cordillera region, Philippines through work streams on food, health, arts and culture, youth, and national engagement. Partner organizations gathered for an Inception Workshop held in August 2022 in Baguio City in order to be oriented on the different work streams, set common goals, and move forward with implementation. Credit PIKP

# Guiding principles

## Free, prior and informed consent (FPIC)

A community has the right to give or withhold its consent to proposed projects that may affect the lands they customarily own, occupy or otherwise use. FPP has worked to advance FPIC for many years, and it is now a key principle in international law and jurisprudence related to indigenous peoples. Although not without significant implementation failings in practice, FPIC is a key norm subscribed to by international finance institutions and a significant percentage of the private sector. It requires informed, non-coercive negotiations between investors, companies or governments and indigenous peoples prior to the development and establishment of oil palm estates, timber plantations or other enterprises on their customary lands. It means that those who wish to use the customary lands belonging to indigenous communities must enter negotiations with them. The communities have the right to decide whether they will agree to the project, or not, once they have a full and accurate understanding of the implications of the project on them and their customary land.

## Self-determination

This is a fundamental human right and means that indigenous peoples can decide their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development. They have the right to autonomy or self-government and can choose and drive their own means of subsistence or livelihoods. The right to self-determination is made explicit in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) in Articles 3 and 4. Self-determination work focuses on getting the rights and interests of forest peoples recognised in policies and programmes; supporting forest peoples to build their capacity to claim and exercise their human rights; countering top-down policies and projects that affect forest peoples; promoting community-based, sustainable forest management; coordinating NGO actions on forests in line with forest peoples' visions; and linking up indigenous and forest peoples' movements regionally and internationally.

## Land Rights

Forest peoples' identities, livelihoods, ways of life, self-determination and cultural survival are dependent on holding secure rights to their lands, territories and natural resources, which are often collectively held. Indigenous peoples and other forest peoples have exercised long-term and sophisticated customary stewardship of their lands and forests for generations. Under international law, nation states have a legal duty to recognise and respect their rights to own, use, manage and control these areas. Solidarity work and accompaniment of forest peoples to obtain land security and territorial rights are a central element in FPP's mission and its work locally and globally. FPP supports forest peoples to clarify their land rights and defend them from threats, map the way they own and use lands and forests, file claims for government recognition of these areas, and develop long-term community plans to protect the forests and natural resources that their livelihoods and cultures depend on.

## Gender

Our Gender Framework and Policy is embedded across all of FPP's programmes and aims to foster a safe and participatory environment for all genders to discuss and decide (separately or together) the rules in their own community and strategies for advancing their collective rights, on the basis of a broad human rights framework. This community-led approach ensures that our work is culturally appropriate, owned by the communities and peoples FPP works with, and sensitive to multiple and overlapping forms of discrimination. Working with indigenous women's organisations to ensure women's rights are protected in land rights struggles, FPP supports women's groups and highlights gender in the context of business and human rights. FPP also facilitates the role of women in legal reform at all levels. The Asian Indigenous Women's Network and the Indigenous Women's Biodiversity Network are amongst FPP's valued partners in this area. A key aspect of FPP's approach to gender is understanding the different and evolving roles of men and women in dealing with collective and individual property rights and transmission of cultural knowledge, and the gender dimensions of participation and representation. Fostering indigenous women's leadership and sharing experience across countries is often a critical element. FPP's work on gender is inextricably linked to our commitment to safeguarding, to address the vulnerabilities faced by women and young people in any relationship where power and resources exist.

Toba Batak woodcarving showing the links between ancestral spirits and the land. Drawing by Marcus Colchester FPP

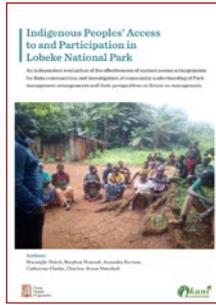
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# Publications

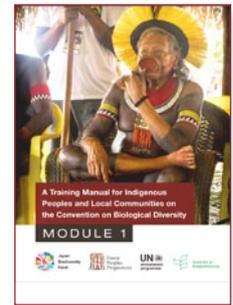
## **Indigenous Peoples' Access to and Participation in Lobeke National Park** (En, Fr)

February 2022

Independent Evaluation of the effectiveness of current access arrangements for Baka communities around Lobeke National Park, East Cameroon. This evaluation finds that 20 years after the creation of Lobeke National Park and three years after the MoU was signed, Baka communities still do not have access to their traditional territories in practice.



areas that overlap with zones high in biodiversity. These high biodiversity areas often are also rich in cultural diversity, as evidenced by the diversification of languages spoken in these areas. Considering this overlap, decisions concerning biodiversity may impact their lives. Strong knowledge about the international and national regulation and policy on biodiversity is important to enhance the full and effective participation of IPLCs in implementing the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) at all levels. This document was prepared by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity in collaboration with Forest Peoples Programme.



