

# 2026 CALL FOR PROPOSALS

## of FIMI's Ayni Fund



### Implementation Guide

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*Call period: June 1–30, 2026*

The International Indigenous Women's Forum (FIMI) invites Indigenous Women's organizations to submit proposals under the 2026 Call for Proposals of the Ayni Fund. All proposals will be carefully considered, with due attention to the administrative processes and standards related to the financial resources entrusted to FIMI.

This call is primarily addressed to new organizations that have not previously received support from the Ayni Fund.

We thank all Indigenous Women's organizations for their efforts to participate in this call.

## I. International Indigenous Women's Forum

The International Indigenous Women's Forum (FIMI) is a global mechanism that works across all regions and territories where Indigenous Peoples live. FIMI implements four strategic programs: Advocacy and Political Participation; Research and Knowledge Exchange; Capacity Strengthening; and the Ayni Indigenous Women's Fund. All programs work in close coordination and collaboration to contribute to strengthening the Indigenous Women's Movement and eliminating discrimination against Indigenous Women.

### Ayni Fund

The Ayni Fund mobilizes human and financial resources together with Indigenous Women's organizations and Indigenous Women-led organizations to create conditions and opportunities that support the full exercise of their individual and collective human rights. This philanthropic arm of FIMI facilitates change in Indigenous Communities with Indigenous Women, promoting their engagement and advocacy in broader movements, strengthening their organizational processes, and developing their leadership and economic autonomy.

The Ayni Fund accompanies groups, associations, partner organizations and networks of Indigenous Women committed to improving their living conditions and defending their human rights in their communities and at the national, regional and international levels. The Ayni Fund enables the mobilization and exchange of material, financial and technical resources to accompany Indigenous Women's Organizations.

The Ayni Fund values Indigenous Women's contribution to the sustainable human development of their communities, regions and countries. It also recognizes their knowledge, practices, worldview and culture, which contribute to the effective realization of their individual and collective rights and facilitate real access to decision-making spaces. Their voices, initiatives and participation are essential elements in processes of social transformation toward equality and within a broad civic space.

To reach a greater diversity of Indigenous Women's organizations around the world, the Ayni Fund operates through three types of grant opportunities: public open calls, direct calls by invitation, and regranteeing through larger grants to regional organizations that, in turn, provide smaller grants to national and local organizations.

## II. Priority themes

The Ayni Fund works on the priority issues in the lives of Indigenous Women and their Movements, identified through processes facilitated by FIMI and grouped into the following thematic areas:

Initiatives may include capacity-strengthening activities, technical accompaniment, planning, communication, monitoring, resource mobilization, network coordination, knowledge exchange and other organizational processes, provided they are clearly linked to one of the priority themes of the call.



### 1. Economic empowerment of Indigenous Women

Support for processes that improve the well-being and economic conditions of Indigenous Women, their families and their communities. This may include agroecological food production, food sovereignty, sustainable agricultural systems and Indigenous food systems; traditional farming practices and skills; marketing networks; strengthening value chains; technical advice for microenterprises and productive projects led by Indigenous Women; and actions based on their knowledge and practices, including arts and crafts.



### 2. Access and rights to land and territorial resources

Support for plans and strategies of Indigenous communities for access to, control over and management of their lands, territories and resources, in ways that contribute to sustainable livelihoods and ecosystems. This may include the promotion, preservation and documentation of Indigenous knowledge and practices; participation and advocacy efforts before governments for the recognition of rights to lands, territories and resources; and actions related to free, prior and informed consent (FPIC).



### 3. Resilience to climate change and disaster risk reduction

Development of effective and concrete strategies, based on Indigenous values and practices, for biodiversity conservation, watershed management, climate action, the use of renewable energy, and disaster risk reduction and prevention. This may also include documenting Indigenous Women's knowledge and practices, community learning and the exchange of experiences with other peoples.



### 4. Prevention and elimination of all forms of violence against Indigenous Women and Girls

Prevention of all forms of discrimination and violence against Indigenous Women and Girls, including sexual and gender-based violence; violence linked to conflicts over lands and territories, militarism, displacement, refuge or migration; and environmental, spiritual, political and cultural violence. Initiatives may include

protection, healing, self-care and collective-care processes for Indigenous Women survivors of violence, respecting Indigenous spirituality, values and principles.



