

**Questionnaire to the UN system and other intergovernmental organizations in preparation of the 15<sup>th</sup> session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues**

The report of the Fourteenth session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues provides a number of recommendations within its mandated areas, some of which are addressed to the UN system and other intergovernmental organizations.

The secretariat of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues invites the UN system and other intergovernmental organizations to complete the attached questionnaire on any action taken or planned in response to the Permanent Forum's recommendations. All questionnaire responses will be placed on the Permanent Forum's website and also compiled into one report for the Forum's fifteenth session.

Please submit your completed questionnaire by **1 January 2016** 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; fax : 917- 367-5102  
Email: [smallacombe@un.org](mailto:smallacombe@un.org)

The full questionnaire can be downloaded from this site:

<http://undesadspd.org/IndigenousPeoples/UNPFIIISessions/Fifteenth/Questionnaire.aspx>

The fifteenth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues shall be held at United Nations Headquarters from 9 to 20 May 2016.

**The provisional agenda for the Permanent Forum's fifteenth session includes:**

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Follow-up to the recommendations of the Permanent Forum.
4. Implementation of the six mandated areas of the Permanent Forum with reference to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
5. Discussion on the theme "Indigenous peoples: conflict, peace and resolution".
6. Dialogue with indigenous peoples.
7. Dialogue with Member States.
8. Dialogue with United Nations agencies, funds and programmes.
9. Coordination among the three United Nations mechanisms pertaining to indigenous peoples:
  - (a) Coordination among the three United Nations mechanisms pertaining to indigenous peoples;
  - (b) Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples and the Chair of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
10. Future work of the Permanent Forum, including issues considered by the Economic and Social Council and emerging issues.
11. Provisional agenda for the sixteenth session.
12. Adoption of the report of the Permanent Forum on its fifteenth session.

## **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 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.

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 report addresses the questions presented by the Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in preparation of the 15th session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, and encompasses UNDP's progress towards implementing the recommendations made by the Permanent Forum and mainstreaming the principles and standards contained in UNDRIP as well as other human rights instruments as they relate to indigenous peoples in 2015.

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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".

## Questionnaire

At its fifteenth session in 2016, the Permanent Forum's theme will be **Indigenous peoples: conflict, peace and resolution.**

1. Please provide information on how your agency is working on issues of conflict, peace and resolution for indigenous peoples in the seven socio-cultural regions of the Permanent Forum<sup>2</sup>. In particular, the situation of indigenous women should be highlighted in your responses.

UNDP works on Indigenous Peoples rights in relation to conflict, prevention and peacebuilding with a variety of approaches, including among others support to dialogues amongst public and private actors and indigenous peoples to prevent and mediate conflicts; promotion of inclusive processes for social cohesion; anti-discrimination through capacity building of institutions and groups; access to justice and redress including in transitional justice processes; the application of human rights-based approaches; awareness raising; on UNDRIP and human rights, and so on.

For instance in Colombia in the context of support to victims of the conflict UNDP has supported indigenous peoples, including to participate in the peace talks in la Habana. In the Chittagong Hill Tracts Development Facility (CHTDF) has been supporting the Government of Bangladesh to promote sustainable development and confidence building in the post-conflict Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) for its Indigenous population, as guided by the Peace Accord. In Peru about 70% of social conflicts are related to extractive industry activities in areas traditionally inhabited by indigenous peoples. UNDP led a broad consultation process over a period of 10 months with indigenous leaders and the State in order to institutionalize spaces of dialogue between them in support of pro-indigenous development policies to reduce the incidence of conflict over natural resources. Strategies include the promotion of the right to participation and free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples and the consolidation of dialogue roundtables. For more details see country examples below.

### Peru

In Peru, the [\*“Alliances for Dialogue. Prevention of Conflict in Issues relating to Natural Resources”\*](#) project aims to reduce the incidence of conflict over natural resources, promoting inclusive governance and creating spaces for dialogue,

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<sup>2</sup> UNPFII's seven socio-cultural regions are Africa; Asia; Central and South America and the Caribbean; the Arctic; Central and Eastern Europe, Russian Federation, Central Asia and Transcaucasia; North America; and the Pacific.

conversation, and communication between stakeholders, with the ultimate aim of promoting sustainable economic development. According to national reports, about 70% of social conflicts in Peru are related to extractives activities in areas traditionally inhabited by indigenous peoples. Thus, indigenous peoples are a key player in the designing of policies related to development, as well as peace building and conflict prevention. The project has therefore implemented strategies to promote the right to participation and free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples and the consolidation of dialogue roundtables.

The project is a joint initiative among state actors at national level. The project has also worked with 15 Sub-national Governments to strengthen institutions to deal with conflict, as well as civil society, indigenous peoples' organizations, universities, NGOs and the private sector. UNDP's role has focused on support for institutions responsible for the prevention, monitoring, management, and resolution of conflicts via technical support and methodologies of democratic dialogue, seeking to turn conflicts into opportunities for development.

Separately, UNDP has been supporting the Government promoting the institutionalization of dialogue as a national policy to deal with conflicts linked to natural resources, including the use of roundtable talks for development, such as in Cuatro Cuencas in Loreto (Lote 192).

## **Colombia**

Separately, UNDP is broadly involved with the Colombian Peace Process through the "*Territorial Alliances for Peace project*" (2014-2016). In 2015 UNDP accompanied the zenú people within San Jorge Indigenous Reserve in the Department of Córdoba in processes to strengthen internal governance and capacities to claim the restitution of land in the framework of Law 1448. The Reserve has been home to episodes of conflict over mining in the area, including assassinations of local leaders. There has been particular focus on prior consultation rights and the issue of organizational capacity, with key results including a participatory diagnosis on governance in the area, a proposal for the structure of government within the reserve, and a proposal for statutory norms in the reserve.

The "[\*Territorial Strategy for the Sustainable and Equitable Management of the Hydrocarbon Sector Project\*](#)" (2013-2016), implemented by the Colombian Government promotes participative sustainable human development in regions with hydrocarbon activity, as an instrument to build peace. The basis of the project is an awareness of conflicts in the hydrocarbons sector and its objective is to prevent future conflicts through bringing actors together, capacity building and bringing the public and private sectors and communities together.

UNDP's role within the project has focused on: designing and implementing dialogue processes, information strategies, and conflict prevention; offering information and analysis; developing capacities to deal with conflict; developing practical methodologies and toolkits, and convening different actors to promote the exchange of experiences. Inclusive dialogues have started in 33 municipalities, and 50 workshops on technical, social, environmental, and governance-related aspects of hydrocarbons have been conducted. In total, over 4,000 people have benefitted from the project,

including from local governments, communities and companies. Other noteworthy results include the construction of an early alert warning system, a monitoring system of conflict, and the further development of guidelines to carry out democratic dialogue.

## **Panama**

In Panama UNDP has been supporting initiatives led by the Vice Presidency that seek to create and strengthen venues contributing to consensus, such as in the discussions in 2012 between the Government and the Ngäbe Buglé community following the construction of the Barro Blanco hydroelectric project.

The second phase of the discussions began in February 2015 and was promoted by the President of Panama who asked the UN System, and UNDP specifically, to support the design and facilitation of the dialogue process. The process began with a series of interviews with the different stakeholders to design the dialogue methodology. The process lasted from February to May and concluded with a report revealing contradictions in the hydroelectric project that will negatively impact several indigenous families living by the hydroelectric plant. In August, traditional authorities of the territory reached a new agreement to resume dialogue with the Government (with the UN System and UNDP playing the role of facilitator). The agreement is comprised of two stages, the first creating a technical committee that will analyze the feasibility of the hydroelectric project, and the second establishing a dialogue table with traditional authorities, the indigenous families affected by the project and the National Government to seek a final solution.

