



Land is Life

20 23 Annual Report

Advancing Self-Determination
- Indigenous Peoples Leading
Change



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INTRODUCTION



Land is Life

Letter from the Board

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Throughout 2023, Land is Life remained steadfast in our commitment to support Indigenous communities and defend Indigenous Peoples' rights around the world. Our work continues to be guided by a fundamental principle: Indigenous Peoples must be free to live in and safeguard their ancestral territories, following their own traditions, principles, priorities, and visions for the future. The past year brought both significant achievements and sobering challenges. Indigenous communities worldwide faced intensifying pressures from climate change, destructive industries, and the lingering effects of the pandemic. These challenges have only strengthened our resolve and demonstrated that our unbroken, daily commitment to grassroots work is needed more than ever. We are proud to report that 2023 marked a year of meaningful expansion for Land is Life. We launched our Indigenous Women's Program, recognizing the vital role that Indigenous women play in their communities and their leadership in protecting traditional knowledge and territories. Additionally, our new Indigenous-led Agroecology Fund began strengthening Indigenous communities' food systems and food sovereignty across Sub-Saharan Africa.

These new initiatives complement our ongoing programs, where we continue to stand with Indigenous Peoples around the world who are facing human rights violations and oppression. Our work spans from supporting Indigenous rights defenders to advancing Free, Prior and Informed Consent, and protecting Indigenous Peoples living in voluntary isolation.

None of these achievements would have been possible without the unwavering support of our donors and funders, who share our vision and stand in solidarity with our global network of Indigenous leaders, communities and activists. Your commitment enables us to continue this vital work.

As we look ahead, we remain dedicated to amplifying Indigenous voices, defending collective rights, and supporting Indigenous-led solutions to the challenges facing their communities and territories. The path forward requires our continued vigilance, dedication, and partnership with Indigenous Peoples worldwide.

With gratitude and determination,

The Board of Directors Land is Life

Who We Are



Land is Life is a diverse, Indigenous-led, international coalition working to advance the self-determination and collective rights of Indigenous Peoples. Indigenous Peoples and their representative organizations play a central role in the coalition's governance structure, which ensures that our work is focused on priorities identified by Indigenous Peoples themselves, is transparent, and has the flexibility necessary to respond to unexpected challenges and opportunities.



Our Mission

The mission of Land is Life is to advance a process of dialogue and strategic action to achieve legal recognition of, and respect for – at the local, national and international levels – Indigenous Peoples’ rights to self-determination and collective ownership of their territories, lands, resources and knowledge.

Our Vision

We live for the day when Indigenous Peoples around the world are able to practice self-determination; when our human, economic, social, cultural, political, and territorial rights are recognized and respected; when we are free to speak our languages, maintain our sacred traditions and continue the work of caring for our ancestral homelands. We work towards the day when Indigenous Peoples are recognized as valued members of the international community, and we are allowed to assume our rightful roles as partners in the search for a more equitable, just, and suitable world.

From the Arctic to the Amazon, from Siberia to South Africa, from West Papua to Rwanda, we envision genuinely democratic and autonomous Indigenous Peoples’ territories, where we can live according to our own economic, social and political institutions, maintain and develop our cultures, and pursue our own models of development. This, we believe, is necessary not only for our survival and continuity as distinct cultures, but also to maintain the ecological, hydrological and climatic stability of the entire planet.

We are a global team

Land is Life is staffed by a passionate team of Indigenous leaders, activists and allies based around the world and bound by a common

mission to support the movement for self-determination. As threats to our team and partner’s safety and security continue to grow, we have chosen against listing all of our staff on our public website.

Our Governance

Land is Life’s Board of Directors brings together Indigenous leaders and activists from various fields of expertise, who are deeply committed to the cause of defending and protecting Indigenous peoples’ rights and territories throughout the world

Our Approach

Since its founding, Land is Life has played an important role in the struggles of Indigenous Peoples around the world, working in partnership with communities to advance their rights locally, nationally and internationally. Today, Indigenous Peoples’ communities and organizations from around the world – from the heart of the Amazon, to the plains and forests of Africa, the islands of the Pacific, and the Arctic tundra – depend on the strategic, financial and moral partnership that Land is Life provides. Our work focuses on the full-breadth of threats faced by Indigenous communities at the hands of governments, extractive industries, and others, including: political and economic marginalization, loss of land and food systems, human rights violations, etc. Our approach is rooted in collaboration and trust, recognizing that those who live at the grassroots should take the lead in determining solutions.

