

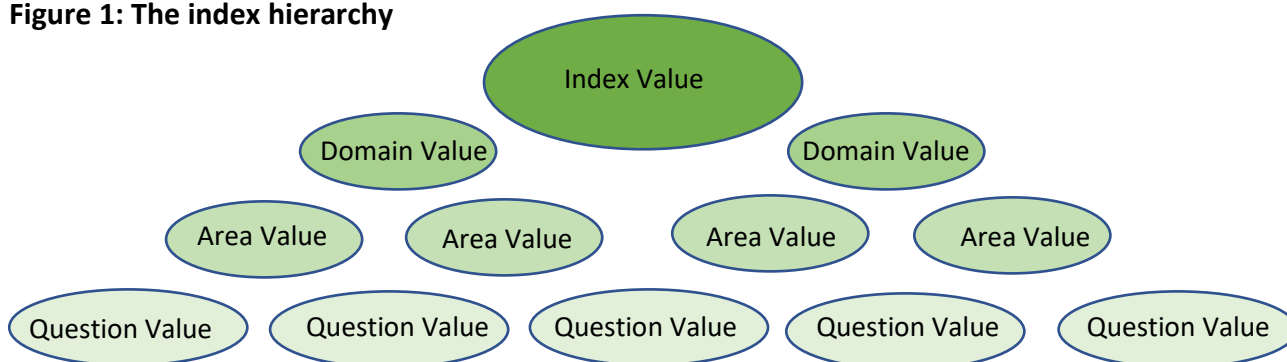
Methodology: Index Values for Indigenous Peoples' Rights and Development

A short introduction

The Indigenous Navigator comprises two questionnaires, namely a National Questionnaire and a Community Questionnaire, which includes 117 and 138 questions, respectively. If a question in a meaningful way can be assigned a comparative numerical value, they are included in the index calculations. This makes it possible to compare data and present it graphically.

The index can be disaggregated into domains, which can be disaggregated into areas, that again can be disaggregated into questions. And each element is weighted according to the importance of the element. In this note each step of this process is explained.

Figure 1: The index hierarchy



1. Calculating the Question score

All questions with response options that express an evaluation of a situation ranging from “good” to “bad” are included in the calculations. These response options are either yes/no or on a scale (e.g. 1: None; 2: One out of five; 3: Two out of five; 4: Three out of five; 5: Four out of five; 6: Five out of five OR 1: Not at all; 2: To a limited extent; 3: To some extent; 4: To a considerable extent; 5: Fully). Altogether, the index is composed of 74 of the questions from the national questionnaire and 93 from the community questionnaire. In the online questionnaires these questions have a tag called “Index”.

For each question, each response option is assigned a numerical value, which makes it possible to translate the qualitative answers into numbers. To make the response options of the different questions comparable, the scores have been “normalized”, so that they run between 0 and 100 (also referred to as feature scaling), where 0 is considered the worst/lowest recognition of rights and 100 is considered the best/highest recognition of rights.

$$z_i = \frac{x_i - \min(x)}{\max(x) - \min(x)}$$

z_i = Normalized score for question i

x_i = Observed score for question i

x = Response options within each question

A few examples, within the domain “Self-determination” and the area “Consultation and free, prior and informed consent” illustrate how it works (also see table 1):

- Question 32 of the national survey asks whether the national legislation recognizes the state's duty to consult with indigenous peoples in order to obtain their free, prior and informed consent before adopting or implementing national legislative or administrative measures that may affect them. If the response is “yes”, it will count as 100 points. If the response is “no”, it will count as 0 points.
- Question 48 of the national survey asks if the State ensures that social, spiritual, cultural and environmental impact assessments are undertaken prior to approval of projects that may affect indigenous peoples’ lands, territories or resources, with the participation of indigenous peoples’ representative institutions. If the response is “fully” it will count as 100 points. If the response is “to a considerable extent” it will get 75 points, if “to some extent” it will get 50 points, if “to a limited extent” it will get 25 points and if “not at all” it will get 0 points.

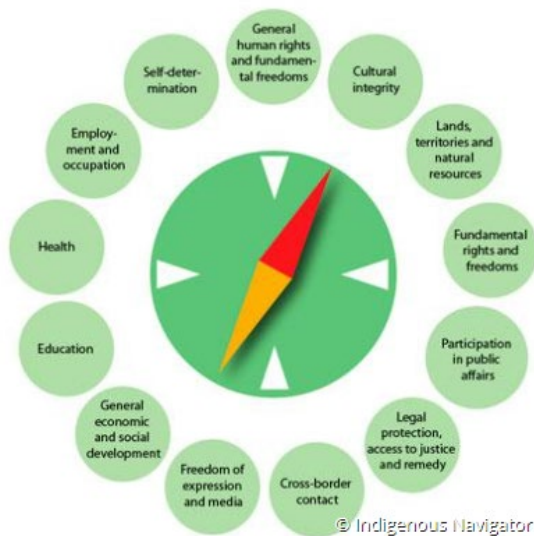
Table 1: Example of Questions, response options and points

