



Open Call For Applications

THE INTERCULTURAL RESEARCH DIPLOMA COURSE

International Indigenous Women's Forum (FIMI) | 5th Edition | 2024



About the Diploma Course:

Since 2007, FIMI's Program for Research and knowledge sharing has worked to promote processes for collective analysis, with an intercultural focus. These processes have allowed us to dive deep into important topics affecting Indigenous Women, from their own perspectives, lending visibility to the problems they face, and creating helpful tools at the local, national, and international levels.

Through this research, FIMI aims to gather evidence to support processes of development, and find solutions for the future of Indigenous Peoples, always taking into consideration our visions, cultures, cosmovisions, language, skills, spirituality, and ancestral knowledge.

Within this framework, we offer the 5th edition of our Intercultural Research Diploma Course. We've designed it to be a space that encourages the creation of new paradigms for who carries out research in our Indigenous Communities and Territories—as well as asking which methods and theories work best to analyze the lived realities of Indigenous Women and their communities, from their own perspectives. Our aim is that participants will be able to propose solutions focused on their realities.

This 5th edition of the Intercultural Research Diploma Course aims to combine information gathering by and about Indigenous Women, with work to monitor and follow up on how well States are complying with the United Nations' CEDAW General Recommendation 39 on the Rights of Indigenous Women and Girls.

The need to gather and put to use data about our own realities, in our own voices as Indigenous Women, is a way for us to claim and exercise our human rights. Indigenous Communities and Women experience daily violence, yet it has been difficult for us to document, denounce, and end these violations. With that in mind, Indigenous Women's organizations face a challenge: to train our own Indigenous researchers, who will study their own reality, and create their own conceptual frameworks, methodology, and methods to take on the problems that affect their lives.

This course seeks to contribute to this mission by offering an integral training program with a high-quality, practical curriculum to Indigenous Women from three socio-cultural regions: Asia, Africa, and the Americas, each of whom will document and process information about various topics impacting their lives.

General Objective

To develop the 5th Edition of the Intercultural Research Diploma Course, through which we seek to promote the generation and exchange of research and knowledge. The course is designed to apply culturally-relevant and culturally-appropriate methodologies which take into account our cosmovisions and Indigenous ancestral knowledge. Our goal is for this program to be highly useful for Indigenous Women's Organizations, as a tool to support and provide evidence for lobbying, and political advocacy.



Participant Deliverables

The participants will carry out a community case study focused on one or more of these topics:

- **Access to justice, and access to plural legal systems**
- **Prevention of and protection from gender-based violence against Indigenous Women and Girls**
- **The right to effective participation in political and public life**
- **The right to education**
- **The right to work**
- **The right to health**
- **The right to culture**
- **Rights to land, territories, and natural resources**
- **The right to nutrition, water, and seeds**
- **The right to a clean, healthy, sustainable natural environment**

Diploma Course Approach

The Diploma Course will use an ***Intercultural Approach*** based on a combination of Indigenous and non-Indigenous knowledge systems, in dialogue on diverse topics including cosmovision, culture, government, and development that retains our identity as Indigenous Peoples.

The learning process is also based on the ***collective construction*** of knowledge, which takes as a starting point the experiences, symbols, interpretations, and varying levels of conceptualization of the participants, including their relations and relationships, cosmovision, history, territory, lands, nature, work, and spaces where they have been socialized into their family and community.

This focus on Interculturality goes beyond simply recognizing the cultural diversity of the participants, and delves into the analysis of political, economic, spiritual, environmental and social conflicts and processes, through which different cultures sharing a certain space (institution, territory, country, community) adopt certain norms, public policies, and new organizational models.

There will also be a ***focus on gender and intergenerational relations***, because in Indigenous Cultures, Women, Children, and Youth form an integral part of their processes.

Along the same lines, our grandparents, ancestors, and wise elders carry out a fundamental role of orienting and guiding younger people—a role which we need to recover. Thus, this program's focus supports the integral understanding of women and their relationships intergenerationally with their communities.



About economic support for researchers

FIMI will offer a stipend of **\$2,000 USD** to each participant, so that they may carry out their research. Participants should send a detailed proposal beforehand, showing how they will use these funds toward their research.

These funds will be paid in one lump sum, through a bank transfer in the name of the participant, who will then be responsible for carrying out their case study. The funds should be used 100% towards gathering and processing the information to be used in the case study, and should be reported to FIMI with proof of expenses.

The participants will work under the guidance of tutors assigned by FIMI, who will follow their studies and results. FIMI will publish the final products in print and digital media, giving them ample publicity through the most appropriate platforms and media.

The authors of the research cede to FIMI the right to the first, original publication of the documents. Subsequently the research may be published wherever desired, always citing the collaboration with FIMI. Participants should inform FIMI of any later publications of their work resulting from their research during the course.





Duration, Hours, and Modules

The course will last 6 months, starting on January 16, 2024 and culminating on July 31, 2024. It includes 156 hours, made up of two meetings per week, distributed as follows:

MODULE	SESSIONS	HOURS PER SESSION	TOTAL MODULE HOURS
Orientation	1 session (virtual)	3 hours	3 hours
1. Introduction to Moodle	3 sessions (virtual)	3 hours	9 hours
2. CEDAW and General Recommendation 39 on the Rights of Indigenous Women and Girls	5 sessions (virtual)	3 hours	15 hours
3. Training in research and Intercultural Methodologies	5 sessions (virtual)	3 hours	15 hours
4. Writing and Editing	3 sessions (virtual)	3 hours	9 hours
5. Applying the intercultural research approach in research processes by and about Indigenous Women	9 sessions (5 virtual sessions, 4 sessions of independent work)	3 hours	27 hours
6. Pathways for intercultural research in local, national, and international contexts	12 sessions (8 virtual sessions, 4 sessions of independent work)	3 hours	36 hours
5. Preliminary Presentation of Participant Research	6 sessions (virtual)	3 hours	18 hours
In-person Meeting	3 days	8 hours	24 hours
TOTAL:			156 Horas



30 virtual sessions (on Zoom)

corresponding to the four units (90 hours)



6 virtual sessions for preliminary presentations of participants' research (18 hours)



A three-day in-person meeting

(24 hours)



8 independent work sessions for each student (24 hours)

Participant Requisites. Participants must:

- ☒ Be women from an Indigenous Community or Nationality
- ☒ Be collaborators in or part of an Indigenous Women's Organization
- ☒ Be able to attend all virtual sessions and the in-person gatherings, between January and July 2024
- ☒ Complete all scheduled activities and tasks during the virtual phase of the program
- ☒ Be able to carry out their case studies between January and July 2024, assuring the participation of diverse actors, and present their research results at an event organized by FIMI
- ☒ Have basic computer skills, and internet access
- ☒ Live in a community or work in a community context
- ☒ Be endorsed by their organization, collective, or community
- ☒ Be committed to participating in all program activities

Documentos por presentar para la postulación al Diplomado:

- ☒ A letter explaining why you would like to participate in this Diploma Course. This letter must include a section explicitly stating that you will complete your studies, and that if you fail to do so, you will return the entire stipend to FIMI.
- ☒ A letter of endorsement from your organization, collective, or community
- ☒ Resume
- ☒ Copy of your ID
- ☒ The application form should be filled out completely and submitted to FIMI. We ask that you please take into account while filling out your applications, the Intercultural approach outlined in our Guide to Intercultural Research, which you can read here.

[Guide to Intercultural Research](#)

The documents should be submitted digitally to the email address

investigacion@iiwf.org

Please begin by filling out this application form