

Safeguards

The GCF Indigenous Peoples Policy

The GCF Indigenous Peoples Policy recognises that indigenous peoples often have identities and aspirations that are distinct from mainstream groups in national societies and are disadvantaged by traditional models of mitigation, adaptation and development. In many instances, they are among the most economically marginalised and vulnerable segments of the population. The economic, social and legal status of indigenous peoples frequently limit their capacity to defend their rights to, and interests in, land, territories and natural and cultural resources, and may restrict their ability to participate in and benefit from development initiatives and climate change actions. In many cases, they do not receive equitable access to project benefits, or benefits are not devised or delivered in a form that is culturally appropriate, and they are not always adequately consulted about the design or implementation of activities that would profoundly affect their lives or communities.

The [Governing Instrument](#) for the GCF, as well as other policies, reflect the importance of fully and effectively engaging with indigenous peoples in the design, development and implementation of the strategies and activities to be financed by GCF, while respecting their rights.

This Policy will assist GCF in incorporating considerations related to indigenous peoples into its decision-making while working towards the goals of climate change mitigation and adaptation. The Policy allows GCF to anticipate and avoid any adverse impacts its activities may have on indigenous peoples' rights, interests and well-being, and when avoidance is not possible to minimise, mitigate and/or compensate appropriately and equitably for such impacts, in a consistent way and to improve outcomes over time. These elements of the Policy will be integrated with other business processes and governance frameworks and will be utilised across the organisation of GCF. The Policy is expected to evolve and continue to mature as GCF operations develop.