## **Independent Evaluation of the Complaints Mechanism and the functioning of the Mambele Human Rights Centre** (En, Fr)

February 2022

The Baka of East Cameroon face significant, in many cases insuperable, barriers to accessing State justice mechanisms. Creating a more accessible, less formal complaints mechanism which enables human rights violations to be safely raised and fairly addressed is one important way to bridge the gap between the rights Baka have on paper and what they can do in practice.



## **How to protect indigenous territories in the Peruvian Amazon? / Titulación que no llega, obligaciones no cumplidas: ¿Cómo proteger los territorios indígenas de la Amazonía peruana?** (Sp)

March 2022

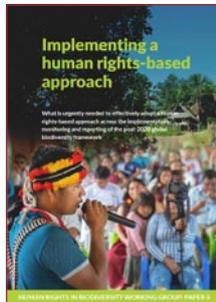
This report brings together analysis from four specialists with experiences from different regions in Peru contributing to the long search for suitable measures to defend the territories of indigenous peoples in the Peruvian Amazon.



## **Implementing a human rights-based approach to biodiversity conservation - Paper 3** (En, Sp)

March 2022

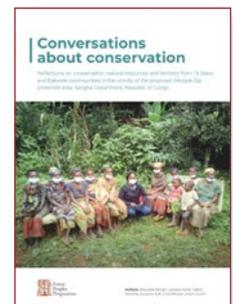
The Human Rights in Biodiversity Working Group established in Chiang Mai, 2020 have collaboratively compiled this 3<sup>rd</sup> human rights analysis of "Draft One of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework". This briefing lays out a way forward to ensure that Human Rights are central to this agreement.



## **Conversations about Conservation** (En, Fr)

April 2022

Reflections on conservation, natural resources and territory from 16 Baka and Bakwele communities in the vicinity of the proposed Messok Dja protected area, Sangha Department, Republic of Congo. This paper summarises the perspectives of Baka (indigenous) and Bakwele (Bantu) communities living in the Messok Dja forest block on conservation and natural resource use, as well as highlighting key issues of concern for these communities related to their customary lands and forests.



## **Briefing: Indigenous Peoples, local communities and area-based conservation targets** (En, Sp)

March 2022

This briefing seeks to bring greater clarity to the intersection between the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework and the land and resource rights, collective governance and self-determination of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, particularly in the context of Target 3.



## **Preventing human rights violations associated with deforestation: why reliance on local laws is not enough** (En)

April 2022

This briefing sets out 4 short case studies from Peru, Cameroon, Guyana and Indonesia, which demonstrate what "protection" by national law means in practice for indigenous peoples and local communities, and why it is critical that the legislative proposals are enhanced to support full protection of the rights of both indigenous peoples and of local communities that are affected by agricultural commodity production.



## **Community conservation in Cameroon** (En, Fr)

May 2022

The rich biodiversity of Cameroon's forest ecosystems is world renowned. These ecosystems are also home to peoples who have lived there for centuries. In many cases, these peoples have been able to preserve islands of biodiversity around their communities through their use of the land, despite a range of challenges and pressures.

Against this backdrop, this study analyses how far the Cameroonian legal framework (and government policy) takes account of community conservation. It then examines stakeholder perceptions of community conservation initiatives. Finally, it identifies the main features of community conservation practice in Cameroon.



## **Nationally Determined Contributions in Asia: Are Governments recognizing the rights, roles and contributions of Indigenous Peoples?** (En)

June 2022

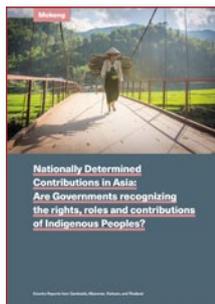
For decades, Indigenous Peoples have been advocating for their rights, knowledge, and traditional sustainable practices to be recognized in international climate change negotiations and to be included in related international and national climate mitigation and adaptation plans and agreements. At this key moment in international efforts to curb climate change, the results of the study are documented in 10 country-level reports incorporating a gender perspective, which also identify Indigenous Peoples' practices that are already contributing to the goals of the Paris Agreement. This regional report synthesizes the findings and recommendations from the country-level studies.



