



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

Advancing Free Trade
for Asia-Pacific **Prosperity**

Unlocking Indigenous Peoples' Economic Potential in the Asia-Pacific Region for a More Inclusive Recovery

APEC Economic Committee

January 2022



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Executive Summary

As part of the APEC Economic Committee Second Plenary Meeting (EC2) on 24 August 2021, New Zealand facilitated a one-hour virtual policy dialogue on *Unlocking Indigenous Peoples' economic potential in the Asia Pacific region for a more inclusive recovery*.

The objective of the dialogue was to canvas the existing challenges that have been exacerbated by COVID-19 and identify the obstacles and success factors in unlocking the potential of Indigenous Peoples. The topics of the dialogue align with the third pillar of the Enhanced APEC Agenda for Structural Reform (EAASR): 'ensuring that all groups in society have equal access to opportunities for more inclusive, sustainable growth, and greater well-being'.

Keynote speakers from New Zealand explored the obstacles and success factors in unlocking the economic potential of Māori people (New Zealand Indigenous), and Māori perspectives on achieving an inclusive recovery from COVID-19.

Limited access to finance was identified as one of the greatest obstacles for Māori, along with multiplicity of land holdings. These barriers prevent Māori from making the necessary initial investments in their land to make it productive and profitable. The importance of access to capital was illustrated by the benefits of government investments in regional economic development, which have enabled Māori to move from passive to active land use.

Another key theme explored by the speakers was the importance of young people in Māori economic development. Speakers emphasized the need for investment in education and support programmes to encourage young Māori entrepreneurship, particularly by fostering an innovation mindset and acknowledging Indigenous Peoples as the experts on their own solutions.

Panelists from Canada, Mexico and Chinese Taipei respectively provided case studies on:

- Access to finance for Indigenous Peoples through aboriginal financial institutions
- Preserving and commercializing indigenous knowledge by teaching young indigenous women to produce and promote Melipona bee honey
- Economic development programs for the Indigenous Peoples of Chinese Taipei, for which the Council of Indigenous Peoples (CIP) has provided loans.

To supplement the policy dialogue, economies were encouraged to submit additional references and case studies for inclusion in this report about their COVID-19 response and recovery and general support measures that unlock their economic potential that support their Indigenous Peoples.

Based on the common experiences and opportunities identified in the policy dialogue and supplementary materials provided by economies, some

recommended areas for possible exploration and knowledge sharing within the Economic Committee could include:

- Access to finance through dedicated financial institutions, investments, and loans
- Training and education to harness indigenous knowledge and encourage innovation in indigenous populations, particularly for indigenous youth
- Engagement of indigenous populations in policy decision-making
- Improved measuring and monitoring of indigenous economic development

Introduction

As part of the APEC Economic Committee Second Plenary Meeting (EC2) on 24 August 2021, New Zealand facilitated a one-hour virtual policy dialogue on *Unlocking Indigenous Peoples' economic potential in the Asia Pacific region for a more inclusive recovery*. The objective of the dialogue was to canvas the existing challenges that have been exacerbated by COVID-19 and identify the obstacles and success factors in unlocking the potential of Indigenous Peoples. The purpose of this report is to provide a record of the policy dialogue, to compile additional references and case studies from APEC economies, and to outline possible areas for future work by the APEC Economic Committee on unlocking the economic potential of Indigenous Peoples.

Harnessing structural reforms to promote inclusive growth is an important work stream in the APEC Economic Committee. This work reflects the APEC-wide objective, outlined in the APEC Putrajaya Vision 2040, to pursue strong, balanced, secure, sustainable, and inclusive growth that brings benefits to all, including those with untapped economic potential. In line with this vision, the Enhanced APEC Agenda for Structural Reform (EAASR) sets out a new direction for growth-focused structural reform that is designed to be inclusive, sustainable and innovation-friendly. The third pillar of the EAASR focuses on 'ensuring that all groups in society have equal access to opportunities for more inclusive, sustainable growth, and greater well-being'. The EAASR was endorsed in June 2021 by Ministers at the 3rd APEC Structural Reform Ministerial Meeting, where they also placed emphasis on initiatives that support inclusion and noted those that unlock the economic potential of Indigenous Peoples.

