



Minority
Rights
Group

Minority Rights Group Strategy 2025-2028

**Achieving Protection, Equity and Environmental
Justice for Minorities and Indigenous Peoples**



Cover:
Dagmara Sulkiewicz of the Muslim Religious Union in Poland, engrossed in a walking tour on the Jewish history of the 7th district of Budapest. The tour was part of the second central training of MRG's MARIO programme, subgranting to CSOs across Central and Eastern Europe. *Credit: Emilia Lola Eördögh.*



Back cover:
A Malay Muslim trader ties Sato beans into a bundle at a market in Muang Yala district in Thailand's Southern Border Provinces, near the border with Malaysia. This photo was taken as part of MRG's second yearly three-day photography training to inspire young people in the region to use the power of the camera as a form of non-violent resistance. *Credit: Shabirin U-soh.*

- 01** Our vision
- 02** Who we are
- 04** Intractable problems, proven solutions
- 06** Persecution
- 08** Marginalization
- 11** Climate justice
- 15** Cross-cutting themes
- 17** Toward change
- 20** Profile and added value

Our vision

We believe in the equal status of *all* human beings, not only those deemed worthy, talented, meritorious, intelligent, creative or valuable. We bear witness to how social structures ossify hatreds, prejudge people, divide them and predetermine their lives, often over generations.

We celebrate the myriad cultures, languages, religions and lifestyles around us. We are mindful of the extent to which different groups have often been deemed less worthy. We are conscious of the extent to which the forces of oppression have subjugated and dominated these communities and extracted their resources.

We marvel at unwritten human histories: for instance, of women who crafted survival strategies but are omitted from written records, who nurtured talent and built empathetic societies in harmony with nature.

Over our fifty-five years of existence we have listened to communities, collected evidence of the violations they face, and can testify to how entrenched structural discrimination based on narrow perceptions of worth have fragmented out societies.

We strive alongside our partners to overcome barriers, believing that well-informed and motivated people can replace the greed that has stolen and transferred our collective wealth to the hands of few with an empathy borne from an intrinsic belief in the equal dignity and worth of every individual and their community.

With this in mind, we work with minorities and indigenous peoples towards a world where the realization of human potential is not based on an accident of birth but achieved through building egalitarian societies informed by inclusive education and collective empathy.

At a time when our world and our societies face unprecedented challenges, ranging from climate change and conflict to disease and instability, the need for our work is greater than ever.

Who we are

Established in 1969, *Minority Rights Group* (MRG) is the leading international human rights organization working with minorities and indigenous peoples worldwide. We are guided by the needs expressed by our worldwide network of over 300 minority and indigenous-led local partner organizations to advocate for and secure their human rights worldwide while promoting cooperation and understanding.

Our work focuses on disadvantaged religious, ethnic, national, linguistic and racialized communities and indigenous peoples, usually fewer in number than the rest of the population in the state or administrative area in which they live. This includes refugees, migrants, sects and communities of religious choice within major religions as well as those of no faith where these are affected by discrimination and

disadvantage. Where other identities and factors like gender, disability, sexual orientation, immigration status, age or statelessness intersect with minority or indigenous identity, we undertake bespoke interventions to challenge multiple discrimination and ensure a life of dignity and equal opportunity.

MRG operates through regional offices in Uganda and Hungary; a permanent presence at the European Union (office in Brussels), the United Nations (Geneva) and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (Banjul); and growing numbers of staff in countries where we implement programmes. Our governing Council meets bi-annually and comprises members who bring a wealth of experience from across the globe. More than half of Council

members are female, and over half have lived experience as a minority or indigenous person.

MRG has consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council, observer status with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and is a civil society organization registered with the Organization of American States. MRG is also an observer to the Conferences of the Parties of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the UN Convention on Biological Diversity.

MRG is registered as a charity and a company limited by guarantee under English law.

Right: A Bravan artisan from Baraawe, Somalia handcrafts a pair of sandals, showcasing his community's renowned tradition of leatherwork at Via Roma, Hamarwayne District, Mogadishu.
Credit: Mahamud Utaama.



