

Questionnaire to UN system

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

The United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (PFII) was established by 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 with 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 inter-governmental 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), the 2030 Development Agenda and COVID-19 recovery efforts.

The responses will be compiled into two separate reports for the 2022 session of the Permanent Forum: (a) System-Wide Action Plan on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: Implementation by the United Nations System; and (b) Update on the Indigenous Peoples and the 2030 Agenda. 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/>

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

Please submit your completed questionnaire by **15 November 2021** 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
Telephone: +1-917-367-5100
Email: indigenous_un@un.org and requesens@un.org

Questionnaire

Please provide information on the following:

A. Recommendations of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and input to the 2022 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.

ii. The theme of the 2022 PFII session is “Indigenous peoples, business, autonomy and the human rights principles of due diligence, including free, prior and informed consent”¹. Please include information on any publications, projects, reports, or activities relevant to this theme.

i. ECLAC has continued to carry out actions related to the recommendations of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, in synergy 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 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 these groups 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. With regards to the theme of the 2022 PFII session, related to “Indigenous peoples, business, autonomy and the human rights principles of due diligence, including free, prior and informed consent.”, ECLAC is developing the project “Social inequality and the future of workers in Latin America in the context of post-pandemic recovery”, with the support of the Ford Foundation, which includes a regional study on indigenous peoples and labour market, including their traditional activities and their own organizational models, considering opportunities and challenges for the COVID-19 response and recovery policies under the change in the development paradigm. During this year a workshop with indigenous people's organizations was held to exchange ideas and collect visions in order to define the contents and approach of the study; and other

¹ See Annex 1. Agenda of the twenty-first session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

participatory workshop will be held next year to discuss findings (inputs will be incorporated in analysis).

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

Background

As per the Outcome Document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples (A/RES/69/2), a [system-wide action plan to ensure a coherent approach to achieving the ends of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#) was adopted in November 2015 and launched by the Secretary-General at the UN Permanent Forum in May 2016.

In August 2020, the United Nations Executive Committee agreed on the need for accelerated and collective action to strengthen the implementation of the SWAP on indigenous peoples. In November 2020, the United Nations Chief Executives Board for Coordination issued a [Call to Action: Building an Inclusive, Sustainable and Resilient Future with Indigenous Peoples](#). Its goal is to ensure collaborative and coherent UN system action to support the rights and well-being of indigenous peoples with a focus on furthering the implementation of the SWAP².

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 2022 session. Please provide analysis on actions taken by your agency, fund and/or programme on the six key elements of the SWAP, since your last update to the Forum³. Please also include an executive summary (600-word limit).

During the last decade, the promotion of the rights of indigenous peoples has been strengthened in the work of ECLAC, and is reflected in position documents, 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. In addition, the recent regional treaty “Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean” (Escazú, Costa Rica, 2018), explicitly includes indigenous peoples. The different regional agendas adopted by ECLAC member states in relation to

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

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.

women, social development, population and development, among others, include specific measures addressing the situation of indigenous peoples in the region.

In the area of the right to information, ECLAC has continued to strengthen national capacities for the inclusion of the indigenous peoples' approach in national statistics, particularly in censuses, working with both public agencies and organizations of indigenous peoples. In this area, during 2021 technical assistance was carried out through virtual meetings, as well as through training courses for the use and analysis of information with a focus on indigenous peoples and gender perspective.

Likewise, ECLAC has participated in various meetings disseminating findings and recommendations from the latest 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 SDG, 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.

Finally, the situation of indigenous peoples and their contribution to change the development paradigm is an issue present in the various communications from ECLAC (see for example <https://www.cepal.org/es/comunicados/cepal-pueblos-indigenas-poseen-la-llave-maestra-recuperacion-transformadora-base-sus>). The Executive Secretary of the ECLAC has received the Decoration of the Order "El Quinto Sol" for her unconditional commitment to promoting the rights of indigenous peoples. The distinction, awarded in the framework of the XV General Assembly of FILAC, highlights the work carried out by Alicia Bárcena in the search for a more equitable, respectful and intercultural world (<https://www.cepal.org/es/noticias/secretaria-ejecutiva-la-cepal-recibe-condecoracion-la-orden-quinto-sol-su-compromiso>).

C. 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

- i. Please provide information on the main gaps and challenges your entity has identified for indigenous peoples in achieving the 2030 Agenda.
- ii. What activities have your entity undertaken since the last reporting that addresses these gaps and challenges?
- iii. Please describe any activities that your entity organized in support of the 2021 UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and/or reports and activities that supported SDG reporting and monitoring or a VNR process at the national, regional, or global level.

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 sense, during 2021 the following activities have been carried out.

