

ANNUAL REPORT 2025

Collectively Dreaming for the Future



A Message from our Executive Director



Halito akana (hello friends),

Reflecting on 2025, I'm grateful for the relationships we have begun and those we have deepened, and I'm proud of what we have accomplished. It's an honor to work alongside Indigenous Peoples as together we defend our rights, territories, lands, and waters, and continuously revitalize our languages, cultures, and lifeways. Thank you for being in community with us and for contributing to this meaningful work!

In 2025, Cultural Survival welcomed new colleagues from Chile, Panama, Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Namibia, Venezuela, and the United States, bringing Cultural Survival's team to 52 staff members representing 28 Indigenous Peoples and based across 21 countries. This diversity of Indigenous leadership and global presence continues to strengthen our ability to build relationships and support for communities and movements worldwide.

As an example of the strength of our collective efforts, I want to share some significant outcomes of our work in Brazil in 2025. Cultural Survival supported representatives of the Pataxó and Arana Peoples to attend the United Nations climate change conference (COP 30) in Brazil and meet with authorities. Through our media channels, Cultural Survival amplified the Pataxó's advocacy to defend and demarcate their lands. After ceremonies and meaningful engagement with authorities during COP 30, they achieved one of their goals: the demarcation of one of their lands! Cultural Survival also helped organize and facilitate strategic meetings between the Arana Caboclo Peoples of the Jequitinhonha Valley who are demanding action related to extremely harmful lithium mining – used for battery technology – in their community. We launched an advocacy brief, "The Price of Green,"

alongside a deeply moving activism performance by an Arana colleague. The community has waited 30 years for their territory to be identified, mapped, and demarcated by a government-led working group, and finally, following our meetings with government ministries, the working group began activities in January 2026. Already, the initial land has been identified and the process of transference to the community has begun! In collaboration with our partner Earthworks, we also provided workshops and mining tailings analysis to the community. The evidence gathered was so compelling that it led the prosecutor's office to request the immediate suspension of the mining company's license, and one of the main investors to freeze funds to the project. This is a direct line from community knowledge, paired with technical and advocacy support, to stopping harm in its tracks.

While it's important to celebrate these victories and all we accomplished in 2025 – as you'll read about in the following pages – there is much work still to be done in Brazil and around the world. In these challenging times, Cultural Survival continues to walk alongside Indigenous Peoples on the front lines of protecting their communities and biodiversity while also facing disproportionate climate change impacts and the deeply harmful greediness of extractive industries. Over millenia, Indigenous Peoples have seen empires and economic systems rise and fall, and yet we remain, continuously returning to the wisdom of our ancestors for solutions as we collectively dream and co-create a future of mutual flourishing. I hope we can also count on you for continued support and collaboration.

Huchi yakoke li hoke (I thank you all so much),

Aimee Roberson
(*Choctaw and Chickasaw*)
Executive Director



Cultural Survival staff, consultants, and board members in Villa de Leyva, Colombia at a team gathering, September 2025.

Leadership

Executive Director:

Aimee Roberson (Choctaw & Chickasaw), Executive Director

BOARD:

Kaimana Barcarse (Kanaka Hawai'i), Chair

John King II, Vice Chair

Steven Heim, Treasurer

Nicole Friederichs, Clerk

Marcus Briggs-Cloud (Maskoke)

Keith A. Doxtator (Oneida)

Kate R. Finn (Osage)

Laura R. Graham

Richard A. Grounds (Yuchi/Seminole)

Lyla June Johnston (Navajo/Cheyenne)

Stephen P. Marks

Mrinalini Rai (Rai)

Jannie Staffansson (Saami)

Stella Tamang (Tamang)



Our Impact in 2025



65

grassroots Indigenous communities were resourced to carry out self-determined projects through our Keepers of the Earth Fund, totaling **\$531,000** in **26** countries.

63

Indigenous media projects were resourced through our Indigenous Community Media Fund, totaling **\$502,000** in **29** countries.

56

Indigenous youth from **13** countries developed leadership skills through a Youth Fellowship project.

160

Indigenous partners participated in **6** events supporting pathways for Indigenous communities to share and exchange.

157

Indigenous Rights Radio programs released in Spanish, English, and **17** Indigenous languages.

4

issues of the *Cultural Survival Quarterly* magazine, providing a platform for Indigenous voices and thought leadership, have been produced.



Participants at the Sixth Gathering of Indigenous Women Broadcasters in Cuetzalan, Mexico.

4

Cultural Survival Bazaars that hosted **70** vendors, impacting the lives of over **2,950** Indigenous people representing **100** Indigenous communities globally have been held.

Denounced violations to Indigenous Peoples' collective and human rights via **7** reports to the United Nations and provided advocacy accompaniment to **9** communities that resulted in emergency funding for rights and environmental defenders, water and soil testing in areas violated by mining and mine waste, urgent community meetings, and more.

138,000

Brought Indigenous-authored content and storytelling to **138,000** people via our social media platforms, including **6.1 million** impressions and **4,789** social media posts.



Our Work

Since 1972, Cultural Survival has partnered with Indigenous communities to support communities' self-determination, cultures, and political resilience. We envision a future that respects and honors Indigenous Peoples' inherent rights and dynamic cultures, deeply and richly interwoven in lands, languages, spiritual traditions, and artistic expression while rooted in self-determination and self-governance.

Our programs advance this vision through a holistic, four-pronged strategy of Grantmaking, Capacity Building, Advocacy, and Communications. Our programmatic priorities include Indigenous Women and Youth, Climate Change Solutions, Lands and Livelihoods, Cultures and Languages, and Indigenous Community Media, supporting community-led efforts that drive lasting change. Together, this work is essential to ensuring that Indigenous communities can continue to lead, sustain, and protect their cultures, lands, and futures for generations to come.

- **Grantmaking** •
- **Capacity Building** •
- **Advocacy** •
- **Communications** •



Pastor Carvajal (Aymara) from the Seque Jahuira Community and Guadalupe Fernández (Quechua) from the Ayllu Acre Antequera from Bolivia attend the 2025 United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

Delegates gather during the 2025 Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues at U.N. headquarters in New York.