Our Reach

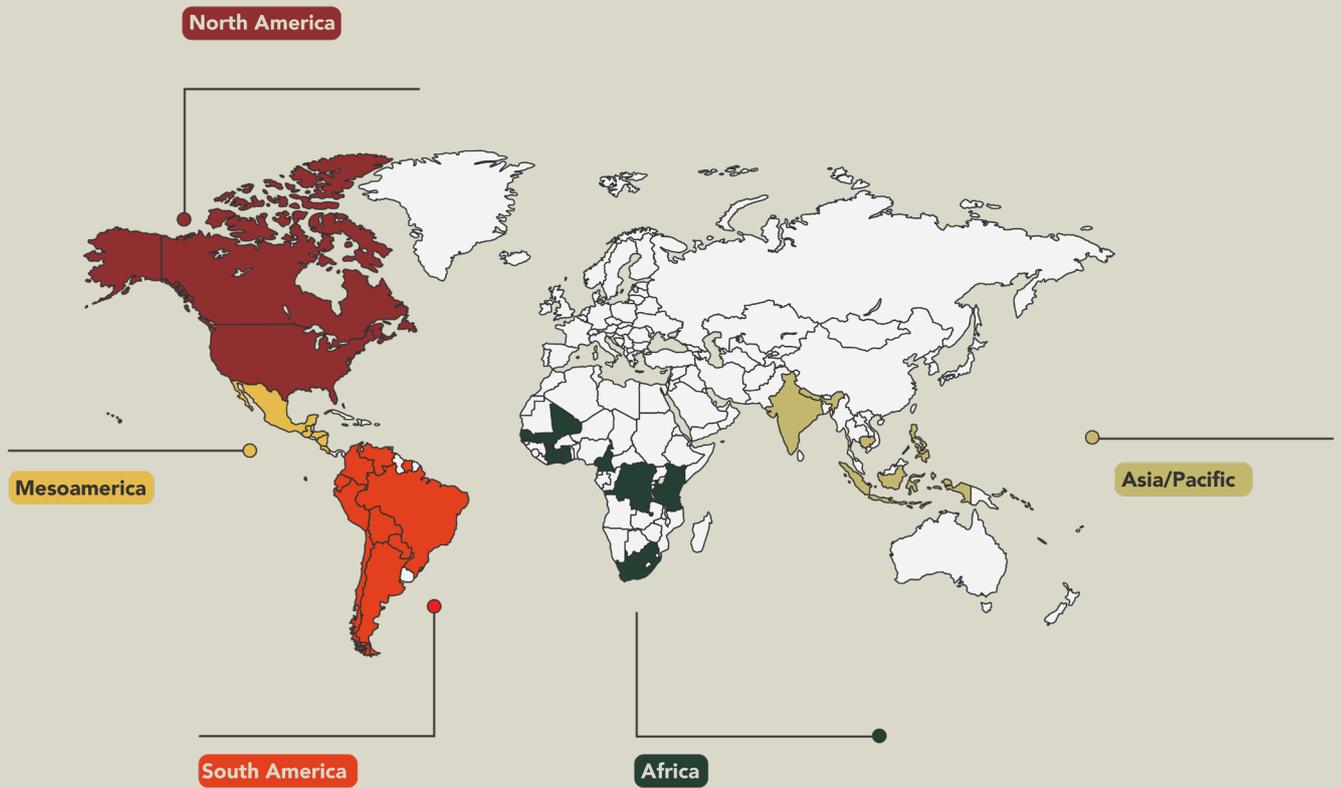
91%

of our funding goes directly to Indigenous Peoples

Through this support, Land is Life provided direct support to 53 grassroots Indigenous Peoples' partner organizations

In 2023, our organization continued to expand its global impact, providing Indigenous Peoples' communities and organizations in **35 countries** funding, technical and campaign support for a range of projects. Disbursing a total of **\$3,420,068.37 to 53 grassroots Indigenous Peoples' partner organizations**, Land is Life strengthened Indigenous Peoples' self-determination and collective rights in Latin America, Africa, North America, Asia/Pacific, and beyond. Here's a closer look at how we distributed our funds and the regions we reached:





North America

United States · Canada

Mesoamérica

Mexico · Nicaragua · Guatemala · Honduras · Costa Rica

South America

Colombia · Ecuador · Perú · Argentina · Brasil · Venezuela · Surinam · Bolivia · Paraguay · Panamá · Chile

Africa

Kenya · Senegal · Côte d'Ivoire · Cameroon · Uganda · Democratic Republic of Congo · South Africa · Tanzania · Mali · Ghana

Asia/Pacific

Cambodia · West Papua · Philippines · Indonesia · India · Nepal

PROGRAMS



1

Protection of Peoples Living in Voluntary Isolation and Initial Contact (PIACI)

There are approximately 200 distinct Indigenous Peoples, over 10,000 individuals, Living in Voluntary Isolation and Initial Contact in the Amazon Basin and the Gran Chaco. Land is Life partners with **11 Indigenous Peoples' organizations and 8 non-governmental organizations in the eight countries of the Amazon and Gran Chaco** where PIACI live to to prevent encroachment, aggression, forced assimilation, and acts and processes of genocide.

We provide targeted resources to Indigenous communities neighboring PIACI territories to strengthen territorial protection efforts and uphold their right to self-determination. Our Indigenous-led grants support grassroots Indigenous Peoples' organizations and communities to implement participatory mapping and PIACI buffer zone monitoring programs, and to develop emergency response protocols.

GTI-PIACI Secretariat

Since its founding in October of 2019, Land is Life has served as the Secretariat of the International Working Group on Indigenous Peoples in Voluntary Isolation and Initial Contact (GTI-PIACI), leading efforts to protect the lives and territories of isolated peoples throughout the Amazon and Gran Chaco regions. As Secretariat,

Land is Life coordinates regional, cross-border actions for the protection of these communities.

In December 2022, we convened 60 Indigenous Peoples' representatives and 25 civil society organizations from across South America in Asunción, Paraguay for the annual meeting of GTI-PIACI. We gathered to analyze the current situation of PIACI and develop joint strategies to defend their collective rights amid increasing threats from illegal mining, timber concessions, oil extraction, drug trafficking, and climate change. The resulting **joint declaration** emphasized the urgent need to protect PIACI, **reaffirmed the principle of "no contact", demanded recognition and protection of PIACI territories, and condemned the regressions in the protection of their rights across the region.** It also addressed the particular situations of vulnerable groups, such as the Ayo-reo in Paraguay and Bolivia, urging governments to fulfill their responsibilities to protect and demarcate these communities' territories.

Throughout 2023 the GTI-PIACI Secretariat played a pivotal role in advancing the recognition and protection of PIACI and their territories. In Brazil and Peru, we strengthened the PIACI Programs of the Indigenous Peoples organizations COIAB, ORAU, COMARU, and AIDSESEP, helping them to achieve PIACI territorial recognition, monitor threats, and enhance advocacy actions with both local and international entities.

We raised international awareness on PIACI through key platforms such as the **United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, The UN Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, UN Framework Convention on Climate Change COP28**, and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. In March 2023, we hosted a groundbreaking transborder meeting in Iquitos, uniting Kichwa and Waorani communities from Ecuador and Peru. This gathering fostered vital dialogue and

collaboration among transborder communities, strengthening their collective strategies for protection and advocacy. Additionally, GTI-PIACI members participated in the Amazon Summit in Belem do Pará, where representatives from Indigenous Peoples organizations across the basin convened to draft a pivotal manifesto,

underscoring the urgency of regional solidarity in the face of ongoing threats to their territories. By amplifying the voices of isolated communities, we made significant strides toward long-term protection against external threats, strengthening regional solidarity and establishing robust frameworks for PIACI advocacy.



Emergency response to PIACI

Thanks to flexible funding from various donors, Land is Life was able to establish an Indigenous-led PIACI emergency fund in 2023. **The PIACI Fund supported seven PIACI initiatives across Peru, Bolivia, and Ecuador, with grants ranging from \$3,000 to \$5,000.** Grantees conducted robust monitoring and evaluation to ensure program effectiveness.

We **equipped communities with essential tools to monitor PIACI territories and establish strategic river checkpoints, effecti-**

vely combating invasion by illegal loggers, miners, and other threats. Our support extended to communities at risk of PIACI contact, providing food and supplies when isolated groups occupied local gardens and hunting grounds, preventing disease exposure.

Grantees report rapidly intensifying threats to PIACI, confirming our initial assessment and highlighting the urgent need for expanded interventions and spur governmental action to ensure these communities' survival.



2 Safety & Security of Indigenous Peoples

Land is Life accompanies Indigenous Indigenous Human Rights Defenders under threat, providing funding, legal aid and other resources to assist them, their families, organizations and communities. The ability of our coordinators to engage collective and wide-reaching regional networks has improved the safety and strengthened the capacity of Indigenous Peoples' Rights Defenders and has helped to generate public awareness on the security concerns plaguing Indigenous communities in each region.

