



Indigenous
Peoples and
Biodiversity
Coalition
Philippines

From Consultation to Leadership

Asserting Indigenous Peoples' Rights in the Update of the Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan

Jacqueline Cariño

September 2025

**Indigenous Peoples and biodiversity planning:
An AIPP series**



About the series

The Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF), adopted in 2022, marks a historic milestone in international environmental policy through its explicit and unequivocal recognition of Indigenous Peoples' rights and contributions to conservation.

As a next step, Parties to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity were required to update and revise their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) to align with the KMGBF within two years. These updates, still ongoing in many countries, provide a prime opportunity to strengthen Indigenous Peoples' rights and integrate their knowledge.

This paper is part of a series documenting Indigenous Peoples' and advocates' experiences with NBSAP revision processes in several Asian countries where AIPP members and partners are active. By examining both successful engagement strategies and persistent challenges, they offer insights for other Indigenous advocates, highlight key concerns for policy-makers, and point to important opportunities for allies to support Indigenous Peoples. AIPP's goal is to inform on-going and future policy development, implementation, monitoring and reporting to enable more meaningful engagement of Indigenous Peoples in biodiversity governance and decision-making across the region.

Acknowledgements

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Rice fields and mountains in the Cordillera region. Photo by Isara Phanasantikun/Inter Mountain Peoples' Education and Culture in Thailand Association (IMPECT).





Introduction

The government of the Philippines started the process to update the Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (PBSAP) in the first quarter of 2023, shortly after the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF) was approved. Led by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) through its Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB), the process set out to:

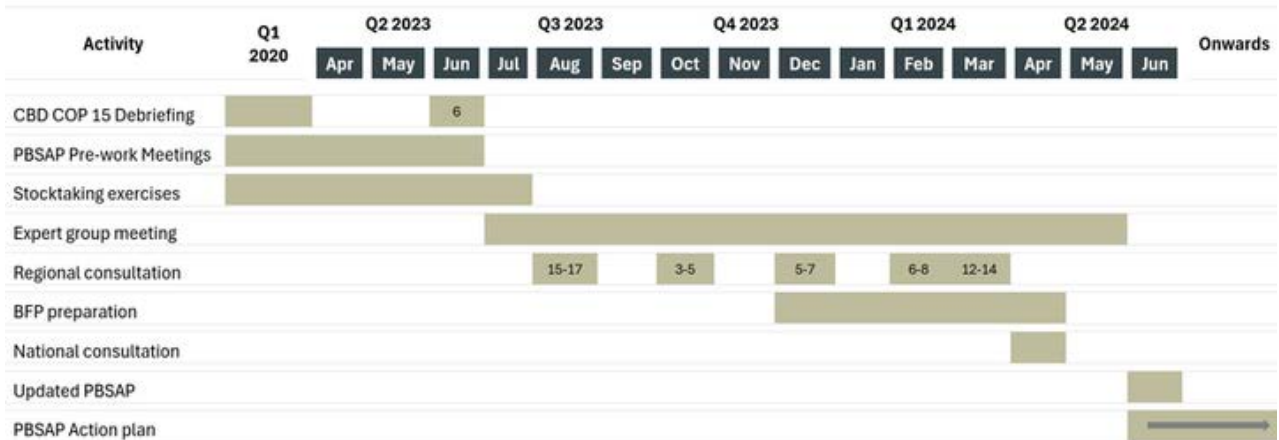
- Review progress on the previous PBSAP (2015–2028) and develop a fourth iteration of the PBSAP aligned with the KMGBF;
- Develop an action plan with concrete targets and indicators, including a Biodiversity Finance Plan, to help the country achieve its national targets and contribute to the global goals; and
- Create a draft monitoring framework for the implementation of the updated PBSAP.

As shown in Figure 1, the process was designed to last about 20 months. After sessions to brief the DENR and its Sub-Committee on Biodiversity on the outcomes of the 15th Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP15), the DENR-BMB planned stocktaking exercises, expert group meetings and five regional consultations, culminating in a national consultation held on August 6–7, 2024. The updated PBSAP, including the Biodiversity Finance Plan and the PBSAP Action Plan, would be drafted during the latter part of the process.

