



*United Nations Development Account 9*

*Terminal Evaluation of the 12th Tranche Development Account Project*

**“Inclusive Development for Indigenous Peoples in  
Africa”**

*January 2020 - June 2023*

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## List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

CBD	Convention of Biological Diversity
CDPCS	Capacity Development and Partnership Coordination Section
DA	Development Account
DESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
DISD	Division for Inclusive Social Development
EMRIP	Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
EA	Expected Accomplishment
IASG	Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues
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IPDB	The Indigenous Peoples in Development Branch
NAAFIP	National Affirmative Action Framework for Indigenous Peoples in Uganda
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OHCHR	The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
OECD/DAC	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development/Development Assistance Committee
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
TOR	Terms of Reference
TWG	Technical Working Group
UN	United Nations
UNCT	UN Country Team
UNDRIP	United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
UNEG	United Nations Evaluations Group
UNFCCC	The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNPFII	United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WCIP	World Conference on Indigenous Peoples
WGIP	African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights' Working Group on Indigenous Populations/Communities (WGIP)

## Executive summary

The project “Inclusive Development for Indigenous Peoples in Africa” was approved for implementation under the 12th Tranche of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), Division for Inclusive Social Development (DISD) Account 9. The total budget was \$574,649 and the project was implemented from 2020 to 2023. The project was operationally completed in December 2023.

The objective of the project was to enhance the capacity of the target groups to engage in constructive policy dialogues and/or participatory mechanisms, with a view to develop strategies and initiatives to advance 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG2030) achievements for Indigenous Peoples in the framework of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Prior to implementation of the project, DISD had received a letter of request from Zimbabwe to engage in capacity development related to Indigenous Peoples and marginalized communities. DISD has also received informal interest from Angola to the same effect. However, over the course of the project implementation, these two governments did not follow up on their initial interest. The project was implemented in the following selected countries in Africa: Namibia, Uganda, Burundi, and Zimbabwe. The project evaluation took place in 2023 and 2024.

Through the capacity building of both national and local governments, as well as Indigenous Peoples’ leaders, the project aimed to promote the participation of Indigenous Peoples in decision-making processes at all levels, with a particular focus on the regional level. It further sought to enhance the capacity of governments to develop and implement legislation, policies, programs and plans that recognize and respect Indigenous Peoples’ development priorities and rights, as well as to enhance dialogue mechanisms among Indigenous Peoples, governments, and the United Nations Country Teams (UNCT). The project also aimed to strengthen the capacities of stakeholders in targeted countries to engage in those processes, as well as to work on the implementation of national action plans, policies, and measures to advance implementation of the UNDRIP. Targeted countries requested technical support from UN DESA. Although the COVID-19 pandemic significantly affected the implementation of the project, and especially planned in-person activities, the project delivered on outputs envisioned in the original project document.

The main objective of this project was to advance inclusive development for Indigenous Peoples in selected African countries based on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The project sought to achieve its objective through:

- EA1- Enhancing knowledge and understanding of the situation and rights of Indigenous Peoples by government officials, Indigenous Peoples’ representatives, and other stakeholders to support evidence-based interventions that advance inclusive development for Indigenous Peoples in the framework of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;
- EA2- Enhancing the capacity of government officials and Indigenous leaders and representatives to engage in participatory and constructive dialogue to develop and/or implement development policies, plans of action, or strategies for Indigenous Peoples.

The evaluation was carried out home-based between October 2023 and June 2024.. The evaluation conducted qualitative and content analysis on documents provided by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Division/ Division for Inclusive and Social Development (UNDESA/DISD), semi-structured interviews to key participants (in person and online) and participatory observation (the evaluator attended one workshop). The purpose of the evaluation was to assess the project implementation

and its results as compared to its objective and planned outputs. The Evaluation was conducted with the purpose of accountability, learning, planning and building knowledge. The evaluation also aimed at providing an independent assessment of the achievement of the project, through an analysis of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability and orientation to impact of the project.

The project was implemented in three main countries: Burundi, Namibia and Uganda, through a series of workshops (18), including two international workshops on Conservation and regional consultations with Indigenous Peoples, governments, UN organizations, among others. Namibia was the only country that targeted Indigenous Youth through specific workshops aimed solely on Indigenous Youth. Although there were no workshops that focused on Indigenous women, the project integrated a gender focus throughout its implementation, ensuring the effective participation of Indigenous women in all workshops and consultations. Uganda was the country where most of the regional workshops were held. In Namibia and Uganda, two assessments were conducted on the status of Indigenous Peoples and the findings were used in the workshops aimed at drafting national policies/plans on Indigenous Peoples, but in none of the countries, have policies been adopted. In the case of Burundi, according to one interviewee, a National Strategy on Vulnerable Peoples was drafted and approved in 2024, but it has not yet been officially released. Also, consultations with Indigenous Peoples by the governments of Namibia and Uganda took place. Based on the qualitative analysis, the project **achieved most of its objectives**, however, the degree to which the indicators were fulfilled was difficult to assess due to lack of a systematic process in the data collection.

The project was very **relevant** and much needed, as few countries in Africa have ratified ILO Convention 169 and most of the countries do not have legal frameworks providing recognition and protection of Indigenous Peoples' rights and territories. Despite recommendations having been made to some of the target countries from the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) and UN Human Rights bodies - and despite historic rulings from national and international courts - governments often ignore these recommendations and rulings. For example, in November 2023, in Kenya over 700 Ogiek people were forcibly evicted from their lands with no prior warning, information or relocation plan, clearly violating their rights and in violation of the ruling of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights. In Uganda, the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) carried out frequent raids on the Benet people in 2023, burning down 96 houses, destroying 33 others, arresting 70 people and impounding over 1,200 animals.

The project was also **effective and efficient** despite the COVID19 pandemic, two policies on Indigenous Peoples were drafted for Namibia and Uganda in a participatory way, including Indigenous Peoples. For **Burundi**, informants recognized the crucial role of UN DESA and collaborators in establishing enabling conditions for the advancement of national strategy on vulnerable peoples in April, 2024 and which soon should be adopted by the government of Burundi. Additionally, given that one of the pressing issues for Indigenous Peoples in Africa relates to conservation projects, the project held two workshops, and developed a toolkit on Conservation and Indigenous Peoples, to raise awareness on the challenges Indigenous Peoples face in relation to conservation programs and policies, and to develop capacities on how to improve a rights-based approach to conservation. While the conservation toolkit and workshops were not initially included in the project rationale, these activities demonstrate the flexibility that UN DESA has to learn while implementing and adapt to the needs of Indigenous Peoples. The methodology implemented by UN DESA and collaborators promotes **sustainability** as a key element for projects to succeed is ownership of the process and which was observed at different levels and with different actors.

To build on the advances made in the first phase of this project, we make the following recommendations, set at a general level intentionally but also that can be applied at national, regional, and local level:

- As soon as feasible, design and implement - with the participation of target governments and Indigenous Peoples - a second phase of this project to continue the processes initiated in target countries. These include designing a) Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) Mechanisms, b) Indigenous Peoples' Analysis (IPA) per country/region to understand the challenges and issues that Indigenous Peoples face and the potential avenues to support them; and c) support institutional capacity to improve how Indigenous Peoples' issues are addressed, this includes human, institutional and financial capital.
- Engage other bilateral and multilateral donors such as USAID, European Union, World Bank, African Development Bank to mobilize technical and financial support, ensuring the meaningful participation of Indigenous Peoples to promote systemic change.
- Increase engagement with Indigenous Peoples in target countries setting adequate mechanisms to increase diversity and reach out the Indigenous Peoples in remote areas and support them to be able to participate in the different activities related to the project and enact their right to self-determination and political participation.
- Increase the incorporation of United Nations Resident Coordinators and Country Teams into the project as they can be important brokers to enable conversations and work that support Indigenous Peoples rights by bringing multiple actors to the table with the aim of engaging Indigenous Peoples in the development of Development Assistance Frameworks and country program action plans.
- Expand dialogue and training on Indigenous women, youth and other groups in society that remain “invisible”. Implementing the project through intersectional lenses at different levels is key to ensure inclusivity and ensuring sufficient financial and technical capacity for it.
- Improve data collection, monitoring and evaluation, and database management. In order to better assess and evaluate the project, as well as collate lessons learned, the second phase of the project should strive to improve data collection, monitoring and evaluation. To ensure that indicators are relevant, they should be developed in cooperation with Indigenous Peoples and target governments.

To conclude, there is a growing body of evidence that development approaches that respect Indigenous Peoples' rights and engage Indigenous Peoples as partners in design, implementation, management, administration, monitoring and evaluation are vital to achieving the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. This project reinforces United Nations leadership in advancing a development paradigm that empowers marginalized and vulnerable sectors of the population and assures inclusion and equitable access to development benefits. This program offers practical, fair and balanced guidance that incorporates international consensus on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, draws on guidance provided by human rights instruments and builds upon experiences and lessons learned in development programs impacting Indigenous Peoples.



## 1. Introduction

In September 2007, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), which captures existing human rights standards and places them in the context of Indigenous Peoples. The Declaration calls upon States to take appropriate measures for its implementation. This requires the development of legislation, policies, and programs that recognize Indigenous Peoples' individual and collective rights, and take into account their priorities and perspectives.

The project "Inclusive Development for Indigenous Peoples in Africa" which is the issue of this evaluation, was initiated after target countries requested technical support from UN DESA. The project was approved for implementation under the 12th Tranche of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), Division for Inclusive Social Development (DISD) Account 9. Project implementation took place from 2020 to 2023, and was operationally completed in December 2023

The project carried out regional workshops and activities to build the capacities of governments and Indigenous Peoples in Namibia, Uganda, Burundi, and Zimbabwe. As project implementation advanced, the activities increasingly focused on Burundi, Namibia and Uganda. However, through some regional workshops and activities continued to involve actors from all target countries. The project evaluation took place in 2023 and 2024.

Although the COVID-19 pandemic significantly affected the implementation of the project, and especially planned in-person activities, the project delivered outputs envisioned in the original project document.

## 1. Description of the Project

### 1.1. Background

There are approximately 476 million Indigenous Peoples in over 90 countries across the seven sociocultural regions of the world<sup>1</sup>. Indigenous Peoples, who represent 6% of the world's population, frequently experience discrimination and racism, as well as challenges in terms of development, including disproportionately high levels of poverty, accounting for 19% of the extremely poor<sup>2</sup> and low access to culturally appropriate and quality health and education services as well as infrastructure, e.g. safe water and sanitation facilities, among others. These issues are rooted in and exacerbated by the expropriation of - or encroachment onto - their traditional lands, territories and natural resources, and the loss of their ability to practice self-determination, which is central to maintaining their cultures and livelihoods.

The United Nations has consistently prioritized the rights and well-being of Indigenous Peoples. In 2001, the Commission on Human Rights established a Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, a mandate that has been continuously renewed. In 2007, the General Assembly, recognizing the status of Indigenous Peoples, adopted the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).<sup>3</sup> The Declaration sets out the minimum standards for the survival, dignity, and well-being of

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<sup>1</sup> ILO, 2020: Implementing the ILO Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention No 169: toward an inclusive, sustainable and just future. International Labour Organization. Geneva, Switzerland. URL [https://www.ilo.org/global/publications/books/WCMS\\_735607/lang-en/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/global/publications/books/WCMS_735607/lang-en/index.htm)

<sup>2</sup> World Bank, 2024. Indigenous Peoples. Website. Available at <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/indigenouspeoples> Accessed on March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

<sup>3</sup> UN General Assembly, 2007. United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples". United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. Available at [https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/wp-content/uploads/sites/19/2018/11/UNDRIP\\_E\\_web.pdf](https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/wp-content/uploads/sites/19/2018/11/UNDRIP_E_web.pdf) Accessed on March 20, 2024.

the world's Indigenous Peoples. While it has been instrumental in stimulating national action, including the adoption of laws and, in some cases, amendments to national constitutions, there is still a significant need for the elaboration of national action plans, policies, and implementation strategies.

In 2014, the United Nations General Assembly organized a high-level meeting known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples to share perspectives and best practices on the realization of the rights of Indigenous Peoples, including the pursuit of the objectives of the UNDRIP. The Outcome Document of the World Conference contains commitments by Member States to take legislative, policy, and administrative measures to achieve the ends of the Declaration and to develop and implement national action plans, strategies, or other measures.

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples calls on the UN System to “... contribute to the full realization of the provisions of this Declaration through the mobilization, inter alia, of financial cooperation and technical assistance.” (Article 41). Article 42 goes on, calling on the United Nations to promote respect for, and full application of the provisions of this Declaration and follow-up the effectiveness of this Declaration”.

The Department of Economic and Social Affairs’ Division for Inclusive Social Development (DESA/DISD) contains the substantive office at UN Headquarters that addresses Indigenous Peoples: The Indigenous Peoples in Development Branch (IPDB). The Branch, inter alia, serves as the secretariat to the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, prepares analytical reports and policy analysis and implements technical cooperation projects that support Member States to realize the commitments contained in the UNDRIP. DISD also includes the Capacity Development and Partnership Coordination Section (CDPCS), which provides advisory services and technical cooperation to governments and Indigenous Peoples and has in recent years carried out such work extensively in Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

DESA, through IPDB, serves as the permanent co-chair of the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues (IASG). In October 2019, to advance inclusive development for, and the rights of, Indigenous Peoples in Africa, the IASG agreed to establish a joint technical group with the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights’ Working Group on Indigenous Populations/Communities (WGIP). The technical group is led by UNWOMEN and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), with input from DESA/DISD, and will also include the WGIP.

