

Questions from AM

1. *Why are we using the term Indigenous peoples (which is a term applicable to the Western Hemisphere)?*

PRO-IP Endnote 1—This Policy will use “Indigenous Peoples” (capitalized) as a proper noun to represent communities that meet some or all of the criteria in Section II (of PRO-IP).

PRO-IP provides a consistent approach for USAID’s Operating Units (OUs) to identify and work with Indigenous Peoples. The term “Indigenous Peoples” was selected to accommodate diverse names including: “hill people,” “aboriginal,” “First Nations,” “scheduled tribes,” “natives,” “ethnic minorities,” “agro-pastoralists,” “pastoralists,” etc. This identification by USAID does not make determinations with respect to Indigenous Peoples’ legal, social, or cultural status; and these criteria should not be read to infer that majority populations cannot be identified by USAID as Indigenous Peoples. USAID endeavors to align our development practices with appropriate international standards.

2. *How will a Mission know if they have to conduct the impact analysis? Does USAID have a country-by-country database of IP populations that each Mission should be taking into account in all of its activities?*

Not all of USAID’s OUs will have the same level of engagement with Indigenous Peoples, but those whose projects have the potential for significant impact on Indigenous Peoples must adhere to PRO-IP. OUs and implementing partners should make every effort to identify whether Indigenous Peoples are stakeholders of projects (and activities), and to engage them at the earliest stages of the Program Cycle. At the current time, USAID/Washington does not yet have a country-by-country database of Indigenous Peoples. We are developing a toolkit to help OUs identify and map Indigenous Peoples. In the meantime OUs can find preliminary information on the presence and location of Indigenous Peoples in countries by researching online; for example, review reports from [FUNAI](#), [WRI](#), [IWGIA](#), [UNOHCHR](#), [ILO](#), etc.

3. *How do the five operating principles map onto the four objectives? (At first glance, it looks like the first four operating principles mainly contribute to Objective #1: Engagement.)*

The operating principles were not intended to map to the four development objectives. The operating principles are activities that OUs should integrate into the Program Cycle to facilitate achievements of the four objectives.

4. *How does the goal and sub-goals on the slide fit into the Mission's overall CDCS? Is the goal the Mission's only DO? Or just one of several DOs?*

The DOs of the Indigenous Engagement Strategy do not directly translate into new CDCS. Rather, the central concepts are key foci of the new CDCS. Specifically, the

CDCS articulates at length the idea of pursuing partnerships as well as a focus on the following demographic groups: Indigenous Peoples, women and youth.

4.1 Can you describe your work with the technical teams on integrating the IP Engagement strategy into their programming?

Our working group has representatives from all offices in the mission, including strong representation from technical offices. They serve as a great link to technical teams. Further, Ajb'ee, the mission indigenous advisor, works closely with mission AOR/CORs to align existing activities with the Indigenous Engagement Strategy. When needed, Ajb'ee has also participated in technical staff meetings to engage with the teams.

4.2 How should Missions take this policy into account when developing CDCSs?

The Indigenous Engagement Strategy was in place before the CDCS started. Further, one of the key J2SR indicators we highlighted was inclusive development; indigenous populations have far worse development outcomes than the rest of the population so it was a very logical focus for us in the CDCS. Rather than a geographic focus for the new CDCS we had a population focus on indigenous, women, and youth.

4.3 How is the Indigenous People's Strategy in Guatemala being operationalized from a management perspective? What has been the buy-in from technical teams? Given the linkages between different areas of development - success in access to health and education, for example, improved economic opportunity and ability to exercise democratic rights - a unified approach to achieving these things will have greater impact, but working on the issues through different programs sometimes atomizes efforts. It would be interesting to hear how USAID/Guatemala is trying to address these sorts of issues.

