

Indigenous Women's Fund:

Investing in Indigenous Women

Innovative Intercultural Philanthropy




IIWF- International Indigenous Women's Forum
FIMI- Foro Internacional de Mujeres Indígenas



International Indigenous Women's Forum

- IIWF/FIMI is a network of Indigenous women leaders from Asia, Africa, and the Americas, whose purpose is to strengthen Indigenous Women's network, increase their participation and visibility in the international arena, and build capacity.

Our Mission:

- The IIWF/FIMI mission is to bring together Indigenous women activists, leaders, and human rights promoters from different parts of the world
 - To coordinate agendas,
 - Build unity,
 - Develop leadership and advocacy skills,
 - Increase Indigenous women's role in international decision-making processes, and
 - Advance women's human rights.
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Indigenous Women's Fund

- In the last few decades, an Indigenous Women's Fund has been a dream of Indigenous women.
- The Indigenous Women's Fund is the “economic and philanthropic arm” to provide resources for Indigenous women from all 7 geo-cultural regions defined by the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues: Africa, Arctic, Asia, Eastern Europe, Central Asia, The Caucasus, Latin America/Caribbean, North America and the Pacific.






Intercultural Philanthropy

- Articulation of the bases of the traditional indigenous economy base on the principles of reciprocity, solidarity and complementarity.
 - It represents the current ways of indigenous community economic models for a “health living” seeking development that allows you to maintain your identity.
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Investing in Indigenous Women

- The Fund believes that Indigenous women should have an active role in cultivating and distributing resources to their communities, and that grantmaking should be participatory and non-hierarchical.
 - The Fund is also dedicated to strengthening connections with other movements, particularly those focused on human rights and women's rights, and facilitating dialogue that contributes to the promotion of Indigenous women's rights.
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IW Fund Vision


The Indigenous Women's Fund envisions a global harmony in which there is full and effective participation of Indigenous women in all levels and spheres, and they are able to fully perform their role as leaders in the realization of the collective and individual human rights of Indigenous Peoples.






IW Fund Mission

To invest in Indigenous women by:

- Mobilizing resources;
 - Making grants to support building the capacity and visibility of the Indigenous women's movement;
 - Developing the leadership of Indigenous women;
 - Strengthening institutions that advance Indigenous women's rights.
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Grantmaking

- 1) Leadership and capacity-building grants;
 - 2) Scholarships to Indigenous women;
 - 3) Grants programs that advance Indigenous women's rights in one of the Fund's thematic areas;
 - 4) Endowment, long-range strategic grants, micro-lending grants.
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Resource Mobilization

An Intercultural Approach to philanthropy:

- Addresses issues of inequity;
 - Bases its work on traditional Indigenous values of reciprocity and complementarity and “unity in diversity”;
 - Serves to facilitate and promote equal exchanges between donors and grantees, and between the Global North and South and within;
 - By building partnerships of mutual interests and reciprocity between donor or social change supporters and grantees, they can both participate in the Fund’s mission on an equal footing.
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Organizational Model

- 1) Board of Directors:** A small Board of 5-6 core members, consisting of an Executive Committee.
 - 2) Network of Advisors:** A Network that maintains connections with Indigenous communities and organizations in different countries.
 - 3) Offices and Staff:** Executive Director, Fundraising Director, Administrative Coordinator (Fund's US-based office), Coordinator for the regional offices in Africa, Asia and Latin America.
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Goal 1

Goal #1: To strengthen the institutional capacity of the Indigenous women's movement, invest in the leadership development of Indigenous women, and facilitate alliances, partnerships, and dialogue aimed at advancing Indigenous women's individual and collective human rights.

Strategy: Use the Fund's resources to support existing and new efforts to build relationships and exchange information, knowledge, and experience.





Goal 2

Goal #2: To provide Indigenous women and Indigenous women's institutions with financial resources and technical assistance for capacity-building, strategic planning, collaboration, networking and leadership development.

Strategy: Cultivate resources to distribute to Indigenous women in the next 5 years.





Goal 3

Goal #3: To engage Indigenous women and their communities in the process of cultivating and distributing financial resources for their own development and for defending the human rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Strategy: Support groups to develop their capacity for financial management, fundraising, and entrepreneurship.






Goal 4

Goal #4: To develop innovative approaches to grantmaking that promotes social justice and are based on a commitment to interculturalism, equitable distribution of resources, and human rights.

Strategy: Establish equitable relationships and strong communication among FIMI, Indigenous women who receive funds, and funding entities and individuals.





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