### ***Comparative study on “Indigenous Peoples, Inclusive Governance and the Extractive Industries in Latin America”***

UNDP carried out a comparative study in 2015 on “*Indigenous Peoples, Inclusive Governance and the Extractive Industries in Latin America*”. The study identifies programming entry points for UNDP policy and programme support based on four case studies from Argentina, Colombia, Mexico, and Peru. The study highlights UNDP’s niche and value-added in processes related to resource extraction, with a view to promoting human development and greater enjoyment of indigenous peoples’ rights in UNDP programmes within this area, thus improving the relationship between affected communities, companies, states, and society. The study also includes general observations and lessons learned for UNDP with regard to situations of conflict in general and indigenous peoples, states and extractive industries more specifically, The study will be disseminated widely amongst UNDP country offices.

2. With respect to the implementation of the recommendations of the Permanent Forum addressed specifically to your agency:

UNDP received the following recommendations from the 14th Session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues held 20 April – 1 May 2015:

Paragraph 30 “*The Forum recommends that the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the Advisory Board of the United Nations Office for Partnerships and other relevant United Nations*

*agencies take the measures necessary for addressing the special situation of indigenous peoples in developed countries.” and*

*Paragraph 39 “The Permanent Forum intends to make the formulation of an indigenous peoples’ development index, based on the human rights affirmed in the United Nations Declaration and international human rights instruments, a recurring part of its agenda. The Forum recommends that the United Nations Development Programme, especially its Human Development Report Office, and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights assist the Forum in developing such an index, building on existing initiatives by indigenous peoples and United Nations agencies, and report thereon to the Forum at its fifteenth session.”*

- (i) Please provide information on the status of implementing the recommendations of the Permanent Forum addressed specifically to your agency

The recommendation in Paragraph 30 for UNDP to undertake measures to address the situation of Indigenous Peoples in developed countries is outside the mandate of UNDP and therefore cannot be directly implemented (*see section (ii) below for a further discussion*).

With respect to the recommendation in Paragraph 39 for UNDP to assist the Forum in developing an Indigenous Peoples development index, a UNDP Policy Advisor on Goal 16 discussed challenges and opportunities on data disaggregation, access to justice, and participation and representation in decision-making in relevant bodies in the context of Goal 16 during the session on the “Comprehensive dialogue with United Nations agencies and funds of the post-2015 development agenda” on 23 April 2015 and highlighted the need to ensure disaggregation and inclusion of Indigenous Peoples in relevant processes. The following day, the Chief of Statistics from the Human Development Report Office was part of the “Panel on Future Work: Discussion on Indigenous Human Development/ Human Rights Indicators” where he emphasized the need for disaggregated statistics to capture inequalities within societies and to better understand the situation of indigenous peoples.

UNDP has always emphasized the importance of disaggregating data especially in the formulation of national and regional reports. There will be a renewed emphasis to disaggregate relevant data in establishing indicators for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) so to portray more accurately and appropriately address existing inequalities. Indicators for the SDGs are currently being discussed and negotiated; finalization of the indicators is scheduled for March 2016. UNDP will continue to encourage disaggregation of data especially at the national and regional levels so as to capture relevant data for Indigenous Peoples, and will support Member States in this endeavor in the context of implementation of the SDG agenda.

- (ii) What are some of the obstacles your agency has encountered in implementing the recommendations of the Permanent Forum?

The recommendation in Paragraph 30 is outside the mandate of UNDP and cannot be directly implemented. UNDP has a wide network of offices in more than 175 countries but as a development agency does not implement programmes in developed countries. While UNDP will continue to play a convening and advocacy role at both the global

and regional levels, the extent to which UNDP can directly address the “special situation” faced by indigenous people in developed countries is limited.

Recommendations in Paragraph 39 will be addressed in conjunction with the SDG indicators. The SDG indicators are currently being developed, cf. section on the 2030 Agenda.

- (iii) What are some of the drivers that facilitate your agency’s implementation of the recommendations of the Permanent Forum?

Political commitment from the highest level in UNDP at the global and at country level is an essential driver to support implementation of the PF’s recommendations and UNDRIP more broadly. The SGD agenda of ‘leaving no one behind’ provides a strong platform also to mainstream the rights of indigenous peoples in UNDP’s programmes. The adoption of the Social and Environmental Standard on Indigenous peoples further makes it mandatory to de facto across the board further indigenous peoples rights in projects and programmes that affect them, for example through FPIC processes and/or the development of targeted Indigenous Peoples project plans.

3. Please provide information on the following:

- a) Please include information on **programs, projects or other activities** that are specifically aimed at promoting the implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, or activities where indigenous peoples are among the major beneficiaries. Where possible, please provide links to websites, publications or other sources of relevant information.

#### ***Global***

At the global level in 2015 UNDP supported the implementation of UNDRIP at strategic and policy levels, namely the development of the System Wide Action Plan, as well as through application of mandatory Social and Environmental Standard on Indigenous Peoples, which includes FPIC (more detail below).

UNDP also promotes the implementation of UNDRIP through many country-level programmes. For instance through supporting national plans and policies that mainstream indigenous peoples rights and target them specifically (e.g. Honduras, cf below); through supporting Indigenous Peoples participation in decisions and processes that affect them (e.g. Panama, Peru, CHT, Indonesia, cf below); or in relation to land rights, forest and indigenous culture (e.g. GEF and REDD+ programmes, cf. below)

#### ***System-Wide Action Plan (SWAP)***

UNDP has been an active member of the Inter-Agency Support Group for Indigenous Issues (IASG), the group drafting a System-Wide Action Plan (SWAP) on behalf of the Secretary-General. The SWAP was proposed as part of the [Outcome Document](#) adopted by Member States at the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples in September 2014, requesting the UN system to establish a coherent approach to achieve the ends of the [UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#) (2007).



The IASG/DESA has consulted with Member States as well as Indigenous Peoples (through an online questionnaire) throughout the development of the SWAP, and took advantage of relevant fora, such as the 14th session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (April) and the 8th session of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (July) for further consultation.

Since December 2014, the IASG has met regularly and UNDP has actively participated and taken a technical lead on providing inputs on the relevance of the SWAP at country level. The SWAP was finalized at the IASG annual meeting (26-27 October 2015), and was subsequently presented at the Chief Executive Board (CEB) on behalf of the SG on 19th November 2015. It is expected that the SG will launch the SWAP during the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in May 2016.

UNDP – as host of the RC system and due to its extensive country presence – is committed to implement the SWAP at the country level through programmes benefiting Indigenous Peoples, or through mainstreaming Indigenous Peoples rights in its Governance and Peacebuilding and Rule of Law, Justice, Security and Human Rights programming, and other cluster work.

### ***Social and Environmental Standards (SES)***

UNDP has established Social and Environmental Standards, and since 1 January 2015 applied the standards to all UNDP programs and activities, incorporating the standards into its Programming and Operations Policies and Procedures for Programme and Project Management. (see paragraph (i) below for a full description of SES). The SES promotes the implementation of UNDRIP by stating “UNDP will not participate in a Project that violates the human rights of indigenous peoples as affirmed by Applicable Law and UNDRIP”, thereby requiring all UNDP projects to abide by UNDRIP.

### ***United Nations-Indigenous Peoples’ Partnership (UNIPP)***

The United Nations-Indigenous Peoples’ Partnership (UNIPP) was established in 2011, as a Multi-Partnership Trust Fund by ILO, OHCHR, UNICEF, UNFPA and UNDP. UNIPP works to promote progress on indigenous peoples’ rights and development at country level towards implementation of UNDRIP and ILO 169. UNIPP is a commitment to the UNDRIP, in particular Article 41, which calls upon the organs and specialized agencies of the United Nations system “...to contribute to the full realization of the provisions of this Declaration through the mobilization, inter alia, of financial cooperation and technical assistance.”