Having a unified approach would be best in order to respond to indigenous people's priorities/perspectives, which are integral and are not presented in silos. Even when we have good buy-in from technical teams, it has also been a challenge. Some steps have been taken to respond to this effort. 1) In the past, the Western Highlands Integrated Program (WHIP) was an important effort on internal and external collaboration. 2) Currently, the Route to Prosperity initiative is a model that seeks to strengthen collaboration among teams. As we discussed during the presentation, its main objective is to foster dialogue between the Government of Guatemala and Indigenous People's communities to increase service delivery and address development priorities. For example, the team has requested each office director to nominate one POC within their office. The purpose is to seek ways to build a unified approach to respond to Indigenous Peoples priorities.

5. Is there a standard form for getting Free, Prior, and Informed Consent if needed?

A more detailed discussion on FPIC is available on Page 21 of PRO-IP. USAID/Washington is developing a toolkit to help OUs pursue FPIC. Colleagues are encouraged to contribute to the toolkit by sharing lessons learned and best practices. Please reachout to Luis Felipe Duchicela or Vy Lam.

6. Could presenters speak to adaptations that may be needed to meaningfully engage indigenous people where there are intersections with other identities please, e.g. indigenous people with disabilities?

PRO-IP complements USAID's policies on non-discrimination and inclusive development. Programs that are designed with Indigenous Peoples should also follow requirements and principles set forth by the ADS, policies, and vision statements including Gender, Disability, Youth, LGBTI, etc.. Similarly, if programs for Gender, Disability, Youth, LGBTI, etc., include Indigenous Peoples as stakeholders, then the programs should follow the operating principles of PRO-IP.

7. Is there a timeline for missions to implement this policy? We will need to do preliminary analysis, staff and IP capacity building, and amendments to internal design processes before effectively implementing the policy.

We are developing tools and providing support to help Missions implement the policy as soon as possible. Even though the PRO-IP does not specify a timeframe for its implementation, the Statement of Managers accompanying the Fiscal Year 2020 Foreign Operations and Related Programs Appropriations Act, USAID is directed to seek FPIC (in addition to other requirements) from Indigenous Peoples (and local communities) for activities in National Parks and Protected Areas.

8. Would you describe some of the other terms used to define IP, i.e., pastoralist, scheduled tribes, etc.?

Indigenous Peoples are known by different names in different places. The terms "hill people," "aboriginal," "First Nations," "scheduled tribes," "natives," "ethnic minorities," "agro-pastoralists," and "pastoralists" all describe Indigenous Peoples. To accommodate this diversity, USAID endeavors to align our development practices with appropriate international standards and best practices for identifying Indigenous Peoples. In the absence of a single definition for "Indigenous Peoples" under international law, international donors, multilateral development banks, the United Nations (UN), and private corporations have collaborated for decades to develop guidelines for the identification of Indigenous Peoples to help ensure the adequate respect of their rights. Accordingly, USAID uses a set of criteria to identify Indigenous Peoples, rather than a fixed definition, developed in consultation with the communities themselves, the Agency's Senior Advisor for Indigenous Peoples' Issues, and other experts on Indigenous Peoples' rights.

9. To what extent the Government is supportive to work in Indigenous People's rights especially ILO169? What were the challenges and what are the lessons learned?

The rights of Indigenous Peoples, as framed under ILO169, UNDRIP, and regional Indigenous Peoples' rights instruments, are based on universally recognized human rights instruments, notably the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights. USAID's role is to promote and support democratic governance which means broadly participatory, inclusive, transparent, and accountable governance for our partners and beneficiaries. All of our stakeholders, particularly the most marginalized communities, should have the opportunity to participate in governance decision making processes and have their human rights protected.

We have gathered some lessons learned and challenges from USAID colleagues. This information can be found on [usaid.gov/indigenous-peoples/sector-guidance](https://www.usaid.gov/indigenous-peoples/sector-guidance). Look for the Sector Guidance on Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance (the document will be posted soon).

10. Are Front Offices in Missions in countries with few Indigenous People (but existing) alerted or aware of the policy? Those groups tend to be even more marginalized because they don't become a priority ever.

Promoting USAID OUs' awareness of PRO-IP and supporting the policy's implementation are the goals of our outreach efforts, including this webinar. Please note that it is USAID's mission and a part of our history to support development for the most marginalized including those who may be in the (very) minority.