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Global Hub on Indigenous Peoples' Food Systems

- **What is the current status of the Goal or target, in terms of actual measured progress and trends?**

According to the World Bank, 476 million of people that see the world differently, that is, they are indigenous peoples. Although they make up just 5 percent of the global population, they account for about 15 percent of the extreme poor. Indigenous Peoples' life expectancy is up to 20 years lower than the life expectancy of non-indigenous people worldwide. It is widely acknowledged that they are also the guardians of the 80% of the biodiversity that exists in the world that they safeguard in less than the 25% of the earth lands. It is also known that every six seconds, a forest of the size of a soccer field gets lost in the world and many of those forests are territories of indigenous peoples who are displaced by forced migration, climate change, land grabbing's and policies that do not respect their right to self-determination. Threatening the life of indigenous peoples is also threatening the life of the entire world, because as we live in an era of conflict, climate change and COVID-19, we need to learn from indigenous peoples how they have been resilient over the years but also protect their rights to self-determination and sovereignty for One Healthy Planet.

- **What has changed since the last time this Goal was reviewed at the HLPF?**
 - **Any deviations in progress from what was expected (including due to COVID-19)?**
 - **Additional obstacles or opportunities in implementation including through interlinkages with other Goals, and connections to related processes?**
 - **New/promising openings for tracking progress, including from additional data sources?**

COVID-19 has showed to hit stronger the population with poor health, e.g., malnourished. Indigenous peoples when faced with forced displacement, migration, climate change and policies that threaten their right to self-determination and sovereignty, are more vulnerable to get public health problems and malnutrition. There is evidence on how migration and displacement has affected the health of indigenous population and how in some instances younger generations are prone to more health issues than older generations. The processes of marginalization, displacement and discrimination, indigenous peoples lose their languages, their knowledge, their lands, and their ability to be resilient. With COVID-19, many indigenous peoples used their territories as a mechanism to lockdown themselves and prevent the pandemics to hit them but also relied on their social ties and resources available to fight the pandemics due to the lack of infrastructure. COVID-19 has showed us that nutrition plays an important role and how if we want to reinforce resilient and sovereign communities, we need to look back at indigenous knowledge, learn from indigenous peoples that have a lot to show to the rest of the world. In 2021, the United Nations Food Systems Summit is happening and as a Global Hub, we are proposing that Indigenous Food Systems are considered as a game changer itself.

- **What are promising strategies to accelerate action (by UN and partners) and to mobilize other stakeholders to advance implementation?**

Particularly, in relation to food security, climate change and the current COVID-19 crisis, we have learned that things need to change. As a Global Hub on Indigenous Peoples Food Systems, we support Indigenous Peoples to strengthen their Indigenous Food Systems and persuade governments to acknowledge the right to self-determination of Indigenous Peoples and their rights on their lands and waters. Specifically, we propose:

- Leaving no one behind can only be achieved by the overarching recommendation of engaging indigenous leaders in policy discussions and in the devising of strategies about their access to safe and nutritious foods. At the global level, inclusion of Indigenous Peoples and recognition of their knowledge in platforms, mechanisms and processes that affect their food systems should be promoted, such as: i) United Nations Food Systems Summit and outcomes, ii) The Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (LCIPP), iii) The Treaty on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, and iv) Committee on World Food Security
- The Establishment of a Zero Hunger fund, should not be done at the expense of eliminating Indigenous Peoples. Therefore it is recommended that this global fund includes a sub-fund allocated to Indigenous Peoples to protect and preserve their food systems.
- Develop new standards and legal frameworks to drive private-sector change and hold companies accountable, is fundamental to end the situations of displacement, expansion of the agriculture frontier on ecosystems, and pollution and destruction of the environment undertaken by private sector often under state ran concession systems.
- Intercultural education should be a priority for government's agendas because it shapes indigenous peoples in ways that generally mismatch their culture, identity, and worldviews. In a way, formal education systems when not based on an intercultural model, threatens their right to self-determination of Indigenous Peoples, erodes Indigenous Peoples knowledge and ability to be resilient. This includes, their ability to use their Food Systems.
- A Food Systems Framework must include recommendations that increases the security of access by Indigenous Peoples to their lands and territories.
- Intercultural Food Policies are needed to recognize and support the many dimensions of Indigenous Peoples food systems in to promote healthy and sustainable consumption patterns.
- Proposals to Increase agrobiodiversity for improved production and resilience are key to future nature positive production where Indigenous Peoples can play a significant role. Not only are Indigenous Peoples' communities the custodians for a significant proportion of the world's important genetic resources, but their territories also encompass unique dynamic biocultural spaces that allow these resources to continue to evolve and adapt further to ongoing climate variability and other challenges.
- Scaling-out Agroecological Production Systems and adopting regenerative agricultural practices for resilient landscapes at scale has the potential to conserve and promote nature-positive production where contributions of Indigenous Peoples and farmers are multiple. This also means reinforcing local practices and holding a intercultural perspective to food security.
- Securing land tenure rights for resilience and sustainable food systems must be achieved to reach the goals of Zero Hunger and Not Leaving anyone behind.
- Promoting of inclusive and sustainable agroecological networks for small farmers and Indigenous Peoples' communities is crucial for advancing the equitable livelihoods of Indigenous Peoples.

- **How would one monitor action for implementing these?**

Establishment of a Zero Hunger fund for Indigenous Food Systems that:

- Investing on Indigenous Food Systems Initiatives led by Indigenous Peoples.
- Supporting capacity development withing the communities so more leaders from Indigenous Peoples can join Policy Discussion and have an active voice in different committees.
- Supporting research on Indigenous Food Systems that allows creating metrics that show the efficiency of those systems and how they could be scaled to the rest of world.