Advocacy

Across many regions, Indigenous communities are at the forefront of environmental and land defense, as leaders and grassroots organizers mobilize to protect their territories, biodiversity, and ways of life in the face of growing external pressures. Cultural Survival's Advocacy Program amplifies grassroots movements to bring awareness and build international pressure on behalf of Indigenous struggles,



while also enhancing Indigenous communities' capacity with technical support, strategic litigation, local advocacy, and global engagement with United Nations mechanisms and States. Our advocacy efforts are carried out at the request of communities and integrate with support from other Cultural Survival programs, ensuring comprehensive and holistic accompaniment for Indigenous communities around the world. To address external obstacles that Indigenous communities often face when asserting their rights and self-determination, we provide our partners with the technical expertise necessary to enhance their ability to self-determine their own futures.



Cultural Survival staff Nati Garcia, Maya Mam, (middle), stands between T̂silhqot'in youth at the UN in 2025 from left: Dakota Diablo, Chantu William, Loretta Jeff-Combs, and Sierra William. Peyal Laceese (not pictured) also attended.

This year, our Advocacy Program strengthened and deepened relationships with community partners, collaboratively developing tactics and strategies for advancing land and human rights struggles, including engagement with UN and Inter-American human rights mechanisms, connecting partners to technical and advocacy related support resources, and financing partners to participate in global discussions.

2025 Advocacy Highlights:

- Provided **\$36,634** to partners to fund their advocacy-related work, including safety measures for defenders, water/soil testing in areas violated by mining, community meetings, expenses related to court proceedings to defend community lands, and more.
- Financially supported **12** partners to attend UN meetings in support of their advocacy goals.
- Elevated Indigenous rights and strengthened accountability by submitting **7** reports to UN mechanisms monitoring human rights in Guatemala, the U.S., Paraguay, Panama, Nepal, and Russia.
- Provided accompaniment, funds, access to international mechanisms, legal assistance, technical support, trainings, dialogues, travel, communications, digital security, emergency response, networking, connection with additional funders, and more to partners in at least **13** countries, including Mexico, Argentina, Bolivia, Paraguay, Panama, Canada, Brazil, Kenya, Nepal, Guatemala, Colombia, the U.S., and Russia.
- An **11-member Cultural Survival delegation** travelled to Belém, Brazil to participate in UNFCCC COP30 and the Indigenous Caucus calling on world leaders to take urgent, concrete action on climate change grounded in Indigenous leadership and knowledge.



The threats against human rights right now are real and multifaceted. We are facing authoritarian regimes that criminalize human rights defenders, Indigenous dissent, and Indigenous rights defenders and nature defenders. We are facing shrinking resources for specific spaces for organizations, particularly Indigenous organizations. We are challenged by powerful narratives that minimize our achievements in terms of rights and the importance of human rights. This is a moment where we must be bold and confront power, speaking truth to it. Cultural Survival gives me the platform to put myself in service to counter these threats head on.” - Alicia Moncada (Wayuu), Cultural Survival’s new Director of Advocacy and Communications



The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change 30th Conference of the Parties (UNFCCC COP30)



The UNFCCC COP30 took place in Belém, in Brazil's lower Amazon region. While in Brazil, we partnered with Indigenous leaders and youth advancing efforts to strengthen and defend their communities, cultures, and homelands. Cultural Survival's delegation contributed to COP30 with a critical analysis that links rigorous research with strategic advocacy. This work supported and positioned the demands on climate action of our allied organizations, and the broader Indigenous movement, which include robust human rights safeguards, particularly for Indigenous Peoples, and Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) as a cornerstone across all climate action initiatives.



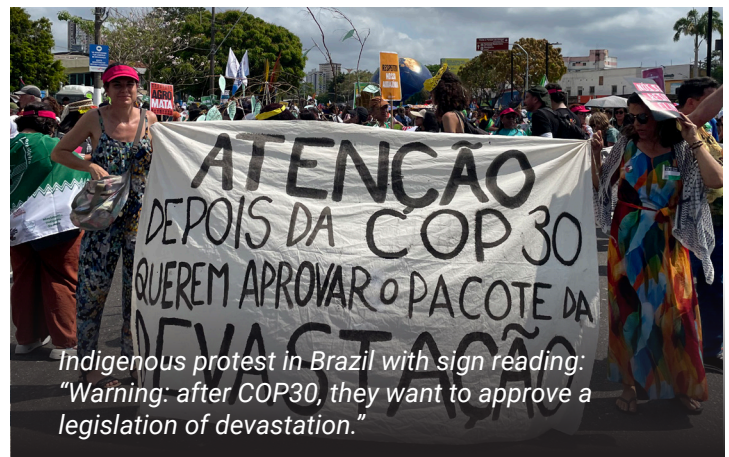
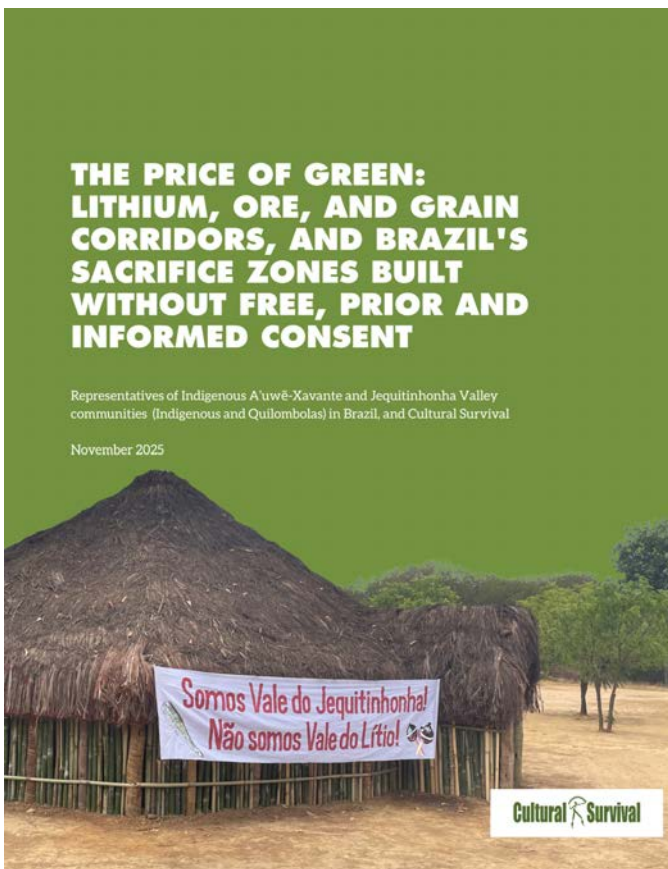
Cultural Survival staff at COP30 in Belém, Brazil with Sônia Guajajara, the first Minister of Indigenous Peoples in Brazil.