Along with national and regional government agencies, the process was to include local government units, academic and research institutions, private sector organizations, the media, civil society and non-governmental organizations (CSOs and NGOs), people's

organizations, and community-based or sectoral organizations. A limited number of invitations were extended to organizations representing Indigenous Peoples, farmers, fishers and other natural resource-dependent communities.

Figure 1. Original timetable for the Philippines' NBSAP update



Source: Reproduced from DENR-BMB presentation at a Sub-Committee on Biodiversity Meeting on the PBSAP, 6 June 2023.

Indigenous Peoples' direct participation in the PBSAP update

The rights of Indigenous Peoples are enshrined in Philippine law. The 1987 Constitution recognizes and promotes Indigenous rights, while the Indigenous Peoples' Rights Act (IPRA) of 1997 recognizes a broad range of rights, including rights to ancestral domains, self-governance and empowerment, social justice and human rights, and cultural integrity.

Despite this strong legal framework, the PBSAP revision process did not include dedicated consultations with Indigenous Peoples. Indigenous representatives were invited to participate in consultations, but their inclusion was limited. For example, while four sub-national consultations included Indigenous representatives, invitations were sent to only a few organizations that the government was aware of, primarily NGOs supporting Indigenous Peoples or existing Indigenous Peoples' networks.

The disparity in representation became evident at the national consultation, where over 200 people participated, but only around 10 were Indigenous representatives. The majority of attendees represented major government offices, prominent conservation NGOs, academic institutions and business sectors. As discussed further below, technical and logistical challenges created additional barriers that hindered the full and meaningful participation of Indigenous Peoples in the consultation.



At the national consultation with over 200 participants, roughly 10 were Indigenous representatives.





Indigenous-led Consultation Process

Indigenous Peoples and other organizations saw the PBSAP update process as a good opportunity to collectively advocate for effective and inclusive biodiversity policies and actions, so they took proactive steps to engage. They reached out to the DENR-BMB and requested that Indigenous Peoples be invited to different consultations – and they organized their own consultation process.

Indigenous advocates in the Philippines were aware of the gains made by Indigenous Peoples at the international level through participation in processes under the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), including significant mentions of Indigenous Peoples in the KMGBF global goals and targets. Indigenous Peoples' organizations and NGOs thus decided to work together to try to ensure that those gains were reflected and implemented at the national and local levels.

Internal consultations among Indigenous Peoples started on August 11, 2023, with an online meeting convened by Partners for Indigenous Knowledge Philippines (PIKP). This was the first step to bring together Indigenous Peoples' organizations, communities and supportive CSOs to strengthen coordination, advocacy and leadership on biodiversity issues in the Philippines. It was attended by representatives from 20 organizations.

This was followed by an in-person National Roundtable Discussion in November 2023 in Diliman, Quezon City. Forty-four delegates from 26 organizations participated. They discussed potential inputs on the KMGBF, the status of the current PBSAP, the state of biodiversity in Indigenous territories, and workshops to articulate and formulate Indigenous Peoples' perspectives, concerns, issues, targets, contributions and commitments to biodiversity conservation, sustainable use and benefit-sharing. It was here that the decision was made to draft their own Indigenous Peoples' Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan (IPBSAP) – the first of its kind.

A roundtable for Northern Luzon followed in January 2024 in Baguio City, with 43 delegates from three regions. The goal was to bring the discussion down to the local level and build understanding among community representatives about the KMGBF, the PBSAP review, and how Indigenous Peoples might get involved. The state of biodiversity in different communities was discussed, along with initiatives and recommended actions for biodiversity conservation.

In May 2024, a second National Roundtable Discussion was held in Quezon City, with more than 50 delegates from 34 organizations/communities from around the country, as well as representatives from the DENR-BMB. One topic of discussion was how to engage in the government-led PBSAP update process, and what points were most important for Indigenous advocates to make. A significant output of the roundtable was a set of key messages that was approved and signed by the participants and officially submitted to the DENR-BMB (Box 1). The agreed-upon messages enabled the few Indigenous Peoples' representatives who were invited to the DENR-BMB consultations to be better prepared to participate and contribute text recommendations.