As noted earlier, there is a growing awareness among policymakers of the importance of developing sound, evidence-based policies that promote Indigenous Peoples’ rights and well-being not only for Indigenous Peoples themselves but also to promote peace and security, and to achieve the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. An example of this increasing interest is that several countries have developed policies, laws, and constitutional reforms to include the recognition of the rights of Indigenous Peoples. However, there is still a considerable gap between the recognition of rights and how they actually are implemented and, in most countries, Indigenous Peoples lag behind the general population in all development indicators.

Recognizing the need to bridge the gaps between the legal recognition of Indigenous Peoples’ rights and the implementation or enactment of those rights, the DISD implemented a 9th tranche Development Account Project titled “Enhancing the Capacity of Governments and Indigenous Leaders to Ensure Social Integration and Inclusive Development in Selected Countries in Africa and Asia” (ROA 261) that took place from 2015 to 2018. As part of this project, the government of Namibia delivered a White Paper on

Indigenous Peoples of Namibia<sup>4</sup>. One of the objectives of the project “Inclusive Development for Indigenous Peoples in Africa” was to validate and advance the Namibian government’s White Paper, as well as initial steps that were taken in Namibia and Uganda to commit to developing National Affirmative Action Programmes on Indigenous Peoples within the framework of the outcome document of the 2014 World Conference on Indigenous Peoples.

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## 1.2. Project objectives and expected results

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The main objective of this project was to advance inclusive development for Indigenous Peoples in selected African countries based on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The project sought to achieve its objective through:

- EA1- Enhancing knowledge and understanding of the situation and rights of Indigenous Peoples by government officials, Indigenous representatives, and other stakeholders to support evidence-based interventions that advance inclusive development for Indigenous Peoples in the framework of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;
- EA2- Enhancing the capacity of government officials and Indigenous leaders and representatives to engage in participatory and constructive dialogue to develop and/or implement development policies, plans of action, or strategies for Indigenous Peoples.

To evaluate the outcomes of the project and to what extent it had accomplished its objectives, the following indicators were used:

### **Indicators of achievement set in the initial proposal and against which this evaluation was compared**

1. 75% of government officials and indigenous representatives report increased awareness and understanding of the situation and rights of Indigenous Peoples in their country.
2. IA 1.2. 75% of Indigenous leaders or representatives who participated in the project confirm close consultations with the local and national government during the development/implementation of policies, plans of action, or strategies for inclusive development for Indigenous peoples.
3. As relevant: IA 2.11. At least one specific measure (policy, legislation, administrative procedure, mechanism) established or strengthened in each of the target countries that promotes participatory and constructive dialogue between government officials and Indigenous leaders or representatives.
4. As relevant: IA 2.2. 75% of Indigenous leaders and representatives that participated in the project confirm an increased engagement in constructive dialogue regarding inclusive development for Indigenous peoples and development planning.

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<sup>4</sup> UN

While the project initially was planned to take place in Namibia, Uganda, and two additional countries, it was expanded to include training for people from Burundi, Angola, Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.<sup>5</sup>

### 1.3. Project strategies and key activities

UNDESA/DISD worked with relevant government ministries and local authorities where Indigenous Peoples are concentrated; these included the countries of Angola, Burundi, Namibia, Uganda, Zimbabwe and South Africa. The project was implemented in cooperation with additional UN entities, including OHCHR and UN Women, and members of the respective UN Country Teams within the framework of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples respecting the principle of free, prior, and informed consent.

As the main objective of the project was to enhance the capacity of all partner governments to develop and implement strategies to advance inclusive development for Indigenous Peoples, the project activities initially programmed are summarized below:

- A1. The preparation of country assessments of existing legal, policy, program, and administrative frameworks in relation to Indigenous Peoples and their socio-economic situation, with recommendations for potential policy, planning, or strategies that can address the gaps identified.
- A2. Building on the assessments in A1, the project aimed to organize workshops and policy dialogues to identify specific policies, plans of action or strategies to be developed and/or implemented under the project. Based on the interest of partner countries, the project, in some instances, also facilitated meetings of a coordinating body comprised of government officials and Indigenous Peoples' representatives, as well as other key stakeholders, to support the drafting/revision and implementation process for a new policy, plan of action or strategy. The aim was to organize two regional training workshops (in 2021 and 2022) to share the common results of the present project as well as previous work done in the region, among participating countries.
- A3. The project also aimed to inform and contribute to a toolkit on developing national action plans for implementing the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Such a toolkit would be useful to government entities interested in taking specific initiatives to support the development and rights of Indigenous Peoples within the framework of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the commitments made by States at the 2014 World Conference on Indigenous Peoples.
- A4. The project supported partner governments to establish a participatory coordinating body, comprised of government officials and Indigenous Peoples' representatives, as well as other key stakeholders, to support the drafting/implementation process for the policy, plan of action or strategy using the roadmap (see OP1.3) as a basis for their work. This included hiring two international experts for Namibia and Uganda.
- A5. Workshops to assist the Government and representatives of Indigenous Peoples to draft a policy, plan of action or strategy. To prepare these documents the project will organize participatory workshops and consultations with relevant stakeholders. Organize final national workshops to validate policies, plans of action or strategies and the toolkit.
- A6. In addition, the project also intended to involve final national workshops to validate policies, plans of action or strategies and the toolkit, as well as regional workshops to exchange best practices on the design and implementation of policies, plans of action and strategies on inclusive development for Indigenous Peoples, and allow participants from other countries in the region to

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<sup>5</sup> See original proposal "Indigenous Development for Indigenous Peoples in Africa" concept note.

participate and learn from the experiences of project partners and to disseminate good practices, including the dissemination of the toolkit.

- A7. The project also intended to culminate in a meeting in New York during the 2022 Permanent Forum on Indigenous Peoples, where the African participants and the global community of Indigenous Peoples would share and promote good practices on design and implementation of policies, plans of action, and strategies on inclusive development for Indigenous Peoples. This event did not take place due to the COVID19 pandemic.

Key strategies for gender equality and “Leaving no one behind”

- On gender issues: The technical group of the project was led by UN women and the OHCHR in partnership with the UN Country Teams to address more diversity and inclusiveness.
- “Leaving no one behind”: The objective of this project was grounded on the principles of “leave no one behind” and “reach the furthest behind first”. This project sought to support governments in Africa in their efforts to reach some of the most vulnerable groups in society. Indigenous Peoples were key participants and collaborators in this project. In the evaluation section, we refer to the different activities and the way they addressed Indigenous Peoples’ issues.

#### **1.4. Beneficiaries and target countries**

The project aimed to target African countries. It specifically targeted Burundi, Namibia and Uganda but also benefited other countries in Africa such as Angola, Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The criteria used to select the participant countries:

- 1) The country's Indigenous Population and established organizations of Indigenous Peoples are ready and willing to participate in capacity development activities.
- 2) Demonstrated interest by the government in participating in capacity development activities and in the policy dialogues with Indigenous Peoples.
- 3) The UN Country Teams demonstrated interest in participating in capacity development activities and supporting policy dialogues.

#### **1.5. Key partners and other key stakeholders and right holders**

The project included stakeholders and rights holders as follows:

- 1) Stakeholders at national, regional, and local levels, including government officials, national policymakers, and program advisers who have a mandate to promote the rights of Indigenous Peoples, ethnic minorities, and marginalized groups in their respective countries and/or to promote socially inclusive development. The goal was to strengthen their capacity to mainstream Indigenous Peoples and a rights-based approach to development in accordance with UNDRIP in their policies, programs, and professional practices.
- 2) Other relevant stakeholders were members of conservation organizations. The goal of the project in relation to them was to strengthen their capacity to mainstream Indigenous Peoples and a rights-based approach in accordance with UNDRIP in their conservation programs, practices, and activities.
- 3) Indigenous Peoples’ representatives and organizations as rights holders in the selected countries. They were the main beneficiaries of this project, and the goal was to effectively strengthen

organizational capacity and networks to reduce discrimination and empower Indigenous leaders to participate in decision-making processes.

## **1.6. Resources**

The project “Inclusive Development for Indigenous Peoples in Africa” was approved for implementation under the 12th Tranche of the United Nations Development (DESA), Division for Inclusive Social Development (DISD) Account 9. The total budget was \$574,649. The project aimed at enhancing the capacity of the target groups in the following selected countries in Africa: Namibia, Uganda, Burundi, and Zimbabwe. The project proposal does not specify if there were any extra financial contributions from countries or other relevant actors.

Other organizations that cooperated in implementing this project are the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and UN Women. The UN country teams were valuable partners in this project by enabling and facilitating a policy dialogue between government officials and Indigenous Peoples.

## **1.7. Link to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**

The current project was strongly linked to the 2030 Sustainable Development commitment of “leave no one behind” and “reach the furthest behind first”. Indigenous Peoples are among the groups that experience the highest levels of social, economic, and political marginalization in the countries where they live. They also suffer disproportionately high rates of poverty, food insecurity, and hunger across the globe, lack equal access to quality healthcare and education, and face challenges to their cultural survival, including the loss of territories, livelihoods, and languages. The Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples highlights these issues, which should guide all policies and programs that impact Indigenous Peoples.

The project’s objective - to support states in improving their policies and strategies for the well-being of Indigenous Peoples in line with UNDRIP - is directly linked to the SDGs, particularly SDGs 1 ‘End poverty in all its forms everywhere’, 2 ‘Ending hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture’, 3 ‘Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages’, 4 ‘Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all,’ 10 ‘Reduce inequality within and among the countries’ considering the disparity between Indigenous Peoples and their non-Indigenous counterparts, and SDG 16, providing capacity development to government officials while also supporting the institutions of Indigenous Peoples themselves, providing fora for policy dialogues and other mechanisms to address concerns in a peaceful and just manner.

## **1.8. Innovative elements (if applicable)**

### *1.8.1. Redefining Indigenous Peoples*

Until recently, the prevailing understanding has been that all Africans are Indigenous to Africa, with the exception of colonial European descendants. However, there is a growing recognition of the human rights understanding of the concept of ‘Indigenous Peoples’ that applies specifically to certain groups of hunter-gatherer peoples and pastoralists. This understanding has been elaborated by the African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights and endorsed by the African Union. This conceptualization, which was an integral aspect

of this project, is increasingly being used by Indigenous Peoples in the region to advocate for their issues.

### 1.8.2. *Supporting Indigenous Peoples, States, and other relevant actors through capacity development around UNDRIP*

This project supported African governments, Indigenous Peoples, and relevant actors within the context of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the 2030 Development Agenda in promoting the rights and well-being of Indigenous Peoples. The project supported both African governments' efforts to leave no one behind while also promoting an understanding of the concept of Indigenous Peoples in Africa that promotes peace, cooperation, and inclusive development.

### 1.8.3. *Flexibility in the face of COVID-19*

The project adapted to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and its effect on Indigenous Peoples, as well as the effects of mitigation measures, and was able to continue in its activities.

## **2. Evaluation objectives, scope and questions**

### **2.1. Purpose and objectives**

The objective of the evaluation is to assess the implementation and results of the project “**Inclusive Development for Indigenous Peoples in Africa**” as compared to its objectives and planned outputs. The evaluation was conducted for the purpose of accountability, learning, planning, and knowledge building. The evaluation aims to provide an independent assessment of the project's achievements through an analysis of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability, and orientation to the project's impact. COVID-19 affected the implementation of this project, and the evaluation also took into account this situation.

The evaluation was conducted based on the DESA-Capacity Development and Program Management Office's records in 2023 and 2024.

### **2.2. Evaluation scope, criteria and questions**

The project had specific activities in Burundi, Namibia, Uganda and Kenya, but also included participants from Angola, Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe. To complement the evaluation, interviews were focused on Burundi, Namibia and Uganda as specified in the Terms of Reference of this evaluation. Interviewees for the evaluation included government officials, Indigenous Peoples' representatives, project consultants and other stakeholders who participated in the project activities.

The evaluation was conducted based on the DESA-Capacity Development and Programme Management Office's records.

Annex 1 included the Terms of Reference of this evaluation. The evaluation assessed the extent to which the project's outcomes were effectively and efficiently achieved and the relevance of its contributions.

- 1) **Effectiveness:** Evaluating the project achievements, taking into account the indicators of achievement provided in the project document and providing an indication of whether the project is likely to have lasting impacts on the intended beneficiaries. Analyzing the project's implementation strategies about their potential effectiveness in achieving the project outcomes and impacts, including unexpected results and factors affecting project implementation (positively and negatively).
- 2) **Efficiency:** Assessing the overall value of the project activities and outcomes in relation to the resources expended, including, if possible, the added value by additional resources or substantive contributions, i.e., those beyond the original project's budget or work plan.
- 3) **Relevance:** Assessing the relevance and coherence of the project's design, considering country needs and how the project is perceived and valued by the target groups. Ascertain the significance of the project's contributions to beneficiary country individuals, institutions, and other key stakeholders. This component includes an assessment of the quantity, quality, and usefulness of the activities and outputs.
- 4) **Sustainability:** Assessing the extent to which the benefits/results/activities will continue after the project has ended, from the perspective of beneficiary country individuals, institutions, and other key stakeholders.
- 5) **Gender and human rights perspectives:** Examining to which extent gender and human rights issues have been addressed.
- 6) **Coherence:** Examining the project complementarity and coordination with other relevant interventions under the criterion of coherence.

