



STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES 2023

WWF is a conservation organisation and seeks to advance its mission - a world in which both people and nature thrive - on the fundamental principle that positive outcomes for both people and nature depend on firmly anchoring and integrating human rights into conservation practices. Promotion of the rights of Indigenous Peoples is core to this approach and a cross-cutting theme for all its work.

Whilst respecting national laws and the role of the State, this Statement of Principles applies in the context of all WWF's work. It is part of WWF's core standards, which have been adopted across the WWF Network and are supported by WWF's core values of courage, integrity, respect and collaboration.

Principles

1. **Respect the rights of Indigenous Peoples.** WWF respects and promotes the internationally proclaimed rights of Indigenous Peoples.
2. **Respect the right to self-determination.** WWF respects the right of Indigenous Peoples to self-determination and to define and pursue their own social, economic, and cultural development priorities for their well-being and for protection of their territories and resources.
3. **Respect territorial rights.** WWF respects the rights of Indigenous Peoples over the lands, waters, and resources that they customarily own, occupy or use – and seeks to support them to conserve biodiversity and promote sustainable use of natural resources within the scope of its work.
4. **Respect traditional knowledge and intellectual property.** WWF respects the rights of Indigenous Peoples to practice, teach, and share their traditional knowledge and practices,



cultural heritage and languages.

5. **Respect the right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC).** WWF respects the right of Indigenous Peoples to Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) and to make their own decisions over their lands, territories, resources, traditional livelihoods and cultures.
6. **Respect Indigenous Peoples living in isolation or initial contact.** WWF seeks to avoid contact or encroachment on the territories of Indigenous Peoples living in isolation or those in initial contact, in line with their cultural values and practices.
7. **Advocate for States to meet their obligations as duty-bearers.** In its work, WWF encourages States to respect, protect, and fulfil their obligations regarding the rights of Indigenous Peoples.
8. **Support Indigenous Peoples as rights holders.** WWF seeks to support Indigenous Peoples to exercise their rights and to hold duty-bearers accountable.
9. **Support Indigenous Peoples in partnerships.** WWF expects its partners to respect the rights of Indigenous Peoples and reserves the right to withdraw from partnership if this expectation is not met.
10. **Align communications and advocacy.** WWF works to incorporate its commitments to the rights of Indigenous Peoples in its communications and advocacy.