On July 10-13, 2024, a writeshop and planning workshop was conducted in Imugan, Santa Fe, Nueva Vizcaya, to bring together all the important views, ideas and contributions emerging from the previous activities. It was also decided during this meeting to form the Indigenous Peoples and Biodiversity Coalition (IPBC) Philippines, composed of the organizations that had been collaborating in the earlier activities. The IPBC is the official author of the IPBSAP. Annex 1 provides a list of coalition members as of August 2024. The list of participating organizations in the IPBC has since grown through localization efforts.

Indigenous leaders turn over their Key Messages on PBSAP Implementation to representatives of the BMB-DENR and NCIP during the second national roundtable dialogue on Indigenous Peoples and biodiversity. Photo by Michelle Lapiz/ Non-Timber Forest Products-Exchange Programme (NTFP-EP).



BOX 1. KEY MESSAGES ON INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND BIODIVERSITY AS GUIDANCE FOR PBSAP IMPLEMENTATION

01.

Free prior and informed consent (FPIC)

of affected Indigenous communities should be respected, and obtained in accordance with their customary or prevailing practices of consultation and decision-making, for all conservation and restoration projects, as well as extractive industries and development projects planned in indigenous territories. FPIC means that Indigenous Peoples are provided all the necessary information before they undertake a collective, genuine, and independent decision-making process, free from coercion, on whether or not to allow a project to proceed within their ancestral territories

02.

Indigenous Peoples' political structures and customary governance systems

over their lands, waters, territories and natural resources need to be respected and given primacy in the planning and implementation of conservation and restoration policies, programs and projects in Indigenous territories, including where they overlap with protected areas. Ancestral Domains Sustainable Development and Protection Plans (ADSDPPs) formulated by Indigenous communities must be recognized and harmonized with other local land use and development plans.

03. Full, meaningful and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples

including Indigenous elders, women and youth, should be ensured in decision-making concerning biodiversity in Indigenous territories. Effective participatory mechanisms must be established at all stages of these processes, and at the national, sub-national and local levels. Local initiatives and Indigenous forms of and measures for biodiversity conservation, such as forest guards, should be strengthened and enhanced where these already exist.

04.

Indigenous values, knowledge and practices

that have proven effective for biodiversity conservation, restoration, and sustainable use should be protected, strengthened and promoted, and recognized in reporting on the contributions of Indigenous Peoples towards achieving the goals and targets of the PBSAP.

06.

Access to justice and protection of environmental defenders

Indigenous leaders, communities, organizations and institutions with a proven track record in defending and protecting Indigenous rights, territories and the environment should be given full protection and support. Access to justice should be accorded to Indigenous Peoples and environmental defenders who have been criminalized and whose human rights have been violated, including Indigenous victims of the impacts of biodiversity loss.

05.

Community-based documentation, research, monitoring and information systems of Indigenous Peoples

should be respected and supported as a means to generate accurate on-site information, and to effectively monitor the status, trends and initiatives in biodiversity in their communities.

07.

Access to information

All relevant information necessary for the full, meaningful and effective participation of Indigenous communities in decision-making regarding biodiversity policies, programs and projects affecting them should be provided by the concerned authorities, in a timely manner, and in a language and form that is understandable to them.

08.

Traditional knowledge

Traditional values, knowledge and practices that are to be used to inform decision-makers, and for purposes of strengthening communication, awareness-raising, education, monitoring, research and knowledge management on biodiversity, should only be accessed with the knowledge-holders' free, prior and informed consent.

09.

Access and benefit-sharing

Indigenous communities are entitled to receive a rightful share of the benefits derived from the utilization of the biological and genetic resources, and associated traditional knowledge, within their ancestral domains.

10.

Funding

Sufficient budget and mechanisms for direct access to financing should be provided for Indigenous Peoples, to support their biodiversity initiatives, appropriate technologies and innovations, in accordance with their own priorities and in the free exercise of their right to self-determination.

11.

Intergenerational transmission of knowledge

Enhance inter-generational resiliency by supporting the documentation and effective transmission of Indigenous knowledge to the youth, through education, community-based learning and other means.

12. Capacity-building

Conduct capacity-building activities among government personnel, private sector and other stakeholders in order to develop a greater understanding and appreciation of Indigenous Peoples' rights, knowledge, culture and contributions to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, and the human rights-based approach to development.

