



Global Alliance
of Territorial
Communities



**10 YEARS OF
UNITY**



2025-2026 **STRATEGY**



TABLE OF CONTENTS

GOVERNANCE AGREEMENTS.....	5
Organizational Structure of the GATC.....	5
Review of Organizational Structure and Decision-Making.....	6
Internal Procedures and Functioning.....	6
Financing and Fiscal Sponsorship.....	6
Inclusion of Youth and Women in Governance.....	6
COICA's Situation and its role in the GATC.....	7
WORK PLAN.....	7
Our calendar year.....	7
Thematic priorities.....	9
COP30: Global and Regional Expectations.....	9
Member organizations' priorities for COP30.....	11
Logistics and participation.....	12
The Ecosystem that holds us.....	13
Communications: Flipping the narrative of our five demands.....	13
OUR MOVEMENTS.....	15
Women's Movement.....	15
2024 Achievements.....	15
Key Outcomes.....	16
Advocacy Strategy.....	16
Next Steps.....	16
Youth Movement.....	17
Key Outcomes.....	17
Advocacy Strategy.....	17
Next Steps.....	17
SHANDIA PLATFORM.....	18
Key Achievements.....	18
Advocacy strategy and next steps.....	18
1. Mutual Capacity Building.....	19
2. Systematization and visibility of fund impacts.....	19
3. Facilitation of financial flows.....	19
4. Influence the international financial architecture.....	19
Update of the regional mechanisms.....	19
Fundo Jaguaratá.....	19
Mesoamerican Territorial Fund – FTM.....	20
REPALEAC Fund.....	21

Nusantara Fund.....	21
IPAS.....	22
2025 BUDGET.....	22
Budget agreements.....	22
Budget Structure.....	24
Budget Summary.....	24
Future fundraising.....	25

GLOBAL ALLIANCE OF TERRITORIAL COMMUNITIES

Strategic Plan 2025: On the Road to COP30

THIS STRATEGY WAS BUILT IN ESPÍRITO SANTO, BRAZIL IN FEBRUARY 2025

As the climate crisis deepens, we as Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IP and LCs) continue to resist the growing threats posed by extractive industries, land grabbing, and human rights violations. Our territories remain at the frontlines of deforestation, biodiversity loss, and ecosystem degradation, threats that endanger not only our ways of life but the very future of our planet. Yet, despite these mounting pressures, we persist in defending our lands, asserting our rights, and advocating for genuine climate action.

In 2025, as we head into **COP30 in Belém, Brazil**, our fight for climate justice takes on even greater urgency. Our role in protecting the world's remaining forests, sustaining biodiversity, and the need to address climate change is undeniable. Our ancestral knowledge and governance systems have long been recognized as some of the most effective strategies for conservation. Yet, we continue to face escalating violence, exclusion from decision-making spaces, and critical gaps in direct financing for our critical work.

Building on the foundation laid in previous years, the **Global Alliance of Territorial Communities (GATC)** has developed this **2025 Strategic Plan** to accelerate territorial action, strengthen our advocacy, and ensure that we as IP and LCs are central to global climate negotiations and decisions. This plan emerges from collective efforts and deep discussions with our allied organizations, setting forth a roadmap to confront the crises we face while advancing our self-determined climate solutions.

With **COP30 as a milestone**, we call on Indigenous and local organizations, governments, and aligned institutions to join us in ensuring that the climate agenda prioritizes people, rights, and territorial solutions. **2025 must be a turning point, one where commitments translate into concrete actions, where financial flows reach communities directly, and where we are not just included in climate discussions but lead them.**

While we entered this year with optimism and ambition to advance our demands as we approach COP30, it is also important to acknowledge that this is a year of great uncertainty. The rapidly evolving political context, due to significant policy changes in the United States and elsewhere, jeopardizes funding for many of our member organizations and partners. It also changes the ways in which we can most effectively realize our goals. We as GATC are closely monitoring and exploring alternative pathways for funding engagement, ensuring that our work remains stable and that the momentum of our movement continues, even in the face of external volatility.

Together, we will continue to resist, protect, and shape a future where justice, sustainability, and Indigenous and local Community-led solutions define the path forward.

GOVERNANCE AGREEMENTS

The Global Alliance of Territorial Communities (GATC) has embarked on a journey to enhance its governance structures, aiming to facilitate better decision-making and effective implementation of our strategies. Since the creation of the GATC ten years ago, significant progress has been achieved, laying a solid foundation for our organizational advancement.

At the heart of our governance framework lies a robust Leadership Council of two representatives from each active member organization, alongside representatives from the GATC Women's and Youth Movements. Drawing upon their territorial legitimacy and expertise, these council members play a pivotal role in guiding our work and strategy formulation.

Within the Leadership Council, two Co-Chairs serve as the leading voices overseeing day-to-day operations, steering our agenda forward amidst dynamic circumstances. Currently, this responsibility is shared by two esteemed organizations: The Network of Indigenous and Local Populations for the Sustainable Management of Forest Ecosystems in Central Africa (REPALEAC), represented by **Joseph Itongwa Mukumo**, and the Articulation of Indigenous Peoples of Brazil (APIB), represented by **Dinamam Tuxá and Kleber Karipuna**.

