

## Questionnaire to UN system

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

The United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues 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 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; and prepare and disseminate information on indigenous issues.

The Permanent Forum's report of the sixteenth session of 2017 includes a number of recommendations within its mandated areas, some of which are addressed to UN system agencies, funds and programmes (attached).

The report can be found at:

<https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/news/2017/06/new-16th-session-report-unpfii/>

The 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 and other relevant issues.

The responses will be compiled into two separate reports for the April 2018 session of the Permanent Forum: (a) Compilation of information received from the UN system and other entities on progress in implementation of PFII recommendations; and (b) Implementation of the System Wide Action Plan on Indigenous Peoples.

All responses will be placed on the DESA/DSPD 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 **29 December 2017** to:  
Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues  
Division for Social Policy and Development  
Department of Economic and Social Affairs  
Room: S-2954  
United Nations Headquarters  
New York, USA 10017  
Telephone: 917-367-5100  
Email: [indigenous\\_un@un.org](mailto:indigenous_un@un.org) and [sigurdarson@un.org](mailto:sigurdarson@un.org)

The seventeenth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues will be held at United Nations Headquarters from **16 to 27 April 2018**.

## Questionnaire

The theme of the Permanent Forum's session in 2018 will be:  
**“Indigenous peoples’ collective rights to lands, territories and resources”**

### Introduction

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) continues its work and engagement with indigenous peoples<sup>1</sup> grounded in its overall vision to assist countries achieve the simultaneous eradication of poverty and significant reduction of inequalities and exclusion. This involves the three main areas of our work, consisting of developing sustainable development pathways, strengthening inclusive and effective democratic governance and peacebuilding, and building resilience, particularly from conflicts and natural disasters. In addition, UNDP's work on indigenous peoples is guided and shaped by the international human rights standards and principles, and particularly the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).

Engagement with indigenous peoples has been a focus area within UNDP's overall mission to mainstream a human rights-based approach into its development policies and programmes, its global advocacy efforts to fight discrimination and support marginalized minorities, as well as in its long-standing engagement with civil society. UNDP greatly values the contributions of indigenous peoples to humanity's cultural diversity and heritage, climate change solutions and shares their concerns about economic and social disadvantages and weak political representation. UNDP's new Strategic Plan 2018 – 2021 signature solution for partner countries on “promoting nature-based solutions for a sustainable planet” specifically makes reference to “addressing finance, tenure, water and land rights, with a clear understanding of the differentiated impacts, access and contributions of women and men and also of indigenous communities [which] will be critical”<sup>2</sup>.

As a trusted multilateral partner serving in 177 countries and territories around the world, UNDP is uniquely positioned to help advocate for the creation of spaces for the meaningful participation of indigenous peoples at the local, national, regional and international levels to ensure that their voices are heard and that they contribute to policy-making and monitor policy implementation. Thus, guaranteeing access to opportunities and supporting an enabling environment, in which indigenous peoples are empowered and can develop their full potential to lead dignified lives in harmony with their world vision, are at the core of UNDP's work.

Since the creation of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII), UNDP has been closely engaging with the UNPFII and following up on its recommendations in accordance with its mandate. This document/questionnaire addresses the questions presented by the Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in preparation of the 17th session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, and encompasses UNDP's progress towards recommendations made by the Permanent Forum, implementation of the UN System Wide

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<sup>1</sup> UNDP affirms that there is no one universally accepted definition of indigenous peoples. The term “indigenous peoples” refers to distinct collectives, regardless of the local, national and regional terms applied to them, who satisfy any of the more commonly accepted definitions of indigenous peoples. Depending on the national context, indigenous peoples are referred to as “tribal people”, “first peoples”, “scheduled tribes”, “pastoralists”, “hill peoples” and also “ethnic groups/minorities”.

<sup>2</sup> UNDP Strategic Plan 2018 – 2021 p13.

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Action Plan for ensuring a coherent approach to achieving the ends of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (SWAP) and mainstreaming the principles and standards contained in UNDRIP as well as other human rights instruments as they relate to indigenous peoples in 2017.

Furthermore UNDP applies Social and Environmental Standards (SES) which are mandatory for all UNDP projects<sup>3</sup>. The application of social and environmental safeguards and related grievance mechanisms provide tools to navigate through this complexity and ensure that integrated development solutions are identified early on and that programming does not result in inadvertent harm or conflict. The SES are comprised of several elements: the Overarching Policy and Principles, Project-Level Standards, and the Policy Delivery Process. The Project-Level Standards further support implementation of UNDP's commitments to promote respect for human rights, gender equality, and environmental sustainability and relate to areas such as sustainable natural resource management, displacement and resettlement, cultural heritage and indigenous peoples.

**Please provide information on the following:**

### **A. Recommendations of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues**

*With respect to the implementation of the recommendations of the Permanent Forum addressed specifically to your agency, fund and/or programme:*<sup>4</sup>

- i. Please provide information on measures taken or planned to implement the recommendations of the Permanent Forum addressed specifically to your organization.*

As there are no recommendations addressed specifically to UNDP, we address here the general recommendations to the UN System and how UNDP takes them forward.

UNDP cooperates with and supports States and indigenous peoples at country level on national action plans, strategies and other measures that aim to achieve the ends of the Declaration (for details cf. point 2); promotes implementation of the SDGs with and for indigenous peoples from both its global and country level work; engages and supports not only the Permanent Forum's indigenous media zone but contributes to advocacy and communication with and for indigenous peoples through its programmes (cf. below on the Equator Initiative and beyond); and is jointly with other UN entities technically and financially supporting the implementation of the SWAP in Ecuador upon request of the UN Resident Coordinator.

- ii. What are the enabling factors that facilitate your agency's implementation of the Forum's recommendations?*

N/A as no recommendations addressed specifically to UNDP. Please see the introduction for general enabling factors.

- iii. What are some of the obstacles your agency has encountered in implementing the recommendations of the Permanent Forum?*

N/A as no recommendations addressed specifically to UNDP.

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<sup>3</sup> UNDP SES at <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/operations/social-and-environmental-sustainability-in-undp/SES.html>

<sup>4</sup> See attached document entitled 'Recommendations addressed to the UN Agencies' to facilitate your responses.

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

*As requested in the Outcome Document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples (2014), a system-wide action plan (SWAP) 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. The Permanent Forum will follow up on progress made in the implementation of the system-wide action plan during its 2018 session.<sup>5</sup> For ease of reference, the questions have been framed under the six key elements of the SWAP-Indigenous Peoples as follows:*

#### **1. Raising awareness of the UN Declaration**

*Please provide information on any activities that raise awareness of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, including key messages, advocacy and other media and outreach initiatives. Please provide information on publications, films, audio material, maps, or other materials that feature or focus on the UN Declaration and on indigenous peoples. Please also provide links to the relevant websites and other sources.*

UNDP contributes to the IASG SWAP communication group and efforts for harmonized and system wide messaging and awareness raising on the UNDRIP, contributing to system wide advocacy and social media as well as widely sharing stories on indigenous peoples, especially on International Day for Indigenous Peoples (see for example <https://stories.undp.org/10-things-we-all-should-know-about-indigenous-people>).

UNDP's Equator Initiative brings together the United Nations, governments, civil society, businesses and grassroots organizations to recognize and advance local sustainable development solutions for people, nature and resilient communities. In 2017 it raised awareness of the UN Declaration through knowledge products, blog posts and social media posts. Awareness raising events with media were organized at the Media Zone during the Ocean Conference and the UN General Assembly to raise awareness of the value of local and indigenous communities for the SDGS.

#### **Blog Posts**

##### *i. The Power of Women and Indigenous Peoples to Achieve Better Growth with Forests*

Women in forest dependent communities and indigenous peoples have unique experiences, uses and knowledge of forest resources that can help advance forest protection and production.