Developing the IPBSAP

1

full year of collaborative work

30

Indigenous Peoples' organizations and community representatives

11

Indigenous NGOs and their networks

14

support agencies and/or funders

The IPBSAP is a document for and by Indigenous Peoples. It was developed through almost a full year of collaborative work by numerous organizations, communities and individuals, including 30 Indigenous Peoples' organizations and community representatives, and 11 Indigenous NGOs and their networks. Financial contributions to be able to hold the activities were made by 14 support agencies and/or funders. A number of government personnel from the DENR-BMB and the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) were present.¹ Indigenous women and Indigenous youth were represented in the different activities, but Indigenous persons with disabilities were not specifically targeted as a group. It is worth noting that some DENR-BMB staff were quite open and solicited proposals from Indigenous Peoples into the PBSAP update process. However, while the government verbally welcomed the IPBSAP as an important contribution to the PBSAP, it is not clear how this document will figure in the final version of PBSAP.

A challenge in reaching consensus among Indigenous Peoples' organizations was the limited resources available to bring more community representatives to attend the different activities. The locations, Manila and Baguio City, were selected as central places where people from different regions could converge. There were also difficulties in translating the technical language used in the KMGBF and PBSAP into Filipino, which itself is understood by all, but not commonly used in some Indigenous communities. Filipino-speaking participants and staff of supportive NGOs helped with interpretation and the translation of documents into Filipino.

To build consensus among participants and ensure that all voices were heard, we held multiple meetings online and face-to-face. We also actively worked to build a coalition, the IPBC, which is now the coordinating mechanism for continuing activities such as localizing the IPBSAP through local and regional workshops. The IPBC is also working to raise awareness of the IPBSAP through an information and education campaign, and organized side events at CBD COP16 in Cali, Colombia, in November 2024. These approaches have proven effective, especially in drawing in wider representation and participation of Indigenous communities in the consultation process.

[1] For a full list of participants in the process, see pp. 8-9 in: IPBC (2024). Indigenous Peoples' Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (IPBSAP). First iteration. Indigenous Peoples and Biodiversity Coalition Philippines. <https://transformativepathways.net/philippine-indigenous-peoples-biodiversity-strategy-and-action-plan>.

As noted above, several partners supported this work, including international Indigenous organizations as well as other NGOs, networks, and development and funding agencies. They provided funding, information and technical advice that helped make the IPBSAP a reality.

Government personnel were also present during the national and Northern Luzon roundtable discussions, including representatives of the DENR Biodiversity Corridor Project, the BMB assistant director, and staff from the BMB Knowledge Management and Policy Division. Indigenous Peoples Mandatory Representatives to the local legislative bodies of the provinces of Nueva Vizcaya, Central Mindoro, Oriental Mindoro and Palawan were also present and contributed their ideas.

NCIP engagement in the PBSAP update process has been marginal, despite commission members having been invited to participate by the DENR-BMB. The NCIP has been similarly uninvolved in the Indigenous-led process of consultation and formulating the IPBSAP. NCIP members have been invited to attend, but the representatives they sent were not familiar with the subject matter – biodiversity and the KMGBF. Then-NCIP Chairperson Jennifer Sibug-Las sent a written message for the first national roundtable discussion, which was read by one of the staff in the Ancestral Domains Office. Despite sustained efforts by IPBC members to seek out the NCIP, orient NCIP members and update them on the process, they have been unable to get the Commission as a whole to endorse the IPBSAP as a contribution by Indigenous Peoples to the PBSAP review.



Indigenous woman and textile from the Cordillera region. Photo by Isara Phanasantikun/IMPECT.

Objectives and substance of the IPBSAP

The Indigenous Peoples Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan is a collective statement by Indigenous Peoples about their roles, responsibilities, traditional knowledge, values, rights and relationships with their territories and with biodiversity. The defined objectives of the IPBSAP are:

