Global Action Plan for IDIL 2022-2023

Making a Decade of Action for Indigenous Languages

Presented by:
Communication and Information (CI) Unit | UNESCO Bangkok
Why an International Decade of Indigenous languages?

Indigenous languages are disappearing, resulting in users experiencing:

• Limits to freedom of thought, expression, including cultural/artistic
• Reduced access to education, health, information, justice, employment, cultural life

Indigenous knowledge represents a key resource in developing solutions to:

• Combat hunger
• Mitigate climate change
• Protect biodiversity
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AT A GLANCE

VISION

A world in which Indigenous Peoples will entrust their languages to future generations

MISSION

Indigenous languages are preserved, revitalized, promoted and used across all socio-cultural, economic, environmental, and political domains
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TARGET GROUPS

**PRIMARY**

**IL USERS**
- Existing Users: women, children, youth
- Learners: new learners
- Knowledge Keepers: elderly, women, families

**DUTY BEARERS**
- Governments: policy-/decision-makers
- Public Institutions: information, memory and cultural organizations

**ENABLERS**
- Private Sector: media, communication, and technology companies

**SUPPORTING**

**LANGUAGE PROFESSIONALS**
- teachers/educators
- interpreters/translators
- language tech developers
- professional communities/associations

**REPRESENTATIVES**
- public+private entities involved in sustainable development
- academic/educational organizations
- opinion influencers/leaders
- language activists and civil society groups
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OUTCOMES

OUTCOME 1
IL are learnt, taught, transmitted to future generations, contributing to fluency, vitality, and higher number of users

OUTCOME 2
IL established as a global priority with long-term commitment towards building peaceful, just, sustainable, inclusive and resilient societies

OUTCOME 3
IL recognised in legal systems and legislation of Member States, supported by language-related laws and policy frameworks

OUTCOME 4
IL used in socio-cultural, economic, environmental, legal and political domains with the participation of indigenous institutions and organizations
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OUTPUTS & ASIA PRIORITIES

1. EDUCATION
2. FOOD SYSTEMS
3. DIGITAL EMPOWERMENT, ACCESS, MEDIA & TECHNOLOGY
4. HEALTH, SOCIAL COHESION & HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE
5. JUSTICE & PUBLIC SERVICES
6. LIVING HERITAGE
7. BIODIVERSITY
8. ECONOMIC GROWTH
9. GENDER EQUALITY
10. PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS
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**OUTPUT 1**

Inclusive, equitable, intercultural, quality education and lifelong learning environments and opportunities in Indigenous languages provided in formal, non-formal and informal educational settings

**Activity 1.1**
Development of educational policies, plans and programmes alongside legislation as part of implementing SDG 4 to support mother tongue-based and multilingual education to foster curriculum development

**Activity 1.2**
Improvement of Indigenous and multilingual education/professional competencies and skills development among teachers, educators and language specialists through training at all levels of education
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### OUTPUT 2

**Activity 2.3**  
Production and dissemination of Indigenous language tools and resources (digital+OERs+FOSS), providing access to public information in IL to support economic activities and ecosystems

### OUTPUT 3

**Activity 3.1**  
Capacity-building in Media and Information Literacy, Digital Activism, digital skills relevant to the production and dissemination of appropriate content, tools and services that are open, reusable, accessible and diverse

**Enabling environment for digital empowerment, FoE, accessibility+development of media and information, language tech, and artistic creation in IL**
Preparing for IDIL 2022-2032

Regional Consultations to collect contributions towards the Global Action Plan (2021)

- Eastern Europe and Central Asia
- **Asia** (10-11 May 2021)
- Africa
- Latin America and the Caribbean
- **Pacific** (27-28 May 2021)
- North America and the Arctic

Creation and establishment of the **Global Task Force for IDIL2022-2032**

- Open call for nominations addressed to Indigenous Peoples and Indigenous Peoples' organizations (2020)
Global Task Force for IDIL 2022-2032

What does it do?

- International **coordinating mechanism** responsible for ensuring that the principles of **inclusion, openness, participation and multi-stakeholder engagement** would be ensured and applied throughout the International Decade.

- Provide guidance on the preparation, planning, implementation, and monitoring of IDIL2022-2032 activities, in line with the Global Action Plan.
Global Task Force for IDIL 2022-2032

Structure

- Steering Committee (19 members on 3-year rotation):
  - 2 co-chairs from Member States + 2 co-chairs from Indigenous Peoples' organizations
  - 6 elected Member State representatives
  - 7 representatives from Indigenous Peoples' groups
  - 3 designated members from UN mechanisms on Indigenous Issues

- Advisors to the Steering Committee (min. 30 members)
  - 12 Member State representatives
  - 14 representatives from Indigenous Peoples' groups
  - 4+ designated members from UN mechanisms on Indigenous Issues

- Ad-hoc groups
  - thematic, regional, stakeholder and other established on demand
Global Task Force for IDIL 2022–2032

Who are they?

- **Global Task Force – Member States (Asia-Pacific):**
  - Craig Ritchies*, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies
  - Manoch Chummuangpak, Dhurakij Pundit University, Thailand
  - Ramesh Gaur, Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, India

- **Global Task Force – Indigenous Peoples' Organizations (Asia):**
  - Kurukh Community of Jharkhand, India
  - Partners of Community Organizations in Sabah (PACOS Trust), Borneo, Malaysia
  - Tharu Welfare Congress, Nepal

- **Global Task Force Ad-hoc Groups (Asia):**
  - Asia Indigenous Peoples' Pact (AIPP)
  - Mon National Education Committee, Myanmar
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What is 'Indigenous'?

• Lack of consensus reached in previous consultations with Indigenous Peoples' groups, so no definition provided.
• Self-identification as part of right to self-determination
• Regional Consultation in Africa for IDIL
  o Use of the 2019 Addis Ababa Proclamation: all African languages are indigenous to Africa
• Regional Consultation in Asia for IDIL (not a definition, but a 'rationale')
  o Unique cultural/linguistic traditions that underline distinct communal identities and shared memory
  o Experience of cultural and physical dislocations, and marginalization
How can MLE advocates contribute to IDIL?

- Encourage NGOs, academic institutions, companies to become an official partner of IDIL 2022-2032

- Further advocate for normative frameworks and legislation supporting MTB-MLE, using IDIL 2022-2032 as a rationale/justification

- Seek support from language tech developers and media/communication companies to produce digital language learning tools, media (text, sign, audiovisual) in Indigenous languages, and promote digital activism among Indigenous youth

- Partner with relevant institutions/companies for legal, public administration, media and education systems to encompass Indigenous perspectives and languages
Thank you for your attention and support

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