

Submission of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women to the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

November 2024

Executive Summary

UN Women has continued to support the advancement of the rights of Indigenous women in the framework of CEDAW General Recommendation No. 39 and UN Women's Strategic Plan (2022-2025).

UN Women supported the CEDAW Committee in its elaboration of General Recommendation No. 39 on the Rights of Indigenous Women and Girls. Part of this support extended to ensuring the participation of indigenous women in the process. UN Women provided training on the General Recommendation and used it as a tool to provide guidance to States Parties on relevant measures to ensure compliance with their obligations in relation to the rights of Indigenous women and girls. UN Women also provided gender mainstreaming support to the Inter-Agency Support Group (IASG) on Indigenous Issues.

Concrete initiatives involving Indigenous women include those taking place at the regional or country level. In 2023, UN Women provided support for the inclusion and protection of rights of Indigenous, pastoral and ethnic minority women in at least 20 countries worldwide in the fields of economic empowerment, tackling violence against Indigenous women and girls, and climate resilience. For example, in Argentina, over 2500 Gran Chaco women belonging to 58 associations and representing over 10 industrial sectors were provided digital business skills, while in Chile, the Originarias Program provided training and technical assistance to 944 Indigenous women and girls to strengthen their skills to exercise their economic, cultural, and social rights and supported 500 women in access to markets and financing. In Guatemala, UN Women provided technical assistance to 50 Indigenous women from twelve departments to focus on monitoring political violence against women and promoting the political participation of Indigenous women during the 2023 electoral process, while in Brazil, UN Women contributed to the dissemination of CEDAW General Recommendation 39 by producing advocacy materials and giving trainings to Indigenous Women's organizations and networks. In Colombia, UN Women, within the framework of the ProDefensoras project, supported the strengthening of protection of Indigenous women human rights defenders, including through the "Jauribia" emergency fund for rapid response in risk situations and psycho-spiritual, cultural and legal accompaniment for women leaders. UN Women in Nepal commissioned a Research on Indigenous Women's Knowledge on Climate Action in Nepal to explore, investigate, identify and analyze Indigenous women's knowledge and practices that contribute to climate adaptation, mitigation barriers and address climate security. In Mexico, UN Women is collaborating closely with the Mexican Congress to strengthen the legal framework for women's rights, including on a reform to Article 2 of the Political Constitution that seeks to recognize Indigenous peoples and communities as subjects of public law, granting them legal personality and ownership of their assets.

Questionnaire

A. Recommendations of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and input to the 2025 session

- i. Please provide information on measures taken since your last update to the Forum on the implementation or planned implementation of the recommendations of the PFII.

- In Mexico, UN Women is collaborating closely with the Mexican Congress to strengthen the legal framework for women's rights, including on a reform to Article 2 of the Political Constitution that seeks to recognize Indigenous peoples and communities as subjects of public law, granting them legal personality and ownership of their assets. The reform came into effect on 1 October 2024—one of the most significant legal modifications. Regarding the rights of Indigenous and Afro-Mexican women, the following were elevated to constitutional status:
 - The limitation of internal Indigenous normative systems in accordance with women's rights.
 - Gender parity in internal Indigenous normative systems.
 - Ensuring the effective participation of Indigenous women, on equal terms, in the comprehensive development processes of Indigenous peoples and communities; their access to education, as well as to the ownership and possession of land; and their participation in public decision-making.
 - Improving the health conditions of women, as well as supporting special education and nutrition programs for girls, boys, adolescents, and young people from migrant families.
 - Guaranteeing the right of Indigenous and Afro-Mexican women to participate effectively and on equal terms in the comprehensive development processes of their peoples and communities.

ii. The theme of the 2025 PFII session is "Implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples within United Nations Member States and the United Nations system, including identifying good practices and addressing challenges." Please include information on any publications, projects, reports, or activities relevant to this theme.

