Major Group Position Paper

The Indigenous Peoples Major Group's vision and priorities for the Sustainable Development Goals

March 2014

Introduction:

This short position paper details the Indigenous Peoples Major Group's vision and priorities - including themes, goals, targets and indicators – for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the wider post-2015 development agenda and the High Level Political Forum (HLPF). It forms part of the European Commission-funded multi-stakeholder engagement programme *"Sustainable Development 2015" (SD2015)*. This paper provides an opportunity for the Major Group to communicate and consult on its position as a basis for ongoing stakeholder engagement, capacity building and advocacy.

The paper sits alongside similar position papers authored by the other Major Groups. A synthesis report of these position papers is provided by Stakeholder Forum in order to identify common priorities and important differences across the Major Groups' positions and compare them with the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals' (OWG) 'focus areas', published in February 2014. The review will be used as a basis for engagement between the Major Groups and the OWG, and to establish priority clusters for further coordination and advocacy work on those themes. The individual papers will be updated by the respective Major Groups in September 2014 following a series of global and regional capacity building, outreach and advocacy exercises under the *SD2015* programme.

The Indigenous Peoples' Major Group (hereafter, IP-MG) presents the following draft position paper with proposals for major themes, goals, targets and indicators to be considered in the post-2015 development agenda.[1] This paper has been developed in partnership with several key Indigenous leaders and organizations and has received the endorsement of Indigenous communities around the world. The main positions outlined in the paper reflect the work that has been done over the last few decades and include consideration of various documents such as the Convention on Biological diversity (CBD, 1993), the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP, 2007), the Rio+20 outcome document (2012), the Alta outcome document (2013) and reports such as the High Level Panel Report (HLPR, 2013) and the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN, 2013).[2]

Summary:

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1. For more information on indicators please consult Annex 1. 'IP-MG Matrix for Goals, Targets and Potential Indicators'.

2. It is important to note that the legal framework and reference point from which we have drawn our vision and inspiration is the UNDRIP, the adoption of which was one of the major achievements of the last few years. The UNDRIP has provided us with a crucial opportunity and a call for action on the part of Member States and the UN system to integrate Indigenous rights and visions of development into the work to achieve a more sustainable future for all. The UNDRIP recognizes Indigenous Peoples' wide range of basic human rights and fundamental freedoms, such as our right to self-determination and our right to full and effective participation, and it includes establishing positive actions and other mechanisms to ensure our involvement in policy and decision-making processes.

The IP-MG is taking this opportunity to call for full and effective participation in the design, implementation and monitoring of the SDGs. We are also calling for a human rights-based and culturally-sensitive approach that emphasizes universality, participation and accountability and which is based on respect for and inclusion of our world views, perspectives and experiences in the SDGs. From our perspective, the SDGs should not only focus on desirable outcomes but also on the drivers of sustainable development, such as human rights, rights-based approaches, governance, the rule of law, and full and effective participation in decision-making. The IP-MG is thus presenting eight comprehensive themes that allow for both results-based approaches and an emphasis on the means of implementation. The *overarching themes* include: Poverty Eradication; Human Rights and inclusion for all; Good Governance and Effective Institutions; Peaceful Societies and Conflict Prevention; Environmental Sustainability and Protection of Biodiversity; Climate Change, Energy and Disaster Risk Reduction; Global Partnerships; and Cultural Diversity in Sustainable Development.

Our Position, Goals, and Targets:

The overarching themes have been chosen because of their relationship to the specific concerns of Indigenous Peoples around the world, and because they demonstrate the universal nature of the SDGs. With this in mind, the IP-MG has combined "our position", "goals and targets", and "cross-cutting themes" into one section for the purposes of clarity and cohesion.