The project evaluation included:

- Lessons learned (to inform future efforts to build upon the outcomes of the Project within the partner countries, and also to undertake similar cooperation in others);
- Recommendations to inform future efforts to build upon the outcomes of the Project within the partner countries, and also to undertake similar cooperation in others.

### 3. Methodology

Methodologically, the evaluation has followed the guidance of the United Nations Evaluations Group (UNEG)<sup>6</sup> given the character of this project (support to the development of legislation, policies and programs for the implementation of normative instruments, in particular UNDRIP).

Because of the nature of the project focused on policy development, capacity development, and participation in decision-making, the methods used below were used in this evaluation.

#### 3.1. Desk analysis: Literature Review, Gray Literature Review, and Report Analysis

Evaluation of the Project has been a home-based desk study reviewing existing documentation provided by UNDESA, complemented by information gathered through responses to a questionnaire.

These included:

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<sup>6</sup> <http://www.uneval.org/document/detail/1484>



- Identifying stakeholders and their role in the evaluation, making use of the already provided list of contacts in the partner countries. We did not disclose names in this section as we are following: a. Free, Prior and Informed Consent protocols and b. Agreement to anonymize names of people we interviewed and contacted. Yet, we used the lists and reports provided by UNDESA to do our sampling for analysis.
- Preparing key questions of the evaluation, guided by the Terms of Reference (Annex 1) for this evaluation, which had a number of proposed questions, complemented by questions inspired by the above-mentioned Handbook which is also available online<sup>67</sup> (Annex 4 – Evaluation Questionnaire)
- Selecting the criteria and accompanying indicators to frame the evaluation, based on the interventions’ logic, including in the “Evaluation matrix” (Annex 3 – Evaluation matrix) and indicators described in the Project Document, and guided by the TORs for this evaluation.
- Data collection and analysis: Reviewing existing information, collecting additional information through questionnaires and telephone interviews, and analyzing the data (content analysis);
- Summarizing the main findings and conclusions.
- Identifying lessons learned and best context practices and distilling recommendations, in conformity with the TOR, to inform future efforts to build upon the outcomes of the Project within the partner countries, and also to undertake similar cooperation in others;
- Preparing the Evaluation Report.

### 3.2. Semi-structured interviews

Semi-structured interviews were done with key actors, UN DESA had recommended to interview actors from Burundi, Namibia and Uganda. Considering that the project also included participants from Angola, Botswana, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe in Africa, the sampling of the evaluation was expanded to in person interviews with participants from Kenya, Tanzania and Zimbabwe. In total 13 semi-structured interviews took place, including project implementers, government offices and conservation parks representatives. In Annex 4, the tool used for the semi-structured interviews to key actors is presented, including the evaluations questions agreed in the TORs (Annex 1) and others that the evaluators considered adequate for the evaluation.

The following questions guided our evaluation:

- Did the project strengthen national capacities in the project countries in establishing and implementing evidence-based mechanisms for formulation, monitoring and evaluation of national policies and programmes aimed at social and economic inclusion of Indigenous Peoples.
- Did the project identify and make recommendations about the key entry points, during the duration of the project, to impact relevant social policy and programme development and implementation?
- Did the project strengthen government officials’ skills in the formulation of new evidence-based policies, strategies, programmes and legislations and/or the review of existing national legislations and programmes for social inclusion and employment of youth with disabilities at training workshops?
- Did the project effectively ensure the participation of Indigenous Peoples’ representatives in project activities?
- Did the project promote South-South cooperation to share knowledge and experiences?

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<sup>7</sup> [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf0AERoOw9q8G4nJ\\_rvq-UpaKm3QYYRWqspr7ISUGTf5bUk2g/viewform?c=0&w=1](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf0AERoOw9q8G4nJ_rvq-UpaKm3QYYRWqspr7ISUGTf5bUk2g/viewform?c=0&w=1)

- To what extent did the project mainstream gender and human rights perspectives in the design and delivery of its activities?

### 3.3. Ethical considerations

Ethical principles for this evaluation<sup>8</sup> have been strictly adhered to, among others by including references to confidentiality and the possibility of anonymity in the questionnaire, as well as throughout interviews and in e-mail correspondence, and in the reflection of views in this evaluation report. The findings are presented in a composite manner without ascribing any comment to a specific person. For the same reason, the evaluators do not provide a list of key informants interviewed but ensure that the sampling was made with the list of contacts and participants that were identified through the different documents provided by UN DESA.

## 4. Findings

### 4.1. Effectiveness and efficiency: Achievement of expected goals and results, including gender and human rights perspective

The main objective of this project was to advance inclusive development for Indigenous Peoples in selected African countries based on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The project was confined to two main countries, Namibia and Uganda, however, some activities also took place in Burundi, Zimbabwe and Angola, Botswana, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania, and Zambia.

The results and analysis is presented in three different tables:

- In table 1, the rationale of the intervention is presented, including the objective, the expected outcomes and activities, and the indicators.
- In table 2, the activities performed are compared against the activities initially planned, as well as an analysis on how these activities were conducted.
- In table 3, the objectives and indicators are compared against the performance of the project.

#### 4.1.1. On the activities and outputs

Table 1. Objectives, outputs and indicators of the project

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<sup>8</sup> As reflected in the TOR for this evaluation and in the UNEG standards on ethics (Standard 3.2. – *Norms and Standards for Evaluation Competencies*, UNEG. 2017; available at <http://www.unevaluation.org/document/detail/102>)

<u>Intervention logic</u>	<u>Indicators</u>
<p><b>Objective</b> To advance inclusive development for Indigenous Peoples in selected countries in Africa based on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.</p>	
<p><b>Outcome – OC1</b> <b>For Phase 1 and 2 countries</b> Enhanced knowledge and understanding of the situation and rights of Indigenous Peoples by government officials, Indigenous representatives and other stakeholders to support evidence-based interventions that advance inclusive development for Indigenous Peoples in the framework of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.</p>	<p><b>IA 1.1</b> 75% of government officials and Indigenous representatives report increased awareness and understanding of the situation and rights of Indigenous Peoples in their country.</p> <p><b>IA 1.2</b> 75% of Indigenous leaders or representatives that participated in the project confirm close consultations with local and national governments during the development/implementation of policies, plans of action or strategies for inclusive development for Indigenous Peoples.</p>
<p><b>Output OP 1.1 (Activity OP 1.1)</b> Assess existing legal, policy and administrative frameworks in relation to Indigenous Peoples, and socio-economic situation of Indigenous Peoples, with recommendations for potential policy, planning or strategies that can address gaps identified. These assessments will inform the subsequent activities of the project by serving as a baseline document at the start of the project. Assess the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and related mitigation efforts on Indigenous Peoples. These assessments will be undertaken by international consultants.</p>	
<p><b>OP 1.2 (Activity OP 1. 2)</b> Produce a toolkit on the development of national action plans for the implementation of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.</p> <p>The toolkit will be informed by inputs and activities from this project and is intended to be a reference document to support other policy makers – thus building on this project to encourage further policy development in other countries.</p>	
<p><b>OP 1.3 (Activity OP 1. 3)</b> Organize national dialogues and participatory training workshops to draft roadmaps giving recommendations to Governments on suggested policy actions. These workshops will also serve to provide substantive policy advice to participants within the context of the UNDRIP and to review the draft toolkit on the development of national action plans for the implementation of UNDRIP. Furthermore, these workshops will use elements of the toolkit in OP1.2 and will provide inputs for the development of the toolkits.</p>	

<u>Intervention logic</u>	<u>Indicators</u>
<p><b>Objective</b> To advance inclusive development for Indigenous Peoples in selected countries in Africa based on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.</p>	
<p><b>Outcome - OC2</b> <b>For Phase 2 countries</b></p> <p>Enhanced capacity of government officials and Indigenous leaders and representatives to engage in participatory and constructive dialogue to develop and/or implement development policies, plans of action or strategies for Indigenous Peoples.</p>	<p><b>IA 2.1</b> At least one specific measure (policy, legislation, administrative procedure, mechanism) established or strengthened in each of the target countries that promotes participatory and constructive dialogue between government officials and Indigenous Peoples' leaders or representatives;</p>
	<p><b>IA 2.2</b> 75% of Indigenous leaders and representatives that participated in the project confirm an increased engagement in constructive dialogue regarding inclusive development for Indigenous Peoples and development planning;</p>
<p><b>Output OP 2.1 (Activities OP 2.1)</b> Project will support partner governments to establish a participatory coordinating body, comprised of government officials and Indigenous representatives, as well as other key stakeholders, to support the drafting/implementation process for the policy, plan of action or strategy using the roadmap (see OP1.3) as a basis for their work.</p>	
<p><b>OP 2.2 (Activities OP 2.2)</b> Workshops to assist the Government and representatives of Indigenous Peoples to draft a policy, plan of action or strategy. To prepare these documents the project will organize participatory workshops and consultations with relevant stakeholders. Organize final national workshops to validate policies, plans of action or strategies and the toolkit.</p>	
<p><b>OP 2.3 (Activities OP 2.3)</b> Organize two regional training workshops (in 2021 and 2022) to share the common results of the present project as well as previous work done in the region under DA and RPTC, among participating countries.</p>	
<p><b>OP 2.4 (Activities OP 2.4)</b> Organize an event during the 2022 Forum on Indigenous Peoples to promote good practices on design and implementation of policies, plans of action, and strategies on inclusive development for Indigenous Peoples to the international community.</p>	

Based on table 1, to achieve two major outcomes or objectives of this project, three activities for outcome 1 and four activities for outcome 2, were set. In table 2, a summary of the activities initially proposed and the ones actually implemented are presented as well as an analysis of these activities.

**Table 2: Matrix of activities proposed and actually implemented**

Country	Outcome 1			Outcome 2				Other activities
	OP 1.1- Assessment study on Indigenous Peoples status per country	OP 1.2- toolkit on the development of national action plans	OP 1.3- National dialogues and participatory training workshops to draft roadmaps on suggested policy	OP 2.1- Supporting the establishment of a coordination body on Indigenous Peoples issues	OP 2.2 Workshops to assist in the drafting of Indigenous Peoples policies	OP 2.3- Two regional training workshops to share the common results of the present projects	OP 2.4- An Event during the 2022 UNPFII to promote good practices on design and implementation of policies	
<b>Burundi</b>	No	No	No	No	No	The workshop, rather than for the establishment of national policies on Indigenous Peoples' plans, was an "International Workshop on Conservation and Indigenous Peoples in Eastern and Southern Africa" in 2023. In these workshops, a toolkit on Conservation and Indigenous Peoples in Southern and Eastern Africa was presented and piloted.	Because COVID-19 pandemics disrupted several activities, this meeting was not done. Yet, in the evaluations, participants highlighted the importance to scale the conservation toolkit workshop to a broader audience in Africa and one of the proposed spaces to do so is the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Development of COVID19 materials to support the prevention and mitigation of it in Indigenous communities. The languages included in this part of the project were Ngakarimjong, Benet, Batwa, Ju'/hoansi and Oshivambo.</li> <li>● Consultation of San Indigenous Peoples to determine their communities' priorities on the preservation and revitalization of their language.</li> </ul>
<b>Namibia</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
<b>Uganda</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
<b>Others</b>	Assessment study in Zimbabwe on the situation of San Indigenous Peoples	No	No	Yes				

Some important highlights in relation to the activities of the project, are the following ones:

- The preparation of existing legal policy frameworks took place in Namibia and Uganda but not the other target countries. In Burundi, a National Plan on Vulnerable Peoples, which includes Indigenous Peoples, was approved in April 2024. Yet, it remains unclear to what extent the UN DESA project contributed to the development of this plan, while Indigenous leaders acknowledge that UN DESA has done important work on supporting Indigenous Peoples' rights.
- In the case of Namibia, the draft White Paper on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in Namibia has been finalized and improved as compared to the original draft from 2012, as Indigenous Peoples' voices have been included through participatory workshops. However, the document has not been approved yet as a policy document or passed as national legislation. This is an activity that is recommended to follow up and to build more political traction within the current government, it is suggested to present the white paper to different government offices in Namibia.
- In the case of Uganda, a draft of the National Affirmative Action Programme for Indigenous Peoples in Uganda was drafted, but it has not been adopted because it has not been signed by the office of the presidency. Thus, participants of the workshop indicate that more support is needed to build on political support to move the document forward not as a program, but rather as a policy. The participants indicated that through the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, it could be possible to build on the political support needed to move forward this policy.
- Participants acknowledged that data on the status of Indigenous Peoples' rights is lacking in many countries. Participants suggested that it would be helpful if more country assessments and

regional assessments on the state of Indigenous Peoples’ affairs are carried out, and more direct engagement between Indigenous Peoples and governments are supported, e.g. UN DESA playing a role as facilitators.

