



Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals



Tribes & Climate Change Newsletter

May 2024

Welcome to our monthly newsletter which provides news items, resources, announcements about funding opportunities, conferences, and training, and other information relevant to tribal climate change issues.



Monument Valley at Sunset. Adobe.stock

Meet the Climate Change Team

Nikki Cooley, Diné (Asdzáá/She/Her)
Co-Director & Co-Manager
Nikki.Cooley@nau.edu

Karen Cozzetto (She/Her)
Co-Manager
Karen.Cozzetto@nau.edu

Kelsey Morales (She/Her)
Assistant Manager
Kelsey.Morales@nau.edu

Laureen Lewis, Hopi/Havasupai, (She/Her)
Administrative Assistant
Laureen.Lewis@nau.edu

Kim Shaw (She/Her)
Internship Coordinator
Kim.Shaw@nau.edu

Taryn Bell (They/Them)
Research Assistant
Taryn.Bell@nau.edu

Ashley Gries (She/Her)
Community Program Coordinator, Sr.
Ashley.Gries@nau.edu

Kelsey Jensen, Diné (She/Her)
Program Assistant
Kelsey.Jensen@nau.edu

Nicole Shirley (She/Her)
Program Assistant
Nicole.Shirley@nau.edu

Summer Powell
NTICC 2024 Intern
summerpowell15@gmail.com

Yá'át'ééh! Gumyu! Loloma! Hello!



Moving In Slowly on the Spider. Adobe.stock

I vaguely recall singing nursery rhymes but no one ever explained what the story was behind them. I understand they are good for language and literacy development to hone skills in speaking, rhyming, rapping, patterns, and repetition. TBH (as the kids say), I was in my early 20s when I learned the meanings behind the nursery rhymes. I mean why did we hold hands and dance in a circle singing about the rings formed around roses, and why Mary was quite contrary? The point is that we should continue to ask questions and be curious to learn more. I make the conscious effort to do this every day. Words spoken and put on paper can really open up portals to different worlds.

As someone whose first language is Diné, I believe I speak and understand the English language fairly well. I am honest about words and phrases I do not know the definition of. I recall a time in third grade when our teacher asked each student to repeat specific words. Of course, I knew I was getting the words I dreaded saying out loud and before it was my turn, I repeated the words in my head. I felt confident and knew I was going to slay. My turn came. I said the following words loud and proud: island, mother, father, brother. The class erupted in laughter because what they heard was: is-laand, mudder, faader and brudder. Instant shame but my teacher was awesome and made everyone repeat those words plus extra words. Turns out that I wasn't the only one who pronounced the words the way I did. To this day, I will repeat certain words so I can say it in the English way but when I'm home and with the family, my words take on an accent and take short cuts. Some call it broken English but I have come to say it's just me having an accent. Our recent climate work has been encouraging people to be intentional about their language, whether it's on paper or done verbally. Our Indigenous

culture teaches us that our language is innately tied to our surroundings and has a heartbeat. The natural world and non-human relatives are all living entities that can hear and feel. Therefore, the words that come out of our mouths and our thought process needs to be intentional and with purpose. You may have heard some of our elders say they are cultural burners and not firefighters. I like to say that we take care of the land rather than manage it to show my respect. Do you have any words or phrases you use rather than the status quo?

Speaking of language, my family were pleasantly surprised to learn that our daughter was the valedictorian of her 8th grade class. Although her speech was delayed due to the leadership forgetting, it turned out to be just right and all her. Her short and sweet speech was emotional, respectful and completely her. I was impressed with her poise and how meaningful her words were. We are proud of her and look forward to her journey through high school. Will you tell me if you had any graduates in your family? Share from Pre-K to trade school to Tribal college and university.

As always, live and be in beauty and be Tradish. Hózó jí!

With gratitude and respect, on behalf of the [climate warriors at ITEP](#), Nikki Cooley

[National Tribal & Indigenous Climate Conference Registration](#)

[Webinar Recording: The Mining Impacts of the Clean Energy Economy on Tribal Communities](#)

[The Sustainable Lakota Business: Bringing Indigenous Products to the World](#)

Advisory Committee Members:

Tribal Representatives:

Jerry Cain
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indian

Jamie Donatuto
Swinomish Indian Tribal Community

Michael Durglo, Jr.
Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes (CSKT)

Shasta Caughen
Pala Band of Mission Indians

Oxcenia O'Domin
Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

Federal Agency Representatives:

Lisa Bacanskas
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Alicia Bell-Sheetter
U.S. Forest Service

Erica Bollerud
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Ashley Fortune Isham
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Alyssa Morris
Bureau of Indian Affairs

