

On the State of Indigenous Peoples' and Local Communities' lands and territories



Many governments and civil society organizations are advocating for protection and conservation of at least 30% of the planet by 2030 to preserve biodiversity and help to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

Given the significant extent of lands owned or governed by Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) and the fact that these communities with their efforts and knowledge have long played a key -but overlooked role- in nature conservation globally, the findings presented in the report on State of Indigenous Peoples' and Local Communities' lands and territories

underpin that achieving any ambitious target will only be possible with the inclusion of the lands and territories that are sustained, protected and restored by IPLCs. This requires that their rights and governance receive full recognition and that IPLCs get appropriate support to equitably and effectively participate in global and national efforts.

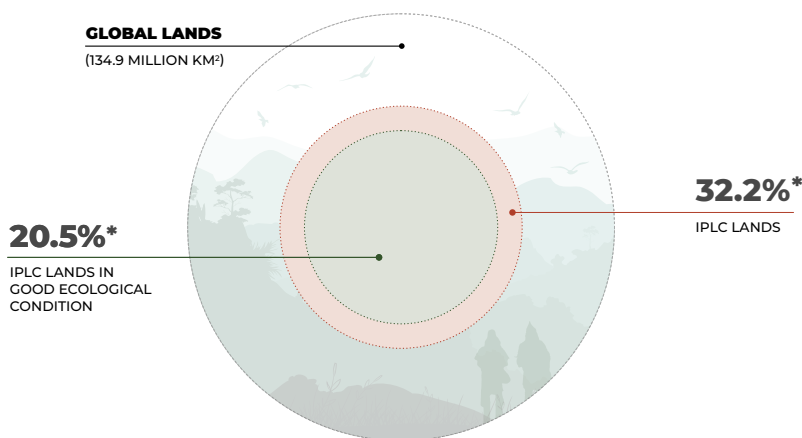


Figure 1. Distribution of IPLC lands globally, shown as presence or absence of IPLC lands per 1-degree grid cell to obscure specific IPLC land boundaries. Grid cells that are not covered do not necessarily lack IPLC lands in reality.

The Report's Finding:

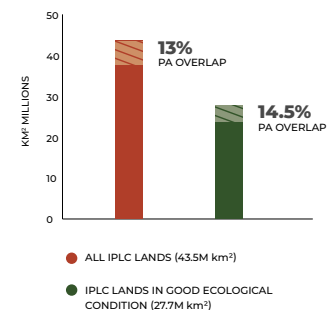
- At present, *at least* 32% of the planet's terrestrial realm is owned or governed by Indigenous Peoples and local communities, either through legal or customarily-held means (Figure 1). A closer look at the data shows that at least 20.5% of the world's land surface is under the governance of IPLCs and is in good ecological condition - i.e. lacking or minimally affected by intensive human impacts.
- At least 36% of the global land area covered by currently identified Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) lies within IPLC lands.
- IPLC lands overlap significantly with many of the world's terrestrial biomes and ecoregions, frequently covering areas that are not otherwise protected. Half of the world's 14 terrestrial biomes are more than 30% covered by IPLC lands
- Nearly one-quarter of IPLC lands have high levels of ecosystem service provision at the global level, a calculation based on the combination of fifteen services including fresh water and carbon sequestration.
- Over a quarter of IPLC lands could face high pressure in the future from industrial development, including energy, mining, commercial agriculture, and urban sectors, which could threaten IPLC livelihoods and their capacity for continued environmental custodianship.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES' (IPLC) LANDS: THE GLOBAL PICTURE



* These percentages are of the world's total land surface excluding Antarctica

OVERLAP BETWEEN IPLC LANDS AND PROTECTED AREAS



Based on the findings and recommendations in the report as contributors and co authors we commit to:

- Using our collective experience, convening power and resources to advancing science, policy and practice in support of IPLC and their efforts to protect, conserve, sustain and restore their lands and waters
- Making our scientific and technical capacities and efforts available to help accelerate the recognition of IPLCs' rights, and to safeguard their territories and resources based on scientific evidence, combined with and supported by traditional and Indigenous expert knowledge, as a basis for policy decisions, legislation, and advocacy.
- Respecting and upholding human rights standards (including the UNDRIP, ILO No. 169) and develop, apply and monitor social and environmental safeguards as well as appropriately support the governance, knowledge systems and self-determination of current and future generations of IPLC
- Upholding and fully respecting the distinct and differentiated rights of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities
- Collaborating along shared principles and agreed practices to support the self-determination and self-empowerment of IPLC, recognising their leadership role and guidance in the inclusive and effective conservation of biodiversity, sustainable development, and mitigation of climate change, and
- Calling on governments, IGOs, NGOs and civil society, along with other stakeholders, including the private sector, to join us in this effort.

