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The EnABLE Quarterly Newsletter provides the latest updates from the EnABLE Trust Fund, and related work on social inclusion and gender equity.

This issue presents highlights of activities from April through June, 2024, along with information on recent events and publications, articles of interest from the web, and upcoming international events.

Madagascar's baobab trees
Photo credit: Unsplash



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UNITED NATIONS PERMANENT FORUM ON INDIGENOUS ISSUES

The 23rd session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) was held April 15–26, 2024, at UN Headquarters in New York on the theme "Enhancing Indigenous Peoples' Right to Self-Determination in the Context of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: Emphasizing the Voices of Indigenous Youth" (see photo below). Dianna Pizzaro, World Bank Global



Coordinator for Indigenous Peoples Issues, and Pablo Mís, EnABLE Technical Advisory Group member, attended the forum.

Indigenous representatives stressed the following core issues: (1) the need for sustained engagement and support for coherent dialogue with the

World Bank; (2) increased direct access to development finance, particularly related to climate change and conservation; (3) the development of World Bank capacity to enable Indigenous Peoples (IPs) to take a leading role in major discussions about the opportunities and risks associated with access to climate finance and carbon markets; (4) Indigenous leaders' serious concerns regarding land rights and free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC); and (5) empowerment of women and youth as a key aspect of Indigenous resilience.

More information, documentation, and video coverage can be found at the following links:

[Webpage for the 23rd session of UNPFII](#)

[Report of the 23rd session of UNPFII in the UN's six official languages](#)

[April 16 press release for the 23rd session of UNPFII](#)

See Page 6 for details of the World Bank side event ([available via webcast](#)).

STATUS OF EnABLE’S PROGRAMMING

The seventh meeting of EnABLE Steering Committee was held June 13–14 in Bonn, Germany, at which time progress and achievements made in fiscal year (FY) 2024 were discussed, the workplan and budget for FY25 were presented, and country program proposals for Fiji and Madagascar were endorsed (see photo below). With the instigation of knowledge and capacity building activities in the Republic of Congo this quarter, EnABLE’s programming is now active in 13 of its 15 target countries, and EnABLE country programs have been endorsed in 8 of these countries (see table below).



From left to right: Hannes Hotz (German Corporation for International Cooperation [GIZ]), Helen Magata (EnABLE Technical Advisory Group member), Asyl Undeland (EnABLE Fund Manager), Michael Lehmann (German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development [BMZ]), Celina Pentamah (EnABLE Secretariat), Chie Ingvoldstad (EnABLE Secretariat), Ole Gramann (GIZ), and Sylvia Reinhardt (GIZ)

Note that [EnABLE’s webpage](#) features a [dashboard](#) where more information and resources can be found on the fund’s activities and each country’s emission reductions program.

REGION	COUNTRY	STATUS OF PROGRAMMING
Africa	Côte d’Ivoire	Knowledge and capacity building programming initiated
	Democratic Republic of Congo	Programming yet to be initiated
	Ghana	Country program initiated
	Madagascar	Country program in preparation
	Mozambique	Country program initiated
	Republic of Congo	Knowledge and capacity building programming initiated
East Asia and Pacific	Fiji	Country program in preparation
	Indonesia	Country program initiated
	Lao People’s Democratic Republic	Country program in preparation
	Vietnam	Knowledge and capacity building programming initiated
Latin America and the Caribbean	Chile	Programming yet to be initiated
	Costa Rica	Country program in preparation
	Dominican Republic	Knowledge and capacity building programming initiated
	Guatemala	Knowledge and capacity building programming initiated
South Asia	Nepal	Country program in preparation

News of EnABLE’s Programming from the Field

Ghana. The EnABLE task team for Ghana made significant advances in initiating EnABLE’s US\$4 million country program, which targets 20,000 potential beneficiaries of Ghana’s emissions reduction program (ERP)—particularly women, youth, and people with disabilities. Planned activities include building EnABLE constituencies’ capacity to engage in Ghana’s ERP and benefit-sharing plan, and promoting locally led climate-resilient livelihoods for women. The program will be implemented by Solidaridad West Africa and Tropenbos Ghana. The Ghanaian government submitted its required “no objection letter,” facilitating the recent signing of the grant agreement between the World Bank and Solidaridad West Africa, announced in a [June 13 press release](#).

