



World Health Organization

Contributions to the Report of the
UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
Twenty-Fourth Session, 2025

Questionnaire to UN system

Questionnaire to the UN system agencies, funds and programmes and intergovernmental organizations

The United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (PFII) was established by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Resolution 2000/22. The Permanent Forum is mandated to provide expert advice and recommendations on Indigenous issues to the ECOSOC and through the Council to United Nations agencies, funds and programmes; to raise awareness and promote the integration and coordination of activities related to Indigenous issues within the UN system; prepare and disseminate information on Indigenous issues; and promote respect for and full application of the provisions of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and follow up the effectiveness of the Declaration.

The Indigenous Peoples Development Branch/Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues invites UN system agencies, funds and programmes and other inter-governmental organizations to complete the attached questionnaire on any action taken or planned in response to the Permanent Forum's recommendations, the system-wide action plan on rights of Indigenous Peoples (SWAP) and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The responses will be compiled into a report for the 2025 session of the Permanent Forum. In your responses, please, include information on progress and challenges related to Indigenous women, Indigenous persons with disabilities, Indigenous older persons, and Indigenous children and youth.¹

All responses will be placed on the DESA/DISD website on Indigenous Peoples at:
<https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/>

¹ Indigenous should be capitalized when referring to cultures, communities, lands, languages, etc., of Indigenous Peoples, e.g.: Indigenous culture in Ecuador, Indigenous languages are dying out. If referring to flora or fauna, lower case should be used. See UN Editorial Manual for further guidance:
<https://www.un.org/dgacm/en/content/editorial-manual/updates>

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If you have any objections to your response being made available on our website, please inform our office accordingly.

Please submit your completed questionnaire by **15 November 2024** to:

Indigenous Peoples and Development Branch
Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
Division for Inclusive Social Development
Department of Economic and Social Affairs
United Nations Headquarters
New York, USA 10017
Email: indigenous_un@un.org

Subject: Response to SWAP questionnaire

Executive summary

In 2024, WHO has advanced important global health initiatives that integrate Indigenous Peoples' perspectives, and has promoted the protection of their individual and collective rights in line with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).

WHO has made significant strides in promoting the recognition and value of Indigenous traditional medicine and health practices. The forthcoming *WHO Traditional Medicine Strategy: 2025–2034* includes "Indigenous Peoples' rights" as one of its nine guiding principles, underscoring the importance of ensuring their free, prior, and informed consent in all matters related to the use of their traditional medicines. The strategy will be presented for the consideration of the World Health Assembly in 2025.

Additionally, the WHO Global Traditional Medicine Centre (GTMC), as part of its broader Traditional Medicine Strategy, has established a dedicated unit focusing on Indigenous Knowledge and Biodiversity. This initiative stems from recommendations made at the first WHO Traditional Medicine Global Summit in 2023 and underscores WHO's commitment to integrating Indigenous knowledge into global health, biodiversity, and One Health approaches.

Following the adoption of [Resolution 76.16 on the Health of Indigenous Peoples](#) at the 76th World Health Assembly in May 2023, which among other actions, calls for the development of a Global Plan of Action for the health of Indigenous Peoples, the WHO Secretariat has taken the first steps in its implementation. These efforts include the production of a global situation

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analysis on the health of Indigenous Peoples and the creation of a dedicated webpage on Indigenous Peoples' health².

The development of the situation analysis was commissioned to an academic institution, and the research was led by Indigenous experts, with the support of a team of Indigenous and non-Indigenous researchers. To ensure that the analysis reflects Indigenous perspectives, WHO organized several expert meetings with Indigenous experts from the seven sociocultural regions in 2024. These meetings include two in March for expert input on the research plan, a side event at the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP) to present preliminary findings, and two additional expert meetings in November to review the research findings. The situation analysis will serve as an input towards the development of the Global Plan of Action. Further consultations will be organized as WHO moves forward with the development of the Plan.