Through UNIPP, national programmes have been implemented in Bolivia, Cameroon, Central African Republic (CAR), Republic of Congo, Nepal and Nicaragua, and one regional project has been implemented in South-East Asia.

UNDP currently co-chairs the UNIPP Policy Board with an Indigenous Peoples representative. In addition, the UNIPP secretariat moved to UNDP in May 2015. UNDP is currently recruiting a consultant to support the UNIPP Secretariat.

UNDP and UNIPP:

[http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/ourwork/democraticgovernance/focus\\_areas/focus\\_human\\_rights/empowering\\_indigenous\\_peoples/UNIPP.html](http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/ourwork/democraticgovernance/focus_areas/focus_human_rights/empowering_indigenous_peoples/UNIPP.html)

UNIPP                      FAQ:                      <http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Indigenous/Peopleseoples/UNIPPFAQ.pdf>

### ***GEF Small Grants Programme***

UNDP directly supports indigenous peoples through the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Small Grants Programme (SGP), which serves as a delivery mechanism with various donors in over 120 countries. The SGP provides financial and technical support to communities and civil society organizations to meet the overall objective of “*Global environmental benefits secured through community-based initiatives and actions*”. SGP funds “small grants” up to a maximum of \$50,000.

During 2014-2015, at least 192 projects funded by the SGP were completed with indigenous peoples’ organizations, representing an increase of 8% from the previous reporting period (185) for 2013-2014. The SGP countries with the highest reported number of projects with indigenous peoples included Mexico (35); Ecuador (13); Panama (11); Burundi (10); Nepal (9); Peru (8); Samoa and Mozambique (7 each); and Fiji, Namibia, Costa Rica, Tanzania and Malaysia (6 each). Other SGP countries with portfolios comprising at least two projects with indigenous peoples included Belize, Bhutan, China, Cameroon, Djibouti, Egypt, Guyana, Honduras, Indonesia, Kenya, Lesotho, the Marshall Islands, Nicaragua, Palau and Suriname.

In 2014, GEF, UNDP and the German Government launched the USD \$16.3 million [Global Support Initiative](#) (GSI) targeting territories and areas conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities (ICCAs). The 5 year initiative is aligned with the CBD 2020 Global Biodiversity Strategy and will provide focused support in at least 26 SGP participating countries. The project seeks to improve the recognition, support, and overall effectiveness of ICCAs for biodiversity conservation, sustainable livelihoods and resilience to climate change. The primary outputs of the GSI from 2015-2018 include: (i) direct support to community-based demonstration and action small grants in 20 target countries in support of ICCAs; (ii) legal, policy and other forms of support for ICCA recognition and conservation (including governance assessments of protected areas and landscapes); and (iii) networking, knowledge production and exchange between national initiatives at regional and global levels.

During its 6th Operational Phase (OP6) running from 2015-2018, SGP also plans to increase its support to indigenous peoples through an Indigenous Peoples Fellowship Initiative aiming to develop the capacity of indigenous leaders and potential leaders to advance the work of their communities, organizations and networks at national, regional and global levels. (*see paragraph (c) for further details on the Indigenous Peoples Fellowship Initiative*).

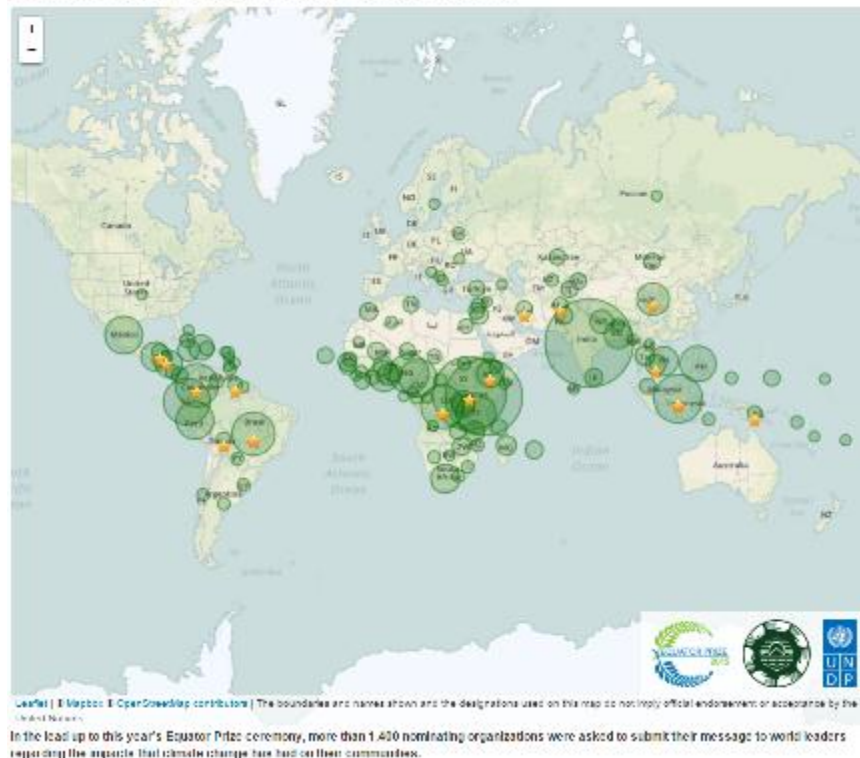
For further information see the SGP Homepage: <https://sgp.undp.org/>

### ***Equator Initiative***

Through UNDP’s Equator Initiative the voice of indigenous peoples at the international level was highly raised in 2015. More than 1400 messages from indigenous communities from all over the world were brought to the attention of Member States and negotiators at the Paris COP21 talks.

The map here illustrates the origin and wealth of messages received.

### Local voices for global climate action



The UNDP led Equator Initiative partnership recognizes the success of local and indigenous initiatives through the biannual Equator Prize. More than half of the award winners identify themselves as belonging to indigenous groups.

In December 2015, the UNDP Equator Initiative awarded a group of 21 indigenous peoples and local communities engaged in exemplary work in the areas of land and territorial rights, sustainable forest management, community based adaptation to climate change and environmental activism. The 21 winning organizations from Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Africa were supported to attend the UNFCCC Climate Change Conference (CoP 21) in Paris. At CoP21, they participated in two weeks of community dialogues at the OECD, UNESCO, Rio Conventions Pavilion, Global Landscapes Forum, and the Sorbonne University.

The Equator Prize serves to bring visibility on a global stage to the practices, knowledge and solutions that indigenous peoples and local communities provide to sustainable environmental management and poverty alleviation. It creates the space that enables the interaction between international and national policy makers and local communities and indigenous peoples. Receiving the Prize has allowed communities to scale up and replicate their work, but also to win long-standing political battles like the granting of land titles.

In 2015, the Equator Initiative also designed and supported five peer-to-peer knowledge exchanges among 2014 Equator Prize winners for sustainable land management (SLM) in Sub-Saharan Africa. (see (c) for a full description).

The Equator Initiative also manages the World Network of Indigenous Peoples and Local Community Land and Sea Managers (WIN), a network through which indigenous peoples can share their stories, experiences and innovations, while also raise awareness of their concerns and solutions.

<http://equatorinitiative.org/>

### ***UN-REDD (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation) Programme***

The [UN-REDD](#) (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation) Programme devotes [one of its outcomes](#) to support the full and effective participation of “Indigenous Peoples, local communities, civil society organizations and other stakeholders (...) in national and international REDD+ decision making, strategy development and implementation.” Work towards this goal is guided very closely by the UNDRIP.

