

## UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues' Annual Session

April 20 to May 1, 2026, UN Headquarters in New York

**Side Event:** Indigenous Economies and Jobs

**Date:** April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026

**Language:** English and Spanish

**Time and venue:** 15:00-16:15 - UN Headquarters in New York - CR-5 – **In-Person Only**

### 1. Description

Over the next decade, [1.2 billion young people in developing economies will reach working age, but current projections indicate only 400 million jobs will be created](#), leaving an 800-million-job gap. As the World Bank Group scales its focus on jobs and inclusive growth, Indigenous Peoples, and Indigenous youth in particular, face structural barriers to access economic opportunities, that if not addressed, will further exacerbate existing inequalities. According to the International Labor Organization (ILO) more than 86 percent of Indigenous workers globally are employed in the informal economy, compared to approximately 66 percent of non-Indigenous workers. Informality is often associated with poor working conditions, income insecurity, and limited access to social protection. Empowering Indigenous economies and territories through securing territorial and resource rights, enhancing access to finance, strengthening enabling policy frameworks, and building entrepreneurial capacity will be essential building blocks to ensure the vitality of Indigenous territories for future generations.

This Side Event will discuss how key Indigenous economies: tourism, pastoralism and ecosystem services, hold the potential to create jobs and income-generation opportunities while respecting and revitalizing Indigenous knowledge and cultures. Representatives from the *Indigenous Livelihoods Enhancement Partners (ILEPA)*, *Destination Original Indigenous Tourism (DO-IT)*, and the *Indigenous Youth Network from Latin America and the Caribbean* will join World Bank Group (WBG) and the International Labor Organization (ILO) to jointly discuss Indigenous economies as a vehicle for the vitality of Indigenous territories for future generations.

### 2. Organizers

**Lead Organizations:** World Bank Group and International Labor Organization.

**Partner Organizations:** Indigenous Livelihoods Enhancement Partners (ILEPA), Destination Original Indigenous Tourism (DO-IT) and *Red de Jóvenes Indígenas de America Latina y el Caribe*, member of the *Foro Indígena Abya Yala (FLAY)*.

### 3. Run of Show

Side Event on Jobs and Indigenous Peoples – Run of Show (75 minutes)			
Time		Speaker	Material/PPT Slide (if any)
15:00 – 15:05	<b>Welcome Remarks</b> (5 minutes)	Dianna Pizarro, Indigenous Peoples, Global Coordinator, World Bank	
15:05 – 15:10	<b>World Bank:</b> The Jobs Challenge and Indigenous Youth (5 minutes)	Dianna Pizarro, Indigenous Peoples, Global Coordinator, World Bank	One slide on the WBG approach to jobs.

15:10 – 15:20	– <b>ILO:</b> The Employment and Decent Work Situation of Indigenous Peoples (10 minutes)	Hernán Coronado, Indigenous Peoples, Specialist for Latin America, International Labor Organization	<i>Two slides with data points</i>
15:20 – 15:30	– <b>ILEPA:</b> Pastoralism and Jobs (10 minutes)	Stanley Kimaren ole Riamit, Founder and Director	
15:30 – 15:40	– <b>DO-IT:</b> Jobs and Indigenous Tourism (10 minutes)	Sébastien Desnoyers-Picard, President and CEO, Destination Original Indigenous Tourism (DO-IT)	<i>One slide with data points on Indigenous tourism.</i>
15:40 – 15:50	– <b>Red de Jóvenes Indígenas de America Latina y el Caribe :</b> Youth and Jobs. (10 minutes)	Gabriel, Representative, Red de Jóvenes Indígenas de America Latina y el Caribe.	
15:50 – 16:05	– <b>Q&amp;A</b> (15 minutes)	Hernán Coronado, Indigenous Peoples, Specialist for Latin America, International Labor Organization	
16:05 – 16:10	– <b>Closing Remarks</b> (5 minutes)	<b>Shaun Mann,</b> Senior Private Sector Development Specialist, WBG	

#### 4. Speakers [*Short bios and headshots will be added*]

**Dianna Pizarro**, Indigenous Peoples, Global Coordinator, World Bank

**Hernán Coronado**, Indigenous Peoples Specialist for Latin America, International Labor Organization

**Stanley Kimaren ole Riamit**, Founder and Director, Indigenous Livelihoods Enhancement Partners (ILEPA)

**Sébastien Desnoyers-Picard**, President and CEO, Destination Original Indigenous Tourism (DO-IT)

**Gabriel Cuatín Cuesta**, Representative, Red de Jóvenes Indígenas de America Latina y el Caribe

**Shaun Mann** Senior Private Sector Development Specialist, WBG

#### 5. Short bios and headshots

## **Dianna Pizarro**



Dianna Pizarro is the World Bank's Global Coordinator for Indigenous Peoples. In this role, Ms. Pizarro leads a cross-practice Indigenous Peoples Platform focused on strengthening strategic engagement, enhancing direct finance, and advancing risk management with Indigenous Peoples as development partners. Prior to this role she worked as a Senior Social Development Specialist in the World Bank's Europe and Central Asia (ECA) and the Latin American and Caribbean (LCR) regions. Ms. Pizarro has led and supported investment projects, policy lending operations, and grant projects focused on increasing inclusion and voice of Indigenous Peoples, Afro-descendants, Roma, and local communities across a broad range of sectors and countries.