Goal 1: Eradicate poverty for Indigenous Peoples:

Poverty should be viewed from a multi-dimensional perspective that encompasses a shortage of capabilities, choices, security and power, as well as of resources such as income. The $2 USD per day measure of poverty, however, is inadequate. For this reason, we focus on a well-being measure rather than a goal targeted on income alone. The invisibility of Indigenous Peoples within the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) confirms that culturally-inappropriate programs of poverty eradication have merely further deepened the extreme poverty of Indigenous Peoples, who disproportionately suffer absolute and relative poverty in all countries in which they live. It is also imperative to note that their lack of rights is a crucial aspect of Indigenous Peoples' poverty, and supporting these rights (human rights, land rights, cultural rights and political rights) will create the necessary basis for improving Indigenous Peoples' socio-economic conditions. Indigenous Peoples make up approximately 5% of the world's population but 15% of the world's poor and around one-third of the world's 900 million extremely poor rural people.

Targets:

1.1: Secure Indigenous Peoples' collective rights to land, territories and resources;

1.2: Protect local and diverse Indigenous Peoples' economies and livelihoods, traditional subsistence activities and food sovereignty;

1.3: Ensure equal and just access for Indigenous Peoples to infrastructure and culturally-appropriate basic services (including access to clean water, sanitation, healthcare, education and other services).

Goal 2: Ensure human rights and end all forms of discrimination and exclusion of Indigenous Peoples:

The formulation and implementation of the SDGs should be based on the universally accepted *Human Rights-Based Approach* and its key principles, which are *universality, alienability, indivisibility, inter-dependence, inter-relatedness, non-discrimination, equality, participation, inclusion, accountability* and *the rule of law*. For Indigenous Peoples, the human rights-based approach reflects respect for and recognition, protection and enjoyment of their individual and collective rights. Additionally, the SDGs have to recognize Indigenous Peoples' rights to their lands, territories and resources as well as the right to self-determination, which are fundamental to their collective survival and development based on their distinct identities, cultures, spirituality and socio-political institutions.

Targets:

2.1: Ensure the full and effective enjoyment of individual and collective rights for Indigenous Peoples as enshrined in UNDRIP, ILO169 and all other relevant international human rights standards;

2.2: Ensure gender equality for and empowerment of Indigenous women and girls and intergenerational equity;

2.3: Ensure Indigenous Peoples' access to justice and cease criminalization of IP human rights defenders.

Goal 3: Ensure participatory governance and full participation of Indigenous Peoples in decision-making:

For Indigenous Peoples, governance is grounded in the right to self-determination, as reaffirmed by Article 3 of the UNDRIP. Furthermore, it is crucial for Indigenous Peoples to participate in decision-making processes on policies and governance at local, national, regional and international levels, in line with the standards and norms outlined in the UNDRIP and other legal frameworks. Good governance applies not only to governments but also to corporate and other institutions. In this respect, it is crucial for the UN system, Member States, corporations and other entities to recognize and adhere to principles of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC).

Targets:

3.1: Recognize Indigenous Peoples' right to self-determination and self-governance, including customary governance systems;

3.2: Ensure that Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) and the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples, including women, youth, elders and persons with disabilities, is implemented in all development-related decisions that affect them on all levels.

Goal 4. Promote peace and prevent conflicts on Indigenous Peoples' territories or that have an impact on Indigenous Peoples' communities:

Indigenous territories and lands are increasingly becoming the targets of invasion for the purposes of resource extraction and militarization, leading to violence and armed conflicts, displacement, human rights violations and, in some cases, genocide. Discrimination and violence against Indigenous women and girls, in particular, are among the worst and most pervasive forms of human rights violations perpetrated against Indigenous Peoples as a result of armed conflicts. Ending militarization and initiating processes to demilitarize the lands, territories, waters and oceans of Indigenous Peoples and to end, not least, the violence against Indigenous women and girls, must form part of the SDG framework.

Targets:

4.1: Guarantee Indigenous Peoples' full and effective participation in decision-making processes related to peace-building (conflict resolution/transformation and post-conflict reconstruction).

4.2: Stop the militarization of Indigenous Peoples' territories and criminalization of Indigenous Peoples' movements and activists.

4.3: Prevent all forms of violence against Indigenous women, girls and children, including sexual violence and trafficking.

