

CALL FOR SESSIONS
Deadline: September 15, 2007



**Mexico and Central American
Regional Convening**

*“Awakening Consciousness & Forming Alliances:
Indigenous Peoples and Philanthropy”*

January 18-20, 2008
Querétaro, Mexico

About IFIP:

International Funders for Indigenous Peoples (IFIP) is a recognized affinity group of the Council on Foundations, with a network of funders who actively support and seek to increase funding opportunities for Indigenous Peoples. IFIP plays a critical role by helping funders better understand and effectively address the complex and real problems faced by Indigenous Peoples', giving funders information that allows them to refine and redefine the tools and processes used in their funding activities. IFIP also helps Indigenous communities gain an active voice within the philanthropic community and informs them on the best approaches for securing resources.

IFIP has held six conferences bringing together funders and Indigenous representatives from around the world to participate in sessions to increase dialogue and educate about Indigenous issues especially as it relates to grantmaking. IFIP recognizes that in order to sustain Indigenous People's rights and movements around the globe there needs to be increased funding for sustainable development

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Complete the IFIP formal session proposal and send to ifip@internationalfund.org by September 15, 2007

If you have questions, feel free to call Tel. 1-518-358- 9500 Fax. 1-518-358-9544

**Please note Funding and Solicitation is not permitted during the conference*

projects and traditional communities located in remote areas of the world. There exists a need for international donors to better understand the interconnectedness of economic sustainability and the preservation of traditional lifeways.

**IFIP Goes Global:
2008 Regional Convening, Mexico and Central America**

IFIP announces our first-ever regional convening scheduled to take place in Querétaro, Mexico, which features an optional post-conference trip to Oaxaca to explore the cultural richness and political reality of the state. "The inaugural international gathering, themed *Awakening Consciousness & Forming Alliances: Indigenous Peoples and Philanthropy*, will bring donors and Indigenous leaders from around the world together to discuss emerging issues facing Indigenous communities. It will also explore new approaches to funding and provide strategies relevant to Indigenous issues and concerns primarily in Mexico & Central America.

This groundbreaking event with dialogue and sessions will explore new ways to build true partnerships, provide real examples of best donor practices, and raise broader awareness of cultural, environmental and globalization issues in the region.

Primary Objectives:

- Educate Funders on Indigenous issues, best practices and sustainable models
- Bring Mexican and Central American Funders together with US Funders and other donors around the world for learning and sharing around funding of Indigenous Peoples
- Bring together Indigenous leaders from the region to learn from each other and to inform funding strategies
- Bring Indigenous representatives from different continents to connect local issues on a global level

Guidelines for Session Proposal Submissions

Eligibility for proposal submission:

Session proposals may be submitted by the following:

- Individual donors
- Individuals working in IFIP member institutions
- International grantmaking organizations
- Regional grantmaking organizations that grant in the region.

Financial Commitment:

Please note that IFIP will commit to a waiver the cost of the conference registration fee and to pay a small stipend of \$100 US for **one** speaker with each accepted session proposal. IFIP commits to pay for the lodging for the same one speaker for the dates of January 17, 18 and 19 at the conference site. Please note, speakers will be sharing rooms with other speakers due to limited budget. IFIP strongly encourages that this support is used for Indigenous speakers. All other speakers are expected to pay for their own travel, lodging and conference registration expenses.

Session Development:

- Sessions should be highly interactive, have current information and include Indigenous representation along with a donor's perspective.
- Sessions should have no more than three speakers and be able to provide strategies for donors to become more effective in their grantmaking portfolio.
- Sessions should represent different points of view

Session Tracks:

TRACK 1: Cultural Identity and Globalization

TRACK 2: Indigenous Rights: Policy and Practice

TRACK 3: Methodologies and Effective Strategies

Track Descriptions:

CULTURAL IDENTITY AND GLOBALIZATION

What are the trends, impacts and responses of Indigenous peoples to globalization? This track will explore such issues as migration, trade agreements, Plan Puebla-Panama, biotechnology and threats to native agriculture, preservation of Indigenous culture and spirituality, political leadership versus traditional spiritual leaders, fair trade, microfinance and economic development, women's rights, and Indigenous youth.

INDIGENOUS RIGHTS: POLICY AND PRACTICE

This track will deal with current issues including land rights, constitutional guarantees, legislation, conservation, bio-cultural rights, indigenous governance and traditional culture, mining, forestry and bio-prospecting, indigenous autonomy as a political model of defending indigenous rights and culture.

METHODOLOGIES AND EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES

Strategies and best practices of grantmaking. Approaches to funding: looking at funding of underlying issues versus needs-based funding. Incorporating community participation into planning, decision-making and evaluation. What are successful models of sustainable community development? We will explore opportunities for funding communities directly; tools for granting nationally and internationally; how to evaluate impact; and models of corporate responsibility.

Call for session proposals: IFIP's January 2008 Mexico Convening

Complete formal session proposal below and send to ifip@internationalfunders.org by **September 15, 2007**.

1. Proposed Session Title

2. Session Objectives

What do you want the participants to achieve by being involved in your session?

3. Session Description

Please write a concise, informative, action-oriented description that provides important facts and generates excitement about your session, keeping your session objectives in mind. Maximum of 75 words.

4. Proposed Session Discussion Leaders

The maximum number of speakers per session is three to give time for dialogue and discussion. IFIP encourages Indigenous participation in panel discussions.

Facilitator: _____

Email: _____

Speaker One: _____
Email: _____

Speaker Two: _____
Email: _____

Submitted by:

Name _____

Title _____

Foundation

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____