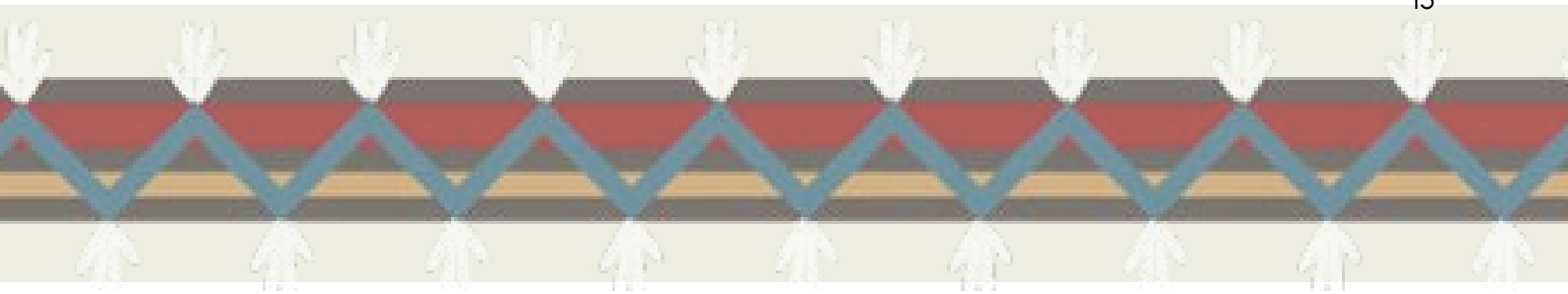
- To provide an overview of the status and context of biodiversity in Indigenous Peoples' lands and territories in the Philippines;
- To communicate to the Philippine government and to the public the key contributions and commitments by Indigenous Peoples to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use in the Philippines;
- To put forward key issues and recommendations on biodiversity from the perspectives of Indigenous Peoples;
- To serve as a guiding document for Indigenous Peoples in carrying out biodiversity actions, and
- To highlight examples of key contributions and good practices by Indigenous Peoples on conservation, sustainable use and benefit-sharing.

The IPBSAP includes an overview of the state of biodiversity in Indigenous Peoples' territories; Indigenous perspectives on development; the policy, governance and financing environment affecting Indigenous Peoples in the Philippines, and a scan of the principal drivers of biodiversity loss in their territories. It then lays out an action plan including biodiversity targets, indicators and activities to which Indigenous Peoples are committing to contribute, in support of the goals and targets of the KMGBF and the PBSAP.

On August 6, 2024, during the government-convened National Consultation on the PBSAP, the first iteration of the IPBSAP was officially submitted to the DENR, in a ceremony witnessed by almost 200 delegates from across the country.²

Mountains and rice fields in the Cordillera region. Photos by Isara Phanasantikun/IMPECT and Sunaree Phuengphalerd/Pgakenyaw Association for Sustainable Development (PASD).

[2] The document is available at <https://transformativepathways.net/philippine-indigenous-peoples-biodiversity-strategy-and-action-plan/>.



Outcomes of Indigenous Peoples' Participation in the NBSAP

The updated PBSAP was still being finalized by the DENR-BMB as of this writing,³ so the analysis presented here is based on partial drafts and other available information. A partial draft available in August 2024 showed that national targets had been formulated to align with the KMGBF goals and targets. However, the national targets, indicators and activities made little mention of Indigenous Peoples' rights and knowledge. The exception was Target 22, which mentioned Indigenous Peoples among other stakeholders in ensuring equitable representation and meaningful participation in decision-making, access to justice and information related to biodiversity management. Indigenous Peoples were listed along with people of all genders, youth, differently abled persons, local communities, and other stakeholders.

[3] The Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2024-2040 was not yet available for download as of 28 July 2025 when this study was conducted. As of 28 August 2025, an Abridged version was available online. The document includes 1 page featuring the IPBSAP as a case for inclusion of Indigenous Peoples in the PBSAP updating process. See <https://bmb.gov.ph/philippine-biodiversity-strategy-and-action-plan-pbsap/>.

National targets have since been published on the CBD Online Reporting Tool, dated 10 April 2025. Of the 23 targets posted, four include Indigenous Peoples in their descriptions. Target 8 mentions Indigenous knowledge systems and practices in addressing climate change impacts. Target 20 mentions Indigenous Peoples among other groups as targets for capacity-building and technology transfer. Targets 22 on meaningful participation and 23 on gender equality mention Indigenous Peoples among other groups.

Eleven targets mention Indigenous Peoples in the description of policy measures to achieve them. Conservation and restoration targets recognize Indigenous communities as key stakeholders in ecosystem restoration (Target 2) and emphasize engaging them in protected area management while acknowledging ancestral territories (Target 3). Sustainable management targets incorporate Indigenous knowledge systems for climate adaptation (Target 8); recognize Indigenous rights and knowledge in forest management (Target 10), and acknowledge differential hazard impacts on Indigenous communities while recognizing their role in community engagement for disaster response (Target 11).

