

The Pawanka Fund

Type: A global Indigenous-led fund

Global Objective: Self-determined development of Indigenous People

Pawanka was established in 2014 by Indigenous leaders from the world’s seven socio-cultural regions. The fund is committed to intercultural philanthropy based on ancestral practices of solidarity and reciprocity of Indigenous Peoples.

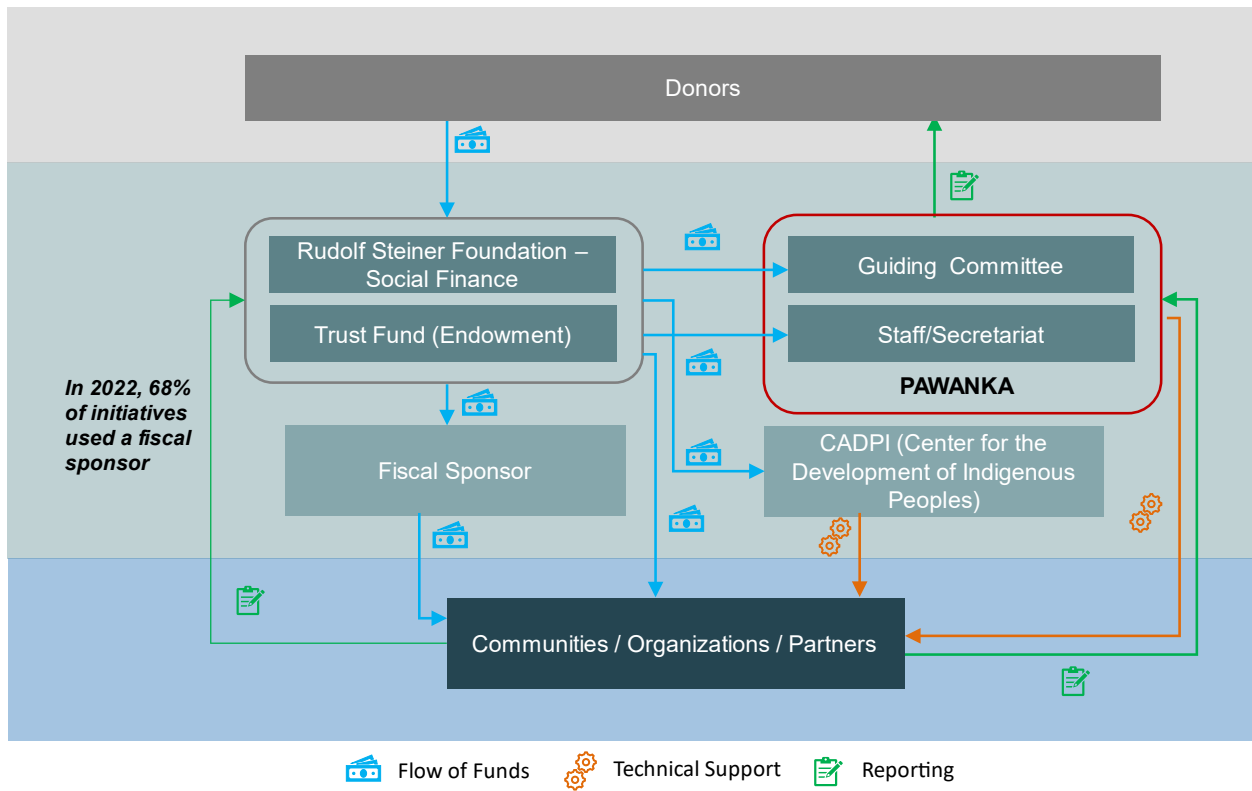


Pawanka partners with local organizations, umbrella organizations, Indigenous women and youth and territorial governments to support the recovery and revitalization of Indigenous knowledge systems that are intrinsically linked to the natural resources and ecosystems that Indigenous Peoples traditionally occupy. The Fund’s finances are administered by RSF Social Finance, a non-profit financial services organization, and is supported by the Center for Autonomy and Development of Indigenous Peoples (CADPI).