Question ID	Question	Response options and points
Q32(LNS)	Does national legislation recognise the state's duty to consult with indigenous peoples in order to obtain their free, prior and informed consent before adopting or implementing national legislative or administrative measures that may affect them?	Yes = 100 points No = 0 points
Q48(LNS)	Does the State ensure that social, spiritual, cultural and environmental impact assessments are undertaken prior to approval of projects that may affect indigenous peoples’ lands, territories or resources, with the participation of indigenous peoples’ representative institutions?	Not at all = 0 points To a limited extent = 25 points To some extent = 50 points To a considerable extent = 75 points Fully = 100 points

2. Area and Domain score

Each question score is then weighted and summed into an area score, which again is weighted and summed into a domain score. There are 12 essential domains of indigenous peoples’ rights, which are measured by both the national and the community questionnaire.

Figure 2: The 12 Domains



The domain scores make it possible to compare the state of recognition of indigenous peoples' rights in national laws, policies, etc. with the state of realization of indigenous peoples' rights at the community-level.

For example, there are 4 questions included in the calculation of the area score of Consultation and free, prior and informed consent within the national survey, all equally weighted within the area. On the other hand the area Non-discrimination has 7 questions included in the calculation of the area score. The weight for question 17 (National action plans developed by States, in consultation and cooperation with indigenous peoples, to achieve the ends of the UNDRIP) is 7% of this area score, whereas the weight for question 20 (Does the State, in censuses and household surveys, collect disaggregated data to monitor the achievement of the SDGs by indigenous peoples and individuals?) is 22%.

Table 2: Example of question weights within an area

Area	Question	Question weight within Area
Non-discrimination	Q23(LNS): Has the State developed policies and programs to promote capacity-building and strengthen leadership of indigenous women?	33%
	Q13(LNS): Has the country ratified the following instruments?	13%
	Q16(LNS): Are there laws and policies, within the following thematic areas, that are in direct violation of indigenous peoples' rights:	12%
	Q17(LNS): Has the State developed a national action plan, strategies or other measures in consultation and cooperation with indigenous peoples, to achieve the ends of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)?	7%
	Q19(LNS): Has the State developed initiatives to promote awareness of UNDRIP among members of legislatures, the judiciary and the civil service?	2%
	Q18(LNS): If the state has developed an action plan, strategies or other measures to achieve the ends of the UNDRIP, do these comprise special measures to promote and protect the rights of indigenous persons with disabilities, and to improve their social and economic conditions?	11%
	Q20(LNS): Does the State, in censuses and household surveys, collect disaggregated data to monitor the achievement of the SDGs by indigenous peoples and individuals?	22%
Consultation and free, prior and informed consent	Q32(LNS): Does national legislation recognise the state's duty to consult with indigenous peoples in order to obtain their free, prior and informed consent before adopting or implementing national legislative or administrative measures that may affect them?	25%
	Q33(LNS): Does national legislation recognise the state's duty to consult with indigenous peoples in order to obtain their free, prior and informed consent prior to approval of any project that may affect their lands, territories or resources?	25%
	Q34(LNS): Has the State developed operational procedures or mechanisms for consultation with indigenous peoples at the following levels?	25%
	Q48(LNS): Does the State ensure that social, spiritual, cultural and environmental impact assessments are undertaken prior to approval of projects that may affect indigenous peoples' lands, territories or resources, with the participation of indigenous peoples' representative institutions?	25%

Likewise, there are 5 areas within the domain Self-determination: Non-discrimination counts for 12,5% of the total domain score (with 7 questions included in the area score), whereas the area Consultation and free, prior and informed consent count for 25% of the Self-determination domain score (with 4 questions included in the area score). In that way the impact of a question on the domain score differ depending on the importance of the question and area.

Table 3: Example of area weights within an domain

Domain	Area	Area weights within Domain
Self-determination	Self-determination	13%
	Self-government and autonomus institutions	25%
	Non-discrimination	13%
	Customary law	25%
	Consultation and free, prior and informed consent	25%

3. Index score

Finally, the domain scores at respectively community and national level is weighted and aggregated into the index score. The index value for both the national and the community level also runs from 0 to 100, depending on the level of recognition and implementation of indigenous peoples' rights. The Navigator National Index and the Indigenous Navigator Community Index are tools that serve to assess and illustrate countries' progress and challenges with regard to recognizing and implementing indigenous peoples' rights.

Comparing Scores of areas, domains and index

When an Indigenous Navigator Community Index and an Indigenous Navigator National Index have both been generated for the same country, a comparison of the two will show whether communities' experiences of actual respect for their rights reflect the level of recognition of their rights in national legislation, policies and programmes.

Likewise, Index Values can be compared across communities, across countries or over time if the data gathering is repeated. Moreover, the same can be done for both the domain and area scores.