



NARATIF BAHARU UKM
**UNIVERSITI
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MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
GENIUS DIVISION



UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

STUDY GUIDE

TOPIC I

**ENSURING THE PROTECTION
OF MIGRANTS' HUMAN
RIGHTS**

TOPIC II

**GOVERNMENTS AND THE
DISPLACEMENT OF
INDIGENOUS PEOPLE**



GMUN 2023

GENIUS MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE



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INTRODUCTION TO CHAIRS

Fong Seng Junn

Head Chair

Seng Junn is a current Kolej Tuanku Ja'afar scholar completing his A-Levels in pursuit of reading Law at university. With an early interest in international affairs and political science, MUN presented him with an opportunity to further delve into these passions. Having chaired at both local and international conferences since 2021, he is keen on ensuring a holistic and enriching experience for beginners and veterans alike.



During his MUN career, Seng Junn has held many roles. He is the current President of Kolej Tuanku Ja'afar's MUN Club and a member of the Malaysian Youth Association for Diplomacy and Policy (MYADP). He was previously the President of Tenby SEP's MUN Club and the USG of Conference Affairs for the International Schools Partnership (ISP).

Outside of MUN, Seng Junn can often be spotted cafe-hunting in KL or playing hockey. His favourite band is The 1975, and his current go-to solo artist is Noah Kahan.

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Sarah Zahirah

Co-Chair

Sarah Zahirah is a Form 4 student at Kolej GENIUS@Pintar Negara, UKM. Her MUN career started in late 2022, with this becoming her first time chairing a council. She looks forward to meeting and having a great experience with all members of the committee!



Sarah is currently the junior joint-leader of most MUN affairs in Kolej GENIUS@Pintar Negara, holding the rank of Outreach Manager in its official MUN club. In terms of non-MUN things, Sarah is an intense nerd and can be seen guzzling Milo powder on the regular. Her favourite book is currently the Herald-Mage series by Mercedes Lackey.

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INTRODUCTION TO UNHRC

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Established in 2006 by the United Nations General Assembly, the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) is an intergovernmental body within the United Nations that endeavours to strengthen the promotion and protection of human rights globally and address situations of human rights violations and make recommendations on them. The council is mandated as well to coordinate human rights education and public information programmes, engage in dialogue with governments to secure respect for all human rights, and rationalise, adapt and streamline the UN human rights machinery.¹

The incumbent United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights is Volker Türk, who previously served as the Under-Secretary-General for Policy in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General where he coordinated global policy initiatives. Since taking office in September 2022, Türk has visited Kyiv, Ukraine to meet with human rights defenders in an underground shelter, expressed caution and interest towards ‘continued dialogue’ with Chinese authorities on China’s treatment of the Uyghurs in Xinjiang, and made plans for a year-long campaign to showcase the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in light of its 75th anniversary.²

¹ Office of the High Commissioner. (n.d.). *Mandate of UN Human Rights*. OHCHR. Retrieved June 22, 2023, from <https://www.ohchr.org/en/about-us/mandate-un-human-rights>

² Davies, L. (2023, January 5). Volker Türk: the man charged with protecting the world’s human rights. *The Guardian*. <https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2023/jan/05/volker-turk-un-worlds-human-rights>

POWERS

Given its direct association with the United Nations General Assembly (being a subsidiary organ as authorised under Article 22), it retains the powers of the General Assembly as outlined in Chapter IV of the Charter of the United Nations. Such powers include:

- **Article 11(2)**
“...discuss any questions relating to the maintenance of international peace and security brought before it...”
- **Article 11(3)**
“...call the attention of the Security Council to situations which are likely to endanger international peace and security.”
- **Article 14**
“...recommend measures for the peaceful adjustment of any situation³...”

Resolutions and decisions adopted by the committee are not legally-binding, in accordance with its associated authority with the General Assembly. Hence, none of its recommendations bear any form of legal obligation to any member state for compliance. However, it is authorised to request consideration of its resolutions by the United Nations Security Council under Article 11 of the Charter of the United Nations.

³ United Nations. (n.d.). *United Nations Charter (full text)* | *United Nations*. United Nations. Retrieved June 22, 2023, from <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/full-text>



AGENDA 1 - ENSURING THE PROTECTION OF MIGRANTS' HUMAN RIGHTS

INTRODUCTION TO AGENDA

A migrant is defined as any person who has moved or is moving away from their habitual place of residence⁴. This definition provided by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) does not discriminate against the person's legal status, the voluntary or involuntary nature of the movement, the causes for said movement or the length of the stay. As such, the term migrant is rather general and encompasses a substantial amount of people. As of 2020⁵, there were 281 million international migrants across the world.