Current Funding Sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Private donors</i> – Tamalpais Trust, NoVo Foundation, Christensen Fund, Wilmington Trust Company, Nia Tero, Lush Foundation, Wellspring Philanthropic Fund, Knowledge Holder, and other anonymous donors.
Annual Turnover	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USD 4.15 million (2022)
Management/Administration - % of total funds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20% for administration and management, including costs for mentoring, monitoring, institutional learning and strengthening, evaluation and communications, and RSF’s and CADPI’s fees.
Scale of Representation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High – Indigenous Peoples-owned fund, currently reaching 78 countries
Replicability Potential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low potential¹
Absorption Capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High in the near term in relative terms and medium over the medium term in absolute terms. Pawanka estimates could more than double grantmaking to exceed USD 10 million annually with current capacity
Expansion Potential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High – Pawanka’s potential for expansion is high through developing “vertical partner” organizations that can regrant from Pawanka to smaller organizations through their own networks. This would allow for exponential scaling within the wider and global partner network.

¹ Pawanka emerged from a collaboration of global Indigenous leaders and, as such, cannot be intentionally replicated by donors.

The Pawanka Fund Fund Flow Diagram



The Pawanka Fund

What is the Pawanka Fund? The Pawanka Fund (“Pawanka”² or “Fund”) is a global Indigenous-led fund, headquartered in Nicaragua, that was born out of the 2014 United Nations World Conference on Indigenous Peoples. The two main drivers for the establishment of Pawanka were (i) the funds being channeled to Indigenous Peoples (IPs) were not only insufficient, but addressed other needs, not those of IPs; and (ii) to influence philanthropies’ approach so as to change how they work with IPs by responding to their self-determined needs, rather than imposing agendas.

Pawanka’s conceptualization and establishment are rooted in the belief that IPs have different ways of knowing and learning; hence, the Fund was set up to be an Indigenous Ways of Knowing and Learning Fund. Setting up Pawanka brought together indigenous leaders from seven socio-cultural regions globally³, who worked with a Guiding Committee of Indigenous leaders from the seven regions. The resulting fund is itself committed to intercultural philanthropy⁴ based on ancestral practices of solidarity and reciprocity of Indigenous Peoples.

Pawanka partners with local organizations, umbrella organizations, Indigenous women and youth and territorial governments to support the recovery and revitalization of Indigenous knowledge systems that are intrinsically linked to the natural resources and ecosystems that Indigenous Peoples traditionally occupy. The Fund’s finances are administered by RSF Social Financeⁱ, a non-profit financial services organization based in the USA, and is supported by the Center for Autonomy and Development of Indigenous Peoplesⁱⁱ (CADPI), a Nicaraguan social organization.

Global objective (-s): Self-determined development of Indigenous People.

Typology: Accountability – Indigenous Peoples-owned. Scale of target outcomes – Primarily strengthening specific IP & LC communities & strengthening of IP & LC organizations⁵.

Organizational objective (-s): Direct support to community-led organizations for the recovery and revitalization of Indigenous knowledge and learning systems, well-being, rights, and self-determined development in seven sociocultural regions of the world.

Focal region: Global, with support to 78 countriesⁱⁱⁱ.

Operational context: It is increasingly recognized that Indigenous Peoples inhabit and steward landscapes of critical conservation, climate, and biodiversity importance^{iv,v}. Their cultures, economies and knowledge systems are intrinsically linked to the natural resources and ecosystems where they live. At the same time as they provide these valuable services to the planet and all of humanity, Indigenous Peoples and the critical ecosystems and resources they maintain are threatened by land grabbing, deforestation, mining, and the impacts of climate change, among other threats. National legal frameworks, policies and authorities often do not recognize their claims to land and resources and may not privilege their rights compared to those of settlers. Despite managing around 80% of forest biodiversity, Indigenous Peoples only receive an estimated 0.13% of climate development aid^{vi}. These funds are vastly insufficient to support their needs, and those that they have received may not flexibly respond to their concepts of development or governance.

How it works: Pawanka provides both direct grants to organizations and additional support⁶ for the empowerment and further development of these organizations. Grants typically range from USD 10,000 to

² “PAWANKA” comes from the Miskitu people, meaning “growing and strengthening”.

³ North America, Latin America, Asia, Africa, the Arctic, the Pacific, and Russia.

⁴ Intercultural philanthropy is a cultural approach to providing support that appreciates different perspectives of building relationships and working across cultures and customs with different views and practices of giving and receiving.

⁵ Additionally, cross-learning across larger scales (e.g., communities to regions, such as the Wayfinder’s Circle).