- In Brazil, UN Women has been supporting Indigenous women's participation in Acampamento Terra Livre (ATL) since 2016 and also facilitated spaces for dialogue with government representatives and Brazilian Indigenous leaderships and groups. UN Women continued its collaboration and partnership with Articulação Nacional das Mulheres Indígenas Guerreiras da Ancestralidade (ANMIGA) through support to their activities and coordination, including by providing technical and financial support for their participation in the 88th Session of the CEDAW Committee.
 - UN Women, in partnership with UNFPA, UNHCR, IOM and PDAF, provided financial support to 16 Indigenous refugee and migrant women from Warao, Kariña and Taurepang communities to enable their participation in ATL 2024. During the event, women participated in a dialogue session with the Ministries of Indigenous Peoples, Health, Human Rights and Citizenship, Development and Social Assistance, Family and Fight against Hunger as well as the National Foundation for Indigenous Peoples, where they presented their needs and priorities and delivered a letter with their demands to the authorities. Twelve out of these 16 Indigenous refugee and migrant women also had the opportunity to participate in a consultation with the Ministries of Women and Indigenous Peoples. During this meeting, they presented their demands and were consulted by the ministries on the design and implementation of the Casa da Mulher Indígena (CAMI), a new specialized service in the care network for survivors of violence against women.
- UN Women in Bolivia has prioritized work with Indigenous women, amplifying the voices of women from four Indigenous governments: Kereimba Iyaambae, Charagua Iyambae, Uru Chipaya, and Salinas. Three of these governments are led by women in top positions, with priority legislative bodies focused on gender issues. As part of this process, Bolivia has designed and implemented normative proposals with a gender perspective to promote local economic development, specifically enhancing the economic participation of Guaraní Indigenous women. Additionally, rural and Indigenous women have been prioritized in the national efforts to eradicate violence against women, ensuring they have access to essential services through joint models implemented in selected local municipalities. The project Safe Spaces for Women Waste Recyclers, which focuses on Indigenous women, primarily of Aymara origin and living in urban areas, has played a key role in identifying and addressing the daily threats and risks these women face in their work.

This initiative aims to combat violence against women and strengthen collective action to improve both their working and living conditions.

- In Argentina, UN Women supported the enhancement of productive enterprises for 2,504 Indigenous and rural women in the Argentine Gran Chaco region. These women, from communities in Formosa, Chaco, and Salta, participated in the Womek Project, which aimed to strengthen their digital and business skills to empower women entrepreneurs. In Formosa, 1,387 women from the Wichí, Qomle'ec, Pilagá, Toba, and Creole communities were involved; in Chaco, 491 women from Wichí, Qom, and Creole communities took part; and in Salta, 626 women from Wichí, Toba, Chorote, and Creole communities participated. These women were members of 58 associations and producer organizations working in various sectors such as crafts, tourism, agroforestry, carob flour production, apiculture, goat farming, cattle production, large livestock farming, poultry production, sewing, and bakery. The Womek Project provided training that addressed challenges such as limited internet access in some communities and the region's linguistic diversity. Educational materials and activities were created in Indigenous languages to ensure accessibility. After completing the training, 75 business plans were submitted by the participating associations and women's groups, demonstrating the knowledge they had gained.
- UN Women Guatemala integrated the principle of "Leaving No One Behind" from the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development into all its programming, with a specific focus on Indigenous, rural women, and youth, as outlined in its Strategic Note for 2022-2025. UN Women provided technical assistance to 50 Indigenous women from twelve departments of Guatemala. This support focused on monitoring political violence against women and promoting the political participation of Indigenous women during the 2023 electoral process. Additionally, 62 Indigenous midwife grandmothers were trained on the Gender Diagnostic Instrument in response to HIV-AIDS.
- In Chile, UN Women's work on the Originarias Program: Empowerment of Indigenous Women in Northern Chile for Sustainable Development focuses on promoting the leadership, participation, and economic and social empowerment of Indigenous women in Chile. The program's main goal is to create sustainable empowerment processes for Indigenous women, especially through its Centro Originarias, which is central to the program's activities. Through training and technical assistance, 944 Indigenous women and girls strengthened their skills to exercise their economic, cultural, and social rights. The program also created learning spaces with a rights-based, gender-sensitive, and intercultural focus, benefiting 800 women. Additionally, 458 women gained access to resources that enhanced their economic autonomy and decision-making roles. The program helped 65 Indigenous women gain visibility and participate as moderators, panelists, teachers, and speakers at national and international events, allowing them to exercise their right to expression and influence in economic, cultural, and social spheres. These events included audiences with diplomats, government ministers, private sector executives, and leaders from both Indigenous and non-Indigenous organizations. To further boost their economic participation, 5 Indigenous women's organizations (associations and cooperatives) have been formed or are in the process of formalization.
- In Panamá, UN Women is providing technical assistance to the implementation of the Basic Digital Basket to the Ministry of Social Development and the National Authority of Innovation. This initiative aims to bring connectivity to women of rural and Indigenous areas. Currently, areas of implementation and mapping of data services are being studied.

iii. Please provide information on efforts to ensure the participation of Indigenous Peoples in the international decades declared by the General Assembly, such as the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030), the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030), the International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development" (2018-2028), the International

Decade of Indigenous Languages (2022 - 2032) and other relevant international decades and processes, including CEDAW General recommendation 39 on Indigenous women and girls.