Global causes of migration are wide and varying, a few factors⁶ being increasing armed violence, ethnic or racial conflict, features of globalization, environmental degradation, development-induced displacement, democracy denial, and large scale corruption. Other contributing factors are instead simply a feature of modernization, such as the increasing ease with which one can travel from one place to another.

Despite migrants being present in most countries and making up around 3.6% of the world population, the human rights violations committed against them are insufficiently discussed in today's world. As recent as 2017, authorities in Balkans countries such as Serbia, Macedonia, Croatia, Hungary and Bulgaria were found to be routinely using violence and aggression against migrants⁷. Migrants are especially vulnerable to exploitation as well as abuse, due to their irregular situation.

⁴ International Organization for Migration. (n.d.). *Migrants*. United Nations. <https://www.un.org/en/fight-racism/vulnerable-groups/migrants>

⁵ International Organization for Migration. (2022). *World Migration Report 2022*. World migration report. <https://worldmigrationreport.iom.int/wmr-2022-interactive/>

⁶ Appleyard, R. (Ed.). (2000). *The Human Rights of Migrants - International Organization for Migration*. The Human Rights of Migrants. https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/migrants_human_rights.pdf

⁷ Belgrade Centre for Human Rights, & Macedonian Young Lawyers Association. (2017). (rep.). Oxfam International. Retrieved June 27, 2023, from https://oi-files-d8-prod.s3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/file_attachments/bp-dangerous-game-pushback-migrants-refugees-060417-en.pdf.



Mass migration puts an immense strain upon a country's systems, leading to an inherently negative view of migrants. In fact, discriminatory practices are extremely common and may take the form of denial of civil and human rights⁸, as well as economic, social and humanitarian rights. It is thus the responsibility of the government, and moreover the international committee, to protect all migrants from racist and xenophobic violence, exploitation and forced labour⁹.

The improvement of migrants' rights, however, must also come with international scrutiny of current actions by national governments, as there is the issue of discriminatory laws and insufficient policies¹⁰. In terms of the average migrant's daily life, these play a big role, leading to many being unable to access basic services equivalent to international human rights standards. Additionally, the international community should be wary of large corporations, who have been historically proven to have no qualms about abusing migrants for profits¹¹. Low wages, workplace abuse and pressure to stay in these conditions must be addressed by the committee in order to formulate a comprehensive solution to the state of migrant human rights.

PAST ACTIONS

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)

Adopted in 1948 by the United Nations General Assembly in Paris, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was a major milestone in the journey to universally protected human rights. It is due to this declaration that the journey to equal human rights for all is being undertaken.

Recommended principles and guidelines on human rights at international borders (2014)

Introduced to regulate the jurisdiction of nations at their international borders according to human rights, this document encapsulates 3 guiding principles; the primacy of human rights, non-discrimination, assistance and protection from harm. It then furthers these principles by recommending 10 guidelines by which member states should abide.

⁸ Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. (n.d.). *About migration and human rights*. OHCHR. <https://www.ohchr.org/en/migration/about-migration-and-human-rights>

⁹ Amnesty International. (2023, June 16). *Who is a refugee, a migrant or an asylum seeker?*. Amnesty International. <https://www.amnesty.org/en/what-we-do/refugees-asylum-seekers-and-migrants/>

¹⁰ International Organization for Migration. (n.d.). *Migrants*. United Nations. <https://www.un.org/en/fight-racism/vulnerable-groups/migrants>

¹¹ Bondarenko, V. (2017, May 4). *One business in Ohio shows how companies take advantage of immigrants over and over again*. Business Insider. <https://www.businessinsider.com/case-farms-shows-how-companies-routinely-take-advantage-of-immigrants-2017-5>



Principles and guidelines on the human rights protection of migrants in vulnerable situations

Consisting of 20 wide-ranging principles, these guidelines were adopted in 2018 to target the protection of migrants that do not fall under the category of refugees, but are still considered to be in vulnerable situations. Notable principles include non-discrimination, border governance, protection from violence and exploitation, and monitoring and accountability.

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

Migrant Integration Programmes

While tackling the issue of biased governments and companies, it is also important to address the issue of societal discrimination. Integration programmes or similar campaigns can go a long way to improving the daily life of an average immigrant. Fellow members of society represent landlords, shop owners, and much more that may be easily influenced by historically deep-rooted resent of migrants.