Benefit-sharing and capacity-building targets further embed Indigenous Peoples' participation throughout the strategy. Indigenous Peoples are positioned as active participants in genetic resource benefit-sharing arrangements (Target 13) and as partners in ensuring equitable distribution of biodiversity-related revenue (Target 18). Knowledge and capacity targets identify Indigenous communities as priority groups for capacity-building and technology transfer (Target 20), explicitly address traditional knowledge systems (Target 21), and have dedicated provisions for meaningful and inclusive Indigenous Peoples' participation in decision-making (Target 22 and 23).



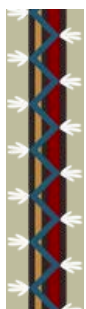
Suggestions on human rights and the protection of environmental human rights defenders have been largely ignored.

It remains to be seen how much of Indigenous Peoples' contributions will ultimately be taken on board in the updated PBSAP. However, Indigenous advocates have made suggestions at every stage of the PBSAP review process, not only during the regional consultations, but also through email and inputs to the BMB's online dashboard for submission of national and regional targets, indicators and activities.

Some suggestions made by Indigenous Peoples were already accepted and considered by the DENR-BMB in the formulation of the national targets and indicators of the PBSAP. Some suggestions concerning Indigenous Community Conservation Areas (ICCAs) and other effective conservation measures were also taken onboard. However, suggestions on human rights and the protection of environmental human rights defenders have been largely ignored, despite Target 22 of KMGBF explicitly calling for "the full protection of environmental human rights defenders".

Commitments expressed by government officials

It also remains to be seen how committed the Philippine government really is to securing and fulfilling the rights of Indigenous Peoples as the PBSAP is implemented, but some positive statements have been made. At the CBD SBI-4 meeting in May 2024 in Nairobi, for example, in the Philippine government's official statement, DENR Assistant Secretary for International Affairs and OIC (acting) BMB Director Marcial Amaro said:



"The Philippines appreciates the work and contributions of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, as well as the women and youth, recognizing that their full and active participation is essential for the implementation of the KMGBF, especially in the development of the NBSAP. ... There is a prevailing belief that Indigenous knowledge systems and customs will strengthen and enhance the NBSAP, particularly as national governments begin to support the Convention on Biological Diversity."

Similarly, in her official speech accepting the IPBSAP on behalf of the DENR-BMB in August 2024, OIC BMB Assistant Director Armida Andres said: "Rest assured that this will reach the office of our secretary, and I'm sure she will be happy to know that our IP communities and our IP groups have taken this very bold step to make sure that the updated PBSAP, the 4th iteration of our PBSAP, will include a very big part on Indigenous Peoples' aspirations, in terms of protecting our rich biodiversity in our country."

Strengthening relationships

The experience of engaging with the PBSAP updating process has been enlightening and opened up new opportunities for Indigenous Peoples to collaborate with the DENR-BMB on biodiversity. In the past, government plans formulated by the DENR, other agencies and local government units have largely been detached from the decision-making processes and realities faced by Indigenous communities. Development programs are often incompatible with Indigenous Peoples' customary resource use, plans and aspirations, as expressed in the Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development and Protection Plans (ADSDPP), for instance. Furthermore, national biodiversity strategies and plans have failed to give adequate recognition and consideration for the contributions of Indigenous Peoples to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.

We are now hopeful that, through the connections made through this process of cooperating with the DENR-BMB, and the formulation of the updated PBSAP and the IPBSAP, Indigenous Peoples' voices may be listened to and heeded in the implementation of the KMGBF and the PBSAP.

Indeed, since the launch of the IPBSAP, there have been more efforts from the government to seek out the participation of Indigenous Peoples. For example, we were invited to report progress and activities as non-state actors' contributions to implementation. Indigenous Peoples have cooperated, demonstrating willingness to work with the state actors towards biodiversity goals while asserting our rights and contributions.



Challenges and Lessons Learned

Indigenous Peoples faced significant barriers when engaging in the PBSAP revision process. As discussed earlier, very few Indigenous representatives were invited to sub-national consultations, making it necessary to actively request participation by submitting names of Indigenous organizations and individuals to the DENR-BMB. In addition, both sub-national and national consultations were held in locations far from Indigenous communities, requiring participants to invest days of travel time and considerable resources to attend.

