









### VIRTUAL TRAINING COURSE

Human Rights in Nature-based Solutions for Climate Change Adaptation











NEW ZEALAND FOREIGN AFFAIRS & TRA MODULE 1 Introduction to Human Rights and

Nature-based Solutions

#### Overall training objectives:

- Build knowledge, capacity and practical skills for understanding linkages between human rights and NbS
- 2. Provide practitioners with basic tools to support integrating human rights in NbS

### The specific learning outcomes:

- Participants know what human rights are and why they matter when designing and implementing NbS
- 2. Participants will have some basic tools to integrate human rights into NbS





# The following topics are explored as part of this module:

1

Understanding what are human rights

2

What is the relationship between human rights and the environment

3

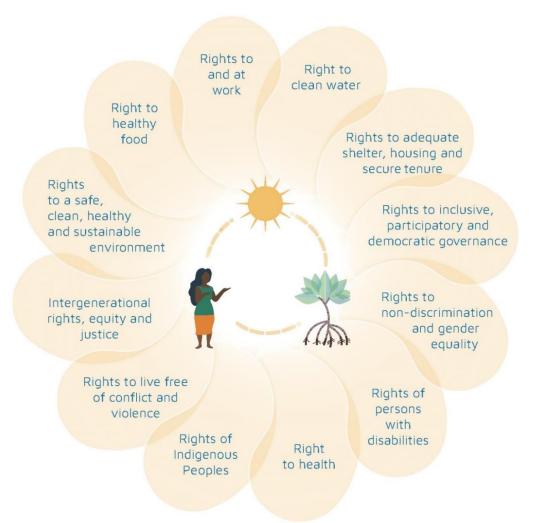
An introduction to 12 specific human rights and their application to Nature-based Solutions (NbS), with examples to demonstrate their relevance





# At the end of this training, participants:

- 1. Know what human rights are and why they matter when designing and implementing NbS
- 2. Be able to start to identity which human rights their NbS may enhance, and which ones may be impacted





**OUTLINE OF MODULE 1** 

- What are human rights?
- Understanding NbS
- Framework for examining human rights in NbS
- Activity 1 Mapping Human Rights in NbS
- Activity 2 Mapping Human Rights in your NbS project

### **TOPICS:**

- What are human rights?
- Interaction between rights and the environment

# Session 1.1 What are Human Rights?

### 1.1.1 What are human rights?

Human Rights are rights inherent to all human beings, regardless of race, sex, nationality, ethnicity, language, religion, or any other status.

Human rights include the right to life and liberty, freedom from slavery and torture, freedom of opinion and expression, the right to work and education, and many more.

Everyone is entitled to these rights, without discrimination.



sanitation, to housing, to participation in

(UN Human Rights Procedures, 2018)

The Danish Institute for Human Rights (2018). Human rights - based approach [Video] URL <a href="https://youtu.be/DchjpjHOoaE">https://youtu.be/DchjpjHOoaE</a>





### 1.1.2 Key Principles of Human rights

- Human rights are universal & inalienable, indivisible & interdependent, and equal & nondiscriminating
- Healthy environment = Human Rights;
   inversely
- Rights with responsibility. Responsible people know what their rights are and respect the rights of others. Being responsible means you care about other people's rights.
- Human Rights includes gender equality

Universal & inalienable
Human rights belong to all human beings and cannot be taken away from them.

Equal & nondiscriminating
All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights.

Indivisible & Interdependent
One set of rights cannot be enjoyed fully without the



### **TOPICS:**

- Defining NbS
- IUCN Global Standard

### Session 1.2

What are Nature-based Solutions?

### 1.2.1 : IUCN Global Standard for Nature-based Solutions

Nature-based Solutions (NbS) are actions to address societal challenges through the protection, sustainable management and restoration of ecosystems, benefiting both biodiversity and human well-being.

The IUCN Global Standard for NbS is a tool to help governments, communities, business and NGOs implement strong, effective NbS projects that are ambitious in scale and sustainable, prevent misuse and safeguard people and planet.





