



## Recommendations

1. The United Nations system, Governments and all actors involved should promote the establishment of true participatory mechanisms for the involvement of indigenous peoples, especially women, in decision-making processes related to any projects or programmes impacting on their lives.
2. The United Nations system needs to pursue effective methods for maintaining and increasing its support to projects fostering the protection and sustainable use of natural resources, in particular through the expansion of participatory research programmes designed to explore and record indigenous women's knowledge and their specific ways of owning, using and maintaining diverse natural resources. Another important element is to ensure that indigenous women hold the ownership and copyright of that knowledge, and that their work in this sphere is granted due recognition.
3. The educational materials generated by different projects undertaken by United Nations organizations should be broadly disseminated as knowledge products that can be used to stimulate the creation of effective strategies as a tool for protecting and safeguarding indigenous women's rights. In this context, the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues can play a key role in facilitating the collection, dissemination and adaptation of relevant materials as tools for advocacy and outreach.
4. Project implementation should be as decentralized as possible at the national level through provincial, district and community implementation, and restructured in accordance with existing institutional capacity at those levels. External support should be planned and carried out in a complementary manner.
5. Within the framework of the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, it is crucial for relevant United Nations organizations to adopt targeted policies, programmes, projects and budgets for the development of indigenous peoples, including concrete benchmarks, with particular emphasis on indigenous women, children and youth. This should be conducted with the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples, and with their prior informed consent.
6. United Nations organizations should ensure and support the full participation of indigenous peoples, and indigenous women, as equal partners in all stages of data collection, including planning, imple-

mentation, analysis and dissemination, access and return, with the appropriate resourcing and capacity-building for achieving this objective. Data collection must respond to the priorities and aims of the indigenous communities and indigenous women themselves, and be gender-focused and -disaggregated.