

The Right Energy Partnership will be a powerful catalyst for action

The Right Energy Partnership with Indigenous Peoples was developed in order to respond to the serious challenges and critical needs of indigenous peoples around renewable energy and unlock the untapped potential of indigenous-led action.

Florentina Choco, Indigenous Solar Engineer, Belize (UNDP)



The goals of the Partnership are to:

- ▷ Ensure that renewable energy projects are fully aligned with the respect and protection of human rights.
- ▷ By 2030 provide 50 million indigenous peoples access to renewable energy that is developed and managed in ways that are consistent with communities' self-determined needs and development aspirations.

The Partnership is led by indigenous peoples, with indigenous communities and networks around the world forming the initiative's core. Other stakeholders from civil society, private sector, governments, the UN, and multilaterals will work in partnership with indigenous communities to achieve these goals. The Partnership will provide a platform for knowledge exchange, learning and collaboration to magnify and scale up action.

The Right Energy Partnership with Indigenous Peoples will form a multi-stakeholder alliance to put human rights at the center of renewable energy with a bottom-up approach to energy development affecting indigenous peoples. It will support indigenous communities to access renewable energy and promote indigenous-led renewable energy solutions.

The Partnership will make a unique contribution to sustainable development and climate action, as it is:

- The only Indigenous-led partnership related to the SDGs and climate change
- Based on a rights-based framework and social equity – not “business as usual”
- Focused on indigenous-led solutions with equitable benefits reaching the poorest and marginalised
- Committed to empowering indigenous women and communities
- Open, transparent and accountable

The Partnership was initiated by the Indigenous Peoples Major Group for Sustainable Development (IPMG), one of the nine officially recognised Major Groups that can participate formally in Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) processes at the global level.

Contact Us

Email: REP@indigenouspeoples-sdg.org
communications@indigenouspeoples-sdg.org
Web: www.rightenergypartnership-indigenous.org
www.indigenouspeoples-sdg.org

Follow us

Facebook: @IndigenousPeoplesMajorGroupSDG
Twitter: @IPMGSDG

**INDIGENOUS PEOPLES MAJOR GROUP
FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**



**The Indigenous Peoples Major Group is
funded by the European Commission**



Native American electrician and solar installer

RIGHT ENERGY PARTNERSHIP WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

An innovative, bottom up and indigenous-led partnership tackling the renewable energy challenges faced by indigenous peoples and promoting indigenous-led solutions.

A critical need to focus on indigenous peoples in energy

Indigenous peoples constitute one third of the world's 900 million extremely poor rural people, a group that forms the bulk of those with no access to energy.

Indigenous peoples are a critical but invisible demographic that need to be put at the center of the global dialogue on energy development and access.

Indigenous peoples are the keepers of lands and resources and are fully committed to the needed transition towards renewable energy for climate justice and sustainable development.



Survival International

However, indigenous territories host renewable energy projects without the respect for the rights of indigenous peoples and often without meaningful consultation and consent.

This has resulted in conflicts, displacements, destruction of livelihoods, and have violated indigenous peoples' rights and undermined their self-determined development.

Human rights issues are largely absent from partnerships and debates on renewable energy.

Indigenous-led energy solutions must be supported

Indigenous peoples can also offer innovative renewable energy solutions and could be major contributors to solving problems around energy access and clean energy.



Micro-hydro project in Sabah, Malaysia (Tonibung)

In the *Cordillera region in the Philippines and in Sabah, Malaysia* indigenous peoples have developed democratically managed and locally owned micro-hydro power systems that support the livelihoods of local communities.

The indigenous *Ngati Tahu community in New Zealand* have formed a land trust that oversees governance of energy activities on their land. The community co-owns and benefits directly from geothermal power plants on their territories.

In the *Navajo Nation*, the local community has pushed for a transition from coal to solar power, developing the first utility scale solar project on tribal land in the USA.



Solar initiative in the Navajo Nation

Empowering indigenous communities will accelerate progress in renewable energy. These approaches can have multiple co-benefits, including greater community wealth and cohesion.

For the Sustainable Development Agenda to achieve its goals around energy and for climate action to be realised, indigenous peoples need to be full participants.

Indigenous peoples' rights to their lands and resources, to participation in decision-making, their equal access to energy and benefit sharing must be central considerations in global renewable energy expansion. There must also be more support for and investment in indigenous-led renewable energy solutions.