### **5. Political participation and advocacy**

Lobbying and advocacy for the defense and transformation of legal and policy frameworks; the adoption of new laws; the participation of Indigenous Women in all areas of social and political leadership and decision-making at the local, national, regional and international levels; full recognition of individual and collective human rights; access to justice; collective leadership; strengthening traditional governance systems of Indigenous Peoples; and self-government.



### **6. Holistic health, well-being and care of Indigenous Women**

Support for initiatives that promote the physical, mental, emotional, spiritual and community health of Indigenous Women and Girls from an intercultural, rights-based and collective-care approach, with respect for Indigenous Peoples' knowledge systems, healing practices and traditional medicine. Proposals that help improve Indigenous Women and Girls' access to safe, culturally relevant and discrimination-free information, services and care spaces will also be valued.



### **7. Indigenous wisdom, art, culture and sports**

Processes that promote the education, training, transmission and revitalization of Indigenous Women's knowledge, both their own and intercultural knowledge. This may include knowledge exchanges, language revitalization, art, culture, intangible heritage and traditional or community sports as means to strengthen Indigenous Women's leadership, identity, participation, well-being and autonomy at all ages.

The Ayni Fund will remain open and consider some flexibility for emerging issues in specific contexts relevant to the situation of Indigenous Women.

## **III. Which organizations are eligible?**

To apply, organizations must meet all the eligibility criteria listed below:

- An Indigenous Women's Organization, Indigenous Community or People, group, association, organization or network of organizations led by Indigenous Women. In the case of a mixed organization, at least 50% of the board of directors (key decision-making positions and key implementation roles) must include Indigenous Women. The proposal must specifically aim to support and contribute to improving the situation and advancing the rights of Indigenous Women.
- Legal status: organizations registered according to the traditional norms of their communities and/or the legislation in force in their respective countries, with a bank account in the name of the organization. If not registered, the organization must have an identified fiscal sponsor, accompanied by an agreement letter with an organization that is legally registered and has a bank account in its name. The letter must explain the relationship between both entities, indicating the responsibilities and duties of each party.

- The applicant organization must be new to the Ayni Fund; that is, it must not have previously received support from this fund.
- Submission of the proposal with all sections completed, its budget and the required documents before the call deadline.

#### IV. Size and duration of projects

The 2026 Call for Proposals of the Ayni Fund will only accept proposals for two types of grants, with the corresponding implementation period:

**A. Small grants: USD 5,000–<20,000 — Maximum term: 12–18 months**

For Indigenous Women's organizations presenting community, local and/or grassroots initiatives.

**B. Medium grants: USD 25,000–<50,000 — Maximum term: 12–18 months**

For Indigenous Women's organizations with extensive experience in project implementation and presenting initiatives at the regional/national level.

#### V. Geographic scope/coverage

As a global mechanism, FIMI accompanies and collaborates with Indigenous Women's organizations around the world in the realization of Indigenous Women's rights. However, please note that Medium grants are only available for the Global South.

**The Ayni Fund DOES NOT FUND:**

- Religious activities
- Proposals/initiatives from individuals
- Proposals from private foundations or government entities
- Proselytizing activities related to political parties/electoral processes
- Purchase of cars, land, assets or any construction activity

#### VI. Participation process

To submit a proposal to FIMI's 2026 Ayni Fund Call for Proposals, all interested Indigenous Women's organizations must complete the following steps:

1. Register on the following online platform: <https://ayni.fimi-iiwf.org/>
2. Once registered, organizations may pause and continue later as they gather all required information. With their registration password, they may enter and exit the platform several times.
3. Complete the online proposal, including submission of the required complementary documentation.

4. Have and attach the following documentation: **a)** a reference letter from an established and recognized Indigenous Peoples' or Indigenous Women's organization; **b)** the organization's legal registration (which must be valid or updated); and **c)** the appointment record of its legal representative.

Once the proposal is complete and all requirements have been met, organizations must submit it. If any part is incomplete, they will not be able to SUBMIT. The earlier they complete and submit their proposal, the better.

