INDIGENOUS WOMEN’S DIPLOMA PROGRAM

Research Methodologies with an Intercultural Approach

International Indigenous Women’s Forum – FIMI 2022 Edition
FIMI believes that the generation of knowledge material is an essential part of its mission. For this reason, and in order to establish a framework for dialogue from the perspective of Indigenous Women, we designed a Diploma in Research Methodologies with an Intercultural Approach. Its objective is to define and promote new paradigms in terms of who gets to conduct research within indigenous communities and territories, as well as what methodological and theoretical approaches are used to analyze the realities of Indigenous Women and Peoples, from their own perspective, offering solutions anchored in the communities’ own realities.

This way, through research, FIMI will generate information that can be used for processes of development and advocacy and for developing solutions for the future of Indigenous Peoples, taking into account their vision, culture, worldview, language, knowledge, spirituality and ancestral wisdom.

Research is an important ingredient for empowerment and for reclaiming our rights. Through enquiries and reasoning, we can promote the self-recognition of the different issues and conditions that affect one’s own life and that of others.

The course therefore seeks to support the comprehensive empowerment of Indigenous Women, in consultation with them and taking into account the traditional knowledge of Indigenous Peoples, in order to strengthen their leadership. In order to promote the empowerment of Indigenous Women, it is thus a priority to value their traditional knowledge and ancestral wisdom, and to understand that empowerment is a holistic process where the women are the ones empowering themselves by integrating individual and collective elements.

The Diploma in Research Methodologies with an Intercultural Approach is one of the offerings of the Research Program of the International Indigenous Women’s Forum (FIMI), which is aimed at providing comprehensive training with high academic and practical value to Indigenous Women from Asia, Africa, the Americas and the Pacific to help them gather and process pertinent information regarding the priorities identified within their communities or territories.
The Diploma will apply an intercultural approach, promoting dialogue between different sources of indigenous knowledge, welcoming exchanges between the various knowledge systems of the course's facilitators and students, and touching on various issues related to worldview, culture, governance and development as it relates to the identity of Indigenous Peoples.

The pedagogical process aims for the collective construction of knowledge, taking as a starting point the lived experiences, symbols, interpretations and different levels of conceptualization that occur around the social and personal relationships of each participant, including their worldview, history, territory, land and nature, work and socialization spaces for family and community.

The intercultural approach goes beyond simply recognizing the cultural diversity of the participants, promoting instead the analysis of existing political, economic, spiritual, environmental and social processes and conflicts through which the cultures that coexist in a given space (organization, territory, country, community) adopt certain norms, public policies and new organizational models. Diversity is obviously recognized as a right, a resource as well as a clash of powers.

An approach based on gender and intergenerational relations will also be used, because even though women are an integral part of indigenous cultures, in current societies the position of women has been stigmatized through the established treatment of issues of sexuality, health, politics, religion and the organization of labour, among others. Likewise, grandfathers and grandmothers, ancestors and keepers of wisdom play a fundamental role in guiding the youth, and this role must be recovered.
GENERAL OBJECTIVE OF THE DIPLOMA and DELIVERABLE

GENERAL OBJECTIVE

To contribute to the training and capacity building of Indigenous Women of Asia, Africa, the Americas and the Pacific with a range of qualitative, quantitative and mixed methods and techniques that Indigenous Women researchers can use to analyze the situation of their communities and territories through the knowledge and wisdom of Indigenous Peoples.

DELIVERABLE

Participants will develop a community case study on some of the following topics:

- Determined free development - Well-being
- Traditional Knowledge and Collective Intellectual Property
- Land, territory and natural resources
- Business and human rights
- Adaptation and Mitigation to Climate Change
- Biodiversity
- Contaminants
FIMI will award a scholarship to each participant that meets all the requirements for the realization of their case studies.

The amount of the scholarship will be $3,500 (three thousand five hundred US dollars), to be released upon submission of a case study proposal.

The scholarship will be awarded in a single instalment by bank transfer in the name of the course participant who will be the responsible researcher. In a 100% of the scholarship funds are expected to be used for activities related to the collection and processing of the data needed for the case study. An expense report with the corresponding receipts will have to be submitted to FIMI.

The participants will work with mentors assigned by FIMI to support the process of their studies and results. FIMI will publish the final results in print and/or digital media, giving them far reaching publicity and sharing with any media deemed appropriate.

The authors will assign the original publication rights of the documents to FIMI. The results may subsequently be published in any other medium, as long as the collaboration with FIMI is properly cited. The participants must inform FIMI of any subsequent publication they make of the results from the work.
The Diploma program will last 6 months, starting in February and ending in July 2022. The workload will be of approximately 144 hours, distributed as follows:

- Academic conferences (4 sessions of 3 hours each for a total of 12 hours)
- 12 virtual sessions through Zoom, corresponding to the 3 modules. (Each session will last 3 hours for a total of 36 hours.)
- 12 tutoring sessions on the work done by the participants (each session will last 3 hours for a total of 36 hours)
- 12 autonomous work sessions (each session estimated to be at least 5 hours for a total of 60 hours)
PROFILE – REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PARTICIPANTS

- Being a woman that belongs to an Indigenous People Community or Indigenous Nation.
- Being a Collaborator Being a collaborator or part of an organization of Indigenous Women.
- The participant must be able to attend all the virtual sessions of the diploma course that will take place from February to July 2022.
- Comply with the schedule and activities established during the virtual phase of the diploma course.
- Be able to carry out the case study project during the period of February to July 2022, ensuring the participation of a variety of actors and presenting the results of the research at an event organized by FIMI.
- Have basic knowledge of the use of computers and internet access.
- Being in a community or working in a community context.
- Be endorsed by your organization, group or community.
- Full commitment to participate in the entire program, during both the virtual and in-person phases.

DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED TO APPLY FOR THE DIPLOMA

- Motivation letter explaining why she is applying for the diploma, in addition, the letter must explicitly state that the applicant will complete the studies, and that, if she withdraws, she will return the total cost of the scholarship money.
- Endorsement letter from your organization, group or community.
- Undocumented resume
- Simple photocopy of the identity document.

The documents must be sent digitally to the following email

investigacion@iiwf.org
SCHEDULE and MORE INFORMATION

SCHEDULE

Applications: Until February 05, 2022

Interview: February 10, 2022

Signing of award certificate with selected women
February 24, 2022

Start of activities February 28, 2022

MORE INFORMATION

Investigation programme
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