The renewed emphasis on inclusion in the Economic Committee takes into account the economic shock of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has disproportionately affected already disadvantaged groups. Indigenous Peoples represent one of these groups. A report by the United Nations (May 2020) [1] notes the significant impact of COVID-19 on Indigenous Peoples and that it has exacerbated existing divisions and challenges. It is important that economic recovery measures apply an inclusive lens to support a stronger recovery for all. In this context, economic inclusion of Indigenous Peoples is an important objective for New Zealand in its APEC 2021 host year.

This report, and the policy dialogue it discusses, builds on the previous Economic Committee policy dialogue on inclusion, led by New Zealand in 2019, which covered general issues related to gender, bridging the digital divide, Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and Indigenous Peoples.

It also complements work streams in other APEC fora that are focusing on supporting indigenous inclusion in trade, investment, participation, and measurement of indigenous economies. For example, the APEC SOM Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation held two related projects in 2021: one on Understanding and Valuing Indigenous Economies within APEC [2], and another on Understanding the Economic Impact of COVID-19

on Indigenous Communities [3]. The recently published Steering Committee on Economic and Technical Cooperation (SCE) reports, “Understanding and Valuing Indigenous Economies within APEC” [2] and “Understanding the Economic Impact of COVID-19 on Indigenous Communities” [3] provide a good starting point for measuring indigenous contribution within economies, which could be continued and extended to more economies.

The SCE projects found that indigenous communities have proven resilient through the pandemic, including for example by collecting their own data, pivoting to e-commerce platforms, and reverting to traditional practices to protect their communities. Through the pandemic, indigenous entrepreneurs have innovated to thrive.

However, data availability remains an issue. Data gaps make it difficult for policymakers and Indigenous Peoples alike to respond in an informed and targeted manner to the pandemic. Improved data collection – in collaboration with Indigenous Peoples - would ultimately lead to better policy decisions, economic sustainability, and economic recovery for all.

Policy Dialogue

The Economic Committee Second Plenary Session 2021 policy dialogue on *Unlocking Indigenous Peoples' economic potential in the Asia Pacific region for a more inclusive recovery* included presentations by three New Zealand speakers, followed by presentations of case studies by panelists from Canada, Mexico, and Chinese Taipei. Jessica Smith, Regional Director at the Ministry of Māori Development, New Zealand, facilitated the dialogue.

New Zealand speakers

The New Zealand speakers covered obstacles and success factors in unlocking the economic potential of Māori (New Zealand Indigenous), and Māori perspectives on achieving an inclusive recovery from COVID-19, illustrated by case studies of Māori economic development projects.

Speaker 1: Ben Dalton

Ben Dalton (Chief Operating Officer, Kānoa – Regional Economic Development and Investment Unit at the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment, New Zealand) spoke about the characteristics of the Māori economy. The Māori asset base is valued at NZD 68.7 billion. Important components of the Māori economy include:

- the young, growing population, 75 per cent of which is under 35,
- growing commercial asset base from Treaty of Waitangi¹ Settlements, collectives and Māori enterprises,
- a burgeoning SME economy.

A major institutional barrier to Māori economic development is that by the 20th Century Māori owned only 5.5 per cent of New Zealand's land mass. Tribes are buying back land, but the multiplicity of land holdings makes it hard to reach consensus on its use. Another barrier is the inability to raise finance to bring land into production, forcing Māori to lease their land at a low price.

In the last three years, the government established a regional economic development fund (the Provincial Growth Fund), which removed some of these barriers, particularly access to finance. The government has been working on a holistic investment approach (Figure 1). To maintain social license to operate, they demonstrate how the benefits of a development for local regional population and environment will outweigh the negatives. For example, an investment in water storage in rural areas was able to bring Māori marginalised land into production.

¹ The Treaty of Waitangi (Te Tiriti o Waitangi) is an important agreement signed by representatives of the British Crown and Māori in 1840. The purpose of the Treaty was to enable the British settlers and the Māori people to live together in New Zealand under a common set of laws or agreements.

People and land are most important to Māori. To support their ongoing economic development, Māori need further investment in:

- skills and training for the next generation, and
- the environment – Most Māori land is native forest, which is a de-facto sustainability asset for New Zealand government. Maori need some compensation for foregone development to reflect the value of this asset.