<https://www.tfa2020.org/en/power-women-indigenous-peoples-achieve-better-growth-forests/>

##### *ii. Celebrating indigenous peoples as nature's stewards*

As indigenous peoples and policy makers celebrate the 10th anniversary of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, we should remember and highlight Article 29 of this Declaration: "Indigenous peoples have the right to conservation and protection of the environment." We should also remember that this is not only a fundamental right of indigenous peoples, but also one of our best hopes to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals for people, planet and prosperity.

<http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/blog/2017/5/2/Celebrating-Indigenous-Peoples-as-nature-s-stewards-.html>

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<sup>5</sup> See Report of the 15<sup>th</sup> session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (E/2016/43) at para. 73.

### iii. Community Action Will Drive SDG Achievement

Indigenous Peoples and local communities are showing that actions on SDG 14, and in particular on sustainable fisheries, can help countries and communities simultaneously address many of the SDGs.

<http://sdg.iisd.org/commentary/guest-articles/community-action-will-drive-sdg-achievement/>

### iv. 3 lessons from Equator Prize 2017 winners

The initiatives we work with have taught us that action at the local level is essential to achieve sustainable development.

<http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/blog/2017/6/29/3-lessons-from-Equator-Prize-2017-winners.html>

## Social Media

**Equator Initiative**  
5 de mayo de 2017 · 🌐

In words of Eva Gurria, from UNDP's Equator Initiative, "As indigenous peoples and policy makers celebrate the 10th anniversary of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, we should remember that the right to conservation and protection of the environment is not only a fundamental right of indigenous peoples, but also one of our best hopes to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals". Read the full blog here: <http://www.undp.org/.../Celebrating-Indigenous-Peoples-as-nat...>



**Celebrating indigenous peoples as nature's stewards**  
In recent weeks we've marked several milestones for planetary wellbeing. The first was the 47th anniversary of Earth Day, a day where communities around the world gather to bring awareness of the importance of environmental stewardship. The...  
UNDP.ORG

👤 524 personas personas alcanzadas [Promocionar publicación](#)

👍👍 Diego Ochoa, Ana María Correa y 11 personas más 1 comentario

👍 Me gusta    💬 Comentar    ➦ Compartir

**Equator Initiative**  
9 de agosto de 2017 · 🌐

In observance of International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples this Wednesday 9 August, #UNDP and #EquatorInitiative commemorates the 10th Anniversary of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples #UNDRIP and honors the outstanding #IndigenousPeoples' initiatives that have earned the #EquatorPrize over the past 15 years. Indigenous peoples' rights must be respected to #LeaveNoOneBehind and meet the #SDGs #GlobalGoals! [goo.gl/DCUFu1](http://goo.gl/DCUFu1) #WeAreIndigenous #UN4Indigenous #UNDRIP



**Collective rights, the global commons, and Our Common Home**  
This year's International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples commemorates the tenth anniversary of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous...  
UNDP.ORG

👤 328 personas personas alcanzadas [Promocionar publicación](#)

## Side Event at the UN Permanent Forum

### *Climate Change, Traditional Knowledge, and the Rights of Indigenous Peoples:*

On April 28 UNDP's Equator Initiative side event focused on a series of presentations examining the role of traditional knowledge and the importance of indigenous peoples' rights in contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation. The event emphasized the powerful synergies among community and indigenous peoples' traditional knowledge and western scientific knowledge to produce effective climate change mitigation and adaptation solutions. Participants highlighted the challenges of food sovereignty/security and climate change for indigenous peoples resulting from the denial of land and water rights. They also highlighted the role of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) to protect the basic human rights of indigenous peoples as well as their rights to land, and freedom to pursue their

traditional cultural practices and sciences; stressing that the UNDRIP should be the minimum standard for SDGs and Paris Agreement operational frameworks.

### **2. Supporting the implementation of the UN Declaration, particularly at the country level**

*Please provide information on actions taken or planned by your agency, fund, programme, entity on the following:*

- i. Measures taken or planned to support national partners in reform and implementation of legal frameworks, policies, strategies and plans to implement the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, including any joint programming initiatives. Please also include information related to include indigenous women in your responses.*

UNDP implements a wealth of programmes in countries promoting UNDRIP and Indigenous Peoples, be it stand-alone targeted programmes or mainstreaming indigenous people's rights in programmes related to governance, environment and climate change, national planning, and other. Country cases as follows:

#### **Guatemala**

In the context of the Maya Programme in Guatemala<sup>6</sup>, implemented by three UN Agencies, UNICEF, OHCHR and UNDP, as well as the “Transforming Relations for Peace Building” project, UNDP supports state capacities to include indigenous leaders and organizations in decision making processes for issues that affect them. UNDP is also supporting advocacy processes that promote creating and implementing new legal frameworks, policies, strategies and plans related with indigenous people's rights. Furthermore, from the rights-holder perspective, UNDP supports indigenous peoples, mainly young people and women, to exercise active citizenship and participate effectively in decision-making processes at the community, municipal, departmental and national levels (i.e. support provided to 160 indigenous organizations for the discussion of constitutional reforms and legal pluralism based on the priorities established in the national agenda of indigenous peoples).

#### **Honduras**

UNDP in Honduras engaged on 3 main areas of work to support implementation of UNDRIP, with a focus on the region of La Moskitia.

##### *Strengthening indigenous peoples access to justice*

- Creation of a strategic alliance with the Special Prosecutor of Ethnic Groups and Cultural Patrimony of the Public Ministry of Honduras for the work of promoting spaces for dialogue and the generation of knowledge on the rights of indigenous and Afro-Honduran peoples so that justice operators improve the result of the actions that they execute in defense and promotion of this group.

- 75% of Honduran La Moskitia prosecutors have been trained in the rights of Indigenous People

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<sup>6</sup> [http://www.gt.undp.org/content/guatemala/es/home/operations/projects/democratic\\_governance/programa-maya.html](http://www.gt.undp.org/content/guatemala/es/home/operations/projects/democratic_governance/programa-maya.html)

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- Nearly half of the judges in La Moskitia have been trained in the rights of Indigenous Peoples

### *Insider Mediation capacity building*

The indigenous peoples of the Moskitia (Miskitos, Tawahkas, Pech and Garífunas) have been trained in methods and tools for the prevention and resolution of conflicts. The training has lasted 80 hours and the topics dealt with were: conflict analysis, negotiation, mediation, dialogue and facilitation. In total, around 50 leaders have been trained. The indigenous leaders of the 4 indigenous groups of La Moskitia trained in dialogue and mediation have formed a Network of Mediators, which serves as a community of practice and at the same time has the objective of accompanying dialogue and mediation processes, as well as advising the institutions indigenous peoples in alternative methods of conflict resolution. UNDP has been facilitating the meeting of the members of the Network every 2 months. In the meetings of the Network, conflicts in the territories are analyzed and proposals for solutions are made, experiences of mediation are shared and doubts are solved in the development of the practice of dialogue and mediation. The experience of forming a Conflict Resolution Committee in Wampusirpi has been replicated in Patuca and Mocerón, where a group of community leaders has been trained and they are already developing successful mediation processes. Additionally, another 7 communities have requested and are receiving training and support to form their own Conflict Resolution Committees.

Staff of the national institutions involved in dialogue topics that received training in dialogue and mediation are coordinating and facilitating the dialogue space of the Territorial Governance Platform of La Moskitia-inter-institutional dialogue space between government and indigenous peoples on the model of governance and development for the region.

Video of the process at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ix0yYeo6D\\_g&t=118s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ix0yYeo6D_g&t=118s)

### *Indigenous Peoples participation in the National Committee of Environmental and Social Safeguards (CONASASH) and in the construction of the National Safeguards Approach of Honduras*

Institutionalization of the full and effective participation of vulnerable groups such as the Indigenous and Afro-Honduran Peoples (among other groups) in the National Committee of Environmental and Social Safeguards (CONASASH), through an Act of formalization of CONASASH with the participation of Indigenous Peoples as full members and on equal terms with other actors. This resulted in the First National Safeguards Approach of Honduras having been validated with mechanisms of full and effective participation of Indigenous and Afro-Honduran Peoples built with the support of UNDP.