⁶ As part of the funding partnership with IPs, Pawanka provides learning exchanges, networking and knowledge-sharing opportunities with other partners, mentorship, capacity-building support, and platforms to amplify and share their voices and stories.

USD 50,000, with smaller capacity building grants available. Due to resource constraints, grants are for one year only⁷.

In its grant giving and broader work, Pawanka follows six guiding principles that build from Indigenous Peoples' values and traditional knowledge systems⁸:

- Holistic approach: activities supported maintain, sustain, and build inter-relationships between peoples, land, territories, and nature.
- Complementarity: grantmaking must strengthen complementary relations between individuals and peoples from different regions.
- Reciprocity: between persons and other beings/cosmos.
- Intercultural and gender relations: global exchange among different cultures and peoples increases the capacity of all toward social change.
- Self-determination: the right as Indigenous Peoples to freely determine their political status and pursue social, cultural, political, and economic development.
- Free, prior and informed consent: right that Indigenous Peoples have to fully participate in decisions about processes that directly or indirectly affect their lives.

The fund is steered by a Guiding Committee (GC) comprising leaders from amongst the global Indigenous movement (See Governance). Each year an overall financing envelope for grant making is approved based upon available resources. The available grant funds are allocated equally among the Guiding Committee members, ensuring funds for each region.

In order to avoid imposing a dynamic of competition on Indigenous communities⁹, the grantmaking program of the Pawanka Fund does not host open calls for proposals. Instead, Indigenous communities, organizations, or networks approach Pawanka to begin a partnership or vice versa¹⁰. Pawanka's Guiding Committee assesses requests and examines all potential partnerships through a cultural due diligence lens (see below), which internalizes the criteria above, to ensure partnerships aligned with the ethos of mutual trust and social recognition that characterize partnerships between Indigenous organizations. Once the committee collectively approves a partnership, it invites the new partner to submit proposals, based on their self-identified needs, to the Pawanka Secretariat. Pawanka staff¹¹ (and/or GC members) work with the partners and support the development of the proposal.

As Pawanka's support seeks to ensure that traditional systems are protected and revitalized, it therefore does not matter how broad or narrow the partners' self-identified, priority issues are. Partners' proposals could work on any number of issues, as long as they contribute to restoring and upholding traditional indigenous practices and knowledge systems^{vii}. Importantly, Pawanka views its financial support not as "grants" for local projects, but as a contribution in support of the recipients ongoing "*work, efforts, life*".¹²

⁷ Initially, Pawanka provided a one-year grant with the possibility of renewal, however, due to insufficient resources and the need to commit support based on available resources, the support has been for one year at a time. Recently the Guiding Committee decided to adjust allocations to two to three years in an attempt to provide longer-term, multi-year funding support to IPs and grantmaking include exchanges amongst IP partners to increase learning and connecting within and across the regions.

⁸ The bases of traditional knowledge include cultural institutions, indigenous philosophies and worldviews, and customary laws and governance systems.

⁹ In Pawanka's view "*open calls create a dynamic that is not part of [Indigenous Peoples'] world view...Indigenous Peoples' cosmivision is not one of 'competition'*". This was further reinforced by Pawanka's expressed concern that announcements of increased funding for Indigenous Peoples has created competition and fragmentation of efforts instead of building synergies, especially with intermediate organizations competing for resources. In response Pawanka, through the Wayfinders Circle and other IP funding forums, is seeking to build pathways of learning, and strengthening indigenous leadership to generate more options and instruments to receive funds and substitute for intermediaries.

¹⁰ Members of the GC propose local partners from their networks to the full GC who deliberates on and discusses potential partnerships with the community, organization, or network. As the GC members are themselves leaders in the global Indigenous movement, they have deep knowledge and strong networks that connect the global, regional, and local-levels.

¹¹ Pawanka has six staff members, five of whom are in Latin America (Argentina, Bolivia, Mexico, Nicaragua), and one in Africa (Kenya)

¹² In development finance parlance this would be akin to financing a time slice of an ongoing initiative in order to enhance its implementation and impact.

Pawanka's process of vetting proposals includes one element that sets it apart: Cultural Due Diligence (CDD). Pawanka's CDD is a method comprised of eight cultural criteria¹³ defined as key indicators by the Guiding Committee to orient the endorsement, selection, mentoring, monitoring, evaluation, and learning processes that accompany Pawanka support. This is an important intercultural complement to the fiduciary due diligence practiced by most grant-makers. CDD ensures that Pawanka partners with communities that are actively promoting social well-being and equity.