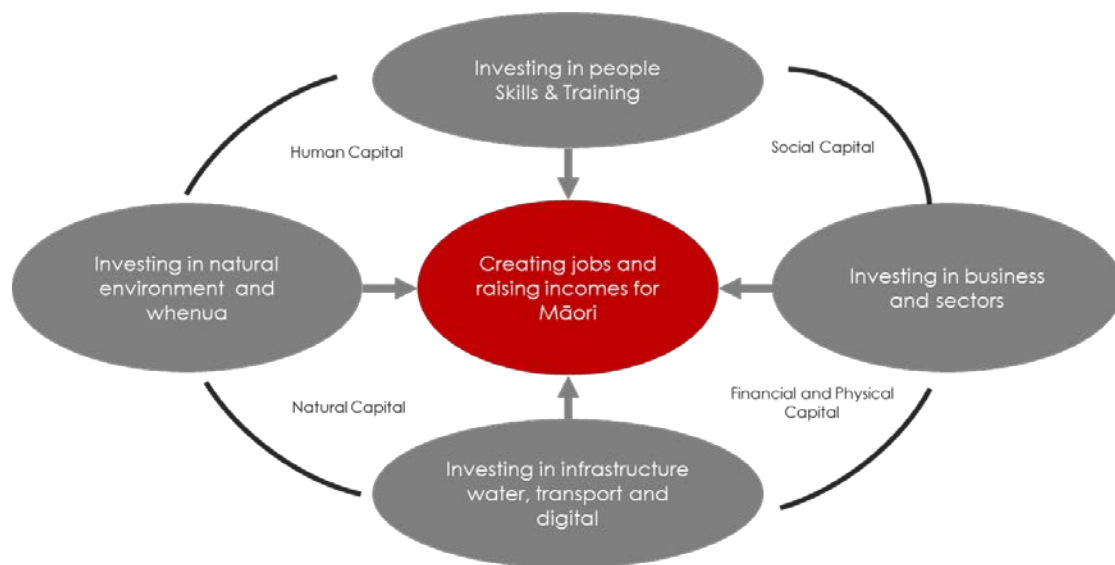


Figure 1 Framework for a holistic investment approach.

Speaker 2: Lee Arna Nepia

Lee Arna Nepia (Regional Analyst, Ministry of Māori Development, New Zealand) spoke on how young Indigenous Peoples' economic potential may be unlocked through an initiative called Te Reo o Te Rangatahi – The Voice of Young People.

The initiative was commissioned by Te Puni Kōkiri (Ministry of Māori Development) and led by Te Oranganui – Healthy Families – a tribal Māori health organisation. The purpose is to gather the ideas and perspectives of young people and assess their priorities for better investment. The project used design thinking and a unique methodology of partnering with stakeholders. Recognising the different needs and environments people live in, agencies used different formats of engagement. The approach fostered an innovation mindset and treated Indigenous Peoples as the experts on their own solutions.

Key insights from the project were that young Māori:

- felt Te Reo (Māori language) should be more important in New Zealand

- want New Zealand government to reflect their needs and contribute to solutions to solve issues in today's world
- aspire for their future but are concerned about the impact of COVID-19 on their opportunities and the health of their family.

Further local initiatives include:

- Rangatahi Innovation - This looks at how indigenous practices create better health and welfare outcomes. Through this initiative, which is currently in prototype phase, young people get to participate in training, with a focus around connection to land, environment and genealogy.
- Rangatahi Entrepreneurs' Network – There is little to no support for young entrepreneurs in the 'seed phase', which is when concepts are tested for their viability, commercial capabilities are proven, and financial support is sought for their concept or product. This initiative addresses a need for young people to connect to understand what is available.

Speaker 3: Willie Te Aho

Willie Te Aho (Chief Executive of Indigenous Corporate Solutions Limited, New Zealand) noted that Māori experience diverse realities, but they have a common understanding that they want to develop in a way, consistent with their customs.

Māori are rich in human resources and land but cash poor due to historic government policies. Investment in Māori land, people and industries allow Māori to move from passive to active land use, as demonstrated by government investments in rural areas. By providing capital, the government has done their part. Māori are bringing landowners together on their side, to form a consistent pathway. When the government puts their hand up to invest other industry leaders will come.

