

The goals of the Partnership are to:

- Ensure that renewable energy projects are fully aligned with the respect and protection of human rights.
- By 2030 provide 50 million indigenous peoples access to renewable energy that is developed and managed in ways that are consistent with communities' self-determined needs and development aspirations.

The Partnership is led by indigenous peoples, with indigenous communities and networks from around the world forming the core of this initiative. Other stakeholders from civil society, private sector, governments, human rights institutions, the UN and other multi-lateral agencies are encouraged to work in partnership with indigenous communities to achieve these goals. The Partnership will provide a platform for knowledge exchange, learning and collaboration to magnify and scale up action.

**The Right Energy Partnership will make a unique contribution to sustainable development and climate action as it is:**

- The only indigenous-led partnership related to the SDGs and climate change
- Based on a rights-based framework and social equity - not "business as usual"
- Focused on indigenous-led solutions with equitable benefits reaching the poorest and most marginalised
- Committed to empowering indigenous women and communities
- Open, transparent and accountable

The Partnership was initiated by the Indigenous Peoples Major Group for Sustainable Development, one of the nine officially recognised Major Groups that can officially participate in Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) processes at the global level.

**INDIGENOUS PEOPLES MAJOR GROUP  
FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**



*The Indigenous Peoples Major Group is  
funded by the European Commission*



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## **THE RIGHT ENERGY PARTNERSHIP WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES**

**AN INNOVATIVE, BOTTOM-UP AND INDIGENOUS-LED  
PARTNERSHIP TACKLING THE RENEWABLE ENERGY  
CHALLENGES FACED BY INDIGENOUS PEOPLES.**



*Photos: TONIBUNG, turtlesland.com, thedialogue.org*

**THE RIGHT ENERGY PARTNERSHIP IS A MULTI-STAKEHOLDER  
ALLIANCE THAT PUTS HUMAN RIGHTS AND INDIGENOUS  
COMMUNITIES AT THE CENTER OF RENEWABLE ENERGY. IT  
WILL SUPPORT INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES TO ACCESS  
APPROPRIATE RENEWABLE ENERGY AND PROMOTE  
INDIGENOUS-LED RENEWABLE ENERGY SOLUTIONS.**

## Critical need to focus on indigenous peoples in energy

Indigenous peoples constitute one third of the world's 900 million extremely poor rural people; a group that forms the bulk of those with no access to energy. Indigenous peoples are a critical but invisible demographic that need to be put at the center of the global dialogue on energy access.



Photo: [greenempowerment.org](http://greenempowerment.org)

Indigenous peoples are the stewards of lands and resources and are fully committed to the needed just transition towards renewable energy for climate justice and sustainable development. However, indigenous territories host renewable energy projects that are often designed without respect for indigenous peoples' rights, and often without meaningful consultation and consent. This has resulted in conflicts, displacements, destruction of livelihoods, violence against indigenous women and girls and undermined their self-determined development.

Human rights issues are largely absent from debates on renewable energy. **Indigenous peoples' rights to their lands and resources, to participation in decision-making and benefit-sharing as well as equal access to energy must be key considerations in global renewable energy expansion for climate change solutions and for achieving sustainable development.**

## Indigenous-led energy solutions must be supported

**Indigenous peoples are engaging in innovative renewable energy solutions** and are major contributors to solving problems related to climate changes and achieving sustainable development.

The indigenous Ngati Tahu community in New Zealand has formed a land trust that oversees governance of energy activities on their land. The community co-owns and benefits directly from geothermal power plants on their territories.

In the Cordillera region of the Philippines and Sabah, Malaysia, indigenous peoples have developed democratically managed and locally owned micro-hydro power systems that support the livelihoods and sustainable development of local communities.



Photo: TONIBUNG

In the Navajo Nation, the local community has pushed for a just transition from coal to solar power, developing the first utility scale solar project on tribal land in the USA.

Empowering indigenous communities will accelerate progress in renewable energy that is inclusive and participatory. These approaches have multiple co-benefits, including minimizing conflicts, reducing poverty and food insecurity, empowering indigenous women and enhancing community-led development.

## The Right Energy Partnership will be a powerful catalyst for action

The Right Energy Partnership with Indigenous Peoples was developed in order to address the challenges and respond to the critical needs of indigenous peoples around renewable energy, and unlock the untapped potential of indigenous-led action for sustainable development and climate action.