Strict Surveillance of National Governments

There are several ways this can be implemented, such as through an impartial international watchdog. As of right now, this is mostly done by NGOs who have little power to hold said governments responsible. However, implementation of this solution must be done delicately to maintain to sovereignty of each member state, while making sure that migrant's human rights are being upheld.

Migrant Employee Policies

Companies have an immense amount of power, with wages being their leverage over migrants in potentially unstable and vulnerable situations. As such, there must be guidelines as to the treatment of migrant employees to prevent the abuse of this power. Safe and equal working conditions, fair wages and safe distress pathways are examples of conditions that any worker should be able to expect, no matter their background. The implementation of such policies can be done in conjunction with organizations like the International Labour Organization (ILO).



Aid or Outreach Initiatives

NGOs are carrying most of the weight when it comes to aiding migrants in need, but the implementation of a UN-supported program would make a noticeable impact on the quality of lives among the poorer migrant communities. Done non-invasively, this could narrow the gap in quality of lives between nationals and migrants greatly in the long run.

QARMAs

1. What are the causes of migration, and how can they be prevented?
2. What is the role of governments and companies in protecting the human rights of the migrant population?
3. How should the migrant population be protected by the international community as a whole?
4. How effective was the implementation of past actions, and should the United Nations be taking a different approach?
5. What are the main influencing factors behind failures to recognize migrant's human rights?



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5. Bondarenko, V. (2017, May 4). One business in Ohio shows how companies take advantage of immigrants over and over again. Business Insider. <https://www.businessinsider.com/case-farms-shows-how-companies-routinely-take-advantage-of-immigrants-2017-5>
6. Council on Foreign Relations. (2019). The world's swelling refugee population has shrinking options. Council on Foreign Relations. <https://www.cfr.org/refugee-crisis/#!/a-system-under-strain>
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8. International Organization for Migration. (2022). World Migration Report 2022. World migration report. <https://worldmigrationreport.iom.int/wmr-2022-interactive/>
9. International Organization for Migration. (n.d.). Migrants. United Nations. <https://www.un.org/en/fight-racism/vulnerable-groups/migrants>
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11. Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. (2018b, October 23). Recommended principles and guidelines on Human Rights at International Borders (2014). OHCHR. <https://www.ohchr.org/en/documents/tools-and-resources/recommended-principles-and-guidelines-human-rights-international>
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13. Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. (n.d.-b). Universal declaration of human rights. OHCHR. [https://www.ohchr.org/en/universal-declaration-of-human-rights#:~:text=The%20Universal%20Declaration%20of%20Human%20Rights%20\(UDHR\)%20is%20a%20milestone,rights%20to%20be%20universally%20protected](https://www.ohchr.org/en/universal-declaration-of-human-rights#:~:text=The%20Universal%20Declaration%20of%20Human%20Rights%20(UDHR)%20is%20a%20milestone,rights%20to%20be%20universally%20protected)
14. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (1951). Convention and Protocol Relating to the status of refugees. UNHCR. <https://www.unhcr.org/media/convention-and-protocol-relating-status-refugees>



AGENDA 2 - GOVERNMENTS AND THE DISPLACEMENT OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

INTRODUCTION TO AGENDA

The life and identity of indigenous peoples is indistinguishable linked to their land. The colonial view of land as a place for commodification and control differs from the indigenous view of land as the foundation of identity, relationships, and spirituality.¹² For many indigenous peoples, migrating is also part of their life, an expression of their identity, culture, and livelihoods. Conflicts, development projects, land rights violations, and urbanisation, however, can force communities from areas where they have habitually lived.¹³ Displacement of these indigenous peoples from their native homeland in the aforementioned methods remains the colonial approach for occupation and settlement in many countries across the globe, namely Canada, the United States, and Australia.¹⁴

Indigenous peoples make up 6.2% of the world's population but account for 15% of the world's poorest people and almost 19% of the extreme poor.¹⁵ This poverty is exacerbated by economic or political structures that often marginalise and discriminated against them. These factors make them more vulnerable to the risk of displacement amidst conflict, violence and development projects.

These indigenous communities live in sensitive ecosystems and are heavily reliant on natural resources for their livelihoods and wellbeing. When they are displaced to areas with different environmental conditions, the loss of access to water, food and land can severely disrupt their lives and social order.¹⁶ Their displacement can also have negative impacts on the lands they have managed as protectors of biological diversity and traditional forms of work and affect their individual and collective rights.