Furthermore, UNDP supported the visit of the Special Rapporteur for Indigenous Peoples to Honduras to accompany and provide technical advice on the process of building a national mechanism for prior consultation with Indigenous Peoples. Honduras now has solid recommendations on how to build an adequate mechanism to international standards in this area.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> Official report of the Office of the Rapporteur on the visit with the support of ILO and UNDP at <http://unsr.vtaulicorpuz.org/site/index.php/en/noti/noticias/183-visita-honduras>; Additional observations at

### **Mexico**

UNDP Mexico supports projects that promote effective participation, protection of the rights and well-being of indigenous peoples and communities, seeking to contribute to the implementation of UNDRIP and the SWAP with actions that facilitate dialogue and cooperation between state agents and indigenous peoples and communities.

In collaboration with the Electoral Tribunal of the Judicial Power of the Federation (TEPJF), UNDP Mexico implements the project "Good Practices for Access to Electoral Justice and the Promotion of the Culture of Legality", the which aims to bring electoral justice closer to citizens, with emphasis on indigenous communities and peoples, as well as the protection of women's political-electoral rights. Based on the mapping of good practices for access to electoral justice directed at indigenous peoples and the construction of institutional models, the Public Electoral Defender for Indigenous Peoples and Communities has initiated actions to implement the following recommendations:

- a) Promote a comprehensive policy of inclusion of actions t to promote equity and non-discrimination in political-electoral matters;
- b) Conduct expert reports with a pluricultural approach, and provide access to interpreters and translators of indigenous languages to promote access to justice.

In addition to the above, the creation of an indigenous Advisory Council was recommended to guide and accompany the design and execution of the actions of the TEPJF, to promote greater indigenous inclusion in the electoral protection body. Dialogues will be held between officials and representatives of indigenous peoples and communities in order to define the priority issues, the mechanisms to support access to justice and the way in which permanent collaboration can be established.

### ***Country support through the GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP)***

Indigenous peoples remain a priority stakeholder group for the UNDP-implemented GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP). In 2017, SGP has continued to promote numerous efforts that support the implementation of the UNDRIP, namely: (i) indigenous peoples' and local community conserved territories and areas (ICCAs) as a contribution to the CBD 2020 Aichi targets; (ii) co-management and shared governance of protected areas, including through the replication of the Community Management of Protected Areas Conservation (COMPACT) programme with support from the UNESCO World Heritage Convention; (iii) connectivity conservation through bio-corridor and landscape approaches; (iv) respect for traditional knowledge (TK), customary law and practices; (v) access to sustainable sources of energy; as well as (vi) to secure rights to land and natural resources, including genetic resources.

During the GEF reporting period from 2016-2017, some 141 SGP projects have included indigenous peoples (IPs), which represents approximately 19% of the total portfolio of completed SGP projects. Efforts have continued to foster agility in SGP grant-making and management, with 26 Country Programme Strategy (CPS) documents which mention the role of IPs in the governance and decision-making of National Steering Committees (NSCs), including 39 national CPS frameworks which refer to enhanced outreach with indigenous

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<http://unsr.vtaulicorpuz.org/site/images/docs/special/2017-06-09-honduras-unsr-additional-observations.pdf>; and press release at <http://hn.one.un.org/content/unct/honduras/es/home/presscenter/comunicado-de-la-relatora-especial-sobre-los-derechos-de-los-pue.html>

peoples' networks at the national level. At least 1,059 indigenous leaders have benefitted from higher capacities to conceptualize, organize and implement projects that provide for concrete actions to meet their needs, as well as for strong representation in policy advocacy. At the national, regional and international levels, the SGP has promoted the participation of indigenous peoples involvement in environmental governance through new strategic initiatives including: (i) the SGP OP6 Indigenous Peoples Fellowship programme; (ii) collaboration with the UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples with respect to IPs access to climate finance, including Community-Based REDD+ (CBR+) and emerging policy framework for IPs to engage with the Green Climate Fund (GCF); as well as (iii) civil-society government dialogues in support of the UNFCCC negotiations, leading towards the creation of a new platform on the traditional knowledge of Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples (LCIPs) as a contribution to climate change mitigation and adaptation, as endorsed by the COP23 held in Bonn, Germany, in Nov 2017.

A completed SGP project in **Malaysia** entitled 'Community-based conservation of biodiversity and rivers in Kampung Skiat Baru, Bau' has brought together men, women, and indigenous youth to carry out environmental activities within their community conservation area (ICCA) and communal forest in Sarawak, Borneo. Owing to the location of the conserved area within the vicinity of a National Park, a key objective of the SGP project was to promote the meaningful participation of the indigenous community in policy discussions pertaining to the management and governance of the protected area. With support from the SGP, delineation and survey works were carried out for the ICCA, estimated to be 170 acres (70 ha), in partnership with the Sarawak Forestry Department. In recognition of the rights of the indigenous peoples in the proposed extension of the park boundaries, it was agreed that the limestone hills ecosystem surrounding the protected area would be preserved by the community as an ICCA, and recognized by the Sarawak State Government. In a related project, SGP Malaysia has worked to minimize deforestation caused by agricultural expansion within a community forest reserve and watershed in the state of Sabah. Through the SGP project, the community group (GOMPITO) was invited by the Sabah State government to participate in the Kinabalu National Park 'Ecological Linkages' (Ecolinc) project, targeting connectivity of biodiversity conservation at the state level. By the end of the project, the Sabah government agreed for an area of 487 hectares to be gazetted as a Native Reserve, limiting encroachment by individuals from outside the Kiau village community, and incentivizing long-term conservation planning across the landscape. By involving the indigenous institutions, the EcoLinc bio-corridor initiative has been strengthened through the recognition of different governance regimes, including the ICCA as an area of significant conservation value.

In **Tanzania**, a recently completed SGP project has addressed the substantial numbers of pastoralists' livestock lost to predation by large carnivores, including lions, leopards and spotted hyenas. Jointly conceived by indigenous communities and local researchers, the SGP project sought to address the human-wildlife conflict by modifying the construction of the traditional 'boma' dwelling of the nomadic pastoralists. As part of the new design, fortified bomas were built using fencing wire, strong and tall enough to protect from all forms of wildlife attacks on domestic livestock. Through the SGP project, 31 improved bomas with space to accommodate 6,200 cattle, were constructed. Significant results achieved by the SGP project include: (i) reduced livestock loss due to wildlife predation; (ii) reduced deforestation from the construction of new bomas using improved tree regeneration practices; and (iii) a reduction in retaliatory killings of large carnivores, particularly lions, by the indigenous communities. With support from UNDP, the SGP project has been scaled up with a total of 100 new bomas, with enough space to protect 20,000 cattle, under construction.

In **Brazil**, a completed SGP grant has benefitted 10 families from the Pankararu and Pataxó indigenous tribes formerly displaced from their ancestral lands. The SGP project supported the development of a medicinal plants garden, promoting capacity building for 135 people from both indigenous and quilombola villages through a series of exchange visits to share techniques in medicinal plant conservation, traditions and rituals. The construction of an indigenous pharmacy has since become a reference centre on ways to safeguard and rescue traditional knowledge (TK) of medicinal plants. A second SGP Brazil project supported an area known as the ‘enchanted lake’ (lagoa encantada), an indigenous territory of the Jenipapo-Kanindé tribe. Project results include: (i) involvement of 95 indigenous people in preparing socio-environmental assessments; (ii) implementation of five hectares of mixed agroforestry systems; as well as (iii) dissemination of agroecology practices to improve soil quality, contributing to food security. As a means of income generation, the project also invested in recovering five touristic walking trails, primarily targeting indigenous youth.

