

WIG MANDATE & SCOPE DOCUMENT

Approved by WIG General Assembly



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WIG Mandate & Scope Document

SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

The **World Council of Indigenous Games (WIG)** is an international, non-governmental, and non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation, development, promotion, and global recognition of Indigenous traditional games, sports, and cultural heritage. Established in India and supported by members from over **100 countries**, WIG provides a unified international platform to bring Indigenous communities together through sport, culture, and identity.

Indigenous games are more than mere physical activities—they represent centuries-old knowledge systems, ecological relationships, spiritual practices, community traditions, and intergenerational learning. WIG recognizes that the safeguarding of Indigenous sports is a critical component of protecting intangible cultural heritage and strengthening Indigenous identity.

WIG works at the intersection of **cultural heritage, sport development, education, community empowerment, youth leadership, and sustainable development**, making it a globally relevant and culturally sensitive organization.

SECTION 2: MANDATE OF WIG

The mandate of WIG establishes its authority, purpose, and organizational responsibility on the global stage.

2.1 Cultural Preservation Mandate

WIG is mandated to:

- Preserve, document, and revitalize Indigenous games passed down through traditional knowledge.
- Support Indigenous Elders, cultural practitioners, and knowledge keepers who safeguard traditional play.
- Establish archives, databases, and research centres to protect the cultural memory of Indigenous sports.

2.2 Representation & Advocacy Mandate

WIG acts as the **global voice** for Indigenous sports and traditional games by:

- Representing Indigenous communities in global forums, especially at UN agencies (UNESCO, UNPFII, WHO, UNCCD, UNICEF).
- Advocating for Indigenous rights, cultural recognition, and fair inclusion in sports governance.
- Promoting the recognition of Indigenous athletes, leaders, and cultural practitioners.

2.3 Development Mandate

WIG is mandated to develop, strengthen, and modernize Indigenous sports frameworks through:

- Policy development for safeguarding Indigenous sports.
- Professional training of coaches, referees, educators, and community leaders.
- Creating modern systems while respecting cultural authenticity.

2.4 Promotion & Visibility Mandate

WIG must promote Indigenous games by:

- Organizing global, continental, and regional Indigenous Games.
- Providing media exposure, documentation, and digital promotion.
- Encouraging national governments to integrate Indigenous games into education and sports programs.

2.5 Youth & Community Empowerment Mandate

WIG is dedicated to:

- Empowering Indigenous youth through sport-based leadership programs.
- Promoting gender equality and inclusive participation.
- Supporting community-based sport development initiatives.

2.6 Sustainable Development Mandate

WIG aligns its mission with the **UN Sustainable Development Goals**, promoting:

- Health (SDG 3) through culturally grounded physical activities.
- Education (SDG 4) through sporting knowledge and cultural curriculum.
- Gender Equality (SDG 5).
- Reduced inequalities (SDG 10).
- Sustainable communities (SDG 11).
- Peace and inter-cultural harmony (SDG 16).

SECTION 3: VISION, MISSION & VALUES

3.1 Vision

To build a world where Indigenous sports are celebrated, recognized, and protected as vital expressions of cultural heritage, identity, and community wellbeing.

3.2 Mission

To unite Indigenous communities globally through sport, empower cultural practitioners, facilitate intercultural exchange, and support sustainable development through Indigenous traditional games.

3.3 Core Organizational Values

- **Respect for Indigenous Knowledge**
- **Cultural Integrity & Authenticity**
- **Inclusion & Equality**
- **Sustainability, Peace & Solidarity**
- **Community-Centric Leadership**
- **Intergenerational Learning**
- **Environmental Harmony**

SECTION 4: SCOPE OF WORK

WIG's scope spans strategic, operational, cultural, educational, and advocacy dimensions.