In alignment with WHO's commitment to scale up efforts for the advancement of Indigenous Peoples' health globally and supporting collective, inter-agency initiatives contributing to the realization of the human rights enshrined in UNDRIP, WHO has served as co-chair to the Inter-Agency Support Group (IASG) on indigenous issues in 2024. As part of this contribution, WHO has been actively involved in developing the draft Accountability Framework of the United Nations System-Wide Action Plan on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

WHO values the opportunity to submit this report and reaffirms its commitment to advancing the health of Indigenous Peoples globally, in collaboration with the UNPFII.

² WHO webpage of the Global Plan of Action for the Health of Indigenous Peoples: <https://www.who.int/initiatives/global-plan-of-action-for-health-of-indigenous-peoples>

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Questionnaire

Please provide information on the following:

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 UNPFII.

The World Health Organization (WHO) welcomes the recommendations from the 23rd Session of the UNPFII and continues to work on supporting and following up on recommendations from previous sessions. WHO shares the following information regarding the measures taken or planned in response.

UNPFII recommendation in 2024	The Forum invites the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Children’s Fund to partner in identifying and documenting good practices of culturally appropriate health interventions from their work at the country level, including supporting Indigenous women and girls in exercising their sexual and reproductive rights. The Forum requests that the entities compile a comprehensive progress report, to be submitted at the 2025 session of the Forum.
	In response to this recommendation, WHO is collaborating with UNFPA, UNICEF and UN Women to produce an updated version of the 2018 <u>Factsheet on Indigenous Women’s Maternal Mortality and Maternal Health</u> . WHO also helped identify Indigenous maternal health experts from the seven socio-cultural regions to participate in a reference group to develop the Factsheet. The updated fact sheet will highlight disparities in Indigenous women’s and girls' access to appropriate sexual and reproductive healthcare and services, as well as gaps in data, among other key issues.
UNPFII Recommendation from previous sessions.	The Permanent Forum calls upon Member States and United Nations entities, particularly WHO, to adopt indigeneity as an overarching determinant of health, including in relation to the relevant Sustainable Development Goals and in policies and practices across the United Nations system.
	WHO has taken note of this recommendation for the elaboration of the World Report on Social Determinants of Health Equity, which is expected to be launched in 2025.

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	<p>The Permanent Forum urges Member States and United Nations entities, in particular the World Health Organization (WHO), to recognize that Indigenous views of human and planetary health must be central to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and emphasizes the central need to stabilize and regenerate the biosphere as essential for protecting humanity. The right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, the right to health and development and the rights of Indigenous Peoples must be seen as interconnected and essential to an integrated planetary health governance framework.</p>
	<p>Examples of WHO's ongoing support for this recommendation—which calls for centring Indigenous perspectives on human and planetary health within the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development—include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WHO's Trachoma Elimination Programme promotes Indigenous views of human and planetary health as central to the 2030 Agenda, through the engagement with Indigenous Peoples on trachoma and its management. The WHO Global Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD) Programme is actively seeking opportunities to engage with Indigenous Peoples in the construction of a research and development blueprint for NTDs. • The WHO (2024) <i>Global competency and outcomes framework for the Essential Public Health Functions</i>, aimed at strengthening education for the public health workforce, includes a competency focused on equality for all people, including Indigenous Peoples. Its guidance on adapting the framework also acknowledges Indigenous Peoples as a key stakeholder group. • In relation to documenting good practices for culturally appropriate health interventions, WHO has developed a series of evidence-based interventions for mental, neurological, and substance use conditions, which include considerations for culturally appropriate adaptations. More information can be found here: https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240087149."