Crystal Keys
Bureau of Indian Affairs

John Mosley
Bureau of Indian Affairs

In The News

[Oil Drilling Has Endured in the Everglades for Decades. Now, the Miccosukee Tribe Has a Plan to Stop It](#)

Within a thicket of the Big Cypress National Preserve, established a half-century ago to protect the marshes and sloughs here that make up a vital part of the Florida Everglades, a series of wells extracts oil from more than two miles underground. The oil field is situated deep within a pine forest of the preserve - the first in the country - which channels more than 40 percent of the water flowing into Everglades National Park and shelters iconic and imperiled species like the fabled ghost orchid and Florida panther, the official state animal. © Inside Climate News, 04/21/24

[Deb Haaland Confronts the History of the Federal Agency She Leads](#)

As the first Native American Cabinet member, the Secretary of the Interior has made it part of her job to address the travesties of the past. When they would not let their children be taken, they were taken instead. A hundred and thirty years ago, nineteen men from the Third Mesa of the Hopi Reservation, in Arizona, were arrested for refusing to surrender their sons and daughters to soldiers who came for them armed with Hotchkiss guns. For years, the United States had been trying to make the Hopi send their children to federal boarding schools—the children sometimes as young as four, the schools sometimes a thousand miles away. © The New Yorker, 04/29/24

[Sweeping Colorado River Settlement Will Bring Water, Equity To Navajo Communities](#)

Two months after Navajo Nation officials released details of a sweeping agreement to secure rights on the Colorado and Little Colorado rivers, there have been numerous community meetings to discuss what it means for people to secure water access. What's clear is that the settlement, known as the Northeastern Arizona Indian Water Rights Settlement Agreement, is about equity, human rights and securing access to water for the next 100 years for the Navajo people. © AZCentral, 05/01/24

[Arizona Wants to Mine Uranium Near the Grand Canyon. Tribal Nations are Fighting Back](#)

Earlier this year, Arizona lawmakers sued the Biden administration over the newly created Baaj Nwaavjo l'tah

Kukveni — Ancestral Footprints of the Grand Canyon National Monument — arguing that the establishment of national monuments should be state matters and calling the move a “land grab.” Now, the Hopi, Havasupai, and Navajo Nation, whose ancestral lands overlap with the national monument, have intervened in the case and joined with the federal government to protect the area. © Grist 05/06/24

[Leading with the Heart in a Time of Climate Change](#)

From an early age, Mona Polacca's mother told her something that would guide her life's work protecting the environment and advocating for Indigenous people: Water and all its inhabitants were her relatives. A citizen of the Hopi, Tewa and Havasupai tribes, Polacca took these words to heart — especially because the Havasupai are known as “the people of the blue-green waters.” © Indian Country Today, 05/19/24

[Indigenous Peoples, Biodiversity, and the Responsibilities of Financial Institutions](#)

According to a 2023 report by the United Nations Environment Programme, “State of Finance for Nature: The Big Nature Turnaround”, in 2022, private finance flows to activities with direct negative impacts on nature were estimated to be at least \$5 trillion. These nature-negative finance flows spanned most economic sectors. While the overall impact of financial institutions on biodiversity is vast and complex, it becomes more tangible when examining specific cases of banks funding projects that directly harm ecosystems. @Cultural Survival, 05/22/2024

[Indigenous advocates at the UN say the green transition is neither clean nor just](#)

On the opening day of this year's United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII), the outgoing chair shared a new report on the green transition, raising alarms about the risks Indigenous peoples and their lands face not only from climate change, but also the projects intended to counteract global warming. In Guatemala, a court recently found that a nickel mine is violating Native land rights; in Norway and the U.S., Indigenous peoples have weathered ongoing fights with green energy developers; and Indigenous Igorot from the Philippines are worried about displacement from nickel mining. More than half the

world's minerals that could serve as alternative energy sources are located on or near lands managed by Indigenous peoples, according to a study in Nature Sustainability. @Grist, 04/23/2024

[A Wildflower Is Teaching The Non-Native Public About Food Sovereignty](#)

“Camas isn't just camas,” said Briece Edwards, manager of the historic preservation office at the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde. The iconic periwinkle wildflower blooms in Willamette Valley springtimes just as deer and elk begin their migration through the meadows, Edwards explained, presiding over a table of old-school tools, such as a kupin (a T-shaped digging tool traditionally made from antlers), at the third annual Camas Festival, hosted by Linfield University in McMinnville, Oregon, in mid-May. Camas grows in shaded white oak savannas, which were hallmarks of the landscape before settlers forced the land into timber production. Deer and elk forage on the wildflowers and acorns. © High Country News, 05/24/24

[What's the Difference Between Indigenous Nations Co-Managing or Co-Stewarding Their Land? A Lot.](#)