Intractable problems, proven solutions

This strategy has emerged from consultations with partners, minority and indigenous communities, allies, audiences, donors and other supporters. It responds to the sharply increasing challenges facing minority and indigenous communities: widening and deepening populist authoritarian trends and shrinking civic space, set against multiple crises (including a global pandemic, dysfunctional international governance and conflict) that severely affect those already marginalized and persecuted, who have limited margins to absorb economic shocks, and who bear the brunt of scapegoating politics constructed to divert attention from governmental failures.

The immediate impacts of climate change are felt most by those who contributed least to its root causes. Remote, rural and forest-dwelling communities living sustainably in

relatively circular economies while protecting biodiversity are now required to adapt to changing environments with minimal support. The existential threat of irreversible climate change demands urgent attention when energies are already stretched by the scale of unaddressed inequality, exclusion and persecution, and in countering strategies by the powerful to limit the dialogue and protest that are essential for sustainable, peaceful and inclusive societies.

MRG strives for positive change against this tide with the central objective of our four-year strategy being:

To empower minority and indigenous communities affected by discrimination, poverty and/or oppression to claim their rights to equality, non-discrimination and a life of dignity in peace, and

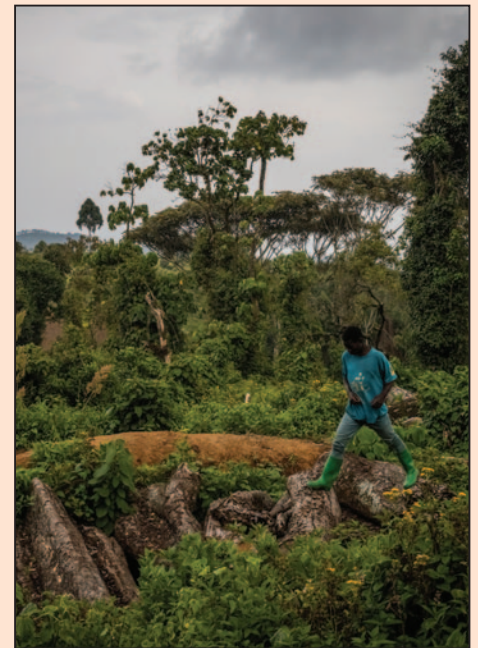
support them to achieve progress towards improved fulfilment of human rights for their members and all groups within them.

MRG will work with ethnic, religious, linguistic and racialized minorities and indigenous peoples to support those experiencing persecution, marginalization and exclusion, especially where this is magnified by existential climate-related threats. We especially support those communities confronting societal threats stemming from hate speech and persistent discrimination when accessing economic and social rights. We document crimes against humanity and seek accountability from perpetrators. Recognizing that intergenerational trauma and exclusion have pushed many minority and indigenous societies to heightened levels of poverty, we work proactively within administrative, legislative and judicial processes that

can garner such communities their basic rights to existence, health and education. While our programmes are co-designed with minority and indigenous communities as grassroots interventions, we also work actively with multilateral organizations to strengthen our reach and impact in upholding human rights and promoting inclusive and sustainable development.

The specific challenges of today include:

- **Rises in identity-based persecution**, resulting in mass state-sponsored or condoned violence.
- **Rises in disinformation and hate speech** as a cause and result of political fragmentation, with the spread of false information inciting mass violence, contributing to dehumanization and deepening exclusion.
- **The collective failure of the *Leave No One Behind* element** of the global Sustainable Development Framework, as symbolized by failures to disaggregate data about those whose opportunities have not improved despite rises in living standards benefitting others in their societies.
- **Stark failures in international governance**, ranging from the global climate crisis to Russia's Ukraine invasion, from Israel's mass violence in Gaza to the neglect of the humanitarian emergencies in Sudan and Yemen.
- **Acceleration of the climate emergency**, with those contributing the least to carbon emissions paying the heaviest price.



A man from the Batwa community walks on felled trees in deforested land on the edge of Kahuzi Biega National Park, Democratic Republic of the Congo.
Credit: Ed Ram.