The technical nature of formulating targets, indicators, stakeholders and activities created another substantial hurdle for Indigenous leaders. The language and templates used were highly technical, leaving participants overwhelmed and uncertain about how to contribute meaningfully to discussions. As a result, briefings and preparatory meetings among Indigenous representatives became essential to enable effective participation.

Despite these efforts, and despite the positive steps noted above, meaningful collaboration between Indigenous Peoples and the government has yet to materialize. Indigenous contributions were better received when focused on spatial planning and restoration – areas where Indigenous Peoples’ input helps the government meet internationally agreed targets. However, the current administration continues to overlook and deny human rights violations committed in the name of economic development and growth, further perpetuating the injustices faced by Indigenous Peoples despite their active and critical role in conservation efforts.

Consequently, distrust persists even as Indigenous Peoples actively seek greater involvement in biodiversity governance and decision-making. For instance, Indigenous Peoples remain skeptical about whether the IPBSAP will be adopted and implemented with genuine governmental support, and whether their contributions as non-state actors might be inappropriately claimed as government achievements. There have been cases where local governments or government agencies have been reporting what Indigenous Peoples have been doing towards conservation as their own accomplishments, which has created tensions. As a result, Indigenous Peoples decided to submit contributions both to the Philippine government and directly to the CBD Secretariat to ensure that they are acknowledged appropriately.

Mountain ranges in the Cordillera region. Photo by Sunaree Phuengphalerd/PASD.





Next Steps & Objectives

The Indigenous Peoples and Biodiversity Coalition is actively working to raise awareness of the IPBSAP and to adapt it to local contexts, with five sub-national workshops already completed as of late July 2025, and more to come. The goals of the localization process are to:

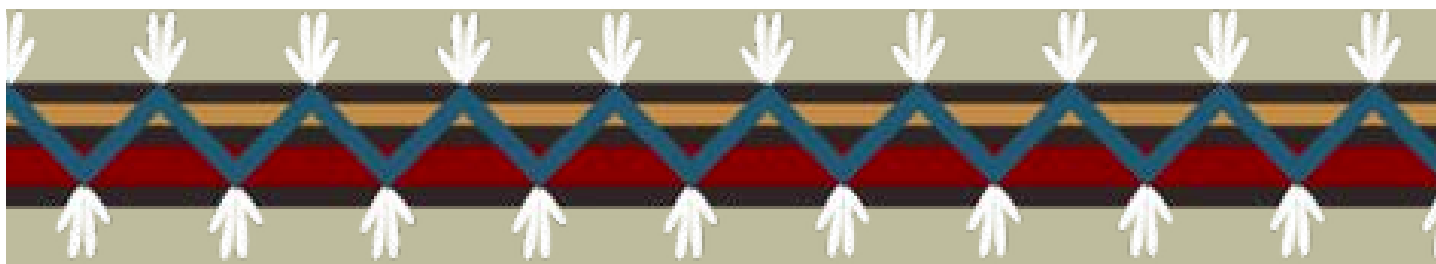
1. Tailor the IPBSAP framework to address specific biodiversity and cultural contributions and action plans in each region;
2. Conduct consultations with Indigenous communities, local government units (LGUs), and other stakeholders to integrate their knowledge, contributions and commitments towards the localization process of the IPBSAP; and
3. Identify and document key outputs from the consultations that will guide the continued implementation and finalization of the IPBSAP, including areas being conserved and restored by Indigenous Peoples.

Activities to raise awareness of the IPBSAP, meanwhile, have included a media forum in October 2024, before Indigenous delegates traveled to participate in COP16. Side events were also conducted parallel to COP16, including a joint event by the IPBC and the Philippine government to launch the IPBSAP at the global level. A third National Roundtable and Forest Festival is to be held later in 2025 to further engage the wider community in the localization and implementation of the IPBSAP.

Looking ahead, IPBC members aim to have the Philippine government officially recognize the IPBSAP as an important contribution by Indigenous Peoples to achieving the goals and targets of the KMGBF and the PBSAP, and to provide support for its implementation.