As part of the landscape focus under the OP6 Country Programme Strategy (CPS), SGP **Ghana** has concentrated on improving the recognition, support, and effectiveness of biodiversity conservation in areas under the stewardship of indigenous peoples and local communities (ICCAs) contributing to the achievements of Aichi Targets 11, 14 and 18 of the CBD 2020 Global Biodiversity Strategy. Working with local communities in biological corridors found between the Gbele Resource Reserve and Kulpawn Tributaries Forest Reserve, four community-managed sacred landscapes (measuring 20 hectares) in the transition zone ecosystem were surveyed, mapped, inventoried, and digitized as part of a wider national biodiversity mapping programme.

A completed SGP project in **Vietnam** has focused on two communes in the West *Nghe An* Biosphere Reserve and *Pu Hoat* Nature Reserve. Encompassing 1.3 million hectares on the border between northern Vietnam and Laos, the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve is the largest in South-East Asia, and is home to many unique and threatened species, including the endemic Saola (*Pseudoryx nghetinhensis*), Asia’s so-called [unicorn](#), unknown to science until its discovery in the Annamite Mountains in 1992. The population status of the Saola remains unknown, and despite its rarity, has hitherto received little conservation attention and funding. The SGP project focused on two communes in the Biosphere Reserve covering 85,770 hectares of natural forest, where 97% of the population is composed of ethnic minority groups, with a high poverty rate of 65%. Forests cover three quarters of the total land area, where the local people depend mainly on forest ecosystems, including hunting for bush-meat, for their livelihoods. In this context, the SGP project focused its attention on the conservation and development of *Bonbo* trees associated with natural forest management, for the sustainable development, job creation, and income generation for ethnic minorities in *Que Phong* district.<sup>8</sup>

Some highlights of the SGP project results have included: (i) the formation of a local cooperative group to share information, improve knowledge and techniques, for the plantation, protection and processing and sale of *Bonbo* seeds and derivative products; (ii) forest patrols and protection from illegal encroachments; (iii) the creation of a *Bonbo* conservation and development fund to help shape new business skills among ethnic minorities; and (iv) an 80% increase in income for the 410 participating households (composed of 44% women, 82% from ethnic minorities) across the 54 hectares of *Bonbo* demonstration areas, as compared with control groups.

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<sup>8</sup> VNM/SGP/OP5/Y4/STAR/2014/14

Based on the field trials conducted, the *Bonbo* forest conservation model is in the process of being incorporated and up-scaled as the primary livelihood alternative for indigenous peoples and local communities within a \$6 million GEF6-funded full-size project supporting the Biosphere Reserve across 3 three provinces.

In the Conosur region of South America, two illustrative SGP projects have directly assisted *M'byá Guaraní* indigenous communities. In the first case, SGP **Argentina** supported the *M'byá Guaraní* to safeguard their traditional ecological knowledge (TEK), techniques and popular uses of medicinal herbs from the Misiones rainforest.<sup>9</sup> Working with the *Instituto de Educación Agropecuaria*, a medicinal plants greenhouse was created for the collection of seeds, reproduction of seedlings, and distribution of herbs to local Guaraní and Creole producer communities. The design of the greenhouse incorporated solar dryers, also allowing for energy efficient added value to the dried medicinal plants.

In **Paraguay**, SGP also supported improved agroecological food production systems with six *M'byá Guaraní* indigenous communities in the department of *Caazapá*. The completed SGP project focused on the: (i) improved use of water channels within ancestral lands; (ii) inventory, cataloguing and systematization of 30 medicinal species, and 26 existing native forest species (used for the assisted regeneration of forests); as well as (iii) introduced use of contour farming, green manure, and grain conservation for home-garden crops. With the new agro-ecological skills acquired, the producer communities were also able to participate in local fairs to promote their products.<sup>10</sup> Elsewhere in the region, SGP Bolivia has further assisted in the creation of municipal protected areas with two indigenous communities (Guirapetindi and Cruce del Guanaco) for the protection and conservation of the threatened Guanaco (*Lama guanicoe vogli*).<sup>11</sup>

### ***Country support through the UN-REDD Programme***

The UN Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD) is a UN collaborative initiative launched in 2008. It builds on the convening role and technical expertise of UNDP, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Operational in 55 countries, UN-REDD has a specific focus on indigenous peoples and other forest-dependent communities, while also encouraging broader multi-stakeholder processes. The Programme supports indigenous peoples through its governance structure and through its stakeholder engagement work plan, which includes consultative design and implementation of guidelines and normative tools, and via support to their capacity building, engagement and participation, among others.

UNDP is the lead agency for national REDD+ governance, engagement of indigenous peoples, local communities and other relevant stakeholders, and transparent, equitable and accountable management of REDD+ payments. In order to uphold basic human rights and to contribute to the success of REDD+, UNDP's work aims to enable these groups to participate in REDD+ decision-making at local, national and international levels.

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<sup>9</sup> RG/SGP/OP5/Y3/STAR/2014/24

<sup>10</sup> PRY/SGP/OP5/CORE/14/07

<sup>11</sup> BOL/SGP/OP5/Y4/FSP/15/02

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In **Honduras**, UN-REDD has facilitated a dialogue between the State and indigenous peoples and Afro-Honduran organisations to help develop a first national mechanism for free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC).

UNDP with UN-REDD has also supported the design and adoption of national protocols for FPIC for forest investments and incentives in various countries, including **Kenya, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam**.

UNDP and UN-REDD proactively promote the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples in national policy dialogues and the design of financial mechanisms around forests, including the new REDD+ mechanism under the UN Climate Convention (UNFCCC). For instance:

- UNDP and UN-REDD have promoted the creation and functioning of national bodies for REDD+ that have representatives from indigenous peoples in about 20 countries.
- In the **Democratic Republic of the Congo**, the new National Fund for REDD+ (which manages some USD 200 million of climate finance for forest management and land policy reforms) has representatives from indigenous peoples in both its advisory and executive bodies. In addition, one of the first investment programmes approved and financed by this National Fund was to directly support the capacities of indigenous organisations in the country for forest affairs.
- In **Colombia**, UNDP and UN-REDD have supported the first National Platform for REDD+ ("Mesa REDD+)", led by the new Forests Director of Colombia, with the active involvement – and empowerment – of indigenous peoples and Afro-Colombian communities. A participatory plan on deforestation, security and related development issues in the Pacific region of Colombia was produced and served to inform national policy dialogues.
- In addition a community-based planning for REDD+ was designed, and is feeding the national policy process on forest & climate – see the visual synthesis below:



In addition, UNDP has successfully implemented a community REDD+ programme (CBR+), which has served as a vehicle for indigenous peoples to build capacities, test grassroots initiatives for forest conservation and sustainable forest livelihoods, as well as to influence national policy. The programme has been completed in its six pilot countries: **Cambodia, DRC, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay and Sri Lanka**. Further information: [CBR+ Brochure](#) (June 2017). Some highlights:

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- Panama: The CBR+ initiative has established a communication channel from indigenous peoples towards government institutions on forest affairs, enabling indigenous peoples to influence and inform national policy.
- Paraguay: CBR+ has supported and strengthened indigenous communities to the extent of enabling them for the first time to directly access and manage international public funds.
- DRC: The CBR+ programme has empowered indigenous women to regenerate the forest and protect their livelihoods. See media story "[Guardians of the forest](#)".

ii. *Support provided to Member States to mainstream the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and ILO Convention No. 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in national development plans and in the UN Development Assistance Frameworks and Common Country Assessments (CCA/UNDAFs).*

The Indigenous Peoples Inter-Agency Group of the UN System in Guatemala identified supporting the discussion on the law on prior consultation of the ILO Convention 169 as a priority for 2018.