Persecution

Millions of members of religious communities live in fear of persecution across the globe. Over half the world's population lives in states where faith-based persecution occurs. Some states orchestrate or condone such oppression, while others are unable or unwilling to halt it. Nationalist narratives heighten religious persecution to sow division accompanied by repression. Minorities face inequality, exclusion, harassment, detention, physical attacks, and in the worst cases, mass killings, forced displacement and ethnic cleansing. Protest results in punishment as civic space restrictions suppress inconvenient truths, compromise accountability and put justice beyond reach.

Minority and indigenous women face gender-based acts of state and non-state violence. Women activists, especially those challenging patriarchies, face devastating

backlash. Populism is often overtly masculine, drawing on flawed narratives of the protection of majoritarian societal values.

MRG supports the ability of activists to withstand attacks, gather evidence of abuses and present it in forums where perpetrators may be held to account. We support our partners to track, understand and counter misinformation and hate speech in the belief that documenting human rights violations is critical to challenging abuse.

Our interventions, co-designed with grassroots organizations, often include:

- **Empowering defenders and organizations** to withstand threats to curtail their operations
- **Gathering evidence of shrinking civil spaces, curbs on free expression, and harassment, interference** and other violations

- **Presentation of evidence** to UN and regional mechanisms and follow-up on recommendations
- **Information dissemination about persecution in the public domain**, supporting our partners to challenge hate speech
- **Supporting cohesive movement-building** of affected communities with progressive majorities
- **Accountability for human rights abuses**, including crimes against humanity
- **Working for inclusive language in global frameworks** that strengthen SDG 16 to prioritize the foundational building blocks of free, democratic, inclusive and peaceful societies.

Reflections from Mary Ama

Mary Ama Kudom-Agyemang is Executive Director of the Media Platform on Environment and Change (MPEC) based in Ghana. In partnership with MRG, MPEC has been implementing a project raising journalists' and media houses' awareness of minority issues in the country. Mary Ama told us:

'In Ghana, minority issues were underreported by the media. But thanks to MRG support, journalists can now identify what minority issues are and are reporting on them. How would the journalists have ever known about the plight of elderly women accused of bewitching others because

somebody saw them in their dreams? And how would a journalist have ever thought about the future of children in the protracted conflict zone of Bawku, in the Upper East Region? This has become a reality because MRG's support developed the capacity of journalists through diverse training programmes and stipends supporting travel to see minority communities' reality of life.

Thanks to MRG, MPEC's perspective now includes these issues, and we consciously seek out such stories and aim to ensure they get coverage and reach public audiences.'



Mary Ama from the Media Platform on Environment and Climate Change (MPEC) in Ghana, opening a roundtable discussion in Accra.

Marginalization

Alevi musicians Ali Avcı and Abuzer Gözaydın visiting the Zülfettin Tomb in Oluklu village after the 2023 Türkiye-Syria earthquake. 28 March 2023. Credit: Tolga Sezgin/NarPhotos.



Excluded from policymaking, minority and indigenous communities are often rendered invisible. The *Leave No One Behind* promise of the SDGs has not been realized, with data needed to assess progress often unavailable. The scarce data we do have on health, education,

employment, decent work and basic services like water, electricity and the internet, shows wide discrepancies for minority and indigenous communities, with limited access to opportunities and services wrapped up in intergenerational poverty and institutional discrimination.

From Batwa communities in the Democratic Republic of the Congo exiled from their ancestral forests and centuries' old sustainable culture, to Christian and Hindu sanitation workers in Pakistan who die in unsafe sewers with no equipment and no rights, to Roma in Slovakia living in segregated areas where ambulances will not enter, a clear picture emerges of those with power and privilege monopolizing advantage to exploit those with less.

Globally, women bear the brunt of poverty, women's health services receive less funding, and girls are more likely to be out of school. MRG partners with women-led minority and

indigenous organizations to ensure a clear focus on how gender transformative programming can tackle intersectional exclusion. Within minority and indigenous communities, the situation of those with disabilities is one of heightened poverty, illiteracy and almost ubiquitous unemployment.

We know that supporting communities to claim equal rights to health, education, decent work and their land can pay off. We know that lobbying for equitable budget allocations can make a difference, but much, much more remains to be done. We will continue to support communities to claim their rights, to collect and publish data evidencing their exclusion, to get organized locally and to participate in decision-making processes so that their needs are addressed.