Serving as the linchpin between leadership and the Secretariat, the Executive Secretary, held by **Juan Carlos Jintiach**, represents the GATC in various negotiation spaces, ensuring coherence and alignment across all levels of engagement.

Furthermore, the Youth and Women's Movements, integral parts of the GATC, function as coordination hubs for specific demands and concerns, enabling them to be effectively integrated into our global strategies.

The updates provided in the following sections, derived from our latest meeting in Aracuz, Espírito Santo, Brazil, represent the latest updates.

Organizational Structure of the GATC

During the working sessions on Days 1, 2, and 5 of our annual planning meetings, we thoroughly addressed the challenges and opportunities related to the governance structure of the GATC. Below is a summary of the key agreements and decisions:

Review of Organizational Structure and Decision-Making

- We identified the need to **review the current GATC management structure** in order to improve communication and decision-making processes.
- We agreed to develop an **accountability matrix** that clearly defines responsibilities, lead persons, support roles, and deadlines for each task.
- We proposed **hiring an external consultant to evaluate the governance structure, existing capacity, and needs**, building on prior agreements made in Geneva, Bali, and Douala.

Internal Procedures and Functioning

- We emphasized the urgency of finalizing the GATC's **manual of procedures** to ensure we have comprehensive policies for our operations, governance, and decision-making.
- We agreed to move toward a more **flexible and efficient structure for fund utilization and grant disbursement processes**, allowing quick responses to urgent needs such as travel or participation in key events and ensuring that our Women's and Youth Movements do not require leadership approval to access their designated funds. These funds are earmarked for the implementation of strategic actions and activities approved within the framework of the GATC.
- We established the priority of hiring consultants to support: the **Global Forest Basins Congress, COP30, Campaigner for COP30, Fundraising**, and the **evaluation of GATC governance structure and the manual of procedures**.

Financing and Fiscal Sponsorship

- We reached consensus on the need to **diversify fiscal sponsorship**, exploring options outside the United States or through our members' grassroots organizations, given the volatility of that country's political and financial context.
- Juan Carlos Jintiach and Kleber Karipuna will initiate conversations with RFUS (our current fiscal sponsor) and other donors to assess the feasibility of redirecting funds to other fiscal sponsors.
- We agreed to develop a **proposal for the use of contingency funds**, defining clear criteria for when and how they should be activated in emergency situations.

Inclusion of Youth and Women in Governance

- Our Women's and Youth Movements presented proposals to improve access to financial resources and to actively participate in strategic decision-making spaces.
- The Women's Movement endorsed the adoption of the term "**Indigenous Science**" instead of "Traditional Knowledge," recognizing it as a powerful step toward honoring the depth, complexity, and legitimacy of ancestral knowledge systems developed over millennia by Indigenous Peoples.
- There will be a follow up on the nomination of the Women's Movement spokespersons and a review of past budget implementation for the Women's and Youth Movements.

COICA's Situation and its role in the GATC

- Our brothers and sisters from APIB shared updates on COICA's current situation, **acknowledging the ongoing process of internal reorganization** and the expectation of key outcomes after its upcoming congress during May in Quito, Ecuador.
- GATC leaders reaffirmed our commitment to **accompany and support COICA** in its internal processes, without intervening in the autonomous decisions of the Amazonian movement.
- We formally expressed GATC's willingness to act with sensitivity and respect in response to internal divisions within member organizations, always prioritizing the **unity of the global territorial movement**.

WORK PLAN

In this section, we present our **2025 work plan**, outlining our key priorities, proposed timeline, and concrete steps to guide our collective action. These strategic directives form a compass for our journey to COP30, a critical milestone where global climate attention must center on the solutions led by IP and LCs. While some details of implementation will continue to evolve throughout the year, this plan reflects our shared commitment to advancing territorial action and climate justice in the face of mounting global challenges.

Our calendar year

We are committed to increasing the visibility and advocacy of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IP and LCs) in critical international forums throughout 2025. Our coalition has pinpointed key events and negotiation spaces where we will actively participate to elevate the voices, needs, and concerns of IP and LCs on the global stage as we journey towards Belém, with COP30 marking our final destination for the year.

We have several major priority events this year, which are outlined in the table below.

Month	Event
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Planning Meeting (Brazil)
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skoll World Forum (UK) • Acampamento Terra Livre - ATL (Brazil) • UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues - UNPFII(USA)
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Global Congress of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities from the Forest Basins (Republic of Congo)
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AMPB European Fundraising Tour • General Assembly of Asia Indigenous Peoples' Pact - AIPP (Thailand) • Assembly Network of Indigenous Women of Asia (Thailand) • SBSTA UNFCCC (Germany)
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indigenous Women's March (Brazil)
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SBSTTA (Panama) • 1st meeting SB Article 8(j) CBD- IP and LCs (Panama)
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indigenous COP (Brazil) • Peoples's Summit (Brazil) • UNFCCC COP30 (Brazil) • Shandia Forum (Brazil)

In 2025, we are deeply committed to supporting our member organizations in advancing their regional and national agendas. This includes accompanying and uplifting initiatives such as the “Acampamento Terra Livre” organized by APIB, the First Global Congress of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities from Forest Basins — a joint effort between REPALEAC and GATC — and the AMPB Fundraising Tour. These and other upcoming events present vital opportunities to build solidarity, strengthen capacities, and deepen collaboration among IP and LCs across regions.