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	<p>The Permanent Forum recommends that WHO establish a high-level consultative body with representatives of Indigenous Peoples to guide its work on human and planetary health. The Permanent Forum calls upon WHO to adopt an Indigenous Peoples policy and mandate to approach the health of Indigenous Peoples in all its regions.</p>
	<p>WHO is currently developing a Global Plan of Action on the health of Indigenous Peoples, as requested in World Health Assembly Resolution 76.16 on the Health of Indigenous Peoples. The Plan of Action will include recommended actions for Member States, WHO Secretariat and others to advance the health of Indigenous Peoples.</p> <p>In 2024, WHO has taken the following steps in the process to develop the Plan:</p> <p>a) Developed a webpage to communicate progress in the implementation of the World Health Assembly Resolution, available at the following link: https://www.who.int/initiatives/global-plan-of-action-for-health-of-indigenous-peoples.</p> <p>b) Developed a global situation analysis on the health of Indigenous Peoples. The production of the situation analysis was commissioned to an academic institution and was led by Indigenous experts, in collaboration with a team of Indigenous and non-Indigenous researchers.</p> <p>To ensure that the situation analysis includes the voices and perspectives of Indigenous experts from across the seven socio-cultural regions, including representatives from the UNPFII and EMRIP, WHO convened meetings of Indigenous experts, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two expert meetings on March 7, 2024, for Indigenous experts to provide input and inform the research plan. • A side event at the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP) to present the preliminary findings from the literature review. This event also served as an opportunity for Indigenous Peoples participating at the EMRIP to hear about the process to develop the Global Plan of Action and share input. • Two expert meetings on November 18, 2024, to present the findings of the research, allowing Indigenous experts to offer further input and feedback.

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	<p>WHO will consult with Indigenous Peoples in the next steps in the process to develop the Global Plan of Action.</p>
	<p>The Permanent Forum, bearing in mind the contributions of indigenous peoples' traditional medicines to the recovery from the pandemic, invites the World Health Assembly to declare an international year of indigenous peoples' traditional medicines by 2025.</p>
	<p>WHO has undertaken significant efforts to promote the value and recognition of Indigenous traditional medicine and health practices. The forthcoming WHO Traditional Medicine Strategy: 2025–2034 includes 'Indigenous Peoples' rights' as one of its nine guiding principles. The draft strategy centres Indigenous Peoples as custodians of traditional health practices, emphasizing the ethical and equitable use of Indigenous knowledge with their free, prior, and informed consent. Regional consultations contributed to identify Indigenous health priorities, intellectual property protections, and culturally relevant care, ensuring the respect and protection of Indigenous knowledge within policy frameworks. The WHO Traditional Medicine Strategy 2025–2034 will be presented for consideration at the World Health Assembly in 2025.</p> <p>The <u>WHO Global Traditional Medicine Centre (GTMC)</u>, as part of WHO's overall Traditional Medicine Strategy, has established a dedicated unit on Indigenous Knowledge and Biodiversity. This initiative emerged from recommendations made at the first WHO Traditional Medicine Global Summit in 2023. This reflects WHO's commitment to honouring and incorporating Indigenous Knowledges within global health, One Health and biodiversity frameworks.</p> <p>At the first-ever Biodiversity and Health day of the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP 16), the WHO Global Traditional Medicine Centre (GTMC) underscored its commitment to bridging biodiversity and health through its Indigenous Knowledge and Biodiversity unit. Among others, WHO <u>GTMC</u>, co-hosted with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) a high level event to explore “whole of government” approaches that integrate biodiversity conservation with human well-being.</p> <p>Other health and biodiversity initiatives undertaken during the Health Day of COP16 included a discussion on a new report from WHO and the International Union for Conservation of Nature on nature-based solutions for human health. The report outlines 10 recommendations for linking biodiversity and health strategies across sectors and regions. Aligned with a primary health care approach,</p>

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	<p>these recommendations draw on country case studies of successful collaboration and include actions to empower Indigenous Peoples and under-resourced communities to safeguard human health and well-being. More information can be found here: https://www.who.int/news/item/07-11-2024-cop16-connects-biodiversity-and-health-with-traditional-medicine-as-a-bridge</p> <p>During the COP16 meeting, WHO GTMC also participated in a session on Indigenous Health and Traditional Knowledge. This session launched recommendations from the inaugural WHO Global Workshop on Biodiversity, Traditional Knowledge, Health and Well-being. Participants, including rights holders, Indigenous leaders and traditional health practitioners, shared knowledge to bridge biodiversity, health and traditional knowledge, as well as outcomes from <u>the first WHO Traditional Medicine Global Summit</u>, such as the <u>Gujarat Declaration</u>.</p> <p>Consultations have been held with Indigenous Peoples as follows: At COP16, the WHO GTMC engaged in discussions with representatives of various Indigenous groups, including members of the UNPFII. WHO GTMC explored the roles Indigenous Peoples could play in the 2025 Global Summit on Traditional Medicine, including participation in the steering committee, program development, and fostering respectful knowledge exchange. This collaborative approach aims to amplify Indigenous voices and integrate their expertise throughout the summit’s planning and implementation.</p> <p>Indigenous Peoples’ perspectives are also central for WHO initiatives related to research priority setting. The WHO GTMC is undertaking the setting of research priorities focused on collaborative ethnobotanical studies, legal protections, and community-based methodologies, enhancing understanding of Indigenous medicine while preserving cultural heritage and promoting health equity.</p>
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- i. [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.](#)
 - The content on Indigenous Peoples in the forthcoming WHO Traditional Medicine Strategy 2025–2034, which will be presented for consideration at the World Health