- 1 Enhance the safety and security of Indigenous rights defenders, with priority in attention to Indigenous women leaders.

- 2 Strengthen the capacity of Indigenous Peoples to ensure the security of their organizations, communities, and families, as well as that of the individuals who work to defend their rights.

- 3 Engage governments, national and regional human rights bodies, the United Nations system, and ally organizations to address increased violence against, and criminalization of, Indigenous rights defenders, and to hold those responsible for human rights violations committed against them responsible.

While the role of Indigenous Peoples in protecting the world's forests – regardless of the country – is increasingly being recognised, they still lack adequate protection and are excluded from decision making.

In 2023, at least 196 land and environmental defenders were killed worldwide, with 49% of victims being Indigenous Peoples.

Global Witness, September 2024. Land and Environmental Defenders

Amazon Fires

The devastating fires in the Amazon demanded an immediate and robust response. Land is Life provided emergency relief and long-term support to combat and mitigate the effects of these fires to the Associação Indígena Tahiru in Brazil and the Chiquitania Volunteer Firefighters in Bolivia.

Indigenous Safety and Security Program

Land is Life’s Indigenous-led Security Fund (ILSF) program provides Indigenous Peoples, organizations and activists the tools and resources they need to be able to promote and protect their rights safely. Each region is coordinated by a group of Indigenous leaders who collectively make funding decisions and award small grants quickly and directly to Indigenous activists and grassroots Indigenous organizations, being responsive and flexible. The grant-making process is facilitated by trusted organizations using established due diligence processes.

ILSF Asia



ILSF Colombia



ILSF Sub-Saharan Africa



ILSF Mesoamerica



Throughout the year, each of our Security Funds contributed to the overall defense and assertion of Indigenous Peoples’ collective rights to their lands, territories, and resources, as well as their right to self-determination. This year, the Funds contributed to progress in the following areas:

- 1** Improved Indigenous Peoples’ capacity to take defensive actions in order to protect and preserve their collective cultural heritage;
- 2** Strengthened political advocacy for Human Rights Defenders and the collective rights of Indigenous Peoples; and
- 3** Established dialogues with states, and enhanced coordination amongst Indigenous communities on territorial security, and collective rights.

A. Nairobi Defenders Convening January 2023

This gathering brought together Land is Life’s Indigenous-led Security Fund Coordinators and partners in early January 2023 in order to assess current threats against Indigenous Peoples’ Rights Defenders globally, evaluate the successes and challenges of our ILSF programs, and develop a plan of action that will allow us to more effectively respond to the growing threats and violence against

Indigenous leaders and activists who are working to protect the human, economic, cultural, and territorial rights of Indigenous Peoples. The 2023 global gathering in Nairobi brought together from all Fund represented regions, including Nicaragua, Cameroon, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, the Philippines, Indonesia, India, Colombia, and Ecuador. The Convening provided a platform not only to exchange regional experiences and address challenges in fund administration but also to collaboratively devise strategies for the proactive management of Indigenous Peoples' security within the Land is Life Defenders' Security Program.

Rooted in Land is Life's collective program-design approach, where decisions are consensus-driven through open dialogue and mutual understanding among Indigenous Peoples' partner organizations, the Nairobi Convening served as a dynamic forum for participatory analysis and the development of priority actions. It aimed to enhance the effectiveness of implementing both the security fund and the overarching Land is Life's Defenders' Security Program.



Photo of the Nairobi Defenders Convening



B. Loliondo situation

The Maasai people have occupied the territory known as the Serengeti Plains, now in Tanzania, for centuries. However, over the last few decades they have been subject to major pressure from the Tanzanian Government to leave their lands. The pressure has led to major disputes, deaths and the eviction of thousands to make way for a 'Conservation Area'. The most recent evictions are the result of agreements between the Tanzanian Government and firms linked to the Royal Family of the United Arab Emirates that are planning to set up a reserve, for Big Game hunters, principally the Royal Family and its friends. Recent court decisions have favored the Maasai people, but the government, eager to receive the money the deals would bring, have refused to implement the rulings.

Land is Life continues to stand with the Maasai in their struggle to remain in, and protect, their ancestral territory, providing financial, livelihood and campaign support.

The problem precedent here is the continued, misguided use of a conservation model that excludes Indigenous Peoples.

Numerous international and local organizations including ICCA (Indigenous Community and Conserved Areas Consortium), International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), and UNPFII, have condemned the government's actions, but this is compromised by the fact that United Nations Environment Pro-

gramme (UNEP), IUCN and other international conservation bodies have policies that implicitly support the evictions, setting a very worrying precedent, given that conservation in Tanzania is highly militarized and violence is the means by which most protected areas were established. This fortress model of conservation not only wreaks havoc on Indigenous Peoples communities, it undermines the very goals of conservation. Research increasingly and consistently demonstrates that recognizing the rights of Indigenous Peoples to their territories and resources is the most effective way to safeguard biological diversity, ensure the sustainable use of natural resources and protect the ecological integrity of critical ecosystems. There is a growing global consensus that the interests of conservation are best served when Indigenous Peoples are engaged as partners in conservation processes. Land is Life is working with the Maasai to ensure that the government of Tanzania recognizes and respects their territorial rights, and that NGO's, bilateral donors, and other entities that partner with Tanzania in conservation should refuse to be complicit in programs that violate the human rights of the Maasai People.



C. Ogiek evictions

The Ogiek People of Kenya face a similar situation to the Maasai in Tanzania. In their case, the evictions are apparently related to a Carbon Offset project, once again linked to the United Arab Emirates, this time in the form of the company Blue Carbon, which has been making big money conservation/carbon credit deals with governments across Africa, including Kenya.

The Ogiek People of Kenya face a similar situation to the Maasai in Tanzania. In their case, the evictions are apparently related to a Carbon Offset project, once again linked to the United Arab Emirates, this time in the form of the company Blue Carbon, which has been making big money conservation/carbon credit deals with governments across Africa, including Kenya. The amount of land involved is said to be in the millions of hectares. Once again, despite judicial decisions in favor of the Ogiek, the Kenyan government continues to carry out illegal evictions. The Ogiek evictions in Kenya are a grave matter of concern to rights defenders around the world for the following associated precedents:

1 Internal displacement led by the government in peacetime

Internal displacement led by the government in peacetime. This is done through statutory agencies, in this case, the Kenya Wildlife Service and the Kenya Forest service. There are many egregious violations of Indigenous Peoples' rights around the world, but in practice, they are often perpetrated through proxies, which include extractive industries, criminal gangs, political militias and conservation organizations. On other occasions, it occurs within the 'fog' of war, which typically creates a deliberate or unwitting suspension of civil rights. Indigenous Peoples exist within states, which are necessarily their last line of defense from any aggression. This can negate UN declarations and other international instruments protecting the rights of Indigenous Peoples, which can only be implemented through the State.