Displacement and humanitarian emergencies disproportionately affect minority and indigenous communities. Despite commitments on paper by governments and relief agencies,

minority and indigenous communities do not always benefit equally from humanitarian efforts. In contexts as divergent as Somalia or the earthquake-affected region of Türkiye, MRG has supported partners to collect evidence of exclusion in humanitarian responses. We expect the level of displacement and disruption to increase over the next period as climate change leads to an acceleration of extreme weather events. We aim to work with our partners to ensure that humanitarian actors understand and act to counter social exclusion dynamics that skew aid allocations.

Our approach, co-designed with our partners and based on their priorities, expects to:

- **Document discrimination** through disaggregated data
- **Advance socio-economic rights claims** at national and international levels through advocacy and strategic litigation, calling for fair

budgeting and attention to barriers blocking equal outcomes

- **Present evidence to national, regional and UN mechanisms** and follow up on their recommendations to ensure implementation
- **Challenge community stigmas disrupting access**, such as cultural attitudes concerning sexual and reproductive health services
- **Disseminate information in the public domain** to inform public attitudes and policymaking
- **Support cohesive movement-building** of affected communities with progressive majorities
- **Support partners' participation** in decision-making processes, consultations and opportunities
- **Work for inclusive language in global frameworks** that strengthen the SDG commitment to *Leave No One Behind*.

One activist in Asia (whose identity we cannot disclose), whom MRG has been supporting and will continue to support into the next strategic period, told us:

'Where I live religious and ethnic minorities and indigenous peoples have faced systematic persecution for many years. Since 2007, we have been working to protect the rights of these minorities, continually challenging persecutions by authorities. MRG has been supporting our

organization in these efforts MRG's support, which includes training, guidance, accompaniment and funding, has positively impacted our community leaders, human rights defenders and authorities.'

'MRG's support is very important for our organization. There are very few international organizations that dare to partner with NGOs in our country for the causes of human rights and the rights of minorities. MRG is one of the few international organizations

that has been supporting our organization since 2011 and enabled us to carry forward the causes of minorities without a pause.'



Image posed by model. Credit: Molly Belle via Unsplash.

Climate justice

MRG has sought climate justice alongside minority and indigenous communities for decades. With irreversible tipping points already passed or fast approaching, inclusion of minority and indigenous perspectives often remains tokenistic in national and international debates.

Conservation models are still widely applied that force indigenous peoples off their lands. Indigenous and minority contributions to sustainable lifestyles are often excluded from national policies, resulting in a devastating loss of intellectual and practical capital. Cultures that value sustainable environmental stewardship over rapid consumption ought to guide humanity's pathway in relation to the climate crisis. Instead, we face the growing prospect of corporate capture tasked with finding a way forward.

Indigenous peoples have long lived in pristine or fragile ecosystems uniquely sensitive to a changing climate. The climate crisis is occurring in contexts where the environment is already under threat from industrial development, mining, agriculture and logging-related encroachments on indigenous territories. Indigenous ancestral domains are disputed or erased when opportunities for extractive industries arise. Reserves are constructed to preserve nature and wildlife, while ignoring indigenous peoples' custodianship of the land and biodiversity.

Indigenous and minority knowledge of local weather patterns, biodiversity and climate-coping mechanisms are threatened by undermining and undervaluing their ways of life. Limited participation in formal democratic systems adds to the disjuncture between this knowledge and policymaking. Minority and indigenous communities often live in more marginal settings, with

adaptations suitable to their situations different to those of the majority in the states where they live. Often, disaster preparedness efforts do not reach these communities, while neglect of difference and failures to listen leave significant mitigation gaps.

Minority and indigenous communities who have contributed least to carbon emissions are most heavily affected by climate change impacts. This injustice is compounded by the fact that many of these communities' ways of life are intimately connected to nature, their existence interwoven into the lands and environments they inhabit. Many such communities have been displaced, their forests logged, seas overfished, rivers dammed, and ways of life destroyed, leaving them impoverished. Their ability to withstand shocks is diminished while their input is dismissed from policymaking. This is reflected widely: in post-drought flooding in East Africa in 2024, in devastating



Amazigh women from the Moroccan town of Imider protest against the silver mining corporation Managem, with a banner showing their solidarity with the movement against the Dakota Access pipeline in Standing Rock, USA.
Credit: Linda Fouad.

impacts on minority and indigenous communities from glacial lake outbursts in Nepal and India, and across the world as droughts and floods drive deaths, displacement, hunger and disease. Expecting this to increase, we will work with partners to increase community resilience while influencing humanitarian agencies towards greater preparedness, warning and response.

