

# Linking indigenous communities with regional and rural development

**Chris McDonald**

**Regional Development Policy Division  
Directorate for Public Governance and Territorial Development OECD**



# Outline

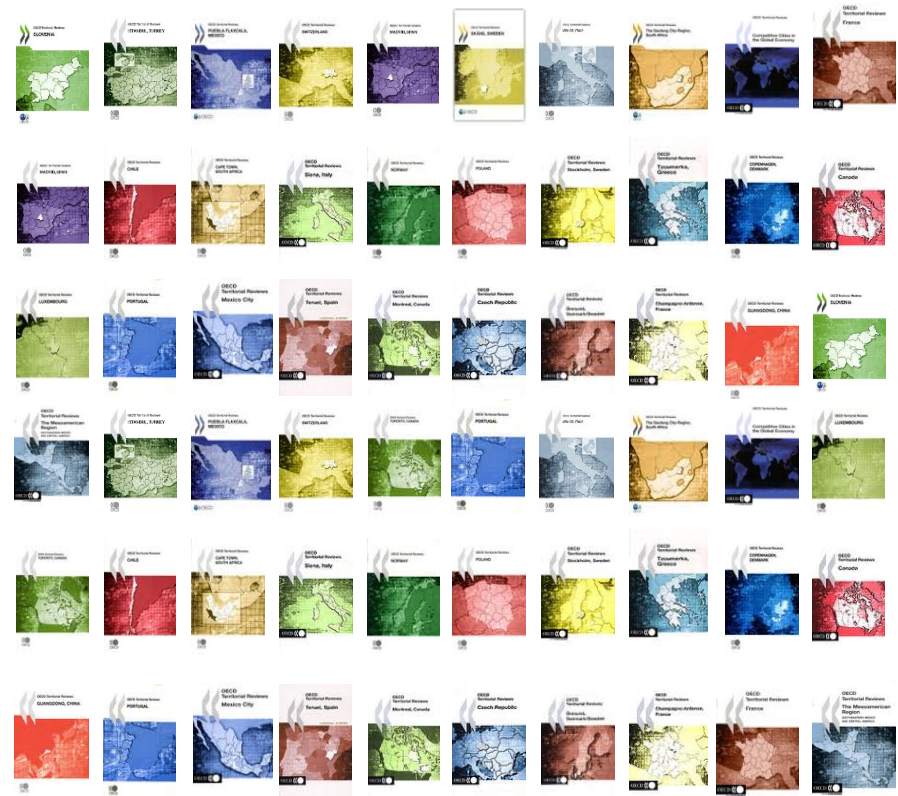
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1. OECD approach to rural development
2. Why indigenous communities are important to rural and regional development
3. Better linking indigenous communities with regional and rural development



# Regional Development Policy Division

- Almost 20 National Reviews (since 2000)
  - Around 35 Regional Reviews (since 2000)
  - 11 National Rural Policy Review
  - 3 National Urban Policy Reviews
  - Thematic reviews (e.g. urban-rural linkages, and linking renewable energy with rural development)
- ➔ Large knowledge pool and qualitative database from which to identify good policy!



<http://www.oecd.org/gov/regional-policy/>



# The OECD Rural Policy Paradigm 3.0.

## Integrating policies, actors and places

	Old Paradigm	New Rural Paradigm (2006)	Rural Policy 3.0 –Implementing the New Rural Paradigm
<b>Objectives</b>	Equalization	Competitiveness	Well-being considering multiple dimensions of (i) the economy (ii) society and (iii) the environment
<b>Policy Focus</b>	Support for a single dominant resource sector	Support for multiple sectors based on their competitiveness	Low density economies differentiated by type of rural
<b>Tools</b>	Subsidies for firms	Investments in qualified firms and communities	Integrated rural development approach - spectrum of support to public sector, firms and third sector
<b>Key Actors &amp; Stakeholders</b>	Farm organizations and national governments	All levels of government and all relevant departments plus local stakeholders	Involvement of (i) public sector - multi-level governance, (ii) private sector - for-profit firms and social enterprise, and (iii) third sector – non-governmental organisations and civil society
<b>P o l i c y Approach</b>	Uniformly applied top down policy	Bottom-up policy, local strategies	Integrated approach with multiple policy domains
<b>R u r a l Definition</b>	Not urban	Rural as a variety of distinct types of place	Three types of rural: i) embedded in metropolitan region, ii) adjacent to metropolitan region, and iii) far from metropolitan regions