### 1.2.2 : What societal Challenges do NbS Address?



Climate change mitigation and adaptation



Disaster risk reduction



Economic and social development



Human health



Food security



Water security



Environmental degradation and biodiversity loss



# Session 1.3 Human Rights in Nature-based Solutions

# 1.3.1

#### 1.3.1: Human Rights

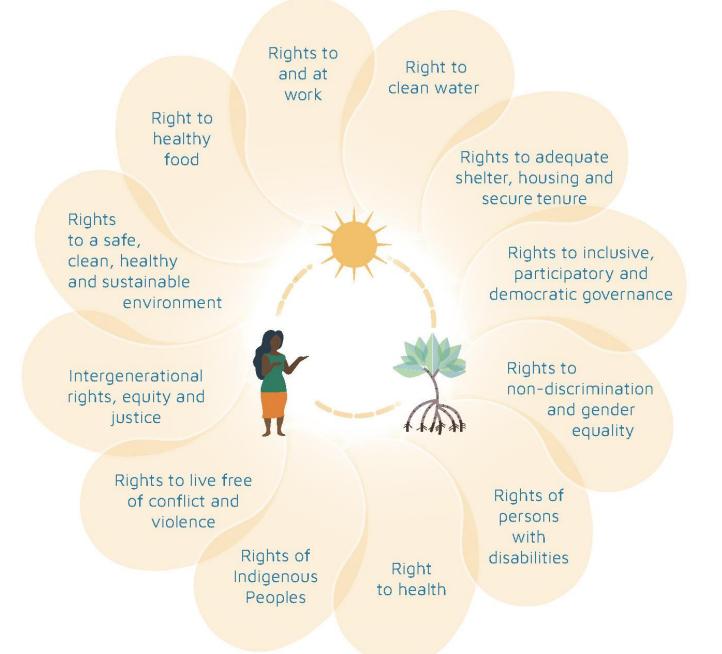
It is important to ensure that biodiversity policies, governance and management do not violate human rights and that those implementing such policies actively seek ways to support and promote human rights in their design and implementation.

When designing and implementing NbS projects, keep in mind:

- that human rights are universal & inalienable, interdependent & indivisible, and equal & non-discriminating, meaning that the violation of one right may impair the enjoyment of other human rights and should be considered;
- how the rights of the individual(s) impact(s)
   the rights of others; and
- the rights to non-discrimination and gender equality and rights of those living with a disability, are cross-cutting and apply to all of the rights.



12 human rights to consider when designing and implementing NbS



Human Rights in NbS for Climate Change Adaptation



# Rights to non-discrimination and gender equality



Non-discrimination and equality are fundamental human rights principles and components that interlink with all other human rights.



# 02

### Rights of Persons with Disabilities



Those living with disabilities are some of the most marginalised, and face numerous barriers, including when it comes to contributing to and benefiting from NbS.

1.7 million people in PICs, or nearly 15% of the total population of the region, are living with a disability, a figure which is likely to significantly increase.



### Rights to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment

A healthy and sustainable environment is needed in order to respect, protect and fulfil human rights.

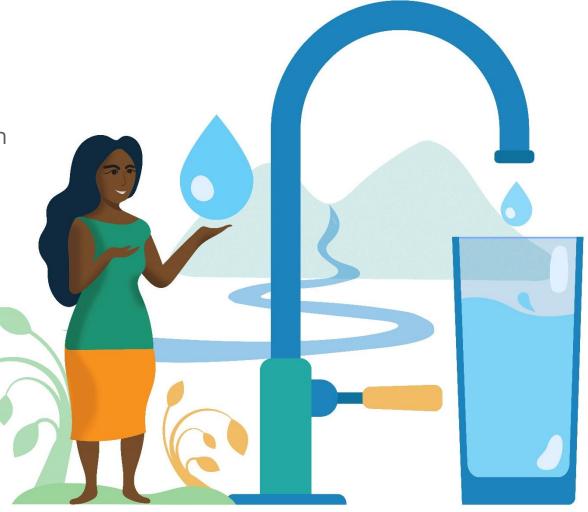






#### Right to clean water

Access to safe water is a fundamental human need and therefore, a basic human right. Universal access to clean water and adequate sanitation are prerequisites for healthy and prosperous societies.



