

# 2022-2032 INTERNATIONAL DECADE OF INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES LAUNCHED BY THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[The International Decade of Indigenous Languages 2022-2032](#) is ready to be launched after concluding the planned preliminary work.

This Resolution has been adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in December 2019, at the conclusion of the [International Year of Indigenous Languages \(IYIL2019\)](#). Since the beginning of the International Year, in fact, based on recommendations by the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, a group of 20 countries from different regions of the world, claimed the need to extend the International Year to a Decade, to promote broader alliances and actions to stop the progressive disappearance of 6,700 languages in the world.

The new Resolution entitled [Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#), adopted by the UN General Assembly in March 2019, among other issues:

- Proclaims the period 2022–2032 as the International Decade of Indigenous Languages, to draw attention to their critical loss and the urgent need to preserve, revitalize and promote indigenous languages taking urgent steps at the national and international levels,
- Invites UNESCO to serve as the lead agency for the International Decade, in collaboration with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) of the Secretariat, and other relevant agencies;
- Invites Member States to consider establishing national mechanisms with adequate funding for the successful implementation of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages in partnership with indigenous peoples;
- Invites indigenous peoples as custodians of their own languages, to initiate and develop appropriate measures for the implementation of the International Decade.

Pursuant the Resolution, a [Global Action Plan of the International Decade](#) has been drafted to provide all stakeholders with the essential principles for embarking on joint action, as well as guidance on a conceptual framework, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and governance structures. To prepare the Action Plan, UNESCO established a Global Task Force and collaborated with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), other UN system entities through the UN Inter-agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues.



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**Indigenous Languages**

**Do you have a project on  
Indigenous Languages?**



**Register it on  
[idil2022-2032.org](https://idil2022-2032.org)  
and connect with the world!**



**The absence of languages  
leads to a poorer &  
less diverse world.**

**#IndigenousLanguages**

The Global Action Plan for the IDIL 2022-2032 highlights that “Many languages are today in danger of falling into disuse. The gradual disappearance of languages, particularly Indigenous ones, is connected, in practice, to the structural discrimination to which they have been subjected, to the vulnerable situation of their users (speakers and signers), whose actual use of their own languages in everyday life depends on the daily reality of their socio-cultural, economic, political, environmental, and demographic situations. Over time, many Indigenous Peoples around the world have been marginalized; they continue to experience challenges connected with, for example, climate change and unregulated industries, enforced migration and forced relocation, alongside educational disadvantage, illiteracy, limited resources in particular those based on oral tradition. In practical terms, the risk now is that parents and elders can no longer transmit Indigenous languages to their children and that Indigenous languages fall out of daily use”.

Following the impact results and actions proposed the Global Action Plan, the International Decade presents a framework for convening a wide range of stakeholders to collectively align their efforts, accelerate development plans, make strategic investments, set research and legislative agendas, and launch concrete initiatives around common goals.

The webpage of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages IDIL 2022-2032 [call all interested actors to join the IDIL2022-2032 platform](#) and contribute by creating events, sharing resources and information about ongoing activities their neighbourhood, city, country or region, exchanging and connecting with other stakeholders active in the domain of Indigenous languages through the forums, learning about their work, and contributing to the building of a global community of action for Indigenous languages.

The IDIL 2022-2032 website underlines that Indigenous peoples are not only leaders in protecting the environment, but their languages represent complex systems of knowledge and communication, and should be recognized as a strategic national resource for sustainable development, peacebuilding and reconciliation. The use of indigenous languages also works to promote local cultures, customs and values which have endured for thousands of years, adding to the rich tapestry of global cultural diversity. Without them, the world would be a poorer place.

On 13 December 2022 in its headquarters in Paris (France) UNESCO will host a [high-level launch event](#) organized in co-operation with the UN Department for Economic and Social Affairs UNDESA, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights OHCHR and the Global Task Force for the Decade. The event, under the theme *The International Decade of Indigenous Languages - leaving no one behind, no one outside by 2032*, will involve Member States, Indigenous Peoples organizations, the UN system, civil society, researchers and representatives from the private sector. The event will provide an open space for discussions, sharing of good practices, and presentation of concrete projects, cultural performances by indigenous artists. A global social media campaign will be carried out in conjunction with the launch event, to increase awareness about the International Decade of Indigenous Languages IDIL 2022-2032.

In the IDIL 2022-2032 website official documents, publications, tools and information about planned events are available to inspire



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**Partnership**

- Co-organize cultural, information sharing, and promotional events
- Sponsor official events, activities and projects to support IDIL 2022-2032
- Provide know-how, human resources, equipment, tools and other facilities
- Promote IDIL 2022-2032 through your communication channels and activities



national governments, indigenous peoples' organizations, civil society, academia, the private sector, other organizations and individuals to actively participate in the International Decade of Indigenous Languages.

### To know more

[2022 - 2032 International Decade of Indigenous Languages \(idil2022-2032.org\)](http://idil2022-2032.org)

[Indigenous Languages Decade \(2022-2032\) in UNESCO website](#)

[International Decade of Indigenous Languages 2022-2032 in United Nations For Indigenous Peoples](#)

[Global Action Plan IDIL 2022-2032](#)

[Activities/Events - idil2022-2032.org](#)

[Key documents – idil2022-2032.org](#)

[Official High-level launch event of IDIL 2022-2032 in unesco.org](#)

[To join the IDIL community](#)

[Permanent Forum | United Nations For Indigenous Peoples](#)

[Multilingualism and Linguistic diversity in UNESCO website](#)

[Indigenous knowledge and biodiversity in UNESCO website](#)

[International Year of Indigenous Languages \(IYIL2019\)](#)

[News 2019 in un.org website](#)