Our engagement in UN climate and biodiversity processes underlines the conspicuous absence of attention

towards minority exclusion and discrimination. While indigenous peoples have garnered limited attention, little is said about the impacts of climate change on minorities, such as religious minorities in the Middle East whose location-specific water-dependent rituals are at risk from drought and desertification. We will work to document these issues, extend knowledge of them and drive advocacy on these matters in the years ahead.

Our interventions support partners to:

- **Resist land encroachment and evictions** in the name of conservation
- **Share lessons of sustainable stewardship of local environments**, respecting intellectual property rights
- **Influence climate strategies** on adaptation, mitigation and disaster preparedness at the national level
- **Share evidence concerning harmful practices** with relevant decision makers at all levels
- **Ensure that information about climate and environmental injustices and community adaptation/mitigation strategies are documented**, disseminated and used to inform policymaking
- **Build solidarity-oriented cohesive movements** both within affected communities and between them and progressive majorities.

Reflections from Christine

Christine Kandie is the Executive Director of Endorois Indigenous Women Environmental Network (EIWEN). The Endorois are indigenous and live in the Rift Valley area of Kenya. The community has been affected by flooding linked to a combination of deforestation and climate change. Christine happens to be a woman with a disability. She told us:

'With financial support from MRG, EIWEN has raised awareness through traditional and social media around issues of climate change and asked policy makers to take the necessary steps to mitigate the situation. Currently, EIWEN is leading the development of loss and damage research to

increase understanding through community-led data gathering.'

'EIWEN wishes to lead our community to develop climate change resilience plans that contribute towards our region becoming a carbon sink. We also plan to build the capacity of women to build projects that avoid carbon emissions. MRG is and has been an ally in challenging issues of climate change facing indigenous and minority communities around the world including the Endorois through action-based research, awareness raising, education and engagement of policy makers. For this we truly appreciate their commitment.'



Christine Kandie, a disability rights activist from the Endorois community in Kenya during a visit to a rural community.

A Haratine woman in Mauritania draws water from a well.
Courtesy of Mamoudou Lamine Kane.



Cross-cutting themes

During the consultations with our minority and indigenous partners ahead of the forthcoming strategic period, they confirmed that we should continue working on the same priorities (persecution, marginalization and climate justice as described above), but four cross-cutting themes emerged that our partners advocated should also drive our work.

Data, Information and Disinformation

The emergence of digital technology has changed many aspects of human life. Policy making is increasingly data-driven, but minority and indigenous communities' relative absence from this space means that their issues are widely neglected. We will therefore support our partners to

gather and publish data and to influence others who do so, to ensure inclusion and participation in these processes. Partners were also very concerned about the negative impacts of misinformation and hate speech about their communities. The internet and social media enable the rapid spread of harmful information and stereotyping which significantly impact minorities and indigenous peoples. This is a fast moving area, with, for example the growth of AI based on limited or biased data sets and requires a flexible approach. MRG will work with our partners to document, prevent and react to misinformation and hate speech, and to invest in journalist networks that ensure minority and indigenous concerns are reflected in media outputs, and that the censorship that is silencing minority and indigenous activists who challenge power structures is addressed.



Sunuwar participants at a public awareness rising gathering on Nepal's census organized by Community Empowerment and Social Justice Network (CEMSOJ) in September 2021, Hawa, Dolakha, Nepal, supported by a previous MRG programme in South Asia. Credit: Bishal Rajbhandari/CEMSOJ.