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- During 2021, technical assistance for the preparation or evaluation of the 2020 round of censuses to several countries in the region: Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Honduras, Panama, Paraguay and Uruguay. In all cases, the approach 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 2023 census.
- Updating of the document "Recommendations for population and housing censuses in Latin America" (in process of publication), which includes guidance on self-identification, questions on indigenous languages and ethnic approach.
- Regional Seminar "The inclusion of indigenous and Afro-descendant peoples in health information systems in the framework of the COVID-19 pandemic", carried out with PAHO and UNFPA on September 8 and 9, 2021, was widely attended by Latin American countries, giving continuity to the process of strengthening the production of quality information with an ethnic approach to guide the definition, implementation, and monitoring of health policies, in accordance with the standards of individual and collective rights of indigenous peoples. More than a hundred professionals and technicians from statistical institutes, ministries of Health and international organizations participated in the meeting, as well as members of indigenous organizations and other specialists involved in the subject of health information systems in the region. A document with results and recommendation is being preparing and it will be published early 2022.

Within the framework of the Fourth Meeting of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development (March 15 to 18, 2021), the side event "Towards an inclusive and sustainable recovery of COVID-19: rights, needs and contributions of the indigenous peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean" was organized by ECLAC and the United Nations Development Coordination Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (UNDCO LAC). Also, ECLAC participated as a speaker in the side event "Situation of the Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean in follow-up to the implementation of the SDGs in the context of Covid-19: voluntary national reports", organized by FILAC.

D. COVID-19 pandemic

- i. Please provide information on action taken by your agency, fund and/or programme since your last update to the Forum, to address the COVID-19 pandemic and its effects on indigenous peoples.

During 2021, ECLAC has continued to emphasize in different forums and events that structural inequalities that have affected indigenous peoples constitute the main factor of vulnerability of these peoples in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, with a particular impact on women, youth and children. On the other hand, indigenous peoples have articulated multiple collective

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responses to confront the pandemic and areas of insufficient public attention. Against this background, ECLAC has promoted a series of recommendations aimed at improving the containment of the impacts of the pandemic and achieving a transformative recovery, as in the document “The impact of COVID-19 on indigenous peoples in Latin America (Abya Yala): Between invisibility and collective resistance” published on March 2021 (<https://www.cepal.org/en/publications/46698-impact-covid-19-indigenous-peoples-latin-america-abya-yala-between-invisibility>). Also, this issue is being included in the 2021 edition of Social Panorama of Latin America (to be published in December), considering new data about the mortality impact on indigenous peoples in some countries with available data and the situation of vaccination.

Classes related to the use and analysis of indicators related to indigenous peoples have been given in Diploma on “Strengthening the Leadership of Indigenous Women. Emphasis: competencies to mitigate the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic”, organized by the Intercultural Indigenous University, FILAC and others; and in the “Global School of Indigenous Women's Leadership Eighth edition of the International Program on Human Rights and Advocacy Strategies”, organized by the International Fund for Indigenous Women (FIMI). Moreover, lectures on generating indicators, censuses, statistics and disaggregated sociodemographic data were offered in the “Specialized course on Indigenous Peoples, Human Rights and International Cooperation” organized by the University Carlos III de Madrid, the Intercultural Indigenous University and FILAC.

Finally, during 2021 CELADE- Population and Development Division of ECLAC participated in several meetings in this field, making substantive presentations, contributing with policy recommendations and alerting on the situations of indigenous peoples in the face of COVID-19. Among them: Side event "One year later - How Indigenous Peoples are adapting to the implementation of the SDGs in times of COVID, challenges and opportunities", organized by FILAC and held within the framework of the High Level Forum for the SDGs (9 of July); Seminar "The impact of COVID-19 on indigenous populations in Mexico: multidimensionality of challenges, resilience mechanisms and opportunities for the future", organized by the National Institute of Public Health of Mexico, UNFPA and Population Council (April 20); International seminar "The Brazilian covid-19 epidemic is not just a viral event", organized by the Institute for Advanced Studies of the University of São Paulo and others (July 26 and 27); event "Indigenous women: agent of change in socio-environmental management in Latin America and the Caribbean", organized by the Regional Working Group on Gender and Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean (groups of the Forum of Ministers of the Environment Environment), with the support of UNEP (August 31, 2021); II Meeting of High Authorities of Ibero-America with Indigenous Peoples: "Progress and Challenges for the implementation of the Action Plan towards the first evaluation of 2022", organized by FILAC (October 27).

Thank you very much

ANNEX 1

Agenda of the twenty-first session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

The Twentieth-First session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues is scheduled to take place from **25 April to 6 May 2022**

Provisional Agenda

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Discussion on the theme “Indigenous peoples, business, autonomy and the human rights principles of due diligence, including free, prior and informed consent”.
4. Discussion on the six mandated areas of the Permanent Forum (economic and social development, culture, environment, education, health, and human rights), with reference to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
5. Dialogues:
 - (a) Dialogue with indigenous peoples;
 - (b) Dialogue with Member States;

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(c) Dialogue with the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes;

(d) Human rights dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples and the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;

(e) Regional dialogues: Indigenous peoples and pandemic recovery;

(f) Thematic dialogues: International Decade of Indigenous Languages 2022–2032.

6. Future work of the Permanent Forum, including issues considered by the Economic and Social Council and emerging issues.

7. Provisional agenda of the twenty-second session of the Permanent Forum.

8. Adoption of the report of the Permanent Forum on its twenty-first session.