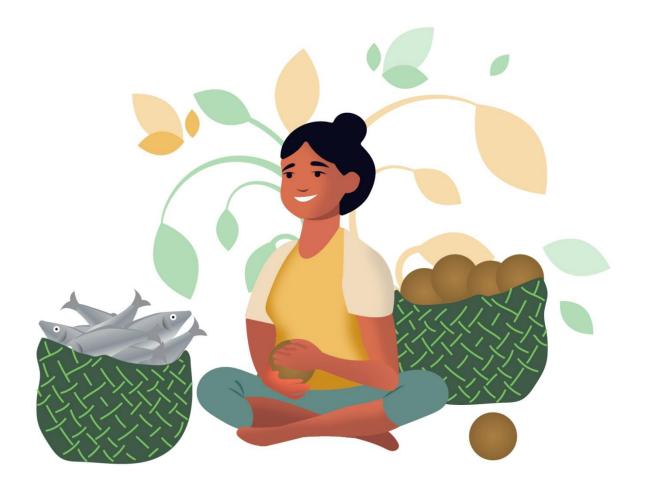




### Right to healthy food

Decision-making around NbS that may affect food systems short or long-term requires the inputs of all stakeholders that might be affected.

Particular attention needs to be on the inclusion of women and the key role they play in household food security in many cultural contexts, as well as marginalised groups.







### Rights to adequate shelter, housing and secure tenure



Most countries in the Pacific have recognised and protected Indigenous communities' rights to land, and land-sea tenure is an important part of Pacific Islanders' cultural identity.





### Right to health

The right to health as an inclusive right that extends not only to timely and appropriate health care but also to those factors that determine good health.

Pacific Islanders may depend on plants for health purposes which may include physical, mental or emotional health.





# 80

### Rights to and at work

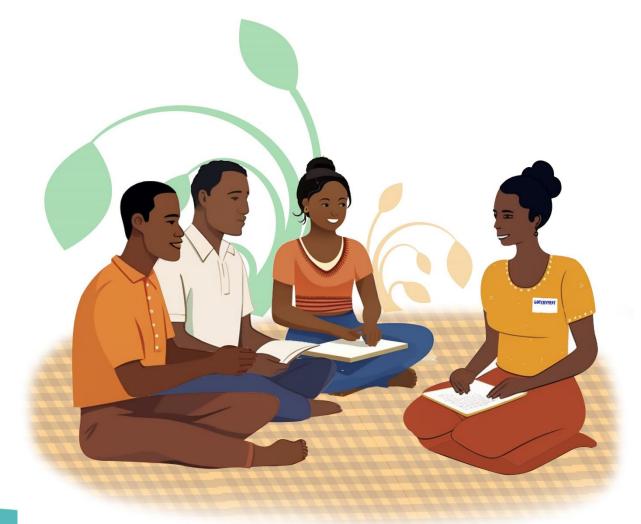


NbS projects should consider if interventions being proposed will limit or alter individuals and groups of individuals' (e.g. fishers) rights to earn a living, including from nature-based livelihoods.





## O9 Rights to inclusive, participatory and democratic governance







### Rights of Indigenous Peoples

NbS project must put in place social safeguards to respect and protect Indigenous rights to the lands, waters and resources that they have traditionally owned, occupied or used.







# Rights to live free of conflict and violence





# 12

# Intergenerational rights, equity and justice





UNSR on human rights and environment (2021). Recognizing the human right to healthy environment [Video]

URL <a href="https://youtu.be/ytDeHt6">https://youtu.be/ytDeHt6</a>





### Activity 1: Mapping Human Rights in NbS

Following is a short video about a development project in the Pacific. Using the project, consider the following questions.

- List three rights which the project directly/explicitly promotes.
- How does the project enhance, promote, and/or protect human rights through its project design and implementation?

- What approaches to community engagement does the project feature?
- How does the project emphasis being inclusive, to address/enhance human rights, governance, other consideration of risks to vulnerable groups?
- Consider which of the 12 rights may be at risk due to the implementation of the project.
- How may the risks to human rights be mitigated throughout the project?



Pacific Community (2019).

A human rights based approach – PLANET [Video] URL <a href="https://youtu.be/tVPvzvTROLQ">https://youtu.be/tVPvzvTROLQ</a>





# Activity 2: Mapping Human Rights in your NbS Project

Now, pick an NbS project that you are currently working on, or have been involved with. Write the name of the project and what it is aiming to do. Then think about which human rights are going to be potentially impacted (positively and negatively) by your project. Try and answer the following questions for your project.

- List three rights which the NbS project directly/explicitly promotes.
- How does the project enhance, promote, and/or protect human rights through its project design and implementation?

- What approaches to community engagement does the project feature?
- How does the project emphasis being inclusive, to address/enhance human rights, governance, other consideration of risks to vulnerable groups?
- Consider which of the 12 rights may be at risk due to the implementation of the project.
- How may the risks to human rights be mitigated throughout the project?













### END OF MODULE 1

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