Common reporting parameters on funding for Indigenous Peoples

Towards an ecosystem of comparable data

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Charapa

Global Alliance of Territorial Communities

Table of contents

INTRODUCTION

In November 2023, the Global Alliance of Territorial Communities and Charapa convened a multistakeholder workshop in Paris[1], to discuss the current data gaps on funding for Indigenous Peoples and local communities. The workshop concluded with the adoption of the **Paris Roadmap for Tracking of Funds**[2], which is a collective vision for building an ecosystem of comparable data about funding that can enhance transparency, accountability, efficiency, and compliance with rights.

The realization of this vision requires, dialogue, collaboration and partnerships as well as individual and joint actions by donors, Indigenous Peoples, UN and other multilateral agencies, as well as NGOs.

One of the fundamental building blocks is to agree on common parameters for reporting that will ensure that data is consistent and comparable, even if provided by different actors through different reporting mechanisms.

In April 2024, the Global Alliance of Territorial Communities and Charapa convened another technical workshop in New York, to further discuss common classifications, terms and standards for reporting and tracking of funding for Indigenous Peoples[3]. At the workshop, participants discussed a set of draft **common reporting parameters**.

Workshop participants also underlined the need for ensuring broad ownership and engagement in the process, and decided that:

- The revised common reporting parameters should be circulated broadly in various languages for comments and input, and;

- Indigenous Peoples should continue to lead the process, so outreach to Indigenous caucuses, organizations and networks as well as Indigenous-led Funds has particular importance.

In line with these decisions, the revised common reporting parameters were circulated broadly in English, French, Portuguese and Spanish, and subsequently finalized, based on the comments and input received.

We are grateful for the interest and active engagement in this process, of donors, partners, allies and Indigenous Peoples' organizations from across the globe. It is our hope that these common reporting parameters will be a tool and a source of inspiration as we jointly move forward in the process to enhance transparency, accountability and impact of funding for Indigenous Peoples.

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1) The workshop was organized with the support of Indigenous Peoples Rights International, International Funders of Indigenous Peoples, Rainforest Foundation Norway, Rainforest Foundation US, Rights and Resources Initiative, Tinta, United Nations Development Programme and the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, and with financial support from the Ford Foundation, the David and Lucile Packard Foundation and the Christensen Fund.

2) See the Roadmap here

3) The workshop was organized with financial support from the Ford Foundation, the David and Lucile Packard Foundation and the Christensen Fund. See the full workshop report here

BACKGROUND

The need for better data on funding

The UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) acknowledges that '*indigenous peoples have suffered from historic injustices as a result of, inter alia, their colonization and dispossession of their lands, territories and resources, thus preventing them from exercising, in particular, their right to development in accordance with their own needs and interests*' (sixth preambular paragraph).

Access to funding is a key element for overcoming historical injustices and discrimination, and for Indigenous Peoples to exercise their right to pursue self-governance and self-determined development. Therefore, the UNDRIP specifies that Indigenous Peoples, in exercising their right to self-determination, have the right to ways and means for financing the autonomous functions of their self-government (article 4), and that Indigenous Peoples have the right to have access to financial and technical assistance from States and through international cooperation (Article 39).

Moreover, Indigenous Peoples are indispensable partners for combating climate change, biodiversity loss, poverty and inequality at a global scale. A few figures illustrate their crucial role in tackling these intertwined crises:

- Indigenous Peoples represent 6.2% of the world's population but 18.7% of the extreme poor.[4]

- An estimated 36% of the world's remaining intact forests, at least 24% of the above-ground carbon in tropical forests[5] and up to 80% of the world's remaining forest biodiversity[6] are found within Indigenous Peoples' territories.

Hence, without the participation and contribution of Indigenous Peoples, the world will not achieve the Paris Agreement on climate change, the Global Biodiversity Framework and the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, including its pledge to "leave no one behind". Donors generally align their funding strategies with these global frameworks, but only a small fraction of this funding is allocated to support Indigenous Peoples.

Rainforest Foundation Norway estimates that funding to tenure rights and forest management of Indigenous Peoples and local communities amounted to less than 1 percent of international climate development aid from 2011-2020[7].

International Funders for Indigenous Peoples estimates that only 0.6% of the funding reported to the CANDID database (philanthropic funders) was marked as "benefitting Indigenous Peoples". Of this limited amount, 88.7% went to Indigenous Peoples in North America.

Research undertaken by members of the Global Alliance of Territorial Communities[8] show that funding remains low, unpredictable, and highly competitive, and is not commensurate with the roles and needs of communities on the ground.

