

Chapter 5.4 Indigenous peoples

Authors: Del Pino S, Davis J, Camacho A, Perez-Gutierrez E.

Further reading

1. Millennium Development Goals Conceptual Framework: An Indigenous Peoples Perspective. PAHO. 2009. <https://www.paho.org/en/documents/millennium-development-goals-conceptual-framework-indigenous-peoples-perspective> (accessed 22 February 2022)

Summary of this document: Incorporating indigenous perspectives into the UN's Millennium Development Goals is important to ensure that cultural diversity is valued in Health EDRM and global development frameworks. This reading aims to contextualize an ethnic approach to health in Latin America as well as its relationship to disaster risk instruments for indigenous peoples.

In this document, the authors provide an indigenous analysis and critique of the UN's Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), a set of eight goals and 18 targets for international development. Using the Kichwa community of Ecuador as a starting point, the report analyzes each of the 18 targets and its indicators' relevance to indigenous communities. It then proposes additional indicators for the MDGs that are more inclusive of indigenous issues and needs. The authors conclude with recommendations for states and international agencies, emphasizing the importance of prioritizing cultural diversity.

2. Policy on Ethnicity and Health. PAHO. 2017. <http://iris.paho.org/xmlui/bitstream/handle/123456789/34195/CE160-15-e.pdf> (accessed 22 February 2022).

Summary of this document: Recognizing ethnicity as a social determinant of health is important for creating inclusive and equitable health systems. This reading aims to contextualize an ethnic approach to health in Latin America as well as its relationship to disaster risk instruments for indigenous peoples.

In this policy document, PAHO outlines its policy on ethnicity and health, emphasizing an intercultural and equitable approach to health. It outlines five areas of action for member states: (1) evidence generation, (2) promotion of political action, (3) social participation and strategic partnerships, (4) recognition of ancestral knowledge and traditional and complementary medicine, and (5) capacity development at all levels. The document concludes with a glossary of terms relevant to ethnicity and health, along with relevant international frameworks.

3. Consultation to integrate indigenous knowledge in disaster risk reduction for health. PAHO. 2018. https://www.paho.org/disasters/newsletter/dmdocuments/tmp/Newsletter-127-Eng_low.pdf (accessed 22 February 2022).

Summary of this document: Current PAHO guidance on disaster risk reduction (DRR) incorporates ethnicity, and indigenous knowledge can be a valuable part of Health EDRM. This reading aims to

contextualize an ethnic approach to health in Latin America as well as its relationship to current disaster risk instruments for indigenous peoples.

In this news article, PAHO reports on a 2014 consultation held to create indigenous-focused recommendations for DRR. The article describes the creation of an ongoing working group. It also outlines the consultation's "mirror scenarios" methodology, which encourages approaching DRR from both traditional and indigenous perspectives. The report stipulates that regional expert networks are necessary for knowledge exchange on indigenous DRR issues, especially in the Americas.

4. United Nations Human Rights Council, Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Promotion and protection of the rights of indigenous people in disaster risk reduction, prevention, and preparedness initiatives. 2014.
<https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/778012> (accessed 22 February 2022).

Summary of this document: The United Nations Human Rights Council (HRC) has noted the importance of promoting and protecting indigenous rights when governments undertake disaster risk reduction (DRR) initiatives. This reading aims to contextualize an indigenous-sensitive approach to health as well as its relationship to current disaster risk instruments for indigenous peoples. In this research report, the HRC outlines existing legal frameworks on DRR and human rights. It identifies indigenous communities' vulnerabilities in traditional forms of DRR implementation, and how indigenous communities can instead be invited to actively participate in planning and execution efforts.

5. Indigenous knowledge for disaster risk reduction: Good practices and lessons learned from experiences in the Asia-Pacific region. United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. 2008.
<https://www.preventionweb.net/publication/indigenous-knowledge-disaster-risk-reduction-good-practices-and-lessons-learned-0> (accessed 22 February 2022).

Summary of this document: Integrating indigenous practices into disaster risk reduction (DRR) can yield relevant and lasting interventions. This reading aims to contextualize a culturally sensitive approach to health as well as its relationship to current disaster risk instruments. In this report, the authors present 18 case studies of indigenous practices being used in DRR from Asia-Pacific countries. These target natural disasters common in the studied areas, such as earthquakes in Kashmir. Each case study includes geographical and demographic information, a description of the intervention, and lessons learned.