

United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (PFII)
Questionnaire to the UN system agencies, funds and programmes and intergovernmental organizations

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)

November 2023

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

i. Please provide information on measures taken since your last update to the Forum on the implementation or planned implementation of the recommendations of the PFII.

Throughout 2023, ECLAC continued to carry out actions related to the recommendations of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, in accordance with the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, the regional frameworks, including the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development for Latin America and the Caribbean, an intergovernmental agreement which includes priority measures related to Indigenous Peoples' rights, and the Montevideo Strategy for Implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda within the Sustainable Development Framework by 2030, the Regional Agenda for inclusive social development, among others, and related mandates, in the following areas: i) the inclusion of the situation of Indigenous Peoples as a cross-cutting theme in the different outputs and activities of the Commission; ii) the inclusion of indigenous peoples in national statistical systems, in particularly the 2020 census round; iii) the production and dissemination of disaggregated data on Indigenous Peoples and training on the use and analysis of this information; iv) the preparation of studies on the situation of Indigenous Peoples, as well as on their living conditions within the framework of the rights of Indigenous Peoples, including policy recommendations; and v) knowledge sharing, dissemination and technical assistance to the countries of the region.

ii. The theme of the 2023 PFII session is "Enhancing Indigenous Peoples' right to self-determination in the context of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples – emphasizing the voice of Indigenous Youth." Please include information on any publications, projects, reports, or activities relevant to this theme.

ECLAC's reports and publications are guided by the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, which informs the framework of the production of information, analysis and establishment of policy recommendations. This has led, for example, to the wide and successful promotion of the use of the self-identification criterion in censuses and other data sources in the region, which is consistent with the rights of Indigenous Peoples, as well as guaranteeing the full participation of Indigenous Peoples in the implementation of censuses and cultural adaptation in accordance with the requirements of Indigenous Peoples, among other recommendations. In this regard, the region continues to make significant progress as the result of the joint work of the national statistics institutes, Indigenous Peoples' organizations and the United Nations system.

iii. Please provide information on efforts to ensure the participation of Indigenous Peoples in the international decades declared by the General Assembly, such as the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, the International Decade for Action, “Water for Sustainable Development,” the International Decade of Indigenous Languages and other relevant international decades and processes, including CEDAW recommendation 39 on Indigenous women and girls.

At the Extraordinary Session to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development for Latin America and the Caribbean, entitled “10 years of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development” and Fifth Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Regional Conference on Population and Development of Latin America and the Caribbean (Santiago, Chile, 14-15 November), the participation of Indigenous Peoples was promoted (including attendance by representatives of Indigenous Peoples’ organizations). It bears noting that the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development contains a specific chapter on Indigenous Peoples (Chapter H: Indigenous Peoples: interculturalism and rights) and includes seven priority measures, while recognizing that the situation of Indigenous Peoples must be viewed in a cross-cutting and comprehensive manner in all the measures outlined in the Montevideo Consensus. During the two-day Conference, Governments from the region presented and reported on the progress of the chapters including Chapter H (see <https://crpd.cepal.org/5m/en>). A related side event was also held during the Conference (please see more info below). The link can be found here: <https://crpd.cepal.org/5m/en/programme/side-event-vision-and-contributions-indigenous-peoples-montevideo-consensus-intercultural>

On 10 August, the first session of the Implementation and Compliance Support Committee of the Conference of the Parties of Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean – known as the Escazú Agreement, took place at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago. ECLAC serves as secretariat of the Escazú Agreement (adopted on 4 March 2018 and in force since 22 April 2021), the first regional environmental treaty and the first worldwide to include specific provisions for the promotion and protection of human rights defenders in environmental matters. Also, on 31 August, the Open virtual meeting of the open-ended ad hoc Working Group on human rights defenders in environmental matters took place in Santiago. The objective of this meeting was for the coordinators of the Working Group to share the results of the consultation of the annotated index of the Action Plan on human rights defenders in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean and the proposals to improve the index on the basis of the same in order to advance in the preparation of the draft regional action plan. The proposal by the Working Group included a review of good practices for incorporating the gender perspective and approach intersectional, and intercultural, especially considering Indigenous Peoples in prevention and protection mechanisms, and a review of good practices for incorporating the gender perspective and approach intersectional, and intercultural, especially considering Indigenous Peoples in prevention and protection mechanisms. The Second Annual Forum on Human Rights Defenders in Environmental Matters took place in Panama City, Panama from 26-28 September.

iv. Has your entity responded to the 2022 UNPFII recommendation¹ paragraph 85... *The Permanent Forum urges all United Nations entities and States Parties to treaties concerning the environment, biodiversity and the climate to eliminate the use of the term “local communities” in conjunction with indigenous peoples, so that the term “indigenous peoples and local communities” would be abolished.* If yes, please explain your response in further detail.

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

i. The Permanent Forum will follow up on progress made on the SWAP implementation as part of its discussion on the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples during its 2024 session. Please provide an analysis of actions taken by your agency, fund and/or programme on the six key elements of the SWAP, since your last update to the Forum.

The promotion and advocacy for the rights of Indigenous Peoples continues to be reinforced in the work of ECLAC, and is strongly reflected in position documents, thematic reports, policy briefs, resolutions and intergovernmental agreements of the subsidiary bodies and intergovernmental meetings of ECLAC, in particular in the Regional Conference on Population and Development of Latin America and the Caribbean (CRPD), the Regional Conference on Women, the Statistical Conference of the Americas, the Regional Conference on Social Development and the Regional Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing and the Rights of Older Persons in Latin America and the Caribbean. The different regional agendas adopted by ECLAC Member States in relation to women, social development, population and development, among others, include specific measures addressing the situation of Indigenous Peoples in the region.