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4) ILO, 2019: Implementing the ILO Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention No. 169: Towards an inclusive, sustainable and just future, p. 13 Available here

5) See data of the World Resources Institute

6) See e.g. IUCN statement and Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Forest Tenure Pledge, Annual Report 2021-2022, p. 4, here

7) See the Falling Short report here

8) See the annual Shandia Report 2023 here

Funding for Indigenous Peoples comes from both bilateral donors and philanthropic funders. A small proportion of this funding is allocated directly to Indigenous Peoples' organizations and funding mechanisms, but most funds are channeled to public institutions, NGOs, UN agencies, multilateral banks, research institutions, private consultancy firms or other so-called "intermediaries". Some of these organizations subsequently transfer funds to Indigenous Peoples' organizations, or they provide other kinds of support, such as technical assistance, process facilitation or other services that do not imply transfer of funds.

There is hardly any data on the transaction costs of the different funding modalities, or on the amount of funding that reaches Indigenous Peoples' organizations.

The data gap makes it impossible to answer basic questions about what amounts of funds are going to whom, for what purpose and with what impact. While data on funding is not an end, it is crucial for informing decision-making and for devising efficient strategies to increase funding to realize Indigenous Peoples' rights, combat climate change, conserve and sustainably manage biodiversity and achieve sustainable development. To track these flows of funds, it is important to generate data about:

- How much funding is allocated by bilateral donors and philanthropic funders to support Indigenous Peoples;

- How much funding is passed on to Indigenous Peoples by governments, UN agencies, international finance institutions, multilateral institutions, NGOs, research institutions and private consultancy firms and other so-called "intermediaries";

- How much funding is received by Indigenous Peoples' organizations and funding mechanisms.

The need for common reporting parameters

Currently, there is no specific reporting or tracking of funding to Indigenous Peoples and no common classifications, terms or standards for data. Available evidence is based on estimates, ad hoc methodologies, and individual surveys, which are complex and time consuming, and carry a risk of misinterpretation or miscalculation when aggregating diverse data.

This implies that each institution – or even individual staff members – may have their own understandings and interpretations of terms such as "Indigenous organizations" or "direct funding. This implies that the limited data that is available is not consistent or comparable within or across different institutions and reporting systems, and over time. Consequently, it is not possible to aggregate data from different sources to gain a broader picture of the funding situation for Indigenous Peoples. Moreover, there is an increasing tendency to conflate the term "Indigenous Peoples" with other categories such as local communities[9] and afro-descendants. That makes it impossible to generate specific data on funding for Indigenous Peoples and limits a deeper analysis of the scope and impact of funding.

To yield solid, consistent and comparable data, it is necessary to have common reporting parameters, including specific and standardized terms and classifications on funding for Indigenous Peoples. Furthermore, it is essential that these common reporting parameters are fully aligned with international standards and instruments, in particular the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the ILO Convention No. 169. These instruments provide a solid basis for defining the common terms and classifications and will also ensure legitimacy and relevance of the data.

9) The Paris Roadmap for Tracking of Funds comprises actions to track funds for Indigenous Peoples and for local communities, respectively. It would be important to develop similar Common Reporting Parameters for funding for local communities, which would allow for both disaggregation and aggregation of data on funding for Indigenous Peoples.

COMMON REPORTING PARAMETERS

Building an ecosystem of data

Bilateral donors, philanthropic funders, governments, UN and other multilateral agencies, NGOs and Indigenous Peoples' organizations do not report about funding through the same channels or systems. Moreover, they have very different experiences and institutional capacities for data collection and aggregation.

The funding chains from donors to a myriad of Indigenous and non-indigenous recipients are many and complex. It is therefore not realistic to establish a single reporting mechanism on funding for Indigenous Peoples for all types of organizations at a global scale. Rather, the solution is that different organizations and reporting mechanisms start using common reporting parameters, to generate comparable data about funding for Indigenous Peoples. Thereby, the **common reporting parameters will be the basis for compiling an ecosystem of comparable data from different sources** that can jointly enhance transparency, accountability and decision-making.

The four common reporting parameters are designed to answer the following questions:

- Is the activity advancing Indigenous Peoples' rights and well-being?
- What is the degree/importance of support to Indigenous Peoples of the activity?
- What amount of funding is allocated to advance Indigenous Peoples' rights and well-being?
- Is the funding provided as direct or indirect funding for Indigenous Peoples?

To facilitate uptake, the common reporting parameters are designed to be few, simple and aligned with existing international instruments, most prominently the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The four common reporting parameters (CRPs) are described in the sections below. In addition, Annex A provides a brief explanation of core terms and concepts regarding the identification of Indigenous Peoples, the scope of their rights and their representative institutions.

CRP 1:
Projects/actions that advance Indigenous Peoples' rights and well-being

Projects/actions are classified as advancing the realization of the rights and well-being of Indigenous Peoples[10] if they:

- Have an objective to support the implementation of elements covered under the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, or:

- Include Indigenous Peoples and/or Indigenous elders, women, men, youth, children and persons with disabilities as a specific target group for support.

To report correctly, the starting point is to identify relevant projects/actions that advance Indigenous Peoples' rights and well-being, as enshrined in international law.