## **NDCs in the Mekong: Are Governments recognizing the rights, roles and contributions of Indigenous Peoples?** (En)

June 2022

The Mekong report presents findings and key recommendations from Cambodia, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam.



## **NDCs in South Asia: Are Governments recognizing the rights, roles and contributions of Indigenous Peoples?** (En)

June 2022

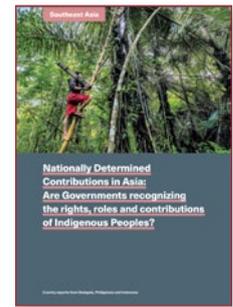
The South Asia report presents findings and key recommendations from Bangladesh, India and Nepal.



## **NDCs in Southeast Asia: Are Governments recognizing the rights, roles and contributions of Indigenous Peoples?** (En)

June 2022

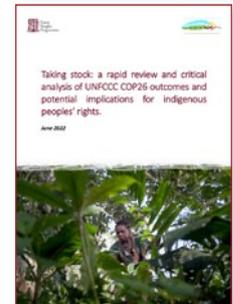
The Southeast Asia report presents findings and key recommendations from Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines.



## **Taking stock: a rapid review and critical analysis of UNFCCC COP26 outcomes and potential implications for indigenous peoples' rights** (En, Sp)

June 2022

This policy paper builds on a paper published in the lead up to COP26 which critically reviewed indigenous peoples' rights in international climate policies and finance. It seeks to take stock of and analyse some of the formal outcomes from the UNFCCC process, as well as government and private sector initiatives and pledges on the margins of COP26, and preliminarily assess some possible implications for indigenous peoples.



## **Assurer la Participation des Femmes dans la Foresterie Communautaire / Ensuring Women's Participation in Community Forestry in Cameroon** (Fr)

June 2022

This study analyses women's involvement in the management of the Djoko community forest, Cameroon. Community forests were first invoked during the reform of the 1994 forest law in Cameroon. This was to allow communities to have an area that they could manage in a participatory manner and in which they could carry out activities within the framework of a convention signed with the state, through the Ministry of Forests and Wildlife (MINFOP).



## **Transforming conservation** (En, Fr, Sp, Bahasa Indonesia)

This is briefing Number 1 of the briefing series Transforming Conservation: from conflict to justice. Forest Peoples Programme and partners have encountered and documented human rights violations against indigenous peoples and local communities associated with conservation over the course of decades of work. However, changes to practice on the ground have too often been limited or quickly reversed, despite repeated calls by human rights organisations over decades.



## **Using 'security issues' to seize community lands for 'conservation'** (En, Fr, Swahili)

July 2022

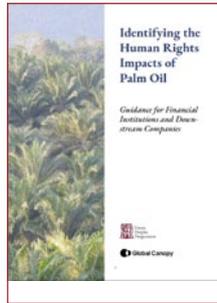
This is briefing Number 2 of the briefing series Transforming Conservation: from conflict to justice. From Eastern Congo to the coast of Kenya, "security" crises are

used to evict forest peoples, creating greater insecurity in the process. We compare this practice in relation to the Batwa in present day Kahuzi-Biega (DR Congo), the Ogiek in 1980s Mt Elgon (Kenya), the Benet Mosopisyek both at Mt Elgon in 2008 (Uganda), and the Aweer in Lamu County from 1963 to 1967 (Kenya).

**Identifying the Human Rights Impacts of Palm Oil: Guidance for Financial Institutions and Downstream Companies** (En)

July 2022

This report carried out by Forest Peoples Programme for the Global Canopy compiles what is known about the human rights impacts of palm oil development and provides guidance on how to address these abuses.



The study was conceived as a contribution to the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosure (TFND), an industry-NGO consortium developing a framework to ensure that financial institutions and downstream companies have a positive, not negative, effect on nature.