Since 2015, Pawanka has worked with two organizations: Rudolf Steiner Foundation - Social Finance (RSF) and the Center for the Development of Indigenous Peoples (CADPI) to assist them in the implementation of the grants and administration of the programs. RSF Social Finance handles fiscal responsibility as a donor-advised fund¹⁴, allowing Pawanka to focus on the everyday program of the fund rather than managing finances. RSF provides rigorous financial management, and functions as the legal entity that conducts all aspects of financial and administrative due diligence for the grants. As the funds' manager, RSF also disburses the grants to the local partners. CADPI handles program administration and legal requirements associated with staff employment; it also provides mentoring and accompaniment to the local partnerships. This system of co-administration provides the foundation upon which Pawanka builds trust and establishes the organization's public image and credibility through the clear demonstration of capacity, transparency, responsibility, and accountability.

Pawanka seeks to develop long-term partnerships, though most partners are first-time grantees. Pawanka mentors partner organizations via support in the design of proposals, implementation of projects and training sessions on financial and administrative management systems, all of which can facilitate partners to seek and obtain outside funding. Capacity building is carried out via workshops and other forms informed by the IP needs (including in the grantmaking process) and may be provided by Pawanka itself or via cross-learning among IPs, especially those that have partnered with Pawanka. Other areas of mentorship and support include learning exchanges, networking, knowledge-sharing opportunities, and platforms to amplify voices and share stories. Additional technical assistance is provided by Pawanka to fulfill legal and administrative requirements related to grants.

Pawanka manages donor reporting requirements with RSF, and itself assumes responsibility for that progress reporting which is between Pawanka and its grantee partners. Monitoring and evaluating are approached as a shared engagement that needs to be culturally appropriate, culturally based, and rooted in Indigenous worldviews, languages, culture, and way of life. Pawanka helps set up systems that work for the partner grantees. With the partners they identify processes, changes, outputs, and outcomes that can provide a narrative to illuminate the impacts made possible by the financing provided. But, as Pawanka supports processes that neither begin nor end with the grant support, one area of ongoing work is the development/co-creation of indicators that are relevant beyond the project term and can capture long-term impacts relevant to communities.

Governance: A 10-person Guiding Committee (GC), led by Dr. Myrna Cunningham, is comprised of leaders from the global Indigenous movement, representing all seven socio-cultural regions of the world^{viii}. It has three working groups – governance, communication, and resource mobilization. Serving on the GC is voluntary, with the members receiving a small annual honorarium. The GC's role is quite broad and entails a range of functions that include:

- Shaping Pawanka's internal policies, and priorities.
- Developing grant-making strategies and procedures tailored to their individual regions.
- Providing direct and operational support to both staff and external partners.
- Reviewing and approving partnerships and grants to partners, including performing Cultural Due Diligence.

¹³ (i) Well-being and self-determined development; (ii) UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; (iii) Equality between women and men; (iv) Networks and partnerships building; (v) Traditional Knowledge; (vi) Systems of Learning and Knowing; (vii) Mother Earth; and (viii) Cultural practices and spirituality.

¹⁴ The Tamalpais Trust, a US-based philanthropy that is a Pawanka partner and donor, works with RSF Social Finance in the awarding and administration of grants.

- Mentoring and learning processes, and capacity building of grantee partners, which may include facilitating grant execution.
- As a nexus for Pawanka's networking and relationship building.
- Documenting innovation and learning, and providing a space for sharing Indigenous-led grant-making expertise and experience with Indigenous leaders, RSF staff, Tamalpais Trust staff, and other donors.
- Promoting successful outcomes to both educate and build new working relationships with financial institutions, individual philanthropic donors, policymakers, and funding networks that may offer additional support and visibility to the projects and Pawanka itself.

Priorities: Pawanka's priorities are determined by the Guiding Committee and currently are focused on three broad themes:

- Protecting intangible heritage: documenting, disseminating, and promoting traditional knowledge and innovations; revitalizing language
- Indigenous Peoples' governance and safeguarding of land, territory, and natural resources: strengthening climate resilience; territorial and natural resource management; Indigenous women's and youth's participation and leadership in local organizations; and the Wayfinders Circle.¹⁵
- Recovering from COVID-19: Indigenous food systems; health and wellness; and economic recovery.

