

National Workshop on the Indigenous Navigator Climate Change Survey

5-7 March, 2025, Kathmandu, Nepal

Indigenous Navigator National Partners—the Lawyers’ Association for Human Rights of Nepalese Indigenous Peoples (LAHURNIP), Nepal, and Kapaeeng Foundation, Bangladesh—in collaboration with the Danish Institute for Human Rights (DIHR) and the Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP), organized a national workshop on the Indigenous Navigator Climate Change Survey from March 5-7, 2025, in Kathmandu, Nepal.

States are obligated to respect, protect, and fulfill the rights of Indigenous Peoples, including their rights over lands, territories, water, natural resources, and cultural practices. However, there remains a critical gap in locally generated and systematized data by Indigenous Peoples themselves on the extent of the harms and violations they face in the context of climate change, as well as on their vital contributions—as custodians of lands, forests, and natural resources—to the protection and sustainable management of these resources.

The Indigenous Navigator (IN) initiative is a framework and set of tools designed by and for Indigenous Peoples to systematically monitor the recognition and implementation of their rights. To address this gap and highlight the contributions of Indigenous Peoples, the IN Consortium developed three new survey modules focusing on Climate Change, Biodiversity, and Human Rights and Environment Due Diligence. The Climate Change survey module, developed by DIHR and AIPP in consultation with Indigenous Peoples organizations, aims to monitor the impact of climate change on Indigenous rights.

To pilot this survey, a three-day national workshop was held in Nepal, hosted by Kapaeeng Foundation, Bangladesh, and LAHURNIP, Nepal. The workshop aimed to provide an in-depth understanding of the Climate Change Survey Module, clarify the survey methodology, identify potential challenges, provide recommendations on the climate change survey, develop an action plan for conducting the survey, and enhance understanding of climate change advocacy at different levels.

A total of 24 participants (16 males, 8 females) attended the workshop. The workshop was effective, with participants from the two national partners—KF and LAHURNIP—along with supportive organizations, including AIPP, DIHR, and representatives from various IP communities in Nepal and Bangladesh. This also included representatives from AIPP member organizations, the National Statistics Office of Nepal, IPwDs, and others. Over the three days of the workshop, eight important sessions on relevant topics were conducted, along with two group activities. On the final day, the workshop concluded with a knowledge products expo, where participant organizations showcased their publications related to climate change and the rights of Indigenous Peoples and shared their insights verbally.

Reported by

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