**Pass it on! Stories of Indigenous-led Education from the Grassroots** (En, Sp)

August 2022

Celebrating Indigenous Languages with the launch of the first ILED Spotlight Publication of the Global Network on Indigenous-led Education. Indigenous Peoples comprise less than 6% of the global population, yet they speak 4000 of the world's 6700 languages. Some estimates say that up to 95% of the world's languages will be gone by the end of the century—most of these being Indigenous languages. It is estimated that one Indigenous language falls into disuse every 2 weeks.



**ADB and the Australian Government propose high-risk road project that will pierce the heart of Borneo** (En, Bahasa Indonesia)

August 2022

The proposed project – a partnership of the Asian Development Bank and the Australian Government – at present does not require consultation with indigenous communities and lacks safeguards to ensure respect for community rights and protection of the environment. This report finds that the proposed 'National Roads Development Project' in Indonesian Borneo is likely to result in land-grabbing from local peoples, palm oil expansion, and deforestation on indigenous land unless appropriate safeguards are properly applied.



**What will the European Commission's proposed Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive mean for the human rights of indigenous peoples and of local communities?** (En, Fr, Sp, Bahasa Indonesia)

September 2022

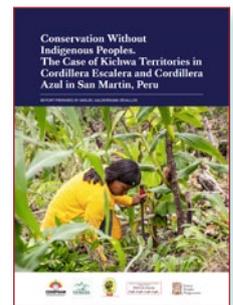
On 23 February 2022, the European Commission adopted a proposal for a directive on corporate sustainability due diligence. FPP analyses the proposal and its potential impacts for forest peoples, including the many gaps to fill to ensure an effective protection of the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities.



**Conservation Without Indigenous Peoples. The Case of Kichwa Territories in Cordillera Escalera and Cordillera Azul in San Martin, Peru** (Sp, En)

November 2022

This report aims to show how the implementation of the Cordillera Azul National Park (PNCAZ) and the Cordillera Escalera Regional Conservation Area (ACR-CE), created in 2001 and 2005, respectively, threaten the continuity of the Kichwa people's territorial occupation in the San Martin region, as well as their traditional forms of control and usufruct.



**First Resources' shadow hangs over the Dayak Agabag** (En, Bahasa Indonesia)

November 2022

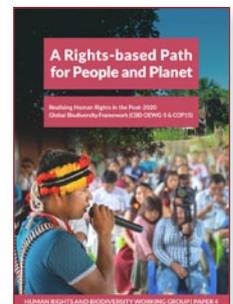
In the Palm Oil sector, it is increasingly common for corporate groups owned by an individual or family to conceal control of problematic assets. Concealed ownership helps shield corporations from accountability for operations they control. This Briefing documents the situation of the Dayak Agabag of Indonesian Borneo in the Province of North Kalimantan, whose lands have been taken over by two palm oil companies.



**A Rights-based Path for People and Planet – proposals for realising human rights in the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework – Paper 4** (En, Sp)

November 2022

This briefing was prepared by the Human Rights and Biodiversity Working Group as input into the negotiations under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in December 2022 to finalise the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF). It highlights what it takes to integrate a human rights-based approach (HRBA) and how it can be done to ensure an effective, inclusive, equitable and just implementation of the GBF and the achievement of its goals and targets.



# Films and videos

## **Dispossession**

Documentary showing the exclusionary conservation model faced by the Kichwa people of Peru (*Spanish only*)

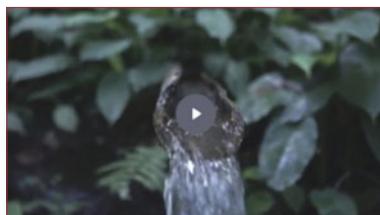


As part of the **Local Biodiversity Outlooks initiative**, FPP carried out a digital storytelling project which included the creation of 10 films. These films tell the stories and experiences of indigenous peoples and local communities in their actions to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity. Explore all of the films [here](#) on the Local Biodiversity Outlooks website

**Films made by upcoming indigenous filmmakers.** The filmmakers were provided with a brief that was intentionally loose to allow them the creative freedom to choose a topic and approach that suited them, but that addressed the cultural-ecological crisis being faced. The filmmakers filmed and produced videos that represent their community, culture and perspectives, showing how indigenous peoples and local communities are working to halt the loss of biodiversity in their territories.