- UN Women fosters a close relationship with FIMI, the International Indigenous Women's Forum. This collaboration helps us reach their network of Indigenous women and their organizations. Together with FIMI and other partners, we organized a CSW68 Side event on financing CEDAW General Recommendation 39. The majority of speakers and a large part of the online audience belonged to an Indigenous Community.
- In Brazil, UN Women is contributing to the dissemination of CEDAW General Recommendation 39 by producing advocacy materials and giving trainings to Indigenous Women's organizations and networks. Trainings supported by UN Women also included autonomous capacity building activities organized by Indigenous and Indigenist organizations.
 - GR 39 trainings have also targeted duty bearers. In 2024, 30 prosecutors representing the collective interests of Indigenous peoples participated in a training in partnership with the General Attorney's Office (AGU) and OHCHR. Using General Recommendation 39, UN Women demonstrated the potential and application of gender-based discrimination claims and the CEDAW framework in legal cases and challenges faced by Indigenous Peoples in Brazil.
 - UN Women also supported the engagement of Indigenous women with the CEDAW Review of Brazil in 2024. Indigenous women's organizations submitted 4 reports to the CEDAW Committee, undersigned by 6 organizations and two Indigenous women participated in the session in person, addressed the Committee during the oral intervention dedicated to NGOs, and presented their reports to Committee experts. UN Women also encouraged dialogue and the formation of alliances between diverse women's organizations focused on racial equality and justice which included other Indigenous women's networks and Quilombolas, aimed at promoting their advocacy in the CEDAW process. Additionally, in 2024, the CEDAW Committee made recommendations to Brazil that mentioned climate change and the environment as a cornerstone of efforts for gender equality in the country, highlighting how climate-related trends affect women's and girls' rights. The Indigenous and Quilombola women's organizations were among the civil society stakeholders advocating for the climate agenda in the context of the CEDAW Review.
- UN Women in Bolivia has used CEDAW Committee General Recommendation No. 39 as a tool that provides guidance to States parties on legislative, political and other relevant measures to ensure compliance with their obligations in relation to the rights of Indigenous women and girls. UN Women in Bolivia works on Indigenous governance with four Indigenous governments (GAIOC: Kereimba Iyambae, Charagua Iyambae, Salinas and Uru Chipaya) led by Indigenous women, strengthening the capacities of their leaders and the parity of their bodies, the gender approach in their government and territory management, with an identification of the gender gaps that must be overcome and technical assistance for the adoption of special measures that favor their economic empowerment and political protagonism that activates the territorial agendas of women.
- UN Women in Colombia, during 2024, promoted the strengthening of Indigenous women's leadership both for policy advocacy in the framework of the women, peace and security agenda to advance in the process of participation in decision-making spaces, as well as in the process of protection and self-protection, with special attention to strengthening the leadership of Indigenous

women in preparation for COP 16, as well as following up on the Escazú Agreement and General Recommendation 39 of the CEDAW Committee on the rights of Indigenous women and girls.