- While the initial proposal suggested a toolkit specifically for national action plans and roadmaps for Indigenous Peoples at country level, a toolkit on Conservation and Indigenous Peoples in Southern and Eastern Africa was developed and a regional workshop was organized to present and pilot the toolkit. Participants of the project indicate this was an important activity. See next section for more specific feedback on this activity.
- consultants were hired as part of the project, one for Uganda and one for Namibia. The contributions of these consultants was significant. However, to move the plans and programs to a national policy, more support is needed. It is recommended UN DESA develop a second phase of this project to ensure that the institutional memory and capacities developed during the first phase are used to move forward these policies. It is also recommended that workshops or high level events to advance the establishment of national policies on Indigenous Peoples be organized by UN DESA.

#### 4.1.2. **On the outcomes and indicators**

The initial project or intervention had also set indicators to evaluate the performance of the project, which are summarized in table 1. In table 3, these indicators are analyzed to the extent to which they were achieved and why. Although these indicators are mostly qualitative, measuring them in a quantitative way was difficult, as from the 18 workshops performed, less than 15% of the lists of participants were provided and only two workshop evaluations were provided (one of the conservation workshops and the youth workshop). A qualitative evaluation was made based on the information available. Some of tables, graphs or data used to analyze the indicators are presented in further sections in this document.

**Table 3. Indicators vs performance of the project**

*Indicators set by the project*

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Actual result/performance</i>
<p><b>Outcome – OC1</b>  <b>For Phase 1 and 2 countries</b>            Enhanced knowledge and understanding of the situation and rights of Indigenous peoples by government officials, Indigenous representatives and other stakeholders to support evidence-based interventions that advance inclusive development for Indigenous Peoples in the framework of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.</p>	
<p><b><i>IA 1.2. 75% of government officials and Indigenous representatives report increased awareness and understanding of the situation and rights of Indigenous Peoples in their country.</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was not possible to measure the level of awareness as explained earlier. However, key actors indicated that government representatives changed their assumptions on Indigenous Peoples. Two informants indicated that when the first workshops took place in Namibia and Uganda, participants were not clear on what the issues of Indigenous Peoples were. However, during the last workshop, these participants could speak fluently about the issues and refer to specific challenges, rights or legal frameworks. Also, during</li> </ul>

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Actual result/performance</i>
	<p>the evaluation of a regional workshop where the toolkit on conservation was presented, 30% of participants acknowledged how the workshop had helped them to increase their awareness on Indigenous Peoples issues or rethink conservation (See section 5.1.3.1)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additionally, it was recommended that more trainings are needed but also more scoping or assessment studies per country, so government officials also have more evidence on the situation of Indigenous Peoples to inform potential actions to support Indigenous Peoples. In the same way, the evaluation of the workshop presented in section 5.1.3.1 suggests that participants wanted more training or activities to help them improve their knowledge on Indigenous Peoples' issues.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>IA 1.2. 75% of Indigenous leaders or representatives who participated in the project confirm close consultations with the local and national government during the development/implementation of policies, plans of action, or strategies for inclusive development for Indigenous Peoples.</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We were unable to measure the level of participation, but through interviews with key actors and reports, it was verified that consultations took place with Indigenous Peoples' leaders and that they were relevant and helpful.</li> <li>• In the evaluation of the 2023 Conservation workshop, it was indicated that organizing similar workshops in other countries or spaces to reach out to more Indigenous Peoples was needed (5.1.3.1).</li> <li>• Another recommendation was that capacity development workshops for Indigenous Peoples are needed so they can contribute to drafting policies.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>As relevant: IA 2.11. At least one specific measure (policy, legislation, administrative procedure, mechanism) established or strengthened in each of the target countries that promotes participatory and constructive dialogue between government officials and Indigenous leaders or representatives.</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In Namibia, the White paper was finalized but still has not been signed or adopted at the National level as a government policy. It is recommended that UN DESA support enabling the environment to present the White paper to the current government to advocate for the need to sign it.</li> <li>• In the case of Uganda, the National Affirmative Action Program for Indigenous Peoples in Uganda, was drafted as a plan or program (it remains unclear). Ideally, this plan or program should become a policy at national level and be implemented.</li> <li>• In the case of Burundi, according to one interviewee, there is a National Strategy on Vulnerable Populations that was approved in April 2024 (we haven't been able to find it). However, it still puts Indigenous Peoples within the category of "vulnerable populations". In the</li> </ul>

<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Actual result/performance</i>
	future, a specific and separate policy on Indigenous Peoples is desired. Support of UN DESA through the country visit and this project contributed to creating an enabling environment for this policy to be set.
<p><b><i>As relevant: IA 2.2. 75% of Indigenous leaders and representatives who participated in the project confirm an increased engagement in constructive dialogue regarding inclusive development for Indigenous peoples and development planning.</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Measuring the impact remains unclear but consultations and dialogues took place in the drafting of the programs, plans and policies for Burundi, Namibia and Uganda.</li> <li>● In the case of Uganda, an Indigenous Peoples committee was set and they were the ones leading the process and discussions on the Indigenous Peoples plan/programme. One strength of this process and of the committee is that the Indigenous Peoples representatives were strongly linked to their communities.</li> <li>● In the case of Burundi, it was recommended to increase diversity, i.e. engage Indigenous women and Indigenous youth. Another recommendation in relation to diversity was ensuring that the Indigenous leaders that are brought to the workshops have strong ties with their communities so the information can return to the communities and support their internal processes. Additionally, it was recommended that capacity development be promoted so Indigenous Peoples can engage in the dialogues in a more meaningful way.</li> </ul>

As indicated in section 5.1.2, the project undertook some other activities that were not initially considered. For example: the development of a toolkit on Conservation and an International Workshop on Conservation and Indigenous Peoples in Eastern and Southern Africa; assessment workshops on San language revitalization; and education materials to support COVID19 mitigation/control strategies. Along with these activities, others also took place and are not explicitly mentioned in the project proposal and, even though they were not directly linked to the project, they were relevant and contributed to the project. These additional activities can be considered as lessons learned about the need for flexibility in these types of projects, to be able to adapt to emerging needs and to adjust to the local context. In this sense, the role of the consultants hired for this project was important as well as the coordination with participating institutions and entities, as they allowed the project to move forward during the COVID 19 pandemic, and go beyond the expected plans.

While the project aimed for the establishment of National Action Plans or legislation for Indigenous Peoples, this was only possible in Burundi to an extent (given that still Indigenous Peoples are fit into the category of ‘vulnerable’), it is important to mention that even without COVID19, there was no guarantee that Draft plans/policies on Indigenous Peoples would have been approved or passed as legislation, as this



decision depends more on the political context and willingness of governments to commit to these actions. Yet, as the participants have commented, UN DESA can support a phase two in which the goal is to move these drafts into actionable plans and policies.

#### 4.1.3. Evaluation of two workshops

Based on the review of key reports and documents of the project, interviews, and an evaluation survey performed by UN DESA, the workshops and capacity development activities can be described and evaluated as follows:

- As part of the project activities, 18 different workshops were organized.
- The workshops took place in four countries: 61% of the workshops took place in Uganda, 22% workshops in Namibia, 11% of the workshops in Kenya and 6% of workshops in Burundi.
- On the target groups of these workshops: 19% were meant for youth and the rest for Indigenous Peoples without any specification of gender, age, or other characteristics. Namibia was the only country that targeted Indigenous youth as a specific group. Although gender was a central issue addressed in the proposal, and the selection of participants also aimed to address gender issues, there were no workshops that explicitly addressed gender or Indigenous women's issues or any other intersectional groups besides Indigenous youth.
- Recalling that Indigenous Peoples are not homogenous groups and that one of the objectives of the project was also to leave no one behind', the project aimed to engage diverse groups of people and have a gender perspective. When analyzing the content of the trainings, and based on some participants' interviews, a specific training addressing gender and Indigenous women was also needed, not only in terms of acknowledging that they face different challenges but also in engaging Indigenous women in a more proactive way.
- In Africa, the definition of Indigenous Peoples is complex, therefore, in some countries, Indigenous Peoples are classified as 'marginalized communities' or 'vulnerable communities'. Overall, 77% of the workshops addressed Indigenous Peoples as a group while 33% of them included other groups such as marginalized or vulnerable communities. The way Indigenous Peoples are addressed also changed from country to country, for example, in Namibia most of the workshops (75%) addressed Indigenous Peoples and marginalized communities together, while in Namibia, Burundi and Kenya, Indigenous Peoples were the only target group. In the case of Uganda, there was one workshop for the San Indigenous Peoples. The use of these multiple names or categories reflects an advancement in recognizing Indigenous Peoples in Africa, recalling that Indigenous Peoples are right holders and have specific frameworks that can be used to defend their rights, while at the same time illustrates the danger of conflating Indigenous Peoples with 'local communities' or 'vulnerable populations', which could deny Indigenous Peoples' agency or rights.
- The topics discussed at the workshops were diverse, including: conservation; the definition of Indigenous Peoples; free, prior and informed consent; Indigenous Peoples and development; UNDRIP and Indigenous Peoples' Rights, etc. There were also workshops to move forward action plans for Indigenous Peoples' rights in Namibia and Uganda. In the case of Burundi, there was an official visit of UN DESA to address different issues related to Indigenous Peoples and conversations with different ministries.

While 18 workshops took place as part of the project, only feedback from one workshop was found among the documents reviewed. A summary of the evaluation of the "International Workshop on Conservation and Indigenous Peoples in Eastern and Southern Africa" that took place in November 2022, is presented in the next section.

#### 4.1.3.1. International Workshop on Conservation and Indigenous Peoples in Eastern and Southern Africa in 2022

##### a) On gender participation

Of the 37 participants, 44% were women (12 participants), 66 men % (25 men). While holding semi-structured interviews with participants, they agreed that more participation of Indigenous women was needed. Participants made two main recommendations on how to improve Indigenous women's participation: 1. Include a training module on Indigenous women or intersectionality; 2. Set quotas of participation and make necessary adjustments to training formats to support the participation of Indigenous women.

##### b) On the type of participant or actor

The workshops were meant to be inclusive of multiple actors that work on Indigenous Peoples' issues. In terms of the diversity of actors attending the workshops on the toolkit for Conservation, most of the actors participating were Civil society organizations, followed by Indigenous Peoples and International institutions. According to the feedback, the tool was specifically seen of importance for three main actors: a) Indigenous Peoples so they could pilot the toolkit and provide feedback but also increase their awareness on their rights but also how to overcome or better prepare to deal with potential challenges that related to conservation projects; b) Governments so they increase their awareness on the challenges and issues that Indigenous Peoples face not only in relation to conservation but in general; c) Conservation related entities so they can 'rethink' conservation and get a different perspective on Indigenous Peoples' issues and conservation issues.

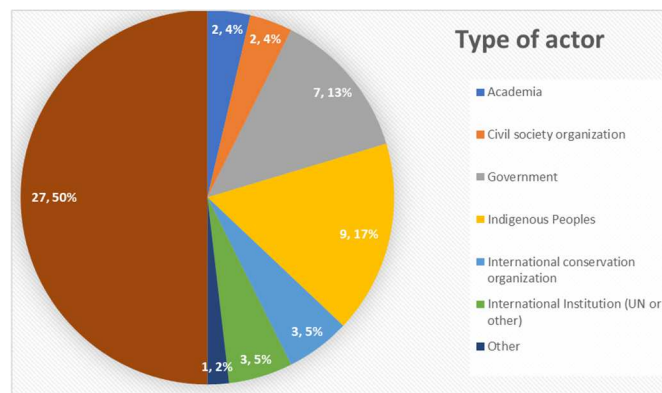


Figure 1. Type of actor during the international conservation workshop in 2023

##### c) On the contextual learned lessons from the workshop

When asking participants how satisfied they were with the workshop, 85% indicated that they were very satisfied, while 11 % were somewhat satisfied and the rest neither satisfied nor dissatisfied.

In terms of the content of the workshop, based on table 4, the feedback on what participants liked the most can be categorized in four topics: Implementation/format, content, quality and diversity/inclusiveness of the workshop.

- i) On the implementation or format: Participants were satisfied with the interactive sessions and breakout sessions because they supported rich discussions, networking and exchange of ideas.

- ii) On the content: The sessions were informative on Indigenous Peoples’ issues, their rights and their role in conservation. Several participants stated that they had changed their perspectives on conservation and they found it useful to get direct insights from Indigenous Peoples participating in the workshops. A general comment was that the workshop promoting the use of the toolkit should be taken to other regions so more people are aware of it.
- iii) On the quality of the sessions in terms of participation: Participants found the interactions with participants from other regions were positive, and they felt there was a good level of engagement due to the conversations held.
- iv) On the diversity and inclusion: having a diverse group, i.e. actors with different backgrounds (type of actors) and coming from different regions was positive because it also enriched the conversations and perspectives.

*Table 4. ‘What did you like the most about this workshop?’*

<i>General topic</i>	<i>Response category</i>	<i>Frequency (%)</i>
Implementation/ format	Breakout sessions/interactive discussions	7.4
	Interactions supported networking and exchange	11.1
Content	Rich and informative on Indigenous Peoples issues, rights and conservation	25.9
	Participation and Input from Indigenous Peoples/Community members	18.5
	Rethinking conservation	3.7
	The toolkit needs to be more inclusive of other areas	3.7
Quality of discussion	Exchange of knowledge/learning from other regions of Africa	18.5
	Good level of engagement/participation	29.6
Diversity/ Inclusiveness	Diverse participants and inclusiveness	29.6

d) On the areas of improvement

Based on the feedback of participants, four areas of improvement can be summarized for the workshop as follows (Table 5):

i) On the follow up

- Participants found the workshop useful and recommended that it be scaled up or replicated in other regions. Another recommendation was to also implement the workshop at a session during the UN Permanent Forum so more people not only from Africa but other regions also dealing with Conservation issues can benefit.

