



In the context of the 21<sup>st</sup> session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII), UNESCO invites the public to the side event:

## **From Global to Local: Making the International Decade of Action for Indigenous Languages**

**26 April 2022**  
**13.00 p.m. – 14.30 p.m.**  
(EST, New York local time)  
Hybrid Event<sup>1</sup>

[ZOOM Registration](#)

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<sup>1</sup> [https://unesco-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_EwPextADQ-WcoPOsGTPeVQ](https://unesco-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_EwPextADQ-WcoPOsGTPeVQ)

## Introduction

People's ability and freedom to use their chosen language is essential for human dignity, peaceful co-existence, reciprocal action, and for the general wellbeing and sustainable development of society at large. Language, as a systematic form of communication, facilitates people's meaningful interactions with one another.

**Indigenous Peoples generate and sustain most of the world's languages in use.** Each Indigenous language is priceless for humanity. They are treasures overflowing with history, values, technical skills, literature, spirituality, and knowledge that have been developed over millennia. Despite their immense value, many of the **more than 7,000 languages currently in use around the world** are in danger of falling out of use. The reasons for the endangerment of languages vary across communities, but Indigenous peoples face tremendous challenges such as assimilation, enforced relocation, and unequal access to information and education that threaten their wellbeing as well as the vitality of their languages.

To address this situation, the United Nations General Assembly Resolution (Ref.: A/74/396, 18 December 2019) proclaimed the **International Decade of Indigenous Languages between 2022 and 2032**, inviting UNESCO to serve as the lead agency for its implementation, in collaboration with UNDESA and other relevant agencies. The Resolution also invited Member States to consider establishing national mechanisms with adequate funding for the successful implementation of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages (IDIL2022-2032) in partnership with Indigenous peoples, and invites Indigenous peoples, as custodians of their own languages, to initiate and develop appropriate measures for the implementation of the International Decade.

To ensure international cooperation and joint and coordinated action among stakeholders in the framework of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages (2022-2032), UNESCO, in cooperation with the members of the **Global Task Force for Making a Decade of Action for Indigenous Languages** and a wide range of partners, prepared a **Global Action Plan**. It provides a strategic framework, outlines major outcomes, outputs and actions, and guides implementation, monitoring and evaluation of activities for UN-system entities, national governments, Indigenous peoples' organizations, civil society, academia, and the private sector.

In the context of the 21<sup>st</sup> session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII), **UNESCO is organizing a side event dedicated to the Global Action Plan of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages (IDIL2022-2032) on 26 April 2022 between 13.00 p.m. and 14.30 p.m. (Eastern Time) using Zoom online facilities.**

The side-event will be an opportunity to discuss strategies planned and implemented at global, regional, national and institutional levels for the implementation of the **Global Action Plan of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages**, as well as share good practices that Indigenous People have implemented, and propose steps to be taken to curb the critical loss of Indigenous languages over the Decade and beyond.

## Objectives of the side event

- Discuss strategies for the implementation of the Global Action Plan of the International Decade at the regional, national and local levels, as well as engagement of Indigenous Peoples' organizations, Indigenous youth and professional organizations
- Harness multi-stakeholder cooperation in the framework of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages
- Identify good practices which could be easily applied across distinct locations, domains and stakeholders

## Agenda / List of speakers

Time	Item	26 April 2022
<b>Opening segment</b>		
13.00 - 13.10	Opening remarks	Ms Marielza Oliveira, Director for Partnerships and Operational Programme Monitoring, Communications and Information Sector, UNESCO Video of the IDIL2022-2032 (2 min)
13.10 - 13.20	Guest of honour	Ms Rocilda Nunta-Guimaraes, Vice-Minister of Culture, Government of Peru, Peru and Member, Global Task Force for Making a Decade of Indigenous Languages
<b>Global Action Plan of the IDIL2022-2032</b>		
13.20 - 13.30	Roll out of the Global Action Plan of the IDIL2022-2032	Ms Irmgarda Kasinskaite-Buddeberg, Advisor for Communication and Information, Communications and Information Sector, UNESCO
<b>National and Institutional Action Plans and Localization Strategies</b>		
13.30 - 13.40	Outline and presentation of national and institutional action plans for the IDIL2022-2032	Ms Antonia Agreda, Indigenous Languages Advisor, Department of Populations, Ministry of Culture, Government of Colombia, Colombia
13.40 - 13.50		Ms Sofiya Zahova, Researcher, UNESCO Category II Center Vigdís International Centre for Multilingualism and Intercultural Understanding, Iceland
13.50 - 14.00		Ms Myrna Cunningham, Chair, Pawanka Fund / Ms Mariana Lopez Program Director, Pawanka Fund  Introduction and demonstration of a short video film about the project on language revitalization implemented by the EI-Molo community in Kenya by Mr Paul Lekapana / Mr Basili Michael, Indigenous Peoples' Organization "Gurapau" (People of water)
14.00 - 14.10		Ms Mariam Wallet Med Aboubakrine, Member, African Indigenous Peoples Network (AIPN)
14.10 - 14.20		Ms Holly Helton-Anishinaabeqwa, Executive Secretary, Global Indigenous Languages Caucus
14.20 - 14.30	Discussion with speakers (Q&A)	The organizers will provide a Zoom chat facility to post questions addressed to the speakers of the side event.

## Registration

Link to the online registration:

[https://unesco-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_EwPextADQ-WcoPOsGTPeVQ](https://unesco-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_EwPextADQ-WcoPOsGTPeVQ)

## Interpretation

Interpretation services will be provided in English and Spanish.

## Social Media

### Facebook:

@IndigenousLanguagesDecade

@UNESCO

### Twitter:

@ILDdecade

@UNESCO

### Instagram:

@indigenoulanguages

@unesco

#IndigenousLanguages #WeAreIndigenous

### Official website:

<https://en.idil2022-2032.org/>

<https://fr.idil2022-2032.org/>

<https://es.idil2022-2032.org/>

## Resources

[Global Action Plan of the IDIL2022-2032 \(UNESCO, 41 C/INF.14\)](#)

The International Year of Indigenous Languages: mobilizing the international community to preserve, revitalize and promote indigenous languages / [Flagship Report of the IYIL2019](#) (UNESCO, 2021)

United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues - [UNPFII 2022](#)

International Decade of Indigenous Languages, 2022-2032: Global Action Plan: Note by the Secretariat [AR](#) | [EN](#) | [ES](#) | [FR](#) | [RU](#) | [ZH](#) (E/C.19/2022/5)

## Contact Information

UNESCO IDIL2022-2032 Secretariat: [indigenous.languages@unesco.org](mailto:indigenous.languages@unesco.org)