UNDP's global programme on the rule of law and human rights, jointly with other UN entities, is supporting the RC in Ecuador to recruit an indigenous UNV to support the mainstreaming of indigenous peoples rights in the elaboration and implementation of the UNDAF.

iii. *Promote the establishment or strengthening of consultative mechanisms and platforms of dialogue including under the leadership of the Resident Coordinators.*

In Guatemala UNDP – under the leadership of the RC – is supporting the design and participatory drafting of a public policy in dialogue and conflict transformation, which includes developments in prior consultation according to ILO convention 169 and the UN Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples. UNDP is supporting the Congress and the Ministry of Labour in designing a methodology for conducting a consultation on the draft bill of law on prior consultation, as well as providing accompaniment to 2 consultation processes with indigenous peoples in the Ixil Region since mid-2016, related to the development of hydropower's plants and the construction of energy transmissions towers.

### **3. Supporting indigenous peoples' rights in the implementation and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

*The Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues will continue to address indigenous issues in the follow up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.*

i. *Has your agency/organization taken any measures to incorporate indigenous issues into policy and programming to implement the 2030 Agenda in line with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples?*

Through application of the UNDG approach for effective and coherent implementation support on the 2030 Agenda, under the acronym 'MAPS' (MAPS stands for Mainstreaming, Acceleration, and Policy Support UNDP's) UNDP consistently attempts to apply human rights-based approaches, including as relates to data and participation. UNDP has supported a number of MAPs related missions that encourage UNDP programming support on the SDGs to uphold the 'leave no one behind' and ensuring inclusion of groups, including indigenous peoples. Note that the approved UNDAF guidance to support implementation of Agenda 2030 in countries specifically makes reference to Indigenous Peoples in the principles for integrated

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programming on “leaving no one behind” as well as “human rights, gender equality and women’s empowerment”. The UNDG guidelines for SDG country reporting also specifically address issues affecting Indigenous Peoples, including on data and participation/engagement. In addition, UNDP’s social protection primer also refers to ensuring social protection for indigenous peoples as part of ‘leaving no one behind’.

- ii. *Has your agency/organization/entity supported the participation of indigenous peoples in the implementation and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including at the national level? Please also include information on indigenous women, persons with disabilities, older persons and children and youth in your responses.*

In Guatemala, indigenous leaders participated in the process of national prioritization of the SDGs in Guatemala and national priorities framework reflect Indigenous Peoples contributions.

As a contribution to the UN initiative on Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL) and the SDGs, a partnership has been completed by GEF SGP Kenya between an NGO ‘World Concern’ and an indigenous *Masai* community for two villages within *Narok* county to promote the uptake of renewable energy technologies. Prior to the project, the indigenous villages of *Endoinyo Narasha* and *Olkinyei*, found in a remote part of the county, were disconnected from the national grid. The SGP project supported the travel to India of four semi-illiterate *Masai* women to train as ‘Barefoot’ solar technicians, capable of assembling and maintaining solar panels.

### **UN Ocean Conference on SDG 14**

The high-level United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, convened at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 5 to 9 June 2017, coinciding with World Oceans Day, to support the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14. The Conference aimed to be a game changer to help reverse the decline in the health of our ocean for people, planet and prosperity. As a contribution to the UN Ocean Conference UNDP’s Equator Initiative invited 14 Equator Prize winners- representatives from indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs)- to showcase their initiatives’ achievements in advancing sustainable development by conserving and sustainably managing their marine and coastal ecosystems. They were also invited to demonstrate how local actions on marine and coastal ecosystems can contribute to a range of SDGs, in addition to SDG 14, including poverty reduction; livelihoods and jobs; food and water security; climate resilience; and biodiversity conservation.

Activities during the five-day trip included capacity building workshops on communications, campaigning, story-telling, as well as more technical knowledge on SDG14. Equator Prize winners were also involved in exchanges with UN officials working in the area of marine and coastal management, as well as policy makers from the winners’ countries to help promote voluntary commitments from Member States.

#### *Side Events*

UNDP Equator Prize winners presented their best practices in six side events. Indigenous peoples featured more prominently in the first side event entitled : Achieving the SDGs: protecting, restoring & managing marine and coastal ecosystems. The interactive session “Achieving the SDGs: protecting, restoring and managing marine and coastal ecosystems”, explored community responses to threats from pollution and invasive species, destructive

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fishing practices, destruction of habitats, ocean warming, acidification, and large scale infrastructure projects that can severely affect marine ecosystems.

### *World Oceans Day*

The UN Ocean Conference dedicated its penultimate day to commemorating World Oceans Day, with speakers in the General Assembly Hall emphasizing the need for immediate collective action to turn the tide on marine degradation, and place oceans at the center of sustainable development, for future generations. The half-day event featured a number of presentations that brought together oceanographers, astronauts, photographers, entrepreneurs, youth and representatives of coastal communities, including Equator Prize winners, Ms. Fatou Janha, from TRY Oyster Women's Association in The Gambia, and Mr. Budi Setiawan, from Kelompok Peduli Lingkungan Belitung Group, in Indonesia. Both spoke of the importance of empowering women and grassroots organizations (including local and indigenous people) to bring about the needed environmental change from the ground up.

### *High-level Dialogue and Reception "Local Action, Global Impact"*

UNDP's Equator Initiative organized a high-level dialogue "Local Action, Global Impact" and reception, in celebration of "World Oceans Day" at the United Nations Delegates Dining Room. A total of 170 representatives from Member States, UN agencies, Equator Initiative partners, and Equator Prize-winning communities were present at the event. Country representatives from of at least 36 countries registered for the event. Indigenous representatives from Mexico, Chile and Fiji had an opportunity to exchange their best practices and work with representatives from their country during the reception. More at <http://webtv.un.org/news-features/un-stories/chinese/watch/community-and-indigenous-initiatives-and-solutions-sdg-media-zone-the-ocean-conference-saveourocean/5464843643001/?term=&sort=popular&page=4?lanfrench>

### **UN Permanent Forum Side Event**

#### *The Power of Local Action-Empowering Indigenous Peoples for the Sustainable Development Goals:*

On 3 May UNDP's Equator Initiative's side event focused on the role of Indigenous Peoples in delivering the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Panelists discussed how facilitating the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples in biodiversity conservation would contribute to achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Indigenous peoples are among the best managers of the world's biodiversity and ecosystems, and are indispensable partners in sustainable development. When empowered to manage their lands and waters, indigenous peoples are capable of delivering benefits well beyond environment and conservation, including in health, education, energy and water access, food security, conflict resolution, disaster recovery and more. Panelists also emphasized the importance of gender equality; the need for the recognition of indigenous peoples' water and land rights; the challenges faced by indigenous peoples with regards to discrimination and racism, and the need to include indigenous peoples in policy processes that affect their livelihoods.

- iii. *Please provide information on any reports or other documents in implementing the 2030 Agenda for indigenous peoples. Also include information on any measures taken or planned for the collection of statistical data on indigenous peoples, in particular as related to the SDG indicators for target 1.4 (secure tenure rights to land), target 2.3 (income of small-scale food producers), target 4.5 (parity in access to education) and target 10.3/16.b (experience of discrimination).*

### **Mexico**

UNDP Mexico provided technical assistance to the TEPJF to strengthen the capacities of its officials through the exchange of good practices at the national and international levels. This culminated in the creation of the World Electoral Justice Network, whose objective is to create a space to share information and knowledge between the contentious and electoral courts of different countries. In its first working session, the importance of empowering the participation of indigenous peoples and communities, as well as respect for their traditional systems, was highlighted, and the foundations were laid to include the issue as one of the work axes of the Network.

With the impetus of this World Network, the aim is to contribute to the fulfillment of SDG 17 through collaboration among electoral protection organizations, especially on issues related to traditional regulatory systems, and with this, to promote the coherence of policies for sustainable development with a greater degree of inclusion.