- Participants also agreed that the workshop was helpful to reflect on Indigenous Peoples issues and that more capacity development to support Indigenous Peoples engagement in policy design is needed.
- The workshop itself was useful, however, the participants think that more meetings to follow up on this workshop are needed.

ii) On the format, design and implementation of the workshop

- On time management and moderation, content and conversations were rich but the time was limited and therefore limited the effectiveness of conversations.
- One of the activities that participants found more useful were the group discussions and they suggested to increase the number of discussions among participants.
- On language, to make the workshops more inclusive, the organizers should consider that participants, specially Indigenous Peoples might speak other languages, i.e. French, thus, to foster inclusion either interpreters or workshops in other languages should be considered.
- The workshop topics were interesting, however, participants suggested that to make the sessions more useful, holding preparatory workshops either online or in person would be good so participants can benefit more from a workshop like this one.
- In terms of the materials provided, it was also recommended that organizers provide printed as well as the bios and contact information of presenters and participants in case they want to follow up on particular issues.
- In terms of the content and examples used in the tool, while they were enriching, participants suggested that the toolkit should provide practical tools they could implement in their territories but also more ‘successful or good practices’ around conservation as well as challenges faced by Indigenous Peoples in Africa.

iii) In terms of diversity and inclusiveness:

- Participants suggested that more Indigenous Peoples and people working at grassroots level should be included in workshops. Feedback from interviews also suggested that ensuring that Indigenous Peoples’ representatives that are engaged at the community level are needed so they can share or disseminate their experience with their communities, otherwise, the impact might be limited.
- As conservation is a topic to which several actors come and play a role, participants suggested that other actors also working at the intersection of water management and forest management, and conservation should be included in similar workshops.
- Policy makers play an important role in conservation policy drafting and implementation, therefore, more policy makers should take a workshop like this to get more familiar with the challenges Indigenous Peoples face and the complexity of the issue of conservation.
- The workshop was seen as a useful tool, therefore, replicating it or scaling it up to other regions of Africa was recommended.

<b>Table 5. ‘Do you have any suggestions for improving this or future workshops?’</b>		<b>Frequency (%)</b>
<b>General topic</b>	<b>Response</b>	
	Organize a workshop in Uganda	7.4

<b>Table 5. ‘Do you have any suggestions for improving this or future workshops?’</b>		<b>Frequency (%)</b>
<b>General topic</b>	<b>Response</b>	
Follow up/Scaling/What comes next	Organize this workshop in the UNPFII	3.7
	Organize follow up meetings	3.7
	Capacity development of IPs to design policies	3.7
Format/Design/Implementation	Improve moderation	3.7
	Improve time management	11.1
	More group discussions	11.1
	Include French-speaking participants/language diversity	3.7
	Include preparation meetings (in person / virtual)	3.7
	Provide printed tools/materials during the workshop	3.7
Content	Practical tools, including successful and challenges	3.7
	Provide a full list of participants/contact info/bios	7.4
Diversity	Include more Indigenous Peoples and grassroots	18.5
	Include more water/forest conservation actors	3.7
	Include more government or decision-makers	11.1
	Involve more people across the continent	3.7

e) On general feedback provided to improve the toolkit

Three major feedback areas can be suggested in accordance to table 6:

i) On piloting, testing and implementation

Indigenous Youth and other actors should also be engaged in the design of the tool and more Indigenous Peoples in the piloting of the tool to adjust it more to their needs and challenges.

ii) On the design and capacity building

Participants found the toolkit useful, therefore, they recommend to train or take it to other Indigenous Peoples and actor so they can use it.

iii) On the content

- The tool should include other issues that are relevant to Indigenous Peoples, for example, how conservation is ‘practiced’ in areas that are considered rich biodiversity spots but also that are threatening Indigenous Peoples’ livelihoods.
- During the implementation of these workshops on the toolkit on Conservation, a lot of feedback has been given, therefore, taking these lessons into consideration can help improve the tool.
- The tool should be adjusted so it is more community oriented, this in part related to the idea of piloting it with Indigenous Peoples so it can be improved and be of better use to Indigenous Peoples.
- As part of the workshop, experiences from other regions of the world were provided and some of Africa, participants wanted to see more experiences of Africa as the contexts are diverse and different.

Table 6. Feedback on the Conservation toolbox

<b>Table 6. ‘Do you have any feedback or suggestions that you would like to share regarding the draft toolkit on conservation, inclusive development and human rights for Indigenous Peoples in Africa?’</b>		<b>Frequency (%)</b>
<b>General topic</b>	<b>Response</b>	
Piloting, testing and implementation	Engage more actors	3.7
	Engage youth	3.7
	Pilot the toolkit with local actors/Indigenous Peoples	11.1
Dissemination and capacity building	Disseminate the tool and work on capacity building for Indigenous Peoples	11.1
	Disseminate the tool from other actors	3.7
Content	Include issues relevant to IPs and conservation, e.g., rich biodiversity spots, where livelihoods are threatened	14.8
	Integrate the feedback from discussions of the workshop into the tool	3.7
	Make the tool more community-oriented	3.7
	Include more examples from Africa	3.7

f) On the overall evaluation of the workshop

Over 90% of the workshop participants were satisfied with the workshop and would be willing to take similar workshops, this also adds to the suggestions on continuing with other activities to follow up this workshop. The rest of the participants indicated that as they are not Indigenous Peoples or key stakeholders, they would support similar processes but are not particularly interested.

#### 4.1.3.2. On a Youth conference in Namibia 2023

Namibia was the only country that run activities targeting Indigenous youth. Based on the evaluation, the following highlights can be made:

- 95% of the participants (11 evaluations were found and the participants, according to the evaluation were 140 from three regions, the San, Ovatombe and Ovambo) agreed that the conference was useful and 80% that it had achieved its objectives, including the nomination of representatives to participate in consultation process with the government as well as advocating for their rights as Indigenous Peoples.
- 84% of the participants agreed that the topics covered during the conference were useful to the participants.
- 81% of the participants agreed that the conference was diverse.

## 4.2. Relevance of the project, impact orientation and sustainability

### 4.2.1. Relevance

Still in 2024, few countries in Africa have ratified ILO Convention 169 and most of the countries do not have legal frameworks providing recognition and protection of Indigenous Peoples' rights and their lands.<sup>9</sup> Despite recommendations having been made to some of the target countries from the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) and UN Human Rights bodies, and despite historic rulings from national and international courts, governments often ignore these recommendations and rulings. For example, in November 2023, in Kenya over 700 Ogiek people were forcibly evicted from their lands with no prior warning, information or relocation plan, clearly violating Indigenous Peoples rights. In Uganda, the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) carried out frequent raids on the Benet people in 2023, burning down 96 houses, destroying 33 others, arresting 70 people and impounding over 1,200 animals (ibid).

These are all reasons why implementing the project under evaluation is so relevant. Recognizing Indigenous Peoples' rights and implementing policies that would allow them to protect themselves in the face of extractive industries and other projects that displace them or violate their rights is critical not only for their continued survival as distinct Peoples, but for advancing peace, sustainable development and the realization of the SDGs.<sup>10</sup>

This project, according to key informants and based on the evaluations and reports accessed, is highly relevant and UNDESA has been a key catalyst for the advancement of policy drafts and starting much needed conversations between Indigenous Peoples, governments, and key allies. Based on the testimonies, if similar projects have not taken place, it is because Indigenous Peoples require more support for facilitating conversations with government officials and key entities. More capacity development is also

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<sup>9</sup> IWGIA, 2024. The Indigenous Navigator. Page 13-14.

<sup>10</sup> IWGIA, 2024. The Indigenous Navigator. Page 112.

required to inform Indigenous Peoples of their rights and legal mechanisms they can use to defend their rights.

In some instances, governments or key actors are not open to address Indigenous Peoples' issues because they are not familiar with the issues nor the challenges. Carrying out country assessments on the status of Indigenous Peoples, as recommended earlier, can serve as an advocacy tool for Indigenous Peoples. Additionally more awareness and sensitivity training is required to engage government officials and key actors to facilitate the necessary changes in the way that they currently address issues that impact Indigenous Peoples.

For this project to have a stronger impact, UN DESA and other allies, the UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the OHCHR among others, should engage with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, and organize events similar to the workshops in this project prior the meetings of the African Commission to have a stronger impact and create political leverage.

#### 4.2.2. **Impact orientation and sustainability**

Soon after the project began, the world was hit with the COVID19 pandemic, thus we are evaluating the outcomes keeping this in mind. Some of the key highlights of the project can be summarized as follows in terms of impact and sustainability:

- In the case of Namibia and Uganda, two participatory national plans for Indigenous Peoples were developed, along with assessment studies on the situation of Indigenous Peoples. The challenge here remains how to translate these White Papers/plans into national policy. However, these decisions depend on the willingness of governments and political momentum. Even without COVID19, there was no guarantee that the momentum would have been ideal to have these plans adopted. In the case of Burundi, although it remains unclear whether their national strategy on vulnerable population is directly linked to this project, key actors indicate that UN DESA acted as helped to create the enabling environment necessary to move forward this plan. An assessment study was also performed in Zimbabwe despite challenges presented by the COVID19 pandemic.
- An extra outcome not initially planned in the project Inclusive Development for Indigenous Peoples for Africa was the preparation of materials to support the prevention and mitigation of COVID19 in Indigenous communities. The languages included in this part of the project were Ngarakimjong, Benet, Batwa, Ju'/hoansi and Oshivambo. These materials were relevant, as they responded to immediate needs of Indigenous Peoples and showed the adaptability capacity of the project and partners as well as the strength of their coordinated work.
- Another activity of this project that was not initially included was the consultation of San Indigenous Peoples to determine their communities' priorities on the preservation and revitalization of their language. This aspect was important as it can be seen as an action incorporated as the project unfolded and which reflects a contextual learned lesson and action to improve the project.
- The "Conservation and Indigenous Peoples in Southern and Eastern Africa" training was effective, and it was recommended by several interviewees that it should be taken to other countries and communities.
- Through the evaluations and interviews, the participants recognized the relevance of the project and ownership of the process. Therefore, we recommend that it be scaled up to include other African countries through assessment studies, supporting the establishment of bodies to draft



national policies on Indigenous Peoples, conduct different workshops to sensitize actors on Indigenous Peoples' challenges and collectively build roadmaps to improve Indigenous Peoples' rights.

## 5. Conclusions

*Based on the findings, the evaluation leads to the following conclusions:*

- The project aimed to support Indigenous Peoples rights in Africa and it fulfilled its objectives using a rights based approach and participatory model. A key factor was also the hiring of experts with experience in the area but also with the social capital and trusted relationships that allowed them to engage in a meaningful way with key actors and Indigenous Peoples.
- The project was able to strengthen national capacities on Indigenous Peoples' rights in the main targeted countries - Burundi, Namibia and Uganda - supporting the drafting of National plans on Indigenous Peoples. However, as the project also focused on the development of a toolkit on Conservation and Indigenous Peoples and it piloted it through an international workshop including governments, Indigenous Peoples, NGOs, conservation organizations, civil society, and others, the project also reached a broader audience including government officials from Burundi, Zimbabwe and Angola, Botswana, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania, and Zambia. It was even recommended that the conservation tool kit be taken to other regions within Africa, Uganda and the UNPFII to have a broader impact.
- The project developed roadmaps and priorities for countries when designing policy drafts for Indigenous Peoples in Namibia and Uganda. However, these actions have not been institutionalized. Participants recognized the catalytic work of UNDESA in supporting the negotiations and creating the spaces for dialogue. Therefore, participants recommended that to gain more political support, UN DESA organize workshops three days prior to the African Commission meetings that take place twice a year, where they could support the ability of Indigenous Peoples to interact with national governments.
- In the creation of the roadmaps and drafting of policy plans/programmes for Indigenous Peoples in Namibia and Uganda, entry points and priorities were defined collectively and in a participatory way. In each of the countries, the plan considered thematic priorities that were relevant for Indigenous Peoples.
- Indigenous Peoples were key actors and drivers in the process of writing the policy drafts. In the case of Namibia, activities were specifically set to reach out to Indigenous Youth and include them in the process, in Uganda it is not clear how effective the inclusion of Indigenous Youth was. With respect to gender, in both Namibia and Uganda, even though in the draft plans the issue of gender is addressed, it is not clear how meaningful the participation of Indigenous women was. Thus, it is recommended that in a future stage of the project, specific activities or targets be established for women. In the same way, recalling that gender or intersectionality is not only about youth or women, other 'intersectional groups' within Indigenous Peoples' communities should be more explicit to ensure that no one is left behind. It was also recommended that the next phase of the project be made more inclusive by having workshops in more languages, bringing the workshops closer to communities, and engaging people at a more grassroots level to ensure that the learnings are transmitted and shared at the community level.
- The International Workshop on Conservation that took place in 2022 is the most important example of South-to-South cooperation as it brought together people from other countries that were not initially targeted. The workshop was relevant as it showed the desire and need to take similar activities to other countries and even to organize regional workshops in other

- parts of Africa or even at a more global level such as the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.
- A lesson to be learned from the Conservation workshop in 2022 is that other issues need to be addressed, e.g. water, forest management, gender issues, among others.
  - One of the challenges with the project is that there were no specific monitoring mechanisms set in place, these include, how each activity will be evaluated. Indicators were set but, at the moment of compiling and analyzing, there were some gaps that made it difficult to do quantitative analysis. Thus, it is recommended that from the beginning of the project some guidelines are set, e.g. including monitoring tools/ mechanisms in the project, training people on how to assess adequate indicators and develop methodologies that allow doing so (the right questions avoiding biases), a timeline to follow up, updating the TORs or preparing informs if the project activities change, also improve the data collection and databases for a better follow up. The information gathered was rich but improvements in the systematization can yield richer information on what lessons and how to incorporate these lessons.