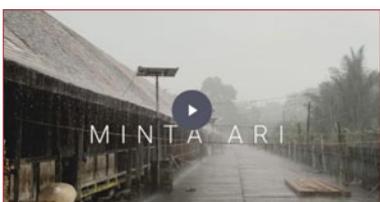
## **Ruma'mus Ung Gio: A ritual to honour ancestral connections to a sacred spring in Indonesia**

By Kalfein Michael Wuisan.



## **Minta Ari: A ritual to call for an end to torrential rain in Indonesia**

By Kynan Tegar



## **A series of films to highlight several key issues in the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework negotiations.**

This series was produced by *If Not Us Then Who* to ensure that they were stylistically consistent, but wherever possible, FPP worked with local filmmakers to capture the content to both support the local film economy and to reduce travel. These films highlight the direct link between how the actions of indigenous peoples and local communities can positively contribute to global biodiversity policy.

## **Community mapping projects prove Ogiek land belongs to them**



## **The Wampis Nation demand national and international recognition for conserving and protecting their territory**



## **How members of the Maya Kaqchikel community predict changes in the weather**



## **Hiding in the Shadows: The Case of the Palm Oil Company PT KHL, Indonesia**

In the palm oil sector, it is increasingly common for corporate groups owned by an individual or family to conceal control of problematic assets. Concealed ownership helps shield corporations from accountability for operations they control.



## **East Africa Assembly on Land Justice and Indigenous Peoples' cooperation**

In June 2022, ten indigenous peoples' communities from Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania came together for the 'East Africa Assembly on Land, Justice and Indigenous Peoples' Co-operation', the first round of a series of women-led community-to-community assemblies to explore how to overcome the legacy of colonial conservation in Africa and put an end to indigenous land appropriation.



# Financial summary

We are extremely grateful to all of our donors for their support for our programmes of work in 2022. We were pleased to enter 2022 in a relatively secure financial position, partly due to the multi-year funding that began in 2021 from Arcadia, SwedBio, CLUA, BMUV and Good Energies. This not only allows us to follow through the work from one year to the next with confidence but also gives space to focus on the work on the ground without the immediate concern of cliff edges in funding.

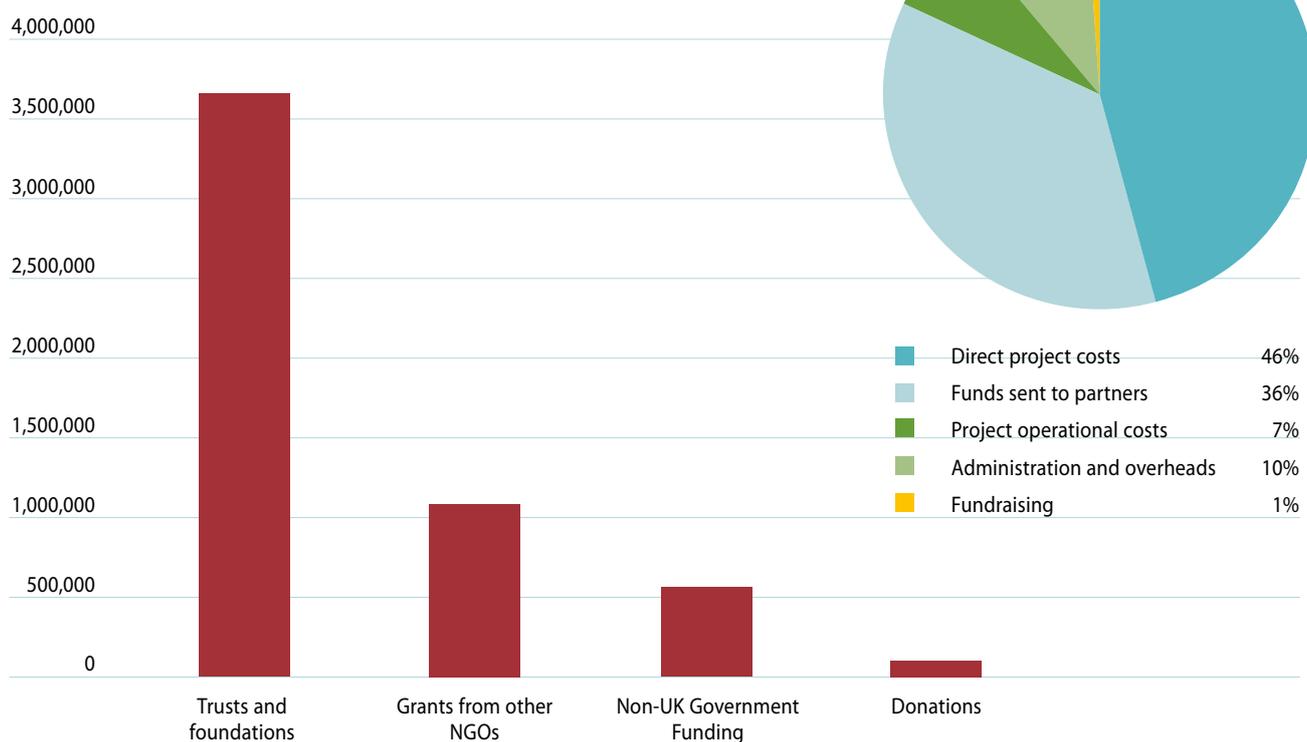
The comparatively smaller grants that we receive importantly provide more flexibility to the work. We also highly value the unrestricted funding that we receive, which is essential in shoring up all the work and enables us to be responsive to urgent needs. We are very fortunate to be a recipient of a five-year Ford BUILD grant that began in 2022, which is allowing us to invest in measures at both an operational and strategic level but will also help to secure the work of FPP going forward.