The rights enshrined in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) *"constitute the minimum standards for the survival, dignity and well-being of the indigenous peoples of the world"* (UNDRIP, article 43).

Hence, UNDRIP constitutes a global and comprehensive framework for reporting, as it covers the full range of Indigenous Peoples' rights. These include rights to health; education; food; housing; lands, territories and resources; governance; participation in decision-making; free, prior and informed consent; gender equality; employment and traditional occupations, and many more[11].

Projects/actions that support the general population in a given region, country or situation and which may coincidentally include Indigenous Peoples but does not have Indigenous Peoples (or Indigenous elders, women, men, youth, children and persons with disabilities) as a specific target group is not classified as advancing the realization of Indigenous Peoples' rights.

CRP 2:
Scoring degree of support to Indigenous Peoples

Some reporting systems allow data providers to mark the degree/importance of support for certain subjects. This for example, is the case with the OECD-DAC's "policy markers[12]" and the envisaged "traffic light system" to assess relevance for Indigenous Peoples of projects/actions within the UN-system.

In such reporting systems, donors and partners can score the degree/importance of support to Indigenous Peoples, including within broader process, program or project.

Such scoring does not provide budget figures that can easily be aggregate but allows for a quick identification of projects/actions of relevance for Indigenous Peoples, which can then be further analyzed.

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10) See Annex A.1. for a brief explanation of the identification criteria for Indigenous Peoples

11) See Annex A.2 for a brief overview of Indigenous Peoples' rights.

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12) When reporting on the OECD-DAC "policy markers", donors would indicate whether supporting the realization of certain groups or topics is: a) **principal**, i.e. the main objective of the activity and fundamental in its design and expected results or b) **significant** i.e. an important and deliberate objective, but not the principal reason for undertaking the activity, or c) **non-targeted** if it has been screened but has not been found to target the topic or group.

Scoring the degree/importance of support to Indigenous Peoples, would be as follows:

Classification of projects/actions	Scoring
Has as its main objective to support the implementation of elements covered under the UNDRIP	Principal
Has a specific objective to support the implementation of elements covered under the UNDRIP in broader processes, programs and projects	Significant
Has Indigenous Peoples and/or Indigenous elders, women, men, youth, children and persons with disabilities as its main target group for support.	Principal
Include Indigenous Peoples and/or Indigenous elders, women, men, youth, children and persons with disabilities as a specific target group for support in broader processes, programs and projects	Significant
Supports the general population in a given region, country or situation; may include Indigenous Peoples but does not have Indigenous Peoples as a specific target group	Non-targeted

CRP 3:
Calculating amounts of funding for Indigenous Peoples

To correctly report on the amount of funding allocated to advance the realization of Indigenous Peoples' rights and well-being, it is important to provide accurate **monetary budget figures**, which can be aggregated across different donors/partners[13].

Funding that advances the realization of Indigenous Peoples' rights can be provided as either **exclusive support** or by **integrating support** to Indigenous Peoples in broader processes, projects and programs.

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13) This, for example, is how donors are reporting on their contributions to the 1.7 billion USD Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Forest Tenure Pledge, see Annual Report 2021-2022 here

In the cases where support for Indigenous Peoples is just one component within broader processes, projects and programs, it is important to **calculate the specific amount allocated** to advance Indigenous Peoples' rights and well-being. Reporting on monetary budget figures, would be as follows:

Classification of projects/actions by donors and partners	Budget reporting
Has as its main objective to support the implementation of elements covered under the UNDRIP	100% of budget allocation
Has a specific objective to support the implementation of elements covered under the UNDRIP in broader processes, programs and projects	Percentage of budget allocated to support the implementation of elements covered under the UNDRIP
Has Indigenous Peoples and/or Indigenous elders, women, men, youth, children and persons with disabilities as its main target group for support.	100% of budget allocation
Include Indigenous Peoples and/or Indigenous elders, women, men, youth, children and persons with disabilities as a specific target group for support in broader processes, programs and projects	Percentage of budget allocated to support Indigenous Peoples within the overall budget
Supports the general population in a given region, country or situation; may coincidentally include some Indigenous beneficiaries but does not have Indigenous Peoples as a specific target group.	0% of budget allocation

CRP 4:
Distinguishing direct and indirect funding for Indigenous Peoples

Funding that advances the realization of Indigenous Peoples' rights can be provided by donors as either **direct or indirect funding** to Indigenous Peoples.

Direct funding is funding that is transferred directly from donors to:

- Representative institutions[14] of Indigenous Peoples,

- Institutions or funding mechanisms established by Indigenous individuals, communities or organizations to advance the realization of Indigenous Peoples' rights and well-being.

Indirect funding is funding that is transferred:

- From donors to public institutions, NGOs, UN agencies, multilateral and regional banks or other so-called "intermediaries", with the purpose to advance the realization of Indigenous Peoples' rights and well-being.