Late afternoon talk of two Kyrgyz women in Murghab, Tajikistan. *Credit Anisa Sabiri.*

Humanitarian Emergency Response

Every indicator around the climate crisis points towards escalation in both the number and severity of catastrophic events caused by human-induced disruptions to the biosphere. As humanitarian actors respond to this need, it is imperative that their efforts are inclusive of minorities and indigenous peoples. We will work with partners to monitor inclusion, report where it is lacking and seek system change. We will also work with partners to ensure that they are included in disaster preparedness processes, ensuring even before any event that diversity within society is understood and its potential effects factored into plans and contingencies.

Young People

Minority and indigenous communities have the right to transmit and propagate their cultures, languages, religions, beliefs and ways of life to future generations. Exclusion, pressures to deny, acculturate, assimilate, conform to and adopt majority cultures contribute to the loss of human diversity. Meanwhile, we are inspired by a new generation of activists who are stepping forward in many of the minority and indigenous communities we work with. Our emphasis on this theme will enable sharper engagement with youth to ascertain their perspectives and respond to their challenges, including in access to health, education and employment, and support those advocating for minority and indigenous rights and the survival and thriving of their cultures.

Toward change

Intersectionality

An intersectional lens to programming has been a feature of MRG's work for the past two decades. Our longstanding attention to gender remains and has been enhanced by a deliberate focus on disability which we plan to deepen. This focus enables us to reach further into the various kinds of exclusion that occur within marginalized communities while also building their relationships with disability rights advocates who previously struggled to access or may have overlooked such communities. Our commitment to intersectionality will enable us to pay attention to additional grounds of disadvantage and exclusion to ensure that emerging policy initiatives focused on inclusion address an ever-widening range of factors that inhibit the equal enjoyment of rights for every member of a minority or indigenous community.

MRG uses human rights-based approaches while interacting with minority and indigenous communities and duty bearers at local, national and international levels in non-partisan ways, bringing those with different views together to share experiences and collectively solve the challenges faced by communities.

With our partners, we co-design evidence-based interventions to convince decision-makers to ensure administrative, legislative and judicial change to enable rights realization at the national level. We work to strengthen international protection systems, while striving for the implementation of standards encompassed in laws, policies and practice. We consider this, alongside influencing majoritarian attitudes to rights access for all, to be the best way to ensure that human rights protections accrue to minorities and indigenous peoples. Our initiatives to bring about change adhere to six key principles:

Human Rights-Based Approach

The issues faced by minority and indigenous communities emanate from failures to access and fulfil their human rights. Our programmes address rights-holders' insufficient power to ensure duty-bearers fulfil their obligations. We support rights-holders in their rights claims to increase the willingness and capacity of duty-bearers to respond by fulfilling their obligations. Our approach assesses power relationships, access to decision-making and partner capacity when faced with serial violations, disrupting these situations in ways that other interventions may not. A combined ethos of community ownership, transparency and accountability is embedded into our programmes.

Do No Harm Perspective (Or 'do least harm')

Our experiences show that there are risks attached to any intervention, including reprisals, backlash and interference, particularly when unearned privilege is threatened. We refer to 'doing least harm', recognizing that existing systemic inequality and repression generate harm, while doing nothing is not harm free. We assess risks in every intervention with local partners prior to action, make them and ourselves aware of these risks, and take active steps to mitigate these where an intervention is deemed necessary. Conflict sensitivity remains at the heart of our programming whether within or beyond active violent conflict. We ensure that the benefits of our work accrue to all groups, including women and girls, those with disabilities and younger and older people.

Participatory Planning

MRG believes that activities seeking change should be carried out with the involvement of local affected people or their representatives. Our approach is innately participatory: projects respond to communities' self-identified needs. Each project is co-designed in consultation with partners and/or rights-holders, who remain involved through the implementation to the monitoring and evaluation of the work. We listen as communities explain their needs, articulate their priorities and identify or assess capacity levels. Strong collaboration potential exists where these fit with MRG's values and priorities and what we can offer. If the fit is poor, MRG may refer communities to better-suited organizations or consider working with the community as part of a broader coalition.

Inclusive Approach

Minority and indigenous women and girls face discrimination from within and outside their own communities. MRG has a strong track record of ensuring the participation of women in our activities, meeting their specific needs and priorities. We have taken strides in improving the inclusion of people with disabilities in our programmes, in dialogue with partners, to ensure that their involvement is meaningful and sustainable. We remain mindful of other vulnerable and disadvantaged identities within communities, such as younger and older people, LGBTQI+ persons, migrants, internally displaced people, refugees and stateless persons, and strive to ensure that our work reaches towards all these groups.