- Within the framework of the 16th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, UN Women promoted and facilitated the participation of women leaders representing national and subnational Indigenous organizations as observers of the negotiations and speakers in different parallel spaces for multi-stakeholder dialogue. In addition, previous Ibero-American meetings were held to agree on proposals related to the protection and access to justice of Indigenous communities, as well as their participation in the Convention, particularly in relation to Article 8J. An achievement of COP16 was the approval for the creation of a subsidiary body that gives voice and vote to Indigenous and Afro-descendant communities in the negotiations of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), strengthening their role in environmental conservation.
- Through the portfolio of projects such as “Women Changing Their World”, three Indigenous organizations in the department of Cauca were accompanied in the consolidation of a strategy to recover and/or strengthen the livelihoods of Indigenous women environmental leaders, aimed at generating conditions of economic autonomy, based on agro-ecological processes of food sovereignty and nature tourism, while promoting territorial and community development initiatives for the awareness, conservation and restoration of strategic ecosystems and protected areas of the territory, and strengthening organizational capacities for the development of strategies for the prevention, protection and mitigation of security risks at the individual and collective level.
- Through the project “Weaving Dignity,” focused on access to comprehensive justice for peace, comprehensive support will be provided to Indigenous women victims of sexual violence and gender-based violence in Cauca and Nariño, which seeks to strengthen their participation in the Special Jurisdiction for Peace (JEP); as well as progress in strategic litigation strategies, articulated with psycho-cultural care, advocacy actions for the articulation between the Special Indigenous Jurisdiction and the JEP, a communications plan and the implementation of community protection and self-protection protocols.
- Within the framework of the ProDefensoras project, processes with Indigenous women in Antioquia, Chocó and Cauca are accompanied with the Emberá Chamí, Emberá Eyábida, Senú, Gunadule and Dóbida peoples (Antioquia); Emberá, Gunadule and Zenú (Chocó) and the Nasa, Yanacona, Coconuco, Totoroez peoples and the Eperara Siapidaara Indigenous community (Cauca) to strengthen the protection of Indigenous women human rights defenders through their own protection system, which includes the “Jauribia” emergency fund for rapid response in risk situations and psycho-spiritual, cultural and legal accompaniment for women leaders. As part of the project, sub-regional congresses and a departmental congress are organized, where Indigenous women review and update their priorities in defense of their rights and their political advocacy strategies.
 - In Chocó, ProDefensoras collaborates with the Akubadaura Community of Jurists Corporation and the Departmental Indigenous Women's Program in a project aimed at strengthening the participation of 100 Indigenous women of the Emberá, Gunadule and Zenú peoples in the municipalities of Juradó, Riosucio, Unguía and Quibdó. This initiative promotes the enforceability of rights from the Indigenous worldview, revitalizing the community fabric through circles of trust that include foster care and self-care. It also focuses on strengthening the advocacy capacity of these women in the implementation of the Peace Agreement in the department, creating safe and effective spaces for the exercise of their rights.

- In the department of Cauca, ProDefensoras is promoting the project “Implementation of Psychocultural Tools and Strategies for Self-Care and Integral Ancestral Protection,” in collaboration with the Regional Indigenous Council of Cauca (CRIC - Women's Program). This project is aimed at strengthening the capacities of 300 women directly and 900 women indirectly in the municipalities of Caldono, Miranda, Morales, Cajibío, Timbío, Inzá, Páez, Guapi, Timbiquí, López de Micay, San Sebastián, Almaguer, La Sierra, Sotará, Totoró, Silvia, Piendamó, Rosas, Piamonte, Santa Rosa, Toribio, Jambaló, Buenos Aires, Sotará and Puracé. The main objective is to implement the knowledge acquired in the previous stage, providing spaces for continuous training in psychocultural tools and generating operational strategies related to the documents produced in that phase. This includes the self-care and self-protection/ancestral security plan, which aims to develop concrete action plans and guarantee security for women defenders in the 12 coordination zones that cover the aforementioned municipalities, as well as in the Yanacona, Coconuco, Totoroez peoples and the Eperara Siapidaara Indigenous community on the Pacific coast of Cauca.
- UN Women accompanies efforts to monitor the implementation of the gender approach of the implementation framework plan and the more than 100 gender measures of the Final Peace Agreement, and has been accompanying the Special Women's Instance, a unique mechanism created by the Peace Agreement to follow up on gender measures. UN Women accompanied more than 10 thematic and territorial meetings held by the National Participation Committee, in which central issues for women were identified, such as the situation of women human rights defenders, protection of territory, the care economy, guarantees for political participation, and guarantees for the participation of ethnic women.

iv. Has your entity responded to the 2022 UNPFII recommendation¹ paragraph 85...
The Permanent Forum urges all United Nations entities and States parties to treaties concerning the environment, biodiversity, and the climate to eliminate the use of the term “local communities” in conjunction with Indigenous peoples, so that the term “Indigenous peoples and local communities” would be abolished.

If yes, please explain your response in further detail.

B. System-Wide Action Plan to achieve the ends of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Background

¹ E/2022/43-E/C.19/2022/11

As per the Outcome Document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples (A/RES/69/2), a [system-wide action plan to ensure a coherent approach to achieving the ends of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#) was adopted in November 2015 and launched by the Secretary-General at the UN Permanent Forum in May 2016.