### **Equator Initiative Publications**

#### *Making Waves<sup>12</sup>*

This publication presents 15 stories of outstanding community and indigenous initiatives, working in coastal and marine ecosystems to deliver benefits across the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Four of these stories focus exclusively on indigenous communities. All of the communities profiled here have received the Equator Prize. These stories show that indigenous peoples and local communities are some of the most effective stewards of the planet's marine ecosystems. They also show that the actions taken by these local initiatives can have widespread impact, in many cases across their entire country and beyond. This publication clearly demonstrates the importance of these and similar community initiatives around the world by illustrating how they can help us achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

#### *Blogs*

##### *i. The Power of Women and Indigenous Peoples to Achieve Better Growth with Forests*

Women in forest dependent communities and indigenous peoples have unique experiences, uses and knowledge of forest resources that can help advance forest protection and production.

<https://www.tfa2020.org/en/power-women-indigenous-peoples-achieve-better-growth-forests>

##### *ii. Community Action Will Drive SDG Achievement*

Indigenous Peoples and local communities are showing that actions on SDG 14, and in particular on sustainable fisheries, can help countries and communities simultaneously address many of the SDGs.

<http://sdg.iisd.org/commentary/guest-articles/community-action-will-drive-sdg-achievement/>

##### *iii. 3 lessons from Equator Prize 2017 winners*

The initiatives we work with have taught us that action at the local level is essential to achieve sustainable development.

<http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/blog/2017/6/29/3-lessons-from-Equator-Prize-2017-winners.html>

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<sup>12</sup> <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/poverty-reduction/equator-initiative/making-waves--community-solutions--sustainable-oceans.html>

### *iv. Rural communities: A hotspot for sustainable development*

At the Equator Initiative, we believe that the data and trends cited above do not condemn rural community members to lives of poverty and helplessness. On the contrary, we believe that rural communities are an engine of ideas and solutions for local sustainable development.

<http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/blog/2017/2/15/Rural-communities-a-hotspot-for-sustainable-development-.htmlen>

### **4. Mapping of existing standards and guidelines, capacities, training materials and resources for the effective implementation of the UNDRIP**

- i. Please provide information on any specific standards and guidelines on indigenous peoples adopted or planned by your agency/organization.*

### **Social and Environmental Standards**

The introduction elaborates on UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards (SES) which are mandatory for all projects since 1 January 2015<sup>13</sup>.

The Project-Level Standard on Indigenous Peoples establishes that all projects that may impact the rights, lands, resources and territories of indigenous peoples require prior review and/or assessment of potential impacts and benefits. Projects with potentially significant adverse impacts require a full social and environmental assessment conducted by an independent and capable entity. Reviews and assessments will be conducted transparently and with the full, effective and meaningful participation of the indigenous peoples concerned. The Standard states that "UNDP will not participate in a Project that violates the human rights of indigenous peoples as affirmed by Applicable Law and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)" (p. 37). Furthermore, the Standard requires UNDP projects that may impact indigenous peoples to be "designed in a spirit of partnership with them, with their full and effective participation, with the objective of securing their free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC) where their rights, lands, resources, territories, traditional livelihoods may be affected" (p.32). The standard further outlines that "UNDP Projects will recognize that indigenous peoples have collective rights to own, use, and develop and control the lands, resources and territories that they have traditionally owned, occupied or otherwise used or acquired, including lands and territories for which they do not yet possess title. If the Project involves activities that are contingent on establishing legally recognized rights to lands, resources, or territories that indigenous peoples have traditionally owned, occupied or otherwise used or acquired, an action plan will outline the steps and timetable for achieving legal recognition of such ownership, occupation, or usage [...]. In such cases, with the consent of the relevant authority or Implementing Partner, will support such activities aimed at delimiting, demarcating and titling such lands, resources, and territories with due respect to the customs, traditions and land tenure systems of the indigenous peoples concerned" ( p. 34).

UNDP has updated and migrated the [SES Toolkit](#) to a public space so that it can be shared with partners, stakeholders and consultants as a key tool to support the implementation of the SES. The Toolkit includes a variety of material, such as guidance, templates, examples, webinars, communication materials, in order to support the implementation of our safeguards, and in particular the **SES guidance note on indigenous peoples** (which has been widely consulted

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<sup>13</sup> <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/operations/social-and-environmental-sustainability-in-undp/SES.html>

and peer reviewed with indigenous representatives and experts, including members from the Permanent Forum).

### UN-REDD standards and guidelines

The UN Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD) is a UN collaborative initiative launched in 2008. It builds on the convening role and technical expertise of UNDP, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Operational in 55 countries, UN-REDD has a specific focus on indigenous peoples and other forest-dependent communities, while also encouraging broader multi-stakeholder processes. The Programme supports indigenous peoples through its governance structure and through its stakeholder engagement work plan, which includes consultative design and implementation of guidelines and normative tools, and via support to their capacity building, engagement and participation, among others. UNDP is the lead agency for national REDD+ governance, engagement of indigenous peoples, local communities and other relevant stakeholders, and transparent, equitable and accountable management of REDD+ payments. In order to uphold basic human rights and to contribute to the success of REDD+, UNDP's work aims to enable these groups to participate in REDD+ decision-making at local, national and international levels. In 2013, UN-REDD adopted the **Guidelines on Free, Prior and Informed Consent** (FPIC) and the **FPIC Legal Companion**, which outline existing international law and emerging state practice affirming that indigenous peoples have the right to effective participation in the decisions, policies and initiatives that affect them and that FPIC is a legal norm that imposes duties and obligations. The Guidelines are the result of more than two years of consultations with indigenous peoples, analysis, pilots and testing, consensus building and refinement around core issues related to FPIC from its conceptual definition to its practical application.<sup>14</sup> The UN-REDD Programme also has **Guidelines on Stakeholder Engagement in REDD+ Readiness with a Focus on Indigenous Peoples and Other Forest-Dependent Communities**, and a **Guidance Note for REDD+ Countries: Establishing and Strengthening Grievance Redress Mechanisms**. These are all informed by the UNDRIP and ILO 169.

- ii. *Please provide information on any training materials prepared or planned related to the implementation of the UN Declaration.*

N/A.

- iii. *Please provide information on current resources and funds allocated to effectively implement the UN Declaration. Please also provide information on any joint initiatives with other UN agencies in the implementation of the UN Declaration.*

UNDP houses the Secretariat of the United Nations-Indigenous Peoples' Partnership (UNIPP,) set up in 2011 with ILO, OHCHR, UNICEF, UNFPA and UNDP, and which works to promote progress about indigenous peoples' rights and development at country level towards implementation of UNDRIP and ILO 169. The UN General Assembly and UN Human Rights Council have formally welcomed UNIPP and encouraged others to support it, and it is specifically mentioned in the SWAP as "one of the key means, amongst others, to promote coherence and joint programming at the country level". As the first 5-year cycle of UNIPP came

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<sup>14</sup> Important to mention are also the Joint Guidelines on Stakeholder Engagement [FCPF/UN-REDD] that focus on the participation of indigenous peoples and other forest-dependent communities and the FCPF/UN-REDD Programme Guidance Note for REDD+ Countries: Establishing and Strengthening Grievance Redress Mechanisms [V.3, DRAFT]

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to an end on 31 December 2016, UNIPP has been planning and operationalizing for a new phase of the Partnership (UNIPP 2.0) launched on 1 January 2017. UNIPP 2.0 builds on and consolidates the momentum of the previous programmes implemented by the UNIPP while applying, at the same time, the knowledge and experience gained during the first phase in order to increase impact and reach around the world. When identifying priority initiatives, UNIPP seeks systematic linkages with the recommendations of UN system's expert mechanisms that have a mandate related to indigenous peoples, thus contributing to the integration of normative and operational work in the area of indigenous peoples' rights. Key mechanisms in this respect are the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII), the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP), as well as the supervisory bodies of the ILO.

