



INDIGENOUS PEOPLES INDIGENOUS VOICES

Training of Trainers on Indigenous Peoples' Issues

ILO International Training Centre, Turin
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Making the MDGs More Relevant for Indigenous Peoples



United Nations

United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Overview

- Critical perspectives on the MDGs
- UNPFII recommendations on MDGs
- Some examples of indigenous peoples' perspectives on each goal

Some critical perspectives on the MDGs... (UNPFII 4th and 5th sessions)

- The MDGs take a compartmentalized approach, not a holistic view of human development
- MDGs often look only at national averages
- MDGs and progress indicators do not capture indigenous peoples' priorities incl. rights to lands, territories and resources (survival and identity)
- MDG efforts may threaten indigenous peoples: accelerated conversion of land for agriculture, exclusion from ancestral lands and territories, forced assimilation, forced adoption or disturbance of gender values, roles and traditions

UNPFII Recommendations

- MDG-related interventions should capture indigenous perspectives and priorities
- Use of appropriate indicators on issues that really matter to indigenous peoples
- Include indigenous peoples in the planning of the overall MDG Report
- Include situation of indigenous peoples in the context of MDG Reports
- Include indigenous peoples in the context of meeting each specific goal
- Effective indigenous peoples' participation in planning process of future interventions, and in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of programmes and projects

Indigenous Perspectives on each goal: Poverty reduction

- Disaggregated data to assess situations of indigenous peoples
- Revise indicators to reflect indigenous peoples' own perceptions and aspirations
- Recognition of indigenous peoples' rights to territories and resources
- Respect for indigenous peoples' own institutions and judicial system
- Indigenous peoples' own poverty reduction strategies to be taken into account
- Full participation of indigenous peoples in development processes, including national and local planning exercises and decision-making

IP Perspectives on each goal:

Education

- Link educational quality to indigenous languages, cultures and traditional knowledge (multi-cultural and multi-lingual education)
- Incorporate indigenous community-based education systems into the education curricula
- Role of elders and women in maintaining indigenous languages and cultures
- The Western paradigm of schooling has not benefited indigenous peoples culturally, spiritually and economically, and educational policies should address indigenous peoples' rights and needs for meeting this goal

IP Perspectives on each goal: Gender

- Goal 3 (gender equality) cannot be met with a singular focus on girls' education, and should be expanded to address: reproductive and sexual health and rights, violence against women, women's labor and property rights, and the reduction of women's work burden by guaranteeing access to resources such as technology, sanitation, water, housing, electricity and transportation
- The role of indigenous women as stewards of indigenous lands and custodians of environmental, technical, scientific, cultural and spiritual knowledge, preserving cultural heritages, important producers of food in communities and custodians of biodiversity for many of the world's ecosystems, must be acknowledged and strengthened
- Indigenous women's expertise must be reflected in all national and international development strategies and indigenous women, in consultation with their communities and organizations, must be part of the formulation and decision-making processes of sustainable development initiatives

IP Perspectives on each goal:

Health

- Information on reproductive issues to be culturally appropriate
- Health-related information to be provided in languages and ways that can be understood
- Indigenous health perspectives and systems, including the use of traditional health practitioners and medicine, to be taken into account and understood by health workers
- Qualified indigenous people to participate in designing, administering and managing their own healthcare programmes

IP Perspectives on each goal: Partnerships for Development

- Indigenous peoples' own governance systems and secure land tenure to be recognized
- Targeted programmes, budget allocations and benchmarks for indigenous peoples
- Indigenous perspectives to be integrated not only in MDGs but also in bilateral cooperation
- Indigenous peoples to participate effectively in processes of international financial institutions with a view of influencing their policies on issues that affect them.

Thank you very much!

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