While GATC will not participate in the New York Climate Week this year, our focus remains on spaces that directly reflect our priorities and where our presence can generate meaningful impact for our communities.

Please visit the following active calendar to learn about the upcoming agenda items:

 [GATC 2025 Calendar_v2025-02-16.xlsx](#)

This calendar will be regularly updated as new information is provided to the GATC Leadership Council and Secretariat, ensuring that our strategic engagement and advocacy initiatives stay adaptable and responsive to emerging needs and opportunities.

Thematic priorities

In 2025, we remain focused on **advancing our five core demands**, each rooted in the lived realities, priorities, and visions of our Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities. These priorities were shaped through consultations and finalized during our planning meeting in Espírito Santo, Brazil.

This marks a deliberate shift by our leadership to **elevate all five demands**, moving beyond a singular focus to a more holistic approach that reflects the full breadth of our struggle and solutions. As we move toward COP30, we are committed to strategically amplifying these priorities, ensuring they take center stage in global climate dialogues and drive transformative action that empowers our communities and safeguards our territories for future generations.

GATC's collective thematic areas for 2025

1. **Land Rights:** Protecting our territories as part of our identity, ensuring biodiversity and climate resilience through strong governance and decision-making.
2. **Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC):** Empowering our voices by ensuring our right to consent before decisions are made about our lands and resources.
3. **Direct Financing:** Securing resources for Indigenous and local community-led solutions and advancing the Shandia Journey to support sustainable development.
4. **Protection of Life:** Defending our ways of life, biodiversity, and land defenders against criminalization, exploitation and human rights violations.
5. **Traditional Knowledge:** Recognizing Indigenous knowledge as Indigenous Science, integrating it into global environmental decision-making for sustainable solutions.

We are considering including Indigenous and community-based economies as a future line of work within the GATC, as we are promoting dialogue among our grassroots members based on successful models and experiences. This proposal aims to bring visibility and recognition to these models as legitimate pathways for development grounded in identity and the self-determination of our communities.

COP30: Global and Regional Expectations

As we look toward COP30 in Belém, Brazil, we have identified both global and regional policy goals for COP30. Our expectations are grounded in the defense of our territories, the recognition of our rights, and the call for just, effective climate solutions.

Global Expectations for COP30

We are calling for COP30 to bring the climate agenda back to **people, rights, and nature**. Our core global demands include:

1. **Unprecedented and concrete, transparent and monitorable implementation pledges on:**
 - **Land tenure:** Recognition and legal protection of collective rights to land and territories.
 - **Direct funding:** Scalable, sustained, and culturally appropriate funding mechanisms that reach us as IP and LCs directly.

These demands are closely tied to ongoing work with the **Forest Tenure Funders Group (FTFG)** to establish a renewed funding pledge for COP30, and the **Forest and Climate Leaders' Partnership (FCLP)** to launch a hectare pledge for IP and LCs-managed territories.

2. **Increased support from international cooperation for territorial demarcation and protection**

We urge foreign aid and climate finance programs to prioritize **territorial security** by directly financing the **demarcation, titling, and defense** of Indigenous Peoples' and Local Communities' lands. These processes must be community-led and legally recognized, with long-term institutional support.

3. **Development of global guidelines for an IP and LCs NDC (Nationally Determined Contribution)**

We propose the creation of **global guidelines** for IP and LCs-led contributions to national climate commitments. These guidelines would serve as a reference for countries to incorporate the climate mitigation and adaptation contributions of IP and LCs in their NDCs, while upholding **Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC)**, traditional governance systems, and gender justice.

4. **Strengthening the interconnection between the three Rio Conventions**

Climate, biodiversity, and desertification are inseparable. We call for **integrated approaches** across the UNFCCC, CBD, and UNCCD that reflect the holistic ways our communities relate to land and ecosystems.

5. **Visibility and recognition of IP and LCs economies and funding mechanisms**

Our economies are regenerative, low-carbon, and based on stewardship rather than extraction. We call for **high-level visibility** and recognition of IP and LCs economic models and financing tools, including those led by our own organizations and alliances.

6. **Global awareness and campaign efforts**

GATC will participate in the **“The Answer is Us”** campaign, a powerful initiative that emerged from **COIAB**, a grassroots organization from **APIB**. Although led by the Indigenous Peoples of Brazil, this campaign is not limited to Brazil or Indigenous Peoples, it calls for a **unified front of all peoples and movements** who identify with the campaign's demands and values. We envision it as an **umbrella campaign**, connecting and amplifying **regional and thematic initiatives** worldwide.

Member organizations' priorities for COP30

At the **regional level**, our policy goals are tailored to reflect specific territorial realities, political opportunities, and advocacy contexts. The following priorities of our member organizations were articulated during the GATC annual planning meetings.