In view of the significant and crucial role that Indigenous communities play in biodiversity conservation and sustainable use in the country, it is recommended for the government to allocate at least 20% of official development assistance obtained for the purpose of PBSAP implementation to support Indigenous Peoples' initiatives in and contributions to biodiversity conservation.

The guidance note laid out in Box 1 raises issues that will continue to be important even after the submission of the PBSAP to the CBD Secretariat. The key messages formulated and affirmed by Indigenous Peoples should guide all biodiversity conservation actors when implementing biodiversity projects on Indigenous Peoples' territories, whether by government, financial institutions, private corporations, development NGOs or Indigenous communities themselves. Not only do they reflect our values, priorities and needs as Indigenous Peoples in the country – they assert Indigenous Peoples' rights, buttressed by existing international standards, including UN conventions like the CBD, the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and national laws. We urge the Philippine government to adopt the guidance provided, in keeping with its international obligations to respect and promote Indigenous Peoples' rights.



Cordillera motif based on weaving and embroidery by Kalinga women.
Graphic by Ana Kinja Tauli/PIKP.

Annex 1

The groups who were involved throughout the Indigenous-led consultative process described in Section 2 include the following:

NGOs:

Bukluran (Philippine ICCA Consortium)
 Centers of Distinction on Indigenous and Local Knowledge (COD-ILK)
 Cordillera Disaster Response and Development Services (CordDisRDS)
 ICCA Consortium South East Asia
 Kalahan Educational Foundation (KEF)
 Legal Rights and Resources Center/Friends of the Earth (LRC-FOE)
 Non-Timber Forest Products - Exchange Program (NTFP-EP) Asia
 NTFP-EP Philippines
 Partners for Indigenous Knowledge Philippines (PIKP)
 Philippine Association for Intercultural Development (PAFID)
 Tebtebba (Indigenous Peoples International Center for Policy Research and Education)

Partner Indigenous Peoples' organizations and community representatives:

ADADC GBS-AD
 ALIMUS/SAGIBIN
 Cordillera Youth Center (CYC)
 Dulangan Manobo Tribal Justice and Self-Governance (DMTJSG)
 Nagkakaisang Tribu ng Palawan Inc. (NATRIPAL)
 Ganak da iLikoy
 Itogon Inter-Barangay Alliance (IIB-A) Itogon
 Inagkodi (Kabugao Youth)
 Kalandang Weavers and Pamanigan of Agtulawon Mintapod Higaunon Cumadon (AGMIHICU)
 LABATA
 Loakan- Apugan Sustainable Livelihood Association (LASLA)
 LILAK (Purple Action for Indigenous Peoples' Rights)
 Limpong ng Makatadong of Maragusan
 Loakan-Happy Hallow Community
 Mat-i Man-ibay Civoleg Langguyod (MAMACILA) Higaunon Tribal Community
 Panaghiusa Alang sa Kaugalingnan ug Kangkawasan, Inc (PASAKK)
 Pidlisan Tribe Organization (PITO)
 Payew Indigenous Farmers Organization (PIFO)
 Putuk ne Kapongapongad
 SARAGPUNTA
 Sarangani and Southern Davao Tagakaulo Ancestral Domain Association Inc. (SASDATAD)
 SHB-Oriental Mindoro
 SIKLAB Indigenous Youth Network
 Silingang Dapit sa Sidlakang Mindanao (SILDAP-SE)
 Samahan ng Nagkakaisang Katutubong Kabataan (SNAKK)
 SPNKK
 Sumpaw ng Matikadeng
 TFCI
 Timuay Justice and Governance (TJG)
 Ugnayan para sa Katutubong Kaalaman at Talino (UPAKAT)



Indigenous woman weaving. Photo by Sunaree Phuengphalerd/PASD.



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The Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP) is a regional organization founded in 1992 by Indigenous Peoples' movements. AIPP is committed to the cause of promoting and defending Indigenous Peoples' rights and human rights and articulating issues of relevance to Indigenous Peoples. At present, AIPP has 46 members from 14 countries in Asia with 18 Indigenous Peoples' national alliances/networks (national formations), and 30 local and sub-national organizations. Of this number, 16 are ethnic based organizations, six Indigenous Women organizations, four Indigenous Youth organizations, and one organization of Indigenous Persons with Disabilities.



For more information on the AIPP Series on Indigenous Peoples and biodiversity planning, please contact:

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