

2020 HIGHLIGHTS

Championing Indigenous Peoples rights amid the pandemic



INTRODUCTION



CHAMPIONING INDIGENOUS PEOPLES RIGHTS

Legally established in 2019, IPRI is an indigenous-led global organization that responds to the global crisis of widespread human rights violations against Indigenous Peoples. It leads and coordinates the Global Initiative to Address and Prevent the Criminalization and Impunity against Indigenous Peoples.

Its programme implementation commenced in July 2020 with the hiring of three programme staff headed by two co-directors. The IPRI programmes are (1) Research and Documentation (2) Advocacy and (3) Communication. Further, the focus countries are Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, the Philippines, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and India.

For the period of July to December 2020, IPRI was able to advance its three main goals despite of the restrictions and challenges posed by the pandemic.

GOAL 1

INCREASING GLOBAL AWARENESS ON THE CRIMINALIZATION OF, IMPUNITY AND VIOLENCE AGAINST INDIGENOUS PEOPLES



Six (6) country reports on criminalization of Indigenous Peoples in the time of COVID-19 were published and disseminated.



A Global report on the Human Rights situation of Indigenous Peoples: Criminalization and Impunity was published and disseminated to the public.



At least 900 individuals attended the 10 webinars hosted and co-organized by IPRI on key and urgent concerns of Indigenous Peoples.



Nine (9) press releases and statements that brought issues of Indigenous Peoples in Indonesia, Philippines, Mexico to light and sought support from international community were circulated.

Seven (7) media outfits covered and reported on IPRI.



Website was set-up in three (3) languages: English, Spanish and French which contain key updates, articles, reports and publications of IPRI.



54 visual materials were circulated on IPRI's digital assets (website and social media platforms).



IPRI's social media assets registered over 430,000 impressions from August to December 2020.





GOAL 2

REDUCING, AND PREVENTING VIOLENCE AGAINST AND CRIMINALIZATION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES THROUGH CAMPAIGNS AND ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES



Public attention and support generated with **893 individual and organizational endorsements** for the **three (3) sign-on petition letters** on criminalization cases involving mining, palm -oil and violence against women.



Relevant UN Human Rights bodies, mechanisms and procedures informed and taken action with the submission of **three (3) communications**.



Materials for capacity building of Indigenous Peoples in defending their rights were produced: **four (4) national practical guides for advocacy work** in Democratic Republic of Congo, Philippines, and Mexico.



Engagement and collaboration with **at least 20 national and global organizations and institutions** for joint policy advocacy with states and relevant actors in addition to IPRI partners in focus countries.



GOAL 3

SECURING THE SAFETY OF INDIGENOUS INDIVIDUALS AND COMMUNITIES UNDER THREAT BY PROVIDING EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND LEGAL SUPPORT



Four cases/organizations in Asia and Africa were supported under the Legal Defense and Sanctuary Fund.

These refer to cases filed in court, and the support from the Legal Fund covered expenses for lawyers, administrative and operational cost, legal research and case build up, support for families of victims, and community strengthening. **Three of the cases** are still pending in court, and in one case, the indigenous woman who was wrongly charged and detained, was released by virtue of a Court order.

The support also included advocacy activities to generate public pressure, submission of communications to relevant UN human rights bodies, collaboration with human rights institutions and advocates for joint actions, collaboration with other funds, donors, dialogues with relevant leaders, facilitation of access redress mechanisms as appropriate, among others.

IPRI AS AN ORGANIZATION



Global Board of Directors composed of seven indigenous leaders from Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, and South America.



International Advisory Group composed of 20 individuals who represent Indigenous Peoples organizations and networks at the national and regional levels, international human rights organizations, advocates of Indigenous Peoples rights like non-government organizations (NGOs), and the academe; and from the donor community.



Global Secretariat of six (6) full time staff including finance and administrative personnel (as of December 2020).



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