## 6. Recommendations

To build on the advances made in the first phase of this project, we make the following recommendations. These recommendations are aimed at the project as a whole, and will require stronger commitments from target country governments, and increased engagement with Indigenous Peoples. The recommendations are intentionally established at a general level. Specific outcomes and targets should be elaborated upon and defined through strategic planning and project design at the country level, carried out in collaboration with target country governments and Indigenous Peoples:

1. **As soon as feasible, DESA should design and implement - with the participation of target governments and Indigenous Peoples - a second phase of this project to continue the processes initiated in target countries.**

The challenges in bringing development programs into alignment with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, particularly in Africa, are immense. They demand particular sensitivity and urgency from governments, donor countries, and multilateral development organizations. The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, by continuing this project, can play a particularly important role in advancing this alignment.

A fundamental requirement for achieving the long-term goals of this project is the development and implementation of participatory frameworks that reflect a genuine institutional commitment, from target countries, to respectful inclusion of Indigenous Peoples. In designing the next phase of the project, we suggest that capacity building include a focus on developing the tools and mechanisms that are necessary for creating true, participatory frameworks, including:

➤ ***Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) Mechanisms***

The global understanding and application of free, prior, and informed consent has evolved considerably in the past decade, with many development institutions revising their consultation guidance to incorporate mechanisms to obtain free, prior and informed consent. In development, FPIC mechanisms are necessary for ensuring respect for Indigenous Peoples' decision-making processes; engaging with their chosen

representatives through appropriate consultation mechanisms (FPIC); facilitating their participation in planning and strategic development; providing for their inclusion in programs and activities; and inviting their representatives to participate in monitoring and evaluation processes.

FPIC processes should meet the following basic characteristics:

- Involves Indigenous Peoples' representative bodies, Indigenous Peoples' organizations as well as individually affected Indigenous persons;
- Begins early in the project preparation stage and is carried out on an ongoing basis throughout the project cycle;
- Provides timely disclosure of relevant and adequate information that is understandable and readily accessible to affected Peoples;
- Is undertaken in an atmosphere free of intimidation or coercion;
- Is gender inclusive and responsive, and tailored to the needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable groups
- Incorporates all relevant views of affected people into decision making, such as project design, mitigation measures, the sharing of development benefits and opportunities, and implementation issues.
- The extent of consultation will be carried out in a manner commensurate with the impacts on affected communities.
- The consultation process and its results will be documented and reflected in project-level agreements for ongoing monitoring and review.

➤ ***Indigenous Peoples' Analysis (IPA)***

Development of an Indigenous Peoples' Analysis - for country development policies, strategies, and programs - is necessary for the purpose of assessing and documenting the presence of Indigenous Peoples, opportunities for their participation in program administration and delivery of program services to Indigenous beneficiaries.

IPA's will assist governments to achieve the following:

- Identify Indigenous Peoples and set forth potential opportunities for them to participate in and enjoy the benefits of development programs.
- Identify program activities and approaches that would help foster self-determination and secure rights to collective ownership of land, resources, and traditional knowledge.
- Assess technical assistance and capacity-building needs.
- Ensure engagement plans (or FPIC mechanisms) reflect the heterogeneity of IPs, including sensitivities regarding gender and generational differences.
- Document potential positive and negative impacts from development activities.
- Describe potential conflicts and analyze root causes of conflict, persistence and impacts of discrimination, obstacles to self-determination and the protection of land rights, with reference to high-risk situations resulting from conflict, forced relocation, etc.

- Describe national policy frameworks, applicable laws and regulations, and international conventions that may apply.
- Recommend whether the situation and conditions of Indigenous Peoples associated with proposed development strategies or projects require the development of a safeguard framework due to the possible adverse impacts on the human rights, means of subsistence, and/or cultures of Indigenous Peoples or upon the territories or natural or cultural resources that they own, occupy, or rely upon.

➤ ***Sustainability/Institutional Capacity***

To ensure sustainability and the continued viability of engagement frameworks requires expertise at the institutional level (in government and Indigenous Peoples' institutions), as well as financial commitment from governments.

- a) promote and enhance participation of governments and Indigenous Peoples in regional and international processes that address development, conservation, climate change and Indigenous Peoples' issues (African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, UNPFII, EMRIP, UNFCCC, CBD, etc.)
- b) develop sector-specific guidance materials (health, education, economic development, conservation, climate change adaptation/mitigation, etc.) to identify and address risks, challenges and opportunities, and to stimulate continuous improvement in intercultural dialogue, engagement, and partnership between governments and Indigenous Peoples
- c) support governments to analyze fiscal considerations for implementation of engagement frameworks and include them in their yearly budgets

## **2. Engage other bilateral and multilateral donors**

Systemic change is a process that requires long-term support. Engaging other donors - USAID, the European Union, World Bank, African Development Bank, etc. - can mobilize additional technical and financial support that is necessary for developing robust participatory frameworks and ensuring their sustainability into the future. Many bilateral and multilateral donors have extensive experience engaging Indigenous Peoples and have developed their own policies and frameworks to ensure their inclusion in development processes. Positive engagement will enhance the effectiveness of the project, and increase funding opportunities for governments and Indigenous Peoples.

## **3. Increase engagement with Indigenous Peoples in target countries**

Because Indigenous communities are often concentrated in remote, isolated areas, access to information and communications technology is often limited or non-existent. Meanwhile, when "development agendas" encounter Indigenous Peoples, those agendas have already invested substantially in predetermined outcomes including the design of proposed "development" measures. For the next phase of this project, we recommend that Indigenous Peoples in target countries be engaged early and throughout the project. Without such engagement, the project will not capture the critical nuances of diverse Indigenous cultures and worldviews.

**4. Increase the incorporation of United Nations Resident Coordinators and Country Teams in to the project**

United Nations Funds, Programmes and Specialized Agencies play an important role in development and conservation processes in Africa. To ensure the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples - including Indigenous women and youth - in these processes, we recommend that the project incorporate UN Resident Coordinators and Country Teams with the aim of engaging Indigenous Peoples in the development of Development Assistance Frameworks and country programme action plans.

**5. Expand dialogue and training on Indigenous women, youth and other groups in society that remain “invisible”.**

In the first phase of the project, Namibia was the only country where workshops were held that focused on Indigenous youth. Although Indigenous women participated in all of the project’s activities, there were no “Gender” agenda items in the trainings and workshops, and in none of the countries were there specific trainings/workshops to address issues facing Indigenous women, LGBTQ, or other marginalized sectors.

**6. Improve data collection, monitoring and evaluation, and database management.**

In order to better assess and evaluate the project, as well as collate lessons learned, the second phase of the project should strive to improve data collection, monitoring and evaluation. To ensure that indicators are relevant, they should be developed in cooperation with Indigenous Peoples and target governments. Qualitative indicators should be set from the beginning of the project, and more neutral words should be used when collecting data to avoid bias. The theory of change and critical route developed for the first phase of the project was not fully implemented when collecting data and making reports.

## **8. Lessons learned and good practices**

Indigenous Peoples are among the most marginalized sectors of the population in all of the program’s target countries. Their ties to land and biodiversity involve unique complexities and opportunities while demanding exceptional sensitivity in the face of competing resource demands and the opposing views of other stakeholders. Unique challenges include the fact that governments, neighboring communities and the private sector often share an orientation and misperception that Indigenous Peoples are obstacles to development, and that their forms of social organizations are antiquated or inefficient. These stereotypes and misunderstandings result in the perspectives and priorities of Indigenous Peoples being overridden by other, more powerful actors, and frequently lead to violence and human rights violations being committed against Indigenous Peoples in the name of development.

There is a growing body of evidence that development approaches that respect Indigenous Peoples’ rights and engage Indigenous Peoples as partners in design, implementation, management, administration, monitoring and evaluation are vital to achieving the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

This project reinforces United Nations leadership in advancing a development paradigm that empowers marginalized and vulnerable sectors of the population and assures inclusion and equitable access to

development benefits. This program offers practical, fair and balanced guidance that incorporates international consensus on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, draws on guidance provided by human rights instruments and builds upon experiences and lessons learned in development programs impacting Indigenous Peoples.

## Annexes

### Annex 1: Evaluation TORs

United Nations



Nations Unies

Department of Economic and Social  
Affairs Division for Inclusive Social  
Development

#### TERMS OF REFERENCE

Consultancy: Evaluation of Development Account Project entitled "Inclusive development for indigenous peoples in Africa"

##### A. Background

The project under evaluation was approved for implementation under the 12th Tranche of the United Nations Development Account 9. The project is aimed at enhancing the capacity of the target groups in the following selected countries in Africa: Namibia, Uganda, Burundi and Zimbabwe to engage in constructive policy dialogues and/or participatory mechanisms, with a view to develop strategies and initiatives to advance inclusive development and SDG achievement for indigenous peoples in the framework of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Through capacity building of both national and local governments and indigenous leaders, the project aims to promote the participation of indigenous peoples in decision-making processes at all levels, with a special focus at the local level.

The project also intends to enhance the capacity of governments to develop and implement policies, programmes and legislation that recognize and respect indigenous peoples' development priorities and rights, that include their full and effective participation in national socio-economic development policies, enhancing dialogue mechanisms among indigenous peoples, the government and UNCTs.

The project also aims to strengthen the capacities of stakeholders in targeted countries to engage in those processes, as well as to work in the implementation of national action plans, policies and measures on the Declaration. Targeted countries have requested technical support of UN DESA.

Although the Covid 19 pandemic significantly affected implementation of the project, and especially planned in-person activities, the project has been able to support the delivery of outputs envisioned in the original project document.

The total budget was \$574,649 and the project will be operationally completed in December 2023.

##### B. Purpose and objectives of the evaluation

The objective of the evaluation is to assess the project implementation and its results as compared to its objective and planned outputs. The evaluation will be conducted for the purpose of accountability, learning and planning and building knowledge. The main purpose of this evaluation is to provide an independent

assessment of the achievements of the project, through an analysis of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability and orientation to impact of the project.

The1 evaluation is conducted based on DESA-Capacity Development and Programme Management Office's records.

The evaluation will be shared with the project stakeholders (CDPMO, DA team, etc.), including beneficiary countries, upon their request.

The evaluation will assess the extent to which the project's outcomes were effectively and efficiently achieved, and the relevance of the project's contributions.

**1. Effectiveness:** Evaluate the project achievements, taking into account the indicators of achievement provided in the project document, and provide an indication of whether the project is likely to have lasting impacts on the intended beneficiaries. Analyze the implementation strategies of the project with regard to their potential effectiveness in achieving the project outcomes and impacts, including unexpected results and factors affecting project implementation (positively and negatively).

**2. Efficiency:** Assess the overall value of the project activities and outcomes in relation to the resources expended, including, if possible, the added value by additional resources or substantive contributions, i.e., those beyond the original project's budget or work plan.

**3. Relevance:** Assess the relevance and coherence of project's design. Regarding country needs and how the project is perceived and valued by the target groups. Ascertain the significance of the contributions made by the project to beneficiary country individuals, institutions and other key stakeholders. This component should include an assessment of the quantity, quality and usefulness of the activities and outputs.

**4. Sustainability:** Assess the extent to which the benefits/results/activities will continue after the project has come to an end, from the perspective of beneficiary country individuals, institutions and other key stakeholders.

**5. Gender and human rights perspectives:** Examine to which extent gender and human rights issues have been addressed.

**6. Coherence:** Examine the project complementarity and coordination with other relevant interventions under the criterion of coherence.

Furthermore, the evaluation will identify lessons learned, good practices and recommendations for the key stakeholders to improve implementation of project activities in general.

## C. Work assignment

### (c.1) Scope of work

This Evaluation will be conducted as an independent exercise, based on documentation related to the project, online communication including interviews and e-mails with key individuals from the U.N. implementing organizations, from the beneficiary countries and project stakeholders, who are expected to



provide information, opinions and assessments to the consultant (henceforth, the "Evaluator"), upon request.

The evaluation will be undertaken from 1 October to 20 December. The Evaluator will liaise with the DESA/Division for Inclusive Social Development (DESA/DISD), and the DESA/Capacity Development Programme Management Office (DESA/CDPMO) for logistics and administrative issues, while conducting the evaluation independently.

