



ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS

**STANDARD ON
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES**

Introduction

The [WWF Policy Statement on Indigenous Peoples and Conservation](#) provides the institutional context and history of WWF's commitments to Indigenous Peoples and fully updates preceding network policy on Indigenous Peoples and Conservation: WWF Statement of Principles (2008) and Mainstreaming WWF's Principles on Indigenous Peoples and Conservation in Project and Program Management (2008).

In line with this policy, this Standard sets out the requirements and procedures applicable to activities in WWF operational landscapes/seascapes (hereafter 'landscapes') that affect Indigenous Peoples, or their lands, territories and resources.

Requirements

WWF will:

- Understand and uphold the suite of provisions on the rights of Indigenous Peoples as stipulated in the network policy and international instruments that it endorses;
- Identify indigenous communities and their representative organisations as well as indigenous lands, territories, and resources at the outset of defining activities in any landscape;
- Identify potential impacts of activities on Indigenous Peoples or their , lands, territories and resources and address them proactively with full participation of Indigenous Peoples;
- Respect the right of Indigenous Peoples to Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) processes;
- Ensure that culturally appropriate and equitable benefits arising from activities on indigenous lands and territories are negotiated and agreed upon. This includes where activities involve access and/or use of traditional ecological knowledge (see the [Standard on Cultural Resources](#)); and
- Respect the right of Indigenous Peoples living in voluntary isolation to freely decide to remain in isolation, maintain their cultural values, and freely decide if, when and how they wish to contact and/or integrate with the outside world.

Mitigation Measures

Where risk screening identifies potential impacts to Indigenous Peoples, or their lands, territories and resources in ongoing or planned activities, further assess the risks, and develop appropriate mitigation measures that are included in the environmental and social mitigation framework (ESMF) to minimize or eliminate these risks. (See the [Standard on Environmental and Social Risk Management](#).)