

## TFK programme, funded projects 2022

<p><b>Project title:</b> Indigenous Studies on languages, traditional knowledge and the environment within Amazonian-Finnish collaboration</p>	
<p><b>Coordinator</b></p> <p>University of Helsinki</p> <p>Pirjo Kristiina Virtanen pirjo.virtanen@helsinki.fi</p>	<p>This network project brings together Finnish and Brazilian universities from the Amazon region to a novel knowledge exchange in the area of Indigenous studies, linguistics, anthropology, and social and humanist environmental research. The network has 3 partners: University of Helsinki (UH), Federal University of Pará (UFPA), and Federal University of Amazonas (UFAM).</p> <p>Amazonia is the hotspot of global biodiversity as well as language and cultural diversity. There is robust evidence about strong links existing between the richness of biodiversity and cultural and linguistic diversities in Amazonia and elsewhere in the world. All the project network partners are experts in studying the links between linguistic and cultural diversity as well as human-environment relationality. Together we are committed to develop and empower staff and master and PhD students by reciprocal networks, co-taught teaching, and curriculum development in the area of Indigenous research.</p>
<p><b>Partners</b></p> <p>University of Helsinki, Federal University of Pará–UFPA, Federal University of Amazonas–UFAM</p>	<p>Our aims are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) to develop and realize joint intensive courses and workshops in Indigenous linguistic and environmental research to advance and revitalize language and cultural diversity.</li> <li>2) to develop Indigenous research methodological and research ethical teaching, drawing from local epistemological frameworks especially in the area of human-environment relationality and language development.</li> </ol> <p>The main activities during the project will be: 1) mobility of staff and students, which will allow novel crossdisciplinary knowledge exchanges and networking, 2) online and in-situ master level co-teaching and staff workshops, and 3) methodological and ethical co-development of curriculum in each partner institution.</p> <p>The courses and workshops will be co-led by the UH's Indigenous Studies programme (Faculty of Arts), UFPA's linguistics, and UFAM's Indigenous and Environmental Studies and anthropology. The teaching events will take place at the UH, UFPA, and UFAM, co-taught by staff members and joined by selected students from partner</p>

institutions, as well as streamed online. The activities provide opportunities for reciprocal exchange of knowledge between Finnish and Amazonian HEIs, and between Indigenous communities.

The networking project has a great potential to develop more impactful teaching and research on biocultural diversity, Indigenous languages and knowledges, and bringing minority languages. There is a need for bringing the results of the research to local communities, which this network will advance by developing high quality pedagogic materials for Indigenous teachers.

Expected results are:

- 1) knowledge transfer and exchange of Finnish and Brazilian scientific research expertise,
- 2) new networking opportunities for staff, researchers, and students between Finnish and Brazilian Amazonian universities,
- 3) development of novel research collaboration between Finnish–Amazonian language and traditional knowledge research.



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