For a decade, wind farm companies had been eyeing Molok Luyuk — a mountain ridge of religious importance to tribes in northern California, whose people have worked for years to protect it. It's also widely biodiverse with elk, mountain lions, and black bears, as well as 40 rare plants such as the pink adobe lily. Mia Durham is the secretary for the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation, a tribe that has been in a relationship with Molok Luyuk for thousands of years. In response to petitions filed by wind energy companies that wanted to develop the area, the tribe and its allies asked President Biden to protect it in 2019. © Grist, 05/24/24

Resources

[EPA: Priority Climate Action Plans for States, MSAs, Tribes & Territories](#)

The following tables include links to the Priority Climate Action Plans (PCAPs) developed for each state, Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), Tribe, and territory. Click on the grantee name in the first column to navigate to each grantee's PCAP. This list will continue to be updated as EPA receives PCAP submittals.

[Collaborative Pathways: Indigenous Wisdom Leading Climate Adaptation Efforts in California](#)

A study by SW CASC-funded researchers from the University of California – Davis, the University of Arizona, and the Livelihoods Knowledge Exchanges Network published a new article titled “Climate Justice and Climate Adaptation in California: Indigenous Community Climate Adaptation Leadership and Opportunities for Scientific Collaboration” in *Weather, Climate, and Society*. This publication presents three case studies of Indigenous communities that use a climate justice approach to climate change adaptation.

[Blending Indigenous and Western Science: Quantifying Cultural Burning Impacts in Karuk Aboriginal Territory](#)

While there is increasing recognition of Indigenous fire stewardship among western scientists and managers, the extent and purpose of cultural burning is generally absent from the landscape–fire modeling literature and our understanding of ecosystem processes and development. In collaboration with the Karuk Tribe Department of Natural Resources, we developed a transdisciplinary Monte Carlo simulation model of cultural ignition location, frequency, and timing to simulate spatially explicit cultural ignitions across a 264,399-ha landscape within Karuk Aboriginal Territory in northern California. This work demonstrates the importance of cultural burning for developing and maintaining the ecosystems present at the time of colonization and underscores the need to work collaboratively with Indigenous communities to restore ecocultural processes in these systems.

[US Global Change Research Program - National Call for Authors, Public Comment & Technical Input for the Sixth National Climate Assessment](#)

USGCRP seeks input from the public to inform the development of the Sixth National Climate Assessment. You can submit the following to inform the NCA6: 1) Comments on the proposed themes and framework 2) Scientific/technical inputs 3) Author nominations

[Grid Resilience - Tribal Formula Grants Webinar Recording](#)

The Alliance for Tribal Clean Energy hosted an informative webinar: Grid Resilience Tribal Formula Grants. Together with partners from the Department of Energy, we dived into Tribal Formula Grants and how they provide direct allocations for tribes to strengthen and modernize their electrical grids, fortifying them against wildfires, extreme weather events, and other disasters. These funds are non-competitive, meaning that Congress has authorized specific allocations for each tribe.

[Drive Electric Vehicles \(EV's\): Technical Assistance and Resources for Tribal Nations](#)

The [Joint Office of Energy and Transportation](#) has updated its Resources and Technical Assistance for Tribal Nations page to streamline [EV resources for Tribes](#). They offer an efficient means to identifying the most relevant EV funding opportunities and specific resources or project examples for tribal communities. Tribes may [contact](#) the Joint Office to request [technical assistance](#) with EV infrastructure, planning, and much more. Visit their [site](#) to peruse their [featured resources](#) and [funding opportunities](#).

[For Our Future: Indigenous Resilience Report 2024](#)

This report draws on Indigenous knowledge, perspectives and experiences to explore the multidimensional and intersecting aspects of climate change impacts and adaptation. This Indigenous-led report was released in 2024.

[Free Climate Change Risk Assessment Technical Assistance from EPA's Creating Resilient Water Utilities initiative](#)

Drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater (water sector) utilities, along with other water sector stakeholders, are eligible to receive free climate change risk assessment technical assistance from EPA's [Creating Resilient Water Utilities](#) (CRWU) initiative. Through this technical assistance process, CRWU will assist approximately 75 water sector utilities / communities in identifying long-term climate change adaptation strategies, as well as potential funding options to implement adaptive measures. If you are, or know of, a water sector utility that would like to receive this free technical assistance opportunity, please indicate your interest via email to [Aliza Furneaux \(furneaux.aliza@epa.gov\)](mailto:Aliza.Furneaux(furneaux.aliza@epa.gov)) no later than **Friday, August 15, 2024**.

[Bad River Documentary](#)

A chronicle of the Wisconsin-based Bad River Band and its ongoing fight for sovereignty; a story which unfolds in a groundbreaking way through a series of shocking revelations, devastating losses, and a powerful legacy of defiance and resilience.