## **Hernán Coronado**



Hernan serves as a Specialist in Indigenous Peoples and acts as the ILO focal point for Indigenous Peoples' issues in the Latin America and the Caribbean region. He is currently based in La Paz, where he coordinates the ILO Project Office in Bolivia. He previously worked at the ILO Offices in Guatemala and Peru. He holds a degree in law from the Universidad San Martín de Porres (Peru), and a Master's Degree in Conflict and Development from Universitat Jaume I (Spain). He has over 22 years of national and international experience in International Law and Indigenous Peoples' Law. He has held executive positions within the public administration in Peru, served as a consultant for United Nations agencies, and acted as a visiting professor specializing in International Law and Indigenous Peoples within the Legal Anthropology Program at the Faculty of Law, University of Chile. Additionally, he has taught postgraduate courses at the Universidad Mayor de San Marcos and the Universidad Antonio Ruiz de Montoya (Peru).

## **Stanley Kimaren ole Riamit**



Ole Riamit is an Indigenous Peoples' leader from the Pastoralists Maasai Community in southern Kenya and the Founder-Director of Indigenous Livelihoods Enhancement Partners (ILEPA). He holds a Master of Arts degree in Development Anthropology from McGill University (Canada), and holds a Post Graduate Diploma in Project Planning and Management, from the Catholic University of Eastern Africa (CUEA), and a BSc. degree in Foods, Nutrition and Dietetics from Egerton University, Kenya. ILEPA serves as the Secretariat of a Pan-African Dialogue platform for CSOs and IPs Observers to REDD+ related processes. Kimaren has extensive exposure and experience in engaging with and influencing international processes and mechanism of interests to Indigenous Peoples. He has for example served as Chair of the International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change (IIPFCC), Anglophone African representatives to the World Bank's Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) and most recently as Southern CSOs Active Observer to the Green Climate Fund (GCF) among other important portfolios.

### **Sébastien Desnoyers-Picard**



Sébastien Desnoyers Picard is an Indigenous leader from the Wendat Nation in Quebec City, Canada and one of the leading global architects of the modern Indigenous tourism movement. A former elected Chief of his Nation, he has dedicated his career to advancing Indigenous led solutions that strengthen cultural sovereignty while driving measurable economic and social benefits for Indigenous communities. As President and CEO of Destination Original Indigenous Tourism (DO-IT), Sébastien leads the world's first global Indigenous tourism organization, bringing together the collective leadership of the Indigenous Tourism Association of Canada, the American Indigenous Tourism Association, and New Zealand Māori Tourism. Under his guidance, DO-IT is reframing global perspectives on Indigenous tourism, shaping new international standards of excellence, and mobilizing countries to join a worldwide Indigenous led movement.

### **Gabriel Cuatín Cuesta**



Gabriel is an Indigenous youth from the Muellamués Indigenous Reserve in Pasto (Colombia). He is a member of the *Red de Jóvenes Indígenas de América Latina y el Caribe* and previously acted as the Focal Point for the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus. Through these platforms, Gabriel has championed an agenda that bridges the local with the global to build the capacity of Indigenous youth across the region, while taking into account pressing global issues such as climate change and biodiversity loss. Currently, he is a member of the academic team for a training program on Climate Fund Monitoring for Indigenous Youth Empowerment—an initiative that has already trained nearly 90 Indigenous youth from various countries throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. Furthermore, he has actively promoted the participation of Indigenous youth in international forums, such as the COPs on climate change and biodiversity. In his own community, Gabriel has spearheaded youth initiatives focused on the protection of Indigenous rights and territory. He is currently conducting research—from a socio-ecological perspective—on the impact of agricultural and livestock practices on the *páramo* ecosystem, specifically examining the phenomenon of expanding dairy farming operations.

**Shaun Mann, Senior Private Sector Development Specialist, WBG**



Shaun Mann is a Senior Tourism Specialist with the World Bank Group’s Tourism Hub. He is a tourism development professional with 35+ years of experience. First as a safari operator and lodge owner in his home country of Uganda, later as an advisor in the Government of Uganda overseeing the establishment and operations of Uganda Tourism Board, and for the last 22 years working on tourism development in the World Bank Group. Shaun has worked on tourism projects in more than 50 countries and provided leadership, support and advice to over 200 World Bank Group lending operations and advisory projects.