For example, in his own area, government investments in water supply have led to Māori working on an irrigation scheme and employment and kiwifruit orchards. This development increased the profitability of the land and attracted investment by SEEKA Kiwifruit.





Figure 2 Outcomes of government investments in Māori communities: Sweetwater Storage (top left), irrigation and kiwifruit (top right), state funded housing (bottom left) and skills development (bottom right, an orchard worker paying for his own home).

Panelist case studies

The case studies covered a variety of policies, programmes, and initiatives that are unlocking potential for Indigenous Peoples in the Asia Pacific region.

Canada: Dawn Madahbee Leach

Dawn Madahbee Leach (Chair of the National Indigenous Economic Development Board, Canada) emphasised that to unlock Indigenous Peoples' economic potential, government agencies need to provide access to capital. Over the past three decades, in Canada, a network of aboriginal financial institutions (AFI) has provided an estimated 46,000 loans worth over CAD 3 billion to indigenous-run businesses. Each year over CAD 100 million in new loans are made to indigenous businesses and 500 start-ups are financed by AFIs (NACCA, 2019). With the initial capital injection, coming from the Government of Canada, the AFIs are indigenous community-owned and controlled, and provide business advisory services in a trusted environment.

Dawn has managed one of these AFI services, which has invested over CAD 100 million and helped set up 3,600 businesses with a 94% business success rate. The businesses they support stay in business longer than five years, which is higher than the Canadian average. The majority of the staff are indigenous and have been able to build their capacity in finance. They are now investing in 3rd generation businesses. Loan repayment is good because clients know the fund will assist them in the future. A similar success story is shared by AFIs across Canada.

AFIs also provided emergency loan funds to support Indigenous Peoples during COVID. Many businesses expanded their product lines to include health supplies. In Dawn's area, no indigenous business closed down during the pandemic, demonstrating the AFI contribution to resilience. AFIs also support indigenous women and youth entrepreneurship. The whole region benefits as employment, number of businesses and buying power increases. All APEC economies can assist in including Indigenous Peoples in their economy.

Mexico: Paulina Maycotte

Paulina Maycotte (young entrepreneur, Mexico) spoke about her project helping to preserve Melipona beekeeping (Meliponiculture) in Campeche, Mexico. The Melipona bees are a species of bee without a stinger, native to the Yucatan Peninsula, which are very important to the indigenous Mayan people. There are 34 indigenous families that produce Melipona honey, 25 of which are bilingual and 9 that speak only the Mayan language.



Figure 3 Indigenous Meliponiculturist, Melipona beehive, and indigenous Mayan women (left to right).

The beekeeping culture is in danger of disappearing due to increased natural disasters, expansion of agriculture and livestock, spread of conventional bees and the use of pesticides. In a 10-year lapse 70 per cent of the original Meliponan colonies have been lost and more than 50 per cent of the production of honey.

Her rescue plan is not just to sell honey but educate future generations about the bee. She wants to open a workshop course on how to produce the honey and to promote the medicinal use of the honey. Promotion of the honey throughout the region will facilitate its export with a better sale price. The goals of the project are to preserve the Meliponiculture, save bees, create opportunities and generate income for families to reactivate the community's economy in a sustainable way.

Chinese Taipei: Jennifer Lo

Jennifer Lo (Financial Service Section Chief of Department of Economic Development in the Council of Indigenous Peoples, Chinese Taipei) spoke about economic development programs for the Indigenous Peoples of Chinese Taipei, for which the Council of Indigenous Peoples (CIP) has provided loans. Barriers and challenges for Indigenous Peoples in Chinese Taipei include geographic remoteness, high vulnerability to disasters, poor access to finance, and insufficient educational and job opportunities.

The measures undertaken under the CIP Indigenous Comprehensive Development Fund include loans for indigenous entrepreneurs, a co-guarantee program, and COVID-19 financial relief. These measures have improved opportunities for Indigenous Peoples, supported projects that diversify indigenous economies, and eased the burden for loan borrowers affected by pandemic. The CIP has also created a startup program, providing mentorship for indigenous entrepreneurs, and an innovation program to subsidize indigenous companies in engaging in research.

Following the implementation of these programs, the employment growth rate for Indigenous Peoples was higher than the economy-wide average. The retail and service sectors have grown faster than labour intensive industries.