Regarding the setting of priorities for the individual grants, while GC members lead the selection of partners in their respective regions, the funding priorities follow the funding themes most relevant to those partners, and those are self-determined by the partner.

Primary Outputs/Outcomes: Since its inception, Pawanka has supported more than 400 initiatives/grants across 78 countries^{ix} and developed partnerships with more than 270 partners.

- Pawanka supports twenty-six language revitalization projects across eighteen countries, working with more than forty-four vulnerable indigenous languages, of which at least eleven are in danger of extinction.
- Wayfinder's Circle^x: composed of twelve members from twelve Indigenous territories in eleven countries, through which Pawanka contributes to the protection of territories covering more than 37.5 million hectares of land and 72.8 million hectares of ocean.
- Thirty-four percent of projects have documented processes of organizational strengthening.
- All projects have included capacity building, intergenerational dialogue activities and leadership development.
- Thirty-two self-determination practices implemented and strengthened by Indigenous organizations.
- More than one-hundred-sixty exchanges/dialogues between youth and elders in more than fifty-five countries.
- More than eighty Indigenous food systems in process of strengthening and recovery.
- Twenty-one cultural and artistic expressions and performances recovered, documented and transmitted to new generations.
- More than fifty Indigenous medicine systems documented, recovered and implemented.

Funding source: Private foundation and non-profit donors such as Tamalpais Trust, NoVo Foundation, Christensen Fund, Wilmington Trust Company, Nia Tero, Lush Foundation, Wellspring Philanthropic Fund, Knowledge Holder, and other anonymous donors.

Financial mechanism: Pawanka's trust fund (capitalized with USD 1.3 million during 2022) and donors support general operations and grantmaking. Donors can earmark funding for programs under specific themes, support the general grant making program (i.e., pooled funding) or provide direct support to

¹⁵ Wayfinders circle – is a pilot by three organizations (Pawanka, Nia Tero and the Spiritual Elders) to constitute a circle of learning from each other different ways of governance amongst IPs in diverse landscapes and contexts, dedicated to unleashing the transformative potential of Indigenous lifeways, inspiring all people to reimagine development, conservation, and how they relate to each other and Mother Earth through learning and showcase findings used as food for thought and advocacy for various forms of supporting and building long-term partnerships.

Pawanka partners. RSF Social Finance handles financial management for Pawanka via their donor-advised fund where most donors deposit their funding for Pawanka.

For the individual grants, Pawanka sends an agreement to RSF (draft contract) and RSF initiates its contact with the proposed partner and conducts the administrative and financial due diligence. After sending the contract to the IP partner and receiving it back with their signature, funds are transferred. Sixty-eight percent of grants are disbursed directly to the grantee partner, with the other thirty-two percent disbursed to fiscal sponsors¹⁶ of the recipient communities/organizations. The grant recipients select the fiscal partners themselves, and these support the Indigenous communities/organizations with reporting, compliance with legal requirements and other needs.

Annual turnover: The 2022 budget was USD 4.15 million. Eighty percent of this went to grantee partners; a total of USD 3.3 million that financed one-hundred-and-twenty-seven 127 initiatives. Eighteen percent of the budget (USD 0.72 million) was for administration and management, including costs for mentoring, monitoring, institutional learning and strengthening, evaluation and communications. The remaining two percent (USD 0.10 million) were for other direct administration costs¹⁷.

Absorption capacity: High in the near-to-medium term (1-10 years) in relative terms and moderate in absolute terms. Pawanka's growth in grantmaking has risen dramatically over the past few years, from its initial establishment period of deliberately slow growth (to focus on quality) to 2022, where 127 organizations were supported globally, while maintaining a high standard of quality despite minimal staff growth. From this experience, and based on recent internal evaluations, Pawanka anticipates that with both horizontal growth (i.e., through the partner network directly via the GC and Pawanka Secretariat/staff) and vertical growth (i.e., "vertical partners" that would themselves regrant to smaller organizations) grantmaking could exceed USD 10 million annually with current program staff capacity. As part of an effort toward financial sustainability, Pawanka wants to grow its endowment fund in order to generate proceeds of USD 5 million annually, to be reinvested in partner communities via the grantmaking program.

