



INDIGENOUS PEOPLES INDIGENOUS VOICES

# Empowering Indigenous Peoples

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# Outline

- **Disempowering Indigenous Peoples;**
- **UN Declaration as a basis for empowering Indigenous Peoples;**
- **Indigenous Peoples and Decent work;**
- **Policies shift;**
- **Strategies for empowering indigenous peoples.**

# Disempowering Indigenous Peoples

## Indigenous peoples:

- 370 million in some 70 countries (UNFPA).
- 5% of the world's population,
- 5% of the world's poor (IFAD).

## Concepts:

terra nullius - public domain - national interests promote dispossession of lands, territories and knowledge systems.

# UN Declaration as a basis for empowering Indigenous Peoples

- UNDRIP framework for empowering Indigenous Peoples.
- UNDRIP does not confer new rights.
- UNDRIP affirms the social, political, economic, cultural and political rights recognized by other international instruments.
- Indigenous Peoples' rights are NOT special rights

# Indigenous Peoples and Decent work

- NO specific policy document
- ILO Convention No. 169 overcomes discrimination of indigenous peoples but NOT indigenous peoples in the work place.
- ILO 169 is one of the least ratified conventions, with only 22 ratifications to date.
  - Majority: Latin American countries.
  - Asia: Nepal and Fiji
  - Africa: Central African Republic

# Policies shift

- *Recognition "how do you empower that which you do not recognize"?*
- *Two-way capacity building*
- *Development of Indigenous Peoples by states and UN agencies:*
  - UNDRIP,
  - UNDG Guidelines on Indigenous Issues,
  - IASG
  - Other UN agencies are yet to develop policies.

## Strategies for empowering indigenous peoples

- Development of a collective, shared vision.
- Accelerated recognition of rights will reduce marginalization.
- Provision of quality education to indigenous children.
- Partnerships for development .
- Indigenous Peoples entrepreneurship programs .

# continuation...

- Mechanisms for the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples.
- Good governance.
- New forms technology and social media.





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# Thank you

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