Our achievements at COP30:

- Elevated the voices of Indigenous leaders and youth through interviews on social media and Indigenous Rights Radio reaching and engaging thousands of listeners and followers worldwide.
- Participated in numerous panel discussions in the blue zone (official negotiations spaces) and other venues. We facilitated and mobilized the participation of leaders and representatives from eight Indigenous and Quilombola communities: Arana, Pataxó, Krenak, A'uwē Xavante, Xikrin, Quilombola, and Macuxi. Their presence brought Indigenous voices to the forefront, helping shape critical climate decisions at COP30.



- Launched an advocacy brief with a ceremonial performance highlighting the destructive impacts of mining and tailings related to the energy transition and deforestation that our partners in Brazil are facing from industrial-scale agriculture. We supported advocacy and communication efforts aimed at protecting the territories of the Pataxó, Xavante, Arana, and Xikrin Peoples, amplifying their calls for land rights and environmental safeguards.
- Facilitated engagements between investors and authorities to address the Arana Caboclo land demarcation and the impacts of mining on the territory. These efforts contributed to judicial authorities filing a public civil action against illegal mining activities in the area, and the official beginning of Arana Land Demarcation, the first of its kind in Brazil.
- Together with the SIRGE Coalition, we achieved the inclusion of rights-based language under the Just Transition Work Programme, including unprecedented reference to Indigenous Peoples in Voluntary Isolation and Initial Contact and some of the clearest affirmations of Indigenous Peoples' rights and self-determination in any UNFCCC decision to date.





Members of the SIRGE Coalition gather in New Mexico.

Securing Indigenous Peoples' Rights in the Green Economy (SIRGE) Coalition

The SIRGE Coalition, comprising its six partner organizations (Cultural Survival, Tallgrass Institute, Batani Foundation, Earthworks, Voices, and affiliate member IWGIA), continued to implement transformative solutions to secure the rights of Indigenous Peoples in the global energy transition. We stood alongside Indigenous communities defending their sacred lands and waters, the leadership of Indigenous women actively defying the status quo, and the powerful energy of Indigenous youth, who refuse to stand on the sidelines and are stepping forward as leaders to confront these challenges and bring about the change we collectively seek. Together, we moved forward with purpose, advancing Indigenous Peoples' rights, strengthening Indigenous leadership, and supporting Indigenous communities facing growing extractive pressures.



2025 SIRGE Highlights:

- **30** representatives from the Quechua, Aymara, T'simane', and Charcas Peoples from **18** communities across Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, and Argentina came together in Bolivia to strengthen solidarity, and build advocacy capacity around resistance to extractivism and advancing collective strategies for territorial defense.
- SIRGE launched the first grant funding cycle of an Indigenous-led grantmaking mechanism to support Indigenous communities affected by energy transition mineral extraction.
- Developed and launched new advocacy tools for Indigenous Peoples, including an OECD Handbook for Filing Complaints Against Harmful Business Practices to support Indigenous communities in accessing accountability mechanisms and defending their rights.
- Advanced Indigenous Peoples' rights in global policy spaces, supporting Indigenous experts and community representatives to engage directly in high-level policy forums.
- Influenced corporate accountability efforts, engaging major automotive companies and mining companies to push for stronger Indigenous Peoples' rights policies and meaningful implementation of Free, Prior and Informed Consent across supply chains.



Cultural Staff members Edson Krenak (Krenak) (left) and Mariana Kiimi Ortiz Flores (Na Nuu Savi) (middle) participate in the SIRGE Coalition gathering alongside fellow coalition members.

Capacity Building



A Tamang Elder in Nepal shares with workshop participants the impacts of flooding along the Roshi River.

Through the Capacity Building Program, Cultural Survival facilitates workshops and tailored opportunities to build skills and leadership for Indigenous partners, especially women and youth, on topics such as human rights, Indigenous community media, and technical skills in radio production. By organizing both in-person and virtual workshop sessions, youth fellowships, community-to-community exchanges, regional meetings, networking opportunities, and one-on-one mentoring, our goal is to increase and strengthen the leadership, technical skills, advocacy, and sustainability capacities of Indigenous communities.

2025 Capacity Building Highlights:

- **32** Indigenous Peoples from Peru, Mexico, Panama, Colombia, Bolivia, Ecuador, and Guatemala met in Colombia to exchange knowledge, share experiences in adapting to and mitigating climate risks, and develop recommendations to strengthen their livelihoods.
- **17** representatives of partner organizations and fellows supported by Cultural Survival met in Kenya to discuss climate change strategies and deepen their understanding of Cultural Survival's strategic plan and presence in Kenya.
- **19** Indigenous women radio broadcasters from across Mexico, joined by **3** broadcasters from Bolivia, met in Puebla, Mexico for the 6th gathering of Indigenous Women Radio Broadcasters to strengthen their capacities as communicators through a holistic exchange addressing mining for minerals used in the energy transition, traditional medicine, food sovereignty, and community communication.
- **47** Indigenous partners from across Asia and Africa gathered in Nepal to address the escalating threat of climate change-induced natural disasters, exchange experiences and best practices, and develop strategies to strengthen Indigenous Peoples' resilience.



Climate Change Gathering in Bogota, Colombia

We convened partners to discuss the Impacts and Risks of Climate Change in Bogota, Colombia in January. The meeting was a space for Indigenous communities to share experiences of adaptation and mitigation of climate risks and compile their recommendations to strengthen their livelihoods. Participants included Indigenous authorities, community radio stations, and territorial defenders from Peru, Mexico, Panama, Colombia, Bolivia, Ecuador, and Guatemala.

Participants recognized common challenges: **water scarcity, biodiversity loss, deforestation, and extreme weather events**, while honoring that each community's experience is shaped by unique environmental, social, and political factors. Many communities are reclaiming and reinforcing Traditional Ecological Knowledge in response to climate change through strategies such as **agroforestry, recovering the use of the lunar calendar during planting, community water conservation, and seed saving**. The meeting reaffirmed that Indigenous communities are innovators of sustainable and culturally rooted climate solutions.



Aymara and Quechua representatives led an invocation at the beginning of day two of the First Meeting on the Impact and Risks of Climate Change in Bogota, Colombia.

“We, Indigenous Peoples, must now move on from complaints to concrete actions to mitigate the effects of climate change. To confront the climate crisis, we must listen, learn, and share at these gatherings. We must not victimize ourselves because of our situation, but rather continue our struggles.” - Federico Avendaño (Ñuu Savi), member of the Commission for Community Wealth, San Mateo Etlatongo, Mexico



Participants at the First Meeting on the Impact and Risks of Climate Change in Bogota, Colombia.