[Colorado River Indigenous Youth Advisory Council \(CRIYAC\) Youth Nomination Form](#)

The Colorado Indigenous Youth Advisory Council is accepting nominations for youths 18-25 that are willing to help uplift the Tribal Voice of the Colorado River. Know a young person who is passionate about community, speaking up, planning, the environment and conservation?

[Grant Support For Air Pollution Reduction Projects](#)

If you have a project idea to reduce air pollution in your community and need help applying for grant funding, the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency is here to help. Puget Sound Clean Air Agency staff are available to help community-based organizations, tribal organizations, local governments, and ports pursue grant funding for emission-reduction projects in overburdened communities. The Clean Air Agency is prioritizing its support for projects that reduce airOBC Opens in new window pollution including fine particulate matter, diesel exhaust, and greenhouse gas emissions. Projects must be focused within the Agency's defined [overburdened communities](#). Our support services focus on grant-funded projects that will reduce emissions from the major sources of air pollution in our region.

Job & Internship Opportunities

[Indigenous Partnerships Manager - The Nature Conservancy](#)

This position will engage western science-based approaches, traditional ecological knowledge, and authentic, respectful relationships with collaborators to advance conservation programs, plans and methods on large-scale geographic areas that are culturally appropriate and meet mutual conservation goals of the New Mexico Field Office (NMFO) and relevant indigenous nations and their members. **Application deadline: June 4, 2024**

[Native Youth and Culture Fund Grant Opportunity](#)

First Nations will award multiple two-year grants ranging from \$20,000 to \$60,000 to Native youth programs and projects that focus on increasing youth leadership and providing opportunities for intergenerational transfer of knowledge. Grants will be targeted to three specific funding groups. **Application deadline: June 5, 2024**

[Ecotrust - Director of Indigenous Leadership](#)

The Indigenous Leadership Program (ILP) Director is responsible for advancing Ecotrust's mission by supporting Ecotrust programs working with American Indian tribes, Alaska Native villages, and First Nations. This role will support Ecotrust in being a partner that provides technical assistance and resources, identifies opportunities, and builds capacity for Indigenous governments in the areas of conservation, climate resilience, economic development, and relationship building. **Application deadline: June 15, 2024**

[Changemaker Fellowship- NDN Collective](#)

The NDN Changemaker Fellowship is a two-year fellowship designed to invest (\$150,000 USD) in the visions, leadership, and personal and professional development of 21 Indigenous Changemakers working in their communities. The purpose and intention of the NDN Changemaker Fellowship is to amplify, deepen, and catalyze the power of Indigenous Leaders across Turtle Island. Leaders who change and empower their communities through social change, embrace the opportunity to grow through personal and professional development, and model wellness and self-care. **Application deadline: July 1, 2024**

[Program Officer- Stewarding Native Lands- First Nations Development Institute](#)

First Nations Development Institute (First Nations) is a 44-year-old Native American controlled nonprofit organization whose mission is to uplift and sustain the lifeways and economies of Native Communities through advocacy, financial support, and knowledge sharing. The Program Officer will be assigned to the Stewarding Native Lands program. The Stewarding Native Lands program believes that the world will be more sustainable and prosperous when Native knowledge is centered in the stewardship of lands. The Stewarding Native Lands program supports Tribes and Native nonprofits across four strategic initiatives: Community Pathways, Ecological Stewardship, Environmental Sovereignty & Justice, and Climate. **Application deadline: open until filled**

[Education & Training Manager](#)

Indigenous Climate Action (ICA) is looking for someone who is ambitious, personable and passionately committed to true Indigenous Climate Justice to serve as its Education and Training Manager. This position requires a deep understanding of the intersectional approaches of climate justice and Indigenous rights in application to education and training contexts. The Education and Training Manager you will work with ICA Leadership to coordinate educational resources, develop and oversee the delivery of training on climate justice through a variety of ICA's programs such as, but not limited to, Climate Leadership, Just Transition, and Divestment. **Application deadline: open until filled**

[Program Associate- Stewarding Native Lands- First Nations Development Institute](#)

The Program Associate's primary responsibility is to assist and support program officers and the Director of Programs in the administration and implementation of First Nations' Stewarding Native Lands projects. Additional responsibilities include thoughtful contributions to Indigenous land stewardship and environmental justice conversations; coordination of technical assistance and training; participation in onsite visits, grantee communications, and grant management; and monitoring of consultant work. **Application deadline: open until filled**

[Tohono O'odham Nation - Environmental Specialist](#)

Under general supervision, this position protects the land, natural resources, and eco-system conditions of the Tohono O'odham Nation by assessing environmental impacts of past, present and future operations. Conducts tests and field investigations to obtain data for use in determining sources and methods of controlling pollutants in air, water, and land. **Application deadline: open until filled**