Goal 5. Achieve sustainable development that ensures protection of the environment and biodiversity of Indigenous communities' lands and territories:

Land rights, access to land and control over its resources are central to Indigenous Peoples throughout the world, making a goal on environmental sustainability crucial to their survival. The global changes in the natural environment and the increasing scarcity of resources caused by unsustainable development, consumption and resource use pose ever greater challenges to Indigenous Peoples' already vulnerable and fragile ecosystems and sustainable livelihoods, as well as their capacity to defend their right to their land and resources. At the same time, Indigenous Peoples' intimate knowledge of the environment, and their time-proven customary institutions and practices in resource management, have the potential to critically contribute to developing alternative approaches to resource use and management and thus to environmental sustainability.

Targets:

5.1: Ensure that the traditional knowledge and practices of Indigenous Peoples with regard to environmental and biodiversity protection are recognized, respected and duly incorporated into sustainable development plans at international, national and local level;

5.2: Ensure a sustainable use and management of resources in Indigenous Peoples' communities and territories that respects equal access, human rights and environmental sustainability;

5.3: End and prevent uncontrolled, unmanaged and unsustainable industrial practices, including extractive industries and agribusiness on IPs' territories;

5.4: Stop all forms of environmental pollution of Indigenous Peoples' territories, such as storage of hazardous waste, promotion of the use of toxic chemicals, etc., and provide redress to victims of environmental injustice.

Goal. 6 Address the impacts of climate change and halt unsustainable energy development on Indigenous communities, lands and territories:

Indigenous Peoples often find themselves at the forefront of climate change and act as first responders to natural disasters. Indigenous Peoples' contributions to climate change solutions and disaster risk reduction and management have been acknowledged and recognized by the international community. This should not be underestimated in the SDGs, considering that Indigenous Peoples have survived centuries relying on our resilience and traditional knowledge. With support in the form of policies, integrated approaches and programs, finance and technology, Indigenous Peoples can enhance this resilience and contribute yet more to achieving sustainable development.

Targets:

6.1: Ensure sustainable energy development that respects IPs' rights, traditional knowledge systems and practices;

6.2: Ensure the full and effective participation of IPs and recognize the role of IPs' traditional knowledge and strategies for resilience when developing all national and international policies, standards and measures pertaining to climate change prevention, adaptation and mitigation;

6.3: Ensure the full and effective participation of IPs in the management of national and local risk and disaster plans.

Goal 7. Recognize the crucial role of Indigenous Peoples in global partnerships for Sustainable Development:

Indigenous Peoples are increasingly affected by national development plans, international trade agreements, market dynamics and demands. Indigenous Peoples suffer from consequences of development programs and activities carried out without their Full Prior and Informed Consent or direct participation. For Indigenous Peoples, global partnership

must be reflected in nation states' respect for and recognition of Indigenous Peoples' self-determined development and equal participation in negotiations and decisions at local, national and international levels.

Targets:

7.1: Ensure the right of IPs to develop and define their priorities for development and the well-being of their communities;

7.2: Ensure recognition of IPs' non-market based economies and trade relations in national economic and development plans and provide policy, technical and financial support for these priorities;

7.3: Ensure that global partnerships are guided by the UNDRIP, the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights ("protect, respect and remedy"), treaty rights and mutually-agreed constructive arrangements.

Goal 8. Protect and respect Indigenous Peoples' cultural heritage, traditional knowledge systems and practices:

Culture is a fundamental dimension of sustainable development. We recognize the contributions and participation of our traditional knowledge holders, Indigenous women and youth. Indigenous Peoples' survival is supported by our cultures, providing us with social, material and spiritual strength. Rio+20 highlights culture as the most fundamental dimension of sustainable development and Indigenous Peoples believe that all societies must foster cultures of sustainability.

Targets:

8.1: Ensure the recognition, respect and promotion of IPs' cultural rights including, IPs' cultural heritage, traditional knowledge systems and practices and its intergenerational transfer;

8.2: Ensure IPs' access to culturally-appropriate and inter-cultural education.

Monitoring and Evaluation:

The IP-MG emphasizes the need for qualified targets and to ensure that countries have the necessary data collection and statistical capacities to support robust indicators of success. Monitoring the situation of Indigenous Peoples through the use of relevant indicators and disaggregated data is essential if we are to make progress in addressing the human rights and well-being of Indigenous Peoples in the post-2015 development framework. It is important to note that Indigenous Peoples have developed their own forms of monitoring and evaluation based on their traditional knowledge, with a holistic view of their sustainable self-determined development. Indigenous communities should be empowered to act on the basis of the information they have gathered, monitored and analysed. This data can significantly contribute to action plans, strategies, monitoring and evaluation processes at local, sub-national, national and global levels.

