



INPUT PAPER FOR THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT: THE ROLE OF LANDCENT AND INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE IN ADDRESSING POVERTY-RELATED DISEASES AND FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT

Executive Summary

This paper outlines Landcent's strategic approach to addressing poverty-related diseases by integrating cutting-edge health technologies with Indigenous knowledge systems, a resource that has been historically underutilized despite its proven efficacy. This combination will enable the development of affordable, culturally relevant, and highly effective healthcare solutions, particularly suited for marginalized communities where poverty-related diseases are prevalent. By leveraging advanced technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) and involving target populations in co-creation, co-ownership, and benefit-sharing of intellectual property, Landcent aims to foster both product relevance and community acceptance.

Landcent's innovative approach aligns with the goals of the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD 4), making a compelling case for developmental and philanthropic funding to support the co-development of healthcare solutions that merge traditional knowledge with modern technology. This strategy promises not only to deliver highly relevant, cost-effective solutions but also to promote community empowerment, ensuring long-term health improvements in low-resource settings.

I. Introduction

Poverty-related diseases continue to pose significant health and socio-economic challenges in many parts of the world, particularly in low-income communities. Addressing these diseases requires both innovative health solutions and a financing framework that promotes inclusivity, scalability, and sustainability.

Landcent, an innovative social business organization, is dedicated to the development of affordable health products that leverage advanced technologies and Indigenous knowledge systems. This unique strategy taps into centuries-old practices proven to be effective in health promotion, while also utilizing cutting-edge technologies like AI and ML to accelerate product development. This approach creates health solutions that are cost-effective and culturally appropriate, facilitating their acceptance and long-term use by the communities they serve.



This paper presents Landcent's strategy for co-developing healthcare solutions with marginalized communities, emphasizing co-ownership of intellectual property, equitable benefit-sharing, and a commitment to affordability. The goal is to influence development funding to scale this approach and make it a cornerstone of global development strategies.

II. Action Areas

a. Domestic Public Resources

To effectively combat poverty-related diseases, national governments must increase budgetary support for health, particularly preventive measures and low-cost treatments. Public financing strategies should prioritize partnerships with organizations like Landcent that are committed to developing affordable, scalable health interventions. Governments should also promote Indigenous healthcare systems by supporting community-based health initiatives that integrate traditional practices.

Additionally, tax incentives for private companies and NGOs that invest in health innovations, including research into traditional medicine, can drive more investment into affordable healthcare solutions. Training healthcare workers to integrate Indigenous health practices with modern medicine will enhance the effectiveness of public health interventions.

b. Domestic and International Private Finance

Private sector financing plays a crucial role in scaling innovative health solutions. Landcent's work in developing cost-effective healthcare products can be expanded through partnerships with global health funds, philanthropic organizations, and development banks. By incentivizing private sector engagement in public-private partnerships (PPPs) and offering blended financing models, the global community can mitigate risks and increase the impact of health innovations.

Equitable financing models should support the documentation, preservation, and commercialization of Indigenous medicinal practices. Communities should benefit financially through shared intellectual property rights, ensuring that traditional knowledge is integrated into healthcare systems without compromising cultural integrity.

c. International Development Cooperation

International development cooperation should go beyond traditional aid, focusing on knowledge-sharing and co-creation of health solutions. Financing strategies must



promote partnerships between private but impact-driven organizations like Landcent, Indigenous communities, and research institutions to accelerate the development of affordable, culturally relevant healthcare products.

Multilateral organizations like the Global Fund, Gavi, and the World Bank should consider incorporating Indigenous health systems into their frameworks, facilitating a more holistic approach to disease prevention and treatment. Programs that empower community-led health initiatives should be prioritized, particularly in regions where traditional healthcare practices are already effective.

d. International Trade as an Engine for Development

International trade policies must support the global distribution of affordable health products developed by organizations like Landcent. Reducing tariffs and non-tariff barriers on essential health technologies will enhance accessibility in low-income regions. Moreover, trade agreements should include provisions to protect Indigenous intellectual property rights, ensuring that communities receive fair compensation for their knowledge.

e. Debt and Debt Sustainability

Debt burdens often hinder the ability of low-income countries to invest in healthcare. Debt relief initiatives that include conditional debt swaps for health could allow countries to focus more resources on addressing poverty-related diseases. Financing from debt relief should support both modern innovations and Indigenous health initiatives, scaling up the availability of affordable healthcare products.

f. Science, Technology, Innovation, and Capacity Building

The transformative potential of technology in addressing poverty-related diseases cannot be overstated. Landcent's innovative approach leverages cutting-edge regenerative Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) to develop low-cost, highly effective health technologies. These advanced tools are crucial for accelerating drug discovery and delivering affordable treatment solutions to low-income populations. However, scaling these innovations requires targeted international and national financing to support R&D, technology transfer, and capacity building.

Strategic investment in Landcent's regenerative AI technology will enable further integration of traditional medicinal knowledge with advanced computational models, rapidly identifying new drug candidates. By supporting such initiatives, global stakeholders can drive scalable, sustainable healthcare innovations that bridge the gap between modern science and Indigenous knowledge, addressing the urgent health needs of vulnerable communities.



Investments should also support training programs that enhance the capacity of local healthcare workers to integrate Indigenous and modern medical practices, creating a more holistic health service delivery model.

III. Emerging Issues

The increasing impact of climate change on health outcomes demands innovative solutions. Climate change exacerbates the spread of poverty-related diseases, making it essential to incorporate climate resilience into healthcare strategies. Landcent's vector control, medicinal, and diagnostic tools are designed for adaptability in climate-affected regions, while Indigenous knowledge provides sustainable approaches to managing natural resources and health.

The global financing framework must consider the intersection of climate change, poverty, and health, supporting cross-sectoral interventions that address these challenges simultaneously.

IV. Data, Monitoring, and Follow-Up

Effective financing requires robust data systems that track progress in health outcomes and financing commitments. The framework should include indicators for assessing the impact of integrating modern and Indigenous health solutions on poverty-related diseases. Monitoring mechanisms should be designed to capture financial inputs and qualitative improvements in health service delivery and community empowerment.

Investing in participatory data collection approaches, where communities document the effectiveness of health interventions based on traditional practices, can provide valuable insights for scaling successful models. Additionally, reporting frameworks should account for the economic benefits of reduced healthcare costs due to using low-cost, innovative health technologies.

V. Conclusion and Case for Financing

Landcent's strategy of combining modern healthcare technologies with Indigenous knowledge offers a transformative approach to tackling poverty-related diseases. By co-creating healthcare solutions with target communities, Landcent ensures product relevance, ownership, and affordability—critical factors for success in low-resource



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settings. This inclusive approach bridges the gap between traditional and modern healthcare, providing a framework that values cultural knowledge while driving innovation.

The global financing community, including developmental funds, philanthropic organizations, and private investors, is uniquely positioned to support this strategy. By investing in Landcent's approach, they can contribute to scalable, sustainable healthcare innovations that meet the urgent health needs of marginalized populations. Landcent's model of co-creation, intellectual property sharing, and benefit-sharing offers a blueprint for how inclusive health solutions can drive long-term development and help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

This input paper advocates for a financing strategy that integrates modern health innovations with Indigenous knowledge systems, ensuring that communities benefit from the best of both worlds in the fight against poverty-related diseases. By supporting Landcent's approach, the global community can make significant strides in reducing health inequities, ultimately advancing the global development agenda.