



Sustainable Development Goals Toolkit

Enhancing Indigenous Participation in Canada's
Commitment Under Agenda 2030

Table of Contents

1.0	Introduction	3
2.0	Background on the SDGs	3
2.1	Sustainability Principles	3
2.2	The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	4
2.1	The Agenda's Core Principles	4
2.2	The 17 Goals	5
2.3	Indigenous Peoples and the 2030 Agenda	7
2.4	Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy	8
3.0	Resources and Tools for Putting the SDGs into Action	10
3.1	SDG Measurement	10
3.2	SDG Compass	11
3.3	SDG Industry Matrix	11
3.4	SDG Good Practices	12
3.1	Indigenous Navigator	12
3.2	Report on Indigenous Peoples and the 2030 Agenda	12
3.1	United Nations Framework for Action	12
3.2	Human Rights Based approach to Data (OHCHR)	13
3.3	Examples of Resources Specific to Some of the SDGs	13
4.0	ECO Canada Webinars and Blog Posts	16
5.0	References	Error! Bookmark not defined.

1.0 Introduction

With support from Employment and Social Development Canada, ECO Canada has been leading a project focused on enhancing Indigenous participation in meeting Canada's commitment under the United Nation's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This project aims to raise awareness and support for Canada's 2030 Agenda, while also integrating Indigenous perspectives and knowledge into achieving these goals.

As one component of this project, we have developed an SDG Toolkit. This toolkit provides information, strategies, and insights to support the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into Indigenous communities and projects.

2.0 Background on the SDGs

2.1 Sustainability Principles

The term "sustainability" has no common definition. However, the most widely used definition comes from the United Nations, which states, "Development that meets current needs without jeopardizing future generations' ability to satisfy their own needs" (UN 1987).

The concept of sustainability and sustainable development has overpassed the term "environmentalism," which has been around for a long time.

Environmentalists are usually concerned with preserving the environment's integrity. Sustainable solutions, on the other hand, have three bottom lines:

Environmental - (the planet).

Economic - (prosperity).

Social - (people).

2.2 The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

With an aim to end poverty in all its forms, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was introduced by the UN summit in New York and began in September 2015. The UN 2030 Agenda is strongly connected to the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and International Human Rights treaties, and it is intended to work towards a “world of universal respect for human rights and human dignity, the rule of law, justice, equality and non-discrimination”. The agenda stresses the importance of empowering vulnerable and marginalized groups, such as women, children, youth, persons with disabilities, the elderly, refugees, internally displaced persons, and migrants. The 2030 Agenda is comprised of 17 overarching Sustainable Development Goals. With specific targets established under each goal, there are 169 targets in total.

You can view the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development, which cover the 17 goals and 169 targets on the [United Nations website](#).

2.1 The Agenda’s Core Principles

The following principles are embodied in the 2030 Agenda:

Universality

The 2030 Agenda has a global scope, and it requires all countries, regardless of wealth or developmental status, to participate in working towards sustainable development. The agenda can be used in any country, in any environment, and at any time.

Leave no one Behind

The 2030 Agenda aims to benefit everyone and intends to leave no one behind. The goal is to reach all those in need and deprivation no matter where they are, and in a way that addresses their unique problems and concerns.

Interconnectedness and Indivisibility

The interconnectedness of the 17 SDGs underpins the 2030 Agenda. It is critical that those implementing the SDGs regard them as a whole rather than individual goals that can be accomplished in isolation.

Inclusiveness

The 2030 Agenda calls for contributions from all parts of society, regardless of race, gender, ethnicity, or identity, in order to achieve its goals.

Partnerships

To assist in the accomplishment of the SDGs, the 2030 Agenda urges for multi-stakeholder partnerships to organize and share knowledge, skills, technology, and financial resources.

