

Questionnaire to the UN system agencies, funds and programmes and intergovernmental organizations

The United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (PFII) was established by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Resolution 2000/22. The Permanent Forum is mandated to provide expert advice and recommendations on Indigenous issues to the ECOSOC and through the Council to United Nations agencies, funds and programmes; to raise awareness and promote the integration and coordination of activities related to Indigenous issues within the UN system; prepare and disseminate information on Indigenous issues; and promote respect for and full application of the provisions of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and follow up the effectiveness of the Declaration.

The Indigenous Peoples Development Branch/Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues invites UN system agencies, funds and programmes and other intergovernmental organizations to complete the attached questionnaire on any action taken or planned in response to the Permanent Forum's recommendations, the system-wide action plan on rights of indigenous peoples (SWAP) and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The responses will be compiled into a report for the 2024 session of the Permanent Forum. In your responses, please, include information on progress and challenges related to Indigenous women, Indigenous persons with disabilities, Indigenous older persons, and Indigenous children and youth.

All responses will be placed on the DESA/DISD website on Indigenous Peoples at: <https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/>

Please note that the term “Indigenous Peoples” must be capitalized as per the UN Editorial Manual.

If you have any objections to your response being made available on our website, please inform our office accordingly.

Please submit your completed questionnaire by **15 November 2023** to:

Indigenous Peoples and Development Branch
Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
Division for Inclusive Social Development
Department of Economic and Social Affairs
United Nations Headquarters
New York, USA 10017
Email: indigenous_un@un.org

Subject: Response to SWAP questionnaire

Executive Summary

A. Recommendations of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and input to the 2024 session

- DCO is continuously raising awareness of all Resident Coordinator Offices (RCOs) on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and SWAP commitments through strategic messages on World Indigenous Peoples Day, issuance of policy bulletins which include relevant knowledge products and the 2022 UNPFII recommendation.

B. System-Wide Action Plan to achieve the ends of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

- DCO convened various dialogues and clinics on Indigenous Peoples issues focusing on different themes (specifically, Indigenous Knowledge, Participation in Development, Human Rights Defenders) with RCs in 2022. Key resources (from standards to guidance tools) on the rights and issues of Indigenous Peoples are included in the compendium for the RC Leadership onboarding package.

C. 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

- DCO, as manager of UN INFO, is improving the quality assurance and data analytics on the inclusion of Indigenous Peoples (as stakeholder consulted and in specific result areas) Cooperation Framework processes, and support provided for their participation in national development processes.
- DCO, as manager of the UNSDG knowledge portal resources, promotes the compilation and sharing of good practices on the pages of Indigenous Peoples and LNOB. Aside from the [thematic brief on Indigenous Peoples in Sustainable Development](#) which highlighted leadership of RCs and collaboration with UNCTs on the human rights dimensions of Indigenous Peoples issues, other notable good practice examples on the inclusion of Indigenous Peoples in result areas of Cooperation Framework and joint workplans are: **Nepal's** partnership with the National Indigenous Women's Commission; **Kazakhstan's** technical assistance on capacities mapping of indigenous women's rights organizations in the region; **Chile's** focus on economic empowerment of indigenous women; **Cambodia's** support for communal land titling; and **South Africa's** support for Indigenous Peoples and climate change-proofing of natural resources management.

A. Recommendations of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and input to the 2024 session

- Continuing awareness raising on the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and SWAP through periodic messages from the DCO Director to all Resident Coordinators (eg World Indigenous Peoples Day, UN INFO data analysis related to Indigenous Peoples)
- DCO's letter to Resident Coordinators (2022) included the CEDAW recommendation along with other human rights mechanisms to promote the rights and welfare of indigenous women and girls.

- As reported in UN INFO (a digital platform used by UN Country teams to boost transparency and accountability for development coordination, and managed by DCO), Malaysia's joint work plan included collaboration with the Human Rights Commission (SUHAKAM) in convening the regional consultations on the CEDAW General Recommendation 39 and the violence against women and girls in climate crisis context.
- DCO circulated the UNPFII recommendation to the RC system through its policy bulletin.

B. System-Wide Action Plan to achieve the ends of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

- For awareness raising on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, DCO convened: a thematic clinic in the 2022 global RC retreat; thematic dialogues with RCs on Indigenous knowledge (Jan 2022), Indigenous Peoples participation in development (Feb 2022), and protecting human rights defenders (Feb 2022). Key resources on Indigenous Peoples' rights are included in the RC Leadership package for onboarding of new RCs.
- DCO included questions in the UN INFO annual survey (normative section) to track "support for the realisation of indigenous peoples' rights in the implementation and review of the 2030 Agenda" and "advance the participation of indigenous peoples in UN processes."
- DCO shared to all RCs and the Interagency Support Group on Indigenous Issues IASG) the data analytics of UN INFO results related to inclusion of and support to Indigenous Peoples (from 2020 to 2022).

C. 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

- DCO provides quality assurance in support of the cooperation framework and joint work plans processes to ensure integration of Indigenous Peoples as key stakeholder consulted and alignment with the SWAP commitments.
- DCO promotes good practices from countries and regions, from cooperation framework to policy advocacies, by linking UNCTs with regional and global processes and spotlighting in policy bulletins and UNSDG clinics.
- DCO, as manager of the UNSDG knowledge portal resources, promotes the compilation and sharing of good practices on the pages of Indigenous Peoples and LNOB. Some notable examples on the inclusion of Indigenous Peoples in result areas of Cooperation Framework and joint workplans are: **Nepal's** partnership with the National Indigenous Women's Commission; **Kazakhstan's** technical assistance on capacities mapping of indigenous women's rights organizations in the region; **Chile's** focus on economic empowerment of indigenous women; **Cambodia's** support for communal land titling; **South Africa's** support for Indigenous Peoples and climate change-proofing of natural resources management.
- DCO, as host to the Secretariat of the Human Rights Mainstreaming Fund, produced a [thematic brief on Indigenous Peoples](#) in sustainable development.

² Reporting on the activities to implement the CEB Call to Action is through task groups and should not be included in the responses to this questionnaire.

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³ The six key elements of the SWAP are: 1) Raise awareness of the UNDRIP; 2) Support the implementation of the UNDRIP, particularly at the country level; 3) Support the realization of indigenous peoples' rights in the implementation and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; 4) Map existing standards and guidelines, capacity, training materials and resources within the UN system, international financial institutions and the members of the IASG for the effective implementation of the UNDRIP; 5) Develop the capacity of States, indigenous peoples, civil society and UN personnel; and 6) Advance the participation of indigenous peoples in UN processes.

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