Indigenous People's Alliance of the Archipelago (AMAN)

AMAN highlighted the unique opportunity of COP30 to secure **meaningful participation and political space** for Indigenous Peoples in international climate negotiations. AMAN stressed that decisions are often made without Indigenous presence, and called on the Brazilian government to open doors for inclusive dialogue. They underscored that **loss and damage** is not only about rising seas and small islands; Indigenous territories across Indonesia have already experienced irreversible damage. To address this, AMAN is working with seven universities on a study that will document these impacts. They also proposed the creation of **high-level regional panels** at COP30, the **reinforcement of the GATC's five core demands**, and called for support to **bridge the technological gap** faced by communities in monitoring and protecting their territories.

Mesoamerican Alliance of Peoples and Forests (AMPB)

AMPB expressed that COP30 represents a rare chance to bring the global climate agenda back to the people. Unlike previous COPs, which leaned heavily on economic incentives and private sector solutions, often sidelining community-based approaches, AMPB believes this is the moment to show the world that **life is not measured by economic transactions; it is forests, water, and communities**. The AMPB aims to elevate the role of the **five largest forests in Mesoamerica and other ecosystems**, emphasizing their biological connectivity and global relevance alongside tropical forests. AMPB highlighted the actions led by Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities that make the conservation of these forests possible, despite facing increasing threats, including violence and land grabs. It also aims to showcase the **Mesoamerican Indigenous and local economy**, rooted in traditional knowledge and supported strongly by women's leadership. Finally, AMPB stressed the

need for **greater equity in climate finance and agreements**, and highlighted the **Mesoamerican Territorial Fund (FTM)** as a model for direct, community-based solutions.

Articulation of Indigenous Peoples of Brazil (APIB)

APIB reaffirmed its commitment to advancing the proposal for an **Indigenous NDC**, which would recognize **land demarcation as a climate mitigation strategy** within Brazil's official climate commitments. APIB, together with its regional organizations, is currently developing a comprehensive document that outlines Indigenous proposals for adaptation, financing, and implementation mechanisms. The Brazilian government has expressed interest, and APIB is engaging with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Indigenous Peoples to ensure that Indigenous voices shape national climate policy. Internationally, APIB called for **global guidelines for Indigenous and local communities' NDCs**, which could serve as a reference for national implementation and strengthen the case for **direct funding and international support for territorial demarcation** — what they envision as a PPTAL 2.0.

Network of Indigenous and Local Populations for the Sustainable Management of Forest Ecosystems in Central Africa (REPALEAC)

REPALEAC emphasized that climate change is not only a forest issue. In countries like Chad, Burundi, and Cameroon, Indigenous Peoples are facing climate impacts across savannas, wetlands, and other ecosystems. REPALEAC is coordinating a regional effort to review and influence the national NDCs of eight countries, ensuring they include Indigenous **territorial rights** and **traditional knowledge**. This process will continue through 2025, aiming to shape the next wave of NDCs due in early 2026. That regional alliance is also monitoring **carbon market regulations** and advocating for Indigenous rights in carbon sequestration initiatives, calling for transparency and safeguards. A comprehensive regional report will be developed to support this advocacy.

Logistics and participation

Logistics and participation are a significant concern for COP30. Ensuring adequate participation by IP and LCs in COP30 is our priority. Although the extreme costs of travel and lodging at COP30 have presented some barriers, some progress has been made to support IP and LCs participation. Several official bodies will represent IPs and LCs, including the UNFCCC Indigenous Caucus, the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (LCIPP), and the Indigenous Special Climate Envoys. A proposal is also underway to create an International Indigenous Commission for COP30, involving key actors such as APIB, GATC, the Amazon G9, the MPI, and others.

The **People's Summit** and **Indigenous COP** are being planned as key spaces for broader participation, with efforts to have them officially included in the COP30 Green Zone. Negotiations are also in progress to establish an **Indigenous Pavilion in the Blue Zone**, equipped for meetings and multilingual interpretation.

To support broader access, APIB has proposed increasing the number of Indigenous accreditations to 1,000, up from 300 at COP28, a proposal welcomed by the COP30 Presidency and UNFCCC. To address logistical barriers, the Government of Pará is planning **Aldeia COP**, a space that would provide accommodation, food, and workspaces for Indigenous delegations.

The Ecosystem that holds us

In 2025, we will continue to count on the vital support of our ecosystem of allies. This includes long-standing partners and new collaborators who will walk alongside us in key advocacy efforts, capacity-building initiatives, strategic convenings, and resource mobilization. Their support is instrumental in strengthening our territorial action, amplifying our voices in global spaces. This collective force is what enables us to move forward with strength, purpose, and resilience.

During our annual planning meetings, our allies and partners reaffirmed the critical support they will provide to the GATC in 2025. This includes key financial support which will facilitate the GATC's work throughout the year and enable GATC participation in events such as the Skoll World Forum, the Peoples' Summit, Indigenous COP, and COP30. This support will also help us to convene our members and partners at key GATC events such as the Global Forest Basins Congress. Our partners will also play crucial roles in coordinating and supporting GATC engagement with other initiatives that aim to increase funding to and rights recognition for IP and LCs, such as the Forest Tenure Funders Group (FTFG), the Forest and Climate Leaders' Partnership (FCLP), the Tropical Forests Forever Facility (TFFF), and the GEF 8 Inclusive Conservation Initiative (ICI). Some partners have their own mechanisms to disburse funds to IP and LCs, including the Tenure Facility and RRI's CLARIFI Initiative.