- From public institutions, NGOs, UN agencies, multilateral and regional banks or other so-called "intermediaries" to representative institutions of Indigenous Peoples or institutions or funding mechanisms established by Indigenous individuals, communities or organizations to advance the realization of Indigenous Peoples' rights and well-being.

If donors allocate funds to Indigenous institutions or funding mechanisms, and these Indigenous institutions or funding mechanisms, exercising their right to self-determination, decide to have the funds transferred through **a fiscal sponsor**, it would still be considered direct funding.

In exercising their right to self-determination, some Indigenous organizations have made a deliberate choice to not manage funds and have therefore decided to appoint a trusted fiscal sponsor to assume that role. In other cases, fiscal sponsorship may be relevant due to logistical challenges (where banking institutions are not available); security and privacy issues (where Indigenous Peoples are not able to receive funds) or; institutional capacities (where Indigenous Peoples do not have the needed experience or systems to manage funds). When fiscal sponsorships are chosen because of capacity-gaps, these should be time-limited and include "graduation plans" for when the Indigenous organization should start to receive funds directly.

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14) See ANNEX A.3. for an explanation of Indigenous Peoples' representative institutions.

TOWARDS AN ECOSYSTEM OF DATA

Using the CRPs in combination with other basic metrics

It is important to keep in mind that existing reporting systems (such as those established by individual donors, OECD, IATI and others) already track basic aspects of funding flows, such as:

- Geography (regions, countries and areas)
- Thematic area of support (sectors, themes, SDGs, issues)
- Timeframe (duration of support)
- Type of support (unrestricted budget or core support, projects, technical assistance)
- Target groups (women, children, persons with disabilities, etc.)

The common reporting parameters on funding for Indigenous Peoples are designed for use in combination with these existing basic parameters for reporting, to track funding for Indigenous Peoples across geographies, thematic sectors etc.

Reporting by different actors in the funding chain

The common reporting parameters are meant to be used for reporting by:

- Donors (both bilateral donors and philanthropic funders);
- Public institutions, NGOs, UN agencies, multilateral banks, research institutions, private consultancy firms or other so-called "intermediaries", and;
- Indigenous Peoples' representative institution, as well as institutions or funding mechanism established by Indigenous individuals/communities to advance the realization of Indigenous Peoples' rights.

Given their different roles in the chain of funding, these actors should use the common reporting parameters to report on slightly different aspects of the flow, as follows:

Type of actors	What to report on
Bilateral donors and philanthropic funders	• Does the project/action advance Indigenous Peoples' rights and wellbeing • What is the degree/importance of support to Indigenous Peoples of the project/action • What amount of the budget is allocated to advance Indigenous Peoples' rights and wellbeing • What amount of the budget is provided as direct and as indirect funding
Public institutions, NGOs, UN agencies, and other "intermediaries"	• Does the project/action advance Indigenous Peoples' rights and wellbeing • What is the degree/importance of support to Indigenous Peoples of the project/action • What amount of the budget is allocated to advance Indigenous Peoples' rights and wellbeing • What amount of the budget is transferred to an Indigenous Peoples' institution or funding mechanism
Indigenous Peoples' institutions/funding mechanisms	• Are you an Indigenous Peoples representative institution or an institution or funding mechanism established by Indigenous individuals/communities to advance the realization of Indigenous Peoples' rights • What is the amount of funding you have received from a donor or partner organization? • Is the funding provided as direct or as indirect funding

Challenges and opportunities in different reporting systems

Since 1969, all bilateral donors have mandatorily reported to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) on their official development assistance and other funding flows. The OECD therefore has a very elaborate system for standardized reporting about geographic location, sector, budget, and other key features of funding. However, the system does not facilitate tracking of funding for Indigenous Peoples, and only provides information about the first-level recipients of funding, which are rarely Indigenous Peoples' organisations[15].

Approximately 1700 organizations, including donors, International Finance Institutions, NGOs, CSOs etc. publish data about funding to the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI). The IATI standard for reporting is aligned with the OECD and currently does not facilitate tracking of funding to Indigenous Peoples[16].

Within the thematic field of forest tenure, there are commendable attempts to generate or collate data on support to Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

The **Forest Tenure Funders Group** (FTFG) has pledged 1.7 billion USD to tenure rights and forest guardianship of Indigenous Peoples and local communities and publishes an annual report that provides aggregated data on progress towards this commitment.

The **Rainforest Foundation Norway** in collaboration with the Rights and Resources Initiative and **Indufor North America** has launched the **Path to Scale Funding Dashboard** (available here).
The Dashboard is an open-source online tool that gives easy access to data about donor funding for tenure rights and forest guardianship of Indigenous Peoples, Afro-descendant Peoples and local

Communities. The data can be disaggregated by country and year and is also searchable by keywords such as "Indigenous".