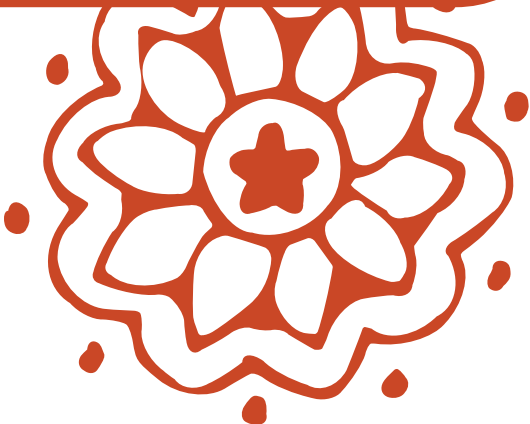
A participant at the Sixth Gathering of Indigenous Women Broadcasters in Cuetzalan, Mexico.

“Community radio is my life.”

- Gumercinda Quispe, a member of Radio Apachita in Bolivia

“It is not easy to communicate injustices, but it is our duty as communicators. If we want a better future for the new generations, we must make use of radio as a tool for defense.”

- A participant at the Sixth Gathering of Indigenous Women Broadcasters in Cuetzalan, Mexico, located in the Sierra Norte de Puebla, a region rooted in Totonac and Nahuatl heritage



2025 Gathering of Indigenous Women Broadcasters

19 women from different regions of Mexico and Bolivia gathered for professional training in radio production. In its sixth year, this series of trainings provides opportunities for Indigenous women to gain visibility and recognition within the community radio stations they represent—some of which reach up to 10,000 listeners in their regions. The central focus of this year’s exchange was the development of capacity for Indigenous women communicators through a holistic approach that included topics important to their communities, such as impacts of mining for transition minerals, traditional medicine, food sovereignty, and community communication. Participants took part in workshops on research, scriptwriting, announcing, and editing. The multi-day gathering became a space of cultural affirmation and empowerment, reflecting the resilience of Indigenous women communicators.



Cultural Survival staff member Edison Andrango (Kichwa) working with participants of the Indigenous Women Broadcasters Gathering.

Climate Change Gathering in Kathmandu, Nepal

47 participants from 8 countries: Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Nepal, the Philippines, Thailand, and Tanzania gathered to focus on the escalating impacts of climate change and the urgent need to strengthen solidarity and Indigenous knowledge to build resilience. This gathering underscored the shared struggles of Indigenous Peoples across continents and their determination to lead solutions to the global climate crisis, and focused on the use of backpack radios as an emergency tool for organizing community aid during climate change-induced disasters.

“We are documenting the Indigenous knowledge that our Elders hold and teaching it to the youth through digital media platforms. This is how we are resisting and trying to adapt to the challenges that we face.” - Naung Sam Oeung, the Executive Director of the Conserve Indigenous Peoples Languages Organization (CIPL), Cambodia



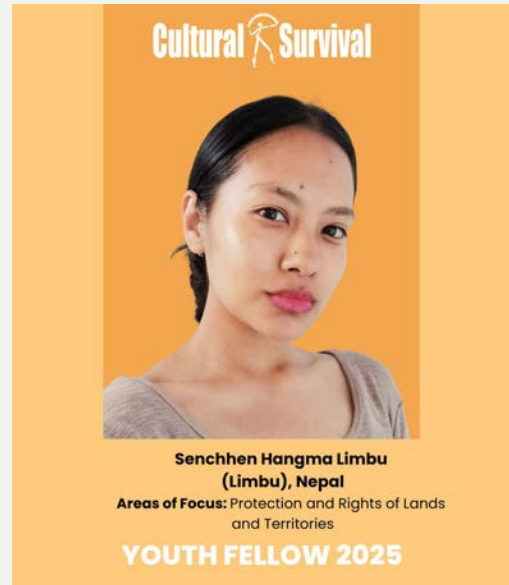
“Indigenous Peoples contribute the least to climate change, yet they are among the most vulnerable to its impacts. Our lands, resources, sources of livelihood, waters, and forests are being destroyed, but we are also trying hard to fight against it to protect and preserve them.” - Padma Othsal, Director of Students’ Educational and Cultural Movement of Ladakh (SECMOL), India



Cultural Survival staff Nati Garcia (Maya Mam) (second from right) with partners at the Climate Change gathering in Kathmandu, Nepal.

Indigenous Youth Fellowships

Since 2018, we have awarded 157 fellowships supporting 428 Indigenous youth. This year, we awarded 19 fellowships that benefited 56 Indigenous youth in 13 countries around the world. Our Indigenous Youth Fellowships support young Indigenous leaders between the ages of 18-28 who are transforming their communities and creating opportunities for the elevation, defense, and strengthening of their cultures and traditions, while also developing their leadership, organizational, and project management skills. Youth Fellows are guided by Cultural Survival from the start to completion of their projects. This year, we hosted three online cultural exchanges and capacity-building sessions to inform and better support our fellows in successfully completing their fellowship.



I have developed networking skills, which was challenging. Before, I did deskwork; this time, I had to meet the community, talk to them and share the strategy of the movement."

- Senchhen Hangma Limbu (Limbu), Youth Fellow from Nepal



We have created a collective memory through our gastronomy, which is our workspace. For us, food not only nourishes the body, but also the soul and spirit. We are grateful for the opportunity to activate this collective memory—the memory of our grandmothers, of the fire, of our People."

- Perla Alviore Blando Nuñez (Totonaca), Youth Fellow from Mexico



Investing in Indigenous Investigative Journalism

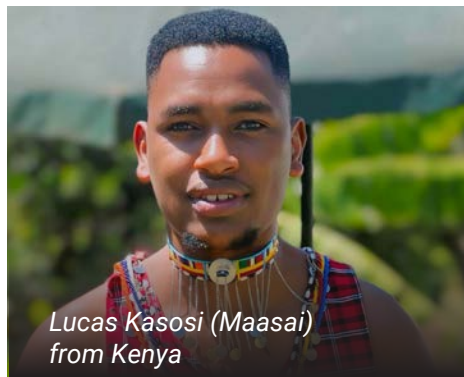
We supported the investigative reporting work of several Indigenous journalists, including award-winning Brandi Morin (Cree/Iroquois) from Canada, who reported on the impacts of transition mineral mining on Indigenous communities in Ecuador and Bolivia.