The draft report to be prepared by the Evaluator will be delivered to DESA/DISD, who will also share with CDPMO for comments. All comments to the draft report will be compiled by DESA/DISD and will be transmitted to the Evaluator with suggestions for additions or modifications.

The evaluation will include:

A desk review of project documents including, but not limited to:

(a) The project document, reports and other outputs produced by the project, activity reports (such as results of evaluation surveys of workshops, studies), financial reports of DESA/CDPMO, progress reports, and selected relevant correspondence. (See Annex 1 for a detailed list of documents that are to be reviewed)

(b) Other project-related material produced by the project staff, partners, or beneficiary country counterparts;

Interviews with key individuals from the U.N. implementing organizations, from the beneficiary countries and other project stakeholders, as described below. The Evaluator shall determine whether to seek additional information and opinions from other persons connected to the implementation of the project.

a. Namibia

b. Uganda

c. Burundi

(c.2) Evaluation questions

The following are the evaluation questions that have been identified at this stage of the evaluation. The evaluator should identify which questions will be reviewed in the inception report. The questions below will be assessed considering the objective, indicators of achievement, planned activities and outputs as set forth in the project document.

The evaluation will focus on the following main questions:

1. Did the project strengthen national capacities in the project countries in establishing and implementing evidence-based mechanisms for formulation, monitoring and evaluation of national policies and programmes aimed at social and economic inclusion of indigenous peoples.

2. Did the project identify and make recommendations about the key entry points, during the duration of the project, to impact relevant social policy and programme development and implementation?
3. Did the project strengthen government officials' skills in the formulation of new evidence-based policies, strategies, programmes and legislations and/or the review of existing national legislations and programmes for social inclusion and employment of youth with disabilities at training workshops?
4. Did the project effectively ensure the participation of indigenous peoples' representatives in project activities?
6. Did the project promote South-South cooperation to share knowledge and experiences?
8. To what extent did the project mainstream gender and human rights perspectives in the design and delivery of its activities?

Effectiveness:

What are the achievements of the overall project objectives/outcomes?

Has the knowledge sharing, and communication strategy been effective in raising the profile of the project within the country and among the cooperating partners?

Is the monitoring and evaluation system results-based and facilitate a project adaptive management?

Assess how contextual and institutional risks and positive external to the project factors have been managed by the project management?

Efficiency of resource use:

Have resources (financial, human, technical support, etc.) been allocated strategically to achieve the project outputs and outcomes?

To what extent did the project promote gender equality and nondiscrimination.

Impact orientation and sustainability:

Which project-supported tools have been institutionalized, or have the potential to, by partners and/or replicated or external organizations?

Is the project contributing to expand the knowledge base and build evidence regarding the project outcomes and impacts?

### (c.3) Methodology

The methodology of the review will be determined by the consultant, in cooperation with DESA/DISD.

The methodology should provide robust evidence to support analysis that responds to the evaluation questions and sub-questions previously elaborated. The methodology should provide the framework for analysis (e.g., using theory of change<sup>[1]</sup>), define the indicators and data to be used for assessment (in relation to the criteria), the data collection and processing methods, and analytical tools (e.g., statistical analysis). In order to use the strongest evidence available and maximize the credibility of the analyses, it is recommended to have a wide range of data sources that can be triangulated with each other.

Due to the nature of the project, that focused on policy development, capacity building and participation in decision making, the following methods should be considered in the evaluation:

- Semi-structured or structured interviews with staff, internal and external partners, Member State representatives, beneficiaries and other stakeholders.
- Focus group discussions with staff and key stakeholders.
- Secondary analysis of monitoring and programme data including performance, financial and other data available.
- Document review of work processes, outputs, documents, job descriptions, partnerships agreements, previous evaluation results, strategies, meeting minutes and work plans.
- Content analysis and expert review of key activities and/or outputs.
- Direct observation of a final workshop where a conservation and indigenous peoples toolkit is to be pilot tested.

#### (c.4) Tasks

The primary tasks of the consultants are the following:

- Desk review of key reference documents related to the project;
- Development of full methodology which can include developing/refining key evaluation questions, identification of indicators and measurements, etc.
- Inception report
- Engagement with project staff, participants and beneficiaries.
- Participation in final workshop in Nairobi in October or November 2023.
- Drafting of evaluation report

#### **D.** Human rights, disability and gender perspectives

The consultant should explore human rights, disability and gender in the design, data collection and analysis and present relevant data wherever available and meaningful. The evaluation will also review these issues through a specific evaluation question on "What, if any, tangible results have been achieved through the integration of mainstreaming issues into work under the project?" This approach may be further developed and refined by the consultant in the development of methodology.

**E.** Expected outputs and delivery dates

E.1 Development of methodology/inception report, revised with project team: 5 November 2023

E.2 Annotated outline of report: 20 November 2023 (See Annex 2 for a suggested outline)

E.3 Draft report: 1 December 2023

E. 4 Final report: 20 December 2023

**F.** Evaluation ethics

The evaluation will be conducted in accordance with the principles outlined in the UNEG 'Ethical Guidelines for Evaluation' (<http://www.unevaluation.org/document/detail/102>). Evaluators should demonstrate independence, impartiality, credibility, honesty, integrity and accountability to avoid any bias in their evaluation. Evaluators must address in the design and implementation of the evaluation, such as procedures to safeguard the rights and confidentiality of information providers. The evaluator will follow the standard Code of Conduct which should be carefully read and signed.

**G.** Duration of contract

40 workdays during the period of 15 October - 20 December 2023.

Duty station or location of assignment

Home based and online communication.

**I.** Travel

The consultant will travel to Nairobi to attend a final workshop of the project to pilot test a toolkit on indigenous peoples and conservation in Eastern and Southern Africa. Travels will be obligated separately.

**J.** Fees and payment schedule

The Consultant's fee will be commensurate with experience.

The total fee for this consultancy is \$18,000 and it will be paid as follows:

Upon satisfactory completion of parts E1, E2, E3, E4 on 20 December 2023.

Payment should be made upon certification by Chief, DISD/ CDPCS

**K.** Performance Indicators

Compliance with the terms of reference, including timeliness and quality of the deliverables, as assessed by DESA/DISD:

- Quality of consultation and data collection process;
- Clarity of presentation of evaluation report and recommendations;
- Usefulness of evaluation process;
- Timeliness of delivery of outputs.

**L. Qualifications of the consultants**

- Advanced university degree in sociology, economics, population studies, or related disciplines. A first-level university degree in combination with two additional years of qualifying experience may be accepted in lieu of the advanced university degree.
- Broad substantive knowledge and experience of the situation of indigenous peoples in developing countries, as well as capacity building and training activities.
- Fluency in oral and written English.
- At least 15 years of experience in the field of social policy and indigenous peoples.
- Experience in project or programme evaluation.
- Good analytical, writing and inter-personal communication skills.

**M. Supervisor**

Supervisor/ Project Manager

The person in charge of this project is:

Name: Oleg Serezhin Title: Chief, CDPCS Office/Division: UNDESA/DISD Address: United Nations Secretariat Tel.: +1 (212) 963-4678 E-mail: serezhin@un.org

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<sup>[1]</sup> See OIOS Inspection and Evaluation Division (IED), January 2023, Methodological Guidelines on Evaluation: Developing a Theory of Change (ToC), available together with other resources at [unitednations.sharepoint.com/sites/OIOS-EVAL](https://unitednations.sharepoint.com/sites/OIOS-EVAL).

### Annex 3. Project results framework

Output Number	Output description (proposed at the beginning)	Output Status	Final outcome
OP1.1	Assess existing legal, policy and administrative frameworks in relation to indigenous peoples, and socio-economic situation of indigenous peoples, with recommendations for potential policy, planning or strategies that can address gaps identified.	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Cancelled</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Delayed</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not yet started</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>In progress</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Completed</i>	<p>Concluded</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In Uganda, the project supported the work of a multistakeholder national committee that is working on a policy document on Indigenous peoples under the leadership of the Ministry of Gender, Labour, and Social Development. This work has included a review of existing policies and programs as well as service provision to Indigenous peoples in the country, with a view to addressing any shortcomings.</li> </ul>
OP1.2	Produce a toolkit on the development of national action plans for the implementation of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Cancelled</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Delayed</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not yet started</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>In progress</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Completed</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A toolkit on conservation and Indigenous Peoples Issues was prepared instead. This covers international frameworks or mechanisms to support Indigenous Peoples and also provides examples and tools to develop national plans. This tool was presented in two workshops at regional level.</li> </ul>

Output Number	Output description (proposed at the beginning)	Output Status	Final outcome
OP1.3	Organize national dialogues and participatory training workshops to draft roadmaps giving recommendations to Governments on suggested policy actions.	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Cancelled</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Delayed</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not yet started</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>In progress</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Completed</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A series of validation workshops were organized within Indigenous Peoples communities in June 2022. National validation took place in March/April 2023.</li> <li>- The Government of Burundi has requested support from DESA to cooperate on the implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and UNDESA had a mission to support this process in 2022 in collaboration with OHCHR, IFAD, and DESA.</li> <li>- In Namibia, two workshops on the participation of Indigenous Youth in decision-making were organized. This was the only country that had workshops for Indigenous Youth.</li> </ul>
OP2.1	Support partner governments to establish a participatory coordinating body, comprised of government officials and indigenous representatives, as well as other key stakeholders, to support the drafting/implementation process for the policy, plan of action or strategy using the roadmap (see OP1.3) as a basis for their work.	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Cancelled</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Delayed</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not yet started</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>In progress</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Completed</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The project has supported the establishment of a coordinating body in Uganda.</li> <li>- The project has supported the ongoing development of a project document in Uganda and is supporting the review of a policy document in Namibia.</li> </ul>
OP2.2	Workshops to assist the Government and representatives of indigenous peoples to draft a policy, plan of action or strategy.	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Cancelled</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Delayed</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Not yet started</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>In progress</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Namibia and Uganda drafted plans/programs for Indigenous Peoples, but they were not adopted. This is an action that needs follow-up.</li> </ul>

Output Number	Output description (proposed at the beginning)	Output Status	Final outcome
		<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Completed</i>	
OP2.3	Organize two regional training workshops (in 2021 and 2022) among participating countries to share the common results of the present project and previous work done in the region under DA and RPTC.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Cancelled</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Delayed</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not yet started</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>In progress</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Completed</i>	- This activity was not possible in 2021. A regional workshop for Eastern and Southern Africa was completed in November 2022.
OP4.	Presenting results at the UNPFII 2022	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Cancelled</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Delayed</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Not yet started</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>In progress</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Completed</i>	- This activity was cancelled due to COVID-19, nevertheless, the participants have insisted on holding one to present the toolkit on conservation in the UNPFII to share the tool with other countries/Indigenous Peoples/practitioners in Africa and around the world



Annex 3. Evaluation matrix

<u>Intervention logic</u>	<u>Indicators</u>	Key questions and sub-questions	Data sources	Methods
<p><b>Objective</b> To advance inclusive development for indigenous peoples in selected countries in Africa based on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.</p>				
<p><b>Outcome – OC1</b> <b>For Phase 1 and 2 countries</b> Enhanced knowledge and understanding of the situation and rights of indigenous peoples by government officials, indigenous representatives and other stakeholders to support evidence-based interventions that advance inclusive development for indigenous peoples in</p>	<p><b>IA 1.1</b> 75% of government officials and indigenous representatives report increased awareness and understanding of the situation and rights of indigenous peoples in their country.</p> <p><i>Evaluation- As not enough data to get quantitative indicators was available, qualitative analysis was performed</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Did the project strengthen national capacities in the project countries in establishing and implementing evidence-based mechanisms for formulation, monitoring, and evaluation of national policies and programs aimed at the social and economic inclusion of Indigenous peoples?</li> <li>· Did the project identify and make recommendations about the key entry points during the duration of the project to impact relevant social policy and program development and implementation?</li> <li>· Did the representatives and other actors change their perspectives and knowledge on Indigenous Peoples’ issues and legal frameworks and the need to create more inclusive plans, policies, and implementation means?</li> <li>· Did the project strengthen government officials’ skills in the formulation of new evidence-based policies, strategies, programs, and legislations and/or the review of existing national legislations and programs for social inclusion and employment of youth with disabilities at training workshops?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Desk review on data from the project reports, evaluations and other materials available in the internet</li> <li>· Key informants as database is provided by implementers, these include, UN DESA and collaborators staff/Implementers, consultants, government officials, Indigenous Peoples and other actors participating</li> <li>· Expert and groups that did not participate directly in the project but that are aware of the</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Desk review</li> <li>· Semi-structured interviews to key informants</li> <li>· randomizing country of origin, age, role, affiliation, year of participation to get a better sample. These interviews were performed in person and online.</li> <li>· Participatory observation of one of the evaluators in some of the activities</li> </ul>