The so-called intermediaries constitute a very diverse group of institutions and do not have any uniform or coordinated ways of reporting. Consequently, the different kind of organizations involved in providing funding for Indigenous Peoples (including UN agencies, multilateral institutions and NGOs) must explore ways to enhance reporting on funding for Indigenous Peoples, in collaboration with their peers.

The **Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues** (IASG) with 45 members across the UN-system, is coordinating the implementation of the SWAP. Currently, there is no established mechanism to track implementation, but the IASG is developing a framework for measuring action of UN Country Teams with regards to Indigenous Peoples

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15) All bilateral donors and several major philanthropic funders report on their allocation of funds to the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD-DAC). However, the OECD-DAC does not have a system to specifically track funding for Indigenous Peoples. Therefore, the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII), in both 2023 and 2024 have made specific recommendations to the OECD-DAC to include a policy marker in its system for donor reporting to facilitate tracking of funding allocated for Indigenous Peoples across all sectors (UNPFII, 2023, art. 93, available here).

16) The International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) collate and aggregate data on international development finance across the chain of finance (from donors through UN agencies, NGOs etc. to the end beneficiaries (see more about the IATI reporting standard here and explore the IATI data here. Hence, it is highly relevant to explore ways the IATI system can be used to better track funding for Indigenous Peoples.

While some data and estimates are available about donor allocations for Indigenous Peoples, there is hardly any data available about what funding reaches Indigenous Peoples. Neither donors nor the intermediaries have an overview of funds transferred to Indigenous Peoples and it is therefore only Indigenous Peoples' own organizations and funding mechanisms that can report on the level of funding that reaches their organizations, territories and communities. Moreover, such data collection is sensitive and Indigenous Peoples' organizations can ensure the high degree of trust and legitimacy that is needed. Indigenous ownership of the data is also essential for ensuring relevance, transparency, accountability, and empowerment of communities.

It is only in recent years that Indigenous Peoples' organizations have begun to collect data on funding, and it will require substantial support and investments to consolidate the current pilot experiences into solid mechanisms and infrastructure for continuous reporting.

Using the common reporting parameters in different reporting systems

The common reporting parameters do not replace existing reporting mechanisms, nor do they establish any new reporting obligations. Rather, they intend to provide parameters that can be integrated with existing reporting mechanisms (such as those established by donors, NGOs, OECD, IATI, FTFG and others), and emerging reporting mechanisms (such as those being considered by Indigenous-led funding mechanisms).

The table on the next page provides an overview of how different actors currently report, and how they can use the common reporting parameters (here abbreviated as CRP) to contribute to an ecosystem of comparable data on funding for Indigenous Peoples:

Main actor	Main reporting mechanisms	How to use the CRP in these reporting mechanisms
Bilateral donors	• Regular individual reporting on funding[17] • Mandatory reporting to OECD • Voluntary reporting to IATI • Voluntary reporting under specific Pledges	• Use the CRP in regular individual reporting on funding. • Refer explicitly to the terms and classifications of the CRP in project descriptions, which will make it easier to identify relevant projects/activities through keyword search, and use of AI. • Explore ways through the Development Assistance Committee of the OECD to insert a marker in the OECD statistical system, based on the CRP, to track funding for Indigenous Peoples. • Work with IATI to enhance tracking of funding for Indigenous Peoples • Align the reporting formats for specific Pledges and other specific commitments with the CRP.
Philanthropic funders	• Regular individual reporting on funding[18] • Voluntary reporting to IATI • Voluntary reporting to CANDID[19] • Voluntary reporting under specific Pledges	• Use the CRP in regular individual reporting on funding. • Refer explicitly to the CRP in project descriptions, which will make it easier to identify relevant projects/activities through keyword search, and use of AI. • Work with IATI to enhance tracking of funding for Indigenous Peoples. • Align the reporting formats for specific Pledges and other specific commitments with the CRP.
UN agencies	• Reporting to donors • Voluntary reporting to IATI[20] • Voluntary reporting to the UNPFII[21] • Monitoring progress of the System-Wide Action Plan (SWAP)	• Use the CRP in regular reporting to donors • Work with IATI to enhance tracking of funding for Indigenous Peoples • Use the CRP to report to the UNPFII on funding to Indigenous Peoples • Develop indicators based on the CRP to track progress in the implementation of the SWAP
NGOs	• Reporting to donors • Voluntary reporting to IATI	• Use the CRP in regular reporting to donors • Work with IATI to enhance tracking of funding for Indigenous Peoples
Indigenous Peoples' organizations and funding mechanisms	• Reporting to donors • Pilot compilation of data (some)	• Use the CRP in regular reporting to donors • Use the CRP in the establishment of monitoring mechanisms and data collection on funding

17) Most bilateral donors publish information about the projects they support. See for example the website of the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad) here, and the website of the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) of the UK government here.