In Guatemala both the "Mayan Program" and the "Transforming Relations for Peace Building" are joint initiatives with UNHCHR, UNICEF, UNWOMEN and UNESCO as participating AFPs.

### **5. Developing the capacities of States, indigenous peoples, civil society and UN personnel**

*Please provide information on any capacity development initiatives that your organization is conducting for indigenous peoples, government officials and UN staff. Also include information on the participation of indigenous women, children and youth as well as indigenous persons with disabilities in your response.*

Note that many of the programmes and initiatives mentioned across the questionnaire involve capacity development approaches and activities, as described and as per UNDP's overall approach and mandate on capacity development.

#### **Guatemala**

UNDP designed and implemented a process of political education for Indigenous Peoples that consists of 10 modules of practical and theoretical political and civic participation guidelines. A module on international instruments and standards includes material on the UN Declaration. This program trained 686 indigenous peoples, 399 were women and 206 were youth.

#### **Mexico**

The UNDP Mexico-TEPJF project includes a specific component to strengthen the institutional strategy on gender. As part of the activities, the creation of a virtual platform was proposed for the interlocution of the competent authorities in cases of political violence against women, as well as in the creation of a repository of judgments, criteria, jurisprudence and specialized material. This is intended to contribute to the implementation of the Protocol for the Attention of Political Violence against Women, which establishes guidelines for institutions in the face of acts of political violence against women, a situation that is aggravated for indigenous women who cannot fully exercise their political-electoral rights.

#### **UN-REDD**

UNDP with UN-REDD have promoted a wide range of mechanisms and approaches that promote the participation and inclusion of indigenous peoples in national forest processes and

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related climate finance instruments (known as REDD+ and endorsed by the Paris Agreement, c/o Art. 5), such as synthesized in the table below:

National-level mechanisms and approaches	Example countries
Stakeholder mapping, including participatory methodologies and engagement plans for indigenous peoples	Bangladesh, Honduras, Mongolia, Myanmar, Panama, Paraguay
Institutional & Context Analysis (ICA), taking into account indigenous peoples and ethnic minorities as key stakeholders	Côte d'Ivoire, Myanmar, Rep. of Congo
Multi-stakeholder platforms for policy dialogue on forest and climate affairs	Several countries, ranging from Bangladesh to DR Congo and Myanmar, and from Colombia to Viet Nam.
Conflict Management on forest affairs	Panama (i.e. the "Active Listening" process on indigenous forests).
Organisational capacities for indigenous peoples	Côte d'Ivoire, DR Congo, Republic of the Congo, Viet Nam, among several others.
Community-led engagement, including community based programmes for REDD+	Cambodia, Colombia, DRC, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Sri Lanka
Protocols for FPIC on forest & REDD+	Honduras, Kenya, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Sri Lanka, Viet Nam
Grievance mechanisms related to national forest investments (under design)	Cambodia, Honduras, Papua New Guinea, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Viet Nam

In Panama, UN-REDD provided technical assistance for the development of internal regulations and governance of natural forest in the Aruza indigenous territory. In addition, advice on community-based forestry planning was provided to 12 Ngäbe Bugle organisations, as well as capacity building of technicians and traditional authorities on remote sensing and forest inventories.

In Peru, UN-REDD assisted with the drafting of a roadmap for the integration of the indigenous approach into the National Forestry and Wildlife Information System.

### **GEF**

During the period 2016-2017, as part of the GEF SGP Grant-makers+ role on social inclusion, the SGP launched, selected and initiated the OP6 Indigenous Peoples' Fellowship programme,

designed to support the capacity of IPs leaders to advance the work of their communities, organizations, and networks at national, regional and global levels. The initiative was developed in response to a need expressed by IPs for higher-level skills and capacity in leadership and networking to enable them to strongly represent themselves in international policy-setting, as well as in the sustainable development goals (SDGs) and financial planning dialogues. The SGP IPs Fellowship was designed with inputs and support from a wide number of CSO partners and networks including *inter alia* Conservation International (CI), Tribal Link, UNDP Equator Initiative, CBD Alliance, International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB), International Funders of Indigenous Peoples (IFIP), UNESCO LINKS, and the *Red de Mujeres* (RIMB).

The first two global SGP IP Fellows for climate change (Ms. Zara Oussain and Ms. Edna Kaptoyo) were announced at the UNFCCC COP22 in Marrakech in Nov 2016; along with two global IP Fellows for biodiversity (Ms. Edith Bastidas and Ms. Athing Lungharwo) at the CBD COP12 in Cancun, Mexico, in Dec 2016. The four global SGP IP fellows will receive support for a 2-year period to conduct projects in their home communities and/or countries, as well as to engage with international policy dialogues. A cohort of a further eight national SGP IP Fellows, with a priority on youth, are expected to be selected in 2017-2018 to assist SGP country programmes with grant-making at the national level. The national IP Fellows are expected to focus in particular on matters pertaining to simplified and flexible SGP proposal formats; use of indigenous and vernacular languages in project formulation; SGP strategic initiatives including the Community-Based REDD+ (CBR+) partnership with the UN-REDD programme; Global ICCA Support Initiative; and Community-Based Adaptation (CBA) to climate change in small island developing states (SIDS) and high altitude mountain environments.

At the global level, a strategic grant was provided to Asociación Andes in Peru, working with the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), to consolidate the International Network of Mountain Indigenous Peoples' (INMIP) and global South-South exchange platform. The collaboration hosted the fourth INMIP Horizontal Learning Exchange in the Potato Park, near to Cusco in Peru, from 20-23 April 2017, on the theme of 'Resilient Biocultural Landscapes'. The learning exchange brought together over 100 indigenous peoples (representing 39 mountain communities from 10 participating countries), 1 facilitator/translator from each country, and 14 representatives from the state of Apurimac in the Peruvian Andes. The Potato Park learning exchange was preceded by a 1-day multi-stakeholder dialogue on 'Indigenous and modern knowledge systems: challenges and opportunities for the well-being of mountain communities towards 2050'. During the event, the Vice-Minister for the Environment in Peru announced that the Potato Park would be the first area to be legally recognized under Peru's new law on 'Agrobiodiversity Zones', representing an important precedent in the recognition of biocultural heritage territories at the national level. Following the South-South exchange, an INMIP Secretariat has been established at the Potato Park, and a new INMIP website launched for network members to share mountain-related articles and links.

### **UNDP Equator Prize**

On 17 September 2017, UNDP's Equator Initiative honored 15 representatives of community-based organizations (five of which were indigenous peoples) with the prestigious Equator Prize for their significant work to create scalable, nature-based solutions to advance sustainable development. Each Equator Prize winner received US\$10,000 and the opportunity for two community representatives to join a week-long summit in New York during the 72nd United Nations General Assembly.

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The 15 Equator Prize 2017 winners (including the five indigenous peoples groups from Brazil, Honduras, Guatemala and Indonesia) are protecting, restoring and sustainably managing marine, forest, grassland, dryland and wetland ecosystems. In the process, they have created several thousand jobs and livelihoods, improved food and water security for hundreds of communities, protected endangered wildlife, and decreased risks from natural disasters. The communities reinvest revenues generated by their initiatives into water supply, education, women's economic training and other development goals. Many of the winners are advocating for their models to be replicated at national and international levels, which would significantly advance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Activities during the Equator Prize winners' week-long trip included capacity building workshops on communications, campaigning, and story-telling; the Equator Prize Reception and Award Ceremony; and Prize winner interviews at the SDG Media Zone. Equator Prize winners were also involved in exchanges with UN officials working in the area of sustainable development, as well as policy makers from the winners' countries to help promote awareness of Prize winners' impactful initiatives.

### *Equator Prize 2017 Reception*

In support of the Equator Initiative, and in recognition of the Equator Prize 2017 winners, UNDP and partners hosted a high-level reception to connect Equator Prize winners, government officials, senior UN staff, business and civil society influencers, celebrities and media.

