Implementing the ILO Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention No. 169: Towards an inclusive, sustainable and just future

Key global data

- Based on data from 23 countries, covering 83 per cent of global indigenous peoples populations, they constitute almost 19 per cent of the extreme poor.
- Indigenous peoples are nearly three times more likely to be in extreme poverty than their non-indigenous counterparts.
- Poverty has a gender and indigenous dimension – over 18 per cent of indigenous women live below US$1.90 a day.
- Indigenous peoples’ opportunities to access good quality employment are scarce – they are 20 percentage points more likely to work in the informal economy than non-indigenous workers.
- Indigenous women and men in wage employment earn 19 per cent less than non-indigenous workers.
- Indigenous women are disproportionately dependent on the informal economy to make ends meet – over 86 per cent of indigenous women work in the informal economy.
- Educational inequalities are a fundamental barrier for indigenous peoples – almost 47 per cent of indigenous adults in employment have no education compared to 17 per cent of non-indigenous adults.
- There are over 476 million indigenous peoples globally constituting over 6 per cent of the world’s population – far more than the population of United States and Canada combined.

Latin America and the Caribbean

- There are over 54 million indigenous peoples in Latin America and the Caribbean constituting over 8 per cent of the population in the region – far more than the entire population of Colombia.
- In Latin America and the Caribbean, 8.5 per cent of the total population is indigenous, the highest proportion across regions.
- Based on data from nine countries, indigenous peoples constitute almost 30 per cent of the extreme poor, the highest proportion across regions.
- Indigenous peoples are nearly three times more likely to be in extreme poverty than their non-indigenous counterparts.
- Poverty has a gender and indigenous dimension – 7 per cent of indigenous women live below US$1.90 a day.
• Indigenous peoples’ opportunities to access good quality employment in Latin America and the Caribbean are scarce – they are 31.5 percentage points more likely to work in the informal economy than non-indigenous workers, the highest informality gap across regions.
• Indigenous women and men in wage employment earn 31 per cent less than non-indigenous workers, which is the highest indigenous wage gap across regions.
• Indigenous women are disproportionally dependent on the informal economy to make ends meet – over 85 per cent of indigenous women work in the informal economy in Latin America and the Caribbean.
• Educational inequalities are a fundamental barrier for indigenous peoples in Latin America and the Caribbean – almost 32 per cent of indigenous adults in employment have no education compared to 13 per cent of non-indigenous adults.

Northern America
• There are over seven million indigenous peoples in Northern America constituting over 2 per cent of the regional population.
• Based on data from two countries, indigenous peoples constitute almost 3.5 per cent of the extreme poor.
• Indigenous peoples have similar chances of being in extreme poverty than their non-indigenous counterparts.
• Indigenous women and men in wage employment earn 8 per cent less than non-indigenous workers.
• Educational inequalities are a fundamental barrier for indigenous peoples – almost 4 per cent of indigenous adults in employment have no education compared to 1 per cent of non-indigenous adults.

Africa
• There are over 77 million indigenous peoples in Africa constituting 6 per cent of the population of the region – far more than the entire population of South Africa.
• Based on data from seven countries, indigenous peoples constitute over 24 per cent of the extreme poor.
• Indigenous peoples have similar chances of being in extreme poverty than their non-indigenous counterparts.
• Poverty has a gender and indigenous dimension – over 37 per cent of indigenous women live below US$1.90 a day in Africa.
• Indigenous peoples’ opportunities to access good quality employment are scarce – 94 per cent of indigenous peoples are working in the informal economy in Africa compared with 91 per cent of their non-indigenous counterparts.
• Indigenous women and men in wage employment earn 28 per cent less than non-indigenous workers.
• Indigenous women are disproportionately dependent on the informal economy to make ends meet – over 97 per cent of indigenous women work in the informal economy.
• Educational inequalities are a fundamental barrier for indigenous peoples – almost 85 per cent of indigenous adults in employment have no education compared to 56 per cent of non-indigenous adults.
Asia and the Pacific

• There are over 335 million indigenous peoples in Asia and the Pacific constituting over 7 per cent of the population of the region – far more than the population of Indonesia.
• Based on data from five countries, indigenous peoples constitute almost 16 per cent of the extreme poor.
• Indigenous peoples are nearly three times more likely to be in extreme poverty than their non-indigenous counterparts.
• Poverty has a gender and indigenous dimension – over 15 per cent of indigenous women live below US$1.90 a day.
• Indigenous peoples’ opportunities to access good quality employment are scarce – they are almost 20 percentage points more likely to work in the informal economy than non-indigenous workers.
• Indigenous women and men in wage employment earn 20 per cent less than non-indigenous workers.
• Indigenous women are disproportionally dependent on the informal economy to make ends meet – over 86 per cent of indigenous women work in the informal economy.
• Educational inequalities are a fundamental barrier for indigenous peoples – 42 per cent of indigenous adults in employment have no education compared to 16 per cent of non-indigenous adults.