# Indigenous population across OECD countries

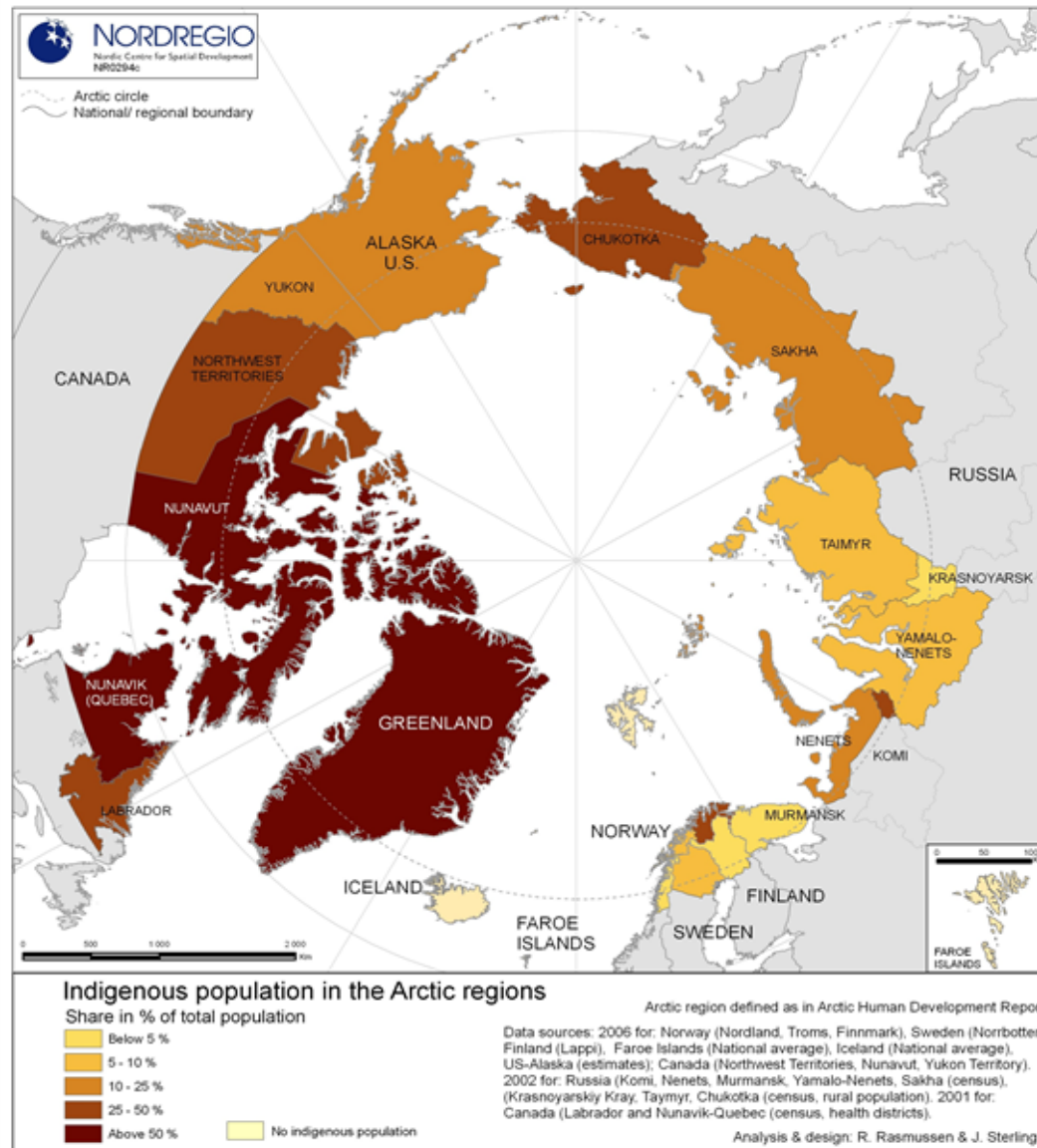
Country	Indigenous peoples	Population	% national population
Australia	Indigenous/Koori	670 000	2.8
Canada	First nation/Inuit/Metis	1 400 685	3.9
Chile	Various	1 565 915	8.7
Denmark (Greenland)*	Inuit	51 377	0.9 (91.6)
Finland	Sami	8 000	0.1
France (New Caledonia)*	Kanak	70 000	0.1 (25.9)
Japan	Anui	28 782	0.02
Mexico	Various	15 703 474	12.4
New Zealand	Māori	645 000	14.0
Norway	Sami	50 000 – 65 000	1.0 – 1.3
Sweden	Sami	20 000	0.2
United States	American Indian/Alaskan native	5 200 000	1.6