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Assembly in 2025, is aligned with and informed by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

- The Global Plan of Action on the health of Indigenous Peoples, which WHO is currently developing, will further the promotion of the right to health and health-related rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- WHO is also collaborating with UNFPA and UNICEF to develop a factsheet on maternal health among Indigenous Peoples which will highlight sexual and reproductive health and rights of Indigenous Peoples.

ii. *Has your entity responded to the 2022 UNPFII recommendation³ 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.*

- WHO reiterates its commitment to promoting the implementation of the individual and collective rights of Indigenous Peoples as recognized in international human rights law.
- WHO has circulated the UNPFII’s recommendation to eliminate the use of the term “local communities” in conjunction with Indigenous Peoples across the organization at headquarters, regional, and country levels. Additionally, WHO has dedicated a section in its webpage on [Frequently asked questions on the health and rights of Indigenous Peoples](#) with guidance about why Indigenous Peoples should be distinguished from “local communities”.
- WHO remains attentive to ensuring that forthcoming WHO publications and policy briefs addressing Indigenous Peoples distinguishes between Indigenous Peoples and “local communities”.

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

Background

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.

³ E/2022/43-E/C.19/2022/11

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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 SWAP⁴.

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 Forum⁵.

Strengthening collaboration with the IASG for implementing the SWAP on Indigenous Peoples

- WHO promotes a human rights-based approach to Indigenous Peoples' health and the implementation of the elements of the SWAP on Indigenous Peoples across the three levels of the organization.
- Within the Interagency Support Group on Indigenous Issues (IASG), WHO has contributed to the development of an accountability framework for the SWAP on Indigenous Peoples and continues to support the development of the framework in collaboration with other UN agencies.
- In alignment with WHO's commitment to scaling up efforts to advance Indigenous Peoples' health globally, supporting collective initiatives that promote the human rights and well-being of Indigenous Peoples, and implementing the SWAP, WHO served as co-chair of the IASG in 2024. In this capacity, WHO coordinated and delivered a joint IASG statement on enhancing the participation of Indigenous Peoples at the Second intersessional meeting of the Human Rights Council on concrete ways to enhance the participation of Indigenous Peoples in the work of the Council. The full version of the statement is available [here](#).

⁴ 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.

⁵ 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.

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Action taken on the key elements of the UN SWAP on Indigenous Peoples

Raise awareness of the UNDRIP

- WHO promotes advocacy actions and develops communication efforts involving senior management to raise awareness of the intrinsic link between health and human rights. For example, in April 2024, [WHO DG and the High Commissioner held a High-Level Dialogue](#) to discuss how policymakers could uphold international commitments to realize the right to health for all, including with respect to Indigenous Peoples.
- WHO advocates for the right to health and other health-related human rights through the observance of the international days, including the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples. This celebration includes messages from WHO senior leadership, communication materials, and social media engagement at the global, regional, and country levels.
- The Secretariat of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) prepared the report “Contribution of the WHO FCTC to the promotion and fulfilment of human rights” (FCTC/COP/10/15) for consideration at the Tenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the WHO FCTC (COP10), which took place in Panama, on 20-25 February 2024. In that report, the Convention Secretariat highlighted the mutually supportive nature of WHO FCTC and human rights, provided additional considerations on the nexus between tobacco control and human rights, and outlined the work of the Convention Secretariat on human rights. In respect of the latter, the Convention Secretariat has been engaged in raising awareness about the WHO FCTC as a tool to protect groups in situation of vulnerability from the harms of tobacco by recalling that the comprehensive implementation of the treaty, as well as implementation of specific provisions, contribute, among others, to the protection of indigenous Peoples’ rights.