Future actions will include addressing sustainability, inclusiveness, and adaptability. These measures will include a digital transformation program and an inspiring women program.

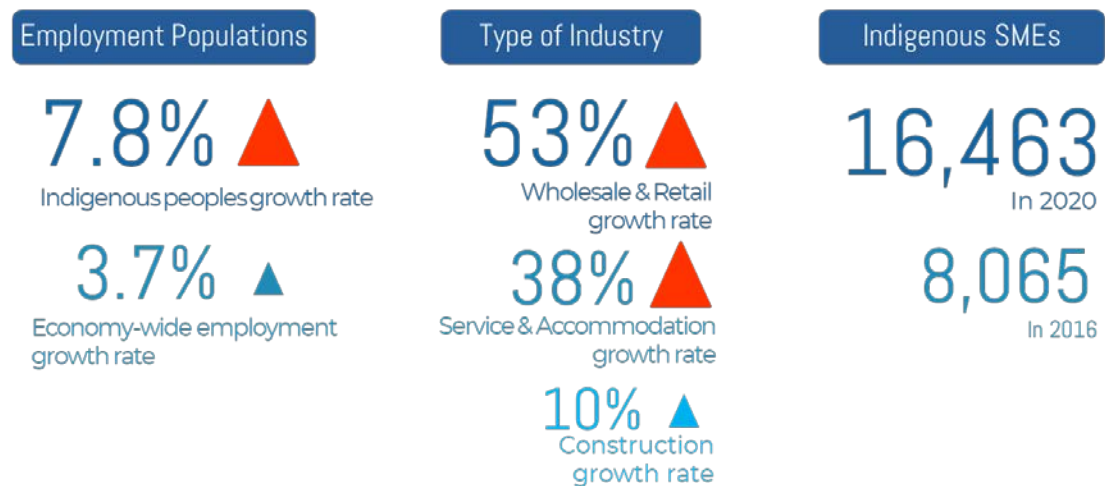


Figure 4 Achievements of Chinese Taipei's Indigenous Economic Development Programs.

Other initiatives unlocking the potential of Indigenous Peoples

To complement the policy dialogue, we invited APEC economies to share information about key initiatives that are unlocking the economic potential of their Indigenous Peoples for inclusion in this report. The tables below summarises the responses received. Further information is also provided in an annex to this report.

COVID-19 response actions to assist in recovery for Indigenous Peoples

Chile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Translation of information related to health security measures into indigenous languages • Postponement of the election of National Councillors of the National Corporation for Indigenous Development (CONADI) • Economic reactivation funds • Indigenous languages online classes • Provision of first-need supplies, such as food, bottled water and sanitary supplies to support vulnerable indigenous population
The Philippines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The initiatives (RA 11469 [4] and RA 11494 [5]) that The Philippines implemented to help individuals manage and recover from COVID-19 may benefit Indigenous Peoples. • The National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) is a member of the Recovery Cluster - Task Group on Governance. Indigenous Peoples may also benefit from initiatives under the National Action Plan [6] against COVID-19.
Russia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The National Plan for Economic Recovery [7], endorsed by the Government of the Russian Federation on 23 September 2020, takes into account socio-economic peculiarities of those societies that suffered most during the pandemic.
United States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The American Rescue Plan [8], signed into law by President Biden on March 11, 2021, invests USD 1.75 billion in American Indian and Alaska Native government programs administered under the oversight of the Department of the Interior's Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs (AS-IA). It includes emergency supplemental funding to respond to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Programmes addressing preexisting challenges for Indigenous Peoples