Next Steps:

The draft position paper is being circulated to our regional networks and organizations for their comments and feedback, and will then be incorporated into the final IP-MG position paper. As the IP-MG, we will use this position paper as a tool to ensure that the human rights-based approach is an integral part of the post-2015 development agenda and the SDGs. Going forward, the IP-MG and its constituencies will also make sure that this position paper forms a practical guideline for policymakers to ensure that Indigenous Peoples' concerns and contributions are reflected in the goals, targets and indicators.[3]

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3. More specifically, we will put forward and use the position paper in processes and activities such as:

Conclusion:

In conclusion, the IP-MG is calling for a Human Rights-Based Approach to the SDGs and notes that cultural diversity, including diverse knowledge systems, and biological diversity underpin the adaptive capacities and resilience of societies and the natural world as complex inter-related systems. A rich diversity of contexts, cultures, values, knowledge systems and approaches shape and give meaning to all our efforts for sustainable development, and drive our deepest motivations for social transformation. The post-2015 development agenda and the SDGs, in all their economic, social and cultural, environmental, political and institutional dimensions, must be imbued with the richness of diversity. This includes paying attention to the valuable contributions and attendant vulnerabilities of Indigenous Peoples in the development process. Failure to address the concerns of Indigenous Peoples will perpetuate historical discrimination and disenfranchisement in the next wave of development aggression. For Sustainable Development Goals to be truly universal, they must be attentive to overcoming systemic barriers to respecting Indigenous Peoples' rights to lands, territories and resources and self-determination and must affirm their central contribution to addressing 21st century problems of social exclusion and poverty, loss of biological and cultural diversity, and climate change.

- OWG-SDG formal decision-making sessions (March -July 2014);

- OPGA events - three High-Level Events and three Thematic Debates (February-June 2014);

- Regional Commission Meetings on Sustainable Development: Stakeholder Consultations (29-30 March), Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development on ESCAP (2-4 April 2013) and the other regions;

- High Level Political Forum (HLPF) formally adopted by the UNGA in 2013;

- UNEP Meetings: UNEP's 1st Open Ended Committee of Permanent Representatives (OECPR) -March 23-28; and UN Environment Assembly (UNEA)-June 21-27; UNEP Regional Capacity-Building Workshops and meetings;

-13th Session of the UNPFII (May 12-23) and side-events for IPs and States to report on the IPs' engagement on the OWG-SDGs/Post 2015 process;

-Preparatory meetings in Asia, Latin America and Africa for the World Conference of Indigenous Peoples (WCIP), where we will present the position paper for unification and advocacy with relevant State ministries working on sustainable development, climate change, biodiversity and other environmental concerns;

-Global, national and local workshops on community-based monitoring and information systems (CBMIS).

Matrix for SDG's: Goals, Targets and Indicators

c4 Pillars	Overarching themes (clusters)	IP's Goals	IP's targets	Indicators
Social	1. End Poverty	Eradicate poverty for Indigenous peoples	1.1: Secure Indigenous Peoples' collective rights to land, territories and resources;	1.1.1: % of IP's lands that are legally recognized/ documented within national systems (under Treaties or other agreements).
			1.2: Protect local and diverse Indigenous Peoples' economies and livelihoods, traditional subsistence activities and food sovereignty;	1.2.1: % of lands, territories and subsistence resources used traditionally by Indigenous Peoples for subsistence and food production to which IPs still have full access. 1.2.2: % of community members and/or families which still participate in traditional livelihoods and subsistence activities and rates of increase or decrease. 1.2.3 % of consumption and harvest of "country food" / traditional foods by indigenous households and communities
			1.3: Ensure equal and just access for indigenous peoples to infrastructure and culturally appropriate basic services (including access to clean water, sanitation, healthcare, education and other services).	1.3.1: % of Indigenous peoples with access to infrastructure including clean water and sanitation 1.3.2: % of Indigenous persons with illnesses linked to poverty, malnutrition/poor diet and environmental contamination compared to general population
	2. Ensure human rights and inclusion for all	Ensure human rights and end all forms of discrimination and exclusion of IP's	2.1: Ensure the full and effective enjoyment of individual and collective rights for Indigenous Peoples as enshrined in UNDRIP, ILO169 and all other relevant international human rights standards.	2.1.1: Number of States that demonstrate compliance with obligations under relevant International HR Standards and operationalize UNDRIP through legislation and policy.
			2.2: Ensure gender equality for and empowerment of Indigenous women and girls and intergenerational equity.	2.2.1: Number of statistics that include gender disaggregated data on indigenous peoples. 2.2.2: Number of national plans developed