2 Violation of expressed court orders

In 2017, the African court of Human rights (to which Kenya is a signatory) found that the Kenya Government had violated the Ogiek people's rights by ordering their eviction from the Mau forest and ordered that they be reinstated to their ancestral lands with full rights. In 2022 the court further ordered that the Ogiek people be paid

reparations by the Kenya Government for the suffering caused by the eviction order. Since then, the evictions and attendant violations of the Ogiek People's rights have continued, causing grievous harm to the community and their livelihoods. This brings into question the ability of human rights courts to function as defenders of Indigenous Peoples, particularly in instances where conservation interests are the drivers of said violations.

3 Carbon Credits

The drive to get the Kenya government to comply with these court orders has been further compromised by the engagement of the State in Carbon trading, abandoning their role as a regulator and independent arbiter. Carbon trading schemes, despite their climate mitigation intent, often pose significant threats to Indigenous Peoples by commodifying their ancestral territories without proper consent, which leads to land grabs, forced displacement, and restricted access to traditional territories. Multinational corporations, financial institutions, and governments all bear responsibility for the human rights violations associated with carbon trading.

Land is Life continues to support the Ogiek in their fight to retain the rights to their traditional territory, providing financial, technical, and campaign support.



D. Red-Tagging - Philippines

Red tagging in the Philippines is a life and death issue. Government officials, security forces, and their allies label individuals or organizations as communist rebels or terrorist sympathizers without evidence. Indigenous Peoples' rights defenders are particularly vulnerable to this tactic, as their advocacy for protecting their ancestral territories often conflicts with powerful mining, logging, and agribusiness interests. Once red-tagged, these advocates face escalating threats, surveillance, harassment, arbitrary detention, and even

extrajudicial killings. The practice effectively criminalizes legitimate human rights work and environmental protection efforts by Indigenous communities, creating a climate of fear that silences opposition to development projects on traditional territories. This systematic intimidation has intensified under recent administrations, with numerous Indigenous leaders assassinated after being publicly red-tagged.



3

Support for Indigenous Peoples' Organizations and Traditional Institutions

We provide comprehensive, long-term support to Indigenous Peoples' organizations to ensure that they are financially healthy, efficiently managed, and have the knowledge, tools and resources that they need to effectively seek and manage grants and carry out the work of promoting and defending their Peoples' rights. In **2023, we supported 53 grassroots Indigenous partner organizations**, with the breakdown by region:

Sub-Saharan Africa

10 organizations

Asia

3 organizations

Mesoamerica

8 organizations

South America

32 organizations



Enkishon Community Cultural Center Construction

Enkishon Indigenous Initiative is a Maasai women's organization in Eluanata, Matapato South, Kajiado Central, Kenya. This year, Land is Life funded the construction of Enkishon's Community Cultural Center. The Center includes a borehole that now provides essential water for domestic use and livestock to a nearby village of 400 people, with plans to benefit up to 2,000 in the future. This vital space fosters economic independence with business skills trainings, microfinance programs, and market access, while advancing education and health through adult literacy, reproductive health education, and advocacy for girls' education. It safeguards cultural heritage by documenting traditional knowledge, preserving the Maasai language, and promoting intergenerational learning and traditional arts. The Center also champions women's rights with legal education, leadership development, and initiatives to prevent gender-based violence. Additionally, it promotes sustainable development through water management, climate adaptation strategies, and sustainable livestock practices, ensuring a resilient future for the Maasai community.



4 Strengthening Self-Determination & Governance

Indigenous Peoples have the right to self-determination – the fundamental right to freely determine their political status, pursue their economic and social development, and maintain their distinct political, legal, economic, social and cultural institutions. Despite international instruments - like the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, International Labour Organization Convention 169 - affirming this right, implementation faces significant barriers, including: state resistance to recognizing Indigenous Peoples' sovereignty; limited access to traditional territories and resources due to ongoing dispossession; inadequate mechanisms for free, prior and informed consent; and insufficient resources for Indigenous Peoples' governance institutions. Through collaborative action and sustained commitment, we seek to strengthen Indigenous Peoples' ability to shape their own destinies in accordance with their values, traditions, and aspirations.



Yasuní National Park

In collaboration with the Waorani People, we undertook a major, national advocacy campaign in Ecuador to protect this vital area and its inhabitants from oil development. This area, known as one of the most biodiverse areas in the world,

is home to the Waorani as well as The Tagaeri/Taromenane Peoples (who are living in voluntary isolation). This campaign was essential in mobilizing public support to ensure the protection of Yasuni. On August 20th, 2023, a pivotal referendum took place in Ecuador, resulting in nearly 60% of votes in favor of conservation.

Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC)

Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) stands as a cornerstone principle in safeguarding Indigenous Peoples' self-determination and collective rights. This internationally recognized standard requires that Indigenous Peoples be consulted and give their consent before any project or policy affecting their lands, territories, or resources proceeds. When properly implemented, it transforms historical power imbalances, prevents harmful development, and honors Indigenous Peoples' governance systems. However, its meaningful application remains elusive, with governments and corporations often reducing it to procedural formalities rather than respecting its substance—the right of Indigenous Peoples to determine their own priorities for development and to maintain control over their territories and futures.

Thus far our FPIC program has supported ...

3 Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) protocols to be approved and implemented at the community level
In 3 Indigenous Territories
Impacted communities: 200 Kichwa communities in Serena; 7 communities in Sarayaku; 4 communities of the Tacana de Madre de Dios

Working to draft a 4th protocol in Ogiek Peoples' territory of Kenya throughout 2023.

Our FPIC program addresses this gap by collaborating with communities to create their own community-led protocols for the proper implementation, monitoring, and review of FPIC processes. We believe that meeting the standard of FPIC is best achieved through constructing Indigenous Peoples' protocols derived from their own decision-making processes, worldviews, and visions, with the inclusive participation of the entire community, including leaders, elders, women, and youth.

Establishing rigorous, culturally appropriate standards for FPIC processes will lead to improved development outcomes, conflict resolution, healthier communities, and enhanced environmental protection. The following presents our FPIC Program's role with developing community-led protocols:

A. Sarayaku

Land is Life worked closely with the Kichwa community of Sarayaku in the Ecuadorian Amazon to carry out a community-led process for designing their FPIC protocol. During the development process, Land is Life's team worked with the leaders and former leaders of Sarayaku; the broader community of Sarayaku, including elders, women and youth; multiple national and international legal advisers; as well as the assemblies of seven (7) "relative" communities.