Following the difficulties experienced during the Covid pandemic, there was a strong appetite within the FPP team to get back to the field to work with partners on the ground. With the increase in activities at both the local and global level, FPP took on several new members of staff during 2022 to implement our mission and strengthen our operational and strategic organisational resilience.

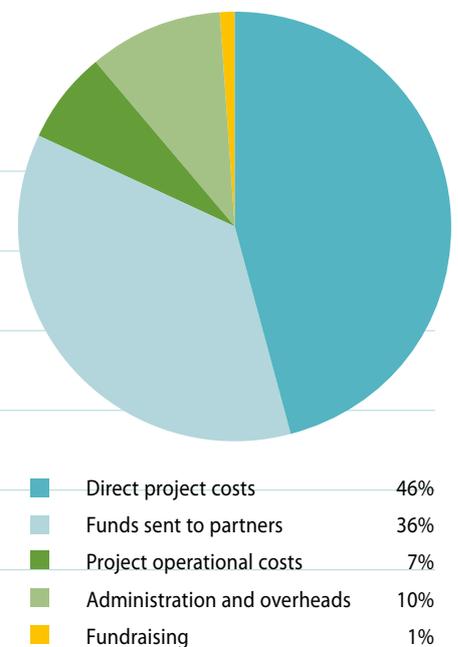
Our [financial statements](#) are available through our website.

**FPP sources of funding 2022 – £5,448,000**

Income received (£)



**FPP expenditure 2022 – £4,598,000**



# Board of trustees and staff

## Board of Trustees

**Michel Pimbert** Chair  
**Séamus P Finn** Treasurer  
**Richard Williams** Chair of Audit Committee

**Marie-Josée Artist**  
**Cathal Doyle** (until June 2022)  
**Lucy Erickson**  
**Robie Halip**  
**Carol Kalafatic**

## Board of Trustees FPP NL

**Tamara Mohr** Chair  
**Janneke Bruil** Secretary  
**Richard Williams** Treasurer

## Staff

### Key Management Personnel on FPP's Programme Coordination and Management Team (PCMT)

**Tom Lomax** Director, Senior Lawyer  
**Louise Henson** Managing Director  
**Helen Tugendhat** Coordinator, Environmental Governance Programme  
**Tom Griffiths** Coordinator Responsible Finance Programme (to May 2022)  
**Oda Almás Smith** Coordinator Responsible Finance Programme (from May 2022)  
**Lucy Claridge** Acting Coordinator Legal and Human Rights Programme, Head of Strategic Legal Response Centre (to October 2022)  
**Cathal Doyle** Coordinator Legal and Human Rights Programme, Head of Strategic Legal Response Centre (from October 2022)  
**Anouska Perram** Senior Lawyer (also Coordinator of FPP NL)  
**Andrew Gray** Finance Lead (to May 2022)  
**Brian Rault** Institutional and Grants Finance Manager (from May 2022)  
**Tom Dixon** Communication and Media Manager

