



About the Inter-American Development Bank

Established in 1959, the Inter-American Development Bank is the leading source of development financing for Latin America and the Caribbean, with a strong commitment to achieve measurable results, increased integrity, transparency and accountability. We have an evolving reform agenda that seeks to increase our development impact in the region.

Partnering with Governments, autonomous public institutions and the private sector, the IDB seeks to eliminate poverty and inequality, and promotes sustainable economic growth. Our Fund for Special Operations also provides concessional financing to our most vulnerable member countries.

While we are a regular bank in many ways, we are also unique in some key respects. Besides loans, we also provide grants, technical assistance and do research. Our shareholders are 48 member countries, including 26 Latin American and Caribbean borrowing members with a majority ownership of the IDB.

Development with identity at the IDB

Between 2012 and 2014, the Inter-American Development Bank investested in more than 120 projects that promoted the development with identity of indigenous peoples and African descendants. These investments totaled approximately **US\$125 million**.

Social development: the Gender and Diversity Division

The IDB created the Gender and Diversity Division (GDI) in 2007, with the mission to promote gender equality and development with identity for indigenous peoples and African descendants in the Latin American and Caribbean region through technical assistance, loans, and training.

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DEVELOPMENT WITH IDENTITY: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND THE INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK



The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) is committed to advancing development with identity. Indigenous peoples are frequently marginalized by society and their traditional cultures are threatened on several fronts. The IDB seeks to promote sustainable economic development while simultaneously protecting cultural legacies throughout the Western Hemisphere.

Development with identity strengthens indigenous peoples by prioritizing harmonious and sustainable interactions with the environment through the sound management of natural resources and territories, and promoting respect for cultural, economic and social values in accordance with indigenous worldviews.

FLAGSHIP PROJECTS WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Urban indigenous peoples

In a partnership with the Chilean National Corporation for Indigenous Development (CONADI), the IDB has launched a pilot program to help indigenous peoples that live in **Chile's** urban areas. This program involves the creation of public areas for indigenous cultural production, the promotion of inter-cultural communication, and support for indigenous entrepreneurship and innovation.

Orígenes

In 2001, **Chile's** *Orígenes* program was created to support the rural Aymara, Atacameña and Mapuche indigenous communities through innovative development projects, including artistic and cultural programs. Chile secured an IDB loan for US\$80 million to support this large scale development program (US\$168 million). Over the past 12 years, *Orígenes* has improved the living conditions and futures of more than 1,800 indigenous communities, through productive projects and cultural sensitivity training for public officials.

PARTNERING WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES TO PROTECT THE PLANET

Whether used as a source of sustenance, traditional practices or medicine, the diversity of the environment is of crucial importance for indigenous peoples, who for generations have relied on nature's abundance and developed specific uses for these resources. The IDB supports policies and investments that seek to protect the environment and promote new opportunities for sustainable economic development.



Forest land in Latin America held by

- Non-Indigenous
- Indigenous

Latin America includes 40% of the world's biological diversity, with 6 of the world's 25 biodiversity hotspots and 6 of the 17 "megadiverse" countries (🦋)

Source: Rights and Resources

Andenes: terrace farming in the Andes

In 2009, the IDB funded a pilot program with the **Peruvian** government to recover indigenous terrace farming irrigation systems. The use of terraces, or andenes, was a key component of sustainable agriculture during pre-Columbian times. The return to these traditional farming techniques and improvements to existing andenes has led to dramatic improvements in the productivity of indigenous farmers. The project has boosted agricultural production, food security and increased household incomes. The Peruvian government is expanding the program.



Integrated ecosystem management in indigenous communities

Strengthening the capacity of indigenous communities to protect and manage natural resources, and promote sustainable uses of the environment have been key objectives of IDB projects. Programs have been implemented by the IDB which have contributed to biodiversity conservation in **Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama.**

Promoting culture, protecting the environment in Honduras

The IDB, through the Nordic Development Fund, provided US\$4.6 million in a program with the Honduran government for development assistance to indigenous and Afro-descendant **Hondurans**, with the primary goal of boosting climate change resilience. So far, the IDB has sponsored over 20 projects targeting water management, food security, biodiversity, agriculture and alternative energies. Educational programs have also been implemented to increase the collective knowledge and human capital of communities to combat climate change.

Strengthening indigenous leadership to combat climate change in the Amazon

The Coordinator for Indigenous Organizations of the Amazon Basin (COICA) received an IDB development grant for indigenous peoples of the Amazon Basin in **Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru**. Indigenous peoples are often excluded from the national and international dialogue on environmental stewardship, limiting their voice in decision-making processes. This project builds the capacity of indigenous leaders and communities to represent themselves at international and national meetings on climate change.

* Chile: data based on the 2002 Census, the most recent official national census. The initial results of the 2012 census estimated the indigenous population at 11.1%, however this survey as a whole was annulled by the Chilean Government. The indigenous population is estimated at 8.1% in the household survey (CASEN, 2011).