

Shell International B.V.

Statement on human rights and the rights of indigenous peoples.

Submitted to Business & Human Rights Research Centre, on 01 July 2021.

Human rights are fundamental to Shell's core values of honesty, integrity and respect for people. We want to make a positive impact on society, contributing to a more diverse and inclusive world. Shell is committed to respecting human rights as set out in the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Labour Organization Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work. We have an integrated approach to human rights that is informed by the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. This approach is embedded in our policies and processes which are applicable to all employees and contractors, allowing us to manage human rights within our ways of working.

Shell supports voluntary codes such as OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, IFC Environmental and Social Standards, UN Global Compact 10 Principles.

Our operations in certain parts of the world affect indigenous peoples who hold specific rights for the protection of their cultures, traditional ways of life and special connections to lands and waters. In some countries, for example in Canada, Australia, Bolivia and Philippines, indigenous peoples hold specific rights recognised by law that protect their cultures and ways of life. In line with Shell's General Business Principles, and in support of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, our approach is to continue seeking the support and agreement of indigenous peoples potentially affected by our projects. We do this through mutually agreed, transparent and culturally appropriate consultation and impact management processes. It requires open dialogue, good faith negotiations, and, where appropriate, the development of agreements that address the needs of indigenous peoples.

We recognise the principle of free, prior and informed consent (FPIC), as interpreted by the International Finance Corporation Performance Standards, as a safeguard for indigenous peoples' rights. We developed a public position statement on FPIC and believe our approach is consistent with the application of this principle, while respecting the laws of the jurisdictions in which we operate. Shell is also an active member of the FPIC Solutions Dialogue steering committee. It is an initiative to develop practical guidance and to support FPIC community processes relating to mining and oil and gas projects.

A few recent examples of our engagements with Indigenous communities around the world include:

- In Bolivia, we are working with the Weenhayek indigenous people and a local non-governmental organisation to develop a social investment project that aims to help preserve cultural practices and provide community benefits. This work includes improving food security and supporting income-generating projects for more than 1,000 community members. The Weenhayek people live and work in areas near our La Vertiente gas operations, which are being transferred to the government.
- In 2020, we announced a joint reforestation project with T̄silhqot'in National Government in a region of Western Canada affected by recent wildfires. Shell-funded tree planting will be managed by Central Chilcotin Rehabilitation, a T̄silhqot'in forestry company. The project aims to plant around 840,000 trees in affected areas that have not regenerated naturally. Potential benefits of the project include indigenous employment opportunities and forest ecosystem rejuvenation. It may also lead to opportunities to generate carbon credits in future.

- In Argentina, we continued our extensive engagement sessions with indigenous people, as well as local farmers and nearby communities, in the Vaca Muerta shales basin in Neuquén. This included incorporating community feedback into our operational plans and schedules. We also help indigenous community members improve agricultural production through technical assistance and our employee volunteer programme. Through this outreach, we have managed to develop strong relationships with the community in the basin, avoiding impact on other people and disruption to our activities.

In addition to this, we have ongoing engagements with indigenous communities in Canada, Australia, Russia and other countries.