This invitation-only reception, in advance of the Equator Prize 2017 Award Ceremony, was a unique opportunity for Equator Initiative supporters and other global influencers to meet the winners, hear their stories, and discuss potential synergies to further advance their work and shared interests.

### *Equator Prize 2017 Award Ceremony*

The 9th Equator Prize Award Ceremony honored 15 winners in a gala event in New York, coinciding with the Global Goals Week and the 72<sup>nd</sup> Session of the UN General Assembly. On 17 September, leading thinkers, policy-makers, business and civil society leaders from around the globe gathered in The Town Hall theater in New York, hosted by the Equator Initiative partnership, to celebrate the extraordinary initiatives and innovations brought about by indigenous peoples and local communities from 12 countries. The winners were recognized for their significant work to create scalable, nature-based solutions to address biodiversity conservation, climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction, gender empowerment, land rights, and food and water security. Nearly 1,500 people came together to celebrate the achievements of 15 Equator Prize 2017 winners (out of which 5 were indigenous peoples groups, including [Alianza Internacional de Reforestacion \(AIRES\)](#); [Associacao Ashaninkha do Rio Amonia Apiwtxa](#); [Associacao Terra Indigena Xingu](#); [Federacion Tribus Pech de Honduras](#); and [Yayasan Planet Indonesia](#)).

Prize winners were featured in national and international media, including:

1. Agence France Presse—Spanish: [Para indígenas 'héroes del clima', un premio y una aventura en NYC](#)
2. Agence France Presse—Portuguese: [Para índios 'heróis do clima', um prêmio e uma aventura em NY](#)

*Selected online pickup:*

- [Istoé](#) (Brazil)
- [Swissinfo.ch](#)

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- YahooNews (USA)

3. Guatevision (Guatemala): Guatemalteca gana “héroes del clima” y viajó a Nueva York

4. Interpress Service: Communities Can Be Role Models for Sustainable Development

*Selected online pickup:*

- Environment Guru (USA)

5. Prensa Latina (Cuba): Premian en ONU a indígenas por iniciativas de protección ambiental

*Selected online pickup:*

- El19Digital (Nicaragua)

- ElComunista.Net (Spain)

6. Prensa Latina (Cuba): Indígenas llaman en Nueva York a salvar el planeta

7. Radio HRN (Honduras): Indígenas de la Etnia Pech serán premiados en Nueva York

8. TeleSUR English: Indigenous Activists to Receive Awards for Protecting the Environment

- Creed Politico

9. VICE IMPACT (USA): Indigenous and Local Activists Fighting Climate Change Honored at UN Event

### *Capacity building workshops for Equator Prize winners*

The capacity building workshops includes sessions on: the use and importance of delivering solid elevator pitches as a tool for winners to share their stories and work at the local and national level, as awardees of the Equator Prize; a session on behavior change and campaigning; a session on developing key messages about the Equator Prize winners' initiatives - while sharing tips and techniques to identify and develop key messages; on communications skills, and increasing their ability to share their success stories with peers, Member States, UN representatives, and media.

The workshop also included a session on the Sustainable Development Goals. During this workshop, the team shared an overview of the Sustainable Development Goals and opened for a discussion with the Prize winners to examine how their work was addressing multiple SDGs. Equator Prize winners discuss linkages between their work and the SDGs and how promoting local action managing nature for development supports achievement of the SDGs.

The last session focused on storytelling as an essential communication skill, especially when engaging with media. The session focused on different techniques to build a story including storytelling structure, character development and punch-line design. Equator Prize winners participated in interactive exercises, with support of audiovisual examples, and shared their stories on nature for SDGs with all workshop participants. After three days of capacity building workshops, Equator Prize winners expressed feeling more empowered and confident to share their stories with the Equator Prize 2017 Award Ceremony attendees, media and the world at large.

### **Business and Human Rights – capacity building in the Asia-Pacific**

The UNDP Business and Human Rights Unit (B+HR Unit) is accelerating the implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) in the Asia-Pacific region. Project interventions are aligned with the Protect, Respect and Remedy framework of the UNGPs. The B+HR Unit advocates for states to exercise their duty to protect against human

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rights violations in business operations, while supporting efforts to develop National Action Plans on Business and Human Rights. The B+HR Unit also targets businesses for awareness raising and training activities regarding their role in respecting human rights. Lastly, B+HR Unit works with states and business to enhance support for effective and inclusive remedies when human rights abuses do occur.

The project's regional approach brings together a variety of actors working on Business and Human Rights, including Indigenous Peoples' groups, in order to foster multi-sector stakeholder dialogues, collaboration and innovation. Past efforts have included a hybrid-format Lab co-creation event, a training event with the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission for Human Rights, and a parallel session at the UN Forum on Business and Rights in Geneva showcasing progress being made in the ASEAN region. Key results include over 100 officials from business, civil society and government trained on effective remedies for human rights violations, 3 countries requested UNDP support in drafting National Action Plans (NAPs), and over 50 state-owned enterprises trained in Thailand on Business and Human Rights.

In pursuit of the implementation of the UNGPs, the project unit has ensured the voices of Indigenous Peoples in important UN System policy debates through its engagement with the Asian Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP). AIPP is a regional organisation representing 48 national groups across 14 countries in the region. AIPP works for the promotion and protection of indigenous peoples' rights, cultures, and identities across Asia-Pacific, with membership including indigenous women, youth, and disabled groups.

AIPP was invited by the Unit to speak and participate in the Regional Forum on Business and Human Rights, held from 1-2 June in Bangkok, Thailand. The Regional Forum aimed to embed human rights in business activities in the Southeast Asian region, with a particular focus on the roles, duties, and responsibilities of governments and business. In the plenary remarks, an AIPP representative noted that many business-related violations took place on land held by indigenous peoples. He advocated for continued engagement between NHRIs and indigenous groups to uphold international standards in the NAP development process. This, it was stressed, would help to address the power imbalance between businesses and indigenous peoples. AIPP was subsequently invited to take part in the unit's inaugural *B+HR Lab: Regional Partnership Workshop to Support Implementation of the UNGP on Business and Human Rights* on 31 October in Bangkok. This Lab applied an unorthodox workshop format to identify Business and Human Rights obstacles in the region, create user-generated solutions, and foster collaboration between agencies.

### **Online Forum on Traditional Knowledge under the Convention on Biological Diversity-**

The United Nations Development Programme in partnership with the Convention on Biological Diversity Secretariat organized an online forum on traditional knowledge - a series of webinars and discussions in English, Spanish and French- designed as a contribution to the CBD's work in preparation for the implementation of their Capacity Development Programme on national arrangements for Traditional Knowledge, achieving Target 18 and contributing to Target 16 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. A total of 460 people registered for the three webinars. The webinar in English was watched live by 83 people, the webinar in Spanish by 69 people and the webinar in French by 26 people.

Each of the three two-hour session webinars included presentations by the CBD Traditional Knowledge Officers on traditional knowledge regulations on the CBD and the Nagoya Protocol

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on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization, as well as a presentation on the Mo'otz Kuztal Voluntary Guidelines. They also included presentations from UNDP experts working on the Global Project on Access and Benefit Sharing, including a general overview on access and benefit sharing arrangements for the utilization of traditional knowledge under the Convention and its protocols. Lastly, all webinars concluded with a presentation from a representative of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity on examples of prior informed consent processes, mutually agreed terms and benefit sharing arrangements for access to traditional knowledge, including examples of community protocols. The webinars were followed by facilitated discussions to exchange local and national best practices regarding traditional knowledge.

### **6. Advancing the participation of indigenous peoples in UN processes**

*Please provide information on any support provided for the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples at relevant UN bodies, including at the country level. Please also provide information on any consultative mechanisms, tools and other measures to obtain free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples in processes that affect them.*

See above on events and advocacy during the UN Permanent Forum and the Oceans Conference.