Indicators Relevant for Indigenous Peoples: Local-global monitoring of their rights, knowledge and well-being

Joji Carino, Tebtebba Foundation Coordinator, IIFB Working Group on Indicators

Indicators Relevant for Indigenous Peoples

- The UN Statistics Division has noted that the issue of indigenous peoples and data collection is ground-breaking work.
- Indigenous issues are an important emerging theme in social statistics.
- The collection of reliable data would allow judgments to be made about the effectiveness of programmes that have a direct impact on the quality of life of the world's indigenous peoples eg. CBD Implementation

IIFB WORKING GROUP ON INDICATORS

- Working as a research and information network, collaborators will engage in discrete projects/activities, which will be linked and organized to deliver specific outputs:
 - * CBD Indicators
 - MDG Indicators
 - Human Rights Indicators
 - * National Indicators
 - Local Indicators
- International Coordinating Committee
- Secretariat Tebtebba Foundation
- Collaborators ILO, Biodiversity Indicators Partnership, UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, CBD Secretariat, UN Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues

IIFB Process and Activities

- Regional and Thematic Workshops
- International Seminar

Executive Summary of the International Expert Seminar on Indicators Relevant for Indigenous Peoples, the CBD and the MDGs (UNEP/CBD/WG8j/5/8)

Full report - UNEP/CBD/WG8j/5/Inf.2

 Resource Book on Indicators Relevant for Indigenous Peoples

Global Core Themes/ Issues for Indigenous Peoples' Well-being

- 1. Security of rights/ secure tenure to territories, lands and natural resources.
- 2. Integrity of indigenous cultural heritage
- 3. Gender dimensions elders, youth, men, women
- 4. Respect for identity and non-discrimination
- 5. Fate Control or Self-Determination
- 6. Culturally-appropriate education
- 7. Health
- 8. Full, informed and effective participation (FPIC)
- 9. Access to infrastructure and basic services
- 10. Extent of external threats
- 11. Material well-being
- 12. Demographic patterns of indigenous peoples

Indicators on Traditional Knowledge under the Convention on Biological Diversity

Focal Area: Protection of Traditional Knowledge, Innovations and Practices

- Status and trends of linguistic diversity and numbers of speakers of indigenous languages - UNESCO
- Status and trends in the practice of traditional occupations- using ILO International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO) and Convention 111 (Elimination of Discrimination in Employment and Occupations)
- Status and trends in land-use change and land tenure in the traditional territories of indigenous and local communities further development by IIFB Working Group on Indicators using participatory community cultural mapping and GIS, and surveys
- Customary sustainable use indicators further development by WG 8j
- Demographic trends/ Data disaggregation with governments

Some Challenges

- Data collection and disaggregation concerning indigenous peoples poses unique challenges in terms both of developing data for global / national comparative purposes and of developing data that is useful at a micro-level for indigenous peoples.
 - Human Development Index +++
 - Poverty Index +++
 - Gender Empowerment Index +++
- Quantitative data and qualitative data (eg case studies

Human Development Index

- Arctic Human Development Report Arctic Social Indicators Project
- Community Well-being Index (Canada)
- India Poverty Index, and Human Development Index (disaggregated for Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes

Arctic Social Indicators Project

- Income
- Health
- Education
- + Fate Control- the percentage of surface lands legally controlled by the inhabitants through public governments and Native corporations.
- + Contact with Nature- consumption and harvest of country food
- + Cultural Well-being and Cultural Vitalitycultural vitality index

Challenges

- Coordination among agencies, and between agencies and other actors, needs to be strengthened.
- The challenge of coordination presented itself at three levels:
- (a) coordination with indigenous peoples' organizations;
- (b) coordination with and between government institutions;
- (c) coordination with development cooperation
- agencies, which work at different time frames and different approaches.

Next Steps

 Discussion with possible partners - global, national, local

 National Pilot Processes - adoption of relevant indicators in by key government bodies, reporting on experiences

 Indigenous peoples to strengthen our indicators work