¹² Thistle, J. A. (2017). *Canadian Observatory on Homelessness: Definition of Indigenous Homelessness in Canada*. York University Press.

<https://homelesshub.ca/IndigenousHomelessness>

¹³ Minority Rights Group. (n.d.). *Minority and Indigenous Trends 2021*. Minority Rights Group. Retrieved June 23, 2023, from <https://minorityrights.org/programmes/library/trends2021/>

¹⁴ Parrott, Z. (2020). *Indigenous Peoples in Canada*. The Canadian Encyclopedia.

<https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/aboriginal-people>

¹⁵ Dhir, R. K., Cattaneo, U., Ormaza, M. V. C., Coronado, H., & Oelz, M. (n.d.). Implementing the ILO Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention No. 169: Towards an Inclusive, Sustainable and Just Future. *International Labour Organisation*. 9789221340331[ISBN]

¹⁶ The International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs. (1986). *The Indigenous World 1986*. The International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs.

It is thus vital that the government mandates the participation of indigenous communities in internal displacement policies where their displacement is unavoidable or in the best interest of the wider community. Their understanding of nature's cycles, the environment, livelihoods, and food systems contributes to the protection of biodiversity and the reduction of displacement risk. Their ancestral knowledge, passed down intergenerationally, can play a crucial role in prevention, forecasting and response efforts to the declining health of their domain's biodiversity.

BACKGROUND TO AGENDA

International debates and efforts regarding indigenous and tribal peoples' concerns have over recent decades occurred largely through the emergence of an active and vocal global indigenous peoples movement. National indigenous organisations first began to appear in the 1960s, particularly in the Americas, while international networks and organisations, such as the World Council of Indigenous Peoples and the International Indian Treaty Council became active later in the 1970s.¹⁷ At the UN, indigenous groups and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) working on indigenous issues have attended meetings of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations ever since its establishment in 1982, which was later revised and subsequently adopted as Convention No. 169.

A World Conference on Indigenous Peoples was held in 2014. The result was an outcome document detailing a comprehensive set of commitments by UN Member States to advance the respect for indigenous peoples' rights and the aims of the Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), simultaneously calling for further ratifications of Convention No. 169.¹⁸ In more recent news, the 2015 Paris Agreement on climate change specifically stressed the role played by indigenous and local communities and their traditional knowledge on effective climate action.¹⁹ At the regional level, the Organisation of American States adopted the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in 2016, after the United States supported and not endorsed the UNDRIP.²⁰ The African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights established a Working Group on Indigenous Populations/Communities in 2000. In Europe, a Nordic Sami Convention was agreed by Finland, Norway and Sweden in 2016.

¹⁷ Thornberry, P. (2002). *Indigenous Peoples and Human Rights*. Manchester University Press.

¹⁸ United Nations. (2014). *Outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous peoples*. General Assembly (New York).

¹⁹ United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). (2015). *Paris Agreement*. United Nations. Retrieved June 26, 2023, from http://unfccc.int/paris_agreement/items/9485.php

²⁰ United States Agency International Development (USAID). (n.d.). *Indigenous Peoples | U.S. Agency for International Development*. USAID. Retrieved June 26, 2023, from <https://www.usaid.gov/indigenous-peoples-0>

Indigenous and tribal peoples themselves, through active engagement in international forums and discussion platforms, have emerged as active participants in global policy debates on human rights, development and climate change, claiming their rights and drawing the world's attention to their concerns and priorities. This includes indigenous women, who actively participate in national, regional and global policy debates, with particular consideration of the International Indigenous Women's Forum. Such zealous and perpetual effort from indigenous communities across the world has culminated in the Indigenous Peoples Major Group for Sustainable Development, which in recent years has become a platform for indigenous peoples to engage with the follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted by UN Member States in 2015.

“[We recognise] the inherent dignity and the unique contribution of indigenous people to the development and plurality of society, [and reaffirm] the commitment of the international community to [indigenous peoples'] economic, social and cultural well-being and their enjoyment of the fruits of sustainable development.”²¹

PAST ACTIONS

The International Labour Organisation (ILO) Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention No. 169

Under Convention No. 169, consultation and participation are established rights of indigenous and tribal peoples and as fundamental principles of inclusive development and democratic governance. It uniquely sets out specific standards and parameters with regards to consultation and participation. Given the Convention's treaty status, ratifying states have an obligation under international law to give effect to the Convention's provisions, by adapting their national legislation and institutions accordingly.

