



Pamela KRAFT

Professional Background

Pamela Kraft is the Executive Director of the Tribal Link Foundation, which aims to link indigenous peoples to information, media, resources, and relevant events and networks, with a special focus on the United Nations system. Tribal Link's current programs include Indigenous Entrepreneurship; Maasai Girls' Education, and Project Access, which supports the training and participation of indigenous people's in international meetings where decisions are made that affect their rights, cultures and livelihoods.

Pamela Kraft founded Tribal Link Foundation in 1993 following her involvement in the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (Earth Summit) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, where she was one of the coordinators for the documentation of the Kari Oca Conference, an indigenous conference held before the opening of the official UN conference. Tribal Link, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC), works in close collaboration with the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, UN agencies including UNDP, UNEP, indigenous peoples' organizations, and other institutions such as the American Museum of Natural History, to produce over 200 programs and events to date.

Ms. Kraft has been a member of the NGO Committee on the UN International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples since 1995, and since this time has been a co-coordinator of the Commemoration of the International Day of the World's Indigenous People, and annual event which attracts over 500 participants. She also serves on the Technical Advisory Committee of the Equator Prize of the UNDP Equator Initiative. She has served on the Boards of Cambodia Living Arts Program and the United Nations Association.



Nina KANTCHEVA

Professional Background

Program Coordinator for the Indigenous Entrepreneurship Program (IEP) of Tribal Link Foundation. The IEP aims to develop the entrepreneurship capacities of indigenous peoples by connecting them to resources, credit, markets, and partners, and also seeks to educate the private sector how to best engage with indigenous peoples taking into consideration their intellectual property and human rights. Nina recently returned from a visit to the Yawanawa tribe in the Brazilian Amazon following a presentation of the IEP at the Indigenous Entrepreneurship Conference in Manaus, Brazil.

Prior to this, Nina has been a consultant with the United Nations Development Programme Equator Initiative, a partnership of the UN, governments and international NGOs aimed at recognizing and promoting the work of grassroots groups and projects that conserve biodiversity and reduce poverty. While at the Equator Initiative, she has organized numerous events, from large conferences to lecture series, and coordinated international communications. Other consultancies have included with the HIV/AIDS Group of the UNDP and with Groots International, an international network of women's groups working in economic empowerment, democratic governance, disaster mitigation, where she was a program coordinator and community organizer. Nina also serves as the Co-Chair of the International Advisory Committee of the 2010 Sophia International Women's Conference in Sofia, Bulgaria.

Nina was born and raised in the Valley of Roses, Bulgaria. She speaks six languages and spends her free time making documentaries, traveling, and learning.