

New UN Platform for the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples

In November 2017, the 23rd annual “Conference of the Parties” (COP 23) under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) made the *Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform* operational. The platform was established during the COP 21 in Paris in order to facilitate “the exchange of experiences and sharing of best practices on mitigation and adaptation,” and to catalyze learning, engagement, and policy coordination that benefit local communities and indigenous peoples, as well as the international community. According to the UNFCCC website, “Operationalizing the platform for indigenous peoples and local communities is an opportunity to create strategic linkages between the UNFCCC process, the broader UN system, the sustainable development goals and vulnerable groups and peoples. The platform should enable promotion of adaptation actions in line with the priorities and needs of indigenous peoples and local communities to care for and protect the valuable eco-systems and biodiversity on which our planet depends.”