UN-REDD’s mandate to promote the UNDRIP comes directly from the [UN Framework Convention on Climate Change \(UNFCCC\) agreements](#) which outline safeguards requiring REDD+ actions to ensure:

- Respect for the knowledge and rights of indigenous peoples and members of local communities, by taking into account relevant international obligations, national circumstances and laws, and noting that the United Nations General Assembly has adopted the UNDRIP.
- The full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, in particular indigenous peoples and local communities.

The Programme supports 64 countries in the regions of Africa, Asia-Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean to set up systems in line with REDD+ under the UNFCCC agreement, including activities supported by UNDP to assist partner countries to design, implement and monitor REDD+ in countries in a manner that is consistent with these safeguards.

UN-REDD has provided support to 27 countries<sup>3</sup> to develop advanced mechanisms to include indigenous peoples as key stakeholders in national REDD+ policy processes, as well as a wide range of activities and actions to inform stakeholders and ensure their perspectives are integrated into national REDD+ processes.

17 countries strengthened the full and effective engagement of Indigenous Peoples and CSOs in their national REDD+ activities, through different approaches:

- Various countries improved Indigenous Peoples and CSO platforms and mechanisms to engage formally and more systematically in national REDD+ processes, and Indigenous Peoples and CSO constituencies actively participated in key REDD+ milestones, such as reviewing national

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<sup>3</sup> Argentina, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cote d’Ivoire, DRC, Ecuador, Honduras, Kenya, Mexico, Myanmar, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, PNG, the Congo, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, South Sudan, Suriname, Tanzania, Uganda, Viet Nam and Zambia

REDD+ Strategies or informing policy dialogues for REDD+ with government counterparts – this was notable in Bhutan, Cambodia, [Colombia](#), Cote d’Ivoire, DRC, Ecuador, Honduras, Kenya, Madagascar, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, PNG, Sri Lanka, Uganda and Viet Nam.

- Various countries have advanced the design of participatory governance mechanisms to ensure the safeguarding of the rights of Indigenous Peoples and vulnerable stakeholders, such as drafting laws on public consultations for major policy processes in Honduras, design and testing of FPIC protocols (done with the participation of Indigenous Peoples) in PNG, inclusion of FPIC in provincial REDD+ plans in Viet Nam, and review and design of a Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) for REDD+ in Sri Lanka.

### *Community Based REDD*

UN-REDD has also developed a dedicated grant facility for local REDD+ efforts in partnership with the Small Grants Programme: [Community-Based REDD+](#) (CBR+). CBR+ was made fully operational in 2014 for 6 pilot countries: Cambodia, DR Congo, Panama, Paraguay, Nigeria and Viet Nam. Since CBR+’s inception, local-level stakeholders have engaged in extensive consultations to identify their priorities and needs for CBR+ grant-making, and have collaborated with government partners to link local priorities to national REDD+ approaches through the CBR+ Country Plans, which are now guiding the disbursement of CBR+ grants in a way that ensures complementarity with national REDD+ priorities and approaches. As of 31 December 2015, over 170 proposals for CBR+ projects were received from communities in the 6 pilot countries. 56 CBR+ projects (representing over USD 1.65 million in grant funding) have been selected and approved for implementation in 4 of the pilot countries (Cambodia, Sri Lanka, Panama and DR Congo). In Nigeria, a further 17 projects had been shortlisted and applicants were receiving additional technical support and capacity building before the projects could be formally approved. In Paraguay, an additional 15 shortlisted projects were on track to be approved in early 2016.

<http://www.un-redd.org/>

### ***Regional***

UNDP is also actively engaged at initiatives at the regional and country levels primarily in the Central and South America and the Caribbean, Asia (particularly South-East Asia) and the Pacific regions.

### **<Central and South America and the Caribbean>**

#### ***Cooperation with the Indigenous Parliament of America***

In February 2015, UNDP signed an agreement with the Indigenous Parliament of America (Parlamento Indígena de América, PIA) to promote inclusion and participation as part of its Regional Programme 2014-2017. This partnership is strategic for UNDP in that it strengthens indigenous peoples’ representation and the positioning of indigenous issues in national parliaments. The PIA is a continental organization with 18 Member States (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Chile, Ecuador, El Salvador, United States, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela) that unites indigenous



parliamentarians in the fight against discrimination and proposes measures to advance indigenous rights on the legislative level.

At the request of the PIA, UNDP is preparing a study on the participation of indigenous peoples in parliaments in the region (*see (e) for further details*).

### ***Comparative Study on “Indigenous Peoples, Inclusive Governance and the Extractive Industries in Latin America”***

(*see Question 1 for a full description*)

#### **Youth**

During the 14th session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues that took place in New York from 20 April to 1 May 2015, UNDP in collaboration with the Youth with a Voice Platform and the Network of Indigenous Youth of Central America and Mexico, organized a side event on “Intergenerational dialogue on indigenous youth and the Post-2015 Development Agenda”. More than 30 people attended the event and it was web streamed live via the [Youth with a Voice platform](#). A blog on the event and the situation of indigenous youth in Latin America was also published on the UNDP public [website](#).

#### **Peru**

In the context of the “*Alliances for Dialogue. Prevention of Conflict in Issues relating to Natural Resources*” (*further described in Question 1 above*), UNDP has supported the implementation of the right to prior consultation through a series of interventions: UNDP has supported the Ministry of Culture in a) the drafting of tools and guidelines for the application and implementation of prior consultation processes, including its institutional set-up; b) the participation of indigenous leaders and public servants of the Vice-Ministry of Intercultural Affairs in the prior consultation processes of the Kichwa-Maijuna Conservation Area, Petroleum Block 169, and Petroleum Block 195; and c) the training and capacity development of indigenous leaders and staff of Regional Governments on collective rights (Cusco, Puno and Apurimac).

#### **Mexico**

In Mexico, UNDP is implementing a project on “[Biodiversity in the Production of Woods and Certified Markets](#)” (2010–2016) financed by the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) in cooperation with the Rainforest Alliance and the National Forest Commission. The project aims to strengthen technical and operative capacities of national institutions to expand forestry certificates and support the conservation of biodiversity in production forests. Among other activities, it supports the creation of community forest companies, which are both financially competitive and socially and environmentally sustainable. Thus far, 900 professionals have been trained on sustainable management, certification of forests, and biodiversity; 1.3 million hectares of woods have received a certificate of good management; and 103 community forest companies have been created. In the framework of the project, technical advice and support has been given to community forest companies run by indigenous communities in Campeche (with maya communities), Chihuahua (raramuri), Oaxaca (zapotecos, mixtecos, and zapoteca-chinanteca), Puebla (náhuatl) and Quintana Roo (mayas). The project has paid special attention to linguistic and cultural differences and has offered particular benefits to indigenous peoples, including protecting

ancestral knowledge and respecting structures of political organization according to traditional forms of land ownership.

Furthermore, from 2013 to June 2015 UNDP supported the implementation of a project on “*Good practices in access to electoral justice and the strengthening of a culture of legality*” in cooperation with the Electoral Tribunal of the Judicial Power of the Federation. The project resulted in strengthening the of the justice system to strengthen the political rights of indigenous peoples. The project also facilitated dialogue between indigenous leaders, judges and legal public servants, which contributed to making the Electoral Tribunal of the Judicial Power of the Federation into a more open tribunal.