Funding Opportunities



Additional Sources for More Opportunities:

- 1) More Funding Opportunities can be found at the Tribes & Climate Change website: <http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/tcc/Resources/funding>
- 2) Tribal Climate Change Guide maintained by the Pacific Northwest Tribal Climate Change Project at the University of Oregon: <http://tribalclimateguide.uoregon.edu/>
- 3) Searchable database of all discretionary grants offered by the 26 federal grant-making agencies. www.grants.gov/applicants/find_grant_opportunities.jsp
- 4) Conservation Innovation Grants (USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service) <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/>

[Tribal Climate Resilience Program Grants in Washington State](#)

The Washington State Department of Commerce has consulted with tribes within Washington state to co-design a strategy for the distribution of \$50 million of Climate Commitment Act (CCA) dollars that the Washington Legislature appropriated for tribal climate resilience in the 2023-2025 biennium. **Application deadline: June 7, 2024**

[Tribal Solar Gap Funding Grant Program](#)

The Tribal Solar Gap Funding Grant supports solar projects of any type that require a tribal cost-share (ex. Federal or State grant programs) or are leveraging funding from other grant opportunities or initiatives. Applicants may apply for gap funding up to \$250,000. **Application deadline: June 15, 2024**

[Climate Resilience: ESIP Lab Request for Proposals](#)

The 2024 ESIP Lab RFP aims at supporting data management, data analysis or visualization, or data-informed storytelling related to climate resilience. Over the past seven years, ESIP has granted over \$300k in

small grant funding, resulting in over \$2.5 million in follow-on funding, numerous collaborations, open-source software and data products, and peer-reviewed publications. The maximum budget for this RFP is \$20k over ten months. **Application deadline: June 17, 2024**

[Tribal Wildlife Grant Program](#)

USFS offers competitive funding for Federally recognized Tribal governments to develop and implement programs for the benefit of wildlife and their habitat, including species of Native American cultural or traditional importance and species that are not hunted or fished. **Application Deadline: June 21, 2024**

[2024 Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program](#)

The Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Grant Program makes federal funds available to state, local, tribal, and territorial governments to plan for and implement sustainable cost-effective measures designed to reduce the risk to individuals and property from future natural hazards, while also reducing reliance on federal funding from future natural disasters. **Application deadline: June 27, 2024**

[Native Voices Rising 2024 Grant Cycle Open](#)

The [Common Counsel Foundation](#) and [Native Americans in Philanthropy](#) collaborate to provide general operating support to strengthen native-led organizations that are improving the lives of their community members. Focus areas include but are not limited to: environmental and climate justice, health and healing, voter and civic engagement, and youth and intergenerational engagement. **Application deadline: June 28, 2024**

[Community Development Block Grant Program for Indian Tribes and Alaska Native Villages](#)

The primary objective of the Indian Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) program is the development of viable Indian and Alaska Native communities, including the creation of decent housing, suitable living environments, and economic opportunities primarily for persons of low- and moderate-incomes. These funds are awarded on a first-come first-serve basis until the amount set aside for this purpose is expended. **Application deadline: July 15, 2024**

[NDN Collective Community Self-Determination Grant](#)

Community Self-Determination Grants are intended to support, strengthen and invest in the long-term visions, sustainability, and building of collective power of Indigenous Tribal Nations, Pueblos, tribal communities, grassroots movements and Indigenous-led

organizations. While we consider national efforts, we intentionally prioritize grassroots, community-based efforts and solutions. Significant, flexible, multi-year funding may include the infusion of general operating support, power building, capital and holistic support for comprehensive initiatives and specific programs. **Application deadline: July 17, 2024**

[Tribal Domestic Water Infrastructure](#)

On April 2, The Department of the Interior announced that up to \$320 million is available under President Biden's Investing in America agenda through the Bureau of Reclamation to assist federally recognized Tribes and Tribal organizations as they plan and construct domestic water infrastructure. This funding opportunity is open to Tribes in the 17 western U.S. states served by Reclamation, which will implement the program in two phases: phase one funding will be for planning, design or construction in fiscal year 2024; and phase two funding will be for construction in fiscal years 2027 and 2028. **Application deadline: August 4, 2024**

[USDA Forest Service Inflation Reduction Act Forest Landowner Support: Tribal Access to Emerging Private Markets for Climate Mitigation and Forest Resilience](#)

The Forest Service is providing at least \$20 million in competitive funds to federally recognized tribes and Alaska Native corporations and villages to support tribal participation in emerging private markets for climate mitigation or forest resilience. Examples of emerging markets may include markets for water quality and quantity, carbon, biodiversity, and wetland restoration. Proposed activities must benefit nonindustrial private forest land, which includes land that is rural, forested or able to grow trees, and owned by a tribe, tribal member(s), or non-Tribal private forest landowner(s). **Application deadline: August 21, 2024**

