

**Knowledge Exchange Platform –  
Operative Paragraph 135 of the Paris Agreement  
Latin America Working Document  
Prepared by Johnson Cerda**

1. **On the Multi-sectoral workshop:** paragraph 9 indicates that one of the first activities on which the “facilitator working group” will be established is multi-sectoral dialogue.

**Interpretation:** Indigenous peoples will come with a clear proposal for the number of participants that they should elect, as well as the mandate period. Also, a clear proposal for the “content” of the plan of work should be raised at this first meeting.

To be discussed in this multi-sectoral workshop will be “*modalities for the development of a plan of work that complies with the functions referred to in paragraph 6*”.

- a. **Facilitator working group:** paragraph 10 indicates that consideration should be given to a balanced representation between indigenous peoples/local communities and the Parties.

**Proposal:**

- i. The Abya Yala Forum proposes that there be 7 representatives of the indigenous regions of the world with two appropriate alternates.
- ii. With respect to local communities, the Abya Yala Forum proposes that indigenous peoples cannot speak for them and that a legal opinion on the subject be requested from the secretariat.  
Mandate for the facilitator working group
- iii. Coordinate the implementation of functions for a period of two years and provide that each year the alternates be made principals in order to have the opportunity to participate and to create empowerment of the different regions. We must remember that some stability is required in order to follow up on the agreements.
- iv. Provide that reports be accessible to the public.
- v. The terms of reference could consider the following criteria:
  1. Experience in climate change works
  2. Membership in an indigenous people
  3. Knowledge of indigenous peoples and climate change
  4. Experience in dialogues and international impact
  5. Ability to speak Spanish and/or English
  6. Time availability

- b. **On the Plan of Work:** the decision in paragraph 10 indicates that we must propose *modalities* for the development of the plan of work for the full and effective implementation of the “functions”.

- i. **Knowledge:**

1. Promote the exchange of experiences:

**Proposal:**

- ii. At the global level, intersessional workshops will be included under the UNFCCC to cover subjects proposed during the ongoing multi-sectoral dialogue covering the experiences of ecosystems: Amazonian (tropical rainforest), Andean (high mountains), and Marine Coastal. It has been suggested that certain emblematic cases of ecosystems be systematized. This requires:
  - 1. Building a system of **indigenous indicators** of success on climate change, adaptation and mitigation.
  - 2. Identifying additional research that would allow for the reduction of the risks of climate change in indigenous territories.
- iii. At the national level, create or strengthen intersectoral structures to ensure the participation of indigenous peoples in decision-making. Some countries have consultative councils or spaces within the Ministry of the environment that can be strengthened with the inclusion of the platform issues.

Establish national platforms and ensure the participation of indigenous peoples or integrate the national platform into the intersectoral structures of the countries.

There are countries where evaluation reports of local knowledge on climate change are being prepared; these include information on mitigation and adaptation and may be useful for sharing knowledge.

- iv. At the regional level, the region has spaces for participation where spaces for exchanges can also be created such as in SICA and CAN, whose decisions have impact at the national level.

**c. Considering the FPIC of knowledge holders.**

**Proposal:**

- 1. Create a system of safeguards for the knowledge of indigenous peoples that is linked to climate change.
- 2. Demand at the national level that Free, Prior and Informed Consent be implemented in the design of national strategies on climate change.

**d. Ability to link to the Convention:**

- i. Build these capabilities of
  - 1. Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

**Proposal:**

Workshops as part of the plan of work for Indigenous Peoples and the Parties that could be developed according to topics based on the Paris Agreement *and depending on availability of funds*. The activities would be carried out as intersessional workshops or during the sessions. This would begin with an update of the NDCs.

**e. Climate Change Policies**

- i. Facilitate the integration of knowledge:

1. Design.

**Proposal:** The facilitator working group will prepare recommendations for SBSTA based on recommendations arising in the workshops and during multi-sectoral dialogue.

As to the national part, the multi-sectoral structures will coordinate with the working groups or forums involving indigenous peoples in order to work on the policy design.

2. Implementation of actions (at the national level).

**Proposal:** Propose a Focal Point for indigenous peoples on climate change in the government structure at the national level in the ministry in charge of the issue.

3. Linked to the NDCs.

**Proposal:** Require the participation of indigenous representatives in the structure of planning and implementation of the NDCs at the national level.

Participate in the monitoring and preparation of the national reports.

At the global level, incorporate/recommend indicators on indigenous peoples' knowledge for the reports of the States. Build a system of **indigenous indicators** of success on climate change, adaptation and mitigation. Propose strategies for the appropriate approach to adaptation and mitigation in indigenous territories.