In August 2020, the United Nations Executive Committee agreed on the need for accelerated and collective action to strengthen the implementation of the SWAP on Indigenous Peoples. In November 2020, the United Nations Chief Executives Board for Coordination issued a [Call to Action: Building an Inclusive, Sustainable and Resilient Future with Indigenous Peoples](#). Its goal is to ensure collaborative and coherent UN system action to support the rights and well-being of Indigenous Peoples with a focus on furthering the implementation of the SWAP².

i. The Permanent Forum will follow up on progress made on the SWAP implementation as part of its discussion on the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples during its 2025 session. Please provide an analysis of actions taken by your agency, fund and/or programme on the six key elements of the SWAP, since your last update to the Forum³.

- UN Women Chile's Strategic Note (2024-2026) is focused on historically excluded groups, including Indigenous women and girls. To get a deep understanding of the challenges these women face and address them effectively in annual work plans, UN Women increased Indigenous women participation in all phases of a specific programme (Originarias) and executed dialogues, gender rapid assessment, and statistical analysis. The implementation

² Reporting on the activities to implement the CEB Call to Action is through task groups and should not be included in the responses to this questionnaire.

³ The six key elements of the SWAP are: 1) Raise awareness of the UNDRIP; 2) Support the implementation of the UNDRIP, particularly at the country level; 3) Support the realization of Indigenous peoples' rights in the implementation and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; 4) Map existing standards and guidelines, capacity, training materials and resources within the UN system, international financial institutions and the members of the IASG for the effective implementation of the UNDRIP; 5) Develop the capacity of States, Indigenous peoples, civil society and UN personnel; and 6) Advance the participation of Indigenous peoples in UN processes.

of Originarias Phase 4 has allowed Indigenous women to participate in design, implementation and monitoring stages. The significant representation of Indigenous women in key programme roles—40% of steering committee members, 50 % of the management team, and 80% of trainers and mentors— not only empowers Indigenous women but also enriches the UN Women work with diverse perspectives, leading to more effective and culturally sensitive outcomes.

- During 2023 - 2024, UN Women presented the results of a gender rapid assessment carried out in the Araucanía region, fostered Indigenous participation in national dialogues about care and free of violence life and developed a second statistical analysis of Indigenous women's situation to identify gender and intercultural gaps.
- UN Women Chile has extended its Originarias Programme until 2027. Phase 4 is structured around a concentric model of areas of action, which places Indigenous women at the centre of transformation efforts and capability-building that extend to courses of action that impact their family contexts and local environments and bolster public and private network-building to provide sustainability to the Originarias Centre, which is a fundamental mechanism for the economic and social empowerment of Indigenous women. In addition, the coordination with other ongoing programmes led by UN Women, Second Chance and Dialogues about Care, has strengthened the development of Indigenous women skills and networks. Focusing on strengthening Indigenous women capability, 3 empowerment action lines have been implemented: Training, Participation, and Collaboration. The integration of intercultural and gender approaches in these action lines is key to ensure that challenges faced by Indigenous women are effectively addressed. In 2023 and 2024, more than 1.500 Indigenous women had access to information, goods, services and resources.
- Originarias Programme operates two digital platforms co-designed by Indigenous women, which not only promote learning and business but also help integrate Indigenous knowledge into the digital environment. 2.300 Indigenous women have active accounts on the platforms. In terms of external capabilities, the Originarias teams provides regular training to public and civil organizations about gender and intercultural approaches. Through seminars organized in collaboration with Indigenous organizations, UN agencies, and public services more than 500 persons could dialogue about Indigenous economies and intercultural education, meaningful issues for Indigenous women.

C. 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

i. Please describe any activities your entity has organized since the last reporting period to accelerate progress across a range of SDGs, demonstrating the interlinkages across goals and targets and if applicable, providing examples of translating global goals into local actions. In your

response, please consider referring to SDGs relevant to the theme of the 2025 session of the Forum, including SDGs 5, 7, 10, 13 and 16.

