



**ANNUAL
REPORT**

2024
JANUARY-DECEMBER



**Indigenous Peoples
Rights International**
Championing Indigenous Peoples Rights





**MESSAGE FROM
THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Dear friends and allies,

2024 was a year of significant progress for IPRI in our fight to promote and defend the rights of Indigenous Peoples. Together, we responded to urgent global challenges—confronting the criminalization and violations of Indigenous rights that continue to go unreported and unpunished. Through unwavering advocacy, strong partnerships at the national level, and direct support for Indigenous defenders at risk, IPRI has reinforced its role as a vital voice in the movement for justice and dignity.

Our work would not be possible without the strength and resilience of Indigenous communities and organizations worldwide. By standing alongside them—whether in local struggles or key global platforms—we have shone a light on the injustices faced by Indigenous Peoples in biodiversity conservation, renewable energy projects, and extractive industries, particularly the mining of transition minerals.

As we look ahead to 2025, we are committed to deepening our impact. We will focus on strengthening our Secretariat, expanding partnerships with Indigenous organizations, and increasing our support for Indigenous men, women, and communities facing criminalization. We will also push harder for stronger accountability mechanisms to ensure Indigenous rights are protected, and impunity is challenged.

Thank you for standing with us. Together, we will continue this fight for justice, dignity, and the recognition of Indigenous Peoples' rights worldwide.

In solidarity,

JOAN CARLING

Executive Director



KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2024

Advancing Indigenous Perspectives in the Green Transition:

Unified Indigenous positions and strategies through the IP Declaration on the Just Transition (April 2024) by 87 Indigenous participants from 35 countries to the International Conference on the Just Transition and Indigenous Peoples co-organized by IPRI, The Right Energy Partnership (REP) and the Business and Human Rights Resource Center (BHRRC)

Global Policy Impact:

Collaborated with the Colombian government in elaborating a resolution on human rights and biodiversity. The HRC adopted the resolution (57/28) in October 2024.

Strengthening Indigenous Rights in UN Bodies:

Provided written submissions to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) and the Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (CESCR).

Capacity Building for Advocacy:

Supported Indigenous organizations in Cambodia, Kenya, and Peru while continuing work in our six focus countries—Colombia, Brazil, Mexico, India, the Philippines, and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Legal and Policy Tools:

Published two editions of Xanharu (Digest on Laws and Jurisprudence on Indigenous Peoples' Rights) and a Training Manual on the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF).

Stronger Alliances:

Increased collaborations with 61 Indigenous Peoples organizations, NGOs and international networks, UN, governments to enhance advocacy impact.

Direct Support for Indigenous Defenders:

Provided assistance to 2,522 Indigenous Human Rights Defenders (IPH RDs) and communities through the expanded Legal Defense and Sanctuary Fund.

Increased Media Visibility:

Strengthened IPRI's presence in mainstream and social media, amplifying Indigenous Peoples' voices.

Financial Growth:

Secured 50% more funding than in 2023, ensuring program expansion and sustainability.

LEGAL, POLICY, AND ADVOCACY

Global Advocacy and Indigenous Rights Promotion

UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNFII) and Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP):

Delivered six official interventions and co-organized seven side events.

Convention on Biological Diversity Conference of Parties 16 (COP16) and UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) COP29:

Presented Indigenous perspectives on criminalization, biodiversity conservation, and just transition.

Human Rights Council (HRC):

Advocated for the adoption of a resolution on biodiversity and human rights.

National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs):

Promoted direct Indigenous participation in policy development, particularly in Brazil and Colombia

UN Treaty Bodies:

Strengthened Indigenous rights recognition through written submissions to CERD and CESCR.

Universal Periodic Review (UPR):

Submitted shadow reports for Cambodia and the Democratic Republic of Congo

LEGAL, POLICY, AND ADVOCACY

Strategic Engagements:

Partnered with UN Special Rapporteurs on Indigenous Rights; Judicial Independence; and Climate Change and Human Rights

Worked with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Asian Development Bank (ADB), and International Council on Metals and Minerals (ICMM) to integrate Indigenous Peoples rights into development, extractive and conservation frameworks.