### **Venezuela**

In 2015, three projects relating to ecotourism and sustainable development in the indigenous communities of Uruyen, Kavak and Kamarata in the State of Bolivar were supported by the Small Grants Programme. These projects supported the communities and specifically 175 families in getting involved in touristic development initiatives offering quality services to visitors and improving infrastructure in the camps to increase tourist activity, with the final objective of promoting tourism as an economic activity that enables the human development and sustainability of communities.

### **Bolivia**

In Bolivia, the “*Democratic Strengthening Project*” has components related to Indigenous Peoples. Specific activities related to Indigenous Peoples include: (1) promoting political participation of indigenous women; (2) technical assistance for the creation of the “*Strategic Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples of Bolivia*”; (3) technical assistance related to referendums on autonomy for a number of indigenous groups; (4) technical assistance and support to the Bolivian government in participating at the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues held in 2015, including holding a side event on “*Best Practices of the Plurinational State of Bolivia on the implementation of the UNDRIP, the Outcome Document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and Post Agenda 2015*”.

### **Brazil**

[UNDP supported the Government of Brazil](#) to hold the first [World Games of Indigenous Peoples](#) from 23 October to 1 November 2015. Nearly 50 ethnic groups from the world gathered to celebrate the traditional sports, culture and diversity of Indigenous Peoples. Participants also discussed human rights and environmental issues in specialized venues. Events included log race, tug of war, bow and arrow and other traditional indigenous sports, including “head football”.

### **<Asia>**

### **Cambodia**

In Cambodia, the REDD+ initiative has implemented its activities including enhancing awareness and building capacity about REDD+ concepts; tenure, safeguards and sustainable livelihoods from forest resources. This has been achieved through a series

of training programmes, consultations, workshops, and field visits at the national and sub national level.

### **Bangladesh**

In Bangladesh, through the parliamentary caucus on indigenous people, a fact finding mission was conducted to one of the sub-districts in the plain-land area with a concentration of ethnic minorities. The mission was designed to bring Members of Parliament to meet with Adivasi communities, as well as mainstream community leaders to better understand the human rights situation facing these groups. The Parliamentary Caucus on Indigenous Peoples and UNDP worked together to advocate for greater implementation of constitutional and legislative protections for indigenous peoples, resulting in a draft legal instrument - Bangladesh Indigenous Peoples Rights Act (BIPRA) 2014. This was achieved through consultations with indigenous leaders, law makers and other relevant stakeholders.

Through the Chittagong Hill Tract Development Facility, Indigenous Peoples benefited from an initiative covering capacity development, service delivery (health & primary education, community policing), economic empowerment, agriculture, food security and policy advocacy. The capacity of traditional institutions and leaders in CHT has continued to be strengthened for greater understanding of and advocacy for the CHT Peace Accord implementation. This year a total of 269 traditional leaders (Headmen and Kabaries) were trained on their roles and responsibilities and to identify advocacy strategies to support Accord implementation.

### **Indonesia**

In Indonesia, UNDP supports Indigenous Peoples related activities in the areas of justice and economic development. In the areas of justice, UNDP is involved in the strengthening of customary justice systems in the provinces of Aceh, Central Kalimantan, and Central Sulawesi. Support includes training for informal judges on human rights, gender, and conflict resolutions; strengthening the customary institutions; promotion of female informal judges; bridging the collaboration of the customary justice systems with the state and police; as well as facilitating the legal framework at the provincial level and access to state funds for the customary institutions. A baseline study on gender-based violence will be conducted in selected locations in Tanah Papua where indigenous Papuans are the majority of respondents.

In the provinces of Papua and West Papua, UNDP promoted livelihoods activities among indigenous Papuans to process commodities that are available locally (e.g. coconut, nutmeg, fish) and produce products that are sold in the local market. This becomes a powerful economic empowerment for the beneficiaries who are mostly women.

In addition, UNDP supported studies related to forest, lands, and indigenous peoples from the viewpoint of sustainable natural resource management as well as indigenous peoples' rights.

Furthermore, UNDP supported interventions in local areas as part of the REDD+ initiative.



## <Pacific>

The UNDP Multi Country Office for Cook Islands, Niue, Samoa & Tokelau supported Indigenous people participation and their involvement in the developing of the Pacific Indigenous Peoples Declaration on Climate Change to the UNFCCC Conference of the Parties 21 in Paris. UNDP also implements a project on climate change and youth employment that directly target indigenous people in the four islands under its responsibility.

b) How is your organization planning to support Indigenous Peoples within its programs, projects or any other activities in line with the aims of the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**?

UNDP's focus areas: [sustainable development](#), [democratic governance and peacebuilding](#), and [climate and disaster resilience](#), are aligned with all 17 Sustainable Development Goals. [Goal 1 on poverty](#), [Goal 10 on inequality](#) and [Goal 16 on governance](#) are particularly central to UNDP's current work and long-term plans.

At the global level, UNDP is actively participating in the process to establish indicators for the 2030 Agenda. It is anticipated that the global framework will have about 169 indicators.

At the country level, UNDP will support the 2030 Agenda at national levels through the overall 'MAPS' approach of 'inclusive leadership':

- **Mainstreaming** – to support the landing of the agenda at national and local levels and translating the agenda into national plans, strategies and budgets
- **Acceleration** – supported by providing tools to identify crucial constraints and bottlenecks that hamper progress across a number of goals
- **Policy Support and Capacity Building** – to provide specifically tailored support to a country's particular context at the national, regional and local levels and to other development actors to overcome obstacles identified and governance bottlenecks that hamper progress on SDGs
- **Localisation** – to support applying national plans and roadmaps for achieving Goals at the level of cities, municipalities and local communities including innovative stakeholder engagement processes at local, but also national level and related awareness campaigns and identification of local champions

There will be national and sub-national frameworks including relevant indicators that will be put in place to monitor implementation in each national context. UNDP will be heavily involved in the process of supporting the development of national and sub-national indicators. UNDP will encourage sufficient disaggregation of data, so as to adequately reflect the needs of the most vulnerable and marginalized, including indigenous peoples.

c) Any **capacity development** initiatives your organization is involved in that is aimed at indigenous peoples, governments, UN agencies or others which feature the rights and well-being of indigenous peoples

UNDP supported the production and dissemination of "[A Resource Compilation on the Human Rights of Indigenous People](#)", by former Special Rapporteur James Anaya.

Aimed at UNDP staff and practitioners, the Resource Compilation sets forth the standards related to indigenous peoples' rights and development policies that contribute to the fulfillment of these rights. The compilation also offers tools and detailed guidance on how to operationalize such policies and human rights standards.

In 2015, the Equator Initiative designed and supported five peer-to-peer knowledge exchanges among 2014 Equator Prize winners for sustainable land management (SLM) in Sub-Saharan Africa. This pilot project responded to requests that communities learn best from each other. The knowledge exchanges supported the exchange of practice and knowledge in dryland management among indigenous peoples and local communities. In October, the Equator Initiative supported the participation of 12 SLM winners to attend the UNCCD CoP 12 in Ankara. At CoP12 they shared the experience of the knowledge exchanges, in addition to engaging in policy debates. Their community statement was shared during the high-level civil society dialogue.

The Equator Initiative also manages the World Network of Indigenous Peoples and Local Community Land and Sea Managers (WIN), a network through which indigenous peoples can share their stories, experiences and innovations, while also raise awareness of their concerns and solutions.

This OP6 Indigenous Peoples Fellowship Initiative supports the improvement of skills for project development, management and implementation, and for better utilization of new technologies in order to (a) increase the portfolio of projects by Indigenous Peoples within the SGP and other similar grant-making programs; (b) increase appropriate resource flows from donors, development agencies, and governments; and (c) demonstrate modalities for grant-making which are governed with the direct involvement of Indigenous Peoples.