Beyond financial support and helping to coordinate engagement with these spaces, many of our allies will also support advocacy efforts, including through strategic communications support and providing convening spaces. This includes narrative work that advances our five demands, including specific work around the "Our Pledge" campaign, promoting women's leadership, and supporting the visibility of events at COP30 including spaces such as "Our Village."

We are grateful for these strong partnerships which will help ensure a successful journey towards and through COP30, in which our demands are advanced through strong visibility and advocacy.

Communications: Flipping the narrative of our five demands

GATC Communications Strategy 2025

In our GATC 2025 Communications Strategy, developed hand-in-hand with our leaders, we created a bold and assertive narrative that centers the voices and leadership of IP and LCs in the global discourse on climate change, biodiversity, and human rights.

At the heart of this strategy is the unwavering leadership of our peoples, with our voices shaping the narrative from the ground up. Our wisdom, resilience, Indigenous Science and ancestral knowledge are central to all our communications, ensuring that our struggles and solutions are presented in a way that truly reflects our lived realities and the five core demands we collectively uphold.

Key elements of the guiding narrative:


- Our resistance is grounded in the sacred relationship with our territories.
- We are leaders, not victims, offering real, community-driven solutions.
- Our traditional knowledge is Indigenous Science, vital to planetary survival.
- Our lands are not just resources, but the foundation of our identity and the future of all life.

Key takeaways from our meeting:

- **Phased transition approach** : GATC's communications work is currently undergoing a staffing transition, with AMPB coordinating this phase until May. This decentralized approach empowers regional actors, such as APIB and AMPB, to lead from their own contexts, ensuring that strategy and messaging remain culturally grounded, community-driven, and locally relevant.
- **From victims to visionaries**: The narrative aims to reposition us from being perceived as victims to being recognized as protectors, leaders, and innovators. Our demands are presented as concrete solutions rooted in rights, sustainability, and ancestral knowledge.
- **Community-led storytelling**: Communications must be community-first and territory-driven, grounded in our lived experiences, not shaped by external interpretations. The focus is on amplifying voices from the territories.
- **Key target audiences**: This strategy prioritizes outreach to Indigenous movements, government negotiators, civil society, philanthropic organizations, media in the Global North, and policymakers in countries involved in critical mineral extraction.
- **Traditional knowledge as Indigenous Science**: We will advocate for the formal recognition of traditional knowledge as "Indigenous Science", a holistic approach to climate solutions that transcends Western scientific silos and sectoral boundaries.

- **Tactical communications approach:** The strategy includes launching at least three digital campaigns, utilizing non-traditional media such as community radio, and reframing Indigenous narratives to strengthen advocacy in the lead-up to COP30.
- **Emergency & solutions-oriented tone:** Communications will emphasize the urgency of securing our rights and climate justice, while also offering solutions that inform, inspire, and mobilize public and political will.
- **Bridging to broader movements:** Our narratives will be aligned with global justice movements, highlighting shared struggles and underscoring how the protection of our lands ensures the survival of the planet.
- **Localized and inclusive engagement:** Indigenous and local communicators will be central to this strategy, bridging grassroots realities with global advocacy to keep community perspectives at the forefront.
- **Data-driven advocacy:** Evidence-based storytelling will be used to connect Indigenous contributions with measurable impacts, strengthening arguments for policy change in climate negotiations.
- **Women and youth leadership:** Our strategy places intentional focus on intergenerational and gender-inclusive storytelling, recognizing that Indigenous and local women and youth are central to community defense, knowledge transmission, and the shaping of a more just and sustainable future.

More details on our communications strategy can be found here:

 [25- 2 GATC Communications Strategy.docx](#)

OUR MOVEMENTS

The annual planning meetings of the GATC began with two days dedicated to strengthening the advocacy strategy and governance of our Women's Movement and Youth Movement. Both collectives met and discussed fundamental issues related to their functioning and goals. The following section presents the primary advancements.

Women's Movement

2024 Achievements

In 2024, the GATC Women's Movement played a leading role on the global stage, with strong representation across key international fora, including the three Rio Conventions (CBD COP16, UNFCCC COP29, and UNCCD COP16), Climate Week NYC, the Shandia Forum, the Skoll World Forum, UNPFII, ATL, among others. The Women Leaders participation and advocacy actively

contributed to advance the five GATC demands. Key achievements include the presentation of the Sacred Lands Declaration at UNCCD, training IP leaders and spokeswomen to engage in the UN mechanisms, presenting proposals to integrate a gender lens into Shandia and the regional financing mechanisms, co-producing a brief on gender based violence and climate change with Movilizadorio, and participating in events that elevated traditional knowledge alongside themes such as land rights, direct financing, protection of life, and FPIC.