## Staff

**Oda Almás Smith** Policy Advisor (to May 2022)  
**Patrick Anderson** Policy Advisor, Indonesia  
**María del Rosario Arango Zambrano** Project Officer, Colombia  
**Dalton Aweleka Gbapo** Project Officer (from November 2022)  
**Naomi Baird** Indonesia Programme Assistant (from Dec 2022)  
**Ligia Baracat** UK Policy Project Officer (from June 2022)  
**Michèle Batende** Gender and

Safeguarding Officer, Cameroon (until April 2022)

**Claire Bracegirdle** Project Officer  
**Joji Cariño** Senior Policy Advisor  
**Lucy Claridge** Senior Counsel (from October 2022)  
**Catherine Clarke** Country Lead, Cameroon (to May 2022)  
**Xilo Clarke** EGP Project Officer (from September 2022)  
**Marcus Colchester** Senior Policy Advisor  
**Jane Dennett** Administration Assistant  
**Lara Dominguez** Lawyer (from November 2022)  
**Jhovana Espinoza** Project Finance Officer (from April 2022)  
**Gavin Fielding** Project Officer (ZTI) and Finance Officer  
**Maurizio Farhan Ferrari** Senior Policy Advisor  
**Karina Fernández** Lawyer (to June 2022)  
**Antoine Gibert** EU Policy and Advocacy officer  
**Tom Griffiths** Senior Policy Advisor (from May 2022)  
**Josephine Haworth-Lee** Gender Project Officer  
**Meg Hall** Head of Programme Engagement  
**Abigail Hearn** Management Accounts and Project Finance Officer (from May 2022)  
**Suzanne Iloki** Finance Officer (from November 2022)  
**Frances Jenner** Communication and Media Officer  
**Caroline de Jong** Policy Advisor  
**Justin Kenrick** Senior Policy Advisor  
**Chris Kidd** Policy Advisor  
**Lassana Kone** Lawyer  
**Cath Long** Policy Advisor  
**Adam Lunn** ZTI Global Facilitator  
**Angus MacInnes** Project Officer  
**Fergus MacKay** Senior Counsel  
**Lina Martínez** Administration Officer, Colombia  
**Lan Mei** Lawyer and Indonesia Programme Coordinator  
**Angela Paola Mera Mejía** Peru Project Officer  
**Chantelle Murtagh** Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Lead; Project Manager (from Oct 2022)  
**Joel Missoka** Project Officer (from August 2022)  
**Kate Newman** Logistics and Administration Manager; Charity Secretary (from March 2022)  
**Stephen Nounah** Lawyer, Cameroon

**Macnight Nsioh** Country Lead, Cameroon

**Julia Overton** Publications Coordinator  
**Manjeet Panesar** Grant Finance Manager  
**Matías Pérez Ojeda del Arco** Peru Advocacy Coordinator  
**Agata Pilarz** Project Manager  
**Brian Rault** Finance Officer (to May 2022)  
**Sarah Roberts** Charity Secretary (to March 2022) Finance Advisor (from March 2022)  
**Tom Rowley** Mapping & Monitoring Officer  
**Nelsith Sangama** Peru Project Officer  
**Niya Seklemova** Digital Communication Officer (from June 2022)  
**Sally Taylor** Finance Officer  
**Clare Whitmore** Technical Liaison Officer  
**Peter Willis** Finance Manager (to March 2022)  
**Nathalia Ulloa** Costa Rica Programme Coordinator  
**Audrey Versteegen** Mapping and Monitoring Officer (from Sept 2022)  
**Tom Younger** Policy Advisor

## Associates

In 2022 our group of Associates acted as advisors to our Board and Staff. Associates are experts in their field, and are invited, known and trusted allies of our work. We thank:

**Helen Newing**  
**Jérémie Gilbert**  
**Norman Jiwani**  
**Conrad Feather**  
**Catherine Clarke**  
**Gordon Bennett**

## Volunteers and Interns

We thank:

**Anni Bangiev** (from September 2022) SLRC  
**Jason Gardiner** (from September 2022) LHRP  
**Melissa Kay** (May-July 2022) SLRC  
**Rebecca Sokolow** (May-August 2022) SLRC



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FPP holds Special Consultative Status with UN ECOSOC and has Observer Status with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights.

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[www.forestpeoples.org](http://www.forestpeoples.org)

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*The motif on this backcover is drawn from an ancient indigenous petroglyph located on rock clusters in Wapichan wiizi 'territory' in SW Guyana, South America. Credit: South Rupununi District Council*