In June 2022, the FPIC protocol of the people of Sarayaku was successfully completed and approved by the community. The Governing Council of the Original Kichwa People of Sarayaku officially launched the Protocol at the First Meeting of the Peoples of the Living Forest (Kawsak Sacha) on June 26, 2022.

Thanks to the invitation of the Center for Legal Studies and Social Research (CEJIS) in Bolivia, the Sarayaku Protocol, was presented before

the Commission of Original Nations, Indigenous Peoples, Culture and Interculturality of the Plurinational Legislative Assembly of Bolivia to support a process to formalize the protocols for consultation and consent of the Indigenous Peoples of Bolivia. Thanks to the invitation of the Center for Legal Studies and Social Research (CEJIS) in Bolivia, the Sarayaku Protocol, was presented before the Commission of Original Nations, Indigenous Peoples, Culture and Interculturality of the Plurinational Legislative Assembly of Bolivia to support a process to formalize the protocols for consultation and consent of the Indigenous Peoples of Bolivia.

Land is Life facilitated the presentation by the Sarayaku protocol before the Constitutional Court of Ecuador in a Public Hearing convened in the Cofán community of Sinangoe to establish criteria of jurisprudence regarding free, prior and informed consent in Ecuador.

Now officially Law in the territory of Sarayaku, according to the formal regulations of the community, Land is Life and Sarayaku will present the protocol to the Inter-American Court on Human Rights to ensure compliance by the Ecuadorian State regarding the Judgment of the Court in the Sarayaku v Ecuador case, in relation to the effective regulation of the right to free, prior and informed consent.

B. Kichwa Community of Serena

Following the successes in Sarayaku, a second Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) protocol was initiated in 2022 in the Kichwa community of Serena, Ecuador. This protocol is designed to enhance Serena's capacity to safeguard their territory, specifically the protected area of the Llanganates National Park, where the crucial Jatun Yaku and Ilukulin rivers originate.

The decision to collaborate with Serena, a small community at the Amazon's foothills, stems from the Federation of Indigenous Organizations of Napo's (FOIN) efforts to combat illegal mining and unauthorized concessions to mining companies in their territories. The Serena protocol aims to serve as a model for over 200 FOIN-affiliated communities, strengthening their governance institutions, and empowering them to prevent resource exploitation and unauthorized mining activities.

In 2023, the Kichwa Community of Serena and Land is Life successfully completed preli-

minary phases, including the design methodology, community dialogues, FPIC training for leaders, and workshops addressing territorial threats and economic aspirations. The technical team from Land is Life conducted GPS training and logistical support, facilitating a comprehensive study of the territory's land use and management systems. With these steps completed, Serena is prepared for the final stage, presenting the approved FPIC protocol nationally, scheduled for 2024.



C. Tacana People of the Madre de Dios River

In 2021, Land is Life began collaboration on a community-led FPIC protocol with the Central de Comunidades Indígenas Tacana II del Río Madre de Dios (CITRMD), an organization that represents the four communities of the Tacana II region, which is situated in the Bolivian Amazon's Madre de Dios region. Two years after this process began, on April 6, 2023, the protocol was presented to CITRMD authorities and submitted to the Tacana Peoples' Great Assembly for final approval. It now stands as **the official Law for Consultation and Free, Prior, and Informed Consent of the Tacana People.**



This protocol strengthens the Tacana peoples' governance system, and is a critical tool for managing external pressures. With this foundational tool now in place, the Tacana People are working - with the support of Land is Life - to apply their protocol to protect their territory from mining projects and the proposed Ixiamas-Chive road, which not only threatens the Tacana People, but also the Indigenous Peoples in voluntary isolation who live in the territory. Moving forward, Land is Life and CITRMD will continue to work together to implement the protocol, and achieve

its legal recognition by the Bolivian government, ensuring that Tacana's voice is central in decisions impacting their land and future.

D. Ogiek Peoples Development Programme (OPDP)

In 2017, the Ogiek People from Kenya's Mau Forest, achieved a landmark legal victory when the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights ruled in their favor against the Kenyan government. This historic case marked the first time the court had ruled on Indigenous Peoples' rights and recognized the Ogiek's ancestral land claims after decades of forced evictions and discrimination. The court found that Kenya had violated seven articles of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, including the Ogiek's rights to property, natural resources, development, religion, culture, and non-discrimination. The ruling affirmed the Ogiek's right to live in the Mau Forest, recognizing their crucial role in preserving the ecosystem through their traditional lifestyle and knowledge systems, and ordered Kenya to take remedial measures.

In 2023, a draft protocol with the Ogiek People's Development Program (OPDP) was developed, which emphasizes the Ogiek People's right to self-determination and aligns with national and international legal frameworks. In 2024, the protocol draft will be finalized in order to have deeper exploration of the Ogiek's customary laws and include documentation produced by the Council of Elders, which will strengthen the protocol by safeguarding their unique legal traditions and rights. Additionally, integrating a detailed step-by-step guide for implementing the Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) process will provide clarity for external actors engaging with the Ogiek community.



FPIC - Moving Forward

Building on the success of facilitating four Indigenous community-led FPIC protocols, Land is Life's program is poised for strategic expansion. Our immediate focus will be securing formal legal recognition for existing protocols in Ecuador, Bolivia, and Kenya, establishing them as binding frameworks for engagement with these communities. This will require targeted advocacy with relevant ministries, strategic litigation where necessary, and building coalitions with national human rights institutions and civil society organizations to create political pressure for recognition.

Simultaneously, we will expand the program to additional communities, prioritizing those facing immediate threats from development projects. We'll strengthen our methodology through a peer-learning network where communities with established protocols can men-

tor those beginning the process. To enhance sustainability, we'll develop comprehensive implementation toolkits and training programs for community-based monitoring teams who can document compliance and violations.

Incubating New Organizations

We supported the establishment of two new organizations in South America: the Black and Indigenous Liberation Movement (BILM) and Runa Yachay. These organizations are now operational and focused on empowering Indigenous youth and advancing their rights.

A. Runa Yachay - Indigenous Youth Governance

Land is Life launched Runa Yachay (The Peoples Knowledge, in Kichwa) in March 2022, **a grassroots school and mentorship program for Indigenous youth leadership in the Ecuadorian Amazon.** This initiative focuses on deepening Indigenous youth knowledge of the impacts of industrial development projects in the Amazon, equipping them with the skills necessary to be effective leaders, and advancing transformative actions to protect their right to self-determination and collective rights to territories, resources, and knowledge.

In the pilot year through March 2023, **thirty-five students engaged in Runa Yachay.** They visited various Indigenous Peoples' communities across the Amazon, Andes, and Coast, sharing experiences, and exploring proactive ways for Indigenous youth to protect community rights and support self-determination. The program involved learning from community leaders, tutors, and special guests.

