



2016

ANNUAL REPORT

This report covers the period from January 1, 2016
to December 31, 2016 and financial information for
September 1, 2015 to August 31, 2016.

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Cover: Cultural Survival partnered with Julian Cho Society and the
Maya Leaders Alliance by organizing a training program in community
journalism and radio production to Q'eqchi' and Mopan Maya in Punta
Gorda, Belize and Guatemala.

OUR VISION

Cultural Survival advocates for Indigenous Peoples rights and supports Indigenous communities' self-determination, cultures and political resilience.

OUR MISSION

Cultural Survival envisions 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, rooted in self-determination and self-governance.

OUR HISTORY

Since 1972, Cultural Survival has partnered with Indigenous communities to advance Indigenous Peoples' rights and cultures worldwide. The core of our efforts rest on the principles of supporting, amplifying efforts and raising awareness of self-determination for Indigenous communities. Cultural Survival employs a participatory, rights-based approach to our relationships that respects and strengthens Indigenous rights while honoring traditional Indigenous worldviews and lifeways. Our programs work to inform, create resources for, support access to information, bolster freedom of expression, and assist Indigenous communities to organize and shape their futures in ways consistent with their traditions, languages, cultures. We publicize Indigenous Peoples' issues through our award-winning Cultural Survival Quarterly; we mount on the ground campaigns and other advocacy efforts to stop environmental destruction and abuses of Indigenous Peoples' rights, always at the community's invitation. Headquartered in Cambridge, Massachusetts, we have satellite offices in Guatemala and Colorado. Cultural Survival also holds consultative status with the United Nations Economic Social and Cultural Council.

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Water is Life. Protest at Standing Rock, ND.

Dear Friends:

2016 was a year that brought Cultural Survival to a new level of advancing Indigenous Peoples' rights and cultures worldwide, thanks to our generous donors and partners.

In 2016, friends like you helped Cultural Survival:

- *Launch our new Community Media Grant Project providing opportunities for international Indigenous radio stations to strengthen their broadcast systems and train community journalists in broadcasting, audio editing, technical skills, and journalism.*
- *Convene the first Central American Network of Indigenous Community Radio Stations and contract with the Indigenous Media Foundation in Nepal to broadcast Indigenous Rights Radio programs in 10 Indigenous languages at 21 radio stations.*
- *Deliver over 100 new Indigenous Rights Radio programs to over 1,640 (+200 radios in 2016) radio stations in 76 (+20 countries in 2016) countries to inform an estimated 10 million Indigenous listeners on their rights in 33 languages!*
- *Submit stakeholder reports to the United Nations (UN) Human Rights Council during its Universal Periodic Review process of evaluating human rights issues affecting Indigenous Peoples in Brazil, Ecuador, India, Timor-Leste, Uganda, Venezuela, and Zimbabwe.*

Cultural Survival works every day towards making the rights in the United Nations (UN) Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples a reality.

Three of our programs work in partnership to achieve the goals of the Declaration:

Our **COMMUNITY MEDIA PROGRAM** provides important grants and support to a network of Indigenous community radio stations around the globe and develops critically needed programming. These stations also have the opportunity to learn how to improve their operations through a series of training workshops and exchanges.

Our **ADVOCACY PROGRAM** brings international attention to places where governments and corporations have violated these rights.

Our **INDIGENOUS RIGHTS RADIO PROGRAM** expanded our innovative radio series that promotes the rights guaranteed by the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

In 2016, we continued our mission to support Indigenous communities by

- Launching our environmental convening series to **bring Indigenous knowledge** to the global conversation on climate change and adaptation;
- Working with **Indigenous women** in Central America to strengthen their skills in community radio and leadership in their communities;
- Continuing to provide Indigenous **rights-based radio content** produced by Indigenous producers for Indigenous audiences; and
- Continuing our Community Media Grants Project to provide financial support to Indigenous communities as they **develop and advance media strategies**.

"I would like to have a community radio where the community expresses what they feel, where the children can also participate, where they can also sing in their Native language [Q'eqchi]," says Elena Metii about the launch of Radio Xyaab' Tzuul Taq'a in El Estor, Guatemala thanks to support from Cultural Survival's Community Media Grants Project.

"I consider it very important to have a [community radio] station with our participation as women. We have been limited, and this is a right that protects all women," says El Estor community member Angelina Ba Caal.

As we look forward, we will strive to ensure that the advancements we have made are not rolled back or undermined. We will continue to speak out and take action.

Our collective voices will be far greater than one of us alone. Thank you for being part of our vision and work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Suzanne Benally". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Suzanne" and last name "Benally" clearly distinguishable.