4.1 Programmatic Scope

A. Preservation, Research & Documentation

- **Establishment of an International Centre for Indigenous Games Research.**
- **Ethnographic studies of traditional games, rituals, and associated cultural knowledge.**
- **Digital archiving of games, equipment, and oral histories.**
- **Documentation in multiple languages to ensure global access.**

B. Global Indigenous Games Events

- **Hosting the World Indigenous Games (flagship event).**

- Regional editions: Asian, African, American, European, and Oceania Indigenous Games.
- National Games support in member countries.
- Integration of cultural performances, storytelling, and rituals in event ceremonies.

C. Cultural Exchange & Inter-Community Cooperation

- Facilitating international Indigenous cultural exchange programs.
- Supporting festivals, exhibitions, and conferences.
- Creating global Indigenous networks for shared knowledge.

D. Youth Development & Leadership

- Establish **Youth Leadership Academies** focused on sports, culture, and identity.
- Scholarships for Indigenous athletes and cultural practitioners.
- School-based Indigenous sports curriculum development.

E. Women's Participation & Inclusion

- Promote traditional women-led sports.
- Support leadership roles for Indigenous women in sport administration.

F. Health, Wellness & Community Sports

- Encourage Indigenous games as tools for physical fitness, mental wellbeing, and community bonding.
- Tie programs with public health initiatives.

G. Training & Capacity Building

- Coach and referee certifications in Indigenous games.
- Training of community leaders, teachers, and sport educators.
- Toolkits and manuals for Indigenous sports development.

H. Policy & International Advocacy

- Develop policy frameworks for Indigenous Games recognition.
- Advise governments and organizations on integrating Indigenous sports into national systems.
- Present recommendations at UN forums.

4.2 Geographical Scope

WIG operates globally with focus areas such as:

- **Asia** - India, Nepal, Philippines, Japan, Indonesia, etc.
- **Africa** - Kenya, Nigeria, Ethiopia, South Africa, etc.
- **Americas** - Canada, USA, Brazil, Mexico, Indigenous nations.
- **Europe** - Sámi, Basque, Celtic, and other Indigenous communities.
- **Oceania** - Australia, New Zealand Māori, Pacific Island nations.

4.3 Community Scope

WIG serves:

- Tribal Nations
- Indigenous communities
- Cultural heritage organizations
- National sports federations
- Schools, colleges, universities
- NGOs working on culture and development
- Government bodies
- International institutions

SECTION 5: STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

5.1 Cultural Protection Strategy

- Prevent extinction of Indigenous games.
- Secure IP rights for Indigenous knowledge.
- Develop community-led preservation protocols.

5.2 Education & Curriculum Integration Strategy

- Partner with ministries of education.
- Introduce Indigenous sports into school PE programs.
- Publish curriculum books and digital modules.

5.3 Global Expansion Strategy

- Expand membership to 150+ countries by 2030.
- Establish regional headquarters in all continents.

5.4 Research & Innovation Strategy

- Develop modern training models rooted in tradition.
- Partner with universities and sport science institutes.

5.5 Intergovernmental Collaboration Strategy

- Forge partnerships with UNESCO, UNCCD, UNESCO-ICH, WHO, UNICEF.
- Submit annual reports on Indigenous sports status globally.

SECTION 6: GOVERNANCE SCOPE

WIG operates under a structured governance model. Please refer WIG Statutes - English Version

SECTION 7: OPERATIONAL FRAMEWORK

WIG operates under a structured operational framework model. Please refer WIG Statutes - English Version

SECTION 8: ETHICAL AND CULTURAL SAFEGUARDING

WIG operates under principles of:

- **Free, Prior & Informed Consent (FPIC)**
- Respect for traditional knowledge custodians
- Gender equality & youth protection
- Anti-discrimination & cultural dignity
- Environmentally sustainable practices
- Data protection and cultural IP safeguarding

SECTION 9: CONCLUSION

The **World Council of Indigenous Games (WIG)** stands as the global leader in advancing Indigenous sports, cultural heritage, and community empowerment. Its mandate and wide-ranging scope ensure that Indigenous games are not only preserved but also respected, developed, and shared with the world.

Through its international network, strategic initiatives, partnerships, and culturally rooted programs, WIG aims to create a future where Indigenous sporting traditions flourish as symbols of identity, unity, and global cultural diversity.
