

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES MAJOR GROUP STATEMENT

SESSION: ACTING AT LOCAL LEVEL

JULY 6, 2022, 12 NOON-1 PM

Strengthening local level engagement is needed to really accelerate the SDG implementation but this should include the full and effective participation of the people in the process.

To cite some examples, in the Voluntary Local Review (VLR) conducted by Hawaii the partnership was grounded in host Kanaka Maoli culture recognizing the indigenous values and vision are center of all campaigns and coordination ensuring indigenous voice is core of all collective actions. In Narok county in Kenya, Indigenous Peoples are engaging with their county government and have been able to provide their inputs to their County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) based on their needs and priorities.

The full realization of the SDGs is fully reliant on processes for peoples engagement put in place not only at the national level but more importantly at the local level. It is also reliant in ensuring that the voices of marginalized sectors which includes Indigenous Peoples are heard and their concerns and distinct needs and priorities addressed and integrated in development plans and policies.

The vision of leaving no one behind and reaching the furthest behind will only happen if the the SDGs is fully mainstreamed at the grassroots level and resources are directed to addressing historical injustices and the root causes of marginalization of those left behind and being pushed further behind because of development priorities that increases poverty and marginalization of Indigenous Peoples.