

The Peoples of the World Foundation

Indigenous Education, Knowledge and Science

Annual Report 2022



The new train station in Luang Prabang, Laos was built as part of a US\$ 6 billion loan under China's Belt and Road Initiative. According to the World Bank, poor countries like Laos faced a 35% increase in their debt interest payments in 2022.

Summary

In 2022 we resumed our field assignment work in Laos and Malaysia, Southeast Asia. We added substantial new content to both our Web portal and our YouTube channel. We revised our social media strategy and presence. We continued publishing our monthly opinion editorial articles.

We awarded an institutional educational grant to support indigenous education in Laos.

Web Portal Strategy

In 2022 we continued to follow our “tic-tac-toe” strategy. “Tic” is keeping our Web portal up to date with the latest information technology trends. “Tac” is publishing new content. “Toe” is design — the user interface and user experience of our Web portal.

Tic. We made additional upgrades and optimizations on our platform for faster page loading. We also began dropping support for older web browsers. As “Web 3.0” and “Web3” continue to evolve, it is more important than ever to keep one’s browser software up to date. As this trend continues, it becomes too burdensome to continue supporting older browsers.

We also consolidated the content under our “Publish your Work” program. This will make it easier to add new content to that section of our Web portal in the future.

Tac. 2022 was a “tac” year. We continued to publish our monthly opinion editorials giving an indigenous peoples’ perspective on current events. Our opinion editorials represent independent journalism and are entirely uninfluenced by corporate interests or media advertising.

Our latest opinion editorial is published on the first day of each month in the *Latest Updates* section of our home page. Our cumulative, year-to-date opinion editorials are always available at:

<https://www.peoplesoftheworld.org/opinionEditorial.jsp?month=january>

Our opinion editorials are archived on the first day of January of the following year at:

[Opinion editorial archives](#)

We also published six new short documentary films on our YouTube channel in 2022.

They can be watched at:

[Preserving the Tiger Hunters](#)

[Spirits in the Akha Forest](#)

[Cruising Halong Bay, Vietnam](#)

[People of the Five Clans: The Karo Batak](#)

[Life on the Mekong River](#)

[Top 5 Places to Visit Indigenous People](#)

Our YouTube channel is available at:

<https://www.youtube.com/@indigenouspeoplesoftheworld>

We also published a new photo-ethnographic essay about the Intha people. It is available on our Web portal at:

[Indigenous Peoples of the World – The Intha](#)

We also published a new travel narrative story: *Post Pandemic Laos*.

It is available on our Web portal at:

[Post Pandemic Laos](#)



An Intha fisherman, Inle Lake, Burma (Myanmar).



Despite the economic crisis, the indigenous people of Laos continue to be resourceful.

Toe. We completed a major re-design of our home page in 2022. This re-design makes navigation to each major section of our Web portal much easier.

Social Media

In 2022 we closed our Facebook account due to unresolvable technical issues on that platform.

We created a Twitter account as our new social media platform. While that account remains active, we stopped tweeting toward

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the end of the year due to recent developments at Twitter. Our tweeting is now on hold while we continue to monitor the direction and the policies of the platform.

Resources

The resources on our Web portal continued to be used extensively by non-governmental, non-profit and media organizations, interns, government agencies, publishing companies, journalists, students and educators around the world.

Programs

In 2022 we awarded a \$500 grant under our *Institutional Educational Grants* program to *Empathy International* in Laos. This grant will support that organization's educational programs which benefit indigenous people in northern Laos.

Finances

Donations decreased in 2022 compared to 2021.

Table 1 below shows a summary of our 2022 finances (amounts are in US\$).

Income	519
Expenses	(1152)
Balance	(633)

Table 1. 2022 financial summary.

We acknowledge all who contributed to our mission in 2022.

Plans for 2023

Our plans for 2023 are not yet finalized.

We will consider revising our social media strategy – including possibly switching to a different social media platform.

We will continue dropping support for older browsers on our Web portal.

We will continue to publish new content across all our channels.

We will continue our field assignment work.