Reported by Sarah Antwi-Boasiako, EnABLE task team for Ghana.

Côte d’Ivoire. During April 26–27, focus group discussions in Soubre in the country’s Nawa region attracted approximately 120 stakeholders, including local administration officials, implementation partners, civil society and women’s organizations, and community representatives from all five of the country’s regions, including a representative of individuals with disabilities.

Day one was dedicated to disseminating information about the emissions reduction program (ERP) registration process, the benefit-sharing plan, and broader forestry management programs. Day 2 addressed six key topics: (1) women’s access to land; (2) ERP-related barriers and opportunities for women and vulnerable groups; (3) the role of women in agroforestry; (4) communication strategies targeting women and vulnerable groups; (5) men’s involvement in supporting gender inclusion; (6) monitoring and evaluating the distribution of ERP benefits.

Key insights included the following:

- The need to target specific (especially visual) communication strategies to women and promote their participation by scheduling activities at convenient times
- Raising awareness of the country’s land inheritance laws, which legally uphold equal rights for women and men but are not always adhered to
- Lack of financial resources to enable women to engage meaningfully in agroforestry and hence benefit from carbon credits
- Women’s underrepresentation in information sessions on agroforestry, reforestation, and conservation
- Lack of knowledge among women about agroforestry practices and opportunities for their involvement
- The low share of women in decision-making roles within the agroforestry sector
- Lack of women’s participation in the later phases of the agroforestry supply chain

Reported by Alexandra Niesslein, EnABLE task team for Côte d’Ivoire.

News from the Field (cont.)

Vietnam. In preparation for securing the endorsement of the Thua Thien Hue Provincial People’s Committee, a meeting was held on June 21 with representatives of the provincial Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) and the Provincial Forest Protection and Development Fund to agree on the proposed workplan for EnABLE activities (see photo below).



Following the meeting with DARD, engagement was initiated by the Institute for Community Livelihoods with the Hong Kim commune of Thua Thien Hue Province (see photo below).



Lao People’s Democratic Republic (Lao PDR). In May, consultations were held in three target provinces of Lao PDR to formalize memorandums of understanding with the Regional Community Forestry Training Center (RECOFTC), the organization chosen to implement EnABLE’s country program in Lao PDR (see photo below).



In June, EnABLE task team members joined a field visit to the target villages, where RECOFTC participated in technical discussions around community engagement to strengthen the alignment of EnABLE’s activities with the country’s emissions reduction payment agreement (ERPA) and enhance communications among the various stakeholders (see photos below).



Reported by Kaori Oshima, EnABLE task teams for Lao PDR and Vietnam
Photo credits: EnABLE task teams for Lao PDR and Vietnam/World Bank

News from the Field (cont.)

Costa Rica. An information-sharing workshop was held in April for facilitators hired to conduct national participatory consultations on the design of EnABLE programing in all 24 of Costa Rica's Indigenous territories. In order to ensure buy-in by EnABLE's constituencies, the proposed structure and targeting of activities were discussed, along with eligibility criteria and implementation arrangements. The workplan and consultation instruments were also finalized. In June, facilitators began visiting Indigenous communities to obtain feedback on the design of programming as part of the consultation process and to assist with the selection of representatives from each territory, who will form an Indigenous Peoples' committee for the program (see photos below).

More than half of the planned workshops have already been held, and preliminary results show broad community support for EnABLE's program design. Two workshops were held in the Ngöbe region (in Conte Burica and Osa), and four more are scheduled for July (in Altos de San Antonio, Abrojo Montezuma, and Coto Brus). All seven workshops have been held in the Buenos Aires and Pérez Zeledón region (in Boruca, Rey Curré, Cabagra, Salitre, Ujarrás, China Kichá, and Térraba). Two workshops have been held in the Central North region (in Maleku and Zapatón) and two more are scheduled for July (in Matambú and Quitirrisí). Three of four planned workshops have been held in the Caribbean region (in Nairi Awari, Bajo Chirripó, and Talamanca Cabécar), and a final one is scheduled for July in Këköldi. Discussions are ongoing regarding planned workshops in Tayní, Telire, Alto Chirripó, and Talamanca Bribri.