18) Many philanthropic funders publish data about their grants. See for example the database of the Ford Foundation here

19) Many philanthropies, particularly those that are US-based, report on their projects to CANDID. See more here

20) The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the International Labour Organization (ILO), and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and several other UN agencies report to IATI (see the IATI data here)

21) All UN system agencies, funds and programmes and intergovernmental organizations are requested to annually report to the UNPFII. While most agencies submit qualitative information about their engagement with Indigenous Peoples, IFAD includes information about its financial support to Indigenous Peoples. See reports submitted for the 23rd session here

EXAMPLES OF OPERATIONALIZING THE CRPs

The following examples are meant to give guidance on how the Common Reporting Parameters would be interpreted and applied in different contexts.

Example A:

Donor X supports a local Indigenous organization to do community mapping of their land, develop a management plan and support small-scale enterprises for livelihood improvement.

Guidance:
Although the project is not explicitly framed in the terms of the UNDRIP, it supports Indigenous Peoples' right to use, develop and control lands, territories and resources, as well as economic development. Hence, the project advances the rights and well-being of Indigenous Peoples as it supports the implementation of elements covered under the UNDRIP. The recipient organization is a territorial governance institution, established by Indigenous community members, and qualifies as a representative institution of Indigenous Peoples.

CRP	Reporting
Supports the realization of Indigenous Peoples' rights and well-being	Yes
Budget reporting	100%
Funding modality	Direct funding
Scoring of relevance/importance	Principal

Example B:

Donor X supports a national network of Indigenous Peoples to engage in negotiations about article 6.8 of the UNFCCC on non-market approaches to implement mitigation and adaptation actions. The recipient is an Indigenous network, but the outcomes of the support (in terms of influencing policies) will not be exclusively for Indigenous Peoples.

Guidance:
Although the outcomes may benefit other groups, it primarily supports the right of Indigenous Peoples to participate in decision-making in matters which would affect their rights, which is an element covered under the UNDRIP. The recipient organization is a national network established by various Indigenous territorial and governance organizations of the country. Hence, the network qualifies as a representative institution of Indigenous Peoples.

CRP	Reporting by donor
Supports the realization of Indigenous Peoples' rights and well-being	Yes
Budget reporting	100%
Funding modality	Direct funding
Scoring of relevance/importance	Principal

Example C:

Donor X supports a funding mechanism established by an Alliance of Indigenous Peoples and local communities to support locally determined development priorities. The Alliance estimates that half of the funding goes to Indigenous Peoples and the other half to local communities.

Guidance:

Indigenous Peoples constitute a specific target group for support under the funding mechanism, and locally determined development priorities is an element covered under the UNDRIP. As funding under the mechanisms is supposed to be shared equally between Indigenous Peoples and local communities, 50% of the funding counts as advancing the realization of the rights and well-being of Indigenous Peoples. Although it also comprises local communities, Indigenous organizations have established the funding mechanism with a view to advancing the realization of Indigenous Peoples' rights in their communities.

CRP	Reporting by donor
Supports the realization of Indigenous Peoples' rights and well-being	Yes
Budget reporting	50%
Funding modality	Direct funding
Scoring of relevance/importance	Significant

Example D:

Donor X provides non-earmarked budget support to an international NGO that works with Indigenous Peoples. Support to Indigenous Peoples is a specific objective of the NGO's overall strategy, but it also has objectives to generally influence climate change and biodiversity strategies, and to support local communities. The international NGO estimates that 15% of its budget is spent to promote Indigenous Peoples' rights to lands, territories and resources, and rights to participation in decision-making. It estimates that half of these funds are transferred to Indigenous organizations, and the other half spent on activities undertaken by the NGO.

Guidance:

15% of the NGO's budget is allocated to support the implementation of elements covered under the UNDRIP and can be reported as such by both the donor and the NGO. The NGO can also report on the money transferred to Indigenous Peoples (7.5% of the budget). The international NGO is not an Indigenous Peoples' organization and was not selected by an Indigenous Peoples representative institution to receive the money on their behalf.

CRP	Reporting by donor
Supports the realization of Indigenous Peoples' rights and well-being	Yes
Budget reporting	15%
Funding modality	Indirect funding
Scoring of relevance/importance	Significant

CRP	Reporting by NGO
Supports the realization of Indigenous Peoples' rights and well-being	Yes
Budget reporting	15%
Funds transferred to Indigenous Peoples	7.5%
Funding modality	Indirect funding
Scoring of relevance/importance	Significant

Example E:

Donor X provides a grant to an international Network of Indigenous Peoples and local communities. The Network estimates that app. 70% of its constituents are Indigenous Peoples and 30% are local communities. The Network is not constituted as a legal entity and cannot receive funds. The Network selects an NGO to receive the funds on its behalf. The NGO charges an overhead to cover the costs related to the administration of the funds.