UN-REDD supports the capacity development of indigenous peoples and government stakeholders through regional and global exchanges, which include knowledge sharing and technical training. In 2015, these included:

- A regional exchange of indigenous peoples and civil society representatives from the Asia-Pacific region in Bangkok (7 countries participated) [[see report](#)];
- Capacity was built in the Latin America and Caribbean region on stakeholder engagement including indigenous peoples and gender considerations through a [Regional Workshop on Stakeholder Engagement, Gender, and Knowledge Management](#) held in Panama during 26-28 May 2015 for 41 (20 women) government and national REDD+ focal point participants from 8 countries.
- A REDD+ training on the UNFCCC provisions for REDD+ (known as Warsaw Framework for REDD+) and scoping linkages with indigenous peoples, held during the 14<sup>th</sup> Session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) in New York [[see video](#)]; and an [Indigenous Women's Dialogue on Gender and Forests](#) at a UNPFII side event also in New York.
- Other results included considerations regarding indigenous peoples' engagement being integrated into REDD+ roadmaps towards national REDD+ strategies in the Latin America and Caribbean.

Indigenous peoples at the national level were informed on best practice in effective stakeholder engagement in REDD+ in Myanmar in August 2015 and Viet Nam in

September 2015. Work on safeguards as well as the REDD+ Academy initiatives, which fall under other outcomes, also served to intensively inform and engage Indigenous Peoples and CSO stakeholders on REDD+ questions. CBR+ is also generating benefits in terms of raising the organizational capacities and technical understanding of community stakeholders on what REDD+ entails and how to engage in it.

In addition, UN-REDD actively supports capacity development of both Governments and indigenous peoples at the national level (see question (a) for more details)

### ***Country Programmes***

Capacity development plays a central role in all UNDP programmes and projects as it is one of the [five programming principles to the United Nations Development Assistance Framework](#). Listed below are select examples:

#### **<Central and South America>**

In Peru, under the “*Alliances for Dialogue. Prevention of Conflict in Issues relating to Natural Resources*” (further described in *Question 1 above*), UNDP has supported the training and capacity development of indigenous leaders and staff of Regional Governments on collective rights (Cusco, Puno and Apurimac).

In 2015, the Ministry of Social Development of Chile requested UNDP to support capacity building on indigenous peoples’ rights. Through UNDP’s Virtual School a training programme was developed with international and national experts on different subjects related to indigenous peoples. The topics included were: 1) general overview of indigenous peoples; 2) the demographic and economic situation of indigenous peoples; 3) the progress made by the Chilean Government to advance indigenous peoples’ rights and outstanding challenges; 4) the legal framework and jurisprudence regarding indigenous peoples’ rights, including a specific focus on prior consultation rights, and; 5) an overview of processes of dialogue between indigenous peoples and the State in Latin America and the Caribbean. In total, 128 students participated in three different courses, included a course on training of trainers, out of which 79 were public servants ranging from directors, municipal coordinators, analysts and administrative staff from 14 different ministries and 5 national institutes and 49 were indigenous representatives. The focus of this first round of courses was to give civil servants the necessary tools to deal with indigenous issues in their daily work, especially considering that many of them will integrate the Ministry of Indigenous Peoples that is expected to be created in 2016.

In 2015, UNDP in Honduras provided trainings with the the Public Prosecutor of Ethnic Peoples and Cultural Heritage for 225 attorneys on Convention 169. This was the first time that the issue of human rights protection of indigenous and Afrodescendant peoples was treated in a specific manner by the Public Ministry. Furthermore, UNDP has worked with the Public Ministry on creating a “*Manual for the process of investigation of human rights violations of indigenous and Afrodescendants peoples*”.

A workshop on strategic litigation was organized with 25 representatives of NGOs defending indigenous and Afrodescendants peoples’ rights, and national human rights institutions, as well as public and judicial servants. In addition, UNDP and ILO and representatives of the nine indigenous and Afrodescendant peoples organized workshops on the rights of indigenous and Afrodescendant peoples. 350 indigenous

and Afrodescendant leaders strengthened their knowledge on international human rights and the national, regional and global mechanisms at their disposal. UNDP also facilitated the first dialogue between labor unions and indigenous and Afrodescendant organizations to cooperate.

In Bolivia, UNDP has assisted the Government and indigenous peoples representatives, through a series of workshops, in the formulation of the “Strategic Plan for the Implementation of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples of Bolivia” to further the Outcome Document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples. The Plan was presented to the Chancellor and Ministry of Planning of Bolivia.

#### <Asia>

UNDP together with UNEP held a [South-South Exchange and Training Workshop on Extractive Industries and Sustainable Development](#) in Bangkok from 6-9 October 2015. The meeting included a presentation on the rights of Indigenous people in the context of the Guiding principles on Business and Human Rights. The presentation was delivered by a representative of the Asia Indigenous People Pact (AIPP).

#### **Bangladesh**

The capacity of traditional institutions and leaders in CHT has continued to be strengthened, as mentioned above. In 2015, a total of 269 traditional leaders (Headmen and Kabaries) in the Chittagong Hill Tract (CHT) area were trained on their roles and responsibilities and to identify advocacy strategies to support the CHT Accord implementation.

d) Any activities to **raise awareness on indigenous peoples**, including publications, films, audio material, maps, or other materials that feature or focus on indigenous peoples. Include the name, a brief description and information on how to access the material.

Many of the UNDP projects and programmes have their own communication materials and social media strategies, below are a selection of raising awareness materials:

- UNDP Overview:
  - [UNDP and Indigenous People](#)
  - Official blog (8 August 2015): [Celebrating the world's indigenous peoples, declaring their rights](#)
  - Fast Facts: [Fast Facts – Indigenous Peoples](#)
  - Twitter (23 October 2015): [Indigenous Games](#); (7 December 2015): [COP 21 Opening by Indigenous Leader](#)
- UNDP Country Offices
  - Peru: [“Guía metodológica sobre la etapa de identificación de pueblos indígenas u originarios”](#) (Ministerio de Cultura, Perú);
  - Colombia: [“Trabajando por el agua”](#) (video on improving access to drinking water);
  - Colombia: [“Guía metodológica para la gestión de los programas en beneficio de las comunidades –PBC- con enfoque de desarrollo humano y reducción de la pobreza extrema en Colombia”](#) (Guide for the management of programs benefiting the community)
  - [Good practices in access to electoral justice in Latin America for indigenous peoples \(Spanish\)](#)

- **Mexico: Pluralismo jurídico y derechos indígenas en México**
- UN REDD
  - <http://www.un-redd.org/>
  - YouTube page: <https://www.youtube.com/user/UNREDD>
- UNDP GEF:
  - <https://sgp.undp.org> - (Please also see the narrative above – many of the major initiatives of the UNDP/GEF SGP have communications and KM components – quite a number of these publications, articles, and briefs are available on the homepage)
- UNDP Equator Initiative:
  - 2015 Winners:
    - [http://equatorinitiative.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=948&lang=en](http://equatorinitiative.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=948&lang=en)
    - [Map - Messages to world leaders regarding the impacts that climate change has had on their communities.](#) (each circle representing the number of comments from each country)
    - Case Study Database: 164 case studies (available in English and also in the winner's native language) can be found in the case study database on the Equator Initiative web site: [www.equatorinitiative.org](http://www.equatorinitiative.org)

e) Does your organization collect or assist with the **collection of statistical data** on indigenous peoples? If so, then please provide further information, including on how to access this information.