What works:

- **Strong network of IP organizations and communities, represented by the Guiding Committee members.** The GC is composed of Indigenous leaders from the world's seven socio-cultural regions and operates in a way that is collaborative and collective – based on Indigenous ways of leading. Each GC member is part of a strong network of Indigenous communities and organizations. A strength of Pawanka is that its leadership embodies connections from the local to regional to global Indigenous movements. In this way the organization is guided by direct knowledge of the dynamics and needs of Indigenous Peoples and the relationship between Pawanka and the organizations/partners it supports is built on solidarity and trust.
- **Indigenous principles are at the center of Pawanka's efforts.** Pawanka tries to reflect Indigenous principles in all of its work. At the center of efforts of IPs to live with dignity and advance their well-being are the organization's guiding principles (holistic approach, complementarity, reciprocity, intercultural and gender relations, self-determination, and free, prior and informed consent) and traditional knowledge systems.
- **Cultural due diligence process for on-boarding new partners and continuing to monitor and support existing partners.** Cultural Due Diligence (CDD) enables both partners and Pawanka to fully understand and engage within the diverse contexts of culture and values. CDD is carried verbally (i.e., it is a conversation), as this is the way that most IP groups traditionally engage. The conversation checks on aspects of governance, gender relations, intergenerational learning and relations, decision-making, and knowledge systems. CDD also ensures that what Pawanka is supporting contributes to the objectives of UNDRIP^{xi} and IP communities themselves.

¹⁶ Organizations which utilize fiscal sponsors tend to be those which lack legal status or capacity to administer funds or to meet progress and financial reporting requirements; etc.

¹⁷ Includes fees charged by RSF and CADPI. RSF's fees comprise 63% of the direct administration costs. RSF charges for its services on a per-grant basis. As of December 2022, RSF's charges vary for "domestic" (in the US) organization from nothing to USD 400/grant, for tax exempt and non-tax-exempt entities, and for outside the US organizations fees range from USD 600 for registered charities or their equivalent to USD 800 for all others.

- **Flexible grant making informed by IP needs and priorities.** Pawanka’s approach is flexible and low-friction, based on a foundation of trust and a commitment to IP principles.
- **An institutionally efficient grant management and administration model.** Working with existing institutions whose values align with Pawanka’s – RSF and CADPI – and capitalizing on the deep and extensive networks of contacts and regional knowledge of global Indigenous leaders, Pawanka’s model is efficiently placing and servicing well over one hundred small grants per year, spread across the entire globe, without sacrificing quality standards. The partnerships allow Pawanka to focus its attention and efforts on its core aims without any distractions or needs to build costly internal capacities to handle critical financial, legal, and administrative needs.
- **Working with existing Indigenous organizations and institutions.** Pawanka does not support the creation of new organizations or institutions with its funding. Rather, it partners and works with the existing organizations and institutions. Pawanka sees this as a critical message for all funders of IPs.

Strategic Insights

Flexible funding brings funding and organizational strengthening to a broader range of communities: Pawanka – with the support of RSF, CADPI and the fiscal sponsors that approximately 30% of grantee partners work with – brings support and funding to communities, meeting them where they are at. In this way, communities that would not traditionally have access to donor financing (and are among the world’s most important stewards of critical landscapes) are supported in their initiatives and strengthened through their relationship with Pawanka and the greater partner network.

Creative collaboration allows organizations to play to their strengths: Dividing efforts between Pawanka, RSF and CADPI is effective at allowing Pawanka to focus on its programs, rather than managing finances and technical requirements. A key to this collaboration has been that each organization has clearly defined roles and responsibilities and can all contribute to their mutual objectives. In this way, the relationship between Pawanka, RSF and CADPI embodies the principle of complementarity.

The value of IP-ownership: As one of very few global, IP-owned and managed funds^{xii}, Pawanka’s leadership comes from, and is recognized by, the same communities that it supports and with whom it partners. IP-ownership and direct management builds trust and helps ensure that the fund’s work is based on IP realities, needs, worldviews and aspirations.

A different approach than open-calls for proposals: According to Pawanka, open calls for proposals can bring a dynamic of competition into IP communities that is foreign to their worldviews. Instead, the organization relies on its Guiding Committee members’ extensive and deep network to forge partnerships of support and mutual learning between partner organization/communities and Pawanka.