We launched our Indigenous Journalism Fellowship accompanying emerging Indigenous journalists, communicators, and broadcasters to investigate and report on pressing environmental and social issues impacting their communities. This initiative focused on environmental justice, climate change, and the impacts of transition mineral mining. The fellowship provides financial support of up to \$6,000 and mentorship to produce in-depth multimedia stories that amplify Indigenous Peoples' voices and drive toward systemic change.

The inaugural cohort of Indigenous Journalism Fellows includes: Akash Poyam (Gond/Koitur) from India; Boureima Guindo (Dogon) from Mali; Lucas Kasosi (Maasai) from Kenya (top, middle photo); Kau Sirenio Pioquinto (Ñuu Savi) from Mexico; Nawech Jimpikit Chinki Edy (Shuar) from Ecuador; and Nichodimas Cooper (Nama) from Botswana.



*Akash Poyam (Gond/Koitur)
from India*



*Lucas Kasosi (Maasai)
from Kenya*



*Cultural Survival Indigenous Journalism Fellow, Mathias Tooko (Maasai)
interviewing a Maasai Traditional Leader during his fellowship.*



*Brandi Morin (Cree/Iroquois)
from Canada*

Indigenous-led Grantmaking

Our Indigenous-led grantmaking is implemented through a long-term vision focused on resourcing the global Indigenous Peoples' Rights Movement, ensuring the right to self-determination and the collective rights of Indigenous Peoples. The **Keepers of the Earth Fund (KOEf)** is an Indigenous-led Fund within Cultural Survival managed by our Indigenous staff. It provides support to grassroots Indigenous-led organizations, collectives, and traditional governments in their self-determined development projects based on their values. The **Indigenous Community Media Fund** provides opportunities for Indigenous community radio stations and media to strengthen their broadcasting infrastructure, systems, and capacity building for radio teams, advocacy, and networks, while enhancing community efforts to establish and ensure the sustainability of Indigenous community-controlled media.

2025 Grantmaking Highlights:

- **65** projects in **26** countries supported via our Keepers of the Earth Fund on issues related to land defense and autonomy; climate change resilience, language, cultures, and the transmission of Indigenous knowledge; food sovereignty and Indigenous economies; and the various forms of resistance to mining for the energy transition, totaling \$531,000.
- **63** Indigenous communication projects awarded via our Indigenous Community Media Fund, awarding a total of \$502,000 to benefit Indigenous Peoples in 29 countries.
- **7** scholarships awarded to Indigenous journalists from Africa, Asia, and the Americas.
- We continue to support community radio stations in the implementation of the landmark 2021 ruling of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in *Maya Kaqchikel Indigenous Peoples of Sumpango et al. v. Guatemala*, ensuring financial compensation has been awarded to the four victims in the case.
- We maintain our commitment to build genuine relationships with Indigenous governments, organizations, collectives, media, youth, women, and artisans through site visits. We visited grantmaking partners in **9** countries: Colombia, Canada, Chile, Mexico, Bolivia, Argentina, Brazil, and Guatemala.





FROM OUR GRANT PARTNERS:

Indigenous Community Media Fund Grant Partners

Community Media Partner
Radio Apeninka de la
Nacionalidad Waorani del
Ecuador (NEWA), hosting
a workshop on radio
production with youth in
Pastaza, Ecuador.

“

Indigenous community radio promotes our culture and identity, reporting on current events and issues of interest to the community. Yet we have been criminalized by the state.”

- Nakoj Indigenous Community Radio (Maya Kaqchikel), Guatemala

“

Radyo Sagada is the only surviving Indigenous community radio in the Philippines, and it has been on air for over 15 years. Without Cultural Survival's support, we would not be able to continue providing information in the language our Indigenous communities speak and understand, nor would we have a forum for Indigenous Peoples for discussion on the issues impacting them.”

- Gwendolyn Gay Gaongen, Station Manager of Radyo Sagada, the Philippines

“

Radio is our lifeline. It connects us, educates us, and gives us a platform to share our concerns and resist.”

- Mathias Tooko (Maasai), Indigenous Journalism Fellow and radio program presenter at Loliondo FM community radio, Tanzania

“

Our parents died still dreaming of living in freedom, of living a peaceful and dignified life. It has not come to pass, but we will not give up. Rather, we will stand strong, steadfast until the end. Let our voice echo and be heard in Bolivia and throughout the world: we will not give up.”

- Wayna Tambo (Aymara), Bolivia





Keepers of the Earth Fund Grant Partners

“

Even though the project was small in scale, this project taught us many things. For example, agroforestry practice, planting of trees which have great value in the market, and fighting against landslides with useful grass and tree species. We will continue these types of projects in coming years.”

- Bigu Thami Samaj, Nepal

“

We have always known how to grow our food, but we were losing that knowledge. Now, with the seed bank and the trainings, I feel like we are reclaiming what was ours. I plant knowing that these seeds are ours to protect.”

- Rebecca Chelangat, member of Tachasis Ogiek Women Group, Kenya

“

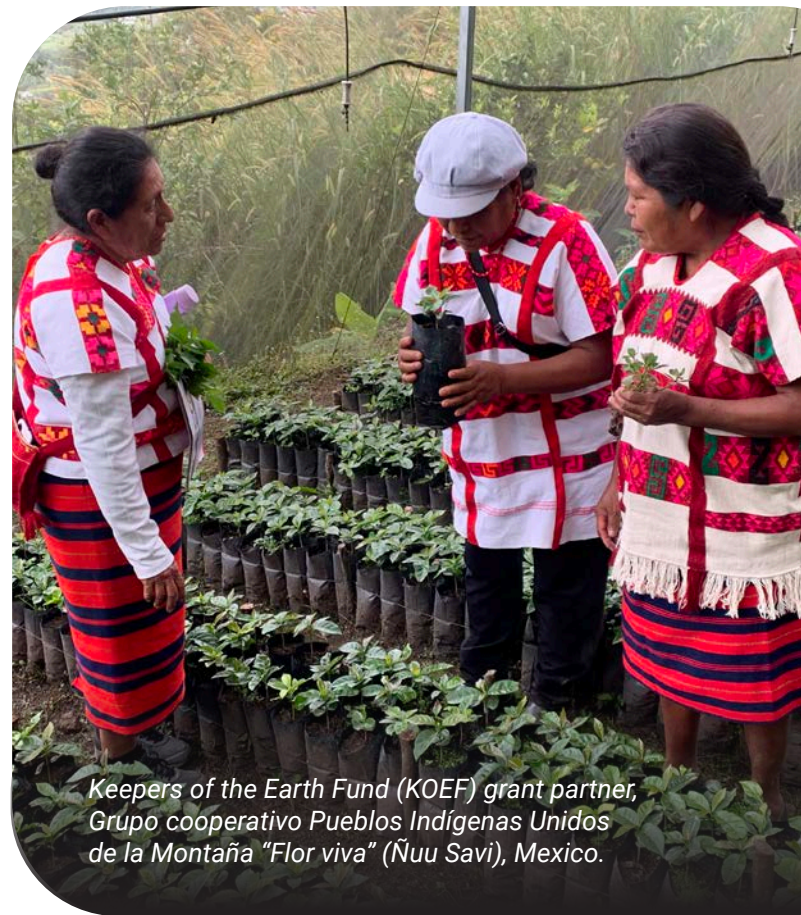
We thank you, our funders, for making the continuation of the Indigenous Peoples’ networking process possible. The support you have provided and the visibility you have given to virtual and digital platforms has been fundamental in strengthening our agenda and in ensuring that institutions fulfill their role in guaranteeing the integrity of Indigenous Peoples.”