Convention No. 169 does not prescribe a particular institutional model, nor does it require that the implementation of its provisions should fall under the competence of one single government entity. Institutions or agencies in charge of indigenous affairs can play a key role in implementing a whole-of-government approach through exercising lead responsibility for indigenous policy, administering targeted programmes, coordination, and promotion of policy coherence.²²

²¹ United Nations. (1993). *Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, Vienna*. Office of the High Commissioner United Nations Human Rights (OHCHR). Retrieved 26 June, 2023, from <https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/vienna.aspx>

²² International Labour Organisation. (1989). *ILO Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention No. 169*. International Labour Organisation. Retrieved June 27, 2023, from https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/---publ/documents/publication/wcms_735607.pdf

United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII)

The United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) is an expert body of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) with the mandate to provide advice on Indigenous Issues to the Council and through ECOSOC, to the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, raise awareness on indigenous peoples' issues and promote the integration and coordination of activities relating to indigenous peoples' issues within the UN system.

In January 2019, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) organised a three-day international expert group meeting on Conservation and the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, as recommended by UNPFII at its 2018 annual session. Several proposals were made to engage member states and global conservation organisations in the monitoring and evaluation of conservation activities and projects and its effect on indigenous peoples. That same year was declared as the International Year of Indigenous Languages in recognition of the urgent need to preserve, promote and revitalise endangered languages. Amongst the eight conclusions made in the Strategic Outcome Document, one of them stipulated the need for good governance and protection of indigenous lands.

Within the context of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, the Indigenous Peoples and Development Branch of DESA has been providing technical support for member states in their implementation of UNDRIP. In 2019, UNDESA worked closely with the governments of Uganda and Namibia, providing capacity development and policy advice.²³ This support is provided within the framework of the System-Wide Action Plan on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, as well as the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, and includes policy and legislative review, capacity development for government officials and indigenous representatives and the organisation of dialogues that bring together indigenous representatives, government officials and relevant stakeholders. This support is provided by UNDESA at the request of governments from developing countries and it is always provided within the context of UNDRIP. UNDESA, drawing upon the findings and discussions during UNPFII, also provides support to Resident Coordinators and United Nations Country Teams on matters related to indigenous peoples.

²³ The International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA). (2020). *The Indigenous World 2020*. The International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA). Retrieved 28 June, 2023, from https://iwgia.org/images/yearbook/2020/IWGIA_The_Indigenous_World_2020.pdf



Global Indigenous Youth Caucus

The Global Indigenous Youth Caucus (GYIC) is a global network of indigenous youth from the seven indigenous socio-cultural regions. Ever since the first session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII), indigenous youth participants have been meeting and developing statements and positions expressing the concerns of indigenous youth in various bodies, mechanisms, and international processes.

In 2008, the UNPFII recognised the Youth Caucus as a stable working caucus. The caucus' objective is to bring indigenous youth together across borders and continents in order to contribute to the struggle for the rights of the indigenous peoples and strengthen their capacity to act as custodians of indigenous cultural heritage. The UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Youth, Ms. Jayathma Wickramanayake, has supported and was involved in the caucus, pointing out the need for youth inclusion in multilateral discussions.

At a regional level, the Fund for the Development of Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean (FILAC) harbours a commitment towards indigenous youth based on their Unity of Youth through their work alongside GYIC.²⁴ FILAC is the only international entity with parity participation of governments and indigenous peoples, where indigenous youth are involved in their actions, programmes and projects. Among FILAC's major actions in relation to the involvement of indigenous youth, the youth participated and specific strategies were developed at the Regional Dialogue of Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean in the framework of the Green Climate Fund, which was convened by FILAC and supported by the Government of Nicaragua and the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS

Socio-Environmental Assessments

Community-based, integrated socio-environmental assessments can create multilevel, multidisciplinary knowledge with local communities leading the data gathering effort. Such assessments can be a critical component of a new governance framework. This would enable governments to identify key issues concerning displacement of indigenous peoples and develop adequate and substantial mitigation strategies to address these concerns and consequences.