In 2024, Runa Yachay will formally become its own organization. Land is Life plans to expand on this model in other regions, and further develop trainings for Indigenous youth.

B. The Black and Indigenous Liberation Movement (BILM)

BILM is a coalition among collectives, Peoples, grassroots organizations and social movements from all over the Americas that supports struggles against racism, discrimination, violence and colonialism.

West Papua Participatory Mapping

Recognition and protection of Indigenous Peoples and their territories in West Papua, Indonesia - although mandated by the Constitution - faces significant challenges, particularly from regulatory and political standpoints. Local regulations are essential for safeguarding these communities against external development threats. Through Land is Life's long-term partnership with Yayasan Anak Dusun Papua (YADUPA), an Indigenous NGO committed to advocating for the rights of Indigenous Peoples of West Papua, **a participatory mapping process is underway with communities of Waropen regency in West Papua.** In this process, we are working with the Kai, Saponi, and Busami peoples, whose territories are under threat from extractive industries and palm oil plantations.

Participatory mapping serves as a vital tool for the Indigenous Peoples of West Papua to assert their territorial rights, preserve traditional knowledge, and strengthen their cultural identity. Participatory mapping enables Indigenous Peoples to create visual representations that reflect their deep understanding of their territories and their historical relationships with these spaces. This methodology not only helps in legal claims for land rights and resource management but also facilitates inter-generational knowledge transfer, as elders can share their expertise about traditional hunting grounds, medicinal plant locations, sacred si-

tes, and culturally significant landmarks with younger generations. Furthermore, participatory mapping empowers Indigenous Peoples to counter external mapping practices that have historically overlooked or misrepresented their spatial knowledge and land use patterns, providing them with a powerful tool for advancing their self-determination and engaging with government agencies, NGOs, and the private sector in land-use planning and natural resource management decisions. Through this project, YADUPA is also engaging with the Regional Government and Local Parliament of Waropen Regency to advance legal recognition of the Indigenous Peoples' territories and resource rights. This mapping serves as a reference for the government in defining community areas and development plans. The participatory mapping and advocacy efforts have successfully led to the draft regional regulations being accepted for discussion. However, the upcoming regional elections in November 2024 pose a challenge, highlighting the urgency to finalize these regulations beforehand.



5

Indigenous Food Sovereignty & Security Program

Land is Life's Food Sovereignty and Security Initiative supports Indigenous Peoples to strengthen their traditional food systems and territorial governance in response to increased threats from climate change, industrialized agriculture, large-scale infrastructure projects, and extractive industries. The program is active across Mesoamerica and Sub-Saharan Africa.

Indigenous-Led Agroecology Fund in Sub-Saharan Africa

In late 2022, Land is Life successfully launched our Indigenous-Led Agroecology Fund to support agroecology initiatives across Sub-Saharan Africa with the primary goal of reinforcing the food security and sovereignty of Indigenous Peoples. This program is led by four Regional Advisors representing Indigenous Peoples' networks in East Africa, West Africa, Central Africa, and Southern Africa. The advisors convened to establish project priorities and criteria for identifying grantees. Following this, a comprehensive stakeholder mapping and food sovereignty scoping exercise was carried out, the initial cohort of communities that would receive funding were identified, and the Agroecology fund was officially launched.



Photo: Inaugural meeting of the Olalaa Project, focused on empowering Indigenous pastoral women through climate-resilient organic agriculture. During this session, members of the Osiligi Women Group discussed the project's objectives, which aim to address food insecurity and malnutrition while equipping women with skills to diversify their income sources beyond livestock reliance. The meeting, held in May 2023, included a presentation of the project work plan, fostering collaboration and engagement among participants.

A total of 11 grants, each capped at \$3,000, were distributed across the region. Throughout this period, grantees collaborated closely with our Regional Advisors on monitoring and evaluating initiatives to assess project impacts and ensure successful implementation. Land is Life's Agroecology Fund achieved significant outcomes in its pilot year, including:

- 1** Supported Indigenous People's communities and organizations in fortifying their food systems, thereby improving food security.

- 2** Bolstered community resilience in the face of climate change.

- 3** Enhanced skills and improved knowledge on food security and agroecology among community members.

Indigenous Fisheries' Study in Mesoamerica

With support from the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Land is Life's regional team conducted a participatory study on Indigenous Peoples' Small-Scale Fisheries in Mesoamerica. Between December 2022 and October 2023, Land is Life's Mesoamerica team successfully concluded the fisheries report, titled "[Informe de la Pesca Artesanal de los Pueblos Indígenas de Mesoamérica](#)," through extensive consultation with Indigenous Peoples across **Panama, Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala, and Mexico**. Through in-depth fieldwork, interviews, and broad consultations, the team compiled a detailed report featuring a problem analysis, legal frameworks, stakeholder mapping, and actionable recommendations for sustainable

fisheries' management. This included detailing the cultural importance of fish, the dependence of Indigenous Peoples on marine and freshwater ecosystems, information on the role of fish in Indigenous Peoples' diets, traditional fishing methods, legal frameworks related to Indigenous Peoples' rights, documenting experiences of legislation affecting Indigenous Peoples' communities, identifying external drivers of change, showcasing successful Indigenous Peoples' participation in marine and freshwater ecosystem management plans, and offering conclusions and recommendations. Final activities included sharing findings with key stakeholders and preparing for regional webinars to discuss and validate the report, reinforcing Indigenous-led solutions for marine ecosystem health and sustainability.

Mesoamerica - Actions for Disability and Resilience Initiative of Miskito Divers

In 2023, Land is Life's Mesoamerica team launched an initiative addressing disabled Indigenous Miskito divers affected by dangerous fishing practices along Honduras and Nicaragua's coast. The team assessed living conditions of Nicaraguan Indigenous divers while advocating for improved rights and working conditions. This work has facilitated collaboration between the Mayangna People and Nicaragua's Attorney General to remove illegal settlers from Indigenous territories. The initiative prioritizes government dialogue, political commitments, and emergency funding for urgent conflicts, while working to restore regional security networks across Mesoamerica's five great forests.

Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems Coalition

Following the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit, the Coalition on Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems emerged among 32 global coalitions committed to sustainable food transformation. This diverse group unites Indigenous Peoples, nations, UN agencies, private companies, and development institutions to strengthen and promote Indigenous food systems. The Coalition aims to share Indigenous Peoples' knowledge and practices that could transform global food systems. Land is Life was instrumental in establishing the Coalition on Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems, leveraging its global network of Indigenous partners to build consensus and bridge critical conversations between Indigenous communities, UN agencies, and governmental stakeholders. Through its advocacy and coordination efforts, Land is Life helped shape the Coalition's foundational principles, ensuring Indigenous knowledge systems and sovereignty remained central to the Coalition's mission and nine-point action plan.