- Frente Nacional de Pueblos Indígenas, Costa Rica

“

Cultural Survival’s support for the Isla Kujiry project has been key to strengthening the territorial, cultural, and self-governance capacities of Marka Tahua. The implementation of an administrative model based on Indigenous self-governance guarantees sustainable management aligned with the community’s values.”

- Marka Tahua community, Bolivia



Keepers of the Earth Fund (KOEf) grant partner, Grupo cooperativo Pueblos Indígenas Unidos de la Montaña “Flor viva” (Ñuu Savi), Mexico.





Brazil Program

The Brazil Program advances Indigenous Peoples' rights and strengthens Cultural Survival programs in Brazil to support community resilience across three key biomes: the Amazon Basin, Cerrado, and the Caatinga/Atlantic Forest intersection (Jequitinhonha Valley).

Xavante leader Dutsa Dz Top 'Tiro of Abelhinha village, planting organic seedlings as part of a Keepers of the Earth grant project on community seed banks in a region affected by agribusiness.



2025 Brazil Highlights:

- Cultural Survival supported the Xavante Warã Association in its efforts to raise awareness in nine Xavante Territories of the right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent regarding major infrastructure projects the government plans to implement in the A'uwẽ territory. Among others, these include the Central-West Integration Railway (FICO), which is part of a transcontinental railroad project that supports agribusiness; hydroelectric plants along the sacred Rio das Mortes; and the expansion and pavement of Highway BR-080, which passes next to the site of the ancestral village of Sõrepre.
- In Pimentel Barbosa Indigenous Territory, we supported training that strengthened women's transmission of Traditional Knowledge and practices related to the collection, processing, and storage of native Cerrado products, with a focus on nutrition and food sustainability. We also supported capacity building and institutional strengthening of the Association of Pimentel Barbosa Xavante through training in the preparation and management of cultural and environmental projects.
- **18** Indigenous youth participated in our new Youth for Climate Fellowship focusing on climate adaptation, equipping a new generation of young leaders with the skills and knowledge to drive change in their communities in local and global policies. The youth developed leadership skills and explored topics such as wildfire response, water management, and forest protection.
- We produced **18** mini-documentaries to bring to COP30 highlighting the interconnection of Traditional Knowledge systems, sciences, and climate adaptation in the Amazon. The series was led by youth, showcasing local perspectives and solutions.



Communications

For 53 years, Cultural Survival’s communications strategy has focused on directly amplifying the voices and visions of Indigenous Peoples. We utilize a variety of media platforms to achieve this: our Indigenous Community Media Program, our award-winning *Cultural Survival Quarterly* magazine, Indigenous Rights Radio, podcasts, webinars, and social media networks. We recognize that media produced by Indigenous Peoples strengthens the capacity to assert Indigenous rights and provides access to critical information and broadcasting in Indigenous languages, fostering broader understanding and cultural continuity. Our communications serve as a unifying force connecting individuals, movements, organizations, and communities through powerful storytelling that spans geographical boundaries, water systems, and diverse issues locally and globally.

2025 Communications Highlights:

- **4** issues of the *Cultural Survival Quarterly* magazine highlighted topics of Indigenous wisdom in disaster response and climate crisis management, Rematriation, Indigenous lands in Brazil, and Indigenous kinship and foodways.
- The creation of more than **70** pieces of rights-based content, including videos and articles, published on Cultural Survival’s website and social media, showcasing the strength and diversity of our partners’ voices.
- We released **157** Indigenous Rights Radio programs in Spanish, English, and **17** Indigenous languages.
- We organized the *Indigenous Media Zone* at the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, providing a platform for Indigenous leaders to share urgent messages for the international community via **33** livestreams and thousands of viewers worldwide
- We hosted **8** webinars amplifying Indigenous voices and raising awareness about the issues impacting Indigenous Peoples around the world.

Indigenous healer Taita Victor Jacanamioy Jajoy (Pueblo Inga) receives copies of the Cultural Survival Quarterly.



Cultural Survival Bazaar artist Maria Violet, from the Nasa community in Colombia, at the winter bazaar in Providence, RI.

“

Radio has given meaning to my life. I feel capable of talking about the issues that concern women and that are important to us. The radio production workshops have given me the tools to raise my voice.

- Afrodita Garcia Sanchez, Radio La Voz de Amoltepec, Mexico

“

Thanks for the continuous information bulletins and newsletters. It empowers and informs [us] on what is happening among Indigenous communities. As a former student in India, some articles remind me of the Tribal and Indigenous communities in Mandya Pradesh state.

- Mariach Emmanuel L., Kenya



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Marshall Kirkpatrick

I discovered Cultural Survival Quarterly 30 years ago when I was in high school visiting the University of Oregon library. I found it super inspiring, and I thought, 'Someday I want to do work to help that organization.' I am deeply appreciative of the opportunity to support Cultural Survival. And I highly recommend gift subscriptions to CSQ as holiday gifts!"

- Marshall Kirkpatrick, Cultural Survival Member



Cultural Survival staff member Shaldon Ferris (KhoiSan) (left) working the Indigenous Media Zone at the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII).