Leading intercultural philanthropy: Pawanka has proven that a model for philanthropy can be guided by intercultural Indigenous values and principles and operate globally across diverse IP organizations. Innovations, like the Cultural Due Diligence process, which employs indicators to assess and track important measures of governance, self-determination, intergenerational dialogue (among other measures), can be shared and practiced more widely by other funds and donors, ensuring that philanthropy drives benefits toward well-being and community-defined needs at scale.

Scaling up through partnerships: Pawanka can rapidly scale up because its network, built on the networks of the Guiding Committee members, can rapidly scale up to include more partner organizations. In this way, the “circle of trust” grows, as donors who trust Pawanka can leverage that relationship to reach more and more partner communities globally.

Scalability

Replicability. Regarding Pawanka itself (*sensu stricto*), replicability is low. Pawanka itself emerged from a collaboration of global Indigenous leaders and, as such, cannot be intentionally replicated by donors.

Expansion. The potential for expansion is high from the perspective of developing “vertical partners”, i.e., strategic partner organizations that can regrant from Pawanka to smaller organizations through their own networks. This would allow for exponential scaling within the wider and global partner network. If Pawanka can continue to develop its relationships through increasing numbers of vertical partners, Pawanka can

exponentially increase its “circle of trust” while maintaining its core Indigenous values/principles, strong connections to the regions (through GC members) and the quality and flexibility of its funding approach (facilitated by organizations such as RSF and CADPI that co-administer the fund).

References

Pawanka Fund: Presentation by Mariana Lopez, Programme Director, Pawanka Fund.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EY47y9ppdWI>

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- ⁱⁱ <https://www.cadpi.org/>
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- ^{iv} [Fa, J.E., Watson, J.E., Leiper, I., Potapov, P., Evans, T.D., Burgess, N.D., Molnár, Z., Fernández-Llamazares, Á., Duncan, T., Wang, S. and Austin, B.J., 2020. Importance of Indigenous Peoples' lands for the conservation of Intact Forest Landscapes. *Front*](#)
- ^v [FAO and FILAC. 2021. Forest governance by indigenous and tribal peoples. An opportunity for climate action in Latin America and the Caribbean. Santiago. FAO. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cb2953en>](#)
- ^{vi} [Charapa Consult. 2022. Directing Funds to Rights – Principles, standards and modalities for supporting indigenous peoples' tenure rights and forest guardianship.](#)
- ^{vii} The breadth of relevant thematic areas for Pawanka can be appreciated through this list of the thematic focus of Pawanka's fourteen grant cycles to date: 1) Celebrating dynamic and innovative ways of youth indigenous knowing and learning through intergenerational transmission; 2) Promotion of knowledge and practices concerning different forms of natural heritage conservation: forests, mountains, volcanoes, rivers, lakes, ponds, and sacred places; 3) Innovative indigenous arts and performance; 4) Indigenous peoples traditional knowledge system and climate change; 5) Traditional knowledge, leadership and governance; 6) Indigenous languages; 7) Health, healing and wellbeing; 8) Conflict prevention, peace building and traditional institutions; 9) Initiatives for strengthening Indigenous food systems; (10 and 11) Initiatives for climate resilience of Indigenous Peoples at the local level; 12) Initiatives for strengthening Indigenous economic empowerment and traditional livelihoods; 13) Health, healing and wellbeing; and 14) Indigenous food systems and economic recovery. (Source: Pawanka. 2022. *KIT Local partners_edited_eng 2022 presentation*)
- ^{viii} Pawanka Guiding Council members include Myrna Cunningham Kain, Joan Carling, Hussein Isack, Teresa Zapeta, Danil Mamyev, Melissa Nelson, Namaka Rawlins, Rukka Sombolinggi, Vicky Tauli-Corpuz, And Gunn-Britt Retter.
- ^{ix} Pawanka website (updated Nov 2021): <https://pawankafund.org/about-us/>
- ^x <https://www.wayfinderscircle.org/faq/>
- ^{xi} United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
<https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/declaration-on-the-rights-of-indigenous-peoples.html>
- ^{xii} Scott-Enns, I. (2021). Indigenous Ways of Giving + Sharing: Indigenous-led Funds Landscape Scan Report. International Funders for Indigenous Peoples. <https://internationalfunders.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/IFIP-Indigenous-Ways-of-Giving-and-Sharing-Landscape-Scan-Report.pdf>