Advance the participation of Indigenous peoples in UN processes.

- The adopted decision FCTC/COP10(20) at the Conference of the Parties to the WHO FCTC (COP10), notes that Parties are “mindful of Article 4.2 of the WHO FCTC, which emphasizes the need to take measures to promote the participation of Indigenous individuals and communities in the development, implementation and evaluation of tobacco control programmes that are socially and culturally appropriate to their needs and perspectives.”

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In line with this provision, WHO FCTC promotes that Parties take measures to promote the participation of Indigenous individuals and communities in the development, implementation and evaluation of tobacco control programmes.

- The WHO supported the organization of the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Ministerial Conference on the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases (NCDs) and Mental Health. Indigenous Peoples' representatives actively participated in this meeting, during which Member States made commitments on key themes related to the prevention and control of NCDs and mental health. Countries submitted specific actions for implementing cost-effective interventions to accelerate progress on NCDs, mental health, and environmental action in response to climate change and unique vulnerabilities. These efforts aim to achieve the voluntary NCD targets in the NCD Global Action Plan, as well as SDG target 3.4 and related goals. Countries that made commitments related to mental health include Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Cook Islands, Cabo Verde, Dominica, Fiji, the Federated States of Micronesia, Grenada, Haiti, Montserrat, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu, and Samoa.
- WHO actively participated and promoted actions with Indigenous leaders aimed at incorporating Indigenous Knowledges within global health, One Health and biodiversity frameworks during the first-ever Biodiversity and Health Day during [the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity \(COP16\)](#), in Cali, Colombia. Taking forward the Kunming-Montreal Biodiversity Framework established at COP 15, WHO supported efforts on integrating One Health strategies to mitigate biodiversity loss, manage zoonotic disease risks, and strengthen financial and ecological commitments to human, animal and environmental health and well-being. The [WHO Global Traditional Medicine Centre \(GTMC\)](#) supported high-level events to explore explored "whole of government" approaches that integrate biodiversity conservation with human well-being.
- In 2024 WHO advanced the production of a global literature that will serve as the situation analysis on the health of Indigenous Peoples and an input towards the development of a Global Plan of Action on the health of Indigenous Peoples as per WHA Resolution 76.16. WHO convened five expert meetings with Indigenous experts from the seven-sociocultural regions to ensure Indigenous Peoples participation from the onset and throughout its development. WHO is committed to applying a human rights-based approach to the development of the Global Plan of Action.

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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.
- With respect to activities to accelerate progress of SDG Target 3.3 related to tuberculosis (TB) incidence, the United Nations General Assembly held the second high-level meeting on the fight against TB in September 2023, which resulted in the [UN Political Declaration of the High-Level Meeting on the Fight Against Tuberculosis](#). With the Declaration, Member States committed to strengthening comprehensive care for all people with TB, using specific models of care such as nutritional, and mental health, social support, social protection, as well as rehabilitation, treatment of post-tuberculosis lung disease, and palliative care, paying particular attention to people in vulnerable situations or who are vulnerable to TB, including for Indigenous Peoples.

WHO has produced relevant guidance document and publications for ensuring intercultural approaches to TB. These include:

- The [Guidance for TB prevention among Indigenous populations in the Region of the Americas](#) produced by the WHO Regional Office for the Americas (PAHO/WHO) in 2021 provides general guidance for the intercultural approach to TB. It emphasizes the importance of tailoring interventions to unique cultural contexts, and integrating Indigenous Peoples' holistic health concepts, beliefs and practices to the implementation of the WHO End TB Strategy while ensuring alignment with the PAHO Policy on Ethnicity and Health, thereby fostering a culturally sensitive and effective TB response. Key aspects and principles from this guidance continue to be integrated during the provision of technical support through the WHO Country Offices, and in dialogues with Member States, ensuring that these elements are considered in national TB strategies and health system responses.
- WHO published updated [WHO consolidated guidelines on tuberculosis: module 2: screening: systematic screening for tuberculosis disease](#) in 2021, which includes a recommendation on TB screening for people with structural risk factors for TB and specific reference to Indigenous Peoples.
- In addition, to inform WHO's work on tuberculosis among at-risk populations and acknowledging that Indigenous Peoples in many countries have a high risk of developing TB compared to the non-Indigenous population, WHO commissioned a review of the risk of TB among at-risk populations, including among Indigenous peoples. The study on the Burden of tuberculosis among vulnerable populations worldwide can be found here: [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/article/PIIS1473-3099\(23\)00372-9/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/laninf/article/PIIS1473-3099(23)00372-9/fulltext)

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- WHO is in the process of finalizing a policy brief on TB among at-risk populations which will refer to the heightened risk of TB among Indigenous Peoples in many settings worldwide and which will include policy actions recommendations that can be taken to effectively prevent and address TB among at-risk populations.
- WHO remains committed to supporting Member States in advancing TB elimination efforts, with a particular emphasis on high-burden populations, including Indigenous Peoples. The WHO Global Tuberculosis Programme is currently revising its 2014 action framework on TB elimination to provide updated and comprehensive guidance. This revised framework, to be released in 2025, will direct efforts to accelerate progress, supporting national and sub-national initiatives and focusing on vulnerable populations, including Indigenous Peoples.
- WHO is currently developing technical guidance on the ethics, equity, human rights, and gender aspects for implementing the WHO End TB Strategy, which is expected to be published in 2025. This guidance will include specific considerations on Indigenous Peoples.
- WHO has also contributed to various fora on TB among Indigenous Peoples including at the annual Union World Conferences on Lung Health (2022 and 2023).
- Related to SDG 13, WHO FCTC and UNEP have partnered to combat microplastics in cigarettes and to raise awareness and urge action to be taken on the human and environmental impacts of plastic cigarette filters. For more information please see: <https://fctc.who.int/news-and-resources/newsroom/item/01-02-2022-unesp-secretariat-of-the-who-fctc-partner-to-combat-microplastics-in-cigarettes>
- The WHO FCTC continues to raise awareness around plastic pollution and climate change and has developed advocacy materials including:
 - As part of the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases (UNIATF), the WHO FCTC produced a toolkit to promote economically viable alternatives to tobacco production, which includes examples channelling voices from Indigenous communities. Please see: <https://fctc.who.int/news-and-resources/publications/m/item/toolkit-for-article-17-of-the-who-framework-convention-on-tobacco-control>
 - Discussion paper on "The WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control: An Accelerator for Sustainable Development" which provides broad recommendations and suggested action areas which can support WHO FCTC Parties, development partners, civil society, academia and other stakeholders to accelerate tobacco control and sustainable development in an integrated manner. Please see the following link for additional information: <https://fctc.who.int/news-and-resources/publications/m/item/the-who-framework-convention-on-tobacco-control-an-accelerator-for-sustainable-development>).

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- WHO' work in the Health Workforce Department is particularly oriented to SDGs 3,4,5,6,8,10, and improving health for all, including for Indigenous Peoples. The 'National Workforce Capacity for Essential Public Health Functions Collection' is specifically targeting the interrelated SDGs 7,10,13,14,15,17 through its focus on strengthening intersectoral workforce equipped to deliver on the Essential Public Health Functions, comprising core public health occupations, health and care workers, and occupations allied to health:

<https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240091412>

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.

- The WHO FCTC produced a guide for WHO FCTC Parties on including SDG Target 3.a on tobacco control—'Strengthen the implementation of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in all countries, as appropriate'—in voluntary national reviews. This guide provides key observations and recommendations to help WHO FCTC Parties incorporate references to Target 3.a in their reviews. Please see: <https://fctc.who.int/news-and-resources/publications/i/item/9789240014046> and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JgGd2kwDgEE>.