Chile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program for the Promotion of the Indigenous Economy • “Küme Mognen Pu Zomo” Program – designed to increase the levels of economic autonomy of Mapuche women living in rural areas of the Araucanía region. • Tourism and Indigenous Peoples Program
<p>The Philippines</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NCIP spearheads a list of initiatives [9] that promote the rights and build the capacity of Indigenous Peoples. • A variety of education and skills development initiatives, for Indigenous Peoples and the wider population: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Indigenous Peoples Education (IPEd) [10], the primary program for providing Indigenous Peoples access to quality basic education, - Commission on Higher Education (CHED) Memorandum Order 2, series 2019 [11] on the Integration of Indigenous Studies in the Higher Education Curricula, - Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES) [12], for which Indigenous Peoples, among others, can apply, - Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), which implements projects to build the capacity of Indigenous Peoples [13, 14], and also the Skills Training for Employment Program (STEP) [15] which benefits Indigenous Peoples, among others.
Russia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program of state support for traditional economic activities of Indigenous Peoples of the North (April 15, 2021 №978-p) [16]. • The Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North (RAIPON) [17] provides data, monitoring, assessments and recommendations regarding empowerment of Indigenous Peoples of the North. • The Federal Agency on Nationalities' Affairs [18] deals with protection of rights of the Indigenous Peoples. • Russian corporations have launched programs to enhance economic activities of Indigenous Peoples, e.g. Nornickel [19], Sakhalin Energy [20], Gazprom Neft [21], Alrosa [22].
<p>United States</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The American Rescue Plan is the largest investment of resources into Indian and tribal communities in United States' history and makes changes to laws.

Recommendations

In general, the policy dialogue and additional initiatives covered in this report demonstrate that existing challenges for Indigenous People have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. There are common obstacles and success factors in unlocking the potential of Indigenous Peoples in the APEC region. By unlocking this potential, it may contribute to further economic growth and a more inclusive recovery.

Based on the common experiences and opportunities identified in the policy dialogue and supplementary materials provided by economies, some recommended areas for possible exploration and knowledge sharing within the Economic Committee could include, among others:

- **Access to capital/finance for Indigenous Peoples** can involve more than government funds, private sector banks and private investment funds, but also skills and enabling digital technologies. This topic could be of interest to other fora, for example, SME Working Group, Finance Ministers' Process, and Policy Partnership on Women and the Economy.
- **Training and education** to harness indigenous knowledge and encourage innovation in indigenous populations, particularly for indigenous youth
- **Engagement of indigenous populations in policy decision-making** by considering best practice consultation methods where ideas, opinions and values of Indigenous Peoples are considered thereby achieving buy-in and ensuring benefits are inclusive.
- **Improved measuring and monitoring of indigenous economic development** to improve data availability. Data gaps make it difficult for policymakers and Indigenous Peoples alike to respond in an informed and targeted manner to the pandemic. Improved data collection in collaboration with Indigenous Peoples would ultimately lead to better policy decisions, economic sustainability, and economic recovery for all.

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Annex: Further reading

Chilean initiatives

1. **Crisis response actions related to COVID-19 for the protection of the Indigenous Population:** Program designed to implement and reformulate strategies and actions to support Indigenous Peoples during the health contingency that the economy is experiencing due to the COVID-19 crisis.

PROGRAM ACTION POINTS	OBJECTIVE	CHALLENGES ADDRESSED	DETAIL
Translation of information related to health security measures into indigenous languages.	To raise awareness on health security measures (use of masks, hand washing, detection of symptoms) and avoid the organization of massive activities.	Language Barriers.	Messages and radio campaigns, disseminated through social networks and printed documentation in various indigenous languages (Aymara, Mapudungun, and Rapa Nui) to decrease the contagion among indigenous communities.
Postponement of the election of National Councillors of the National Corporation for Indigenous Development (CONADI). Extended validity of communities, associations, and indigenous representatives before the National Council of CONADI.	Prevention of contagion risks.	COVID-19 health contingency.	The election was scheduled for March 29, 2020. If it had been carried out, it would have put thousands of indigenous peoples at risk from the pandemic, especially in the Araucanía region. The election was suspended, and a timetable is being worked on that will guarantee its completion once the effects of the pandemic have concluded.
Economic reactivation funds. Funds from the Development Fund of the South National Sub directorate of CONADI.	To support the indigenous local economy.	Economic Recovery.	\$2,500 million pesos to reactivate Mapuche enterprises in the Araucanía due to Coronavirus. The resources are intended to finance equipment, tourism and entrepreneurship initiatives, with special support for female entrepreneurs.
Indigenous languages online classes.	Prevention of contagion risks.	COVID-19 health contingency	Classes are being rescheduled to be taught online, in order to avoid meetings or crowds that can lead to infections.