²⁴ Fund for the Development of Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean (FILAC). (n.d.). *FILAC at a Glance*. Fondo para el desarrollo de los pueblos indígenas FILAC | FILAC. Retrieved June 28, 2023, from <http://www.filac.org/wp/>

A key example of the current lack of effective framework surrounding displacement adaptation strategies is the international displacement of Alaska Native communities. Such displacement was caused by an unprecedented warming rate, resulting in the combination of decreased Arctic sea ice, thawing permafrost, and repeated extreme weather events. As of the moment, no governance framework in the US currently addresses the essential issues around deciding when a preventive relocation should occur and who should make the decision that a relocation is warranted. This case study effectively highlights that displacement of indigenous communities may be caused by a multitude of factors including climate change, and not just corporate development plans.

Investing in Community-Specific Technology

Government could provide funding to address the developing needs of indigenous communities with consideration of exacerbated climate debilitation, increasing deforestation and emergence of new diseases affecting both people and livestock. Such funds could aid indigenous communities in adopting several adaptation measures, such as changing planting times, using new technologies, and modifying the type and number of livestock they rear. Aforementioned new technologies could include new cultivation techniques and systems, modified crop composition and facilities, and employing vaccines and pest- and disease-prevention measures.

In the Omasuyo Province of Bolivia, local communities have traditionally relied on the observation of local bioindicators to reduce drought displacement. This provides a type of local agrometeorological service that has produced reliable guidance over centuries for mitigating the impacts of extreme climate events on crops. The validating of bioindicators is monitored by communities who fill in cards every day describing the local weather. Governments in bio-adverse regions could adopt such technology to better ensure the survivability of their crops and monitor weather conditions.

Government Forums and Dialogue Sessions with Indigenous Communities

In order to ensure effective and efficient implementation of displacement strategies, governments should integrate indigenous stakeholders in their discussions, fostering active participation and understanding between the affected parties. Indigenous peoples should be able to exercise their rights to free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) prior to any development project leading to their displacement, and this can only be achieved if international organisations and civil society engage in constant dialogue with them. This is pertinent as FPIC is a specific right recognised in the UN Declaration on the Rights of

Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)²⁵, enabling indigenous peoples to give or withhold consent to a project that may affect them or their territories.

Governments should endeavour to consider any and all obstacles that may hinder effective multilateral discussions and resolve them efficiently. This could include language barriers, differences in cultural practices and access to adequate technological facilities. This would allow for more efficient information access and decision-making processes. Additionally, this would allow for more culturally appropriate durable solutions that ensure dignity in local integration and guarantee rights, without resorting to assimilation or the cultural annulment of displaced individuals and peoples.

Safeguarding Land Tenure

Safeguarding land tenure is also a key component of the solutions to displacement for indigenous peoples. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) proposes that governments simplify land titling procedures to enable them to gain easy recognition of their land.²⁶ Additionally, it stipulates that governments should take action to prevent their displacement. In Bolivia, where 21% of the land is collectively owned by indigenous peoples, 36 indigenous territories have begun the procedures necessary to become autonomous governments.²⁷ Ensuring the rights of indigenous communities to their land facilitates the protection of vital flora and fauna, cultural practices, and landmarks from intrusive corporate practices such as development plans or deforestation initiatives. This endows upon these indigenous peoples the responsibility of cultivating the local biodiversity while restraining businesses and even the government from intruding upon these rights and responsibilities.

²⁵ United Nations. (2007). *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*. United Nations. Retrieved June 27, 2023, from https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/wp-content/uploads/sites/19/2018/11/UNDRIP_E_web.pdf

²⁶ The International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA). (2018). *The Indigenous World 2018*. The International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA). Retrieved 28 June, 2023, from <https://www.iwgia.org/images/documents/indigenous-world/indigenous-world-2018.pdf>

²⁷ The International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA). (2020). *The Indigenous World 2020*. The International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA). Retrieved 28 June, 2023, from https://iwgia.org/images/yearbook/2020/IWGIA_The_Indigenous_World_2020.pdf



QARMAs

1. How can governments effectively involve indigenous communities in the development of community-specific displacement strategies, with particular consideration of indigenous minorities such as women and youth?
2. How can governments adapt displacement strategies to address the distinct differences between displacement caused by corporate development plans, climate change and other such factors?
3. How can governments sufficiently integrate displacement strategies into their pre-existing development goals, with special consideration of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda for countries with a particular stakeholder in it?
4. What support can governments provide to displaced indigenous communities to support their assimilation into their new regions, with pertinent consideration of mental, social and financial support?
5. In the event of a premeditated displacement, what can governments do to respect the right of indigenous communities to their land and regions, considering the heritage and culture attributed to that tenure?



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