Guidance:
70% of the funding is allocated to support the implementation of elements covered under the UNDRIP and/or has Indigenous Peoples as a specific target group. The NGO is selected by Indigenous Peoples to receive funds on their behalf (fiscal sponsor), and the overhead charged by the NGO is an indispensable amount needed for administering the funds, whether by a fiscal sponsor or by an Indigenous organization.

CRP	Reporting by donor
Supports the realization of Indigenous Peoples' rights and well-being	Yes
Budget reporting	70%
Funding modality	Direct funding
Scoring of relevance/importance	Principal

Example F:

A regional funding mechanism established by several national and local Indigenous Peoples' institutions has as its main purpose to fund Indigenous communities' initiatives for self-determined development. The mechanism receives 20% of its funding from a philanthropic funder, 10% from a bilateral donor and the remaining 70% of its funding from international NGOs.

Guidance:
The funding mechanism is established by Indigenous individuals, communities or organizations with a purpose to advance the realization of Indigenous Peoples' rights and well-being.

In total, 20% of its funding come directly from donors and counts as direct funding, while 80% is provided by NGOs that have themselves received the funding from donors.

CRP	Reporting by Indigenous funding mechanism
Supports the realization of Indigenous Peoples' rights and well-being	Yes
Self-identification	Funding mechanism established by Indigenous individuals, communities or organizations with a purpose to advance the realization of Indigenous Peoples' rights and well-being.
Budget reporting	100%
Funding modality	20% direct funding 80% indirect funding
Scoring of relevance/importance	Principal

ANNEX A: CORE TERMS AND CONCEPTS

A.1. Who are Indigenous Peoples?

The starting point for reporting correctly on funding for Indigenous Peoples is to understand the scope of the term "Indigenous Peoples", according to criteria enshrined in international law.

While there is no universal definition of "Indigenous Peoples", the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) underlines that self-identification is a constituting element of the right to self-determination and stipulates that: *"Indigenous peoples have the right to determine their own identity or membership in accordance with their customs and traditions"* (article 33).

ILO Convention No. 169[22] gives a set of criteria, which serve to identify Indigenous Peoples, including the fundamental criteria of self-identification. These criteria are used internationally, including in the application of the UNDRIP and have been the basis for legislative frameworks as well as operational policies, guidelines and safeguards of UN agencies, donors, regional banks and other institutions. These criteria comprise both objective and subjective elements for identifying Indigenous Peoples in context:

Objective criteria	Subjective criterion
Descent from populations which inhabited the country, or a geographical region to which the country belongs, at the time of conquest or colonisation or establishment of present state boundaries Irrespective of their legal status, they retain some or all of their own social, economic, cultural and political institutions.	Self-identification as indigenous is a fundamental criterion for identifying indigenous peoples

Globally, there are approximately 5'000 Indigenous Peoples with an estimated population of 476.6 million, representing 6.2 per cent of the world's population. Asia and the Pacific is the region where the highest proportion of Indigenous Peoples live (70.5 per cent), followed by Africa (16.3 per cent), Latin America and the Caribbean (11.5 per cent), Northern America (1.6 per cent) and Europe and Central Asia (0.1 per cent). The vast majority of Indigenous Peoples live in countries that are eligible for Official Development Assistance (ODA)[23]. Only 2.7% of the global indigenous population live in high-income countries[24].

Thanks to the concerted and constructive efforts of Indigenous Peoples, human rights institutions, experts and others, there is an increasing consensus about the understanding of the term in different regions. For example, in 2005, the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights (ACHPR) published a landmark report, clarifying who are the Indigenous Peoples in Africa. The ACHPR provided the following characteristics[25]:

- Their cultures and ways of life differ considerably from those of the dominant society;
- Their cultures are under threat, in some cases on the verge of extinction;
- The survival of their particular way of life depends on access and rights to their traditional land and resources;
- They often live in inaccessible, geographically isolated regions; and
- They suffer from political and social marginalization and are subject to domination and exploitation within national political and economic structures.

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22) ILO Convention No. 169 on the rights of Indigenous Peoples was adopted by the ILO in 1989. It is compatible with and reinforces the rights enshrined in the UNDRIP. It is legally binding on the 24 countries that have ratified it so far, including many countries in Latin America and donor countries such as Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway and Spain. See full list of ratifications here: here

23) See: OECD-DAC list of ODA eligible countries

24) ILO 2019: 54

25) The ACHPR report is available here

A.2. What are Indigenous Peoples' rights?

Indigenous Peoples are a distinct group of rightsholders under international law. Indigenous Peoples' rights are enshrined in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).

In essence, UNDRIP has a remedial purpose. It does not extend special rights to Indigenous Peoples but aims at repairing the ongoing consequences of the historical processes that have discriminated Indigenous Peoples and denied them the right to self-determination and other basic human rights. UNDRIP does not create new rights or privileges for Indigenous Peoples but mirrors universally applicable human rights and contextualizes these to the situation of Indigenous Peoples. It means that UNDRIP is complementary to – and underpinned by – the full range of human rights instruments.

