



INDIGENOUS PEOPLES INDIGENOUS VOICES

**Training of Trainers  
on Indigenous Peoples' Issues**  
ILO International Training Centre, Turin  
8-11 June 2009

**Guiding Principles for Effective Participation  
by Indigenous Peoples**



United Nations

United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

# Overview

The background of the slide features a large, faint watermark. It consists of a globe with a grid of latitude and longitude lines. A laurel wreath, a symbol of honor or victory, encircles the globe. In the center of the globe, there is a map of a landmass, and a hand is shown pointing to a specific location on that map.

- Including indigenous peoples' issues in country analysis
- Guiding principles
- What exactly does FPIC involve?

# **Include indigenous peoples' issues in country or situation analysis!**

- Are indigenous peoples adequately included in the country analysis and strategies for poverty reduction and in the MDG Report?
- Are indigenous peoples' rights included in the general discussion on human rights issues?
- Has the country ratified any human rights or other treaties of specific relevance to indigenous peoples? If so, which ones?
- If so, are indigenous peoples included in the reporting processes and in the implementation of recommendations of human rights treaty bodies or the ILO supervisory bodies?

## **Include indigenous peoples' issues in country or situation analysis!**

- Are indigenous peoples involved in other human rights monitoring mechanisms (e.g., visits by Special Rapporteurs of the Human Rights Council)?
- Are there any public institutions (including national human rights commissions or statutory bodies responsible for indigenous affairs etc) or civil society organizations with a track record for facilitating indigenous peoples' participation and development?



# Guiding principles for effective participation

- Mutual respect and consent, transparency and accountability among partners
- Convergence and common understanding of substantial objectives, strategies, activities, outputs and expected impacts between and among the partners rather than separate institutional objectives
- Focus on strengthening indigenous peoples' participation and influence in policy and decision-making processes
- Focus on capacity development, its conceptualization and design as a long-term process with clear progression and benchmarks

# Guiding principles for effective participation (cont.)

- Capacity development is most effective when it involves all parties, e.g. indigenous peoples, UN system, government officials, other relevant actors, public in general;
- Joint planning, implementation and evaluation with partners: understand partnerships as shared learning processes, document the experiences and lessons learned and share with other partners, across countries and regions
- Make UN more accessible; more proactive outreach by UN

# Key elements of FPIC: Free and Prior

- Consent ≠ consultation!
- **Free**: No coercion, intimidation of manipulation
- **Prior**:
  - Sufficiently in advance of any authorization or commencement of activities
  - Respects time requirements of indigenous consultation/consensus processes

# Key elements of FPIC: Informed

- Information provided and properly discussed on (at least) the following aspects:
  - The nature, size, pace, reversibility and scope of any proposed project or activity
  - The reasons or purpose of the project/activity
  - The duration
  - The locality of areas that will be affected
  - Preliminary assessment of likely economic, social, cultural and environmental impact
  - Personnel likely to be involved in the execution of the project
  - Procedures that the project may entail



# Key elements of FPIC: Consent

- Consultation and participation are crucial components of a consent process
- Consultation should be undertaken in good faith, in an atmosphere of mutual respect
- Full and equitable participation
- Right to say “no”

# Thank you very much!

## **Secretariat of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues**

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