<u>Intervention logic</u>	<u>Indicators</u>	Key questions and sub-questions	Data sources	Methods
<p>the framework of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.</p>	<p><b>IA 1.2</b> 75% of indigenous leaders or representatives that participated in the project confirm close consultations with local and national government during the development/implementation of policies, plans of action or strategies for inclusive development for indigenous peoples.</p> <p><i>Evaluation- As not enough data to get quantitative indicators was available, qualitative analysis was performed</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Did the project effectively ensure the participation of Indigenous Peoples’ representatives in project activities? How and how effective was it? (Number, participation, etcetera)</li> <li>· Did the project ensure diversity and include other groups, e.g., Indigenous women and youth? What strategies the project used to increase diversity?</li> </ul>	<p>issues related to Indigenous Peoples and interventions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Workshop evaluation analysis.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Outcome - OC2</b></p> <p><b>For Phase 2 countries</b></p> <p>Enhanced capacity of government officials and indigenous leaders and representatives to engage in participatory and</p>	<p><b>IA 2.1</b> At least one specific measure (policy, legislation, administrative procedure, mechanism) established or strengthened in each of the target countries that promotes participatory and constructive dialogue between government officials and indigenous leaders or representatives;</p> <p><i>Evaluation- As not enough data to get quantitative indicators was available, qualitative analysis was performed</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· How many countries drafted Indigenous Peoples’ national plans/programs/policies or similar mechanisms? Have they been institutionalized or adopted? Yes, no and what were the drivers enabling the process or what prevented it? What should be coming next?</li> </ul>		

<u>Intervention logic</u>	<u>Indicators</u>	Key questions and sub-questions	Data sources	Methods
<p>constructive dialogue to develop and/or implement development policies, plans of action or strategies for indigenous peoples.</p>	<p><b>IA 2.2</b> 75% of indigenous leaders and representatives that participated in the project confirm an increased engagement in constructive dialogue regarding inclusive development for indigenous peoples and development planning;</p> <p><i>Evaluation- As not enough data to get quantitative indicators was available, qualitative analysis was performed</i></p>	<p>How was the participation of Indigenous Peoples in the drafting of policies and setting critical routes for the inclusion or improving the meaningful participation of Indigenous Peoples in the national plans? How did the project address diversity? What were the drivers that enabled or prevented meaningful participation and diversity? What lessons can be drawn from this process?</p>		

## Annex 4: Data collection instruments

This guide included questions set in the TORs and other additional defined by the evaluators

1. Introductions by evaluators and interviewee
  2. Free, Prior and Informed Consent to participate in the interview, either recording or taking notes, and informing on the procedure for the final report. Acknowledging that the interviewee has the right to withdraw at any time, correct/rectify any information that might have been mis-interpreted or represented or he/she does not want to share. This also acknowledges that the informant's information remains confidential.
  3. Questions: this is a semi-structured interview and the questions are used to guide the conversation and the order of execution might change as the conversation flows
    - a. Remind the participant the name of the project and objectives to set the scene: "Inclusive Development for Indigenous Peoples in Africa". The project sought to achieve its objective through:
      - i. EA1- Enhancing knowledge and understanding of the situation and rights of Indigenous Peoples by government officials, Indigenous representatives and other stakeholders to support evidence-based interventions that advance inclusive development for indigenous peoples in the framework of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;
      - ii. EA2- Enhancing capacity of government officials and Indigenous leaders and representatives to engage in participatory and constructive dialogue to develop and/or implement development policies, plans of action or strategies for indigenous peoples.
    - b. Ask for the name, affiliation and role of the participant in this project.
    - c. Questions to evaluate the project
- Did the project strengthen national capacities in the project countries in establishing and implementing evidence-based mechanisms for formulation, monitoring and evaluation of national policies and programmes aimed at social and economic inclusion of indigenous peoples.
  - Did the project identify and make recommendations about the key entry points, during the duration of the project, to impact relevant social policy and programme development and implementation?
  - Did the project strengthen government officials' skills in the formulation of new evidence-based policies, strategies, programmes and legislations and/or the review of existing national legislations and programmes for social inclusion and employment of youth with disabilities at training workshops?
  - Did the project effectively ensure the participation of indigenous peoples' representatives in project activities?
  - Did the project promote South-South cooperation to share knowledge and experiences?
  - To what extent did the project mainstream gender and human rights perspectives in the design and delivery of its activities?
  - If you could think of the goals of the project, what were the main challenges you found or think were found in implementing the project? Please mention countries or details depending on your response as we understand they are context specific. Think of COVID and other factors affecting the project.

- If you could think of the best practices or learned lessons in achieving the projects objectives, what would these lessons be or best practices? Please mention countries or details depending on your response as we understand they are context specific. Think of COVID and other factors affecting the project.
- If you think this project could be improved, what would you recommend? Please mention countries or details depending on your response as we understand they are context specific. Think of COVID and other factors affecting the project.

## **Annex 5: List of individuals interviewed**

In accordance with FPIC protocols and respecting the right of participants to contribute in an anonymous way, the detailed information of participants cannot be disclosed but it can be summarised as follows based on the different data collection tools:

1. Semi-structured interviews
  - a. Participants or key actors in three different countries were interviewed: Burundi, Uganda and Namibia.
  - b. Participants were from facilitators to government representatives and Indigenous Peoples.
  - c. All the interviews were performed to men as reaching out to women, despite several attempts it was unsuccessful. This is also in part because despite there were 18 different events/workshops performed, only one of them provided a list of participants.
2. On surveys and other sources of information
  - a. Other source of information was 27 questionnaires submitted by participants in a workshop on Conservation issues in 2022.
  - b. Participatory observation was also conducted as one of the evaluators also attended one workshop and conducted participatory observation.

## Annex 6: List of documents reviewed

1. A prokect document template 1th Trhance of Development Account
2. Consultancy: Evaluation of Development Account Project entitled “Inclusive development for indigenous peoples in Africa”
3. ‘Brief report on the regional NAAPIP consultations (29th-12th November 2020) and next steps’
4. ‘The National Affirmative Action Program for Indigenous Peoples in Uganda.’
5. ‘Urgent language translations - Ngakarimojong, Benet, Batwa’ Materials for COVID vaccination translations
6. Report on UNDESA technical support on the rights of Indigenous peoples in southern Africa: April and May 2021 by Ben Begbie-Clench
7. 3 documents translated to Juhoansi and Oshiwambo on COVID19 measurements
8. UNDESA mission report: the situation of San peoples in Zimbabwe
9. The draft of the White Paper on the rights of Indigenous Peoples in Namibia.
10. 3 TORS ‘International Consultant: “Indigenous peoples and conservation in Eastern and Southern Africa” consultancy (1st, 2nd and 3rd consultancy)
11. TORs ‘International Consultant: Indigenous Peoples in Southern Africa’
12. TORs ‘International Consultant: Indigenous Peoples in Southern Africa’
13. A report on consultation workshops on community priorities for the preservation and revitalization of the So language
14. Analysis and recommendations on the protection, promotion, and revitalization of the So language and other vulnerable languages in Uganda
15. TORs ‘International Consultant: Indigenous Peoples in Southern Africa’
16. Consultancy: Project Coordinator: “Indigenous Issues in Uganda”
17. Consultancy: Provision of COVID-19 information to indigenous peoples in Uganda
18. Annual progress report for 12th Trance Development Account Project
19. Agenda for the Consultations with the So Language revitalization
20. Agenda Regional and National Validations “The draft National Affirmative Action Framewok for Indigenous Peoples in Uganda” Kisoro: 17th May; Kapchorwa: 20th May; 2022
21. Kaabong: 23rd May; Nabilatuk: 25th May; Moroto: 27th May; Kampala: 9th June 2022
22. 2022 Annual Progress Report
23. 2021 Annual Progress Report
24. Review Workshop On The Finalisation Of The Draft White Paper On The Rights Of Marginalised Communities / Indigenous Minorities In Namibia
25. 22-23 June 2023, Windhoek
26. Draft Programme: Training Workshop
27. Elected Youth Leaders of Indigenous Minority Youth Organisation of Namibia (IMYON)
28. 06 – 10 November 2023
29. Validation Workshop with Indigenous Peoples on “The draft National Affirmative Action Framewok for Indigenous Peoples” in Uganda Kisoro: 30 May; Kapchorwa: 2 June;
30. Kaabong: 6 June; Nabilatuk: 8 June; Moroto: 9 June; 2022
31. Workshop of the National Indigenous Peoples Reference Committee “The draft National Affirmative Action Framewok for Indigenous Peoples in Uganda” 8th – 10th June 2021, Jinja, Uganda 8th June 2020

32. Workshop of the National Indigenous Peoples Reference Committee for the Development of the National Affirmative Action Programme for Indigenous Peoples in Uganda. 15th – 17th February 2022, Jinja
33. Workshop of the National Indigenous Peoples Reference Committee for the Development of the National Affirmative Action Programme for Indigenous Peoples in Uganda. 23rd – 25th March 2021, Jinja, Uganda PROGRAMME Day I, 23rd March 2020
34. Training evaluation form ‘National workshop for Youth from Marginalized Communities/
35. Indigenous Peoples, Sea Side hotel, Swakopmund, Namibia on 22-25 May 2024’
36. Evaluation of the ‘National workshop for Youth from Marginalized Communities/
37. Indigenous Peoples, Sea Side hotel, Swakopmund, Namibia on 22-25 May 2024’
38. Concept note on consultation meetings for the preservation and revitalization of the So/Tepeth language and other vulnerable indigenous languages in Uganda
39. Rethinking conservation – towards a win-win strategy for conservation and inclusive development in Eastern and Southern Africa International Expert Meeting on Conservation and indigenous peoples in Eastern and Southern Africa
40. Agenda Workshop on Conservation Nairobi 2023
41. International Conservation workshop 2023 evaluation
42. Conservation and Indigenous Peoples in Southern and Eastern Africa: A toolkit for practitioners, policy makers, donors, indigenous representatives and other stakeholders
43. Visit of UNDESA team to Burundi agenda



## Management Response to Evaluation

*Project title and ID: Inclusive Development for Indigenous Peoples in Africa (2023C)”*

<b>Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 1: As soon as feasible, DESA should design and implement - with the participation of target governments and Indigenous Peoples - a second phase of this project to continue the processes initiated in target countries.</b>				
Management response: Accepted			Status update	
Key actions to be taken	Time frame	Responsible units	Status	Remarks
1.1 Develop RPTC projects to follow up on possible requests from African states	2024-25	DISD	Implemented	In 2024, DISD organized an RPTC funded project in support of Mozambique, that is a follow-up to this 12 <sup>th</sup> tranche project.
1.2 Consult with African partner governments about the possibility of continued cooperation in a future DA project.	2024-30	DISD	Ongoing	Considering DISD’s many mandates, a second project on indigenous peoples may not be realistic immediately.
<b>Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 2: Engage other bilateral and multilateral donors</b>				
Management response: Accepted			Status update	
Key actions to be taken	Time frame	Responsible units	Status	Remarks
2.1 Engagement with bilateral or multilateral donors in all capacity development projects, as appropriate	Ongoing	DISD	Implemented	DISD engages with bilateral or multilateral donors, based on a number of criteria, including advice from RCOs and UNCTs in each country.
<b>Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 3: Increase engagement with Indigenous Peoples in target countries</b>				
Management response: Partially accepted			Status update	
Key actions to be taken	Time frame	Responsible units	Status	Remarks

3.1 DISD will continue to engage effectively with indigenous peoples in all capacity development activities that affect them.	Ongoing	DISD	Implemented	DISD is fully committed to effectively engaging indigenous peoples in all its projects that have an effect on indigenous peoples. However, it must be noted that the primary purpose of capacity development provided by DISD is to enhance the capacities of government staff and entities. For this reason this recommendation is partially accepted.
<b>Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 4: Increase the incorporation of United Nations Resident Coordinators and Country Teams in to the project</b>				
Management response: Accepted			Status update	
Key actions to be taken	Time frame	Responsible units	Status	Remarks
4.1 DISD to enhance cooperation and sharing of information with Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams. This includes sharing concept notes at early stages and inviting RCOs and UNCTs to contribute to the development of projects from their inception, through implementation as well as final evaluations.	Ongoing	DISD with support of CDPMO	Implemented	DISD has over the course of several years increased its cooperation with Resident Coordinators and UN Country teams in its capacity development work. This recommendation is fully accepted and DISD has already improved its communication with RCOs and UNCTs and will continue to seek to build upon this progress.
<b>Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 5: Expand dialogue and training on Indigenous women, youth and other groups in society that remain “invisible”.</b>				
Management response: Accepted			Status update	
Key actions to be taken	Time frame	Responsible units	Status	Remarks
5.1 In future projects DISD will consult with governments as well as indigenous women on whether specific targeted interventions for indigenous women are required in addition to mainstreaming efforts.	Ongoing	DISD	Ongoing	This current project included specific training for indigenous youth in Namibia and support for the establishment of a national organization of indigenous youth in the country. Such capacity building work is an important investment in human resources that will benefit Namibia in years to come. The project sought to mainstream gender empowerment throughout all aspects. This may have

				contributed to a perception that indigenous women were 'invisible'.
<b>Evaluation Recommendation or Issue 6: Improve data collection, monitoring and evaluation, and database management.</b>				
Management response: Accepted			Status update	
Key actions to be taken	Time frame	Responsible units	Status	Remarks
6.1 DISD will review its data collection methodology and seek to improve in close collaboration with CDPMO. This includes a review of feedback collection methodology.	2025	DISD	Ongoing	As a part of its capacity development work, DISD administers feedback forms to all participants of workshops and other activities. These feedback forms have not received sufficient attention and they do not gather enough relevant information that could be used to measure progress and to improve delivery of services. Furthermore, other methods such as collection of statistical data tends to be limited to numbers of participants, gender and communities of origin.

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