Key Outcomes

The Women's Movement is aligned with the GATC's agenda and five demands, ensuring that their global advancement fully incorporates Indigenous and local women's rights and leadership. Women leaders engage with full and effective participation, addressing both global IP and LC priorities and women-specific issues, including gender-based violence.

The Women's Movement will strengthen the organizational capacity and ensure that IP and Local LC women leaders and spokeswomen effectively engage in international events and UN mechanisms. Additionally, it will integrate a gender lens into the Shandia Platform and regional financing mechanisms to ensure full and effective participation in global finance discussions, working tables, and decision-making processes within the GATC Global Strategy.

The Women's Movement adopted a new governance structure for the Women Leaders delegates of the member organizations, following a rotating co-leader model with a two year term. Sara Omi (AMPB) will remain co-leader for another year, while Aissatou Oumarou (REPALEAC) assumes the co-leader position for a two-year term.

The Women's Movement also proposed several Knowledge Exchange Initiatives, focusing on knowledge-sharing around GATC demands, including Land Rights, Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC), Protection of Life, and Traditional Knowledge, emphasizing its value as "Indigenous Science"

Advocacy Strategy

In 2025, the Women's Movement will continue to participate in key global events, including UNPFII, COP30, UNFCCC SB62, the women's pre-congress at the First Global Congress of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities from the Forest Basins, the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), London Action Climate Week, the Indigenous Women's March, and others.

Next Steps

In 2025, the Women's Movement will advance its work plan in full alignment with the GATC's five demands. Regular in-person leadership meetings will be held to strengthen governance, consolidate the shared agenda, and refine collective messaging. The first such meeting is set for NYC, timed with the UNPFII. Women leaders will also assign thematic responsibilities among themselves, designating focal-point spokeswomen for each area.

Youth Movement

Key Outcomes

During the meetings, the Youth Movement solidified their governance structure, which follows a rotational model. Each year, there are four coordinators, one from each member organization, and each leading on a specific theme. The four themes are visibility and communication, capacity building, relationships and alliances, and consolidation. One region will serve as the lead, one as political support, and the other two act as thematic leaders. For 2025 to 2027, AMPB is the lead and REPALEAC is the support.

Advocacy Strategy

The Youth Movement will participate in major climate and Indigenous rights events in 2025, including COP30, the First Global Congress of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities from the Forest Basins, SBSTTA, YOUNGO, and European Climate Week.

They will also undertake crucial capacity building activities. This includes English language classes to allow youth to participate in international events, projects to expand internet connectivity, and holding workshops to better understand the UN systems.

For **COP30**, the Youth Movement will implement a **storytelling campaign** to showcase the role of youth in Indigenous and local communities. This will include:

- **Creating audiovisual products** that highlight territorial stories and the youth-led initiatives within these territories.
- **Launching communication campaigns** to position the role of Indigenous youth and local community youth as central to climate advocacy.
- **Mapping youth-led territorial initiatives** from Indigenous and local communities.

- **Producing audiovisual content** on the Youth Movement's activities to date.
- **Defining the central demands of youth** for COP30, shaping key messages for communication.
- **Collaborating with strategic allies** to amplify and disseminate the messages at international platforms.

Next Steps

Looking forward to 2025, the **GATC Youth Movement** will focus on uniting and empowering Indigenous and Local Community youth, aligning their efforts with the **advocacy and five demands of the GATC**. A key goal is to design the **Strategic Plan for 2025-2026**, ensuring the consolidation and growth of the Youth Movement within the broader GATC framework and to participate in the activity of navigating the Amazon River with other young people from the world to Belen for the COP30.

SHANDIA PLATFORM

Key Achievements

In 2024, Shandia focused its work on institutional strengthening and enhancing its internal structure. Key milestones included:

- **Shandia Coordinator hired:** The hiring of the Shandia Coordinator was a pivotal step in strengthening leadership and managing strategic goals.
- **Shandia Liaisons hired at APIB, AMPB, and REPALEAC:** These positions were created to improve connections and enhance representation within these influential organizations, boosting Shandia's coordination and effectiveness.
- **GATC annual meeting in Douala:** A key event for defining the main objectives and strategic direction for the year ahead, setting a strong foundation for Shandia's future work.
- **Technical workshop on tracking funds at the UNPFII:** Facilitating critical discussions on fund tracking, this workshop contributed to strengthening the platform's financial transparency.
- **Knowledge exchange in Cameroon:** A valuable opportunity for capacity building and sharing best practices within Shandia's network.
- **Internal knowledge exchange in Indonesia between Shandia Platform mechanisms:** This initiative helped strengthen cooperation and fostered learning among Shandia's mechanisms.
- **Shandia Forum 2024 during Climate Week NYC:** A momentous event for showcasing Shandia's progress and providing a platform for networking and collaboration.
- **Direct funding discussion at COP16 in Cali:** Shandia leadership participated in over 10 events at COP16, with direct funding for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities being a central issue.

- **High-Level events at COP29 in Baku:** Shandia played a crucial role in global discussions on direct funding, ensuring that the GATC's voice was integral to climate finance conversations.

