



Additional background on the 2030 Agenda and human rights

With the adoption of the transformative and universally applicable 2030 Agenda, Member States challenged themselves to ensure that the SDGs are implemented in accordance with international law (para. 18), through an integrated and universal approach (para. 5). They further committed to “leave no one behind” and to “reach the furthest behind first” (para. 4).

Moreover, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development sets out a vision for sustainable development grounded in international human rights standards (paras. 10, 18, 19, 67, 74), putting equality and non-discrimination at the centre of its efforts (paras. 3, 4, 48, 74) and encompassing not only economic and social rights but also civil, political, and cultural rights, as well as the right to development (paras. 13, 18, 55, 74).



Section A: Background

A1. Name of institution responding to the survey

The Mulokot Foundation



A2. Name of the respondent and contact email address of the respondent

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Section B: Integrated approaches to promote and protect human rights and implement the 2030 Agenda

- B1. In your view, have we made progress in ensuring that national level SDG action is guided by human rights norms and standards including with regard to fighting discrimination and inequality and leaving no one behind? Please explain and share promising practices, lessons learned and remaining challenges.**

In recent years, SDG awareness has been climbing in Suriname, South America. Government, U.N., and U.N. linked organizations have implemented programs that tackle SDG goals. Our organization, The Mulokot Foundation is active in the southernmost regions of the country where we have been advocating for implementation of (more) SDG programs. Due to the remoteness of our territories, government has been few and far between. We, the Wayana Indigenous and others living in the remote south of Suriname, South America, have been forced to enact our own programs. Our greatest challenge is the lack(or absence) of inclusion in government actions to this end.

- B2. Faced with the COVID-19 pandemic, countries have adopted economic and financial policies and measures to limit human rights setbacks and to bring countries back on track to achieve the SDGs? Can you share examples of promising practices where COVID-19 responses and recovery plans aimed at resuming SDG progress have been linked with human rights? What are key challenges and lessons learnt?**

We regret to inform you that Suriname has not enacted any measures to ensure the limitation of human rights setbacks. Several very limited response programs were set up in the interior during the height of the pandemic. These response programs consisted of the building of a small quarantine camp, close the outskirts of a village. (We had to build these camps using our own funding). And the distribution of masks. In this case, the remoteness of our territories once again was a decisive negative factor, and of the course the absence of sufficient government aid. We have learned to be more pro-active in our approach to covid-19 in our Indigenous communities, by planning and enacting our own programs with donor-aid.

- B3. In your view, is progress being made to secure more meaningful and active participation of civil society and other stakeholders in SDG national level action (design, implementation and reporting)? Please share examples of promising practices as well as lessons learned and remaining challenges.**

Regrettably, we must once again report that what little progress is being made to this end, does NOT trickle down to the interior, let alone to the remote Wayana Indigenous territories. Participation is inspired by Indigenous ngo's like The Mulokot Foundation. We write our own programs, we implement our own programs, we do our own research/ facilitate third party research. All without government assistance. Lesson learned is the same. Indigenous communities are largely ignored in national level activities.



B4. Is there any other information on integrated approaches to achieve the SDGs and the protection and promotion of human rights that you would like to share with us? Have you issued any recent publications on the issue that you would like to draw our attention to?

The Indigenous in the south of Suriname need more awareness or just information about the SDG's in their own language. only 10% of our people speak Dutch or French. The government has not done that, we did some meetings with our people about the SDG's and human rights in general, but it needs much more attention.

Thank you for your contribution!