6

Strengthening Indigenous Participation in International Policy Making Processes/ Spaces

Land is Life works to ensure that Indigenous leaders have a seat at the table wherever decisions are being made that affect their lives, lands and cultures, and to strengthen their ability to come to the table prepared to participate effectively.

The United Nations

The United Nations provides essential platforms for Indigenous Peoples to advocate for their rights, influence international policy, and build global solidarity. Through UN engagement, Indigenous communities bring concerns directly to the international stage, share experiences with peers, and hold states accountable to their obligations under UNDRIP and the nine core international human rights treaties. This participation has yielded significant achievements like UNDRIP's 2007 adoption, while creating opportunities to shape global discussions on climate change, biodiversity, and sustainable development. UN involvement also grants Indigenous Peoples access to technical support, funding, and capacity-building resources, strengthening their ability to protect their rights, lands, and cultural heritage at all levels.

In 2023 Land is Life supported the participation of Indigenous Peoples in the United Nations mechanisms, including: human rights treaty bodies; the Permanent Forum on Indi-

genous Issues (UNPFII); the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP); the High Level Political Forum (HLPF); The UN Forum on Business and Human Rights, COP 15 of the Convention on Biological Diversity, and COP 28 of the Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

Key side events

- ▶ COP15 of the CBD Montreal.
- ▶ 22nd Session of the United Nations' Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII): This grant funded the participation of 7 Indigenous women from Africa and South America in the two-week session of the UNPFII. Participants were from communities impacted by mining, forced evictions, armed conflict, and other human rights violations.
- ▶ Latin America and the Caribbean Climate Week (LACCW 2023): Funding allowed a youth representative of the Runa Yachay program in Ecuador to travel to Panama and participate in Climate Week events.
- ▶ COP 28 of the UNFCCC: Funding supported a delegation of seven Indigenous women from South America, Asia and Africa to participate at COP 28 in Dubai.

▶ United Nations Forum on Business and Human Rights: Funding allowed Land is Life's Asia Coordinator, Bestang Dekdeken, to participate on behalf of our Women's Program in the 12th United Nations Forum on Business and Human Rights. At the Forum, Bestang was elected Co-Chair of the Indigenous Peoples Caucus.



Enhancing Participation of Indigenous Peoples in the United Nations

The enhancement of Indigenous Peoples' participation in UN bodies has progressed through complex diplomatic negotiations since Resolution 71/321 (2017). Member states and Indigenous Peoples' representatives have consulted extensively on creating participation procedures distinct from NGO mechanisms, addressing criteria for eligible Indigenous Peoples' institutions, participation rights, and verification of Indigenous identity. Key challenges include balancing geographical representation, respecting traditional governance, and maintaining the UN's state-centric nature while creating space for Indigenous voices. Negotiations continue over selection mechanisms, with states concerned about sovereignty implications while Indigenous Peoples' representatives seek recognition of their unique status as Peoples with inherent self-determination rights. These ongoing discussions reflect the challenge of incorporating Indigenous governance systems into international frameworks.

On October 3rd, 2023, to reinvigorate this process, and deepen the dialogue between Indi-

genous Peoples and governments, Land is Life organized a working meeting of Indigenous Peoples' representatives, the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, and 21 governments at the Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations in New York. As a key outcome of this meeting, the participating governments committed to advancing the nomination process for the facilitator and advisor, which took place in February by decision of the President of the United Nations General Assembly.

7 Indigenous Women's Program

Land is Life's Indigenous Women's Program supports Indigenous women **in the Americas, Africa, Asia and the Pacific**, prioritizing organizations and communities that have little or no access to funding and other support. The Program provides comprehensive support to Indigenous women by building the capacity and sustainability of Indigenous women's organizations; strengthening the effective and meaningful participation of Indigenous women in international fora and policy-making processes concerning land and resource rights, global climate change, environment, human rights, and development. The Program builds provide comprehensive support to Indigenous women's organizations, building capacity while enhancing their participation in international forums on land rights, climate change, human rights, and development. It creates platforms for experience-sharing and collaboration, empowers Indigenous women economically, socially, and politically, and cultivates the next generation of Indigenous women leaders.

The Program provides:

Direct Support:

Core funding, technical assistance, and capacity building to women-led Indigenous organizations.

Medical, psychological and spiritual assistance:

Funding both Western and traditional healthcare services for Indigenous Women rights defenders facing threats or harm.

Strengthening Regional and International Networks:

Coordinating regional and international meetings of Indigenous women; supporting regional and international networks.

Indigenous Women's Fellowship

Nurturing the next generation of Indigenous women leaders through financial support, community project funding, and capacity building. Five fellows annually receive monthly stipends, financial and technical support for developing community projects, ongoing capacity building workshops, and the opportunity to participate in meetings of United Nations Special Procedures and Treaty Bodies.

In 2023, the Program supported **seven (7) Indigenous Women's Organizations, from Ecuador, Cameroon, Kenya, Mali, Burkina Faso, and the Philippines.**

Additionally, a 12-month-long fellowship was initiated, empowering young Indigenous women to lead innovative initiatives promoting gender equality, community well-being, and the recognition of land and resource rights

The five (5) awarded fellows and their projects include initiatives in Ecuador (Andes and Amazon regions), Kenya, Mali, and the Philippines, addressing issues such as collective rights promotion, ethno-tourism, economic empowerment, awareness of gender-based violence and schooling, and documenting rights violations through paralegal training.



Carmen del Rocío Chalán Yumbopatin
La Asociación de Mujeres Nina Kamak/
Ecuador - Andes Region

Project: "Promotion of the collective rights of children, adolescents, women of the Chibuleo San Francisco community and renovation of each of the neighborhood meeting areas".

Jessica Clara Grefa
Piatua Resiste/
Ecuador - Amazon Region



Project: "Ethnotourism project in the Sacha Warmi community, Santa Clara Canton"

Eunice Chepkemoi
Ogiek Peoples Development Programme
(OPDP) - Kenya

Project: "Strengthening Ogiek Women Economically to Alleviate Poverty".



Fadimata Walet Aboubacrene
Tin Hinan/ Mali -
Sahel Region



Project: "Raising awareness among women and girls about gender-based violence and schooling in the Timbuktu region".



Audrey Rose Corce
Alliance of Women's Organizations in the
Cordillera (INNABUYOG)/ Philippines -
Cordillera Region

Project: "Documenting Rights Violations in Mountain Province through Paralegal Training"

7 Indigenous Women's Organizations that received our support:

1 La Asociación de Mujeres Nina Kamak - Andes Region - Ecuador:

La Asociación de Mujeres Nina Kamak is an organization dedicated to advancing Indigenous women's rights through capacity building and economic empowerment. Funding was invested in a program training women to develop and market value-added products from the harvesting of organic blackberries, strawberries, and medicinal herbs, which most of the women are involved in to generate income.

