



**Forest
Declaration
Platform**
Transforming commitments into action

STAKEHOLDER TOOLKIT

Forest and Climate Resources for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities

LAST UPDATED MARCH 2023

TOOLS, GUIDELINES, AND BEST PRACTICES

FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Training:

- [Engaging in COP27: A Training for Indigenous Peoples](#) – A training by the Forest Declaration Platform, UNDP, Tribal Link Foundation, International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change, and International Indian Treaty Council on engaging effectively in the UNFCCC Conference of the Parties. It offers capacity-building advice that can apply to Indigenous Peoples' engagement at any international climate conference, not just COP27.
- [Indigenous Peoples at the United Nations: Project Access Online](#) – A self-paced introductory-level course on ways Indigenous Peoples can engage with the United Nations. It has three modules on the history of Indigenous Peoples at the United Nations, the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, and other human rights-related instruments for Indigenous Peoples.

Monitoring / Data-Sharing:

- [Forest Watcher](#) – A mobile app from Global Forest Watch allowing users (regardless of connectivity) to monitor areas of interest, view deforestation and fires, investigate specific areas and points, and collect information.
- [Rights and Resources Initiative Tenure Tool](#) – A platform on the Rights and Resources Initiative website granting rightsholders and the public accessible qualitative and quantitative data on forest tenure rights of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities. It tracks forest area under four tenure categories based on the rightsholder and strength of their rights under national law.
- [Mapeo](#) – An open-source software from Earth Defenders Toolkit built with Indigenous Peoples to assist earth defenders documenting environmental and human rights information and collect data about their lands. It helps share and document information, and can be customized to local languages and settings.

Understanding Rights:

- [Human Rights and Land Navigator](#) – Compiles linkages between the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries, and Forests in the Context of National Food Security (VGGT). Essentially, it organizes articles and clauses from major human rights standards by topic, rather than by standard.
- [Recognition of Indigenous Peoples in Nationally Determined Contributions](#) – A policy paper written by the International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs mapping governments' Nationally Determined Contributions and analyzing the degree to which they recognize Indigenous Peoples' rights in climate governance.

Local Governments:

- Guiding Principles for Collaboration and Partnership Between Subnational Governments, Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities – Guidelines from the Governors' Climate and Forests Task Force for how local governments can collaborate with Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities. Endorsers include 17 Indigenous People and Local Community organizations and 17 Civil Society Organizations.

Companies:

- Respecting Land and Forest Rights: A Guide for Companies – A Rights and Resources Initiative and Interlaken Group co-written guide providing practical and detailed guidance for companies to respect local land and forest tenure rights

Civil Society Organizations:

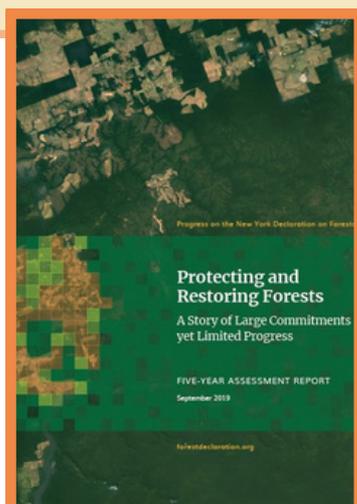
- Land Rights Standard – A framework establishing a rights-holder-driven approach to climate and sustainable development actions dedicated to strengthening the recognition of Indigenous Peoples, local communities, and Afro-descendent peoples' rights. It has endorsements from 74 Indigenous Peoples Organizations and Civil Society Organizations.

General Resources:

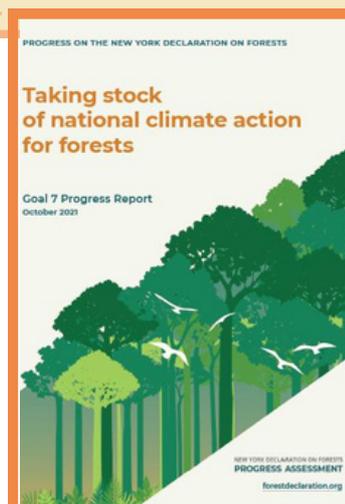
- Building Bridges: Innovations and Approaches to Increase Financing to Indigenous and Afro-Descendant Peoples and local Communities for Climate and Conservation Goals – A report overviewing emerging approaches to financing Indigenous Peoples and their allies to most effectively conserve and manage forests and rural landscapes.

RELEVANT FOREST DECLARATION ASSESSMENT REPORTS

PROTECTING AND RESTORING FORESTS (2019)



TAKING STOCK OF NATIONAL CLIMATE ACTION FOR FORESTS (2021)



NETWORKS, COALITIONS, AND PLATFORMS

FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES

- UNFCCC Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform – A platform within the UN dedicated to strengthening the efforts of IPs and LCs responding to climate change, facilitating the exchange of best practices, and enhancing IP and LC engagement in the UNFCCC.
- Rights and Resources Initiative – A coalition of over 150 organizations promoting land rights of Indigenous Peoples, Afro-descendant Peoples, Local Communities, and Women. It seeks to foster institutional reforms to realize these rights in government and the market.
- Global Alliance of Territorial Communities – A political platform of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities dedicated to defending nature. It comprises five organizations representing forest territories across Asia, Africa, and Latin America: AMAN, AMPB, APIB, COICA, and REPALEAC.
- Forest Peoples Programme – A human rights organization working to support the rights of forest communities across the world by leveraging its network of over 60 partner organizations representing Indigenous Peoples and forest communities.
- Amazon Watch – A platform advancing the rights of Indigenous Peoples in the Amazon Basin that partners with Indigenous organizations to preserve the Amazon's diverse ecosystems and promote corporate accountability in South America.
- Indigenous Environmental Network – A network of grassroots Indigenous organizations dedicated towards building the capacity of Indigenous communities to develop mechanisms to protect their environment and natural resources.
- International Land Coalition – A global alliance of civil society, farmers' organizations, UN agencies, research institutes, and Local Communities promoting the control of land by lower-income communities and strengthening local communities' participation in decision-making processes. Formerly the Popular Coalition to Eradicate Hunger and Poverty.
- The Group on Earth Observations (GEO) Indigenous Alliance – An alliance of Indigenous representatives aiming to protect and conserve Indigenous heritage by using science, data, and technology to create and share knowledge that can sustain the earth.