Forming Partnerships

Our ethos requires us to commit to sub-granting a significant element of our total budget to partner organizations with roots in or strong links to minority or indigenous communities. New partnerships are formed when: organizations approach us to solicit support; when we seek out appropriate minority or indigenous organizations to address pressing needs expressed by a community through networks, visits or recommendations; when staff from new organizations attend MRG events; or when organizations respond to our own calls for proposals. We appreciate that the approach and values of other organizations may differ, but our cooperation is always based on a shared commitment to universal and indivisible human rights.

Identifying and Promoting Change

MRG uses a wide range of methodologies and techniques to advance human rights based on assessments with partners and other stakeholders. We pursue constructive and collaborative methods in the first instance, based on human rights monitoring, moving to more outspoken advocacy, campaigns and possibly litigation where sustained blockages or failures to implement legally enforceable rights exist, and where the legal climate is conducive. MRG often partners with UN agencies, national human rights institutions or other official bodies to maximize influence.



Alejandrino Perez, representative of San Matias Chilazoa in the fight for water rights, shows a bull he made from the mud around a water hole. San Matias Chilazoa, Oaxaca, Mexico. *Credit: Noel Rojo.*

Profile and added value

Minority Rights Group

MRG has fifty-five years' experience working on minority and indigenous rights with an international reputation for sound interventions, information and advice. We have established partnerships with over 300 minority, indigenous, inter-ethnic or inter-religious NGOs with a record of high-quality programmatic work, publications and global advocacy.

There is no other international NGO with MRG's mandate, nor any with its reputation among minority and indigenous communities, governments and inter-governmental bodies. We maintain relationships with UN institutions, provide technical support to UN agencies and present evidence to UN Charter and treaty-based bodies. Besides the UN, we also contribute to shaping the policies of the Council of Europe, the European Union, the European Commission, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

and EU member states. We are playing a central role, at the behest of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights in delineating administrative, legislative and judicial measures to address questions of minority rights in Africa. This work will identify distinctly African measures taken to realize the vision of the drafters of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights.

We work in 60 countries in the Middle East, North Africa, West Africa, Central Africa, East Africa and the Horn, Southern Africa, South Asia, Central Asia, Southeast Asia, Eastern and Central Europe, and Latin America. This includes strategic litigation to highlight discrimination and set positive legal precedents. MRG maintains the world's leading information resources on minorities and indigenous peoples, including the *World Directory of Minorities & Indigenous Peoples*, used by inter-

What you can do

governmental agencies, governments, journalists, academics, development practitioners, decision-makers and the general public.

MRG bridges local or sub-national organizations, national and regional bodies and the international community through outreach and advocacy activities. Our links, based on technical support, include instances where MRG is commissioned to provide insights to inter-governmental agencies such as UNDP, UNICEF, UN Women, the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, the UN Department for Economic and Social Affairs, UNHCR, OHCHR, UNFPA, the Office of the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, the International Criminal Court, the World Bank, the European Commission, the Office of the OSCE High Commissioner for National Minorities and the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human

Rights. We assist OHCHR in its coordination of a network of UN agencies focusing on issues of racial discrimination, organize joint seminars and events with numerous inter-governmental bodies, speak at UN events and have developed training and other resources on topics such as land rights, hate speech, advocacy and data disaggregation.

MRG benefits from a diverse staff team of highly qualified professionals with expertise on minority and indigenous issues. Staff expertise is maintained through organizational development and learning and training opportunities. We strive for supportive relationships with our partners, despite the stop/start nature of project funding, and encourage dissemination of good practices and information amongst staff working with like-minded organizations to inform our work.

Our work is only possible with the belief and support of people like you. Here are ways you can support:

Subscribe

Sign up to our free newsletter to receive regular updates about our work and news from our partners around the world. minorityrights.org/newsletter

Read more

Gain detailed information on minority and indigenous communities for your work or activism by using our range of resources. minorityrights.org/resources

Donate

Make an immediate difference with a donation at minorityrights.org/donate



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