2 Cameroon Indigenous Women Forum (CAIWOF) - Cameroon:

CAIWOF focuses on the development of Indigenous and forest peoples of Cameroon, with a focus on women-led initiatives. This grant supported CAIWOF's project that aims to reduce hunger and increase food security through Poultry farming for Indigenous women in Cameroon.

3 Tin Hinan - Sahel Region - Mali, Burkina Faso:

Tin Hinan, established in 1994, is the first Indigenous Peoples organization in the Sahel region. Funds supported the organization's continued capacity-building activities in the following areas: human rights, environment and climate change, women's economic and political empowerment, and health.

4 Benguet Women's Assembly - Cordillera Region, The Philippines:

Benguet Women's Assembly, established in 2018, is composed of women leaders from different communities/villages in Benguet province of the Cordillera region. Direct support to this grassroots organization helped to further develop & strengthen cooperatives that were established and are being managed by eight (8) grassroots Indigenous women's organizations (1 cooperative for each organization in different villages/communities). Established prior to the pandemic, the 8 cooperatives support women and their families, especially in times of natural disasters such as strong typhoons and earthquakes.

5 Federación de Organizaciones Indígenas del Napo (FOIN) - Amazon Region, Ecuador:

Direct support went to FOIN for their Women and Youth Program. Funds were used to support women and youth in their campaign to protect their territory from an incursion of mining in their territory in Napo region of Ecuador.

dor. Illegal and legal mining in the Napo region is having severe negative impacts on the Indigenous communities and the resources that they depend on for their survival and wellbeing.

6 **Comunidad Kichwa Sacha Warmi - Amazon Region, Ecuador:**

Support went to La Comunidad Kichwa Sacha Warmi, Cantón Santa Clara of the Ecuadorian Amazon. Funds supported women and youth girls in the community.

7 **Enkishon Indigenous Initiative - Kadjiado, Kenya:**

Enkishon is a Maasai women's organization that works to advance the rights and improve the wellbeing of the Maasai people of Kadjiado County in Kenya. Funding supported the drilling of a well that now provides 12 Maasai communities with water, providing much needed relief after four years of drought.

Advocacy & Participation

In 2023, Land is Life initiated a series of virtual trainings for Fellows and representatives from Indigenous women's organizations. The first two sessions focused specifically on program Fellows and beneficiary organizations. For the subsequent sessions, members of the Indigenous Women's Network on Biodiversity, a longstanding partner of

Land is Life, were invited, significantly increasing participation. In 2023, four key training sessions were conducted.

1 "Women & Indigenous Peoples' Rights" - examining international frameworks, challenges, and advocacy opportunities

2 "Human rights violations - Filing Complaints with UN Special Procedures" - exploring the Human Rights Council's special procedures' thematic and country mandates, and procedures for filing human rights complaints.

3 "Indigenous women and negotiations of the Convention on Biological Diversity" - discussing the Kunming-Montreal Framework and Indigenous Women's roles in CBD negotiation spaces.

4 "Indigenous Women and the Climate Crisis" - addressing traditional knowledge, community protocols, youth contributions, and preparations for the participation of Indigenous Women in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change COP 28.

Through our Indigenous Women's Program, Land is Life supported the effective participation of Indigenous women at international convenings, including: COP27 and COP28 of the UNFCCC, UNPFII, EMRIP, the UN High Level Political Forum, Latin America and Caribbean Climate Week 2023; Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW); WINGS Forum's three day conference in Nairobi; the UN Forum on Business and Human Rights.

With the pilot year's success, Land is Life plans to expand our Women's Program in the coming years, with a continued goal is to protect the rights, strengthen the voices, and improve the lives of Indigenous women around the world, while nurturing the next generation of Indigenous women leaders.



COMMUNICATIONS



Through social media, newsletters, and engaging with journalists, Land is Life was able to bring attention to a number of critical issues. Major cases covered in the last year include: the violent evictions of previously mentioned of the Maasai in Tanzania and Ogiek in Kenya; Red Tagging in the Philippines; the struggles for land rights, and particularly its impacts on women, in Manipur, India; increasing violence in the Chittagong Hill Tracts in Bangladesh; the Mosop Benet in Uganda; Indigenous Peoples in voluntary isolation in the Amazon and Gran Chaco; and other urgent issues. Thanks to our strategies, we expanded our reach and connected with new allies to protect the rights of Indigenous peoples and advance their self-determination.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

2023 was an exceptional year with significant challenges impacting Indigenous Peoples, particularly in South America. To address these urgent needs, Land is Life drew \$1.5M from our General Funds in addition to making the most of grants received. Below are the key factors that led us to make this decision.

1 Yasuní National Park Peoples in the United Nations

2023 was an exceptional year with significant challenges impacting Indigenous Peoples, particularly in South America. To address these urgent needs, Land is Life drew \$1.5M from our General Funds in addition to making the most of grants received. Below are the key factors that led us to make this decision.

2 Amazon Fires

The devastating fires in the Amazon demanded an immediate and robust response. Our organization invested in emergency relief efforts and long-term strategies to combat and mitigate the effects of these fires.

3 Peoples Living in Voluntary Isolation and Initial Contact (PIACI):

We allocated resources to support the Protection of PIACI, which involved both emergency interventions and sustained advocacy efforts as the Secretariat of the International Working Group on Indigenous Peoples Living in Voluntary Isolation and Initial Contact.

4 Mining in Ecuador

We engaged in extensive efforts to combat illegal mining activities that threatened Indigenous communities that are under threat. This included legal support, community mobilization, and advocacy campaigns.

5 Incubating New Organizations

We supported the establishment of two new organizations in South America: the Black and Indigenous Liberation Movement (BILM) and Runa Yachay. These organizations are now operational and focused on empowering Indigenous youth and advancing their rights.

6 Indigenous Peoples' Rights Defenders

To be able to respond to the alarming increase in threats and violence against Indigenous Peoples' rights defenders, we invested general funds to fill gaps in our regional security programs (Colombia, Mesoamerica, Africa, Asia).

7 Enkishon Community Center

In 2023, in response to the ongoing challenges, including drought, in Kenya, we worked with our long-term partner, Enkishon Indigenous Initiative, to build a center that is run by Maasai women, provides critical services to Maasai women and girls, and is now providing water to 12 Maasai communities.



We believe these investments were necessary, not only because of the urgency of these situations, but also for the long-term impact and sustainability of our work.



Land is Life



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