				and implemented, including specific literacy programs, which aims at empowering Indigenous women, youth and children. 2.2.3: Number of UN agency programs that target Indigenous women, youth and children.
			2.3: Ensure Indigenous Peoples' access to justice and cease criminalization of IP human rights defenders	2.3.1: Number of national and local action plans to ensure the implementation of IP's rights and court rulings, including evictions and compensation. 2.3.2: Number of cases filed in national and international human rights processes addressing human rights, and Treaty violations
	3.Ensure good governance and effective institutions	Ensure participatory governance and full participation of IP's in decision-making	3.1: Recognize Indigenous Peoples right to self-determination and self-governance including customary governance systems.	3.1.1: Number of established consultative and participatory mechanisms for IPs within state structures for policy and decision-making 3.1.2: Number of constitutional and legislative provisions and regulations recognizing Indigenous forms of autonomy and governance
			3.2: Ensure that Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) and the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples, including women, youth, elders and persons with disabilities is implemented in all development related decisions that affect them on all levels.	3.2.1: Number of states establishing mechanisms for consultations and participation of IPs based on FPIC and full participation in the development process.

	4. Prevent conflict and promote peaceful societies	Promote peace and prevent conflicts in IPs' territories or that have an impact on IPs communities	4.1: Guarantee Indigenous People's' full and effective participation in decision-making processes related to peace-building (conflict resolution/transformation and post conflict reconstruction).	4.1.1: Number of national, subnational and local processes established for conflict resolution, redress and reconciliation with the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples 4.1.2: The number of state-based legal and conflict resolution systems that recognize and/or implement Indigenous Legal Orders, traditional laws, and customary laws, protocols and practices.
			4.2: Stop the militarization of Indigenous Peoples' territories and criminalization of indigenous peoples' movements and activists.	4.2.1: % Decrease of military conflicts and military occupations affecting Indigenous Peoples' territories and communities.
			4.3: Prevent all forms of violence against Indigenous women, girls and children including sexual violence and trafficking.	4.3.1: Number of legal actions taken by states that aims to provide effective remedies and reparations of any kind of violence committed against Indigenous women, youth and children 4.3.2: Number of national plans aiming at preventing human trafficking that gives special attention to trafficking of Indigenous women, youth and children. 4.3.3: Number of national programs developed that target eradication of all forms of violence against Indigenous women, youth and children. 4.3.4: Number of policies developed and implemented by states and multinational cooperations, on IP's land and territories, which include compulsory measures that aims at preventing all forms of violence