2.2 The 17 Goals



The UN's 2030 Agenda [Sustainable Development Goals](#) include:

- **Goal 1.** End poverty in all its forms everywhere

- **Goal 2.** End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
- **Goal 3.** Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
- **Goal 4.** Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
- **Goal 5.** Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
- **Goal 6.** Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
- **Goal 7.** Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all
- **Goal 8.** Promote sustained, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all
- **Goal 9.** Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
- **Goal 10.** Reduce inequality within and among countries
- **Goal 11.** Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable
- **Goal 12.** Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
- **Goal 13.** Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
- **Goal 14.** Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas, and marine resources for sustainable development

- **Goal 15.** Protect, restore, and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
- **Goal 16.** Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels
- **Goal 17.** Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

2.3 Indigenous Peoples and the 2030 Agenda

When developing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Indigenous Peoples were involved in the global consultation process. This is seen as an improvement from the previous Millennium Development Goals, which lacked Indigenous involvement. The 2030 Agenda makes specific references to developmental concerns of Indigenous Peoples:

- Target 2.3 established under Goal 2: Zero Hunger is to double the agricultural output of Indigenous small-scale farmers, with an emphasis on promoting sustainable agricultural practices.
- Target 4.5 established under Goal 4: Quality Education is to ensure equal access to education for Indigenous children.

The 2030 Agenda has a strong commitment to “leave no one behind” and “reach the furthest behind first”, showcasing their commitment to making sure the priorities of Indigenous Peoples are heard. The input of Indigenous Peoples had been included in compiling the proposed global list of indicators to measure progress on the SDGs. The 2030 Agenda also commits to encouraging involvement of Indigenous Peoples in implementing and reviewing the progress being made towards the 17 goals.

2.4 Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy

The 2030 Agenda's overarching focus on human rights principles and standards, as well as 'leaving no one behind' and decreasing disparities, is extremely important. Supporting Indigenous Peoples' freedom of self will allow Canada to contribute to the 2030 Agenda's goals.

The Government of Canada is making progress on the 30 specific actions it set for itself in "Towards Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy". The government will build on that progress through a Federal Implementation Plan.

That Plan will reflect the following 5 core objectives.

- **Objective 1:** Fostering leadership, governance, and policy coherence
- **Objective 2:** Raising awareness, engagement, and partnership
- **Objective 3:** Accountability, transparency, measurement, and reporting
- **Objective 4:** Reconciliation with Indigenous peoples and the 2030 Agenda
- **Objective 5:** Investing in the SDGs

30 actions to 2030

[Canada's 2030 Agenda National Strategy](#) proposes 30 concrete federal actions to advance progress on the 2030 Agenda framework. The following actions in the strategy have been selected by the federal government and are specific to Canadian Indigenous Peoples:

Action 4: Ensure diverse representation at the United Nations High-Level Political Forums from all levels of government, including the provinces and territories, Indigenous governments and peoples, communities, municipalities, and cities.

Action 5: Develop long-term inclusive engagement plans with Indigenous partners and communities, National Indigenous Organizations, Modern Treaty organizations and Indigenous self-governments to further implement the 2030 Agenda. Identify

opportunities for collaboration and for integrating Indigenous perspectives, priorities, and ways of knowing into the SDGs, support capacity building and increase awareness about the 2030 Agenda.

Action 13: Support First Nations, Métis, and Inuit-led research initiatives, protocols, and governance structures and partner with schools, universities, academic institutions, and research networks to support research, development, resource sharing and youth engagement in the SDGs.

Action 18: Enhance data disaggregation and the recognition of Indigenous identity across the Canadian Indicator Framework to the extent possible, and enhance the future integration of Indigenous-owned, community-based data, building on work like the National Outcome-Based Framework's development of Indigenous indicators of poverty, health, and well-being.

Action 22: Implement the 2030 Agenda with full regard for the rights of Indigenous peoples by protecting and promoting these rights, as reflected in the 10 Principles of Reconciliation, the TRC's calls to action, the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls' calls to justice and the UNDRIP.

Action 23: Consult with National Indigenous Organizations and Indigenous communities to ensure that the 2030 Agenda is implemented collaboratively and in ways that respect the rights of First Nations, Inuit and Métis to self-determination, and support participation in implementation, follow-up, and review processes.

Action 24: Raise awareness about Indigenous ways of knowing among all Canadians.

Action 25: Support the development of resources that connect the past, present and future experiences of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis communities in Canada to the 2030 Agenda.

3.0 Resources and Tools for Putting the SDGs into Action

3.1 SDG Measurement

Indicators and measures are needed to evaluate your progress on the goals. Any project or operation's sustainability indicators are measurable environmental, economic, or social factors. Sustainability indicators should include the following characteristics, as denoted by the acronym "SMART":

S “specific” – The indicator should focus on a certain area of interest. It establishes the "what," "when," and "how" of the project or activity.

M “Measurable” – The indicator should be able to be counted, collected, analyzed, or tested so that a data set may be gathered and evaluated to measure success.