A number of country offices have collected statistical data on Indigenous Peoples, whether it is for their country assessments, the national human development index or programme reports and assessments. However, UNDP recognizes the need for further collection and disaggregation of data in order to effectively support initiatives at the country level. A number of existing initiatives are below:

### **Central and South America, and the Caribbean**

At the request of the Parlamento Indígena de América, UNDP is preparing a study on the participation of indigenous peoples in parliaments in Central and South America, and the Caribbean. The findings and data will allow UNDP to identify gaps in indigenous peoples' political participation.

### **Panama**

In 2015, UNDP published the "[Atlas of Local Human Development: Panama 2015](#)" ("Atlas"), a contribution to the discussions about development challenges facing Panama as an upper-middle income country and in light of the new development agenda. The Atlas is a research effort that is aimed at all the sectors involved in the formulation of public policies, including the government, civil society, with a strong focus on indigenous peoples, and the private sector. This report presents the characteristics of the population, with detailed data given on the situation of indigenous peoples, in each of the provinces and communities; the challenges and opportunities presented by each stage of the life cycle; the status of human development in the country, including for the first time a multidimensional poverty index to adequately address the gaps in terms of ethnic origin and an index of gender inequality. This report delves into the potential of

local development, recognizing the productive capacities of the different areas, and describes the role of public investment, local governments and the social capital of the communities themselves as assets to achieve inclusive and territorial social development.

### **Bangladesh**

In Bangladesh, UNDP conducted an ethnographic study with an objective of mapping the different indigenous communities in the country. More information will be available from the UNDP Country Office ([www.undp.org.bd](http://www.undp.org.bd))

f) Does your organization support the **participation of indigenous peoples** at the United Nations or elsewhere, in decision making processes that affect them? This includes financial support, policies on participation, consultative mechanisms, or any other initiative that promotes the participation of indigenous peoples.

### **Equator Initiative**

As mentioned above, the 21 winning organizations from Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Africa were supported to attend the UNFCCC Climate Change Conference (CoP 21) in Paris. At CoP21, they participated in two weeks of community dialogues at the OECD, UNESCO, Rio Conventions Pavilion, Global Landscapes Forum, and the Sorbonne University.

In October, the Equator Initiative supported the participation of 12 SLM winners to attend the UNCCD CoP 12 in Ankara.

Lastly, the Equator Initiative has supported the participation of Permanent Forum member Joseph Mutangah to attend a consultation hosted by the GEF Small Grants Programme, in addition to a Community-to-Community Exchange and Capacity Development Workshop for Traditional Knowledge Holders in India focusing on access and benefit sharing (ABS). A WIN thematic network focusing on ABS in francophone Africa was a key outcome from that workshop.

### **UN-REDD**

UN-REDD has a strong focus on supporting the participation of indigenous peoples directly in REDD+ decision-making at the national and international levels. The Programme has undoubtedly catalyzed strong country efforts to support the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples, local communities, civil society organizations and other stakeholders in national REDD+ processes, as well as in at the international level, notably in terms of UN-REDD global governance. It is to be noted that in the last UN-REDD Policy Board Meeting (Nov 2015), the civil society delegates indicated that UN-REDD is one of the most democratic international programmes.

#### *Global Level*

At the global level, UN-REDD supports indigenous peoples representation via direct representation on the UN-REDD Policy Board. One indigenous representative per the three UN-REDD regions are self-selected via the UNPFII's regional caucuses for Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean. A total of four indigenous representatives, the three indigenous peoples representative and the current Chair of the UNPFII (or their delegate), attend all twice-yearly Policy Board meetings and



contribute to decision making processes regarding UN-REDD funding, programmatic and strategic issues.

Capacities and functions of indigenous peoples representatives to the UN-REDD Policy Board are supported through financing key activities to foster feedback and linkages with their constituencies at regional level, and enhanced preparation for Policy Board sessions and deliberations. This was achieved through support for them to participate in the following events over 2015 in order to share indigenous constituents' perspectives, build their own capacity and exchange information and learning with the constituents they represent so that they can effectively carry out their representative function:

- Africa indigenous representative organized a one-day workshop on 2 June 2015 with 61 (21 women) national Indigenous Peoples and CSO representatives in Kinshasa, DRC to relay information from the 14<sup>th</sup> Policy Board meeting and build capacity on CBR+ process and relevance in DRC.
- LAC indigenous representative shared experiences and explained role to constituents at UNPFII side events in April 2014: Women's Dialogue on Gender and Forests", REDD+ Training.
- LAC indigenous representative capacity built on regional REDD+ issues at the Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Workshop on Stakeholder Engagement, Gender, and Knowledge Management in May 2015.
- LAC indigenous representative observed national consultations with Indigenous Peoples in Honduras on draft participation plan for national REDD+ activities and followed progress on FPIC in March 2015.
- LAC civil society representative presented on his role and met with regional indigenous constituents (300 participants from 12 countries) at the Fifth Indigenous Abya Yala Summit in Panama during 9-11 April 2015.
- LAC indigenous representative to participate in national REDD+ safeguards and other related meetings at national level in Guatemala
- UN-REDD organized a global knowledge session on social inclusion and REDD+ in Costa Rica (November 2015), with a focus on the promotion of the rights of Indigenous Peoples, and with notable participation of indigenous peoples' representatives. An article is forthcoming at the UN-REDD Newsletter.

#### *Country Level*

At the national level, countries receiving direct funding via UN-REDD National Programmes are required to carry out a process to consult and validate planned activities with all key stakeholders, including indigenous peoples, before REDD+ activities under the Programme can be approved. Such National Programmes are required to have a representative of indigenous peoples included in the steering committee/executive board of the National UN-REDD Programme. Analysis of CBR+ grants disbursed to date reveals a wide variety of activities that will provide valuable lessons and perspectives to inform national REDD+ policy, while strengthening the inclusion of forest communities and indigenous peoples, including women and youth, in REDD+. See section (a) for more details.

### **Peru**

In the context of the "*Alliances for Dialogue. Prevention of Conflict in Issues relating to Natural Resources*", in 2014, UNDP led a consultation process with

indigenous leaders and the State which resulted in the establishment of the Working Group on Indigenous Policies (GTPI). The GTPI is tasked with proposing, coordinating and monitoring development policies benefitting indigenous peoples and consists of representatives of the seven indigenous organizations and of the VMI, with UNDP and ILO participating as observers and with the support of the Spanish Agency for Cooperation and International Development (AECID) and the Office of the Ombudsman.

In 2015, the GTPI held seven regular meetings and three decentralized meetings. It has agreements with entities such as the National Institute of Statistics (INEI), the National Identity and Civil Status Registry - RENIEC, the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, the Ministry of Environment, and the Ministry of Development and Social Inclusion, among others. At the decentralized level, the Regional Government of Ucayali (Amazonian region) has signed a Regional Resolution creating a GTPI at the regional level. The GTPI has prioritized five main lines of action: 1) Identity, culture, linguistic rights and non-discrimination; 2) Political representation and participation; 3) Recognition, protection and titling of indigenous territories; 4) Health and education with cultural relevance; 5) Social and economic inclusion and food security.

### **Honduras**

In Honduras, the National Policy against Racism and Racial Discrimination 2014-2022 was approved by the Council of Ministers in September 2015. The Policy can be considered the State's response to the Universal Periodic Review recommendations and to the Durban Plan of Action and is the result of UNDP's support to the National Directorate of Indigenous and Afrodescendant Peoples (DINAFROH) and of a long process of consultation with the nine indigenous and Afrodescendant peoples in the country. Even though the policy was developed in 2013-2014, the process of political pressure was followed through in 2015 with the new authorities of the Secretary of Development and Social Inclusion. The Policy goes further than its initial goal to prevent and eradicate racial discrimination and has turned out to be a policy for the integral development of indigenous and Afrodescendants peoples, including a development plan for each of the nine peoples that has become a reference point for any development project in the respective communities.

