

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

OHCHR/Indigenous Peoples and Minorities Section _ 17 January 2022

Executive summary (586 words).

OHCHR has supported a number of initiatives in 2021, which aim at increasing the participation of indigenous peoples to ensure their full and effective inclusion in a number of intergovernmental UN processes, and to support the integration of human rights, gender equality, leave no one behind in CCAs and/or CFs, closely with Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams. In follow-up to one of the system-wide strategic interventions of the UN Secretary-General's Call to Action on Human Rights, an interagency task team was established, bringing 12 UN entities together (including OHCHR, DCO, DESA, ILO, OCHA, UN Women, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, and WHO). The task team was to develop "a nimble system to monitor and evaluate human rights, and gender integration in the new generation of CCAs and CFs), to assess patterns and design targeted interventions in support of RCs and UNCTs." As such, this interagency task team has worked on establishing a baseline through a desk review that assesses the integration of human rights, LNOB and gender in new generation CCAs and CFs. The desk review includes the assessment of 46 CCAs and 36 finalized from 2019 to 14 August 2021, and was published on the UN Sustainable Development Group's (UNSDG) Country Cooperation Framework Status Dashboard.

Despite indigenous peoples being explicitly identified by the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development as a vulnerable group whose needs are reflected in the ambition of the 2030 Agenda and a group that must be empowered (Para 23), indigenous peoples are often not only left behind in efforts aiming to achieve sustainable development, they are also among the groups furthest behind. In the context of the global pandemic, we see vulnerable groups, including indigenous peoples, being pushed even further behind through the impact of exacerbated inequalities, including in access to adequate and quality health care as well as COVID-19 vaccines. Closely linked to this are Member State's and UN's COVID-19 socio-economic response and recovery plans, which do not always pay adequate attention to the specific situation and needs of indigenous peoples, thus carrying the risk of resulting in interventions that are not tailored enough or do not adequately tackle the root causes of deprivation or exclusion specific to indigenous peoples.

Looking at Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) targets, research has shown that as many as 92% of these targets reflect international human rights and labour standards, therefore the 2030 Agenda cannot be achieved unless human rights of all and, in particular, human rights of the most vulnerable are fulfilled. Work to which OHCHR contributed to through the Global Alliance for Reporting Progress on Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies has also led to the identification of key trends and concerns with regards to concept of SDG 16+, seen as an enabler for the achievement of the entire 2030 Agenda. This work has demonstrated that ensuring meaningful participation of marginalized groups, especially when taking into account intersectional discrimination - such as indigenous women - remains a challenge.

Lack of access to justice impacts hardest on lower income and other disadvantaged groups. The extent of exclusion and discrimination faced by indigenous communities is a significant impediment to achieving sustainable development for all, linked both to SDG 16+ as well as to access to the entire spectrum of human rights, including social and economic rights which have their own corresponding SDGs. An important challenge are also data gaps and especially lack of disaggregated data which could be used to better inform design of targeted legislation, strategies, policies as well as programs aiming to implement these.