

Excerpt from the OHCHR - [UN Guidance Tool](#) on Descent-based Discrimination

6.2.1 Questions for situational analysis

The list of questions below can be used to assess contextual information on the situation of descent-based communities in the national context as well as the structures and mechanisms in place to consult with and monitor the situation of people from descent-based communities.

Understanding and assessing the situation of descent-based communities in the national context

- Are descent-based communities' concerns included in any **constitutional provisions and/or specific legislation¹ or policy framework**?
- Have **special measures** been adopted in favour of descent-based communities in order to ensure their enjoyment of human rights, in particular their rights concerning access to public functions, employment and education? If so, how can implementation of these measures be assessed?
- What are the most **pressing concerns** for descent-based communities in the country? What are the **root causes and barriers** these communities face in securing their rights? How do these concerns affect children, **women**, and men in a differentiated manner within descent-based communities and in society at large?
- Does any **disaggregated data** exist demonstrating the situation of descent-based communities in relation to the general population, and of women from descent-based communities in relation to men from these communities and in relation to the general population? Have you identified any trends in data on descent-based communities which may have been overlooked?
- What recommendations have emerged from human rights treaty bodies, special procedures or the UPR process with regard to the situation of communities affected by descent-based discrimination?

Structures and mechanisms in place to consult with and monitor the situation of descent-based communities

- Are descent-based communities organized in the country? **Are Civil Society Organizations of descent-based communities able to operate and to form networks freely?**
 - Is there any setting or space for **dialogue** between representatives of descent-based communities and government officials? Is there any room for the UNCT to promote the establishment and/or strengthening of CSOs of descent-based communities?
 - Has the UNCT established a mechanism (including any thematic group) or policy through which it can **consult** with descent-based communities, address their concerns and monitor their human rights situation?
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- What are the **main structures** currently in place in the country to promote and protect the rights of descent-based communities?
- Is there a specific mechanism for collecting **disaggregated data**—including on access to education, housing, health care and health conditions, employment opportunities and income, among other categories—which could independently reflect the realities faced by descent-based communities in the country? Do disaggregated data, including by gender, disability and age, exist?
- What mechanisms are in place to ensure implementation of **budgetary measures and programmes** that are designed to benefit descent-based communities?
- Has the **Common Country Assessment** included a particular reference to the situation of descent-based communities? If so, have their situation and concerns been included in the **UN Development Assistance Framework** for support? Does your country programme take into consideration the situation and concerns of descent-based communities?