Advocacy strategy and next steps

Following a year of institutional strengthening, 2025 marks a decisive turning point for the Shandia Platform in its mission to consolidate the role of Indigenous-led territorial funds in the global climate finance architecture. To meet this challenge, Shandia will focus on four interconnected strategic objectives:

1. Mutual Capacity Building

- **In-person learning exchanges** among territorial funds and participation in global summits (e.g. First Global Congress of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities from the Forest Basins).
- **Webinar series** on proposal writing, accountability, and fund updates.
- Establish a **Shandia Knowledge Exchange Community** to facilitate continuous peer learning.

2. Systematization and visibility of fund impacts

- Produce and disseminate:
 - Regular **Shandia Platform Reports**
 - Quarterly **Funds Updates** on Shandia's website
 - **ENABLE-supported case study**
 - **2–3 baseline surveys** across Africa, Mesoamerica, and Brazil
 - **Gender best practices** report & policy paper

3. Facilitation of financial flows

- Strategic presence at:
 - **Skoll World Forum 2025**
 - **First Global Congress of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities from the Forest Basins**
 - **COP30:** Shandia Forum & Indigenous Pledge space
- Launch of:
 - **Investment-ready pipeline** (15 mapped projects)
 - **Donor landscape mapping & fundraising opportunity systematization**

4. Influence the international financial architecture

- Position Shandia and territorial funds as **legitimate climate finance actors**.
- Engage in **policy negotiations and multilateral spaces**.
- Develop and share **political messaging and evidence** to advocate for IP and LCs-led direct finance.
- Strengthen alliances with **donors, CSOs, and platforms** to reinforce support ahead of and during COP30, during closed donor meetings & regional field exchanges

Update of the regional mechanisms

2024 updates, 2025 plans, and main challenges:

Fundo Jaguatá

2024 Achievements

Fundo Jaguatá was officially launched at Climate Week NYC in 2024. During the year, the fund was undergoing the process to formalize its legal entity and registration.

2025 Plans

In 2025, Fundo Jaguatá will work to consolidate its advisory body and begin structured operations. It will focus on capacity strengthening and fundraising, and plans to launch its first round of grants to Indigenous and local community organizations.

Main Challenges

While Fundo Jaguatá has ambitious plans for the year, its legal status is still pending, which limits access to direct financing channels. The fund will also work to develop internal systems for transparent governance and fund management.

Mesoamerican Territorial Fund – FTM

2024 Achievements

In 2024, FTM continued to support organizations in the region and strengthened its efforts in communications, fundraising, training, and Monitoring & Evaluation. FTM also worked to develop manuals and documentation of success stories for the fund. Highlights of 2024 support included:

- **Working with 16 organizations across 6 countries, including:**
 - 5 women-led organizations
 - 1 youth-led organization
- **Total \$894,000 USD invested:**
 - 76% directly to communities
 - 24% for administration, support, and operations
- Investment per project: \$15,000 – \$60,000
- 19,000 people directly supported, 255,000 indirectly impacted
 - 40% women, 20% youth beneficiaries
- Interventions covered nearly 4 million hectares of forest

2025 Plans

In 2025, FTM will continue fundraising and work to improve funding flows by finalizing and formalizing its legal registration. It will also aim to close funding gaps and prioritize support for underfunded countries like Costa Rica and Panama. As the donor landscape is increasingly complex, FTM will work to navigate this through diversifying its funding sources and strengthening its partnerships, including donor visits and engagement.

Main Challenges

FTM recognizes the need to increase its visibility and attract new donors this year. The fund will also strive to ensure equitable funding across all represented territories. Additionally, the legal ambiguity of the fund affects access to “direct funding” mechanisms.

REPALEAC Fund

2024 Achievements

REPALEAC engaged in a number of activities to help develop its fund in 2024, including hiring a consultant to design and support the fund’s setup and organizing an exchange visit to Indonesia to learn from the Nusantara Fund. The REPALEAC Fund developed a strategic document with 4 priority areas, which the fund presented during Climate Week NYC.

2025 Plans

In 2025, the REPALEAC Fund plans to announce and disburse its first pilot grants at the First Global Congress of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities from the Forest Basins. Grants will focus on supporting women’s leadership and issues and tenure rights and legal recognition.

Main Challenges

The main challenges for the REPALEAC Fund this year will be ensuring the operational rollout of its first grants, including ensuring the readiness of its governance and grantmaking systems. The fund will strive to sustain momentum and visibility beyond the pilot grantmaking phase.

Nusantara Fund

2024 Achievements

Support from the Nusantara Fund in 2024 led to a number of achievements, including:

- Land Mapping and Recognition: **293,782 hectares** of land have successfully been mapped.
- **178,249 hectares** of Indigenous territories and community lands have been proposed for recognition under community ownership and management.

- Land Rehabilitation and Restoration: **32,357 hectares** of land have been rehabilitated and critical land restored.
- Collective Economic Enterprises: **116 collective economic business groups** have been established or strengthened.
- Community-based Education Centers: **82 community-based education centers** have been established, **involving 11,053 people**.