- In Brazil, UN Women is accelerating progress towards the achievement of SDGs through supporting women human rights defenders' (WHRDs) advocacy efforts, demonstrating the interlinkages of SDGs 5 (gender equality – women participation in public life), 10 (reduced inequalities – for often WHRDs are the champions of causes that address root causes of inequalities), 13 (climate action – for they are often environmental defenders), and 16 (access to justice and institutions – includes target 16.10.1 on violence against human rights defenders). In the first semester of 2024, WHRDs strengthened capacity for advocacy in instances of social participation at national and international levels. The work with women human rights defenders in Brazil began as a response to Indigenous women's demands.
- In Colombia, UN Women has supported several initiatives including the following:
 - As part of the project Acceleration of Rural Women's Economic Empowerment in Colombia, known as RAÍCES (Roots) Women, Sowers of Change, 132 Indigenous women have received support to strengthen their associative, productive and commercial capacities, as well as their knowledge of gender and violence prevention.
 - As a contribution to the alliance with the governments of Canada and Colombia, 24 Indigenous women's organizations strengthened their capacities to develop advocacy and social control exercises over the investment of public resources in guaranteeing their rights.
 - Two Indigenous women's organizations received financial resources (Las Cumbalas in Nariño) forming a network of 8 productive initiatives to represent and empower women to defend their rights and promote their participation in community life and policy; and the Asociación de Cabildos Indígenas del Norte del Cauca - ACIN (Santander de Quilichao), led training processes with women from the Nasa community, aimed at strengthening their political impact based on the collective construction of a strategy for incorporating and monitoring the gender perspective in public policies and budgets.
 - Another contribution was the inclusion of the differential and gender approach in the formulation of development plans, specifically highlighting the development plan of the municipality of Cumbal Nariño, a municipality made up of 90% Indigenous population, making visible the importance of Indigenous women as caretakers of the territory and water, the promotion of ancestral knowledge and their role in boosting the economy through tourism, sports and culture.
 - As part of the Caring Societies project, in collaboration with the Government of Canada, 40 Indigenous women have been trained to recognize the value of unpaid care and domestic work and its vital contribution to community well-being and economic development.
- In Mexico, UN Women has supported several initiatives including the following:
 - Since 2018, the “Advancing Equality” (API) program by UN Women Mexico has been working with Indigenous women in the Isthmus of Tehuantepec in Oaxaca, and in Iztapalapa, Mexico City. During 2023 and 2024, the actions carried out include

training and support for entrepreneurship, technical assistance for the development of cooperatives and collectives, a mentorship program, and marketing events. In Oaxaca, Zapotec Indigenous women participate. The training sessions were conducted in Zapotec or, in collaboration with local actors, facilitated with interpreters. In Mexico City, women from the Culhua community of the Pueblo de Culhuacán in the Iztapalapa Borough participate. The work has been developed in partnership with the Forum of Women from the Peoples and Neighborhoods of Mexico City.

- Between 2020 and 2021, UN Women collaborated with electoral authorities of the state of Oaxaca, which has the largest Indigenous population in the country and the 2nd largest Afro-Mexican population, to support local efforts to increase women's political participation and address violence against women in politics. UN Women conducted a research to explore the possible relationships between the advancement of parity and violence against women in politics in municipalities governed by internal regulatory systems; elaborated an analysis of the state legislation of Oaxaca on parity and political violence against women based on gender, compared with the reforms to federal legislation, and development of a harmonization proposal; supported the training of 283 female politicians, members of political parties, public servants, community leaders and members of civil society organizations on political leadership and political violence based on gender; developed communication products in Zapotec and Mixtec (most common Indigenous languages in Oaxaca) with messages on the importance of women's political participation and measures against violence against women in the political sphere; and contributed to the development of a proposal for a state system for registration, follow-up and monitoring of cases of violence against women in politics.
- In August 2024, the Academic Forum “Territories of Care: Contributions from Academia to the XVI Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean” was held as part of the preparatory process for the XVI Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Mexico 2025). Convened by the Government of Mexico through the National Institute of Women (INMUJERES), the College of Mexico (COLMEX), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), and UN Women, the forum aimed to be a space for regional exchange and dialogue. It sought to identify progress and synergies in the research agenda to address policy challenges and care systems in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), and their articulation with social protection and public policies. The forum included participation and a focus on Indigenous women.
- UN Women Nepal has been promoting inclusive participation by creating avenues for women from diverse backgrounds, including Indigenous communities, to engage in key normative processes like CSW and CEDAW, as well as in various events hosted by UN Women. UN Women Nepal places a strong emphasis on ethnic and religious minority groups in all its programmatic efforts, particularly focusing on Dalit, Madhesi, Muslim, and Indigenous women. This focus is evident in initiatives such as the Joint Programme on Rural Women's Economic Empowerment, where 94% of participants are from these minority groups.