[WaterSMART Cooperative Watershed Management Program Phase II](#)

Reclamation began providing funding for watershed group development, watershed restoration planning, and watershed management project design (Phase I). Submit proposals for the second application period for Phase I activities to develop a watershed group, complete watershed restoration planning activities, and design watershed management projects. Reclamation will award a successful applicant up to \$100,000 per year for a period of up to three years, with no non-Federal cost-share required. **Application deadline: September 4, 2024**

Upcoming Events

NOTE: Updated info on events can be found at the Tribes & Climate Change website:

<http://www7.nau.edu/itep/main/tcc/Home/Events>

June

Congress: May 29-June 3, 2024, Bodø, Norway (in-person only)
[Arctic Congress](#)

The Arctic Congress combines three conferences together: the International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences, UArctic Congress, and the High North Dialogue. The congress includes high-level plenary sessions and parallel sessions with opportunities for researchers, policymakers, businesses, and students to increase connectivity and knowledge exchange on Arctic issues.

Workshop, June 7-9th, Online
[Indigenous Climate Action - Climate Leadership Program](#)

Applications for the next online cohort of the Climate Leadership Program are open. The Climate Leadership Program aims to equip participants with the knowledge, skills, and support needed to become effective climate leaders in their communities and beyond. Participants will leave with an increased capacity & collaboration for climate leadership in Indigenous communities; basic knowledge of climate change and climate science; understanding root causes of climate change & vital role Indigenous resilience has played in Mother Earth's survival; language around legal mechanisms and economic activity used to undermine Indigenous Sovereignty & legal strategies to assert rights and more.

Summit, June 11-14th, Bogotá, Colombia
[Securing Afro-descendant Peoples' Land Tenure Rights in Latin America and the Caribbean](#)

Afro-descendant Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean play a critical role in managing natural resources and conserving the region's biodiversity. Despite their contributions, only six countries (Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Honduras, and Nicaragua) have advanced with the legal recognition of their territorial rights, over 8.1 million hectares. Moreover, a historical imbalance persists in the representation of Afro-descendant Peoples as a recognized rightsholder in global conventions on climate change and biodiversity. To help transform this situation, Afro-descendant experts and grassroots organizations, governments, donors, and allies will come together to find pathways forward.

August

Conference, August 9th, 2024, Online

[Global Indigenous Youth Summit on Climate Change \(GIYSCC\) 2024](#)

The Global Summit provides a platform to accelerate global engagement with Indigenous youth communities, cultures, languages, ethnicities, countries, and continents across the world. Rapidly changing climatic conditions have increased levels of uncertainty and anxiety among the youth on Earth, nonetheless, the mobilization of youth around the world shows the massive power they possess as essential contributors. Youth, and especially Indigenous youth have key roles to enhance multilateral cooperation on climate action.

Summit: August 11-16, North Bend, Oregon
[2024 Changing Currents Tribal Water Summit](#)

Changing Current Water summits are inter-tribal convenings designed to bring together staff and leadership from Northwest Tribes and Native communities to foster dialogue & collaboration around common water interests and work toward a shared agenda. Changing Currents: Tribal Water Summit began as an idea and concept of a few tribal water leaders that were inspired by the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs leadership with the Deschutes River Conservancy. The thought being, if divergent interests such as those found on the Deschutes River could come together and work on common interests in that basin; why not replicate that on a state, regional and national level.

Forum: August 12-15, Eugene, Oregon
[ITEP Tribal Lands & Environment Forum](#)

This is the fourteenth annual forum for environmental professionals from Tribes, US EPA, State/Local/Federal agencies, community organizations, and other interested parties to meet, share knowledge and learn from one another how to improve management, protection and restoration of Tribal lands for us and all our relations.

Climate Camp: August 25-30, Corbett, Oregon

[ATNI Tribal Climate Camp](#)

Native communities are among the most climate-sensitive groups within the Northwest, Southern and Eastern regions of the United States. Increasing the resilience of tribal governments and native communities is critical to prepare for future climate change scenarios. Learning objectives will focus on building a common knowledge base in climate science and on building individual and team capacity to lead and manage for change and adaptation across departments within a tribe and between the tribe and partner agencies and organizations.