Source: Food and Agricultural Organisation (<http://www.fao.org/indigenous-peoples/en/>) and World Bank

\*Greenland is defined as an autonomous country within Denmark, whilst New Caledonia is a special collectivity of France



# Indigenous populations are significant in rural and remote areas





# Why indigenous communities are important to rural (and national) economies

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## **Connection to land:**

- Legal recognition/rights and stewardship of land, sea, and resources - key players in shaping tradeable sectors
- Local knowledge that is important for managing natural resources and adapting to climate change

## **Source of economic growth and opportunity:**

- Unique business and employment opportunities (e.g. ecotourism, food and agriculture, natural resource management) that can diversify remote economies
- Indigenous populations are generally growing faster than non-indigenous populations – labour resource and consumption of services

## **Significant barriers to economic participation remain:**

- Experience poorer socio-economic outcomes (health, education, housing, and employment) – latent potential and key to achieving inclusive growth



# Institutional challenges remain

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## **Challenging and difficult historical context:**

- Historical context of assimilation, dispossession and conflict – resulting in lack of trust in mainstream institutions
- Indigenous communities can still be seen as an impediment to economic development (e.g. conflicts over mining and infrastructure projects)
- Engagement processes by government and private sector which are not culturally appropriate

## **Self-determination can also generate challenges:**

- Variability in institutional structure and capacity
- Lack of multilevel governance with state and regional/local administrations – often governed by bilateral relationship with national agency
- Governance of reservations separate from its surrounding regional context
- Lack of reliable data and information about local communities and economies





# Institutions and policies

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## **Empowerment**

- Empowering indigenous communities to participate in decision making and co-produce services
- Acknowledging and supporting the role of informal coordination, particularly brokers and social entrepreneurs who can build linkages with institutions and markets

## **Institutions and multi-level governance:**

- Supporting regional development practitioners to incorporate indigenous issues and aspirations into regional policies
- Identifying ways to improve multi-level governance (devolution of resources, role of central agencies)

## **Improving regional and rural development strategies:**

- Examining ways to improve data collection and incorporating indigenous norms and values into how we understand regional economies
- Assessing the economic potential of indigenous communities within a regional context (including enabling conditions whilst incorporating traditional values)



## Policy instruments and tools

### Range of options to explore, including ...

- Supporting entrepreneurship and business growth including access to capital and financial intermediation (e.g. micro credit)
- Skills and education – school attendance, mentoring, pathways into work and vocational training
- Unlocking the economic value of land e.g. clarifying/simplifying leasing and land use administration
- Home ownership – access to capital and shared equity schemes
- Assessing the appropriate role of the public sector in stimulating indigenous economic development e.g. procurement and public sector employment
- Capacity building – leadership programmes, corporate governance, and management training
- ...



# Development of road map and tool kit to implement this approach

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- **Scoping phase:** test interest of member countries to undertake further work in this area, and seek their input to the development of a thematic project.
- **Work collaboratively with member countries and place-based indigenous communities** to assess:
  - Regional socio-economic performance, growth potential, and unexploited resources
  - Policies for enhancing regional competitiveness, attractiveness and sustainable development (e.g. human capital; physical infrastructure; business environment; social cohesion)
  - Efficacy of local institutions and multi-level governance arrangements linking indigenous communities with regional and rural development
  - Specific sub-theme important to the development of the community (e.g. service delivery, skills, tourism, extractive industries)
- **Deliver recommendations** to:
  - improve national policy settings and programmes for Indigenous communities in rural areas
  - Improve outcomes for place-based indigenous communities

thank you

[Chris.MCDONALD@oecd.org](mailto:Chris.MCDONALD@oecd.org)