Suzanne Benally (Navajo and Santa Clara Tewa)
Executive Director

OUR PROGRAMS

ADVOCACY

Cultural Survival's Advocacy Program supports Indigenous communities around the globe by amplifying grassroots movements to bring awareness and international pressure to their struggles while enhancing Indigenous communities' capacity, always at the invitation of community leaders, to demand and assert their rights outlined in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. In addition to providing expert testimony on Indigenous, human and environmental violations and coordinating Indigenous participation at international bodies like the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP) in Geneva, Cultural Survival's Advocacy team coordinates reports to the Human Rights Council's Universal Periodic Review.

BAZAARS

The Cultural Survival Bazaars are a series of cultural festivals that provide Indigenous artists, cooperatives, and their representatives from around the world the chance to sell their work directly to the American public. Each event features traditional and contemporary crafts, artwork, clothing, jewelry, home goods, and accessories from dozens of countries. In addition, the Bazaars offer cultural performances and presentations, including live music, storytelling, craft-making demonstrations, and the unique chance to talk directly with makers and community advocates. The Cultural Survival Bazaars work to support the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples' articles 11, 20, and 31.

COMMUNITY MEDIA

Cultural Survival supports Indigenous Peoples' struggle in defense of their identities, lands, and human rights through Indigenous community-operated and controlled radio stations. Cultural Survival partners with Indigenous media producers who are amplifying Indigenous voices on issues that matter to their communities. Radio's universal and free nature and its ability to access many remote communities makes it a key medium to reach Indigenous audiences. Indigenous-produced programming strengthens Indigenous peoples' capacity to claim their rights and enables access to essential information and broadcasting in Indigenous languages ensures widespread understanding and cultural continuity.

INDIGENOUS RIGHTS RADIO

Indigenous Rights Radio uses the power of community radio to inform Indigenous communities of their rights. We envision a world in which Indigenous communities, equipped with knowledge of their rights, are empowered to protect their lands, languages, and cultures. Cultural Survival's Indigenous radio producers gather stories from Indigenous Peoples around the world. In English, Spanish, and a growing array of Indigenous languages, we bring the voices of the native peoples of Australia, Asia, Africa, Europe, and the Americas into dynamic dialogue about the meaning of Indigenous Peoples' rights, their common struggles, and their evolving and innovative solutions to the problems they face today.

NEW INITIATIVES



Grantee Radio Ixchel in Sumpango, Sacatepéquez, Guatemala.

COMMUNITY MEDIA GRANT PROJECT

The Community Media Program launched the Community Media Grant Project in August 2016. This initiative will provide opportunities for Indigenous radio stations to strengthen their broadcast infrastructure and systems, and provide specific training opportunities in community journalism, broadcasting, audio editing, and technical skills to Indigenous community radios around the world. First year grantees will be selected from four major regions: Central America, Kenya, Peru/Bolivia, and Nepal. Projects will be selected and mentored through a program design process based on the needs of their communities, best practices in the field, community values, and capacities. Grantees will be selected with the criteria of immediate need, promise for continued success, and the ability to participate fully in the initiative.



Press conference announcing the launch of the Central American Network of Indigenous Community Radios, January 2016.

CENTRAL AMERICAN INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY RADIO NETWORK

In January 2016, we hosted the first ever Central American Conference of Indigenous Community Radio Stations. 44 Indigenous community radio volunteers and Indigenous leaders from all seven countries of Central America participated in the conference. The event promoted Indigenous women's leadership and achieved a 50/50 gender balance. As a result of the conference, the Central American Indigenous Community Radio Network was founded, in addition to a Regional Commission that will advise on the direction and actions of this network. The network will support the various Indigenous community radio movements in Guatemala, El Salvador, Mexico, Belize, Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and Honduras. In June 2016, members of the Regional Commission for the Central American Network of Indigenous Community Radios assembled in La Antigua, Guatemala for their first in-person strategic planning meeting. Over the course of an intensive two-day meeting, the Commission established the Mission and Vision for the Network, an Operational Plan, a Communications Plan, and Memorandums of Understanding were signed between Cultural Survival, each of the accompanying organizations, and the Regional Commission.

2016 HIGHLIGHTS

Eight Cultural Survival staff members attended this year's **UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII)**. We held two side events, one on Indigenous Women's Role in Peacebuilding through Community Media and the other on the Universal Periodic Review and the implementation of Indigenous Peoples Rights.

In January 2016, Cultural Survival partnered with the Indigenous Media Foundation to broadcast radio programs in 10 Indigenous Nepalese languages at **21 radio stations to a listener audience of 8 million people**, almost doubling our reach worldwide.

We began producing **USB snap bracelets** loaded with our full Indigenous Rights Radio program library and distributed them at various conferences, including the Central American Conference of Indigenous Community Radios and the UNPFII. In a survey of 22 Central American community radio representatives who received our USB snap bracelets, 100% of respondents reported that the content was interesting, useful, and responded to the needs of their community.