Contributed to the development of Core Human Rights Principles for Conservation initiated by UN Environment Program (UNEP).

Engaged the private sector to ensure Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) and equitable benefit-sharing arrangements including co-ownership in the just transition.

Strategic Litigation and Case Support

Filed and supported cases in Mexico, Ecuador, and Guyana on land rights.

Strengthened collaboration with the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention.

Capacity Building and Training

Conducted workshops in Cambodia, the Philippines, and Colombia.

Developed training materials on Indigenous Peoples and GBF, and legal guides on combating criminalization.

We would like to express our recognition of the work of IPRI, which has been doing an enormous job of consolidating the validity and guarantee of human rights.

Particularly in the case of our colleague Onías Muevecela in Molleturo and others who obtained his defense so as not to be criminalized for social protest. Without a doubt, IPRI's leadership has been inspiring and all the support it has given us is invaluable.

Thank you very much for that support and hopefully you can expand the bonds of solidarity with the most humble.

YAKU PÉREZ
Ecuador



II | LEGAL DEFENSE AND SANCTUARY FUND (LDSF)

Provided support to 2,522 IPHRDs and communities in 9 countries across Latin America, Africa, and Asia.

Issued 35 grants, a 75% increase from 2023 due to increased funding for the LDSF

III | RESEARCH AND DOCUMENTATION

Key Research Initiatives:

- Nature Crime and Indigenous Rights.
- Nature Conservation and Violations of Indigenous Peoples' Rights.

Publications:

- Released Volumes 5 and 6 of Xanharu.
- Documented case histories, including Guatatuca and Molleturo water defense struggles.

Data Contributions:

- Strengthened database infrastructure to support advocacy and legal strategies.



- **Expanded Media Presence:**
Over 100 media mentions, including Associated Press, Mongabay, and Grist.
- **Strategic Campaigns:**
Integrated advocacy through articles, statements, graphics, and videos: <https://iprights.org>
- **Capacity Building:**
Supported country partners in strengthening communication skills and outreach.



V | PARTNERSHIPS AND NETWORKS

Strengthening Indigenous Networks

Focus Country Partnerships:
Deepened collaboration in the Democratic Republic of Congo, the Philippines, India, Mexico, Brazil, and Colombia.

New Partnerships:
Expanded collaboration with IP organizations in Cambodia, Kenya, Tanzania, and Peru.

Formation of Working Group:
Indigenous Peoples and Wildlife

Regional Highlights:

- Africa:** Supported community advocacy on land rights in Kenya and Tanzania and support to Ethiopia
- Asia:** Strengthened grassroots advocacy in Cambodia and the Philippines.
- Latin America:** Conducted workshops and regional webinars on Indigenous security and women’s activism.

Broader Alliances

Global Networks:
membership to the International Land Coalition (ILC)

Collaborations:
Leaders Network for Environmental Activist and Defenders (LEAD), Business and Human Rights Resource Center, OECD Watch, Oxfam America, ELATIA, UN Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples, Right Energy Partnership

IRAC’s collaboration with IPRI has been instrumental in advancing the individual and collective rights of Indigenous Peoples in India. We have been able to secure justice and reparations for Indigenous victims of human rights violations and obtained compensation of around USD 1,09,300 awarded by NHRIs during 2024 and paid by State governments to the affected victims and communities. IPRI’s global leadership in advocating for Indigenous rights has been inspiring, and their guidance and cooperation in India have been commendable.

DILIP CHAKMA
IRAC’s coordinator (India)

VI | INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

Governance and Organizational Development

Held six Global Board meetings and one International Advisory Group meeting.

Improved communication with affiliates through updates, alerts, and engagement in key events.

Established a Management Team

Drafted key policies on Sexual Harassment and Digital Security.

Resource Mobilization

Secured \$2.9 million in funding from 12 existing and 6 new funders.

Strengthened relationships with donors.

Secretariat Growth

Expanded team from 14 to 16 staff members and 2 consultants.