- In UN Women Nepal, the HAMRO SAHAKARYA ongoing Storytelling programme (2022-2026) includes 88% of participants as women from minority communities.
- In 2024, UN Women Nepal commissioned a Research on Indigenous Women's Knowledge on Climate Action in Nepal. The research was undertaken by CIPRED with the following objectives: (1) To conduct a study exploring, investigating, identifying and analysing Indigenous women's knowledge and practices that contribute to climate adaptation, mitigation barriers and address climate security, (2) Strengthen the evidence and knowledge base Indigenous women's knowledge systems and practices contributing to climate adaptation.
 - This study focused on the roles and contributions of Indigenous women that are practiced in the mountains, hills, and Terai. The research findings show that the issues and concerns of Indigenous women are not visible in the relevant climate change documents, including LAPA, NAP, and NDC in Nepal.
 - The study also shows that Indigenous women are barely present in the key decision-making bodies of traditional customary institutions and in deliberations and decision-making about climate policy and programs. Despite this low presence, however, Indigenous women have been sustaining their traditional knowledge and cultural values, continuing their traditional livelihoods in the face of disproportionately high threats posed to their communities by climate change.
 - A key reflection of the study is on the role and significance of Indigenous women's knowledge and practices as part of customary institutions with self-governance systems and intergenerational knowledge transfer for climate action in Nepal. The information collected from this research is useful to highlight the impacts of climate change on Indigenous women and more importantly in demonstrating cases of loss and damage to Indigenous food and economy and traditional skills and knowledge systems.
 - The study provides a set of key policy recommendations to promote, protect, and recognize Indigenous women's knowledge and cultural practices for climate and outer threats, both at community and national levels.
- In 2023/24, as part of its commitment to gender equality and transforming harmful social norms through the recognition of Indigenous knowledge, UN Women launched a project to explore and document the cultural significance of Tharu tattooing. This traditional art form, deeply embedded with historical and cultural meaning, serves as a vital channel for transmitting Indigenous knowledge and reinforcing community identity.
 - Tattooing among Tharu women goes beyond mere decoration; it is a sacred form of storytelling, drawing on Tharu mythology, agricultural practices, and the natural landscape. Each "tika," or tattoo, acts as a living testament to identity, resilience, and ancestral knowledge, even as modernization and land exploitation threaten to erase these cultural roots.
 - Through workshops, community consultations, and a public exhibition, UN Women created spaces for dialogue, bringing together Tharu tattoo artists to connect with local schoolchildren and residents, encouraging understanding and respect for Indigenous art. This initiative highlighted the importance of

Indigenous knowledge in building gender-equitable societies and also reinforced the role of cultural heritage in identity and resistance, allowing Tharu women to celebrate and preserve their history and traditions in the face of ongoing challenges.

ii. Please describe any activities your entity organized in support of the 2024 UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and/or reports and activities that supported SDG reporting and monitoring or a VNR process at the national, regional, or global level.

- In Bolivia, through the Plurinational Authority of Mother Earth (APMT) and with technical assistance from UN Women, the Government began the process of developing the Gender and Climate Change Action Plan of the Plurinational State of Bolivia (ccGAP Bolivia) in April 2024. The plan is expected to be finalized by the end of the year and aims to become the first national gender-responsive climate policy. A particular emphasis is placed on the contributions of Indigenous women and their organizations and networks, recognizing their central role in addressing climate-related challenges.
 - Historically, women, particularly Indigenous women, have faced disproportionate impacts from climate change due to structural inequalities and limited access to resources, decision-making spaces, and economic opportunities. By adopting a gender-responsive approach, the action plan aims to address these disparities and promote women's empowerment in climate adaptation, mitigation, and resilience-building strategies.
 - UN Women is also supporting APMT in the development of a study focused on the ancestral knowledge of Indigenous women. This study is designed to document, preserve, and promote the traditional practices, skills, and wisdom that Indigenous women possess, particularly in the context of climate resilience and sustainable resource management. The integration of ancestral knowledge into the action plan will be essential for creating culturally relevant and effective climate strategies. Traditional practices, such as sustainable agriculture, water management, and biodiversity conservation, can significantly contribute to more holistic and inclusive climate solutions.
- UN Women Nepal, along with other UN agencies, provided technical inputs from a gender perspective to the Government of Nepal on the Voluntary National Review (VNR) process in 2024. The VNR report highlights key progresses and challenges related to gender equality and women's empowerment.