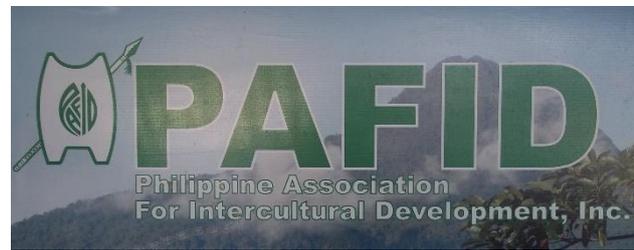


CSOs and NGOs working for Indigenous People¹



Name of Organisation: Philippine Association for Intercultural Development Inc (PAFID), Philippines, 1967

Facebook of Organisation: https://www.facebook.com/pg/Philippine-Association-for-Intercultural-Development-PAFID-198741346805024/about/?ref=page_internal

Organisation of DTP Alumni Y/N: Yes

PAFID is a social development organization which has been assisting Indigenous communities in the Philippines to secure or recover traditional land and water. PAFID was established in 1967 with the mission to ensure the Indigenous peoples have control of their land and natural environment, and that the environment is properly managed and protected.

The impetus for PAFID's formation came from a conference organized by the National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP) in the mid-1960's. Held in Dumaguete City, the conference included different Indigenous peoples' rights groups composed of anthropologists, lawyers, missionaries and tribal apostolates, social activists and volunteers. A significant result of the conference was the formation of a core group that provided support services for Indigenous communities that had been following up their claims in Manila. At that time, the committee served as a refuge for Indigenous peoples' organizations and on August 1, 1967, PAFID was registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). The core group later evolved as an independent organization

PAFID's goals:

- Ensure that Indigenous communities secure legal ownership over their ancestral land;
- Promote holistic community development which is culturally sensitive and ecologically sound;
- Make appropriate and innovative technical assistance available to Indigenous communities;
- Advocate in public and private institutions for policies and programs which benefit and are respectful of Indigenous communities

Since 1967, it is estimated that PAFID has worked with 600 plus indigenous communities throughout the Philippines. It runs several projects and programs focusing on four key areas: land tenure, NGO capacity building, health and literacy, and biodiversity conservation.

In 2003, PAFID and DTP collaborated on a capacity training building for the rights of Indigenous peoples in the Philippines, as proposed by Dave Devera - a DTP alumnus and Executive Director of PAFID. Through its work PAFID is acutely aware that many Indigenous communities across the Philippines are vulnerable to a range of human rights violations and of the need to build the capacity of community advocates to defend and promote their human rights and rights as indigenous people.

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Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/pg/Philippine-Association-for-Intercultural-Development-PAFID-198741346805024/about/?ref=page_internal

¹ The Diplomacy Training Program (DTP) is an NGO affiliated with the Faculty of Law at UNSW in Sydney. Since 1990, it has provided training to over 2800 human rights defenders and community advocates. These individuals work for a wide range of organisations working to promote shared values of human rights – in different ways. This profile is part of a series developed by DTP (www.dtp.unsw.edu.au) to illustrate the richness and diversity of the organisations working to promote the rights of Indigenous peoples more broadly.

Profile written July 2017