Measures to Support Vulnerable Indigenous Population.	Prevention of contagion risks.	COVID-19 health contingency	Provision of first-need supplies such as food, bottled water, and sanitary supplies.
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2. Program for the Promotion of the Indigenous Economy: Program designed to increase the sustainability of the ventures of Indigenous Peoples with cultural identity.

PROGRAM ACTION POINTS	OBJECTIVE	CHALLENGES ADDRESSED	DETAIL
Subsidy for Urban and Rural Indigenous Entrepreneurship	Finance economic and / or productive initiatives to promote and support the sustainability of indigenous enterprises.	Scarce opportunities to access financing.	Public tender evaluated by an "Admissibility and Evaluation Committee". Three different categories: a)"Emerging": Business idea or ventures that have been in operation for less than 1 year; b)"Expansion": ventures with over a 1 year, and; c)"Consolidation": formalized ventures and / or with export potential.
Capacity-building for Economic Development related with Indigenous Cultural Identity.	Strengthen the capacities for the management and administration of businesses oriented to development with identity.	Educational and skills gaps. Lack of business experience.	Beneficiaries will be gradually trained in Business Administration topics, according to the categories "Emerging", "Expansion" and "Consolidation", incorporating training in areas that strengthen ancestral knowledge, in addition to gradually incorporating digital literacy and the use of ICTs.
Diffusion, Promotion and Marketing	Position the goods and services that reveal the knowledge and culture of Indigenous Peoples in Chilean and international markets and generate networks that promote the commercialization of enterprises with cultural identity.	Devaluation of products with cultural identity.	Initiatives executed through Direct Assignment Agreements that have specific execution objectives. cooperation with Chilean export promotion agency "ProChile" to encourage the export of indigenous products in the international market.

3. “Küme Mognen Pu Zomo” Program:

Program designed to increase the levels of economic autonomy of Mapuche women living in rural areas of the Araucanía region.

PROGRAM ACTION POINTS	OBJECTIVE	CHALLENGES ADDRESSED	DETAIL
Training in jobs or skills with Mapuche cultural Relevance	Capacity-building for Mapuche women from the rural territories of the La Araucanía region, in jobs or skills associated with their cultural tradition, providing them with training tools to develop their ventures.	Educational and skills gaps.	Training that incorporates: a) Cultural strengthening and added value of a product and / or service in the various ancestral jobs or skills of Mapuche culture, b) Business formulation and business administration, c) Community strengthening and soft skills for entrepreneurship. All training within the framework of the worldview of the Mapuche people.
Technical Support	To support the elaboration of business plans aiming at their formalization.	Educational and skills gaps. Lack of formalization.	Technical support for the formalization, constitution of a micro-enterprise or cooperative, in addition to support for the acquisition of infrastructure, equipment, basic supplies
Business Equipment	Enable the production of enterprises generated by Mapuche women, through the delivery of productive assets, as infrastructure, equipment, raw materials, and others.	Insufficient capital.	The acquisition of these goods will be carried through an external supplier, who will invoice on behalf of the beneficiary who will send the information required to make the payment to the suppliers selected.

4. Tourism and Indigenous Peoples Program

Program designed to increase the competitiveness and sustainability of tourism ventures with cultural identity developed by Indigenous Peoples.

PROGRAM ACTION POINTS	OBJECTIVE	CHALLENGES ADDRESSED	DETAIL
Indigenous Tourism Sustainability	Provide technical advice on the formulation of designs and management models for tourist destinations of indigenous administration.	Low indigenous tourism sustainability.	Technical advice for the design of instruments / documents that allow investment planning and management models for the administration of tourist routes and destinations.
Strengthening of Indigenous Tourism	To strengthen the indigenous tourism offer of the services provided	Low indigenous tourism sustainability.	Public tender
Diffusion, Promotion and Marketing	Position the sites of cultural significance and nature conservation spaces that reveal the knowledge and culture of Indigenous Peoples in Chilean and international markets.	Devaluation of indigenous culture in heritage sites and protected wild areas of the region.	Initiatives executed through direct assignment agreements with the Chilean tourism promotion agency "SERNATUR" to promote an indigenous tourist route commercialisation and / or positioning in the Chilean and international market.
Sites of Cultural Significance and Protected Wild Areas	To link the tourist activity of Indigenous Peoples with sites of cultural significance and nature conservation spaces.	Devaluation of indigenous culture in heritage sites and protected wild areas of the region.	Public tender