				against Indigenous women, youth and children.
Environm ental	5. Ensure environmen tal sustainabilit y and protection of biodiversity	Achieve sustainable development that ensures environmental and biodiversity protection in IP communities, lands and territories	5.1: Ensure that the traditional knowledge and practices of Indigenous Peoples with regards to environmental and biodiversity protection are recognized, respected and duly incorporated into sustainable development plans at international, national and local levels.	5.1.1: Number of national policies and plans etc. recognize and incorporate IPs traditional knowledge and practices, pertaining to forests, waters, arid and semi-arid, arctic and other vulnerable eco-systems
			5.2: Ensure a sustainable use and management of resources in Indigenous Peoples communities and territories that respects equal access, human rights and environmental sustainability.	5.2.1: % of traditional use of lands, territories, and subsistence use areas which have retained their productive capacity for farming/fishing/hunting/gathering/herding); 5.2.2: % of traditional lands which are now damaged or contaminated
			5.3: End and prevent uncontrolled, unmanaged and unsustainable industrial practices including extractive industries and agri-business on IPs' territories.	5.3.1: Legislative provisions ensuring implementation of FPIC before any development project that may affect IP lands, territories and natural resources. -Number of participatory impact assessment reviews implemented by extractive industries and major developments with IPs communities 5.3.2: Number of programs monitoring impacts of industrial practices and implementation of FPIC by corporations.
			5.4: Stop all forms of environmental pollution of Indigenous Peoples' territories, such as storage of hazardous waste, promotion of the use of toxic chemicals, etc. and provide redress to victims of environmental injustice.	5.4.1: % of traditional subsistence food resources (plant and animal) which are intact, viable, productive, healthy and free from contamination (toxics, GMO's etc.) compared to % of subsistence plants and

				animals that show signs of disease, toxic contamination, diminishing population and other effects. Levels of Persistent Organic pollutants and mercury in traditional diet (breast milk, marine mammals, fish etc.)
	6. Climate Change, Energy & Disaster Risk Reduction	Address the impacts of climate change and halt unsustainable energy development on indigenous communities, lands and territories	6.1: Ensure sustainable energy development that respects IP's rights, traditional knowledge systems and practices	6.1.1: Number of new alternative energy initiatives carried out in collaboration with IP's.
			6.2: Ensure the full and effective participation of IPs and recognize the role of IP's traditional knowledge and strategies for resilience when developing all national and international policies, standards and measures pertaining to climate change prevention, adaptation and mitigation.	6.2.1: Number of policies standards and measures for climate change prevention, adaptation and mitigation that includes the traditional knowledge systems and practices. 6.2.2: Number of partnerships with and initiatives of Indigenous Peoples to address the impacts of climate change (coping strategies, adaptations, disaster response etc.)
			6.3: Ensure the full and effective participation of IP's in the management of national and local risk and disaster plans.	6.3.1: Number of national and local DRR management plans that include the full and effective participation of IPs'.
Economic	7. Create and maintain global Partnerships for SD	Recognize the crucial role of IPs' in global partnerships for SD	7.1: Ensure the right of IPs to develop and define their priorities for development and the wellbeing of their communities.	7.1.1: Number of plans developed and implemented with full involvement and FPIC by Indigenous peoples, states, local authorities and private sector.
			7.2: Ensure recognition of IPs non-market based economies and trade relations in national economic and development plans and provide policy, technical and financial support for these priorities.	7.2.1: Proportion of % of national budgets allocated to non-marked based economies and trade relations in national economic and development.
			7.3: Ensure that global partnerships are guided by the UNDRIP, UN Guiding Principles on Human Rights ("protect, respect and remedy"),	7.3.1: Budget allocated for global and national partnerships with indigenous peoples (UN

			treaty rights and mutually agreed constructive arrangements.	agencies, bilateral ODA, IFIs, governments)
Cultural	8. Ensure culture diversity in SD	Protect and respect IP's cultural heritage, traditional knowledge systems and practices	8.1: Ensure the recognition, respect and promotion of IPs' cultural rights including, IP's cultural heritage, traditional knowledge systems and practices and its intergenerational transfer.	8.1.1: Number of mechanisms for effective transmission of knowledge, language and expertise from elders and other knowledge holders to new generations; number of languages considered to be currently threatened. 8.1.2Number of national policies that respect Indigenous cultural rights related to Sustainable Development (sacred sites protection, ecologically based tourism, etc.) 8.1.3: Number of recognized protected areas and sacred sites governed and managed by Indigenous Peoples and/or in partnership 8.1.4 - Implementation of Target 18 of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and Strategic Plan for Biodiversity including use of Indicators on Traditional Knowledge 8.1.5 Cultural Vitality Index
			8.2: Ensure IPs' access to culturally appropriate and inter-cultural education.	8.2.1: Number of effective culturally appropriate educational programs developed in cooperation with and for IPs and with the use of indigenous languages. 8.2.2 Number of speakers of indigenous languages 8.2.3 Status and trends in linguistic diversity