In the sphere of the right to information, ECLAC also continues to strengthen national capacities for the inclusion and increasing visibility of Indigenous Peoples in national statistics, particularly in censuses, working with both public agencies and organizations of Indigenous Peoples. During 2023, technical assistance was carried out through a mix of virtual meetings and in-person field missions, as well as through training courses for the use and analysis of information with a focus on Indigenous Peoples and gender perspective. The website of the virtual platform to contribute to the regional follow-up of the Montevideo Consensus continues to be consistently updated (<https://consensomontevideo.cepal.org/en>).

Likewise, ECLAC continues to participate in various meetings, disseminating findings and recommendations from its most recent studies. In addition, the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, which was established at the thirty-sixth session of ECLAC, held in Mexico City in 2016, which is a regional mechanism to follow-up and review the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the SDGs, its means of implementation, and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, subsequently endorsed by the United Nations Economic and Social Council, provides a platform to discuss among others things, issues of concerns related to Indigenous Peoples.

¹ E/2022/43-E/C.19/2022/11

C. 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

i. Please describe any activities your entity has organized since the last reporting period to accelerate progress across a range of SDGs, demonstrating the interlinkages across goals and targets and if applicable, providing examples of translating global goals into local actions. In your response, please consider referring to SDGs relevant to the theme of the 2024 session of the Forum.

ii. Please describe any activities your entity organized in support of the 2023 UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and SDG Summit and/or reports and activities that supported SDG reporting and monitoring or a VNR process at the national, regional, or global level.

Please also include an executive summary of your inputs to the three main questions above (strict 500-word limit) which will be used for our compilation report submitted to the 2024 session of the PFII.

One of the main challenges for the inclusion of Indigenous Peoples in the 2030 Agenda is related to the availability of information for the implementation, monitoring and accountability of its objectives, as established by target 17.18. In this vein, during 2023, the following activities were carried out.

During 2023, technical assistance for the preparation or evaluation of the 2020 round of censuses to several countries in the region, particularly in Panama and Uruguay. The perspective of Indigenous Peoples is considered in the review of census questionnaires (including the indigenous self-identification questions as well as the cultural adaptation of different topics), as well as for the entire census process, emphasizing the participation of Indigenous Peoples. In the case of Chile, ECLAC is part of the committee of experts for intercultural participation in the upcoming 2024 census.

During the year, three documents were published: "Towards a transformative economic recovery in Latin America-Abya Yala: Challenges to guarantee the collective rights of indigenous peoples", which among issues examines the autonomous governance of Indigenous Peoples' territories as a key factor for a sustainable recovery (<https://www.cepal.org/es/publicaciones/48792-recuperacion-economica-transformadora-america-latina-abya-yala-desafios>); "The incorporation of indigenous ethnic origin in the administrative records of Mexico City" which focuses on analyzing the potential of administrative records as a valuable source of data disaggregated by indigenous ethnic origin (<https://repositorio.cepal.org/items/4dcd765c-48e3-4807-afd5-ac0331b69d60>); and "Structural gaps in well-being and the new rurality in Mexico: comparative assessment with three Latin American countries" which proposes relevant policies to contribute to reducing poverty and social and rural inequality in Mexico (<https://www.cepal.org/es/publicaciones/48783-brechas-estructurales-bienestar-la-nueva-ruralidad-mexico-diagnostico>)

The 2023 edition of the *Social Panorama of Latin America and the Caribbean* publication will focus on the world of work, specifically examining Indigenous Peoples' economies and the challenges they face in developing their own economies.

Within the framework of the meeting which took place in Santiago (26-28 April), following the publication of the study entitled "Towards a transformative economic recovery in Latin America-Abya Yala: Challenges to guarantee the collective rights of indigenous people", representatives from Indigenous Peoples' organizations participated in numerous work groups which explored the above theme. ECLAC took part in a side event which examined the decisive role in a transformative economic recovery agenda in countries

of the region if Indigenous Peoples' collective rights are effectively guaranteed and the development of their own economies is promoted.

ECLAC also contributed to the report entitled "Promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace" (as per General Assembly resolution 76/69) which discussed the increasing statistical visibility of Indigenous Peoples in the Latin America and Caribbean region and the role of indigenous Peoples in the fight against climate change.

Finally, during 2023 CELADE-Population and Development Division of ECLAC participated in several meetings in this sphere, making substantive presentations, contributing with policy recommendations. Among them: "The power and participation of indigenous women", organized by ECMIA (Continental Link of Indigenous Women) (23 March); "Opportunities in Latin America and the Caribbean for the integration of biodiversity, sustainable agriculture and the transformative action of women, indigenous peoples and local communities, as well as subnational governments, to advance Goals 5, 14 and 15" (13 July); UNESCO side event on the launch of a study on Indigenous Media in relation to Article 16 of UNDRIP (19 July); "10-Year Virtual Dialogue of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development: Reaffirming the commitment to compliance with the Rights of Indigenous Peoples" (5 September); "Contributions of the Vision of Indigenous Peoples Towards the United Nations Summit of the Future" (6 September); within the framework of the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples, "International Forum on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples of the Andean Community, making a presentation on the "Situation and Perspectives of Indigenous Peoples in the Countries of the Andean Community" (9 August); and "Vision and contributions of Indigenous Peoples to the Montevideo Consensus from an intercultural approach towards 2050", within the framework of the Fifth Meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Population and Development, Extraordinary Session "10 years of the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development" (13 November).