



HI, WELCOME TO PAWANKA FUND



We are an organization dedicated to building a harmonious and pluralistic world guided by indigenous ancestral values. We strive to address global challenges by empowering indigenous communities and promoting intercultural partnerships based on trust and reciprocity.

Myrna Cunningham Kain
(CHAIR)

How We Make a Difference

Working Together for a Harmonious and Sustainable Future

Principles

Pawanka Fund upholds indigenous ancestral values such as self-determination, reciprocity, sustainability, and holistic approaches. Our work fosters trust and solidarity through partnerships that prioritize intercultural and intergenerational relations based on informed consent, promoting a harmonious and pluralistic world.

Approach

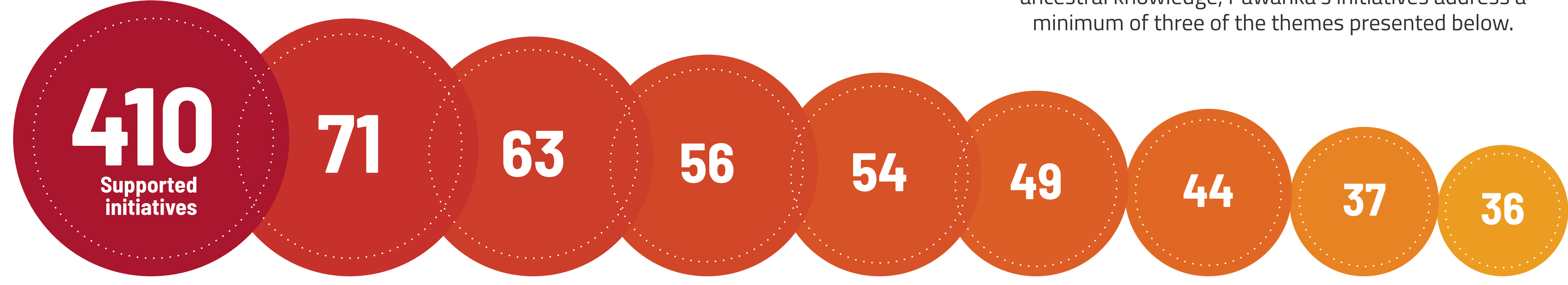
Our approach, grounded in indigenous principles, enhances understanding of indigenous communities' challenges and achievements. We have experienced both vertical and horizontal growth, strengthening indigenous communities and promoting a shift from conventional to indigenous philanthropy.

Cultural Due Dilligence

- UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- Well-being and self-determined development
- Mother Earth
- Traditional knowledge and intergenerational transmission
- Cultural practices and spirituality
- Complementarity between knowledge systems
- Equity between men and women
- Institutional strengthening, alliances and network building

Pawanka Initiatives

Pawanka's governance model focuses on implementing annual themes across the 7 socio-cultural regions where it operates. With a core focus on revitalizing indigenous ancestral knowledge, Pawanka's initiatives address a minimum of three of the themes presented below.



- Revitalizing Indigenous Food:** Systems for Health and Resilience.
- Innovative Indigenous Youth:** Learning and Transmission
- Climate Resilience:** Indigenous Initiatives for Change
- Reviving Indigenous Culture:** Innovation in Art, Performance, and Languages
- Fostering Peace:** Traditional Institutions and Conflict Prevention
- Interchange of Traditional Knowledge:** Dialogues & Leadership
- Indigenous Economies:** Sustaining Traditional Livelihoods
- Preserving Natural Heritage:** Indigenous Guardians of Land

*Number of initiatives from 2015-2022

Our Global Presence

Reaching Every Corner



Openness

Pawanka Fund works with two organizations (RSF and CADPI) as sponsors to assist in the implementation of the grants and administration of the programs. Our diversity of backgrounds gives our organization great strength, as we are able to bridge the gap between many local communities and the mainstream.

Our guiding committee

Indigenous leaders from seven regions of the world make up our Guiding Committee. With years of experience in global indigenous movements, they lead and make collective decisions on various aspects of **operations, including strategic planning, budgeting, governance, grant-making and resource mobilization.**

[Discover our committee](#)

A mutual learning experience

Pawanka Fund fosters mutual learning and trust with local partners through collaborative mentoring, strengthening local capacities on indigenous rights and financial administration, contributing to a more just, equitable, and harmonious global indigenous movement.

[Discover it](#)

Wayfinders Circle

It's a new collaborative initiative and platform created by the Pawanka Fund and **Nia Tero**, with the guidance of the **Council of Elders of the World Union of Indigenous Spiritual Practitioners (WUISP)**. The Wayfinders Circle is a learning network dedicated to investing in Indigenous Wayfinders and sharing possible pathways for human societies to achieve ecological, social, cultural and spiritual harmony.

Join us

Building a better world with indigenous values