2025 Plans

The Nusantara Fund will focus its 2025 support on land mapping and tenure recognition, land rehabilitation and forest restoration, and support for collective economies and education centers. The fund is preparing to disburse \$1.4 million USD in 2025. Part will be allocated as a solidarity fund for outreach beyond the founding organizations (AMAN, KPA, WALHI), and the remainder will be distributed evenly among AMAN, KPA, and WALHI. Nusantara Fund has also established gender and youth targets; 30% of funds must benefit women and youth, and failure to meet this target will lead to budget cuts for the following year.

Main challenges

The Nusantara Fund is navigating several challenges this year, including ensuring compliance with inclusion targets and managing and growing contributions to its endowment fund. Additionally, many activities supported by the fund are long-term and capacity-intensive (e.g. land recognition).

IPAS

2024 Achievements

In 2024, IPAS planned to disburse \$800,000. The fund also focused on strengthening their national steering committee and prioritized its governance and decision-making structures.

2025 Plans

IPAS will implement a full rollout of funding to grassroots partners in 2025. It will also work to institutionalize a steering committee for long-term fund governance and to strengthen alignment with Shandia's gender and territorial impact priorities.

Main Challenges

Challenges for IPAS include navigating national legal frameworks and operational systems, building visibility and legitimacy as a regional mechanism, and ensuring representative participation in governance.

2025 BUDGET

Budget agreements

The leadership of the Global Alliance of Territorial Communities (GATC) has carefully evaluated the proposed budget for 2025 and has unanimously approved the document, attached in full in Annex 1. Notably, the total budget amount for fiscal year 2025 is significantly larger than in 2024. This is primarily due to COP30 and the First Global Congress of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities from the Forest Basins, two landmark events in 2025 to which the GATC will devote significant attention and resources.

As part of the review process, the budget was restructured to organize line items under five broad categories:

- **Governance and operations**
- **Consultancies**
- **Shandia and direct finance**
- **GATC strategic events**
- **Member organization support**

Priority areas, including core operations, were placed at the top of the document to ensure clarity in decision-making.

The **salary structure** remains consistent with that of previous years. The **communications coordinator position** is currently vacant; it was established that **AMPB and APIB** would provide communications support through COP30, and until that position is filled.

Several **consultancies** were approved, including:

- Continuing AMPB's work on defining local communities
- Fundraising Manager
- Reviewing GATC's governance and administrative procedures
- Conducting a study on Shandia's contribution to the Paris Roadmap on tracking funds
- Supporting the production and logistics of the First Global Congress of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities from the Forest Basins in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo, and COP30 in Belem, Brazil.

In light of the demanding 2025 agenda and rapidly changing global dynamics, including the political context in the United States with the return of the Trump administration, the GATC leadership decided not to officially attend **New York Climate Week** this year, but some members may participate in strategic and follow-up meetings if necessary.

Budget lines were approved for the **First Global Congress of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities from the Forest Basins** and **COP30**, the two largest investments in the 2025 budget. The main expenses for COP30 include **travel and accommodations**, with accommodations expected to be particularly costly due to high demand. The Secretariat is actively exploring alternative lodging options to reduce costs. Two **logistics and production consultants**, one for each event—will be hired to support effective execution.

The budget also includes:

- Continued and more effective **fund transfers to the Women's and Youth Movements**.
- The establishment of a **contingency fund** to provide flexibility amid uncertainty.
- An **increase in annual grants to GATC member organizations** from \$50,000 to \$70,000, approved unanimously.

Details

Budget Structure

In alignment with our commitment to transparency and collaborative governance, the complete 2025 budget spreadsheet remains publicly accessible. This document is a living tool that may evolve throughout the year in response to changing contexts, needs, and funding opportunities.

The budget is structured into the following categories:

1. **Governance and operations**
Includes personnel, translation and interpretation, equipment and connectivity, communications, annual planning meetings, and support for our women's and youth movements.
2. **Consultancies**
Covers specific studies, strategic planning, and event support as described above.
3. **Shandia and direct finance**
Includes personnel and activities under Shandia, as well as funding for territorial funds managed by our member organizations.
4. **GATC strategic events**
Includes major international engagements such as **COP30, First Global Congress of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities from the Forest Basins**, and **UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII)**.
5. **Member organizations support**
Includes annual grants and additional tailored support for our member organizations.

Each budget item is classified under one of three financial categories:

- **Fixed** – Core costs covered by specific grants or essential operations.

- **Flexible** – Resources with adaptable use to address evolving needs.
- **Gap** – Areas with insufficient funding that require additional support to be fully implemented.

Budget Summary

[Budget 2025](#)

Future fundraising

As of March 2025, the Global Alliance of Territorial Communities (GATC) budget reflects a deficit of US\$ [\$4,048,784]. This gap spans across all areas of the organization's operational endeavors. As we enter this crucial year, in which the GATC will continue to advance its mission and participate in several landmark events, including the First Global Congress of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities from the Forest Basins and COP30, it is imperative that these financial shortfalls are addressed.

The **GATC Secretariat**, together with our member organizations, is actively engaging in fundraising efforts. These include:

- Engaging existing donors and strategic partners for renewed or increased support.
- Seeking new funding opportunities aligned with the GATC's mission and 2025 priorities.
- Organizing targeted donor briefings and visibility events.
- Coordinating with allies to support communication and advocacy around direct funding and territorial finance.