Cultural Survival Bazaars



The Cultural Survival Bazaars are a series of events providing Indigenous artists, cooperatives, performers, food producers, local institutions and representatives from around the world the opportunity to vend their artwork, grow their networks, and share with the community. Our events provide an opportunity for allies and supporters to meet, learn from, and support Indigenous artists. With a rich tapestry of arts and crafts, attendees directly support millennia-old traditions and lifeways of Indigenous communities around the world.

In 2025, we held four successful Cultural Survival Bazaars, including our summer Bazaars in Newburyport, MA and Tiverton, RI, and our winter Bazaars in Boston at the Cyclorama and the WaterFire Arts Center in Providence, RI. We thank everyone who was able to join us.

Some of the participating artists included master embroiderer Sanjar Nazarov (Lakai) from Uzbekistan; Associação Indígena Pykôre (Kayapó and Menkragnoti) from Brazil; and coppersmith Daniel Gómez (Purepecha) from Mexico. We welcomed storyteller, performer, and artist Annawon Weeden (Wampanoag) to emcee the Bazaars, and Sherry Pocknet, a Wampanoag chef and the first Indigenous woman to win a James Beard Award, to host a food stall, continuing our goal to expand cultural and educational programming at the Bazaars, especially related to Tribes local to New England. This year we worked with 20 Indigenous artists from our local community reflecting the living, thriving presence of Indigenous Peoples in New England.



Cultural Survival Bazaar artist Daria Ccalla Huayllara (Aymara) from Puno, Peru at the winter Bazaar in Boston, MA.

“I first discovered the Bazaar about 10 years ago. I immediately loved it but had no idea that it was part of a much larger mission. Eventually when I found the quarterly journal and read the inspiring story of Cultural Survival, I was in awe. Every year I come to buy gifts from talented artists, but also for the inspiration and sense of deep global connection. I love giving gifts to my loved ones that carry stories and traditions from other parts of the world. Supporting Cultural Survival’s remarkable mission uplifts my spirit.”

Martha Rogers, Cultural Survival Member



FROM OUR BAZAAR VENDORS:

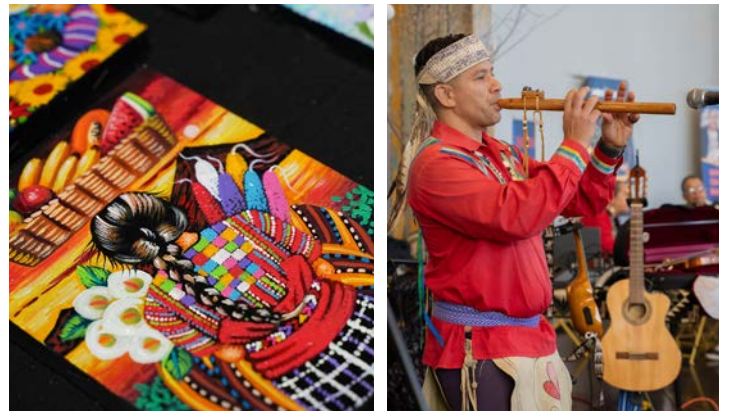
For Victor Sánchez Aparicio, a ceramic artisan, the Cultural Survival Bazaars are a way to preserve tradition and involve the next generation. “The youth start observing the practice when they are little, then they start to help out and practice making ceramics. It’s important to pass down the tradition.” Victor plans to bring his 13-year-old daughter to future Bazaars.



For Hartman Deetz of Ockway Bay Wampum, wampum-making is more than an art—it’s a sacred tradition used for treaties, storytelling, and honoring Indigenous rights. “We’ve created wampum for the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,” he shared, expressing a deep commitment to continuing this legacy. The younger generation is stepping up, too. “One young man taught himself how to do it,” he noted proudly. Through the Wampanoag Nation Singers and Dancers, active since the 1970s, Deetz continues to pass down these traditions, blending movement, history, and cultural pride across generations.



For the team behind US Sherpa, empowering youth means creating opportunities through meaningful craftsmanship. “We work with many young artisans in Nepal. Some come from rural communities where jobs are scarce, and traditional skills are passed down through generations.” Their network of weavers and makers includes young people learning to blend heritage with innovation. “A few have even started their own workshops after working with us. It’s about giving them a chance not just to survive, but to build something of their own.”



Photos from the 2025 Cultural Survival Bazaars in Boston, MA and Providence, RI.



Our Supporters

Supporters like you make our work with Indigenous communities around the world possible. Thank you for being part of Cultural Survival!

WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR WORK:

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Find more ways to get involved at www.cs.org/get-involved.

WORDS FROM OUR SUPPORTERS:



Cultural Survival has been an articulate, informed, courageous voice for the rights of Indigenous Peoples since its founding. The details in their struggles to maintain and exercise their human and legal rights may change, but the struggle has not changed fundamentally for over 500 years. CS deserves the enthusiastic support of thinking and feeling people who understand that we are all one humanity, with our similarities far more important than our differences."

- Steve Wiley, Cultural Survival Member



While I focus on Siberia in my work, I appreciate the coverage on Indigenous Americas and have learned a lot from programs mentioned by Cultural Survival in its journal and seminars. Positive cases of empowerment have stimulated conversations with Siberian friends."

- Marjorie Mandelstam Balzer, Cultural Survival Member



Every time I talk to my friends about the situation of the world today and our possible future, I always refer to the work of Cultural Survival...The work of Cultural Survival makes me believe in a better future for the world."

- Erika Daleus, Cultural Survival Member

Cultural Survival donor Nancy Nordhoff (right) with her partner, Lynn Hays.



IN MEMORIAM NANCY NORDHOFF 1932-2026

Nancy was a cherished part of the Cultural Survival community beginning in the 1990s. Over the decades, her contributions helped sustain efforts to defend Indigenous rights, lands, and cultures around the world. Her support reflected her dedication to advancing Indigenous leadership, advocacy, and endangered languages. We also remember Nancy's own commitment to nurturing creativity and community through the women's writers workshop retreat at Hedgebrook, a space that touched many lives, including our former executive director, Suzanne Benally (Navajo/Santa Clara Tewa). Nancy's generosity of spirit and belief in storytelling and expression resonated strongly with the values we strive to uphold. Nancy's contributions made a meaningful difference in the lives of Indigenous communities worldwide. We remain deeply grateful for the trust she placed in our work and for the values she championed throughout her life. We hold Nancy's partner, Lynn Hays, and entire family in our thoughts during this time of remembrance.