Reported by Rosa Maria Martinez, Kosuke Anan, and Cynthia Arévalo, EnABLE task team for Costa Rica

Photo credits: EnABLE task team for Costa Rica/World Bank

Guatemala. EnABLE's Indigenous constituencies in Guatemala faced severe weather conditions in April, May, and June with the arrival of the country's dry season. Maya communities continued to protect their forest, responding to harsh fires and dedicating much of their time to extinguishing them in light of the low capacity and, hence, slow response of public officials (see photo below and at the top of next page). Irrespective of these adverse circumstances, Utz Che'—the network of Maya community-based organizations selected to implement EnABLE's programming in Guatemala—continued to make progress.



First, based on lessons learned from the first three modules of its capacity building course, Utz Che' reviewed and updated its curricula in preparation for a second round of courses, scheduled to begin in August 2024. Second, three recently created social auditing committees (in Huehuetenango, Quiche, and Totonicapan) received training on social auditing and began work to identify key issues related to the country's emission reductions program that need to be monitored (see photo below).



Through their initial analysis, the committees identified barriers in the mechanism for distributing payments, which led them to initiate conversations with the National Forest Institute (INAB) to address the issue. Third, in coordination with the regional Indigenous network, Alianza Mesoamericana de Pueblos y Bosques [the Mesoamerican Alliance of People and Forests], Utz Che' facilitated discussions between Maya authorities from Guatemala and Indigenous authorities from the Bribri-Cabecar Indigenous Network (RIBCA) in Costa Rica, who agreed to hold a regional seminar this month in Costa Rica on the implementation of climate financing mechanisms.

News from the Field (cont.)



Community forest guards in Todos Santos Cuchumatán, Guatemala

Reported by Carmen Albertos, EnABLE task team for Guatemala

Photo credits: EnABLE task team for Guatemala/World Bank

The Dominican Republic. This quarter, calls for proposals were initiated to identify a consulting firm, local or international organization, or academic institution to develop EnABLE’s capacity building strategy on social and gender inclusion targeting both governmental and nongovernmental executing agencies. The REDD+ Coordination Office contributed to formulating the proposal and designated a focal point to support and follow up on this critical activity. It is anticipated that the chosen organization will begin implementing activities in coordination with the REDD+ Coordination Office within the next month.

Reported by Greta Granados De Orbegoso, Kenn Rapp, and Lilian Pederson, EnABLE task team for the Dominican Republic

Nepal. During the fourth quarter of 2024, EnABLE initiated participatory processes with IP and LC partners to develop programming components and modalities (see photo below). The Asia Network for Sustainable Agriculture and Bioresources (ANSAB) will be partnering with six organizations representing significantly marginalized communities in the Terai Arc Landscape region, which is the focus of the country’s emission reductions program (ERP). In addition to national-level workshops, consultations were also held with local stakeholders in the Kailali and Kanchanpur districts of

Sudurpaschim province. These activities included meetings with forest-user groups and local chapters of IP and LC organizations (see photo below). In addition, building relationships with key government counterparts, including the REDD+ Implementation Center and provincial and district forest offices, has been key to promoting inclusive engagement.

These activities also support the development of context-specific targeting criteria for implementing EnABLE programming. Consultations highlighted the importance of targeting constituencies within more established forest management groups who have less access to decision-making processes, such as women and Dalits. The dynamics of marginalization in Nepal are complex, multifaceted, and fractured, often undermining social cohesion and collective action at the local level, as well as interactions between communities and State entities. The aim of these collaborative design processes, therefore, is not only to ensure the active involvement of all stakeholders, but also to facilitate the establishment of alliances and collaborations to support the effective implementation of the program.

