



2022-2032 | INTERNATIONAL DECADE OF
Indigenous Languages



International Decade of Indigenous Languages (IDIL2022-2032)

Background

Livonians, UL Livonian Institute, IDIL and UNGEGN

- Livonians are Latvia's indigenous people (official status since 1991).
- University of Latvia Livonian Institute (est. 2018) is dedicated to documentation, research and promotion of Livonian language and heritage; development of digital resources, technologies and education programs. Part of the **work is also devoted to the collection, standardization and use of Livonian geographical names.**
- **Representing Latvia on IDIL GTF since 2021, co-chairing 2022–2023.**

About the IDIL 2022-2032

- 2019: UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/75/135
 - After the International Year of Indigenous Languages (IDIL2019)
- Global Action Plan
- Multistakeholder approach through the Global Task Force
- IDIL2022-2032's Secretariat (UNESCO)



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Global Task Force for Making a Decade of Action for Indigenous Languages

- Main governance mechanism
- Guidance on the implementation of the Decade
- Composition
 - Member States
 - Indigenous Peoples' organizations
 - UN Indigenous mechanisms (UNPFII, EMRIP, Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples)
 - UN agencies (UNESCO, UNDESA, OHCHR)



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4 Outcomes

1. Learn, teach and transmit
2. Establish a global priority and foster commitment
3. Ensure legal recognition
4. Enhance the functional usage

10 Outputs

1. Education
2. Indigenous food systems
3. Digital empowerment
4. Health
5. Access to justice, public services
6. Cultural heritage
7. Biodiversity conservation
8. Employment opportunities in the labor market
9. Gender equality
10. Partnerships

Global Action Plan and Geographical names

- **Output No.5. Access to justice and availability of public services guaranteed to Indigenous language speakers and signers**
- **Activity 5.2.** Development of robust data tools and methodologies for collecting best practices on arrangements to ensure participation of Indigenous Peoples, and specifically helping them to access public services in Indigenous languages, notably through city, municipal or other community platforms working on inclusion issues, such as the International Coalition of Inclusive and Sustainable Cities (ICCAR), **as well as elaborating policy guidelines for the public information space in Indigenous languages including extension of use of Indigenous names and words to official signage, focusing on place name signs in areas traditionally inhabited by Indigenous Peoples**

10 Thematic Areas



1

Inclusive, equitable, intercultural, quality **education** and lifelong learning environments and opportunities in Indigenous languages provided in formal, non-formal and informal educational settings



2

Enhanced capacities among Indigenous Peoples for applying their languages and knowledge to the eradication of hunger and maintaining the integrity of Indigenous **food systems**



3

Favourable conditions established for **digital empowerment**, freedom of expression, media development, access to information and language technology, alongside artistic creation in Indigenous languages



4

Appropriate Indigenous language frameworks designed to offer better **health** provision, recognizing traditional systems of medicine, as well as promoting social cohesion and delivering humanitarian responses, especially during health crises, times of conflicts and natural disasters



5

Access to **justice** and availability of public services guaranteed to Indigenous language speakers and signers



6

Indigenous languages are sustained, as a vehicle of living heritage and biodiversity, whilst participation in - and access to - all forms of **culture** are enhanced for Indigenous Peoples



7

Enabling environment is created for Indigenous languages, thereby contributing to **biodiversity** conservation, climate change adaptation and mitigation, ecosystems management, land restoration, improving the marine and coastal environment, reducing natural hazards, preventing pollution, and managing water resources



8

Economic **growth** is strengthened by enhanced decent job opportunities for Indigenous Peoples and languages users