### **Cambodia**

In Cambodia, the REDD+ initiative established specific institutional arrangements to ensure the engagement of Indigenous Peoples in decision-making, planning and implementation. These include representation at the Project Executive Board; participation in the stakeholder Consultation Group; and the Gender Group. In 2015 the priority has remained on enhancing awareness and building capacity about REDD+ concepts; tenure, safeguards and sustainable livelihoods from forest resources. This has been achieved through a series of training programmes, consultations, workshops, and field visits at the national and sub national level.

g) Any information on **conferences and other meetings** organized or supported by your organization on indigenous peoples for 2016 and 2017 or to which indigenous peoples will be invited to participate.



- “Dialogue amongst indigenous legislators”, Indigenous Parliament of America and UNDP, Panama, March 2016 (tbc)
- UN-REDD Executive Board meetings (two to be held in 2016; two to be held in 2017)
- UN-REDD Assembly to be held in June 2016
- Oslo REDD+ Exchange to be held in June 2016
- Other events, including various regional/national meetings and consultations (tbd).

h) Does your organization **support or have long standing partnerships** (including of multi-stakeholder character, with non-UN Partners of relevance to indigenous peoples, such as the private sector, academia and research centers as well as regional or national networks representing indigenous peoples) towards achieving the goals of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples?

UNDP collaborates internationally, regionally and nationally with a wide range of partners to advance work relating to the implementation of UNDRIP. This includes:

- The United Nations Inter–Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples'. Issues
- National collaborations with national indigenous peoples networks.
- Regional collaborations with networks such as the: the Indigenous Peoples of Africa Coordinating Committee (IPACC); the Asian Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP); the Meso-American Alliance of People and Forests (AMPB); Coordinator of Indigenous Organizations of the Amazon River Basin (COICA).

i) Does your organization include **social safeguards** at programmatic and project work which include a specific policy or principle on indigenous peoples? Has your organization adopted the principle of free, prior and informed consent as a requirement for project development with indigenous peoples?

### ***UNDP Global***

UNDP has developed [Social and Environmental Standards \(SES\)](#) and has made its application mandatory for all UNDP since 1 January 2015.

The objectives of the SES are to: (i) strengthen the social and environmental outcomes of UNDP’s programmes and projects; (ii) avoid adverse impacts to people and the environment; (iii) minimize, mitigate, and manage adverse impacts where avoidance is not possible; (iv) strengthen capacities for managing social and environmental risks; and (v) ensure full and effective stakeholder engagement, including through a mechanism to respond to complaints from project-affected people.

The SES is comprised of several elements: (i) the Overarching Policy and Principles (3 Principles), (ii) Project-Level Standards (7 Project-Level Standards), and (iii) the Policy Delivery Process and Accountability. The Project-Level Standards support implementation of the Overarching Policy and Principles of 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.

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)

Other Project-Level Standards applicable to Indigenous Peoples include the **Standard on Displacement and Resettlement**, establishing that: “UNDP will seek to avoid physical and economic displacement in its Projects. In exceptional circumstances, and where avoidance is not possible, displacement may occur only with full justification, appropriate forms of legal protection and compensation and according to particular requirements” (as detailed on p. 26). For displacement and resettlement activities that may impact indigenous peoples the SES establish that “No Project supported by UNDP will result in the forcible removal of indigenous peoples from their lands and territories. No relocation of indigenous peoples will take place without the free, prior and informed consent of the indigenous peoples concerned and only after agreement on just and fair compensation and, where possible, with the option of return” (p. 34).

Furthermore, the **Standard on Cultural Heritage** establishes that: “Where a Project proposes to utilize Cultural Heritage, including the knowledge, innovations, or practices of local communities, affected communities will be informed of their rights under Applicable Law, the scope and nature of the proposed development, and the potential consequences of such development. The Project will not proceed without meaningful, effective participation of affected communities and unless (i) good faith negotiations with affected communities result in a documented outcome, and (ii) the Project provides for fair and equitable sharing of benefits from any commercialization of such knowledge, innovation, or practice, consistent with the affected community’s

*customs and traditions” (p.25). Furthermore, “UNDP will respect, protect, conserve and not take or appropriate the cultural, intellectual, religious and spiritual property of indigenous peoples without their free, prior and informed consent” (p.36).*

As part of the Policy Delivery Process, the SES requires UNDP staff to carry out a [Social and Environmental Screening Procedure](#) (SESP) for proposed projects of USD 500,000 or more, at the earliest stage of project preparation to identify potential social and environmental risks of UNDP-supported projects<sup>4</sup>. Screening and categorization is undertaken to identify and reflect the significance of potential impacts or risks that project activities might present as well as to identify the level of review and resources required for addressing such impacts and risks.

The SES are underpinned by an Accountability Mechanism with two key components: 1) a [Compliance Review](#) to respond to claims that UNDP is not in compliance with applicable environmental and social policies; and 2) a [Stakeholder Response Mechanism](#) (SRM) that ensures individuals, peoples, and communities affected by projects have access to appropriate grievance resolution procedures for hearing and addressing project-related complaints and disputes.

The Social and Environmental Compliance Unit (SECU) investigates alleged non-compliance with UNDP’s Social and Environmental Standards and Screening Procedure from project-affected stakeholders and recommends measures to address findings of non-compliance. SECU is based within the Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI), taking advantage of the office’s existing expertise in conducting investigations and developing evidence on which to base decisions in controversial cases<sup>5</sup>.

The Stakeholder Response Mechanism helps project-affected stakeholders, governments and others partners jointly resolve concerns and disputes. It is available when Implementing Partner and UNDP project-level stakeholder engagement processes have not successfully resolved issues of concern.

UNDP’s SES, SECU, and SRM became effective and operational on 1 January 2015. UNDP will continue to build the capacities of staff to implement the standards.

More details here:

UNDP

SES

Webpage:

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

## UN-REDD

UN-REDD implements activities in consistency with both the REDD+ safeguards, which note the UNDRIP (see section (a)) and the UNDP Social and Environmental Safeguards. This includes the adoption of the principle for free, prior and informed

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<sup>4</sup> SESP is required for proposed projects over the value of US\$500,000. The SESP came into effect in 2012 and was updated 1 January 2015 to align with the SES.

<sup>5</sup> The OAI operates with independence from the rest of UNDP operations, and the head of OAI reports directly to the UNDP Administrator.

consent. The UN-REDD Programme has produced a wide range of standards and guidance for the full and effective participation of all stakeholders in REDD+ to support the application of these principles. These include the joint UN-REDD and World Bank [Guidelines on Stakeholder Engagement in REDD+ Readiness with a Focus on Indigenous Peoples and Other Forest-Dependent Communities](#) and the [UN-REDD Programme Guidelines on Free, Prior and Informed Consent](#) and its associated [Legal Companion](#).

In 2015, these normative efforts were advanced with the release of the [Joint FCPF/UN-REDD Programme Guidance Note for REDD+ Countries: Establishing and Strengthening Grievance Redress Mechanisms](#), developed collaboratively between the UN-REDD Programme, the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank [[more information](#)].

This work is accompanied by direct support to countries to understand, tailor and apply normative guidance on indigenous peoples full and effective participation, including the application of the principle of free, prior and informed consent. Such support includes: regional and national capacity building to understand and apply normative guidance with governments and indigenous peoples; capacity building and the development/strengthening of complementary processes, institutions and platforms to facilitate the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples in REDD+ decision making; work with countries to develop national approaches to free, prior and informed consent in consultation with indigenous peoples; and work with countries to develop grievance and redress mechanisms that are relevant to indigenous peoples and local communities.