



## Institute on Indigenous Knowledge and Research of the Rio Negro (ICIPRN)

### What is it about?

Strengthening indigenous knowledge and intercultural dialogue by offering a training programme for Advanced Studies and Research.

### Why an intervention?

In the last centuries missionary schools in the indigenous territories strived to integrate the population into national society by imposing national mainstream curricula and language upon the indigenous communities. The 1988 Federal Constitution and specific laws assured rights on a differentiated education to the indigenous peoples. FOIRN is the representing organization for indigenous associations in the Rio Negro region. With the support of ISA (Instituto Socioambiental), FOIRN is promoting a set of experiences on indigenous school education since 1998. Important goals have been achieved. The first high school classes graduated from indigenous schools in 2009. Since then a project for an advanced training had been discussed and elaborated.

### What does it change?

- An environment of dialogue and collaboration for indigenous and western scientific knowledge exchange was built.
- A platform for intercultural research, including a training component for young indigenous people, who aim to work in their home communities, was elaborated.
- Indigenous education is accredited by Brazilian public institutions.

**HORIZONT**  
**3000**

AUSTRIAN ORGANISATION  
FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

**Sector:** Human Rights & Civil Society  
**Organisation:** FOIRN (Federation of the Indigenous Organizations of the Rio Negro)  
**Period:** Since 2013 (Differentiated Indigenous School Education as a basis since 1998)  
**Further material:** Document of the Advanced Indigenous Training Programme  
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# KNOW-HOW 3000 Experience AT A GLANCE

### How does it work?

- After a period of consultations and discussions, the Advanced Indigenous Training seeks to meet the demands on a differentiated third-level education.
- Respect to cultural and linguistic diversity, promote the transmission of traditional knowledge;
- 3 years of basic and specialized training: attendance classes 3 times a year, research modules in their home communities.
- Specialization trainings: (1) Territorial and Environmental Management; (2) Contemporary Indigenous Economy; (3) Languages and Translation.
- Foundation of the Institute on Indigenous Knowledge and Research of the Rio Negro (ICIPRN) as a social organization (juridical figure: allows a more agile and autonomous management, but with public funding), funded by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology.

### Who are the beneficiaries?

- Indigenous high school graduates (adolescents and adults);
- Indigenous people seeking for a differentiated education;
- Indigenous leaders;
- Indigenous pedagogical agents;
- Indigenous environmental agents.

### Who could use that approach?

- Larger associations/ indigenous schools with a good organization level;
- Universities and research institutes.

### Who is already using it?

FOIRN – Federation of the Indigenous Organizations of the Rio Negro, Brazilian Amazon region (Federação das Organizações Indígenas do Rio Negro, na região do Amazonas, Brasil); with support from ISA – Socioenvironmental Institute (Instituto Socioambiental).