9

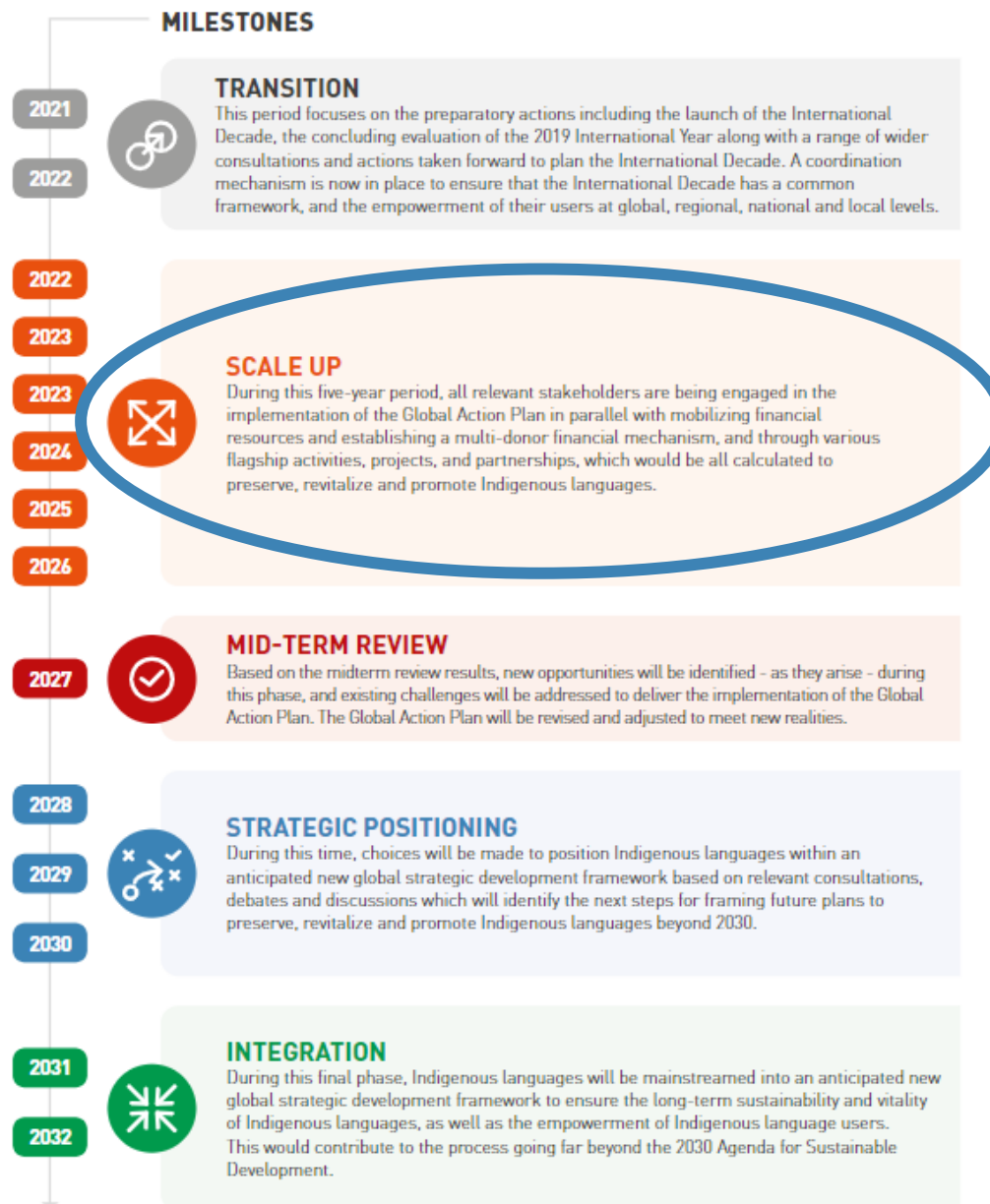
Gender equality and women's empowerment are achieved through the preservation, revitalization and promotion of Indigenous languages



10

Public and private **partnerships** are firmly established to place on the global agenda a long-term commitment to the preservation, revitalization and promotion of Indigenous languages

Timeline



Localization of the Global Action Plan

Action Plans

National Action Plans

- Canada
- Iceland
- Norway
- Ukraine
- Russian Federation
- Australia
- Ecuador
- Colombia
- Brazil
- Venezuela
- Peru
- Guatemala
- Bolivia
- Mexico
- United States

Regional Action Plan

- Africa

Institutional Action Plans

- Assembly of First Nations (Canada)
- Instituto Iberoamericano de Lenguas Indígenas (IIALI)

Ad-hoc working groups established under the Global Task Force

The Global Task Force ensures that the **principles of inclusion, openness, participation and multi-stakeholder engagement are respected and applied** throughout the International Decade.