A “Achievable” – The indicator should have a specific performance target that is simple to interpret and can be accomplished realistically in a project.

R “Relevant” – The indicator should be chosen so that it makes a purposeful contribution to the project's overall goal or strategy. One can choose multiple indicators for a certain project, but they should be evaluated critically for their total contribution to the environmental, economic, or social aspects of sustainability.

T “Timely” – The indicator should be met within a reasonable time frame and/or inside the project's time restrictions.

You can go through each SDG and [explore Canada's indicators](#) for the 2030 Agenda.

3.2 SDG Compass



[The SDG Compass](#) offers companies assistance on how to match their strategies, and measure and manage their contribution to the SDGs. The guide outlines five stages for businesses to take in order to optimize their impact on the SDGs. The SDG Compass explains the relevance of the goals to your business and provides you with the tools and knowledge you need to make sustainability a priority in your strategy.

3.3 SDG Industry Matrix

Considering that opportunities differ by industry, the Matrix offers industry-specific suggestions and real-world examples for each related SDG. This resource is broken down into the following industries:

- Financial Services
- Food, Beverage, and Consumer Goods
- Healthcare & Life Sciences
- Industrial Manufacturing
- Transportation
- and Energy, Natural Resources, and Chemicals

[The SDG Industry Matrix](#), which was developed as part of the United Nations Global Compact cooperation, is a resource that aims to educate by example. The initiative presents short industry-specific examples and suggestions for implementation of each of the SDGs.

3.4 SDG Good Practices

[The publication](#) is comprised of a collection of success stories and lessons learned. It offers 16 SDG Good Practices from around the world, submitted in response to the UN DESA's first open call for good practices, success stories, and lessons learned when it comes to implementing the SDGs. The stories are organized by geographical location, and presents many in-depth examples, including updates and observations on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in relation to the SDGs.

3.1 Indigenous Navigator

[The Indigenous Navigator](#) is a framework and collection of instruments designed for and by Indigenous peoples to track the extent to which their rights are respected and implemented. Indigenous organizations around the world, administrative authorities, NGOs, and media can use the Indigenous Navigator to obtain complimentary resources and tools based on community-generated data.

3.2 Report on Indigenous Peoples and the 2030 Agenda

The Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues' secretariat convened for a two-day Expert Group Meeting on the theme "The road forward: Indigenous peoples and the 2030 Agenda" in October 2015. The meeting's goal was to establish actionable strategies and recommendations to help indigenous peoples' challenges be included in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. [The report](#) provides an overview of the Expert Group Meeting's deliberations as well as recommendations.

3.1 United Nations Framework for Action

This [Shared Framework for Action](#) serves as a guide to UN system organizations, and other relevant stakeholders who are motivated to work towards equality and to meet the UN Charter's obligation to promote and encourage respect for human rights.

3.2 Human Rights Based approach to Data (OHCHR)

With an emphasis on concerns of data collecting and disaggregation, the [document](#) intends to provide general recommendations and aspects of a mutual understanding of a Human Rights-Based Approach to Data (HRBAD).

3.3 Examples of Resources Specific to Some of the SDGs

SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being

All Canadians deserves to be both physically and mentally healthy and live happy lives. The First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples of Canada, particularly those living in remote and fly-in-only portions of the country, are among the most vulnerable to infectious diseases.

Indigenous communities can work closely with Federal and local government and municipalities to secure sufficient funding for constructing the necessary health infrastructure that is needed, such as through the Indigenous Services Canada's [Health Facilities Program](#).

SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

It takes a lot of expertise and cooperation among numerous stakeholders, from governments and businesses to individuals like you and me, to correctly manage drinking water supplies. Most Canadians have easy access to enough, affordable, and safe drinking water, as well as proper sanitation, but this is not the case for many Indigenous individuals. Indigenous peoples are disproportionately affected by water-related diseases due to their lack of sanitation services and clean drinking water. Degradation of land and resources, that many Indigenous peoples rely on, is a leading factor to the lack of access to water and sanitation.

Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) financially supports public on-reserve water and wastewater systems, and so far, 78% of long-term drinking water advisories have been lifted since 2015. First Nations owners of private water and wastewater

systems can access protocols and guidelines developed by ISC, and technical advice may be provided upon request. Visit the [Government of Canada's website](#) for more information and resources.

SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy

Human and economic progress is hampered by a lack of access to energy. Climate change mitigation and disaster risk reduction are aided by greater energy efficiency and renewable energy utilization. Many Indigenous peoples reside in rural locations, and as a result they do not have access to inexpensive or dependable electricity. This has ramifications for such societies' social, political, and economic lives, particularly because it restricts the use of contemporary communication, technology, and agricultural production methods.

There are different provincial and federal funds available to support those that want to provide their communities with clean and affordable energy. Currently, Natural Resource Canada, under the [Clean Energy for Rural and Remote Communities program](#), is working with rural and isolated Indigenous communities to build innovative sustainable energy projects.

SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

Our Earth has abundant natural resources for us to enjoy. We need to learn how to utilize and produce in more sustainable ways. Indigenous peoples have suffered greatly because of unsustainable consumption and production methods that do not respect the environment. This irresponsible resource exploitation and environmental degradation has displaced many Indigenous peoples from their ancestral lands and territories. In parallel to this, Indigenous women and men have been barred from managing their natural resources in many nations. This greatly diminishes their ability to contribute to sustainable management and effective utilization of natural resources by drawing on their traditional knowledge.

Proper disposal of waste is one key aspect to protecting and reducing contamination of our resources. Indigenous Services Canada has the [First Nations Waste Management Initiative](#), which provides funding for solid waste management

projects. Funding can go towards several activities, such as waste operator training or construction of engineered landfills.

SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions

This goal aims to build strong and just institutions in support of peaceful and inclusive societies around the world. Indigenous peoples have long experienced great inequities, and they continue to experience infringements of their human rights in many places. Injustices and instability persist because of a lack of mechanisms that foster inclusive and participatory bodies, as well as Indigenous peoples' underrepresentation at all levels of decision-making.

The Government of Canada has introduced the [Indigenous Justice Program](#) which provides support for Indigenous community-based justice programs. Funding can be accessed using the Community-Based Justice Fund.

We encourage you to frequently look for funding opportunities and explore the services and information provided by [Indigenous Services Canada](#), as well as other resources under the [Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform](#).

4.0 ECO Canada Webinars and Blog Posts

Enhancing Indigenous Participation in achieving Canada's commitment under Agenda 2030

Learn more about our Indigenous Programs at ECO and get an overview of the new SDG Curriculum we have developed to be incorporated into our BEAHR modules.

[Webinar Link](#)

Pathways to the Cleantech Sector

Learn how the cleantech sector has grown, what trends have emerged, and how you can take advantage.

[Webinar Link](#)

Sustainable Procurement: Purchasing the Future We Want

Discover Practical Steps to Help Your Organization Make More Sustainable Purchasing Decisions.

[Webinar Link](#)

Energy Efficiency, Renewable Energy and Your Community

Find out how energy efficiency and renewable energy Technologies can help you reduce your energy consumption.

[Webinar Link](#)

Sustainability Implementation Made Simple: A Plan-Do-Check-Act Management Systems Approach

Learn how a process-based approach can be used to implement sustainability.

[Webinar Link](#)

Unlikely Partners in Sustainability: Networking Event Panel Discussion

Hear how our panelists shared their unique perspectives on collaboration and how you can use partnerships to creatively tackle complex sustainability issues.

[Webinar Link](#)

Blogpost: Sustainable Development Goals & BEAHR

Through our BEAHR Program, we provide training programs that are customized to meet the needs of each Indigenous community we work with. As a result, 78% of BEAHR graduates have secured meaningful employment in the environmental sector.

[Webpage Link](#)

Blogpost: Canadian Cleantech in Action: Agriculture

Faced with global food insecurity, what can we do to ensure everyone has access to ample food? Innovative cleantech solutions in Canada could help.

[Webpage Link](#)

Blogpost: Sustainability Series - What is sustainability and why is it important?

What does sustainability mean, and why is it important?

[Webpage Link](#)

More ECO Canada webinars about the SDGs will be added to the toolkit soon!

5.0 Sources

- 1) [UN Agenda 2030; Council of Europe](#)
- 2) [The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; United Nations System Staff College](#)
- 3) [Briefing Note: Indigenous Peoples' Rights and the 2030 Agenda; United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs](#)
- 4) [Sustainable Development Goals Indigenous Peoples in Focus; International Labour Organization](#)
- 5) [Ending long-term drinking water advisories; Government of Canada](#)