

A GEF 8 Initiative to increase support for Indigenous- and community-led environmental stewardship: Presenting the Call for Expressions of Interest

Friday, 25 April 2025, 15:00 – 16:15
United Nations Headquarters, New York
Conference Room 5 (CR-5)

Livestream will be available on UN Web TV (<https://webtv.un.org/en>)

In December 2024, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Council approved an expansion of support for Indigenous- and community-led environmental stewardship through the GEF-8 Inclusive Conservation Initiative. The World Wildlife Fund (WWF US) will serve as the GEF agency to further develop, implement, and execute the Initiative with partners. The Initiative's objective is to increase resources, organizational strength, and recognition for Indigenous Peoples and local communities' governance and stewardship of territories, lands, waters and resources to deliver global environmental benefits. This side event will present the design of the project, based on co-design dialogues conducted with representatives of Indigenous Peoples and local communities. The call for expressions of interest and the timeline for the selection process will be presented and ample time allocated for questions and clarifications.

Speakers:

- **Sarah A. Wyatt**, Senior Biodiversity Specialist, Global Programs Unit, Global Environment Facility (GEF)
- **Harry D. Jonas**, Senior Director, Conservation Areas Initiative, World Wildlife Fund & Coordinator, GEF-8 ICI Project Development Team
- **Birgitte Feiring**, Co-lead, GEF-8 ICI Project Development Team
- **Viviana Figueroa**, Indigenous Peoples Advisory Group, Global Environment Facility (GEF-IPAG)
- **Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim**, Chairperson, UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Moderator:

- **Jennifer Tauli Corpuz**, Co-lead, GEF-8 ICI Project Development Team

Spanish & French interpretation will be provided
Light refreshments will be available