



UNITED NATIONS INDIGENOUS PEOPLES PARTNERSHIP (UNIPP)

Call for Preliminary Concept Notes

This call for preliminary concept notes is aligned with the on-going resource mobilization efforts of the Partnership. The concept notes will be shared with donors, including during a High-level meeting on UNIPP organized on 19 September 2014 in New York, in conjunction with the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples.

Background

The United Nations Indigenous Peoples' Partnership (UNIPP, or the Partnership) works to promote progress as regards indigenous peoples' rights and development at country level. In this endeavour, UNIPP is guided by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and the ILO Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169).

Launched in 2011, in response to a recommendation from the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII), UNIPP combines the individual expertise and networks of the partnering UN agencies. The Partnership currently includes: the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the UN Development Programme (UNDP), the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the UN Population Fund (UNFPA).

Together, they work with indigenous communities, governments, human rights mechanisms, civil society and the private sector to improve understanding of and respect for indigenous peoples' rights. UNIPP has been implemented through six joint country-based projects in Bolivia, Nicaragua, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Republic of Congo and Nepal as well as one regional project in South East Asia. "Delivering as One" is key guiding principle of UNIPP. UN Resident Coordinators (UNRCs) are entrusted with the overall programme design, coordination, monitoring and evaluation of the UNIPP – funded projects at the country level.

The Partnership is governed by the UNIPP Policy Board (the Board), which provides overall leadership and sets the strategic direction of UNIPP. The current Board comprises of five indigenous experts and five representatives from the UN participating agencies that include the ILO, OHCHR, UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF. The UNIPP Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) is administered by the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office) of UNDP and serves as the funds interface as regards to donors and the Participating UN Organizations (PUNOs). The UNIPP Technical Secretariat (currently hosted by the ILO) provides supports to the Board, PUNOs and the Administrative Agent.

What types of interventions are supported by UNIPP?

UNIPP is a rights-based collaborative framework to promote indigenous peoples' rights at the national level by enhancing capacities, building partnerships, and by supporting consultative

mechanisms and participatory processes based on the rights enshrined in Article 41 and 42 of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and ILO Convention No. 169. The Partnership seeks to translate these principles into tangible results that advance the rights of indigenous peoples, and special attention is paid to marginalized groups, including the distinct needs of indigenous women, children and youth.

UNIPP joint programmes can involve a range of different types of interventions, including:

- *Information sharing and awareness-raising*: building and sharing knowledge and information on issues affecting indigenous peoples, allowing national stakeholders to understand them to recognize the importance of ensuring for indigenous peoples' rights in addressing them.
- *Advocacy and consultation*: supporting the adoption of new laws and policies covering the range of issues affecting indigenous peoples, promoting and supporting efforts for the ratification of Convention No. 169 and other international instruments, ensuring consulting and participation of indigenous peoples in these processes.
- *Ensuring effective implementation and monitoring of relevant legal/policy frameworks*: ensuring indigenous peoples enjoy their rights through assessments and reviews of existing frameworks, appropriate budget allocations, inclusion in development programmes.

Aiming at the realization of indigenous peoples' rights, UNIPP interventions are guided by the recommendations of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Peoples Issues, the UN Special Rapporteur on indigenous peoples' rights, the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the UN human rights treaty bodies and the ILO supervisory bodies.

The first phase of UNIPP under its 2011-2015 strategic frameworks has highlighted the following themes:

- *Legislative review and reform*: develop capacities of State institutions to have indigenous peoples' rights included and recognized within the national legal system, including through constitutional reforms, development of legislation and incorporation at administrative levels both through indigenous specific legislation such as in areas of non-discrimination.
- *Democratic governance and strengthening of indigenous peoples' institutions*: supporting the institutional and organizational capacity to fully participate in governance and policy processes at local and national levels
- *Access to justice*: recognition and strengthening of indigenous customary law and justice systems; addressing discrimination within the national legal system and the inclusion of indigenous customary law and justice systems.
- *Access to land and ancestral territories*: developing and strengthening capacities for land titling, demarcation and use of ancestral territories, including local capacity development initiatives and those aimed at securing greater recognition of indigenous lands.
- *Natural resources and extractive industries*: promoting a framework for conflict prevention, consultation, participation, benefit-sharing and dispute resolution. This area will have a special focus on conflict prevention initiatives around ancestral land and use of natural resources, in particular the need to develop capacity of indigenous communities in negotiation skills and dispute resolution in line with international legal instruments.

- *Access to education and health*: promoting indigenous peoples, including women and youth, to the right to quality, culturally pertinent education that respects indigenous peoples' histories, languages and traditions, and guarantees their right to pertinent, culturally sensitive and quality health services. This would include reproductive health services in order to reduce the high levels of maternal and infant mortality and morbidities which affect indigenous women and new borns.

Submissions may focus on the above themes, as well as areas covered by UNDRIP. Proposals should seek “seed-money” (as opposed to support for an organization’s general budget) to be used for projects involving catalytic and innovative actions and projects whose successes can be further replicated in other areas.

Deadline and modalities for submission:

- Preliminary concept notes can be submitted by Participating UN organizations (ILO, OHCHR, UNDP, UNFPA, and UNICEF).
- Complete the attached application form. Only complete submissions will be considered. Proposed interventions should be in the form of joint programmes, involving more than one agency.
- Applications should be submitted in English.
- Submit concept note to the UNIPP Technical Secretariat by **15 September 2014** via email, fax, or post (email submissions are preferred)

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What are the next steps?

Upon receipt, the Technical Secretariat will review and process concept notes received. The concept notes will be presented to the High-level meeting on UNIPP organized on 19 September in New York and used in subsequent resource mobilization activities of the Partnership. Subject to availability of funds, UNIPP will issue a call for submission for full project proposal. Proposal will have to be submitted through the UN Resident Coordinator. The acceptance of project proposals and allocation of funds are subject to decision by the UNIPP Policy Board.

More information on current UNIPP programmes is available at:

<http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/IPPO0>