September

Summit: September 30-October 4, Keshena, WI
SAVE THE DATE Shifting Seasons Summit #4

Registration coming in June

October

Summit, October 8-10, 2024, Geneva, Switzerland

[Just Transition: Indigenous Peoples' Perspectives, Knowledge and Lived Experiences Summit](#)

The goal of the summit is to challenge mainstream interpretations and implementations of what the Just Transition to a "green economy" is being defined as, which often does not represent a full transition from harmful impacts or real justice for Indigenous Peoples. The summit will affirm a rights-based approach related to any potential extractive projects proposed on Indigenous lands, with criteria and safeguards for projects and actions aligned with the Just Transition. This framework is based on the inherent collective rights articulated in UNDRIP. Over 150 representatives of Indigenous Peoples from the seven socio-cultural regions of the world will gather to collectively define a Just Transition and the "green economy" from Indigenous perspectives.

International Indigenous News and Event

International News

[Brazil Creates An Indigenous Task Force To Advance Land Rights In The Country](#)

President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva met with a delegation of 40 Indigenous leaders from across Brazil at the 20th Free Land Camp (Acampamento Terra Livre ATL) - the largest Indigenous mobilization in the country. The Articulation of Indigenous Peoples of Brazil (APIB) had been denouncing the new government's failed promises and raised alarms as the Brazilian government debated passing a law that could have severely limited their rights to land (the Time Frame Law/Marco Temporal), but the meeting instead concluded with the creation of a Task Force to advance land titling in the country. @APIB, 05/02/2024

[Mexico Indigenous Community Makes Strides To Land Rights, But Obstacles Remain](#)

In a watershed ruling, a federal court in Mexico recognized the land rights of the Rarámuri Indigenous community of Bosques de San Elías Repechique, in the state of Chihuahua. The ruling annulled the forest-harvesting permits helped by private individuals on the community's ancestral property and required an Indigenous consultation process should the permits be reapplied for. The Rarámuri had been demanding the recognition of their ancestral territory for more than 40 years while facing aggression and resource grabbing. @Mongabay, 05/14/2024

[Tackling Climate Change In One Of Colombia's Largest Wetlands](#)

La Mojana, a complex network of more than 1.2 million acres of wetlands has drastically deteriorated in recent decades. Thousands of farmers and Indigenous Peoples are working to restore the swamps, marshes, and streams they inhabit. By doing so, they hope that floods and droughts, which are becoming more unpredictable and more severe than ever due to climate change, will affect them less. @Mongabay, 05/15/2024

[Transform Landmark Indigenous Rights Declaration Into Reality: Un General Assembly President](#)

Despite important achievements over the past decade to improve the wellbeing of Indigenous Peoples, safeguard their cultures and expand their participation at the UN, "deep chasms" endure between commitments made and reality on the ground, Mr. Francis, President of the General Assembly said. Li Jinhua, head of the UN department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), noted the lack of effective participation by Indigenous Peoples in development processes continues to be a major obstacle in advancing efforts at the national level. @United Nations News, 04/17/2024

[UNPFII 2024 Press Release: At Annual Forum, United Nations Issues Call for Closing Financial Gaps for Indigenous Peoples](#)

The largest global annual gathering of Indigenous Peoples, the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII), commenced its twenty-third session at the UN Headquarters in New York in April. The theme of this year's global gathering spotlighted Indigenous Peoples' rights to self-determination and voices of Indigenous youth. A key component in ensuring the right to self-determination is access to financing, however, financing for Indigenous Peoples, particularly international climate and development assistance, falls significantly

short of their needs and the lack of investments in Indigenous women and girls remain particularly acute. @UN DESA, 04/16/2024

[Indigenous Kalinago Lead The Way Towards Making Dominica 'climate Resilient'](#)

Dominica aims to become the world's first "climate resilient" nation, and the Indigenous Kalinago people are playing a leading role in developing the country and helping its people to thrive in the face of the climate emergency. @UN News, 04/16/2024

[Press Release: Indigenous Peoples Demand Inclusion, And Full And Effective Participation In The Asean Declaration On Environmental Rights \(Ader\)](#)

Indigenous Peoples from the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries have voiced concerns about the lack of Indigenous Peoples' voices and representation in drafting the ASEAN Declaration on Environmental Rights (ADER). Indigenous Peoples view the ADER as a crucial opportunity for ASEAN Member States to recognize the historic roles and contributions of Indigenous Peoples as custodians of biodiversity and as key partners and knowledge holders in combating environmental challenges including climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution. @AIPP, 05/07/2024 esources

Call for Input

Call for Inputs: United Nations

[Stocktaking Report on existing procedures on the participation of Indigenous Peoples at the United Nations](#)

The report's objective is to compile existing procedures on the participation of Indigenous Peoples at the United Nations and highlight existing gaps and good practices, and to present the report to the Human Rights Council at its fifty-seventh session taking place from September 9- October 9, 2024 in Geneva, Switzerland. The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights hereby requests contributions from United Nations entities, Indigenous Peoples, States, National Human Rights Institutions, Academics, and other Stakeholders for this report. Submissions in word format of maximum of 700 words should be sent by email to requesens@un.org.

