



Global  
Landscapes  
Forum

# THE STATE OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN 10 FACTS

**9.** Appreciation of the value of traditional knowledge is growing due to its applications to industry, agriculture, species and land conservation, and sustainable development.

The U.N. Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) emphasizes the protection of Indigenous peoples' rights to their traditional knowledge (Article 31).

**10.** The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) also recognizes the close ties of Indigenous peoples and local communities to biological resources,

and the contributions that traditional knowledge can make to preserving the world's endangered ecosystems.

**1.** Indigenous peoples number about 370 million worldwide.

They make up less than 6 percent of the world's population but account for 15 percent of the poorest people, according to the U.N.

**2.** Indigenous peoples are estimated to own and/or occupy approximately one-quarter of the Earth's terrestrial surface.

This land area holds about 80 percent of the Earth's remaining biodiversity.

**8.** Land tenure is, however, on the upswing.

Forest area owned by Indigenous peoples and local communities increased from 18.3 percent in 2002 to 24.1 percent in 2017.

**7.** The rate of tree cover loss is less than half in community and Indigenous lands compared to elsewhere, according to the Global Forest Watch.

Where rights are recognized, the difference is even greater.

**6.** Indigenous peoples and local communities manage 300,000 million metric tons of carbon in their trees and soil,

equal to 33 times global energy emissions in 2017, according to an analysis by Rights and Resources (RRI).

**5.** Some estimates suggest that 50 percent of protected areas worldwide have been established on the traditional territories of Indigenous peoples.

In Central America, over 90 percent of conservation areas are on Indigenous territories.

**3.** They live across some 90 countries, represent 5,000 different cultures and speak an overwhelming majority of the world's 6,700 languages.

But some 2,680 Indigenous languages worldwide are in danger of extinction, according to the U.N., which has designated 2019 as the Year of Indigenous Languages.

**4.** At least 207 environmental activists – almost half of them Indigenous – were targeted and murdered for defending their lands against destructive industries in 2017,

the worst year on record, according to human-rights watchdog Global Witness.





Photo by Marlon del Aguila/CIFOR

## 2 days to change the world through Indigenous rights

On 22–23 June 2019, the Global Landscapes Forum (GLF) will be held in Bonn, Germany, focusing on tackling climate change by improving rights for Indigenous peoples and local communities. Alongside the U.N. Bonn Climate Change Conference (SBSTA 50), the event will bring together more than 1,500 global Indigenous leaders, scientists, politicians, activists, youth, members of the private sector, creative thinkers and more.

Under the theme “Rights in the Landscape,” the Forum will examine pressing issues for Indigenous peoples and create a new global standard for recognizing members of Indigenous and local communities as bearers of rights and solutions to the climate crisis and other shared challenges.

The Global Landscapes Forum is the world’s largest knowledge-led platform on sustainable land use and development, with an audience of 250+ million. It aims to create a movement of 1 billion people striving to tackle climate change and secure a more sustainable future. Its partners include UN Environment, the World Bank, the German Government and others.

### GLF Bonn 2019

22–23 June, Maritim Hotel, Bonn, Germany

### For more information, visit

[events.globallandscapesforum.org/bonn-2019](https://events.globallandscapesforum.org/bonn-2019)

#### Global Landscapes Forum

The Global Landscapes Forum (GLF) is a collaborative, mobile platform for discussions leading to action on landscape restoration, rights, finance, food and livelihood initiatives. It is led by the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), supported by UN Environment and the World Bank. In conjunction with its many charter members, GLF also tracks and measures progress on meeting the targets laid out in the UN Paris Agreement on climate change and the Agenda 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. Core funding is provided by the government of Germany. **Charter members:** CIRAD, CIFOR, Climate Focus, Conservation International, Ecoagriculture Partners, Evergreen Agriculture, FSC, GEF, IPMG, CIAT, ICIMOD, IFOAM - Organics International, INBAR, IUFRO, Rainforest Alliance, Rare, Rights and Resources Initiative, UN Environment, Wageningen Centre for Development Innovation part of Wageningen Research, World Agroforestry, WWF Germany, Youth in Landscapes Initiative (YIL), World Bank Group

#### Funding partners



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