

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

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

Please provide an overview of actions taken or planned to implement the System-Wide Action Plan on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. This summary will form the basis of the compilation report of UN activities to implement the SWAP and the Declaration.

WFP contribution to the UN Permanent Forum of Indigenous Issues' Questionnaire

Regarding collective action to strengthen the implementation of UN System Wide Action Plan (SWAP) on indigenous peoples:

- A key milestone in 2020 for WFP has been the development of the indigenous peoples' (IPs) portfolio. It comprises four components: 1) research and guidance, which includes information provision, evidence building and the development of tools; 2) advocacy and capacity development, which raises awareness of issues of concern to IPs within WFP and provides support to country offices; 3) mainstreaming, which integrates IPs and IP concerns in ongoing activities, guidelines, strategies etc; and 4) outreach and network building, which positions WFP in global platforms and fosters engagement with indigenous peoples' organizations (IPOs), UN agencies, among others.

Supporting indigenous peoples' rights in the implementation and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development:

- WFP's newly endorsed (November 2020) Protection and Accountability policy has been informed by indigenous concerns and emphasizes the importance of analyzing the threats and needs of people in the most vulnerable situations. It sets the groundwork to address those most at risk of being left behind.
- In 2020 an extensive stock-taking exercise was undertaken to: identify how WFP has engaged with IPs; provide an analysis of the work; and identify points for further action.
- Among the action points agreed upon was the undertaking of a set of baseline studies to provide an analysis of Indigenous peoples' vulnerabilities to food insecurity (Studies to be completed in the first quarter of 2021.)
 - Nepal – a study on Indigenous persons with disabilities' access to food security;
 - Central African Republic (CAR) and Republic of Congo – studies on Indigenous peoples and livelihoods;
 - Colombia – a study on Indigenous peoples' access to food that respects IPs' consumption habits and cultures.
 - India – a study on food and nutrition security among tribal groups in Rajasthan.

Mapping of existing standards and guidelines, capacities, training materials and resources for the effective implementation of the UNDRIP:

- The WFP Environmental and Social Standards are a collection of minimum requirements and do-no-harm commitments enshrined in existing WFP policies, directives and guidelines. The rights of Indigenous peoples are included under the protection and human rights standard and follow the provisions stipulated in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).
- WFP is developing a guidance note on Free Prior and Informed Consent. The purpose of the note is twofold – to provide information on the importance of the principle of free prior informed consent (FPIC) and to provide guidance in its application for WFP programme employees.

Developing the capacities of States, indigenous peoples, civil society and UN personnel:

- A key component of WFP’s environmental and social sustainability framework is a learning platform to develop capacity among WFP employees on the application of the standards and safeguards.
- WFP is working on a videogame as an innovative capacity development tool to train and inform employees and cooperating partners on issues related to protection and accountability to affected populations. Through an interactive scenario-based tool, WFP employees can build their awareness of issues related to rights- among them Indigenous peoples’ rights and issues of concern such as FPIC.

Advancing the participation of indigenous peoples at the UN:

- An in-person informal meeting took place at WFP Headquarters in February 2020 with WFP programme units and Indigenous Peoples’ Organizations (IPOs) – to share their respective areas of work; and identify challenges and areas for possible or greater collaboration. The meeting raised awareness of IP issues within WFP and provided recommendations for action. A background paper on entry points for collaboration between WFP and IPs informed the meeting.

Any activities or support provided to indigenous peoples both during the COVID-19 pandemic and after, to ensure their inclusion in addressing the impacts of the pandemic, as well as in building back better.

- A few examples of WFP responses to address Indigenous peoples’ needs during the COVID -19 outbreak.
- By May 2020, the Amazonas region of Colombia had the highest rates of Covid-19 in the country. Given the situation, WFP Colombia led an emergency mission in early June targeting 5,000 individuals with a focus on accessing affected populations and responding to their specific food need, providing an appropriate food basket given the lack of stoves in the area.
- The Uru Murato communities in the Bolivian altiplano or highlands faced restricted mobility due to border closures, which impacts the food security of populations reliant on migratory work. WFP Bolivia responded with emergency food assistance, upon request of the local government. The Uru Murato were already suffering from the effects of climate change—the drying up of Lake Poopó has left this Indigenous community without their livelihood (fishing) and their primary food source (fish)—and Covid-19 has further exacerbated their vulnerability.
- In Honduras, WFP looked at integrating COVID-19 related messaging in indigenous languages in its food distributions. School teachers delivering food rations in lieu of school meals in the

Miskito region also imparted social behaviour change information in the local language to children and their families.

- In April 2020, WFP Headquarters prepared a matrix identifying how IPs were responding to COVID-19 – i.e. what their challenges and needs were. The matrix was developed based on a questionnaire sent out to a variety of IPOs. Responses fed into guidance on community engagement vis-à-vis COVID-19.