Like all other human rights instruments, UNDRIP is composed of building blocks, which reflect specific rights and cross-cutting human rights norms. In order to address the overarching concerns of marginalization and assimilation of indigenous peoples, UNDRIP provides for the combined application of the principles of **non-discrimination** and **self- determination**.

This means, for example, that Indigenous Peoples have the same right to education as all other citizens, without any discrimination. This is the **non-discrimination aspect**. In addition, they have the right to an education in their own culture, provided in their own language. This is the **self-determination aspect**.

Likewise, Indigenous Peoples have right to participate in all general elections – but they also have right to self-government and to participate in public affairs through their own representative institutions. They have the right to access general health services – but they also have the right to maintain traditional medicinal and healing practices.

In the case of indigenous peoples, the principle of non-discrimination has a double dimension to ensure equality for I**ndigenous Peoples as collectives** and for **Indigenous individuals. UNDRIP provides for equality between men and women** and stipulates that particular attention should be paid to the rights and special needs of Indigenous elders, women, youth, children and persons with disabilities.

UNDRIP covers the **full range** of Indigenous Peoples' rights, which can be organized in the following main clusters[26]:

- **Self-determination,** including non-discrimination; autonomous institutions; customary law; consultation and free, prior and informed consent (FPIC).

- **Non-discrimination, including recognition of Indigenous Peoples' rights in laws and policies;** rights and special needs of Indigenous elders, women, youth, children and persons with disabilities.

- **Cultural integrity,** including Indigenous languages, cultural heritage, traditional knowledge and intellectual property.

- **Lands, territories and natural resources,** including right to own, use, develop and control lands, territories and resources; recognition, protection and adjudication of rights; protection against dispossession, removal and relocation; compensation, restitution and redress; conservation and protection of the environment and productive capacity of lands.

- **Freedom of expression and media,** including access to information; establishment of Indigenous Peoples' own media; combating prejudice and discriminatory propaganda

- **Fundamental rights and freedoms,** including protection against arbitrary deprivation of life; disappearance of individuals; torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment; community and domestic violence; appropriate conditions of detention; peaceful assembly.

- **Participation in public life,** including citizenship; participation in decision-making; universal and equal voting rights.

- **Justice,** including access to and equality before courts; access to remedy; translation in legal proceedings; consideration of customary law in legal proceedings; public hearing by competent and independent courts.

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26) This clustering of the rights enshrined in the UNDRIP is inspired by the structure of the Indigenous Navigator; a tool developed for the monitoring of UNDRIP. See more here

- **Education,** including access to education without discrimination; culturally and linguistically appropriate education.

- **Health,** including access to health services without discrimination; traditional medicines and health practices.

- **Employment and occupation,** including the right to work; equality in employment and occupations; traditional occupations; protection against forced labour and child labour; vocational training.

- **General economic and social development,** including improvement of their economic and social conditions, the right to food; the right to development; means of subsistence; social protection; housing, water and sanitation.

- **Cross-border contact.**

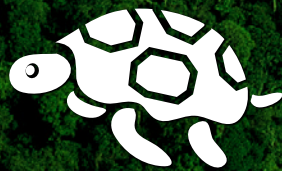## A.3. What are Indigenous Peoples' representative institutions?

Indigenous Peoples' right to retain and develop their own social, economic, cultural and political institutions is a fundamental right under the UNDRIP (see articles 5, 18, 20 and 34), and the existence of such institutions is also a core identification criterion of Indigenous Peoples). These provisions aim at restoring Indigenous Peoples' power to decide for themselves through their own institutions. Moreover, the realization of the fundamental rights to consultation, participation and free, prior and informed consent hinges upon the identification of the right representative and decision-making institutions. UNDRIP establishes that:

"Indigenous peoples have the right to participate in decision-making in matters which would affect their rights, through representatives chosen by themselves in accordance with their own procedures, as well as to maintain and develop their own indigenous decision-making institutions" (Article 18).

Indigenous Peoples' representative institutions are governance institutions with a mandate to represent one or several Indigenous communities or peoples - through a process carried out by themselves. This also implies, that an Indigenous institution cannot claim representativity without being able to clearly identify the constituents it represents as well as its accountability mechanisms towards these constituents.

Indigenous Peoples' representative institutions exist at different levels; from those representing a single community to those representing several Indigenous Peoples within a single country to broad regional or global networks. Further, in their processes of self-organizing, Indigenous Peoples have also established sectoral organizations and networks of Indigenous women, youth, and persons with disabilities.

These institutions also present a vast spectrum of different organizational forms. Some have retained traditional governance systems, while others have adopted or been forced to adopt new organizational forms.

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