In February 2016, a Cultural Survival staff member attended a meeting at the Greenpeace UK headquarters in London with organizations who are members of the coalition working on the **Herakles Farms campaign** in Cameroon. Following the meeting, Cultural Survival hosted monthly webinars with the coalition team to discuss plans moving forward and to facilitate better communication among members internationally and locally.

We submitted stakeholder reports to the **Universal Periodic Review (UPR)** on human rights issues affecting Indigenous Peoples in Brazil, Ecuador, India, Timor-Leste, Uganda, Venezuela, and Zimbabwe.

We held **three summer bazaars in Plymouth, MA, Tiverton, RI, and Jamaica Plain (Boston), MA**. Our 16th annual summer bazaar in Tiverton saw a 27% increase in sales over 2015.

The **two winter bazaars took place in Boston, MA and Cambridge, MA**. Our winter bazaars implemented a new booth fee system and jury process, which are industry standards among artisan craft markets.

Cultural Survival and the Maya Leaders Alliance of Belize commenced a **three-year project to train six Maya men and women to become radio producers/journalists** in southern Belize.

Our important role in disseminating information about international Indigenous rights at the global level was recognized by Vicky Tauli-Corpuz, UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, who joined us in a partnership to produce an ongoing series on her work as Special Rapporteur. To date we have produced 10 programs in English and 1 in Spanish based on interviews with her.



Indigenous Rights Radio Producer Avexnim Cotji interviews delegates at the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Peoples.

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Staff

Suzanne Benally (Navajo and Santa Clara Tewa), Executive Director
Kaimana Barcarse (Native Hawaiian), Senior Radio Producer
Mark Camp, Deputy Executive Director
Jessie Cherofsky, Indigenous Rights Radio Production Coordinator and Bazaar Program Manager
Avexnim Cojti (Maya K'iche'), Community Media Grants Project Manager
Danielle DeLuca, Advocacy Program Manager and Indigenous Rights Radio Distribution Coordinator
Shaldon Ferris (Khoisan), Radio Producer
Sofia Flynn, Accounting & Office Manager
Cesar Gomez (Pocomam), Content Production & Training Coordinator, Community Media Program
John Kisimir (Maasai), Senior Fellow
María del Rosario 'Rosy' Sul González (Kakchiquel Maya), Radio Producer
Michael Johnson (Arikara/Hidatsa/Ojibwe), Director of Development
Jamie Malcolm-Brown, Communications & Information Technology Manager
Katharine Norris, Program Assistant
Teresita Orozco Mendoza, Community Media Program Regional Coordinator
Agnes Portalewska, Communications Manager
Angelica Rao, Executive Coordinator
Miranda Vitello, Development Associate
Ancelmo Xunic (Kachikel), Community Media Program Manager

Interns and Volunteers

Beryl Akuffo-Kwapong
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Nicolette Archambault
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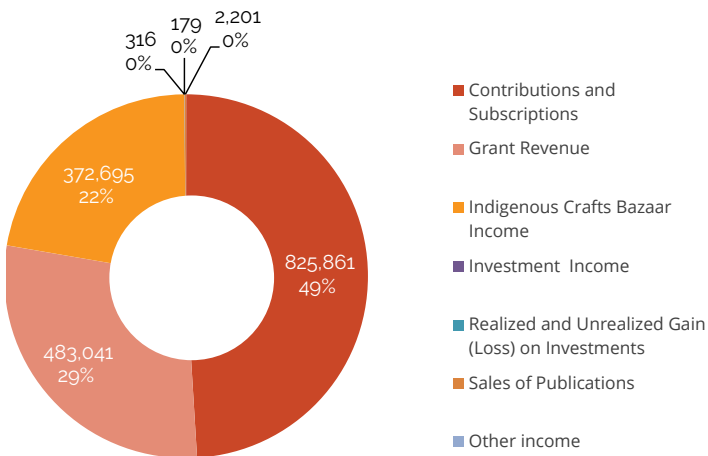
FINANCIAL REPORT

REVENUES	FY 2016
Contributions and Subscriptions	825,861
Grant Revenue	483,041
Indigenous Crafts Bazaar Income	372,695
Investment Income	316
Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments	179
Sales of Publications	2,201
Other income	2,562
Total Revenues	1,684,293
EXPENSES	FY 2016
Programs and Publications	1,387,958
Fundraising	178,828
General Administrative	121,331
Total Expenses	1,688,177



Maya radio trainees Juan Mes and Frani Ba from Belize, conduct interviews for broadcast on radio.

Revenue FY 2016



Expenses FY 2016