Established 4 Ad-hoc groups to provide advice on specific aspects of the implementation of the Global Action Plan:

1. Provision of **education** and domains for Indigenous languages

2. Indigenous language **transmission** and resilience building

3. Recognition, **status, and implementation of policy** for the indigenous languages

4. **Digital** equality and domains

Global Survey on Indigenous Languages

developed by the Ad-hoc working groups

- From 11 March to 11 July 2025
- Addressed to policymakers, members of Indigenous communities and members of civil society
- On the following themes:
 1. Provision of education and domains for Indigenous languages
 2. Indigenous language transmission and resilience building
 3. Recognition, status and implementation of policy for Indigenous languages
 4. Digital equality and domains

Video



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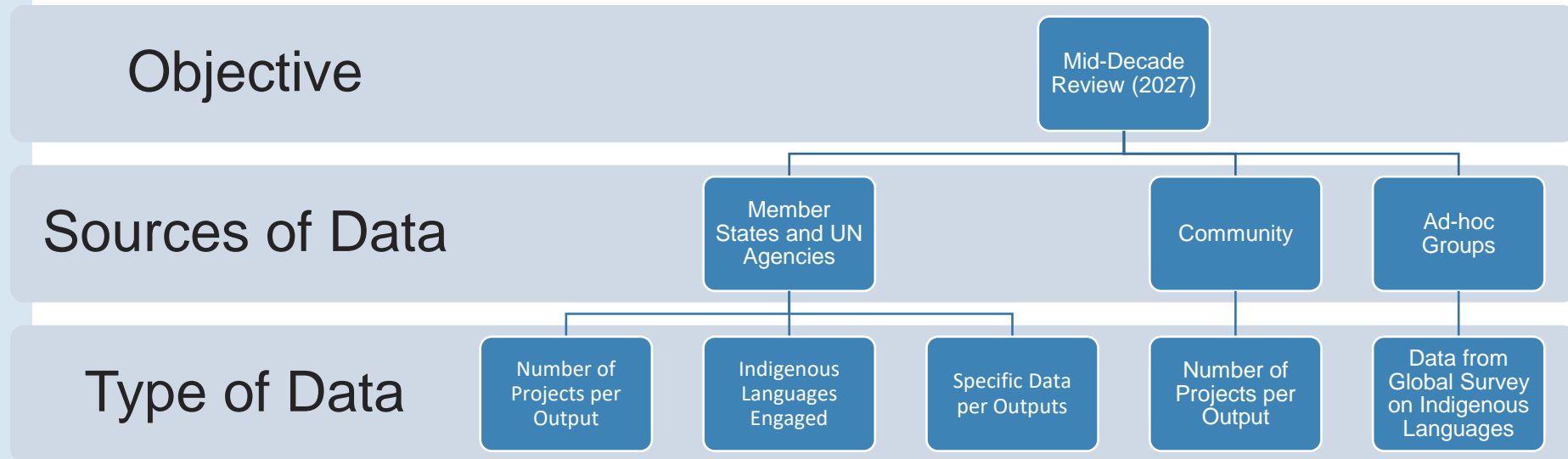


<https://tinyurl.com/ydbtsr94>

Global Survey on Indigenous Languages and geographical names

- **Ad-hoc Group 3: Questions related to Recognition, status, and implementation of policy for the Indigenous languages**
- 1. Are indigenous names and words used in official signage in areas traditionally inhabited by indigenous people?
- 2. Are there any regulations developed regarding official use of indigenous place names?
- 3. Are indigenous names used on cartographic products and data systems (e.g. cadastre)?
- 4. Is there any collection and standardisation of Indigenous place names taking place?
- 5. If yes was answered in number 4 above, who is collecting and standardizing Indigenous place names?
- 6. If yes was answered in number 4 above, is this collection tasked and ensured by governmental bodies)?

Monitoring & Evaluation



Public Outreach

Various events

- Language Technology for All (LT4All Conference), 24-26 February 2025, UNESCO HQ, Paris and online
- Voices of Resilience: The importance of Indigenous Women for Language Preservation, 14 November 2024, UNESCO HQ, Paris and online
- Translation, an art worth protecting: Moral and Material rights for Indigenous Languages, 30 September 2024, webinar

Communication efforts

- Social media (Instagram, Facebook, X)
- Community Engagement Platform
- UNESCO website with events, articles, publications and more!



Scan to access links!

Future connections

between **UNGEGN / IDIL GTF / UN PFII**



Good preconditions for future connections and collaboration:

- **UNGEGN has established Focus Group on Indigenous Geographical Names**
- Latvia will be member of IDIL GTF 2025-2027
- Latvia will be member of UN PFII 2026-2028

2026– side event at the **UN PFII**?

2027– side event at mid-term event for **IDIL**?

Presentations at **IDIL / UN PFII** events?

Some kind of **policy document**?



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