JOIN OUR LEGACY SOCIETY

Legacy gifts help us work in partnership with Indigenous Peoples to defend their rights and support their self-determination, cultures, and political resilience. To learn more about joining the CS Legacy Society by making a gift in your will or other legacy gift, please contact Miranda Vitello, Development Coordinator, at mvitello@cs.org or by phone at 617-441-5400 x18.



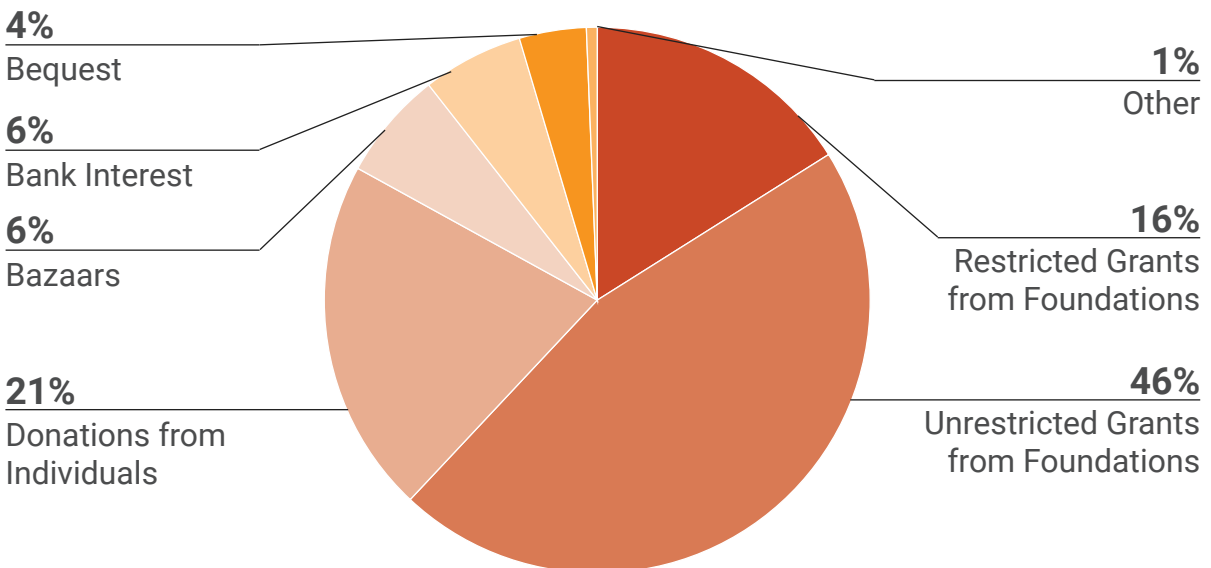


Cultural Survival staff with Indigenous healer Taita Victor Jacanamioy Jajoy (Pueblo Inga) in Villa de Leyva, Colombia.

2025 Financials

INCOME

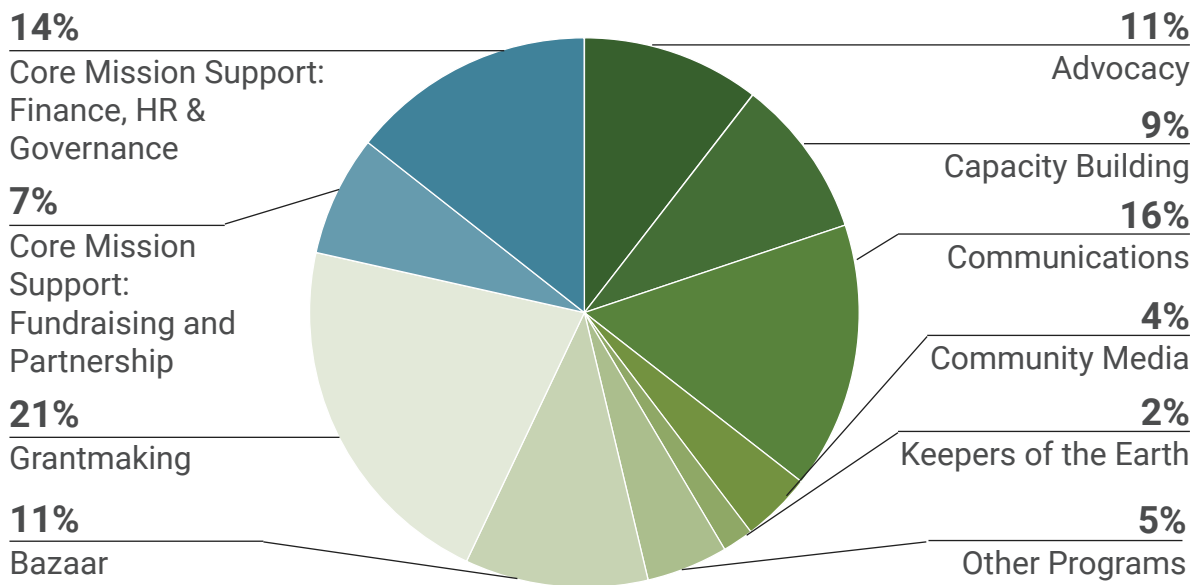
Restricted Grants from Foundations	\$1,152,286
Unrestricted Grants from Foundations	\$3,297,386
Donations from Individuals	\$1,509,529
Bazaars	\$461,220
Bank Interest	\$428,698
Bequest	\$284,472
Other	\$45,654
TOTAL INCOME	\$7,179,245



Numbers based on audited financials for Fiscal Year 2025 (September 1, 2024-August 31, 2025).

EXPENSES

Advocacy	\$731,959
Capacity Building	\$655,604
Communications	\$1,095,127
Community Media (excluding grantmaking)	\$289,187
Keepers of the Earth (excluding grantmaking)	\$127,355
Other Programs	\$333,931
Bazaar	\$753,137
Grantmaking	\$1,500,200
Core Mission Support: Fundraising and Partnership	\$494,993
Core Mission Support: Finance, HR & Governance	\$1,006,354
Total	\$6,987,847



Cultural Survival staff traveled to Tanzania to visit Maasai artisan women in Elsilalei Ward, Arusha.





Cultural Survival

2067 Massachusetts Ave.
Cambridge, MA 02140, USA
617-441-5400

Cultural Survival, Inc. is a non-profit organization with federal 501(c)(3) status. FEIN 23-7182593.

We acknowledge that we are headquartered on *Massachusetts land* and we thank the past, current, and future Indigenous stewards of this territory.



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