### Important:

- For organizations located in remote areas with little or no Internet access, the Ayni Fund will make an exception and receive their proposal by email. For this purpose, they may contact: [ayni2026@iiwf.org](mailto:ayni2026@iiwf.org)
- Applications may be submitted in English, Spanish, Portuguese, and French.
- The Ayni Fund Team will provide active accompaniment throughout all stages of application preparation during the call period. Questions and inquiries must be channeled through [ayni2026@iiwf.org](mailto:ayni2026@iiwf.org)
- Read this guide carefully and consult the FAQ document before beginning to prepare your proposal.
- The Ayni Fund accepts only one application per organization, except in the case of fiscal sponsors that meet the eligibility criteria, which may also submit their own proposal.

## VII. Selection process

All eligible proposals will be evaluated by members of the Advisory Committee, composed of Indigenous Women from each region, who will use the following evaluation criteria:

- **Relevance of local and/or global issues to promote the rights of Indigenous Women:** Does the proposed initiative take priority needs into account in a culturally appropriate way, in harmony with Mother Earth? Will it offer a concrete pathway to help address the challenges faced by Indigenous Women and community issues, including women, youth, LGBTQ+ people, men, children and older adults, while strengthening intergenerational relationships and knowledge? How does it address the need for spiritual care, protection and healing for Women and communities?
- **Feasibility:** Is the proposal possible and realistic in terms of time, resources, efforts and activities to be implemented? How likely is it that the expected results will be sustained or continue in the communities after the project is completed? Is there a strategy?

- **Coherence with the themes of the call:** Is the proposed initiative aligned with the themes of the call? Is there coherence between the project's objectives, activities, budget and expected results and the proposed theme?
- **Innovation and creativity:** Does the proposal offer new and creative ways to address the priority needs and interests of Indigenous Women and their communities, in terms of approach, process, skills or results?
- **Institutional capacity:** What is the capacity of the organization's human resources, both volunteer and permanent? Has it previously implemented a similar project? Has it managed similar budgets? Has it received other grants before?
- **Institutional credibility:** What legitimacy does the organization have within and beyond its community? Does the organization participate in networks, groups and/or federations of Indigenous Women?
- **Political relevance:** Are there contextual developments that strengthen the potential of the project and the organization, for example within its country or within the Indigenous Women's Movement?

## VIII. Implementation

Organizations whose proposals are selected and approved will receive written notification to proceed with the process of signing the Memorandum of Understanding.

- The Ayni Fund will administer the Memorandum of Understanding for approved proposals.
- An induction and training process will be carried out with selected partner organizations, together with presentations to the FIMI team and programs.
- An accompaniment and follow-up process will be implemented according to the mapping of partner organizations' needs throughout the different phases of project implementation.
- The monitoring process will be carried out within the project cycle.

Questions? Please contact us at: [ayni2026@iiwf.org](mailto:ayni2026@iiwf.org)



Apply here

<https://ayni.fimi-iiwf.org/>




FAQ

## Timeline 2026 Call for Proposals of the Ayni Fund


Proposal submission period:  
**June 1 to June 30, 2026.**

Informational webinars and workshops:

 **June 4, 2026, at**  
**8:00 a.m. New York time**  
**3:00 p.m. Kenya time**  
**5:30 p.m. India time.** *(for the Africa and Asia/Pacific regions)*

**Meeting link:**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/zoom-join?meeting=9UzTLk5ZT9KGQ84Oiffy2g&from=addon>

 **June 5, 2026, at**  
**11:00 a.m. New York time**  
**9:00 a.m. Mexico City time**  
**11:00 a.m. Bolivia time.** *(for the Latin America and the Caribbean region)*

**Meeting link:**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/zoom-join?meeting=9UzTLk5ZT9KGQ84Oiffy2g&from=addon>

Proposal submission deadline:  
**midnight on June 30, 2026,**  
**in Lima, Peru (UTC-5).**

Questions regarding the 2026 Open Call:  
please send them to [ayni2026@iiwf.org](mailto:ayni2026@iiwf.org)  
with the subject line **"Questions Ayni Fund  
2026 Call for Proposals"** until **June 25th.**

Communication of results to  
selected organizations:  
**starting September 1, 2026.**

