indigenous peoples situation

FOUR YEARS INTO SDG IMPLEMENTATION

Photo credit: Sandugo
Overall situation of indigenous peoples

Are pushed further behind due to land grabbing, systemic discrimination, widespread human rights violations and criminalization and worsening inequality

Are excluded and invisible in most SDG national action plans and strategies

Have no meaningful participation in most SDG planning at local and national levels

Roles and contributions and holistic approach to sustainable development are not recognized, protected and supported

Are not counted in monitoring as most countries do not produce disaggregated data to monitor gaps and differentiated progress in SDG implementation
Indigenous Peoples situation: four (4) years into SDG Implementation by Goal
Goal 1 (no poverty): Indigenous peoples remain 15% of the extreme poor but only 6.2% of the global population.

Goal 2 (zero hunger): increased hunger due to land grabs, climate change and lock down and restrictions due to COVID-19 pandemic.
Goal 3 (good health and well-being): lack of access to health and medical services; disproportionately affected by COVID 19 with more cases of infection and death.

Goal 4 (quality education for all): significant progress in a number of countries but stalled due to COVID 19.
Goal 5 (gender equality): widespread violence, trafficking and exploitation of indigenous women and girls; persisting discrimination and lack of participation in decision-making of indigenous women

Photo credit: Video still by Stephan Bachenheimer/World Bank
Goal 6 (clean water and sanitation): continuing lack of access in many countries, contributing to increased vulnerability related to COVID-19 and other diseases.
Goal 7 (affordable and clean energy): increasing cases of land grabs and human rights violations to imposed renewable energy projects in indigenous territories; slow progress in access to community-based and appropriate renewable energy.

Goal 8 (decent work and economic growth): indigenous peoples earning 18.5 % less than non-indigenous (ILO) many economic growth projects causing more land grabbing, destruction of livelihood.
GOAL 10 REDUCING INEQUALITY:

- worsening inequality than reduction (Global Sustainable Development Report)
- lower educational level; lower salary/income; higher incarceration rate; lower access to basic social services; inadequate representation and participation in decision making; lack of legal recognition of distinct identity and collective rights resulting to massive human rights violations with impunity
Goal 13 (climate Action):

- Indigenous Peoples have the least carbon footprint but are at the forefront of the adverse impacts of climate change.

- Most climate solutions are not aligned to the protection of indigenous peoples' rights.
Goal 15 (forest and biodiversity protection):

more forest and biodiversity loss than protection (Global Sustainable Development Report-GSDR)

80% of biodiversity protected by indigenous peoples but only 10% of their territories have legal security

Photo credit: Photo by Nathaniel Fabian
Goal 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions):

- worsening human rights violations and criminalization
  - 2016-17: 40% documented cases of all political killings were indigenous peoples (Global Witness Report)
  - 2018: 77% reported cases were environment and land rights defenders
  - 2019: at least 125 cases of political killings of indigenous leaders

- Lack of accountability and implementation of the human rights obligations of States to indigenous peoples including failure to act on recommendation made by human rights bodies
Proportion of recommendations on indigenous peoples and land rights by recommending body

- UPR: 37%
- Treaty bodies: 28%
- Special procedures: 28%
- Special rapporteurs: 7%
Number of recommendations on Indigenous peoples linked to each SDG

GOAL 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions
GOAL 10: Reduced Inequality
GOAL 1: No Poverty
GOAL 2: Zero Hunger
GOAL 5: Gender Equality
GOAL 4: Quality Education
GOAL 3: Good Health and Well-being
GOAL 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
GOAL 17: Partnerships to achieve the Goal
GOAL 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
GOAL 12: Responsible Consumption and Production
GOAL 6: Clean Water and Sanitation
GOAL 13: Climate Action
GOAL 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
GOAL 15: Life on Land
GOAL 14: Life Below Water
GOAL 7: Affordable and Clean Energy
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NOTE: recommendations related to Goals 15 and 17 are reflected under Goal 16 as human rights violations to lands, territories and resources, and lack of access to justice

See more at: sdgdata.humanrights.dk
Goal 17 (partnerships for the Goals):

- many Public-Private Partnership for economic growth do not have strong policy for human rights due diligence and environment protection

- Right Energy Partnership of the IPMG gaining more support in relation to community-based renewable energy and in promoting a right-based approach to renewable energy development
Indigenous Peoples’ Collective Rights to Self Determination and to their lands, territories and Resources affirmed by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples-UNDRIP LINKED TO SDGS
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Article 3: right to self-determination: to freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development.

Article 4: right to autonomy or self-government in matters relating to their internal and local affairs; ways and means for financing their autonomous functions.

Article 5: right to maintain and strengthen their distinct political, legal, economic, social and cultural institutions, right to participate fully, if they so choose, in the political, economic, social and cultural life of the State.

Photo credit: Getty Images
Article 10: no relocation without FPIC; just and fair compensation and right to return

Article 20: to be secure in the enjoyment of their own means of subsistence and development, and to engage freely in all their traditional and other economic activities; entitled to just and fair redress.

Article 25: to maintain and strengthen their distinctive spiritual relationship; to uphold their responsibilities to future generations in this regard.

Article 26: right to the lands, territories and resources which they have traditionally owned, occupied or otherwise used or acquired. States shall give legal recognition and protection to these lands, territories and resources.
Article 27: recognition to indigenous peoples’ laws, traditions, customs and land tenure systems, to recognize and adjudicate the rights of indigenous peoples pertaining to their lands, territories and resources.

Article 28: right to redress for LTR confiscated, taken, occupied, used or damaged without their free, prior and informed consent.

Article 29: right to the conservation and protection of the environment and the productive capacity of their lands or territories and resources. States shall establish and implement assistance programmes for indigenous peoples for such conservation and protection, without discrimination.