Enhanced recruitment and staff development, providing seven training opportunities.

CONCLUSION

IPRI's accomplishments in 2024 reflect its growing influence as a global leader in defending Indigenous Peoples' rights. As we move into 2025, we remain steadfast in our mission to challenge impunity, strengthen accountability, and support Indigenous communities in their fight for justice and self-determination.

We must continue to care for our Mother Earth for the next seven generations

SANDRA CREAMER

Chair of the Global Board of IPRI

**ANNEX
A.1. | FINANCIAL
STATEMENT**

**INDIGENOUS PEOPLES RIGHTS INTERNATIONAL, INC.
(A Non-stock, Non-profit Organization)**

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

	2024	2023
REVENUE		
Grants and donations	\$2,120,325	\$2,186,959
Other income	50	20
	2,120,375	2,186,979
EXPENSES		
Project and program services	1,973,715	1,147,356
General and administrative expenses	43,359	28,519
Foreign exchange loss	4,864	30
Loss on disposal	233	-
Depreciation expenses	6,467	5,700
	2,028,638	1,181,605
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	\$91,737	\$1,005,374

See Notes to the Financial Statements.



PHOTO: Group discussion at the Conference "Indigenous Peoples and the Just Transition. Co-ownership models and partnerships for human rights and shared prosperity". New York, April 2024 | NATALIA RAMÍREZ | IPRI



PHOTO: Conference “Indigenous Peoples and the Just Transition. Co-ownership models and partnerships for human rights and shared prosperity”. New York, April 2024 | NATALIA RAMÍREZ | IPRI

The Indigenous Peoples Rights International (IPRI) is a global Indigenous Peoples’ organization established in 2019 in response to the grave situation of Indigenous Peoples who are increasingly being criminalized, killed, disappeared, and subjected to the worst forms of violence.

We are leading the Global Initiative to Address and Prevent Criminalization, Violence, and Impunity Against Indigenous Peoples—an Indigenous-led global effort to strengthen coordination, solidarity, and actions to prevent, respond to, and reduce acts of criminalization, violence, and impunity against Indigenous Peoples; and to provide better protection and access to justice for victims not only as individuals but as collectives or communities.

Global Board of Directors

- **Sandra Creamer** (Waanyi/Kalkadoon, Australia), Chairperson
- **Lars-Anders Baers** (Saami, Sweden), Vice-Chairperson
- **Naomi Kipuri** (Maasai, Kenya), Secretary
- **Leonor Zalabata Torres** (Arhuaco, Colombia), Treasurer
- **Victoria Tauli-Corpuz** (Kankanaey, Philippines)
- **Rukka Sombolinggi** (Toraja, Indonesia)
- **Wilfredo Alangui** (Kankanaey, Philippines)
- **Pavel Vasilievich Sulyandziga** (Udege, Russia)
- **Beverly Jacobs** (Iroquois, Canada)
- **Natali Segovia** (Quechua, USA)
- **Joan Carling** (Kankanaey, Philippines), *ex officio* Executive Director

International Advisory Group

Individuals and organizations with expertise and experience in areas relevant to IPRI’s mission and activities. Includes representatives of regional networks of Indigenous Peoples, international human rights organizations, academe and donors.

Affiliates

Indigenous organizations and networks supporting IPRI in addressing the serious challenges of Indigenous Peoples against criminalization and impunity through solidarity, cooperation and collaboration.

The IPRI Secretariat

The IPRI Secretariat currently has 16 staff: The Executive Director, Deputy Director for Latin America, Chief Operations Officer, Advocacy Team on UN Human Rights System and Private Sector, Environment and Human Rights Team, Research and Documentation Team, Communications Team, and Administrative Support Team.

Contact us



**Indigenous Peoples
Rights International**
Championing Indigenous Peoples Rights



ipri@iprights.org



<https://www.iprights.org>

Find us on social media



[Indigenous Peoples Rights International](#)



[@iprightsintl](#)



[Indigenous Peoples Rights International](#)



[The Indigenous Peoples Rights International](#)