Call for Inputs: United Nations

[Access to information on climate change and human rights](#)

The purpose is to inform the thematic report of the Special Rapporteur on Climate Change on the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of climate change to the United Nations General Assembly 79th session. The call for inputs aims at advancing understanding on how the respect, protection and fulfillment of the human right to access to information can support the exercise of procedural rights in relation to climate change, as well as prevent harm and ensure non-discrimination. Input may be sent by email in word form, with a limit of 2500 words to hrc-sr-climatechange@un.org.

International Indigenous News and Event

Job & Internship Opportunities

[International Union for Conservation of Nature \(IUCN\) - Programme Officer; Indigenous Peoples and Conservation](#)

The P2 Indigenous Peoples' Programme Officer will be primarily responsible for the technical execution of the Inclusive Conservation Initiative (ICI), with support to the broader Indigenous Peoples and Conservation Programme Portfolio, assisting in establishing strategic and operative linkages within and beyond IUCN. Duties include project and partnerships management, design, and implementation of policy related activities relevant for the ICI project and IUCN, and resource mobilization to strengthen implementation. **Application deadline: 05/28/2024.**

[International Funders for Indigenous Peoples \(IFIP\) - Operations Associate \(USA\)](#)

IFIP is looking for a detail-oriented and highly organized Operations Associate to join their team. The hybrid position is based in Sacramento, CA. Fluency in formal/professional Spanish is required, and a deep understanding of and respect for Indigenous Peoples' values and rights are essential. The Operations Associate plays a key role in supporting operations, office administration, and grants management. IFIP is the only global funders network dedicated to fostering partnerships among Indigenous Peoples and funders around the globe. **Application deadline: Open until filled, preferred start date 06/10/2024.**

[SIRGE Coalition - Coordinator \(USA\)](#)

SIRGE Coalition is a coalition of Indigenous-led and ally organizations and leaders who champion a just transition to a low-carbon economy. The primary goal of their work is to elevate Indigenous leadership through the creation of a broad coalition and the promotion of constructive dialogue. The SIRGE Coalition Coordinator will serve as liaison with the Coalition and support all of the Coalition's workstreams. They will be responsible for supporting strategies for Indigenous rights in the transition to a green economy through support to communities, policy advocacy, corporate engagement, communications, and research. **Application deadline: no date given (announced 05/22/2024).**

[Indigenous Climate Action - Education & Training Manager \(Canada\)](#)

The Education and Training Manager you will work with ICA Leadership to coordinate educational resources, develop and oversee the delivery of training on climate justice through a variety of ICA's programs such as, but not limited to, Climate Leadership, Just Transition, and Divestment. Qualified persons of Indigenous Ancestry will be given preference in accordance with s.16(1) of the Canadian Human Rights Act. **Application deadline: open until filled.**

Resources

[Global database on conservation by Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities](#)

Information on hundreds of ICCAs ("territories of life" governed, managed, and conserved by custodian Indigenous Peoples and local communities) is now publicly available on the ICCA Registry website, a global database showcasing these territories and their critical contribution to conserving biocultural diversity. The registry, developed in 2008, is also a reporting platform that strengthens the evidence on the conservation importance of ICCAs, and enhances global understanding of these areas and their custodians.

[Indigenous World 2024](#)

(IWGIA, 04/2024)

Indigenous World is a collaborative effort between Indigenous and non-Indigenous activists and scholars who voluntarily document and report on the situation of Indigenous Peoples' rights. It's published as a documentation tool, and this year's overview focuses on Indigenous Peoples' rights to lands, territories and resources. 2023 witnessed an increasing number of attacks against Indigenous Peoples' Human Rights Defenders and environmental defenders who are paying a high price for protecting much of the remaining rich and biodiverse ecosystems left in the world. In this struggle, Indigenous women are disproportionately affected due to systematic discrimination and their roles as caregivers and managers of resources in their communities.

[Path to Scale Tool](#)

From: Rights and Resources Initiative (RRI) and Rainforest Foundation Norway (REN)

"Path to Scale dashboard is the first online tool developed to track all funding for Indigenous Peoples, local communities and Afro-descendant people's forest stewardship and land tenure. It's already highlighted several trends, including that disbursements globally have averaged \$517 million per year between 2020 and 2023, up from 36% from the preceding four years, but with no evidence of increased direct funding to community-led organizations. Although information gaps exist based on what's publicly available, Indigenous leaders say the tool will be useful to track progress and setbacks on funding pledges, as well as hold donors and organizations accountable." (Mongabay, 04/11/2024)