Reported by Cecelia Rana, Gloria Mahama, and Caroline Sage, World Bank task team for Nepal

Photo credits: World Bank task team for Nepal/World Bank



RECENT EVENTS OF NOTE

- ✓ On April 16, Pablo Mís—member of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations; Director of the Maya Leaders Alliance, Belize; and lead member of EnABLE’s Technical Advisory Group—participated in discussions with key stakeholders on carbon markets as part of the World Bank’s spring meetings. Underscoring the critical contribution of Indigenous Peoples and local communities to ensuring that carbon markets deliver tangible social and development benefits alongside environmental gains, Mís advocated enhanced direct community access and benefit-sharing, robust safeguards, and increased investments in Indigenous territories to support conservation and climate resilience.
- ✓ EnABLE sponsored five Indigenous experts to participate at this year’s World Bank Land Conference, held May 13–17 in Washington, DC. EnABLE also organized the panel discussion “Rights from the start: Why community tenure matters to mitigation outcomes,” which focused on challenges and opportunities surrounding land tenure security to advance climate action in various contexts, including REDD+ projects, collective forest rights, and gender equality.
- ✓ Asyl Undeland, EnABLE’s Fund Manager, participated at the World Bank and Inter-American Development Bank “Regional Workshop on High-Integrity Carbon and Emission Reduction Crediting in Amazonian Countries: Challenges and Opportunities,” held May 29–31 in Bogota, Colombia. Asyl participated in the session, “How to ensure social integrity and social inclusion in emission reductions programs (FPIC, benefit sharing, and meaningful engagement of IPs).
- ✓ In collaboration with the UN-REDD Programme, the World Bank—including EnABLE, the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF), and the BioCarbon Fund Initiative for Sustainable Forest Landscapes (ISFL)—organized a REDD+ Knowledge Day, held June 27 in Oslo, Norway. The event attracted more than 140 participants representing governments, IP organizations, civil society and nongovernmental organizations, academia, donors, the World Bank, and the United Nations. Asyl Undeland presented the concept of benefit sharing in REDD+, and Joseph Ole Simel, Executive Director of Mainyoto Pastoralists Integrated Development Organization (MPIDO), presented Indigenous perspectives on benefit sharing, as well as outcomes from the recent [Global Dialogue](#) “Enabling Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities to Engage in and Benefit from Results-Based Climate Finance.”

- ✓ Findings from the upcoming World Bank study “Understanding and Building Indigenous Peoples’ Resilience to Climate Shocks” were shared at a side event of the 23rd session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII), [available via webcast](#). The event was organized to elicit feedback on critical issues prior to the August 9, 2024, launch of the study.

ARTICLES OF INTEREST FROM THE WEB

- ✓ Peoples Forests Partnership article, [How to effectively engage in climate finance: Lessons from indigenous and local communities](#), April 22, 2024
- ✓ United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification article, [Land rights: The key to sustainable prosperity](#), May 1, 2024
- ✓ United Nations Environment Programme press release, [National climate action plans have insufficient forest targets and deforestation continues to rise](#), June 10, 2024
- ✓ Forest Trends article, [How climate finance can work for communities with standing forests](#), June 14, 2024
- ✓ IFAD article, [Three reasons to invest in land tenure security](#), undated

RECENTLY RELEASED PUBLICATIONS

- ✓ The *Summary Report of the Global Dialogue: Enabling Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities to Engage in and Benefit from Results-Based Climate Finance* is now available in [French](#) and [Spanish](#) at the [Global Dialogue](#) webpage



- ✓ [Financing the Future: The Financial Needs of Indigenous Peoples to Support their Actions for Biodiversity, Climate and the Protection of Mother Earth](#). Study by UNPFII member Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim, available in the UN’s six official languages.

UPCOMING INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

- ✓ [International Day of the World’s Indigenous Peoples](#) will be celebrated on August 9, 2024
- ✓ The IETA [North America Climate Summit](#) will be held September 24–26, 2024, in New York, NY.