New Zealand initiatives

- Living standards framework related to the Māori economy [Te Ōhanga Māori 2018, BERL. Reserve Bank of New Zealand;](#)
- Data initiatives on Maori businesses. [Tatauranga umanga Māori – Statistics on Māori businesses: 2019 \(English\) | Stats NZ](#)

Russian initiatives

1. **The National Plan for Economic Recovery**, endorsed by the Government of the Russian Federation September 23, 2020, is aimed at

restoring employment and incomes of the population, boosting economic growth and long-term structural changes in the economy. It provides comprehensive measures until December 2021, taking into account socio-economic peculiarities of those societies that suffered most during the pandemic.

2. **The Program of state support for traditional economic activities of Indigenous Peoples of the North** (April 15, 2021 №978-p) envisages support measures in the following directions:

- Development of industrial and technological infrastructure (subsidies to cover expenditures of businesses and agricultural producers on particular equipment, provision of mobile network and Internet);
- Promotion of traditional products and services on the Russian and foreign markets (support in preparation of market materials, conducting exhibitions, educational support in terms of licensing, logistics);
- Popularization of Micro Small Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) (consultations on starting a business, implementing investment projects);
- Development of tourism (subsidies on development of new tourist locations, improvement of tourist services);
- Human resources development (including measures aimed at the youth to preserve interest to the North territories);
- Modernization of local generation sites, expansion of the use of renewables, liquefied natural gas and local fuels.

3. The **Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North (RAIPON)** is aimed at protecting Indigenous Peoples' human rights; defending their legal interests; assisting in solving environmental, social, economic, cultural and educational issues; and promoting their right to self-governance. RAIPON works with the State Duma and the Government of the Russian Federation regarding legislation related to Indigenous Peoples' issues. In addition to its status as a Permanent Participant in the Arctic Council, RAIPON participates in international structures such as the United Nations Economic and Social Council with a special consultative status and the Governing Council, and the Global Ministerial Environment Forum of the United Nations Environment Program as an observer.

RAIPON represents 40 Indigenous Peoples totaling over 250,000 people. The peoples represented in RAIPON live in 60 percent of the whole Russian Federation territory, including the North, Siberia and the Far East.

Among other activities, RAIPON provides data, monitoring, assessments and recommendations regarding empowerment of Indigenous Peoples of the North.

4. All in all, Russia's Federal bodies strive to work comprehensively on ensuring the well-being of Russia's population (regardless of sex, race, nationality, language, origin and other circumstances – according to the Constitution of the Russian Federation). In addition, there is the **Federal Agency on Nationalities' Affairs** that deals with protection of rights of the Indigenous Peoples (primarily of the North, Siberia and Far East) and is responsible for preparation of draft National Reports in this regard.

The Federal Agency builds its activities, among others, on the Federal Law "On guaranteeing rights of the Indigenous Peoples of the Russian Federation", 30.04.1999 №82-FZ, the law that is periodically undergoing amending procedures. The law provides a number of additional socio-economic rights to the Indigenous Peoples, including the right to protect the indigenous environment and traditional lifestyles, priority access to particular natural resources, privileged pension and taxation coverage.

It is remarkable that the Federal Agency on Nationalities' Affairs launches joint initiatives with large Russian Corporations to foster economic and cultural development of the Indigenous Peoples. For instance, the Agency reached an agreement with Russia's leading metals and mining company Nornickel so that the latter will intensify its (already provided) support to the Indigenous Peoples of the North (including by financing ecological preservation, development of tourism, and construction of social facilities).

5. It is noteworthy that the Russian Corporations demonstrate social responsibility themselves launching programs to enhance economic activities of the Indigenous Peoples. Apart from the mentioned above Nornickel, there is Sakhalin Energy that since 2006 implements and periodically updates its Sakhalin Indigenous Peoples Development Plan – a tripartite program that was developed by the company had in hand with the regional administration, and the regional council of authorized representative of the indigenous communities of the North. The Program has been repeatedly recognized as the best practice of public-private partnership.

Similar positive experience of engaging with the Indigenous Peoples of the Russian Far East is possessed by Gazprom Neft, diamond miner Alrosa (North, Siberia and the Far East).